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The Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market returns to the River Garden in downtown Brattleboro for the ninth season of the longest running diverse indoor winter farmers' market in southern Vermont.

Fans of the famous outdoor summer farmer's market in West Brattleboro, can simply follow many of their favorite vendors indoors for the winter, starting on Saturday, November 1 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Visitors to the Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market will find more local produce than ever before. Each week the beautiful River Garden is transformed into a warm welcoming indoor marketplace with over 30 vendors including many favorites from past seasons as new faces, too.

Along with all your fresh produce, maple syrup, local meats, eggs and other farm products, you'll find yummy sweets or savory baked treats, great lunch offerings, delicious pies, preserves and beautiful handmade gifts. Come for the great shopping and stay for a tasty lunch in our seating area, live mu-

sic and special happenings. There is something at the market for everyone.

The Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market welcomes EBT and Debit cards. EBT customers can turn \$10 into \$20 each week with our Market Match Coupons.

The market is sponsored by Post Oil Solutions, a non-profit sustainability organization actively working to build a viable community-based food system.

Open every Saturday from November 1, 2014 through March 28, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be extended hours for holiday shopping from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on December 6, 13 & 20.

Come and dazzle your senses at the ninth season of the Winter Farmers' Market!

The Brattleboro Winter Farmers Market is located at the Robert H. Gibson River Garden, 153 Main St. in downtown Brattleboro, VT.

For more information call (802) 869-2141 or e-mail farmersmarket@postoil.com or visit www.postoil.com.



Elizabeth Wood, farmer at New Leaf CSA, shows off her greens at the Brattleboro Winter Farmers Market.

November Journal

Promises

by Bill Felker

In spite of a spiritual imperative, articulated in the call of the geese and the robins, to abandon the cold, I am spending winter in the north again. I've done my raking for the year. The strawberries are covered with straw. The pumpkins are aging, and the apple cider is made. The garden is filled with manure. Sweet Williams, spinach and onions are planted and covered for April.

With summer scattered and withered, I count each of my allies, from my wife and daughters to the birds at the sunflowers. The tropical plants I have inside the greenhouse are budding, needing care and reminding me of choices I have made.

It is too late to run, to merge into the flyway corridor away from January. I am

committed to solstice and to the next quarter into equinox.

After the nostalgia that accompanies migration and the sadness of leaf fall, my brain receives new signals, defiance and a call to survive. I am already counting days, attempting to demystify the time ahead. Thirty-five days to solstice, 65 to the center of winter, 100 to the first hours of early spring.

A finite, divided winter is already mastered. Soon it will seem too short, I tell myself, the hibernation not long enough.

Garlic mustard is already waiting all across the woodland floor. It sprouted fourteen months ago and has persevered with only a cluster of basal leaves all summer. The worst freeze will not kill it. It is ready for the end of May.

There is a faith in its roots, a knowledge I can use against my suspicion that the end of the year mirrors too closely the end of human existence. Far wiser things than I have absolute faith. They give promises the sun has and will come back again.

Storms and the snows arrive to test the woodpile and the fantasy of self-sufficiency. The corner is turned. The grieving for summer and fall are over quickly. In a few weeks, it is no surprise to see bare branches. I look for what is there instead of what is gone.

Christmas cactus blossoms and aloe spikes rise to bloom in early December. Paperwhites send up their foliage. My violet hibiscus blossoms, remembering some tropical dictate, faithful here, finding just the right amount of light to make its seeds. In the sun,

the starlings, staying here within reach of my safe feeder, swing in the back trees.

Window parsley is growing new leaves. I go out collecting second spring foliage from sweet Cicely, chickweed, sweet rockets, waterleaf, cinquefoil, violet cress, hemlock, parsnip, avens and next September's zig-zag goldenrod.

There are days when it could be March, hazy skies, cardinals singing, temperatures in the warm fifties. I walk the swamp and find Thoreau's "brave spears of the skunk cabbage, buds already advanced toward a new year."

"They see over the brown of winter's hill," Henry David promises my last doubts. "They see another summer ahead."



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Vermont Country Sampler

November 2014, Vol. XXX

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

photo by Billings Farm & Museum

Woodstock, VT

Celebrate November at Billings Farm & Museum

Billings Farm & Museum, a gateway to Vermont's rural heritage, is celebrating its 31st anniversary this year. Over one million visitors—hailing from every state in the U.S. and over 40 foreign countries—have made the farm and museum an important part of their visit to Vermont.

Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 143-year tradition of agricultural excellence and offers farm programs and historical exhibits that explore Vermont's rural heritage and values.

Whether you are a visitor or make Vermont your home, plan a trip to Billings Farm this fall. You'll have a great time!

Wagon Ride Weekends in November

Visit Billings Farm & Museum for Wagon Ride Weekends each Saturday and Sunday in November, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., beginning November 1 & 2. Board the farm wagon pulled by a team of draft horses for a brisk ride around the farm. Rides will be offered from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. An Introduction to Milking and Milking the Herd programs are scheduled for 3:15 p.m.

A Late 19th Century Thanksgiving

On the final weekend of the month, learn about late 19th century Thanksgiving traditions as Billings Farm & Museum celebrates Thanksgiving Weekend, Friday through Sunday, November 28-30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event will feature costumed guides demonstrating cooking traditional Thanksgiving fare in the farmhouse, hands-on food preparation and preservation activities, holiday programs, milking the herd, farm tours, and includes horse-drawn wagon rides.

You'll be welcomed to Frederick Billings's farmhouse, where farm manager George Aitken and his family lived and worked from 1890 to 1910. Visit with costumed interpreters as they demonstrate preparing traditional Thanksgiving fare in the kitchen. Relax in the Victorian parlor and learn how our American Thanksgiving traditions have evolved. In the education room, learn the art of making the perfect piecrust

and what to do with the leftover dough. Help peel apples for drying, which can be used later to make dried apple pie.

Enjoy a cup of hot cider before touring the farm and boarding the wagon pulled by a team of draft horses for a ride around the farm.

5th Annual Woodstock Vermont Film Series

The 5th Annual Woodstock Vermont Film Series, begins on Saturday, October 25, 2014 and continues on Saturday afternoons at 3 p.m. through April 4, 2015. Fifteen award-winning films and documentaries from around the world have been selected for the big screen in the museum's theater, with high definition digital projection and Dolby™ surround-sound. All films are open to the public and accessible to people with disabilities.

Tickets prices: adults (16 & up) \$132 for 15-film package or \$11 per film; children ages 3-15, \$6 per film. For a complete list of screenings and ticket information visit www.billingsfarm.org/filmfest or call (802) 457-2355.

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

Admission: adults \$14; 62 & over \$13; children 5-15 \$8; 3-4 \$4; 2 & under, free.

Open daily May 1 through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends November – February, and Christmas & Presidents' weeks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Farm & Museum is located one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on VT Rt. 12.

Please call (802) 457-2355 for information, activities and programs and a list of seasonal events, or visit www.billingsfarm.org.

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Misty Valley Books Presents The 14th Annual Vermont Voices

Each year in November, Chester's Misty Valley Books invites Vermont writers who have written admirable books to come to the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village in Chester to share their work. The events take place November 2, 9, 16 & 23, on Sundays at 2 p.m.

The public is invited to come and hear the authors speak. A book signing and reception will follow each talk, all of which are free.

Thomas Christopher Greene

On November 2, Thomas Christopher Greene, the founding president of Vermont College of Fine Arts in Montpelier, will speak. Greene was a Misty Valley Books' New Voice in 2004 with his novel, *Mirror Lake*. His latest, *The Headmaster's Wife*, is his fourth.

Greene explores the way that tragedy and time assail one man's memories. Like his father before him, Arthur Winthrop is the Headmaster of Vermont's elite Lancaster School. It is the place that has given him his life, but is also the site of his undoing as events spiral out of his control. Found wandering naked in Central Park, he begins to tell his story to the police, but his memories collide with one another. It is a narrative of love, of marriage, of family and of a tragedy.

Archer Mayor

Archer Mayor, a regular fixture of Vermont Voices, returns with his 25th Joe Gunther mystery on November 9.

In *Proof Positive*, two bodies are found in a hoarder's Vermont home; one victim has a Philly rap sheet and may have played a role in the hoarder's demise. Another body turns up in the City of Brotherly Love. Joe and his team leave Vermont for Philadelphia.

Mayor's research for *Proof Positive* took him sniffing around Philadelphia Police Department headquarters, delving into historical

data, interviewing locals, and photographing Philadelphia neighborhoods.

Stephen Kiernan

In Stephen Kiernan's debut novel, *The Curiosity*, which he will present on November 16, Dr. Kate Philo and her scientific expedition team make a breathtaking discovery in the Arctic: the body of a man buried deep in ice. The project is run by the egocentric Erastus Carthage who orders that the frozen man be brought back to the lab in Boston, and reanimated. As the man begins to regain his memories, the last thing he remembers is falling overboard into the Arctic Ocean in 1906.

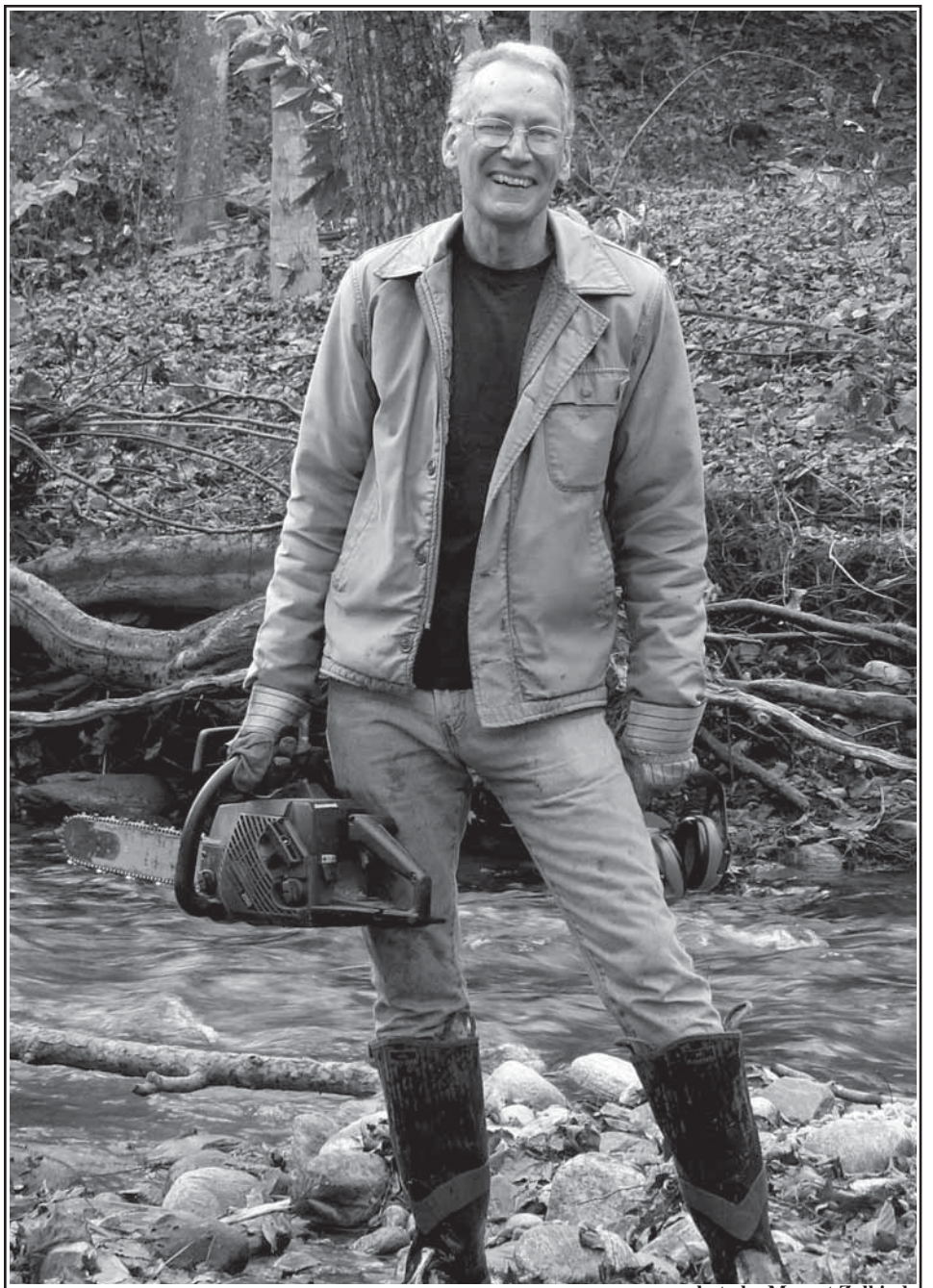
Kiernan has taught at Middlebury College and the Breadloaf School of English. He is the author of two non-fiction books, *Last Rights* and *Authentic Patriotism*.

Governor Jim Douglas

Governor Jim Douglas, who will be at the Stone Church on November 23, was first elected to the Vermont House in 1972, just months after graduating from Middlebury College. He was re-elected three more times, was Majority Leader, on the senior staff of Governor Snelling, Secretary of State and State Treasurer. In 2002, he was elected to the first of four terms as Vermont's 80th governor.

His memoir, *The Vermont Way*, recounts his political life and his belief that Vermont is different and that its leaders can work together to ensure prosperity and protect the state's natural beauty. The book has numerous photographs: Douglas kissing a cow at a county fair, chatting with kids at their lemonade stand, visiting Vermont National Guard troops in the Middle East, and offering advice to the president in the Oval Office.

For info call Misty Valley Books at (802) 875-3400 or visit www.mvbooks.com.



Archer Mayor, author of the Joe Gunther mystery series, at home in Vermont. photo by Margot Zalkind

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Autumn Fires

In the other gardens
And all up the vale,
From the autumn bonfires
See the smoke trail!

Pleasant summer over,
And all the summer flowers,
The red fire blazes,
The grey smoke towers.

Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all!
Flowers in the summer,
Fires in the fall!

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36th Annual Putney Craft Tour

— November 28, 29 & 30 —

Windham County in Southern Vermont is a place rich with artistic vision, talent and craftsmanship. It boasts five popular craft and artisan open studio tours spaced at different times of the year. The granddaddy is the Putney Craft Tour, which will have its 36th anniversary this Thanksgiving weekend. It's the oldest continuous crafts tour in the U.S. and has served as a prototype for tours all over the country.

This year the tour is partnering with the Putney Foodshelf by using art to provide food for those who are in need. Each studio on the tour will have an object for sale with proceeds going to the Foodshelf. The tour is also a participant in American Craft week, a nationwide celebration of American Craft and has been nominated as a Top Ten Winter Event by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce.

Founding tour members still on the tour

There are several founding members of the tour who will be opening their studios again this Thanksgiving weekend, as well as some new to the tour. One of the founders is Potter Ken Pick who arrived in Putney in 1969 after receiving an MAT, an education degree, from Antioch-Putney Graduate School. But pottery was never far away from his heart, and in about 1973 he began to earn his living from his craft.

"There are still five or six of us here who were here from the beginning," Pick said. "We banded together in one location before we evolved the tour concept. It got more sophisticated as time went on."

This year we have 26 artists on the tour. It's never been more than 28. And, in addition to partnering with the Putney Foodshelf this year, most of the studios will be featuring small tastes of locally sourced specialty foods such as cider, honey, cheese, salsas, and pumpkin bread. He adds that the date of Thanksgiving weekend was chosen carefully—it's the start of the gift-buying season."

The tour takes a lot of planning

"Because it's Thanksgiving, there are a lot of people visiting family from all over the country," Pick said. "People are coming from all the New England states. Most are actually non-Vermonters. They come from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and even from overseas."

"We start in January with the early organizing, looking at the previous year's tour, seeing what's working well or where we want to evolve," Pick said. The people who are further out in the hills see fewer people than the people who live closer to town. Location and weather have something to do with it. But we've never had a tour that didn't happen because of the weather."

Home studios open to the public

Carol Keiser, another of the original founders, says that "Artists and craftspeople open their studios to become part of the creative community and to provide an avenue for exposure; to let people know what they do and to provide them access to their craft."

Carol creates vivid painted tiles and paintings with lush landscapes, dreamy figures, fanciful images, and colorful still lifes. She says she has been concentrating more on painting recently. "My paintings are more expressionistic; magical realism. I try to put in things like stars, moons, the



Nancy Calicchio welcomes visitors to her studio for the Putney Craft Tour. photo by Lynn Barrett

sun; things suggesting the cosmos and iconic elements that suggest something." Much of her work is of places such as Italy, Mexico and Costa Rica and other locations where she travels. She will also have small drawings of nudes, done in gouache and Japanese brush ink in her studio, which is "like a small cottage," she says. "People always go 'wow! What a great place to work!' There's lots of light and color from the paintings and tiles."

Artists welcome visitors

Judy Hawkins, says in preparing for the tour it is always critical to have the best presentation for her paintings to the public. She is energized by the wonderful interactions she has with visitors to her studio. Most of the time Judy works in isolation, with little feedback while new ideas percolate. Her approach to painting landscapes is based on her intuitive interpretation and recollections to create a sense of place. She has had a very successful year for private and corporate sales and her paintings can be seen at several galleries, including Bluestone Gallery in Philadelphia, chosen as one of 125 galleries representing artists on the new Amazon Art website.

Those connections are what it's all about, both for the artists and the people who visit their studios. Thousands of visitors move through the studios over the course of three days and engage with the artists, the real draw of such tours, as well as the distinctive, original pieces for sale.

Silver jeweler Jeanne Bennett, who has been on the tour for over 10 years, appreciates the feedback she gets. "It's nice to get the work out in public. I'm up in the woods and I love hearing everyone's feedback." In addition to first-timers, Bennett, like most of the artists, has repeat customers that come back "to see what's new and add to their collection."

Potter David Mischke also loves the interaction with customers. "It's wonderful to meet people, explain how you make the pottery. They learn that it requires more skill and experience to make a living than they realize. I had an open house before the crafts tour took shape. I made cookies and served a juice-wine-vodka punch. People stayed and had a great time."

There's no cookies or punch now, but Mischke says 500-700 people usually come each day to see and buy his functional stoneware pottery—beige/brown exteriors and bright blue glaze interiors.

More than anything the tour is great entertainment. Driving the back roads and finding the studios is an adventure in itself although the studios are well marked and maps provide clear directions. The studios are all within a 12-mile radius.

Putney also reflects the power of the creative economy. "It's not just the crafts studios who benefit, but area B&Bs, stores, restaurants, and retailers," Pick says. "Local shop owners say it's their biggest weekend because of the tour."

Visitors may start at The Gleanery Restaurant, 133 Main Street, and also the General Store, Putney for info, maps, and a preview exhibition of the artisans' works.

For information on the craftspeople, a map, and links to accommodations and restaurants, go to putneycrafts.com.

The Great Hall, Springfield, VT

Fibrations! New England Fiber Art & Mixed-Media Invitational Exhibition

The Great Hall, Vermont's newest showcase for the arts in Springfield, presents its fifth exhibition, Fibrations! New England Fiber Art & Mixed-Media Invitational Exhibition. The exhibition will open Friday, November 7, 2014 and go through spring 2015 with a reception for the public from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at One Hundred River Street. Wine and light refreshments will be served. Fibrations! will feature renowned New England art-

ists from Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire and Connecticut including Frances Holiday Alford (Grafton, VT), Susan Damone Balch (Reading, VT), Carolyn Enz Hack (Thetford Center, VT), Karen Kamenetsky (Brattleboro, VT), Judith Reilly, Redman, VT), Tafi Brown (Alstead, NH), Judy B. Dales (Greensboro, VT), Liz Alpert Fay (Sandy Hook, CT), Christine Fries (Barre, VT), Marilyn Gillis (Burlington, VT), Rae Reynolds Harrell (Hinesburg, VT), Susan Per-

rine (Woolwich, ME), Wen Redmond (Strafford, NH), Kate Themel (Cheshire, CT), Nancy Pulliam Weis (Castleton, VT).

The Great Hall is located at 100 River Street, in Springfield, Vermont. We suggest you use the Pearl Street Entrance. The Great Hall is in the former Fellows Gear Shaper, now the Springfield Health Center. (802) 885-3061. bob@springfielddevelopment.org. jam@vermontel.net.



Wild Geese Fly By

Thus would I pass, that men where I went by
Would have their silence touched, yet scarcely broken,
By a faint sound, and turning to the sky
From whence it came, by sight know I had spoken,
And say in their own tongues what they were knowing
Because they read a symbol in my going.

—CHARLES MALAM



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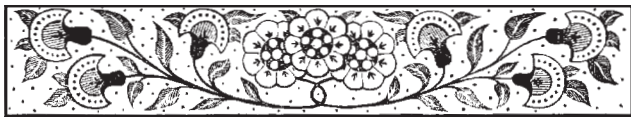
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by Dr. Leonard Perry

Extension Professor, University of Vermont

A popular and easy-to-flower bulb for late fall and the holidays is the paperwhite narcissus. Sweet smelling paperwhites can be coaxed into bloom with very little effort. Pre-potted paperwhites can be purchased at many garden stores. All you do is add water! These potted bulbs also make a nice gift, or a fun activity for children.

The correct term is actually "forcing" as you are forcing the spring-flowering bulbs to fast-forward their natural growth cycles and bloom in winter instead. Paperwhites produce small, star-shaped flowers that will last for several weeks. Some varieties have pure white flowers, others have white perianths (outer petals) with pale yellow "cups" in the center.

If purchasing locally, choose healthy bulbs with no soft spots or signs of discoloration. Store in a cool, dry place until time to plant. Paperwhites will bloom about four to six weeks after planting, so plan accordingly if you want flowers for the holidays or other special occasions. For continuous bloom throughout the winter, plant bulbs every two weeks from late fall through February.

Use shallow containers, about three to four inches deep, without drainage holes. You can find these specially designed containers for forcing at many garden centers. Add about two inches of washed pebbles, or large glass beads similar to marbles (available at craft stores and some garden stores) in the bottom of the container. If using the colorful glass beads, use a clear container so they can be seen. Or, similar to other forcing bulbs, you can plant in pots with soil.

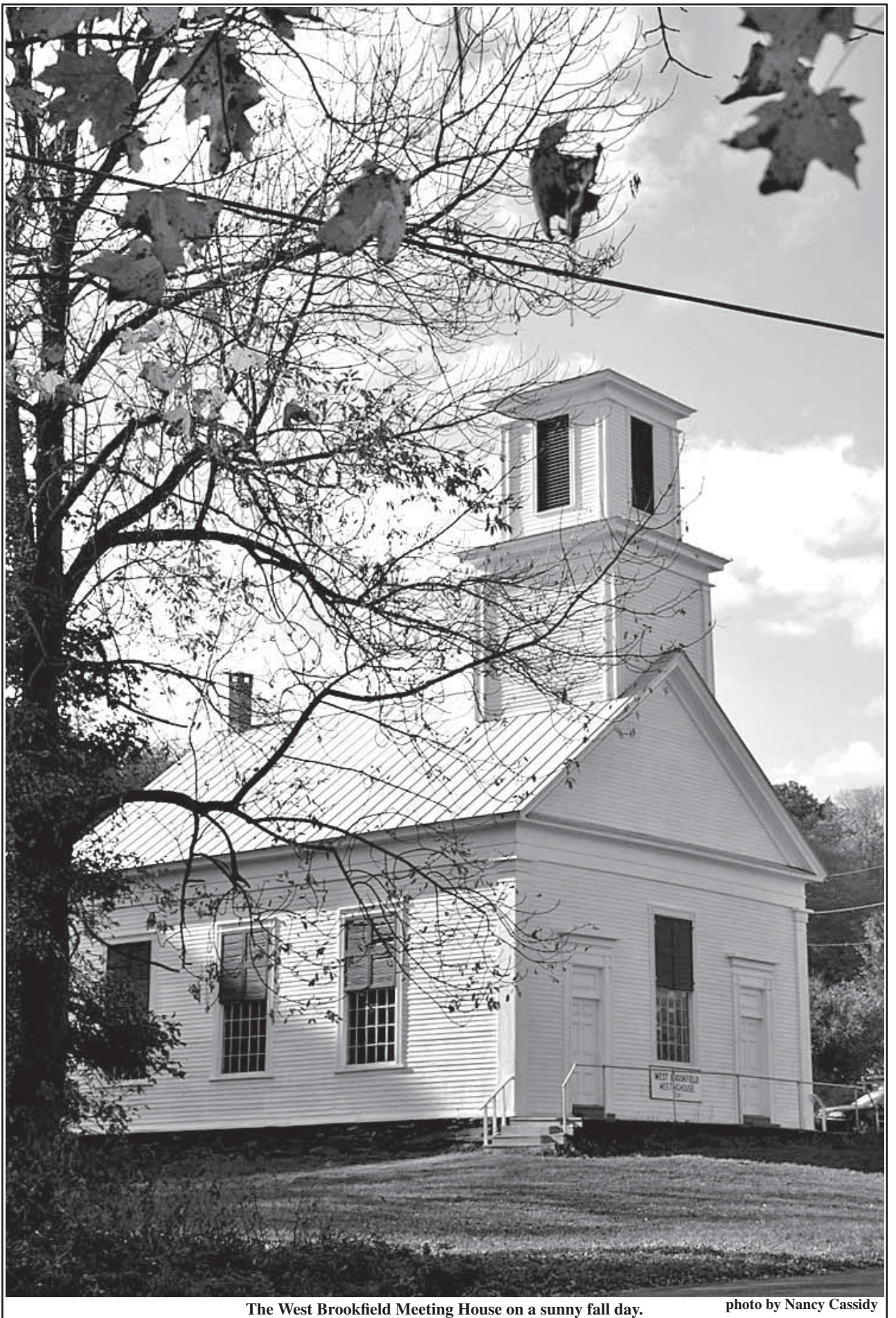
Gently place the bulbs, pointed side up on the gravel or beads. They should be close, but not touching. (Five bulbs will fit nicely in a six-inch pot.) Then add enough pebbles around the bulbs to hold them in place. If using soil, make sure the bulb tops are at or above the surface.

The tricky part is watering the bulbs if not in soil. You want to add just enough water so it reaches the base of the bulbs. You don't want the bulbs to sit in water as this will cause rot. Maintain this level of water throughout the growing period. You'll probably need to replenish the water every two or three days. Don't fertilize—the bulb already contains the nutrients it needs.

Place the container in a cool, dark place (about 50 degrees F) for a few weeks until green shoots appear (but don't forget about them). Then move to full, bright light (generally, a window with southern exposure). Too little light, and the plants will grow leggy as they stretch to reach the light. Initially, room temperature should be 60 to 65 degrees.

To prolong bloom, after the plants begin to flower, remove them from direct sunlight and place in a cooler, less sunny part of your home.

For more information contact Leonard Perry, Extension Professor, University of Vermont, Burlington VT. (802) 656-0479. Visit www.perrysperennials.info.



The West Brookfield Meeting House on a sunny fall day.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

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The Old Woman

I've come the long way they call living,
I've fought to keep my feet upon the road;
Now I am old and reached the end of it
I know the whole trip didn't matter much.

I've had them all, those things that people crave,
The warm, fierce kiss, the searing pain of birth;
I've lost them, too, and now I know
They say of me, "It must be sad
To be like that, old and alone."

What fools most people are!

To think I'd want—
Now that I've lived and paid for it—
To go the path again.
A fine way that would be
To spend the last days that I have,
Ripping my heart and body up again.

No use to tell them though
That I've got everything I need and want—
A sight more happiness than them;
They'll have to come the long way, too,
To learn that this is what you come it for—

A patch of roof that's yours to have alone,
The hot sun warming up your back,
A pot of black tea brewing on the stove.

—ANN NELSON
1939



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The Old Days of Rope Tows

by Charles Sutton

Suppose you like to ski, but the slopes are just too far away. Well, not really. For a group of us average skiers living in Washington, D.C., in the mid-1950s we found the ideal, no-frills ski slope just a four-hour drive away in Davis, West Virginia.

Nine of us who were in the service or working for the government would leave Friday night in a large old car that also had two jump seats behind the driver and passenger. We would bundle up in blankets and quilts as the car's heater would only put out lukewarm air. Sometimes we brought along dates from the French Embassy which gave me a chance to practice some 'high school' French.

The driver Bill Carr got thank-yous from all of us for finding a place to ski that close to Washington. He would also call ahead to see if there was ample snow (there always

"Thanks to this invention—just some rope, pulleys and a car engine—ski tows suddenly became widespread."

was) and to let families there know how many of us would need beds and meals.

The unpretentious village homes in that mountain area were a welcoming sight. The town of Davis back then had no inns, B&Bs, motels or even an old-fashioned guest house. We stayed in private homes, sleeping in the family bedrooms. I often worried about leaving the owners stranded with no place to spend the night as this was the dead of winter. But they reassured me that neighbors would put them up, and that one of them at least would be on the living couch in the morning.

A modest fee for room and board included a family-style evening meal. The owners never joined us at the dining room table but seemed to enjoy serving and watching us tie into their home-cooking. There was always a large platter stacked high with fried chicken cooked to a golden brown. Most of the rest of the dinner probably came from their own root cellar: dishes of buttered carrots, beets, winter squash, and boiled onions. There were homemade pickles and jams and jellies, dinner rolls and breads with a desert of pumpkin or squash pie. Breakfast was hearty bowls of oatmeal, eggs any style, pancakes, and coffee. Then it was off to the slope.

The slope was not groomed, but there was almost always fresh snow. Davis has the highest elevation in West Virginia (3,100 ft) and is blessed by being in a snow belt. We often



photo courtesy of Woodstock Historical Society
Skiing via rope tow in early Vermont. The first ski lift in the Eastern United States, an improvised rope tow powered by a Ford Model T engine, was installed at Suicide Six ski resort in South Pomfret, VT in January 1934.

saw no or only a little snow just a few miles away. There were no ski patrols nor a warming hut; and man-made snow was unheard of. For us skiers there was only one way up: a jury-rigged rope tow!

Thanks to this invention—just some rope, pulleys and a car engine—ski tows suddenly became widespread in America and Europe and contributed to the sport becoming so popular. No more laboring uphill through knee-deep snow for just one run downhill!

The first rope tow in this country was installed in 1934 in Woodstock, VT by Bob and Betty Boyce, owners of the White Cupboard Inn. The tow was pulled by the rear wheel of a Ford Model A. The tow was later moved to the Suicide Six, a ski area which is still in existence today.

Operators were savvy enough to have a trip wire before the engine mounting which would shut everything off if someone didn't let go of the rope, got tangled up or fell getting off. Often there were a few bales of hay there, too, as a barrier.

Many farmers in the north country installed ski tows as a good source of income during the winter, an early type of agri-tourism.

Later in life when I was living in Maine my family learned to ski on a farmer-run rope tow slope in Buxton. My youngest was rope-shy so I used to have him hang onto my ski pole as I grabbed the rope tow and would pull him along. There was always a trick to getting well balanced and having the skis pointed in the right direction uphill before one grabbed the tow. It had its hazards like rope burn and having one's ski mitt frozen onto the rope.

Before rope tows were replaced by t-bars, chair lifts and gondolas, some tows were fitted with metal handles for an easier grab and later with a device called a 'nutcracker', which the rider attached to the rope.

Living in Maine I graduated to the latest lift devices at 'modern' ski areas but I still have fond memories of those weekend outings in West Virginia. Looking back my only regret is that us skiers didn't buy some skis for the families that so kindly housed and fed us. That would have been a real 'thank-you.'

Thanksgiving

I can see my mother stand,
Tallow candle in her hand,

As some fifty years ago she used to be;
"Now wake up, boys," she is saying,
"It has snowed enough for sleighing";
Then we rub our eyes and listen, Bert and me.

"Baby Ernest is asleep,
Very quiet you must keep
As you dress and come to breakfast right away;
You remember it's Thanksgiving,
And sure as you are living
We will drive to 'little grandpa's' in the sleigh."

Now I hear the sleigh bells ring,
Keeping tune with hearts that sing,
As we smoothly glide along the pathless road.
While our hearts are beating wildly,
We express the truth but mildly,
As we boys exclaim, "I'm awful glad it snowed."



Now I see my grandma stand,
Signs of flour on her hand,

And I guess she's just been making chicken pie;
Grandpa, too, with hearty greeting,
Uncles, aunts, and cousins meeting;
And the dinner will be coming by and by.

Now the longed-for time is here:
"You may sit right there, my dear"—
Such a feast as this was never seen before.
O, I never shall be able
To describe that loaded table,
Everything you ever heard of and some more.

"I'll bet I'll eat more than you!
We will weigh when we are through,
To discover who the champion may be."
Now at last the meal is over,
And we give the bones to Rover;
"Guess the dog is most as glad as you and me."

Grandpa shows his pigs and cows,
And the hay that fills the mows;
Then we play and visit till we have to go.
Once again the bells are jingling,
Frosty air sets faces tingling;
Then we fall asleep beneath the buffalo.

—NATHANIEL MOODY

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All Set for Winter with a Bountiful Harvest

by Elisabeth Doren

When I was small, which was close to a century ago, there were two schools of cooking in our house. There was my mother's which favored whole wheat bread, baked six loaves at a time in the big old kitchen range; whole grain gems, luscious treats baked in little pre-heated iron pans just by the heat of the pans without baking powder or soda; other whole grain goodies, and of course, vegetables of all sorts.

Then there were Aunt Kate's contributions to our diet, which leaned toward cookies: ginger—great big four-inch rounds of pure pleasure, baked 60 to a batch; caraway, for which we kids were sent out to gather the seeds in our neighbor's field across the road; and molasses and plain and fancy sugar cookies. You name it, we had it!

But Aunt Kate's cooking was not all tooth-filling sweetness. She also made a delicious yeast-raised corn bread. And pickles—all kinds. She even had her own row of cucumbers in the big family garden, just for her pickles.

The rest of the garden was my mother's department and she tended it well, raising enough vegetables to feed our

"And so we gratefully ate our way through the seasons of bitter cold and snowy storms."

large family all summer and fall, with plenty more to put up for the winter, stored in the big cellar beneath the house.

Shall I describe our cellar? Can you withstand the onslaught of pure unadulterated gluttony that filled our cellar, with its barrels and boxes and bins, full of the bounty of garden and orchard?

One corner was walled off for the potato bin. It was a large corner, big enough to hold a nine-month supply for a large family that ate potatoes at least two meals a day, baked, boiled, scalloped, fried. And were they ever good! My father knew just which seed potatoes to buy, but the only one I remember is "gold coin", which was large and smooth-skinned, excellent for baking.

Considerable drama hovered around the potato bin. Would they last until the new crop came in? If you were lucky—and planted early—you just might get your first delicious small early potatoes by the Fourth of July. By that time last year's potatoes were getting spongy and were growing sprouts.

But enough of potatoes. Let's move on to the apples. We grew them ourselves. The orchard extended from the driveway north nearly all the way back to the little family cemetery, and west from the road nearly to the barn—perhaps 2 or 3 acres, filled with several varieties of apples.



Neil, Lois, Catherine, and Elisabeth Doren ready to go to church circa 1909. photo by Bertha Doren

There were Snows—a winter apple good for applesauce or just plain eating, raw, by the big parlor stove with a book in hand. Then there were Tallman Sweets—the very best for baking, two dozen at a time in the big old kitchen range. And we had several other varieties, some for keeping, some for early eating. But the very best for lasting through until spring was the Russet. It had a rusty brown skin, a firm flesh, a slightly sharp flavor, and was wonderful for its keeping qualities. You don't see them around much anymore. (One time we learned that there was an orchard across the river that still had them, and we made an expedition by rowboat to get some.)

The other corners of the cellar held barrels of salt pork, home-raised and home-cured. This was a staple of the farm diet between batches of fresh meat. It was freshened (the salt removed) in milk, which was brought to a boil and then thrown away as it contained the salt petre, good for preserving pork, but not for the human stomach.

And so we gratefully ate our way through the seasons of bitter cold and snowy storms on the bounty provided by our foresightful farm parents.

And while I have been singing its praises, the food was only a metaphor for the larger riches my enterprising parents were able to wrest from life itself on a small farm in that faraway land of my youth.

Elisabeth Doren helped found and was still writing for the Sampler when she was well into her eighties. She has since passed on and is missed.

Recipes for Fall Treats

Mama's Pumpkin Pie

1 cup dry stewed pumpkin	½ cup sugar
1 egg (small one OK)	⅓ to ½ tsp salt
1 rounded tsp flour	1 tsp ginger (level)
½ tsp cinnamon	2 cups milk

Reduce the stewed pumpkin by cooking it in a cast iron frying pan, scraping and turning till it is dried out a little and a rich dark orange. Stir sugar and egg together. Add pumpkin and dry ingredients, then the milk. Taste to see if there is enough salt and spice. Bake until firm in the center. If two or three pies are made, one egg will do for the batch, but use more flour. It improves the texture.

—Bertha Doren, 1912

Applesauce

½ bushel apples	1 quart cider
-----------------	---------------

Pare and core apples and quarter them. Add cider and simmer slowly in as large a vessel as possible. Keep adding apples as they break down and keep simmering to desired thickness. Can be finished in the oven after the apples are all broken down. Add spices if desired before putting in oven. Oven heat does not burn like the stove top. Makes about two quarts.

—Elisabeth Doren, 1930

Aunt Kate's Ginger Cookies

1 c. sugar	1 c. molasses
1 c. shortening	1 c. thin sour cream
5 c. flour (about)	1 rounded tsp. ginger
1 level tsp. salt	1 level tsp. cinnamon
1 egg	

Stir and let stand before rolling. If making drop cookies use less flour.

—Aunt Kate Gilmour, 1904

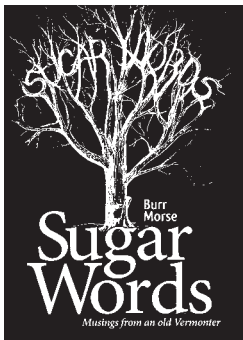
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An Autumn Vermont Almanack

by Bill Felker

Our northern November day itself is like spring water. It is melted frost, dissolved snow. There is a chill in it and an exhilaration also. The forenoon is all morning and the afternoon all evening. The shadows seem to come forth and to revenge themselves upon the day. The sunlight is diluted with darkness. The colors fade from the landscape, and only the sheen of the river lights up the gray and brown distance.

—John Burroughs

The Frog and Toad Migration Moon and the Sandhill Crane Migration Moon

October 23: The Frog and Toad Migration Moon is new at 4:57 p.m. *October 30:* The moon enters its second quarter at 9:48 p.m. *November 3:* The moon is closest to Earth: Perigee. *November 6:* The moon is full at 5:23 p.m. *November 14:* The moon enters its final quarter at 10:16 a.m. *November 15:* Lunar apogee: the moon is farthest from earth. *November 22:* The Sandhill Crane Migration Moon is new at 7:32 a.m. *November 27:* The moon is at Perigee. *November 29:* The moon enters its second quarter at 5:06 a.m.

The Sun

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 2. Set clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. (or whenever you would like).

The Planets

Jupiter in Leo is the morning star this month, rising after midnight and moving overhead by sunup. Mars is the red evening star, riding low in the southeast in Sagittarius. Venus and Saturn are both in Libra throughout the day, lost in the sun for the rest of the month.

The Stars

The constellation Orion tells goat time (as well as countless other times). When its outriders, the Pleiades and Taurus, appear in autumn, does are in estrus, and breeding takes place. With Orion filling the east after dark in early winter, kids develop through gestation and are typically born when Orion is due south. Weaning follows Orion's shift to the west,



A Flint Covered Bridge (1845) in Tunbridge, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

and when those stars lie along the horizon at dusk, the kids will be in the pasture.

Meteorology

Expect a change in the weather (and in your mood) as the barometer falls one to three days before the weather systems that arrive near the following dates: November 2, 6, 11, 16, 20, 24 & 28. If strong storms occur this month, weather patterns suggest that they will happen during the following

periods: November 2 - 5, 14 - 16 and November 21 - 27. This year, full moon on November 6 and new moon on November 22 increase the likelihood of turbulent weather. Perigee on the 3rd and full moon on the 6th may make the first week of November a turbulent one.

The Shooting Stars

The Leonids fall through Leo in the east below the cup of the Big Dipper on the early morning of November 17-18.

The Seasons of Late Fall

by Bill Felker

The Week That Ginkgo Leaves Fall

Now is the time for the burning of the leaves. They go to the fire; the nostrils prick with smoke. Wandering slowly into the weeping mist.

—Laurence Binyon, "The Burning of the Leaves"

During the final week of middle fall, mums often keep blossoming in the perennial garden. Throughout the fields and woods, the last autumn violets are still blooming beside a few chicory, Queen Anne's lace, thyme-leaved speedwell, mallow, the final asters and one or two stalks of goldenrod. Wild geraniums, thistles, and cinquefoil can be growing back. Sometimes a parsnip is ready to bloom. Garlic mustard, sweet Cicely, Virginia creeper, burdock, red clover, waterleaf, ground ivy, celandine, sweet rocket, dock, leafcup have also revived, looking ahead six months to middle spring.

Cabbage worms still eat the cabbages and kale, but the seasons of tomatoes, beans, eggplant, and squash are over. Some years, houseflies still get in the back door. The last crickets sing in the milder afternoons and nights. A few butterflies still hunt for flowers. Grasshoppers and woolly-bear caterpillars are still common. Small tan moths play in the sun. But the last robins and doves follow the valleys south. All the other major migrations end within a few days.

Sometimes the maple and white mulberry leaves that survived October drop in a day. The ginkgoes do the same; they can shatter overnight into a shining circle below their limbs. Willows, though, are only half turned. Decorative pear trees are still green, prolonging an illusion of September. Silver maples seem to be untouched by the radical shift in the season; they hold until the nights go into the teens. Dogwoods will be pink, magnolias gold, oaks red-orange for a few days longer.

The Week of the Tufted Seeds

The leaves are all dead on the ground. Save those the oak is keeping...

—Robert Frost

Along the highways, ironweed seeds are soft and white when late fall comes. Goldenrod and thimbleweed are tufted like cotton, their foliage deep chocolate brown. Most of the milkweed pods have opened. A few blackberry bushes are bare; others are still red and purple. Mums are past their best, but the witch hazels burst into bloom.

Although many of the maples, oaks, beech, and pears con-

tinue to hold on, the last ginkgoes lose their leaves, magnolias weaken, and cherry foliage turns brown at the edges. The final white mulberry foliage comes down. Scarlet rose hips and the buds of pussy willows stand out. Honeysuckles and forsythias are thinning; their leaf-fall measures the progress of the last phase of autumn.

Driving south, you can still find early fall, catching up with the best of leafturn in the Carolinas. Along the Gulf coast, the trees still hold their foliage, and colors haven't even reached their peak. By the time you go south far enough to recapture middle summer, the monarch butterflies will almost be getting ready to start back north from Michoacan, Mexico, and robins will be restless to leave the Caribbean.

By the time the frost reaches Mobile, Alabama, it will be just about time for it to recede. By the time second spring is halted by snow and cold in the Northeast, it will be reaching its fulfillment in Georgia. By the time the last leaves fall in the southern Appalachians during mid December, the first leaves will be emerging in Florida. The last day of harvest in Vermont will be the first day of planting a thousand miles south where the last wildflower of one year will be blooming beside the first of the next.

The Week Skunk Cabbage Appears

If you are afflicted with melancholy at this season, go to the swamp and see the brave spears of skunk cabbage buds already advanced toward a new year... See those green cabbage buds lifting the dry leaves in that watery and muddy place... They see over the brown of winter's hill. They see another summer ahead.

—Henry David Thoreau

When next year's skunk cabbage pushes through the mud, summer still retains enough momentum to hold off early winter a little longer. Starlings are still gathering in the wood lots. Autumn violets and pansies can still be blooming. More than a third of the forsythia, silver olive, mock orange and honeysuckle hold on. The pears still have their leaves. Waterstriders still hunt in the sloughs this week. A few daddy longlegs are left in the old wood nettles and touch-me-nots. A few bees still come out, and moths emerge when the temperatures rise into the 60s.

When skunk cabbage appears, new winter wheat has turned fields bright green again. Lawns grow back; they can be

long and thick beneath the fallen leaves. Garlic mustard is waiting for April all across the woodland floor. It sprouted fourteen months ago and has persevered with only a cluster of basal leaves all summer. The worst cold will not kill it. In the swamp, colors deepen. Protected by the streams, watercress shines; dock and ragwort come back beside the dead field grasses.

The Week the Sandhill Cranes Depart

Then some day here come the cranes planing in from cloud or mist—sharp, lonely spears, awkwardly graceful.

—William Stafford

All but a few shriveled staghorns have fallen from the sumac when the sandhill cranes leave their last northern breeding grounds. Thistles are bedraggled, foliage curled and shriveled. Fields of dry goldenrod heads glow in the sun, more exotic than when they were in flower. Box elder seeds shimmer in the frost.

Sharp burdock burrs are poised, waiting for you to brush against them. This week of the year, red and orange berries are unveiled by the end of leaf-fall on the crabapples, the honeysuckles and the hawthorns. In spite of all the cold, pansies still bloom, and scattered mums still keep their color. Mulched parsley, carrots, beets, potatoes, chard, broccoli, kale, chives can still be brought in from the vegetable garden.

Once in a while, dandelions blossom, appear out of season like overwintering robins, stragglers showing up through the fall and winter. Wild onions and the garden garlic grow a bit when the weather is mild. Motherwort is still strong. Moss has new sprouts, a promise of February and March on old logs. The grass along the freeways has turned pale, but winter wheat sometimes grows an inch or so, creating wide patches of deep green in the dying landscape.

Cardinals sing off and on throughout the day. Squirrels chatter. Opossums and raccoons increase their activity in the warmer evenings. Deer are mating. Improvident woolly bear caterpillars, the latest of the year, hurry across the roads when the sun shines. Sparrows fight for seeds. Crows congregate for winter.

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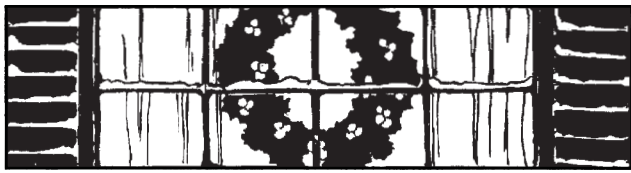
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Bellows Falls Winter Farmers' Market at the Bellows Falls Amtrak Station, Depot St. November 21 & December 19, 4-6:30 p.m. Rachel Ware, (802) 463-2018. bellowsfallsmarket@gmail.com. www.bffarmersmarket.com.

Bennington-Walloomsac Holiday and Winter Farmers Markets at First Baptist Church, 601 Main St. November 8, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.; November 22, 10 p.m. - 2 p.m.; December 13, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.; December 20, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. January through April, first and third Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. info@walloomsac.org. On Facebook.

Bradford Farmers Market, Grace United Methodist Church. Second and fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. October 25 through April. Iris Johnson, (802) 222-4495. hellobradfordfarmers@gmail.com. facebook.com/bradfordfarmersmarket.

Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market at River Garden, 153 Main St. Holiday markets December 6, 13 & 20, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., November 2014 through March 2015. Accepts EBT and debit cards. Sherry Maher, (802) 869-2141. farmersmarket@postsoilsolutions.org. www.postsoilsolutions.org.

Burlington Winter Farmers' Market at Memorial Auditorium, corner of Main St. and S. Union. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. every other Saturday, November through April. Accepts EBT and debit cards. Chris Wagner, (802) 310-5172. info@burlingtonfarmersmarket.org. burlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

Champlain Islands—South Hero Winter Farmers' Market at South Hero Congregational Church on South St. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. October 25, November 8 & 22 and December 6 & 20. Denise Boutin, (802) 372-3291. deniseboutin@gmail.com. www.champlainislandsfarmersmarket.com.

Dorset Winter Farmers' Market at J.K. Adams Kitchen Store and Factory on Rt. 30. Sundays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., October 19 through May 5. Carol Adinolfi. marketmanager@dorsetfarmersmarket.com. www.dorsetfarmersmarket.com.



Belgian draft horses and companion chicken in their barnyard in Randolph Center, VT. photo by Nancy Cassidy

Groton Growers' Winter Farmers Market at Groton Community Building Gym. Every third Saturday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., from October through May. Mary Berlejung and Sandi Adams. (802) 584-3595 or (802) 633-3031. grotongrowers@gmail.com. www.grotongrowers.org.

Hartland Winter Farmers' Market at Damon Hall, Rts. 5 & 12, Hartland Three Corners. Friday afternoons, November and December, 4-7 p.m. hartlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com. www.hartlandfarmersmarket.com.

Londonderry—West River Winter Farmers' Market. Floodbrook Union School. Saturdays 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. thru January 3. Jenny Strecker. (802) 875-5004. westriverfarmersmarket@gmail.com. www.westriverfarmersmarket.com.

Middlebury Winter Farmer's Market at Mary Hogan Elementary School, 201 Mary Hogan Dr. Holiday market, Saturday, December 6., 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Indoor markets Saturdays, November 1 through December 27; closed January & February; then open March 7 through April 25, 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Jeremy Gildrien & Sharon Kerwin, (802) 989-7223. middleburyfarmersmarket.org.

Montpelier Capital City Winter Farmers' Market. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. November 22 at Montpelier H.S. December 6 & 20 and January 3 & 17 at Montpelier City Hall; February 7 & 21 and March 21 at Montpelier H.S.; March 7 at Montpelier City Hall; March 21 and April 11 & 25 at Montpelier H.S. Carolyn Grodinsky, (802) 223-2958. manager@montpelierfarmersmarket.com. www.montpelierfarmersmarket.com.

Northfield Winter Farmers' Market. Norwich University's Plumley Armory. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. November 2, December 14, January 4, February 1, March 1, and April 4. Crystal Peterson. (802) 485-5563. northfieldfarmersmarketvt@gmail.com. northfieldfarmersmarketvt.com.

Norwich Farmers' Winter Market at Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. Holiday Market December 6, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Winter markets 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., November 15 & 22; December 6 & 20; January 10 & 24; February 14 & 28; March 14 & 28; April 11 & 25. Steve Hoffman, (802) 384-7447. manager@norwichfarmersmarket.org. norwichfarmersmarket.org.

Putney Holiday Markets at Green Mountain Orchards, 130 West Hill Rd. Sundays, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., November 23 & 30, December 7, 14 & 21. Marisa Miller. (802) 387-4052. putneyfarmersmarket@gmail.com. www.putneyfarmersmarket.org.

Rutland Winter Farmers' Market. Food Center Building at 251 West St. Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Wednesdays 4-7 p.m. November 1 through May 2. Doug Patac, (802) 753-7269. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org.

Sharon Sprouts Farmers' Markets at Sharon Elementary School. November 15, February 14, March 14, 10 am - 1 pm, local lunch 11:30 am - 1 pm. Donna Foster, (802) 763-8280. vtfoster@myfairpoint.net.

St. Johnsbury—Caledonia Winter Farmers Market at St. Johnsbury Welcome Center, Railroad St. First and third Saturdays, November 1 through April 18, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Elizabeth Everts, (802) 592-3088. sites.google.com/site/caledoniafarmersmarket.

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I Want to Farm

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

Brian Traverse's grandfather Patrick, a logger from Poultney, came to Castleton when he was cutting timber near Birdseye Mountain for the Metowee Lumber Company. The company paid him for his work with land, and he toured the woods at the end of Birdseye Road and marked out for himself a parcel of eighty-seven acres.

Today Brian Traverse, Patrick's fifty-four-year-old grandson, often speaks of his grandfather. He says Patrick eventually got out of logging. He bought the two hundred acre Ross farm, just up the road from his initial eighty-seven acre parcel, settled down and had four children, Robert, George, Shirley, and Sally.

Robert, known as Robbie, was Brian's father. In 1949, Robbie married Irene Baker, a woman who was part of a big family with brothers and sisters living in South Wallingford, Tinmouth, and Danby.

Robbie worked in the woods, but wanted to farm. Following a once-almost-universal custom, at first he and Irene stayed with his parents. But in 1960, the couple was able to buy a nearby farmhouse of their own at the juncture of Birdseye Road and old Route 4-A.

In this early 1800s building, Robbie and Irene raised twelve children, Sandy, Robert, Martin, Glen, Russell, Sue, Larry 'Skeeter,' Peter, George, Tim, Tom and Brian.

Irene says proudly that every one of her offspring graduated from high school. She's also proud that raising twelve children on a Vermont farm in the 1960s and 70s she and her husband were able to manage financially. "We never went on welfare."

When the young Traverses grew up, they left the farm, but eleven of the twelve continued to live close by and work locally.

Bob, the oldest son, was still at home, and in 1992 his father passed the family place on to him. But Bob had a hard time. The new Route 4 had made some of his good pasture land inaccessible. He wasn't in a Current Use Program so he was being hit hard with taxes.

He hated paperwork and government mandates. Right at the beginning of hunting season, the state wanted him to take time out to relocate his manure piles, and he was having difficulty getting anyone to pick up the milk from his small dairy herd.

Bob thought about selling and moving to Maine, but he knew his younger brother Brian wanted to take over. Brian had worked for twenty-six years as a mechanic at the Rutland Country Club, still, like his father and grandfather before him, he was inescapably drawn to farming.

So the Traverse family sat down together, and Bob gave the property back. Then Brian used all his financial resources to clear delinquent taxes and assume the mortgage.

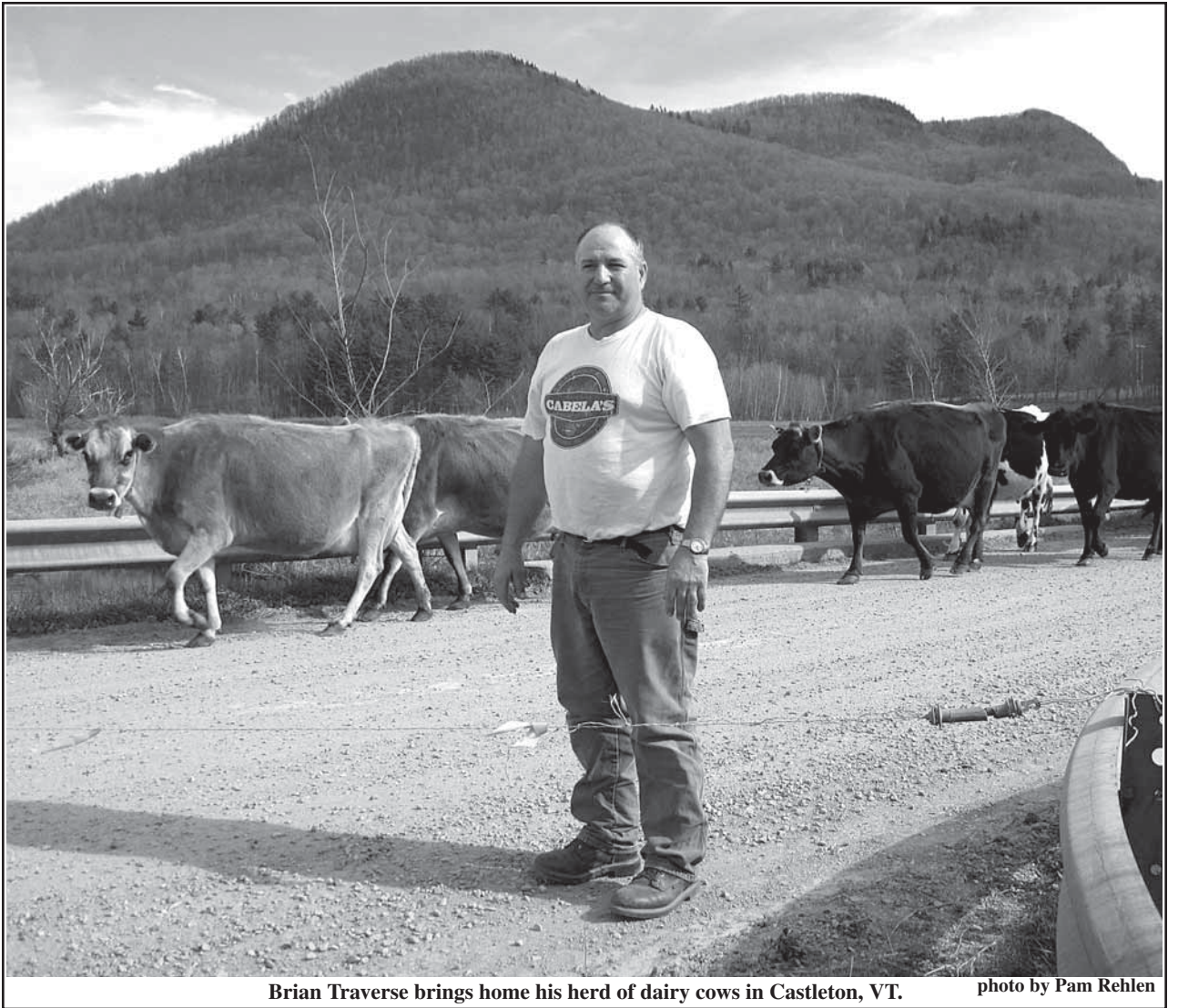
Two years ago, after he'd had the place for ten years, in order to keep things going Brian was driving milk truck long distance for an outfit in Orwell, and his wife Kathy was working as a hairdresser in Castleton.

Brian's brother Bob was milking for him in the six-cow California flat parlor and a free stall arrangement that replaced a big barn lost to fire in 1973.

Brian said at that time, "Our cows never see the barn, only when they're milked. They're fed outside in a ring feeder. We do everything the simplest way."

But now Brian has fewer cows, and he isn't shipping milk. The farm continues, probably because the Traverses are such agrarian romantics, and also because Brian's two sons have come on board with the determination and energy they have left over after working off-farm jobs.

Grandmother Irene Traverse, now in her early eighties,



Brian Traverse brings home his herd of dairy cows in Castleton, VT.

photo by Pam Rehlen

continues to live in the farm homestead. She has a living room wall covered with school photos of her thirty-six grandchildren, twenty-three great-grandchildren, and one Woodbury, who is an honorary Traverse.

Brian remembers when thirty-six of his relatives lived along this dirt road. Every morning, a school bus would pick up what was known as the Birdseye Gang.

In the last two years a lot has changed. Brian's sons, particularly Scott and his wife Destiny, want to step into his shoes. Two years ago, many people didn't realize that the Traverses were still milking. "But we are," Brian said at that time.

Today the family is no longer shipping milk—instead they use it to feed the pigs—and they have fewer cows. Field work is being done by both Brian and his son Jake. The family sells raw milk, grass-fed beef, and eggs.

Two years ago, Brian and his mother, clearly close and comfortable together, sat at their kitchen table and said—because they knew that small-time farming in Vermont can be a bleak business—"We take every day as it comes."

But earlier, Brian had also said, "I just want to work right here." This is a powerfully-connected family, to the land, to each other, and to their farm heritage, so it's not surprising that it's what his sons seem to want also.

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Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written all of her life and lived most of that life in Castleton, Vermont. She is the author of many stories, articles, essays, and magazine features, and of two books, *The Blue Cat and the River's Song*, and *The Vanished Landmarks Game - Vermont Stories from West of Birdseye*, available at the Castleton Village Store and a number of Vermont bookstores.

"This is a powerfully-connected family, to the land, to each other, and to their farm heritage..."

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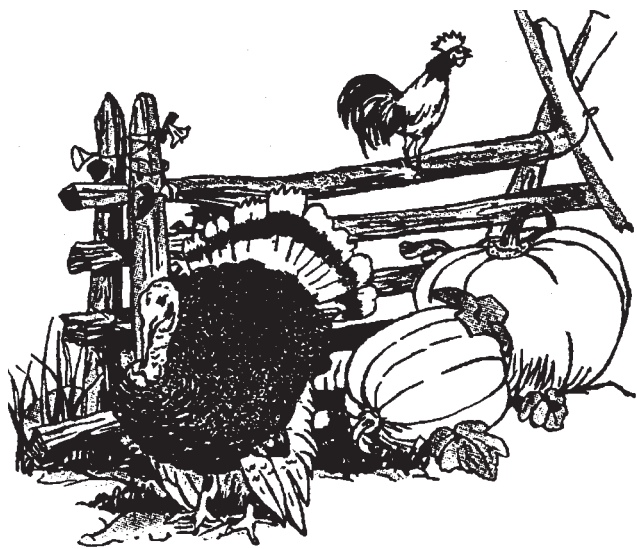
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Dunstable Farm, Walter Bothfeld, 960 Bothfeld Hill Rd., Cabot, VT 05647. (802) 563-2386.

Earthwise Farm and Forest, Lisa McCrory and Carl Russell, 341 Macintosh Hill Rd., Bethel, VT 05032. (802) 234-5524. www.earthwisefarmandforest.com.

Ephraim Mountain Farm, Steven and Esta Morse, 400 Dutton District Rd., Springfield, VT 05156. (802) 885-8798. www.ephraimmountainfarm.com.

Four Springs Farm, Jinny Hardy Cleland, 776 Gee Hill Rd., Royalton, VT 05068. (802) 763-7296. www.fourspringsfarm.com.

Gaylord Farm, Beth & Hadley Gaylord, Jr., 2587 Main St., Waitsfield, VT 05673. (802) 496-5054.

Killdeer Farm Stand and Farm, Jake and Liz Guest and Scott Woolsey, 163 Rt. 5

South, Norwich, VT 05055. (802) 649-2852. killdeerfarm.com.

Maple Wind Farm, Beth Whiting and Bruce Hennessey, 1340 Carse Rd., Huntington, VT 05462. (802) 434-7257. maplewindfarm.com.

Misty Knoll Farm, John Palmer and Rob Litch, 1685 Main St., New Haven, VT 05472. (802) 453-4748. mistyknollfarms.com.

Parsells Farm, Karl Parsells, 719 Sawyer Rd., Mount Holly, VT 05758. (802) 259-2838.

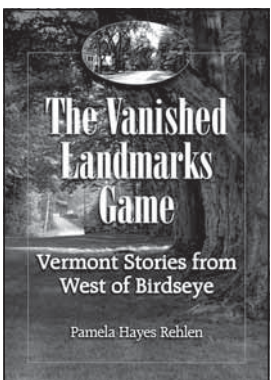
SpringMore Farm, John and Rebecca Lomachinsky, 261 Baltimore Rd., Baltimore, VT 05143. (802) 263-5390. springmorefarm.com.

Stonewood Farm, Peter Stone and Sigrid Mertens, 105 Griswold Lane, Orwell, VT 05760. (802) 948-2277. www.stonewoodfarm.com.

Teenie's Tiny Poultry Farm, Bob Bearor, Teenie's Tiny Road, RFD 4, Rutland, VT 05701. (802) 773-2637.

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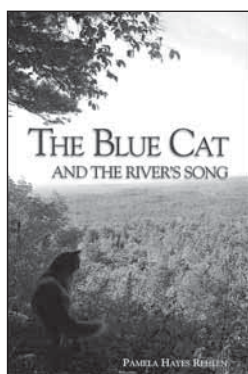


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Vermont Country Calendar

See the end of the daily event calendar for ongoing activities, museums, exhibits, and galleries, community dances and music, horseback riding and wagon rides, and recreation and nature centers.

DAILY EVENTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

BELMONT. Baked Ham Dinner. Benefit for Gill Home, IOOF. Mashed Potato w/Gravy, Vegetables, Rolls and Home Baked Pies. All You Can Eat—Home Style. Take-outs available. Adults \$10, Children 11 and under \$5. 5 pm. Odd Fellows Hall. (802) 259-2460.

BURLINGTON. Masterworks Concert Series Season Opener. VSO with Jaime Laredo conducting and Jonathan Biss on piano, performs Jorge Martin, Fiesta Fanfare; Faure, Pavane; Beethoven, Piano Concerto No. 3; Dvorak, Symphony No. 7. Tickets \$16-\$61. 8 pm preceded at 7 pm by Musically Speaking, a free pre-concert discussion. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. (802) 864-5741. www.flynntix.org. www.vso.org. Also December 6, January 24, March 14, May 2.

HARTLAND. Annual Family-Style Turkey Supper. Roast turkey with all the fixings plus homemade pies and rolls. Silent auction. \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under; preschoolers are free. 4:30-6:30 pm. The First Universalist Church, 8 Brownsville Rd. (802) 436-2323. Also November 1.

HUNTINGTON. A Celebration of the Life of Bob Spear. Birds of Vermont Museum will celebrate the life and legacy of its founding director Bob Spear from 1-4 pm. Spear combined his lifelong love of birds and woodcarving into a most unusual conservation and education opportunity. We will share memories, photos, conversation, and because Bob loved it so—ice cream. The tree house and trails will be open. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., (802) 434 2167. www.birdsofvermont.org.

RUTLAND. 55th Annual Halloween Parade. The oldest in the United States. Floats, marching bands and local dignitaries. Parade route: Madison St. & Strongs Ave. to Wales St., left to West St., left onto Merchants Row ending at the plaza. Line up at 5:30 pm, parade at 6:30 pm. (802) 773-1822. www.rutlandrec.com/halloween.

SHOREHAM. Free Community Dinner. The menu includes pulled pork, harvest vegetables, cole slaw, bread, beverages, and dessert. Bring non-perishable items for the food pantry. 5-7 pm at the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802)-897-2780.

SOUTH STRAFFORD. Lord's Acre Harvest Supper. Ham dinner, show, and silent auction. Show "Strafford Through the Ages" at 7:30 pm. Silent auction all evening. Adults \$10; children 6-12, \$5; preschool \$2. Show \$3. Servings at 5, 5:45 & 6:30 pm. Barrett Memorial Hall, 248 Rt.132. (802)765-4040. joeylornell@gmail.com.

WARDSBORO. 12th Annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival. An all-day, indoor-outdoor celebration of Wardsboro's delicious roots. Craft and farmers market booths, the Turnip Shoppe, a Turnip Cafe, live music, and the annual Turnip Contest with guest judge, Margaret Roach, author and former garden editor for Martha Stewart "Living". Free admission & free parking. 10 am - 3 pm, rain or shine, on Main St. For festival and turnip contest details, call (802) 896-3416 or visit friendsofwardsborolib.org.

WEST BRATTLEBORO. Forest of Mystery—A Magical Night Journey. "The Realm of Fire." Interactive theatrical performance along a half-mile candle-lit trail through forests and meadows. Tickets adults \$15, \$10 children 6-16. Call to reserve. (Rain date October 26). Journeys begin every 15 minutes from 6:15 to 8:30 pm. Bonneyvale Environmental Education Center, 1221 Bonneyvale Rd. (Heifer Hill). (802) 257-5785. beec.org.

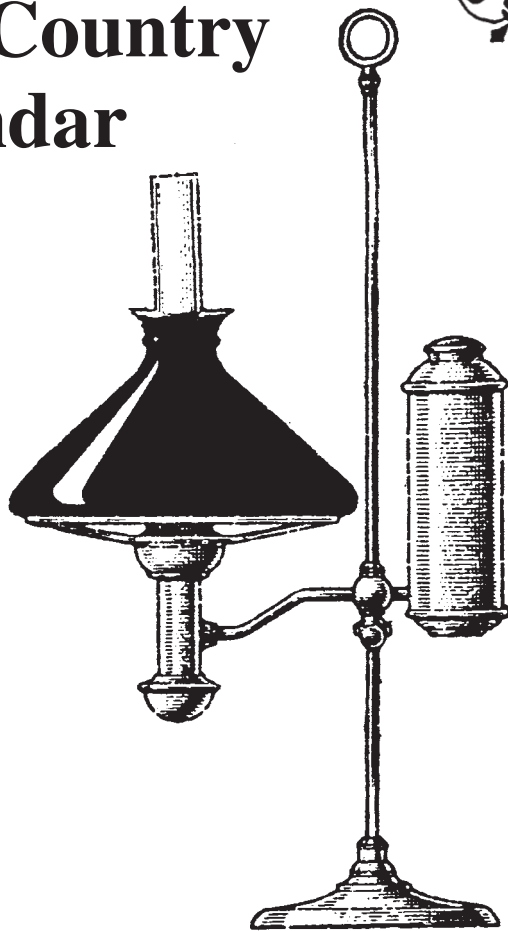
WINDSOR. 15th Annual Model Engineering Show. Visit with New England's finest model engineers and enjoy informative workshops and demonstrations throughout the day. Adult admission \$10, students \$5, to both the museum and the show. 9 am - 4 pm. Windsor Recreational Center, 29 Union St., and American Precision Museum, 196 Main St. (802) 674-5781. www.americanprecision.org.

WOODSTOCK. 50th Annual Glad Rags Sale. Quality new and used clothing and small household items. Free admission. 9 am - 12:30 pm and 1-3 pm. Masonic Lodge, 30 Pleasant St. www.gladrags.org.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

HANOVER, NH. Open Fields School's 10th Great Goose Egg Auction. Featuring ovoid art by Malcolm Bird, Diane deGroat, Diane Dillon, David Macauley, Ed Young, and dozens of other fine artists, Open Fields alumni, and many, many more! Preview 12:30 pm, auction 2 pm. At the Hayward Room, Hanover Inn. To find out more, view eggs, or leave a bid, call (802) 785-2077. info@openfields.org. Visit www.openfields.org.

RANDOLPH CENTER. The Old Country Fiddler: Charles Ross Taggart. Fiddler Adam Boyce portrays Mr. Taggart. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Randolph Historical Society. 2 pm. First Congregational Church of Randolph, Main Street & South Randolph Rd. (603) 524-4418.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

BRADFORD. Holiday Bazaar. Attic treasures, baked goods, crafts, plants and Christmas table. Lunch available after 11 am. Free admission. 9 am - 3 pm. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 113 Upper Plain. (802) 222-9391.

BRANDON. Annual Seed Sale and Membership Drive for the Audubon Society. Join us for bird chat and stock up on seed. No purchase necessary. 8 am - 1 pm. At Blue Seal Feeds, Rt. 7. rutlandcountyaudubon.org.

BRATTLEBORO. 3rd Annual Brattleboro Film Festival. Dramatic features, documentaries and shorts of all genres from the U.S. and around the world. The Latchis Theatre, 50 Main St. For schedule call (802) 254-8169 or visit www.brattleborofilmfestival.org. Through November 9.

BRATTLEBORO. Exhibit Opening: World Leaders & Global Citizens—Photographs by Patrick Leahy. On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of his service as a U.S. senator. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, 10 Vernon St. www.brattleboromuseum.org. Through March 7.

BRATTLEBORO. Concert: The Boston Gay Men's Chorus. One of New England's most celebrated community-based choruses, will perform live. The event is a fundraiser for the Brattleboro Retreat's LGBT Program. Tickets \$20-\$125. 7:30 pm. Latchis Theater, 50 Main St. (800) 838-3006. www.brattlebororetreat.org/chorus.

BURLINGTON. The Hatch Presents: Storytellers on a Mission. Tickets \$77.50/\$55/\$28.75. 7:30 pm. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (802) 863-5966. www.vermontparksforever.org. hatchvt.org.

BURLINGTON. Vermont International Film Festival. Films in many venues throughout town. For schedule and information call or visit website. (802) 660-2600. info@vtiff.org. vtiff.org. Also November 2.

EAST CORINTH. Spooky Spaghetti Supper. Donation. 5-7 pm. East Corinth Congregational Church, Village Rd. (802) 439-5766.

HARTLAND FOUR CORNERS. Annual Family-Style Turkey Supper. Roast turkey with all the fixings plus homemade pies and rolls. Silent auction. \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under; preschoolers are free. 4:30-6:30 pm. The First Universalist Church. (802) 436-2323.

HAVERHILL, NH. Fall Rummage Sale. Free admission. 9 am - 2 pm. First Congregational Church, 10 Parish Hall Ln. (603) 989-3381.

PUTNEY. Concert: Bluesman Guy Davis in Shades of Blue Concert Series. Tickets: \$20. 7 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill Rd. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org. guydavis.com.

RIPTON. Ripton Community Coffee House Concert: Mark Erelli. Admission at the door: \$10, \$8 for teens and seniors & \$3 for children. Doors open at 7 pm for all shows. Open mic at 7:30 pm followed by intermission with beverages and baked goods for sale then featured performers at 8:30 pm. At the Ripton Community House, 1305 Rt. 125. (802) 388-9782. rcch.org.

RUTLAND. Annual Seed Sale and Membership Drive for the Audubon Society. Join us for bird chat and stock up on seed. No purchase necessary. 8 am - 1 pm. At Agway, Park St. rutlandcountyaudubon.org.

RUTLAND. Lakes Region Farmers Market Pre-Holiday Craft Show. Beautiful handcrafted items and gifts, quilts, soap, jewelry and paintings, home baked goods and country treats, locally produced, specialty foods, local fall apples and fresh cider. Holiday gift boxes: ready-made or custom, mail orders accepted. Free admission. 9 am - 4 pm. Holiday Inn, Rt. 7 South. Info: Jamie Condrill (802) 287-9570.

NOVEMBER

No sun—no moon!
No morn—no noon—
No dawn—no dusk—no proper time of day.
No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,
No comfortable feel in any member—
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds!—
November!

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Vermont Country Calendar

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 9 am - 3 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook.

SPRINGFIELD. 12th Annual Harvest Bazaar. Lunch 11:30 am - 1 pm, chicken on biscuits, corn chowder, vegetable soup, sandwiches and a gingerbread dessert. Raffle for a full/queen size "Shaded Four-Patch" quilt made by the ladies of the church. 9 am - 3 pm. First Congregational Church, 224 Main St. (802) 885-5728.

WOODSTOCK. Red Flannel Hash Supper. Menu includes baked beans, coleslaw, bread and pie. \$5 or \$12. 5-7 pm. Unitarian Universalist Church, 7 Church St. (802) 457-2557.

WOODSTOCK. November Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall. Daily programs and activities. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 3:30 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. Also November 2, 8 & 9, 15 & 16, 22 & 23.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

BRATTLEBORO. 3rd Annual Brattleboro Film Festival. Dramatic features, documentaries and shorts of all genres from the U.S. and around the world. The Latchis Theatre, 50 Main St. For schedule call (802) 254-8169 or visit www.brattleborofilmfestival.org. Through November 9.

BURLINGTON. Taize Evening Prayer. All are welcome. 7:30 pm. Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 2 Cherry St. (802) 864-0471. Also January 18, March 30, June 7.

BURLINGTON. Vermont International Film Festival. Films in many venues throughout town. For schedule and information call or visit website. (802) 660-2600. info@vtiff.org. vtiff.org.

CHESTER. Vermont Voices. Thomas Christopher Greene, the founding president of Vermont College of Fine Arts in Montpelier, will lead off Misty Valley Books' Vermont Voices writer's series with his fourth and latest novel, The Headmaster's Wife. Free admission. 2 pm at the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village. (802) 875-3400. www.mvbooks.com. Also November 9, 16 & 23.

MONTPELIER. Onion River Sports Nordic Ski Swap. Telemark, backcountry, touring or racing cross country ski gear or snowshoes. In the Onion River Sports parking lot, 20 Langdon St. (802) 229-9409. www.onionriver.com.

RUTLAND. Concert: Bluesman Guy Davis. A musician, composer, actor, director and writer performs. Tickets \$15. 7 pm at College of Saint Joseph's Tuttle Hall. (802) 558-7587. www.csj.edu

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 9 am - 3 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. Also November 8 & 9, 15 & 16, 22 & 23.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

BETHEL. Living History Performance: "Cranky Yankees." Actor Jim Cooke will bring President Calvin Coolidge to life. There will be a display of Coolidge memorabilia including pictures of his visit to Bethel on September 28, 1928 when President Coolidge toured the state to view the reconstruction after the devastating flood of 1927. Hosted by the Bethel Historical Society. Admission is free and the school is handicap accessible. 6 pm for the public. At Whitcomb High School, 273 Pleasant St. (802) 234-5064.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

BELLOWS FALLS. Contemplative Circle: Centering Prayer with Taize Chanting. 6:30 pm. The Chapel at Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 463-3100. www.stonechurcharts.org. Also November 19.

DUMMERSTON. Wildlife Program: The Fretful Porcupine. Patti Smith will share pictures, videos, and stories about Fretful, a gentleman porcupine, and Dandelion the Dreadful, an orphaned porcupette she raised this past summer. Free. Pre-registration required. Sponsored by Bonneyvale Environmental Education Center. 7 pm at The Learning Collaborative, Rt. 5. (802) 257-5785. beec.org.

LEBANON, NH. Concert: Steep Canyon Rangers. Tickets \$50/\$35/\$25. 7:30 pm. Lebanon Opera House, 51 N. Park St. (603) 448-0400. lebanonoperahouse.org.

RUTLAND. Sip 'n' Dip Painting Class. Mareva Millarc will instruct an introductory abstract painting lesson. Bring your good friend and favorite bottle of wine for an evening of fun and creativity. Fee: \$30. Materials, including canvas, paint, brushes, smocks and instructions included. Advance registration required. 6:30-9 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 South Main St. (802) 775-0062. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

SHOREHAM. Shoreham Historical Society Presentation. Paul Saenger will return with more about Lake Champlain. Free. 7 pm at The Conservatory, 82 School Rd. (802) 897-5254. www.steve-world.com/ShorehamHS/SHShome.htm.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

BARRE. Play: Lou Del Bianco's "In the Shadow of The Mountain." A one-man play where the actor portrays his grandfather, Luigi Del Bianco, Italian immigrant, Barre stonecutter and chief carver on Mount Rushmore. Tickets \$10, \$7 for 18 and under. 7:30 pm at Barre Opera House, 6 N. Main St. (802) 476-0292. www.barreoperahouse.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Folk Music Concert: Hungrytown. With Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson. 7 pm. Main Room, Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main St. For tickets call (802) 254-5290. brookslibraryvt.org.

BRATTLEBORO. 3rd Annual Brattleboro Film Festival. Dramatic features, documentaries and shorts of all genres from the U.S. and around the world. The Latchis Theatre, 50 Main St. For schedule call (802) 254-8169 or visit www.brattleborofilmfestival.org. Through November 9.

PUTNEY. Puppet Show: Gross Bliss by the Dolly Wagglers, New Visions series. Two clumsy artists are in search of examples of true happiness to inspire their new show. The Dolly Wagglers are adored for their crude cardboard creations accompanied by raucous storytelling and live music. Admission. 7:30 pm. Sandglass Theater, 17 Kimball Hill. (802) 387-4051. info@sandglasstheater.org. www.sandglasstheater.org. Also November 8.

RANDOLPH. Concert: The DuPont Brothers. Brothers Sam and Zack DuPont play "Vermont-made Folk Americana." Tickets: \$19 or two for \$35, price includes one drink from the cash bar. 7:30 pm. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 864-5741. www.chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. Concert: Lyle Lovett and His Acoustic Group. Tickets: \$99-\$69.50. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

RUTLAND. Play: True West. By Sam Shepard. Presented by the Vermont Actors Repertory Theatre. Tickets: \$20. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org. Also November 8, 9, 13, 14 & 15.

SPRINGFIELD. Opening of Fibrations! New England Fiber Art & Mixed-Media Invitational Exhibition. Hosted by The Great Hall. Free reception from 5-7 pm. Wine and light refreshments will be served. The Great Hall, 100 River St. (802) 885-3061. jam@vermontel.net. Through Spring 2015.

RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY



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Vendors are invited to apply.

Vermont Country Calendar

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

BARRE. Performance: Comedian Steven Wright. Tickets: \$26/\$39.50. 8 pm. Barre Opera House, City Hall, 6 N. Main St. (802) 476-8188. www.barreoperahouse.org.

BETHEL. 2nd Annual Fall Into the Holidays Shopping Fair. Over 30 vendors—local direct sales, home businesses, artisans, crafters. Home cooked food available from the Whitcomb H.S. Boosters. Free admission, handicap accessible. 9 am – 3 pm at the Whitcomb Jr/Sr High School gym, 273 Pleasant St. (802) 234-0094.

BRANDON. Concert: Swing Noire. The energy of a swinging 1930s jazz club and the early days of jazz. A pre-concert dinner available, reservations required. Show \$15, dinner & show \$35. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 465-4071. brandon-music.net.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra performs Mozart's Overture to "The Marriage of Figaro," Brahms' Violin Concerto, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 8. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 8 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Dartmouth College. (603) 646-2422. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

MIDDLEBURY. 90th Annual Holiday Bazaar. Santa, handmade gifts, knitted items, crafts, food, American Doll outfits, quilts and attic treasures. 9 am - 3 pm. Congregational Church, Seymour St. (802) 388-7634.

NORWICH. 34th Anniversary Contradance and Potluck with Northern Spy and Open Band. Caller: David Millstone. No partner necessary. Beginners and singles always welcome. Please bring a change of clean shoes for the dance floor. Admission \$8 (students \$5, under 16 free). 8 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 785-4607. rbarrows@cs.dartmouth.edu. *Second Saturday dances continue through June 2015.*

PUTNEY. Puppet Show: Gross Bliss by the Dolly Wagglers, New Visions series. Two clumsy artists are in search of examples of true happiness to inspire their new show. The Dolly Wagglers are adored for their crude cardboard creations accompanied by raucous storytelling and live music. Admission. 7:30 pm. Sandglass Theater, 17 Kimball Hill. (802) 387-4051. info@sandglasstheater.org. www.sandglasstheater.org.

RANDOLPH. Play: Ransom. The White River Valley Players perform an original play with music inspired by the Civil War letters of Ransom W. Towle of West Rochester, VT. Reception follows the performance. Tickets: adults \$15, students \$10. 7:30 pm. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 864-5741. www.chandler-arts.org. www.whiterivervalleyplayers.org.

RICHMOND. Cochran's Ski & Ride Sale. Consignment Drop-Off will be Friday from 6-8:30 pm. Camel's Hump Middle School, 173 School St. (802) 434-2479. *Also November 9.*

RUTLAND. Play: *True West*. By Sam Shepard. Presented by the Vermont Actors Repertory Theatre. Tickets: \$20. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org. *Also November 9 (at 2 pm), 13, 14 & 15.*

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 9 am – 3 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook.

SHELBURNE. Family Program: Moonlit Horse-Drawn Wagon Rides. Light snacks and activities at the McClure Education Center before or after your ride. Registration required. Fee: adults \$10; ages 3 to 12 \$7; 2 and under free. 5:15 pm, 6 pm, 6:45 pm, 7:30 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. (802) 985-8442. shelburnefarms.org.

SHOREHAM. Annual Lazyman's lobster and Baked Ham Dinner. Menu includes fresh cider, salad, baked potato, winter squash, beverage, and dessert. Lobster \$20, ham \$10. Takeout available. Seatings at 5 and 6:30 pm. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. Reservations required. (802) 897-2780.

STATEWIDE. Youth Deer Hunt. Fish & Wildlife biologists at 23 biological check stations will report on its outcome. (802) 828-1000. www.vtfishandwildlife.com. *Also November 9.*

SWANTON. Benefit Christmas Bazaar. Featuring items from local artists and craftspersons. Holy Trinity "Church Mice" fabric creations, treasures from Gramma's Attic, children's table, and a variety of home-baked goodies. Lunch, coffee and dessert. 9 am – 2 pm. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 38 Grand Ave. (802) 868-9003.

WAITSFIELD. 33rd Annual Waitsfield PTA Ski & Skate Sale. Winter gear and wear for the young and young at heart. 9 am – 4 pm. Waitsfield Elementary School, Rt. 100. (802) 496-3643. info@wesskiskate.com. www.madriverglen.com. *Also November 9.*

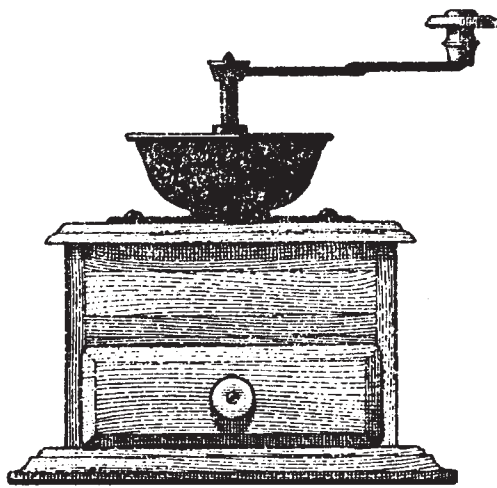
WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall, when the brilliance of foliage has softened and the weather is still pleasant. Daily programs and activities. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Also November 9, 15 & 16, 22 & 23.*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

BARRE. Concert: Eleva Chamber Players Presents "Global Folk". Vermont composers and rare performance of African Suite are featured. Admission. 3 pm. First Church Universalist of Barre, 19 Church St. (802) 244-8354. contactusnow@elevachamberplayers.org. www.elevachamberplayers.org.

BRATTLEBORO. 3rd Annual Brattleboro Film Festival. Dramatic features, documentaries and shorts of all genres from the U.S. and around the world. The Latchis Theatre, 50 Main St. For schedule call (802) 254-8169 or visit www.brattleborofilmfestival.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Music Center Faculty Concert: Music for Soprano, Cello & Piano. Junko Watanabe, Judith Serkin & Victor Rosenbaum perform works by Schubert, Fauré & local composer Paul Dedell. Tickets: \$15, \$10 student. 4 pm. Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main St. (802) 257-4523. www.bmcvt.org.



Rutland Winter Farmers Market is Here!

The Wheel of the Year begins its descent to the dark time, a time of rest, contemplation and renewal. It is when we go inside and drink warm drink by a fire.

Your weekly pilgrimage to the market doesn't stop when the weather changes. The Vermont Farmers Market will go inside, too. November starts the third season of the Vermont Farmers Market at our winter home in the Vermont Farmers Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. Every Saturday from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. and Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. you will find all the local farmers, crafters, artisans and chefs that you came to know all summer offering their wares at the inside winter market from November 1st through May 2nd. And if the sun is shining bring your bocce balls and play a few rounds at our new bocce court right outside.

Winter squashes, apples and more!

Root vegetables, apples and squashes are the ubiquitous favorites spilling over their boxes. The harvests are brought in as everyone trades stories of the years successes and losses. But wind, rain, hail or drought can't keep these folks from their appointed rounds. You will still find fresh salad greens all winter and many local veggies fresh, frozen or canned for hearty winter meals. Look for jars of raw artisan kraut, salsas and BBQ sauces, and assorted jams, jellies and condiments.

Delicious things to eat here or take home

Inside, the smell of prepared food lingers and lures your salivating palate to exotic places in faraway lands. Fresh bread including gluten-free, aged cheeses, new wines and ripe apples call out for a basket, a blanket and a high mountain peak. Put a pork roast or free range chicken in the oven for dinner and warm the house with savory goodness. Or try some grass fed beef or local rabbit. Maybe one last campfire with farm fresh eggs, sizzling bacon, home fried potatoes and a hot cup of coffee.

Gifts galore and treats

You've got hats, gloves and neck warmers to keep you toasty! Knitted and felted and crocheted, oh my! Are you thinking of a crock full of baked beans with maple syrup simmering on the stove? Did you get some cookies or pastries for dessert? Grab some gluten-free cupcakes, too, and some chaga tea. It's time to hunker down with a warm mug, a sweet treat and a good book or a good friend for quiet conversation.

It's also a time for preparing for the days to come so visit us at the Fall Holiday Fair on November 15 at the Holiday Inn on Route 7 in Rutland from 9 a.m. till 4 p.m. Pottery, jewelry, and wooden ware make wonderful gifts for family and friends.

Meet us at the market!

The Vermont Farmers Market accepts debit, credit and EBT cards to make your shopping easy as pie...oh yeah, we've got that, too!

Remember to thank the bees for honey, the trees for syrup and the farmers for keeping us fed throughout the year. Where would we be without them? Not nearly as nourished I suspect and probably a lot less healthy. Food is our Pharmacy and the Vermont Farmers Market will keep us all well in body, mind and soul as we move through the dark time and keep turning the Wheel towards another Spring. See you at the market, friends!

—NANCY SCARCELLO

The Vermont Farmers Market is located at 251 West St., downtown Rutland, VT. For more information call (802) 753-7269 or visit www.vtfarmersmarket.org. On Facebook.



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Vermont Country Calendar

CASTLETON. The Castleton Community Center Annual Holiday Craft Fair. Hosts 23 vendors with one-of-a-kind handmade jewelry, decorations, crafts and food items. Free admission. Soup and sandwiches, 12 am – 3 pm. Fair 9 am – 3 pm. At the Community Center, 2108 Main St. (802) 468-3093. homested@shoreham.net.

CHESTER. Vermont Voices. Archer Mayor returns with a talk about his 25th Joe Gunther mystery entitled, *Proof Positive*. Free admission. Sponsored by Misty Valley Books. 2 pm at the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village. (802) 875-3400. mvbooks.com. Also November 16 & 23.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Dartmouth College Glee Club. Hear 40 singers, accompanied by a chamber ensemble. Tickets: \$9-\$10. 2 pm. Rollins Chapel, Dartmouth College. (603) 646-2422. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

MIDDLEBURY. Holiday Decoration Demonstration and Talk. Local gardener Lynne Boie will show participants how to create two types of holiday decorations with pizzazz: a Thanksgiving centerpiece and an evergreen holiday wreath. Fee: \$12. Advance registration recommended. 2-4 pm. The Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. (802) 388-2117. www.henrysheldonmuseum.org.

RICHMOND. Cochran's Ski & Ride Sale. Camel's Hump Middle School, 173 School St. (802) 434-2479.

RUTLAND. Play: *True West*. By Sam Shepard. Presented by the Vermont Actors Repertory Theatre. Tickets: \$20. 2 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org. Also November 13, 14 & 15.

RUTLAND. Live Broadcast: *Skylight*. From the National Theatre of Great Britain. Starring Carey Mulligan and Bill Nighy. Tickets: \$17. 2 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 9 am – 3 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook.

TUNBRIDGE. Monthly Breakfast & Bake Sale. Hosted by the Tunbridge Recreation Committee and the Tunbridge Central School 8th Grade Class. 8 am – 12 noon. Tunbridge Town Hall, Rt. 110. www.tunbridgevt.com. Continues second Sundays of each month.

WAITSFIELD. 33rd Annual Waitsfield PTA Ski & Skate Sale. Winter gear and wear for the young and young at heart. 9 am – 3 pm. Waitsfield Elementary School, Rt. 100. (802) 496-3643. info@wesskiskate.com. madriverglen.com.

WEST PAWLET. Pancake Breakfast. Hosted by the Volunteer Fire Department. Pancakes of several varieties including regular, chocolate chip, blueberry and cranberry; waffles; West Pawlet's world-famous home fries; scrambled eggs; sausage and bacon; coffee, tea, milk and orange juice. Adults and ages 12 years and up \$8, ages 5-12 years \$5 and children under 5 free. 7:30-11 am at the fire house, 2806 Rt. 153. For info contact Antonio Landon at (802) 345-4312.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall, when the brilliance of foliage has softened and the weather is still pleasant. Daily programs and activities. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. Also November 15 & 16, 22 & 23.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

BETHEL. A Taste of Bethel Dinner. A fundraiser by the Bethel Business Association. Local caterers and restaurants and more will present their best to you. Entertainment by Whitcomb H.S. students performing patriotic pieces. 6 pm at the Whitcomb High School cafeteria, 273 Pleasant St. For tickets call (802) 234-5064.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Sally Pinkas with Julian Milkis and Alexandre Brussilovsky. Program includes Stravinsky, Bartók, Jean Françaix's Sonatine, Arutiunian, plus works by Poulenc, Françaix and Shor-Eldor. Tickets: \$17-\$27. 7 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Dartmouth College. (603) 646-2422. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

WEST BRATTLEBORO. Nature Days. Children grades 1-5 join us to play and learn in the fields and forests at BEEC. 9 am – 3 pm. Fee: \$45. Bonneyvale Environmental Education Center, 1221 Bonneyvale Rd. (802) 257-5785. beec@sover.net. beec.org. Also November 24 & 25.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

CASTLETON. Castleton Theater Arts Presents *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare. Tickets \$12 adults, \$7 children under 12. 7 pm. Casella Theater. (866) 272-5888. www.castleton.edu. Also November 13, 14, 15 & 16 (at 2 pm).

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Diego El Cigala. Flamenco-tongued array of bolero, tango and Afro-Caribbean jazz. Post-performance discussion with the artist. Tickets: \$17-\$40. 7 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Dartmouth College. (603) 646-2422. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

SWANTON. Taize Evening Prayer. All are welcome. 6:30 pm. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 38 Grand Ave. (802) 868-7185. Also December 10.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

RUTLAND. Play: *True West*. By Sam Shepard. Presented by the Vermont Actors Repertory Theatre. Tickets: \$20. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org. Also November 14 & 15.

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

WOODSTOCK. Nature Chats: Built for Winter—Owl Survival Strategies. Discussion with Kelly Beerman. At the Free and open to the public. 7-8 pm. Woodstock Inn & Resort, 14 the Green. (802) 359-5001 x 223. www.vinsweb.org.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

BARRE. Barre Opera House Presents Battlefield Band. Founded in 1969 and recently awarded Scottish Folk Band of the Year. Tickets: \$26. 8 pm. Barre Opera House, City Hall, 6 N. Main St. (802) 476-8188. barreoperahouse.org.

RANDOLPH. Concert: Broken Hearts and Madmen. Two of Canada's leading musical forces: the Gryphon Trio and vocalist Patricia O'Callaghan. Blending classical music with popular songs from around the world. Tickets: Advance Adults \$35, Day of Show \$40; Students \$10. 7:30 pm. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 864-5741. www.chandler-arts.org. www.gryphontrio.com.

RUTLAND. Library Book Sale. Sponsored by The Friends of the Rutland Free Library. 4-8 pm. In the basement, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org. Also November 15 & December 15.

RUTLAND. Moonlight Madness: Dine & Shop 'Til 9 pm. Participating retail stores will stay open late and feature specials. Grab some friends for dinner then get a start on your holiday shopping! Downtown Rutland. (802) 773-9380. www.rutlanddowntown.

SOUTH HERO. Free Community Supper. The food is delicious and prepared by wonderful volunteer cooks. 5:30-7 pm. Congregational Church of South Hero, UCC, 24 South St. (802) 372-4962. Second Friday of each month.

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SUNDAY NOV 23 2014 5:00 / 8:00 PM

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FRIDAY DEC 05 2014 8:00 PM

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Vermont Country Calendar

WILLISTON. Concert: Brick Church Music Series—Patti Casey and Colin McCaffrey. Featured visual artist: Erika White. \$14/\$12. 7 pm, doors at 6 pm. Old Brick Church, 100 Library Ln. (802) 764-1141. www.town.williston.vt.us.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: Scott Sanchez, concert guitarist. Tickets: \$17/\$13. 7:30 pm at Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 463-3100. www.immanuelretreat.org.

BRANDON. Concert: Paul Asbell, Veteran Acoustic Guitarist. Blues and jazz standards and original pieces from the "American roots" tradition. Tickets \$15. Pre-concert dinner available \$20. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. 7:30 pm at Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 465-4071. www.brandon-music.net. www.paulasbell.com.

BRANDON. Workshop: Self-Publishing. What's it all about? Is it right for you? Learn tricks of the self-publishing trade from Jerry Johnson, who has self-published three of his own books. Register by November 13. \$50. 10 am – 3 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Dr. (802) 247-4295. www.cmacvt.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Emerging Artist Series Concert: S. E. Charles Quartet and Integrity Reeves. Tickets: \$20-\$40. 8 pm. Vermont Jazz Center, 72 Cotton Mill Hill. (802) 254-9088. vtjazz.org.

CANAAN. Hunter's Supper. A Church Supper for hunters that cannot cook and for those locals from town that do not want to cook! Donation. 4:30-7 pm. Grace Community Church, 300 Gale St. (802) 266-3071. thegracecommunitychurch.org.

CHELSEA. Chelsea Farmers Holiday Market. Produce, baked goods, fine crafts, activities. 9 am – 2 pm. In the Chelsea School Gym. (802) 685-9987.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Pancake Breakfast. Free. 8:30-10:45 am. Grace Methodist Church, 130 Maple St. (802) 878-8071.

FAIR HAVEN. Community Breakfast. Farm-fresh scrambled eggs, sausage, homemade biscuits & jams, and coffee, tea & hot chocolate served in a family-style atmosphere. \$1 for adults, free for children 14 and under. Handicapped accessible seating. 8-10 am. Sponsored by Episcopalians in the Slate Valley Region. St. Mark's/St. Luke's Episcopal Church, corner of N. Main & Allen Sts. (518) 686-0857. *Also December 20 (free).*

MANCHESTER. Bird Walk. The Vermont Bird Place & Sky Watch and local birders meet to conduct a survey of the wild birds present on the grounds of Hildene. For more info, please call Randy Schmidt at (802) 362-2270 or e-mail randy@thevermontbirdplace.com. Free. Meet at the Welcome Center parking lot, 8 am. Hildene, off Rte. 7A, just south of the village. (802) 362-1788. www.hildene.org. *Also December 6.*

PAWLET. 46th Annual Wild Game and Chicken & Biscuit Supper. Menu includes bear roast, venison roast and stew, moose meatballs, chicken & biscuits and vegetable salads. Homemade pies for dessert and coffee and milk. Adults \$12; children under 12, \$6. 5 pm. Pawlet Firehouse, Rt. 133. (802) 325-3495, (802) 325-3222.

RANDOLPH. Concert: Run Boy Run. A young, progressive bluegrass ensemble. Food from area restaurants and local organic producers, as well as a photo exhibit titled "Home Grown," featuring the works of Ben DeFlorio. 7:30 pm at Chandler Music Hall and 3 pm at a farmer's market in the Esther Mesh Room of Chandler's Upper Gallery. (802) 728-6464. www.chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. The Vermont Farmer's Market Holiday Fair. Distinctive crafts, handmade children's clothes, art, paintings, wood toys, doll clothes, beaded jewelry, pottery, knitted products, leather items, woodenware, pillows, cutting boards, felted tote market bags, quilts & soaps. Wreaths, Christmas decorations. Country bakers (including gluten free), sweet breads, pies, fudge, pastries, cookies and cider doughnuts. Gourmet specialty foods, maple syrup, sugar and specialties, honey, 100 varieties of jams & jellies, pickles, relishes, salsas, sauces, marinades & herbs. Prepared foods, apples, cider, winter squash, and fall veggies. Free admission. 9 am – 4 pm. Holiday Inn, Rt. 7 South. (802) 753-7269. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org.

RUTLAND. 6th Annual Operation Bundle-Up. Coats and boots for kids. Let your child shop for a free winter coat, new and gently used winter coats, snowpants, hat and gloves. Available to kids and teens while supplies last. 9 am – 3 pm, Green Mountain Power Building, 77 Grove St. (802) 770-4280.

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 9 am – 3 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook.

RUTLAND. Book Sale. Sponsored by The Friends of the Rutland Free Library. 4-8 pm. In the basement, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org. *Also December 15.*



WAITSFIELD. Annual Ski & Skate Sale. 9 am – 3 pm. Waitsfield Elementary School, 3951 Main St. (802) 496-3643. ptaawes.blogspot.com. *Also November 16.*

WELLS. Christmas Shopping Variety Fair. Vendors, crafts and bake sale, concession stand, raffle tickets. Benefit So. Granville Congregational Church. 9 am – 3 pm. Modern Woodman Hall, Rt. 30.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall. Programs, tours, and activities. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Also November 16, 22 & 23.*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Music Center's Chamber Music Series Concert. Pianist Benjamin Hochman performs Bach's Italian Concerto, Dallapiccola-Quaderno's musicale di Annalibera, Beethoven's Sonata No. 28 in A major, Schumann's Carnival. Tickets: \$30 preferred, \$20 general. 4 pm. Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main St. (802) 257-4523. www.bmcvt.org.



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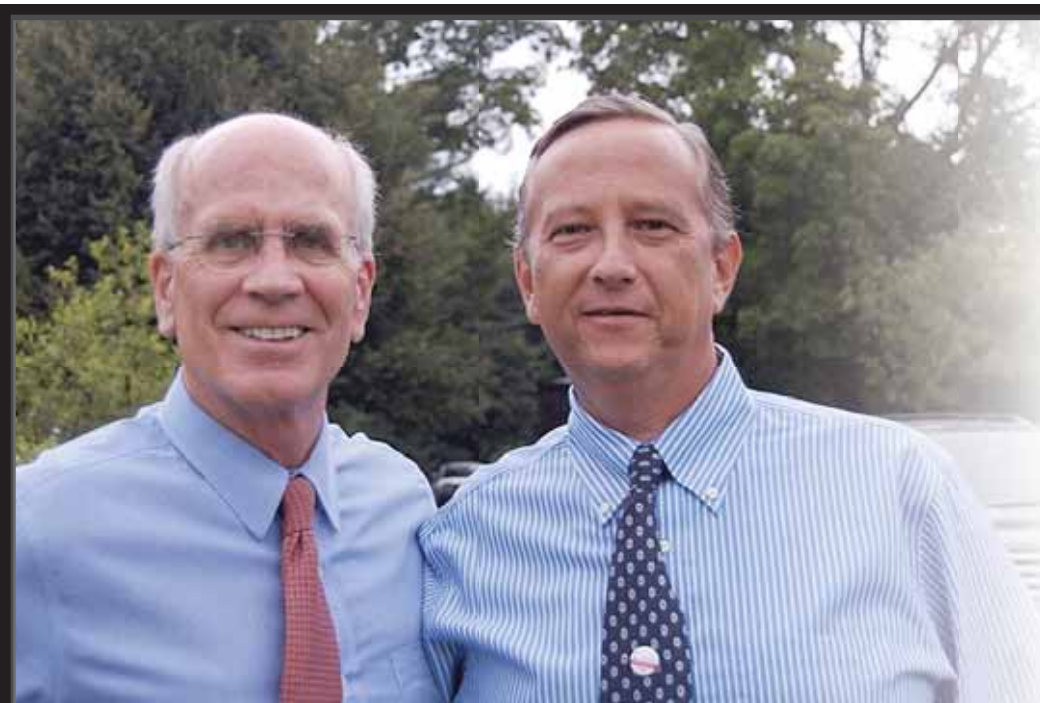
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Vermont Country Calendar

CHESTER. Vermont Voices. Stephen Kiernan talks about his debut novel, *The Curiosity*. Free admission. Sponsored by Misty Valley Books. 2 pm at the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village. (802) 875-3400. www.mvbooks.com. Also November 23.

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS. Outing on the Old Roads of Middletown Springs. Our annual, safe hunting season walk. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Bring drinking water and lunch. Trip leaves at 9:30 am from Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club, Killington Section. Leaders: Gerry and Cheryl Martin (802) 492-2244. www.gmckillington.org.

PUTNEY. Concert: veteran folk/rock icon Jonathan Edwards plus singer/songwriter Lisa McCormick and newgrass/contemporary folk trio The Stockwell Brothers. Tickets: \$22 Advance, \$25 At the Door. 7:30 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org. www.twilightmusic.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 9 am - 3 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook.

WAITSFIELD. Annual Ski & Skate Sale. 9 am - 3 pm. Waitsfield Elementary School, 3951 Main St. (802) 496-3643. ptaates.blogspot.com.

WEST RUTLAND. Hunter's Widow Shopping Day. Crafts, food, baked goods, beauty & health items, jewelry and any other handmade products including fibers, preserves. Hosted by the Town of West Rutland. 1-5 pm. At the Town Hall in the newly renovated auditorium (corner of Marble and Main Streets). (802) 438-2263. cfitzgerald@westrutlandtown.com.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org. Also November 22 & 23.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

DANBY. Film Discussion: Freedom and Unity: The Vermont Movie. Part Two: "Under the Surface." This part explores labor wars, eugenics, the McCarthy era, and progressive Republicanism. Led by Nora Jacobson. Free. 7 pm. Hosted by the Mount Tabor/Danby Historical Society, 74 S. Main St. (802) 293-2265.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

CASTLETON. Performance: Koresh Dance Company—Come Together. Tickets \$15 adults, \$12 students and seniors, \$10 children under 12. 7 pm. Castleton College, Casella Theater. (866) 272-5888. www.castleton.edu.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Handel Society of Dartmouth College. Program includes Brahms' Alto Rhapsody and Schicksalslied, Gesang der Parzen's Ave Maria, and Whitbourn's Annelies, based on The Diary of Anne Frank. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 7 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Dartmouth College. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

BELLOWS FALLS. Contemplative Circle: Centering Prayer with Taize Chanting. 6:30 pm. The Chapel at Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 463-3100. www.stonechurcharts.org.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

DANVILLE. 94th Annual Old-Fashioned Game Supper. Serving venison, moose, bear, rabbit, chicken and other game as available, with ample side dishes, beverage, and dessert. Tickets \$15, ages 12 and under \$9. Three seatings at 5, 6 & 7 pm. Danville United Methodist Church, Park St. (802) 684-3666.

RUTLAND. Concert: Rick Springfield—Stripped Down. Tickets: \$39.75-\$69.75. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

BELLOWS FALLS. The Indoor Winter Farmers Market. 4-6:30 pm. Bellows Falls Amtrak Station, Depot St. (802) 463-2018. www.bffarmersmarket.com. Also December 19.

BURLINGTON. Craft Vermont—Annual Fine Craft and Art Show. Unique, handcrafted arts and crafts of juried Vermont artisans. Meet the artists and learn about their art and what inspires them. \$7 for a three-day pass; children under 12 free with an adult; Sunday only \$4. Friday 10-8, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-5. Sheraton Conference Center. (800) 373-5429. www.vermonthandcrafters.com. Through November 23.

CASTLETON. Concert: The Vermont Collegiate Choral Consortium presents the Misa Cubana by contemporary Cuban composer Jose Maria Vitier. Castleton Collegiate Chorale and Chamber Singers combine with choirs from Middlebury College, St. Michael's College, and Johnson State College, and a professional Chamber Orchestra. Tickets \$5 adults, \$3 seniors, students and children under 12. 7 pm. Casella Theater. (866) 272-5888. www.castleton.edu.

LUDLOW. Okemo Ski and Swap Sale. Buy skis, snowboards, boots, bindings, helmets, goggles, outerwear, and more! Sell your old gear but nothing older than seven years. 25% goes to Okemo Mountain School. Drop off dates, November 15, 16 & 19. 10 am - 3 pm. Okemo Mountain Main Base Lodge, 77 Okemo Ridge Rd. (802) 228-1513. okemomountainschool.org. Through November 23.

RUTLAND. Holiday Craft Fair. Many vendors with a variety of crafts, baked goods, Christmas items and wreaths, a Pink Pachyderm with gently used treasures and a cafe. 4-7:30 pm. Grace Congregational Church, 8 Court St. (802) 775-4301. gracechurchvt.org. Also November 22.

SWANTON. Fall Open Door Dinner. A free community dinner. 5:30-6:30 pm. Memorial United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 23 Grand Ave. (802) 868-7185.

TINMOUTH. Contra Dance. With Pete's Posse, calling by Adina Gordon. All dances taught, no partner needed. Beginners, come at 8. Live music, enthusiastic swinging and dancing. Bring clean, non-marring shoes. Refreshments available. Admission: \$9, teens \$7, 12 and under free. 8-11 pm. Tinmouth Community Center, Route 140. (802) 235-2718. tinmouthvt.org. Continues third Friday of each month.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

BRADFORD. 59th Annual Wild Game Supper. All meats served buffet style in a variety of preparations: bear, moose, buffalo, elk, venison, wild boar, rabbit, pheasant with rice. Accompanied by potato, squash, rolls, cabbage salad, gingerbread with real whipped cream and beverages. Donation: adults \$30, children under 10 \$15. 2:30 pm on at The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. For reservations mail your payment and preferred time of seating (2:30, 3:30, 4:30, or 5:30 pm) to: Bradford United Church of Christ, UCC Wild Game Supper, PO Box 861, Bradford, VT 05033. Confirmation will be mailed to you.

BRATTLEBORO. Windham Orchestra Concert: Classics, Celebration and Claremont. Part of Claremont's 250th Anniversary. The premiere of Kinan Azmeh's "Concerto for Flute Improviser and String." Also Mozart's Symphony No. 31, Schubert's Symphony No. 8. Name your ticket price, from \$5 to \$50. 7:30 pm. Brattleboro Union High School. (802) 257-4523. www.bmevt.org.

LUDLOW. Okemo Ski and Swap Sale. Buy skis, snowboards, boots, bindings, helmets, goggles, outerwear, and more! Sell your old gear but nothing older than seven years. 10 am - 3 pm. Okemo Mountain Main Base Lodge, 77 Okemo Ridge Rd. (802) 228-1513. okemomountainschool.org. Also November 23.

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Vermont Country Calendar

NORWICH. Contradance. Music by Cuckoo's Nest. Ruth Sylvester, caller. Please bring a pair of clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing. Admission \$5, under 16 free. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. 8 pm. At Tracey Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 785-4607. *Continue fourth Saturdays.*

RUPERT. Annual Rupert Game Dinner. Menu: Teriyaki moose, sweet and sour moose meatballs, wild game bird jambalaya, probably bear, venison stroganoff, venison roast, and for those who elect not to eat wild game there will be turkey and roast beef. Accompanied by real homemade mashed potatoes, squash, cole slaw, Rupert Rising bread, beverage of choice, and homemade desserts. Tickets: \$12, 10 and under \$6. Takeout available. Begins 5 pm and continues until all guests are served or the food is gone. To benefit the Rupert Volunteer Fire Department. At the Rupert Fire House on Route 153. For info call Kelli Lewis at (802) 394-2491. On the day of the dinner call (802) 394-7844.

RUTLAND. Vermont Gift Show. Sponsored by the Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce. 50/50 raffle and more. Free admission. 10 am. At Franklin Conference Center, Strong's Ave. (802) 773-2747.

RUTLAND. Holiday Craft Fair. Crafts, baked goods, Christmas items and wreaths, a Pink Pachyderm with gently used treasures and a cafe. 9:30 am - 3 pm, Grace Congregational Church, 8 Court St. gracechurchvt.org. (802) 775-4301.

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 9 am - 3 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook.

STOWE. X-C Ski Swap. Buy or sell your new or lightly used cross-country skis, boots, poles and snowshoes! 6:45-8 pm. Trapp Family Lodge, 700 Trapp Hill Rd. (802) 253-8511. www.vtxcski.org. *Also November 23.*

TINMOUTH. 45th Annual Famous Game Supper. A fundraiser for the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department. Gourmet all-you-can-eat menu includes: venison and moose sauerbraten, game cornbread chili, secret marinated roasts of venison, moose, and bear, smoked moose, wild Italian meatballs. Also chicken and biscuits. With mashed potatoes and squash, salads, rolls, beans, and over 100 homemade pies! Takeouts available. Earlybirds welcome. No waiting outside. Over 500 served. Tickets: \$15 adults; children ages 6-12, \$10; under 6 free. Beginning at 4 pm. Held at the Tinmouth Community Center, 573 Rt. 140. For more info contact Chief Mo Squier at (802) 235-2718.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Also November 23.*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

CHESTER. Vermont Voices. Vermont's 80th governor Jim Douglas, will discuss his memoir. The Vermont Way, recounting his political life and his belief that Vermont is different and that its leaders can work together to ensure prosperity and protect the state's natural beauty. Free admission. Sponsored by Misty Valley Books. 2 pm at the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village. (802) 875-3400. www.mvbooks.com.

LUDLOW. Okemo Ski and Swap Sale. Buy skis, snowboards, boots, bindings, helmets, goggles, outerwear, and more! Sell your old gear but nothing older than seven years. 10 am - 3 pm. Okemo Mountain Main Base Lodge, 77 Okemo Ridge Rd. (802) 228-1513. okemomountainsschool.org.

RUTLAND. Comedy Performance: Bill Engvall. Tickets: \$39.75-\$59.75. 5 & 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

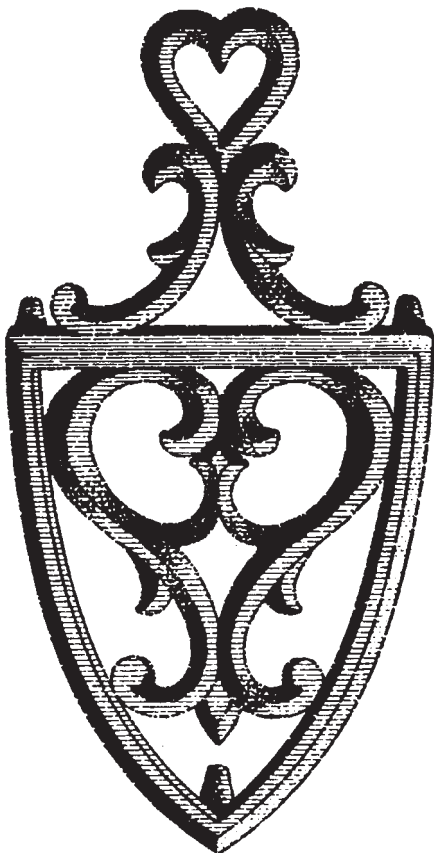
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STOWE. X-C Ski Swap. Sell your new or lightly used cross-country skis, boots, poles and snowshoes and pick up something new! 9 am - 4 pm. Trapp Family Lodge, 700 Trapp Hill Rd. (802) 253-8511. www.vtxcski.org.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall, when the brilliance of foliage has softened and the weather is still pleasant. Daily programs and activities. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

ESSEX. Vermont Sugar & Ice Festival. Taste ice ciders, ice wines, maple goodies and other treats and learn about how they are made. Sponsored by Vermont Ice Cider Association. Fee. 11 am - 5 pm at Essex Resort and Spa, 70 Essex Way. (802) 878-1100. info@vtculinaryresort.com. www.essexresortspa.com. www.vermonticecider.com.



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

BURLINGTON. 25th Annual Free Thanksgiving Community Dinner and Coat Drive. Coat drive starts at 10 am (last year 100 were given away). Dinner from 10 am on. Sweetwaters, 120 Church St. (802) 864-9800. www.sweetwatersvt.com.

KILLINGTON. The 4th Annual Killington 5K Turkey Trot. 9:30 am. Registration is \$25 at 9 am at Jax, 1667 Killington Road. (617) 594-8473. www.killingtonturkeytrot.com.

MONTPELIER. 42nd Annual Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Everyone is welcome. Hosted by Washington County Youth Service Bureau. 11 am - 3 pm. Bethany Church, 115 Main St. For delivery to the homebound in the Montpelier area, for more information, to volunteer or to make a donation, call (802) 229-9151. www.wcysb.org.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28

CHESTER. Thanksgiving Open House at 103 Artisans Marketplace. Free refreshments, raffles, door prizes, hot mulled cider, and holiday cheer! We're filled to the brim with gifts for everyone on your list, from stocking stuffers to one of a kind pieces for that special someone! Three raffle prizes: first prize a blown glass bowl by artist Daniel Reed; second prize, a basket filled with Vermont specialty foods; third prize, a box of our delicious chocolates. 10 am - 5 pm. 103 Artisans Marketplace, Rt. 103 & 7 Pine View Rd. (802) 875-7400. www.103artisansmarketplace.com. *Through November 30.*

PUTNEY. Concert: acoustic swing and alt gypsy jazz quartet Caravan of Thieves. JD McCliment's Pub will provide a beer and wine cash bar. Tickets: \$20 at the door. 7:30 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org. www.twilightmusic.org. www.caravanofthieves.com.

POULTNEY. Christmas Craft Fair. Beautiful handcrafted items and gifts, quilts, soap, jewelry and paintings, home baked goods and country treats, locally produced specialty foods, local fall apples and fresh cider, fresh balsam wreaths, maple syrup and Christmas decorations. Free admission. Sponsored by the Lakes Region Farmers Market. 10 am - 4 pm. Poultny High School Gym, 153 E. Main St. (Rt. 140) just off Rt. 30. For info call Jamie Condrill at (802) 287-9570. *Also November 29.*

PUTNEY. 36th Annual Putney Craft Tour. Thanksgiving weekend open studios—a Top Ten Winter Event. Meet 26 of Vermont's most prominent artists on a back roads tour. Artisans, demos, food, art. Blacksmiths, glass blowers, potters, jewelers, weavers, woodworkers—even artisan cheesemakers. Free. 10 am - 5 pm. For a complete listing of artists and a map, go to www.putneycrafts.com. (802) 258-3992. *Through November 30.*

SHELBURNE. Thanksgiving Weekend at the Welcome Center. Cheese tastings, hot cider, local products to sample, and great gifts. 10 am - 2 pm. Welcome Center & Farm Store, Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. (802) 985-8442. www.shelburnefarms.org. *Through November 30.*

WOODSTOCK. Thanksgiving Weekend at Billings Farm & Museum. Visit the working farm & 1890 farm house. Discover how Thanksgiving was observed. "History of Thanksgiving" programs presented in the parlor; cider pressing and harvest and food preservation activities. Horse-drawn wagon rides, homemade treats. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 3:30 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Route 12 and River Road. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Through November 30.*

Veteran Guitarist, Paul Asbell Performs at Brandon Music

Brandon Music will host Paul Asbell on acoustic guitar on Saturday, November 15th at 7:30 p.m. Asbell will be playing blues and jazz standards and original pieces.

Paul Asbell got his start on Chicago's South Side before moving to northern Vermont in 1971. He has played and recorded with Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker and Howlin Wolf. Asbell formed the group Kilimanjaro in 1978 which joined forces with Joe Burrell to form the Big Joe Burrell and the Unknown Blues Band.

When not touring, Asbell has composed, performed and recorded over 60 soundtracks. For forty years Asbell has taught guitar privately and at the university level, presently at Middlebury College and UVM.

Concert tickets are \$15. A pre-concert dinner is available for \$20. Reservations are recommended.

Call (802) 465-4071. Brandon Music is located at 62 Country Club Rd. in Brandon, VT. www.brandonmusic.net. paulasbell.com.

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Sundays by appointments

Vermont Country Calendar

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

BENNINGTON. "Reflections" Festival of Trees. Exhibits, grand gala, festive community day, and holiday vignettes. Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students 18 and over \$9, children and students under 18 free. Open daily except Wednesday 10 am - 5 pm, closing 1 pm December 24 & 31. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org. *November 29 thru December 30.*

CHESTER. Thanksgiving Open House at 103 Artisans Marketplace. Free refreshments, raffles, door prizes, hot mulled cider, and holiday cheer! We're filled to the brim with gifts for everyone on your list, from stocking stuffers to one of a kind pieces for that special someone! Three raffle prizes: first prize a blown glass bowl by artist Daniel Reed; second prize, a basket filled with Vermont specialty foods; third prize, a box of our delicious chocolates. 10 am - 5 pm. 103 Artisans Marketplace, Rt. 103 & 7 Pine View Rd. (802) 875-7400. www.103artisansmarketplace.com. *Also November 30.*

DUMMERSTON. Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Christmas Tree Sales. Balsam & Canaan fir, blue spruce and white pine with a choice of heights and fullness. All trees pre-priced. We harvest every day and many times on weekends. If you are looking for a tree—over 8'—we will send you to the tree lots to choose your own pre-priced tree which we will cut for you and deliver to your vehicle. Fresh Balsam wreaths and greenery! Country Store with certified organic winter vegetables, maple syrup, cheeses, cider, apples, hand-woven linens and home goods. Saturdays and Sundays 10 am - 4 pm, Mondays through Fridays 12-4 pm. Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Tree Farm, 209 Knapp Rd. (802) 254-2051. elysianhillstreefarm.com. *Through December 24.*

POULTNEY. Christmas Craft Fair. Beautiful handcrafted items and gifts, quilts, soap, jewelry and paintings, home baked goods and country treats, locally produced specialty foods, local fall apples and fresh cider, fresh balsam wreaths, maple syrup and Christmas decorations. Free admission. Sponsored by the Lakes Region Farmers Market. 10 am - 4 pm. Poultnery High School Gym, 153 E. Main St. (Rt. 140) just off Rt. 30. For info call Jamie Condrell at (802) 287-9570.

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RUTLAND. BrewHaHa. Beer and laughs, a comedy club on stage. Tickets: \$30. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 9 am - 3 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook.

WOODSTOCK. Thanksgiving Weekend at Billings Farm & Museum. Visit the working farm & 1890 farm house. "History of Thanksgiving" programs presented in the parlor; cider pressing and harvest and food preservation activities. Horse-drawn wagon rides and homemade treats. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 3:30 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Also November 30.*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

BENNINGTON. "Reflections" Festival of Trees. Wonderful exhibits, grand gala, festive community day, and holiday vignettes, each containing a 'gem' from the museum's collection! Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students 18 and over \$9, children and students under 18 free. Open every day except Wednesday 10 am - 5 pm, closing at 1 pm on December 24 & 31. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org. *November 29 through December 30.*

BRANDON. Memory Tree Singing and Lighting. 3:30 pm in Central Park. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. www.brandon.org.

CHESTER. Thanksgiving Open House at 103 Artisans Marketplace. Free refreshments, raffles, door prizes, hot mulled cider, and holiday cheer! We're filled to the brim with gifts for everyone on your list, from stocking stuffers to one of a kind pieces for that special someone! Three raffle prizes: first prize a blown glass bowl by artist Daniel Reed; second prize, a basket filled with Vermont specialty foods; third prize, a box of our delicious chocolates. 10 am - 5 pm. 103 Artisans Marketplace, Rt. 103 & 7 Pine View Rd. (802) 875-7400. www.103artisansmarketplace.com.

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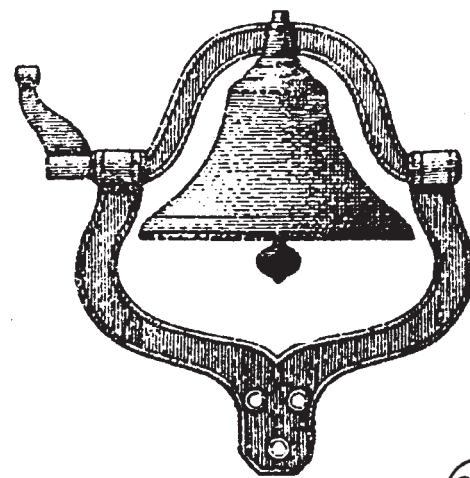
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ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2014

CHESTER. Monthly Community All-you-can-eat Buffet Breakfast. Eggs, home fries, sausage, bacon, pancakes, real Vermont maple syrup, toast, and beverages. \$7 donation at the door. 8-10 am. Also Monthly Square Dance and Rounds. Refreshments on sale in the kitchen. 50/50 tickets on sale; drawing held for free admittance for the next month's dance. \$5 donation at the door. 7-11 pm. Gassetts Grange, junction of Rt. 10 & 103N. (802) 875-2637. *Monthly on first Saturdays.*

DUMMERSTON. Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Christmas Tree Sales. Open Saturdays and Sundays 10 am - 4 pm, Mondays through Fridays 12-4 pm, through December 24. Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Tree Farm, 209 Knapp Rd. (802) 254-2051. elysianhillstreefarm.com. *Through December 24.*



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High Mowing Organic Seeds Offers Nation's First Full Line of Non-GMO Project Verified Seeds

High Mowing Organic Seeds today announced that its entire line of seeds, all certified organic, has now been verified by the Non-GMO Project, an independent non-profit committed to preserving and building the non-GMO food supply.

High Mowing Organic Seed Company now offers the first full line of organic, Non-GMO Project Verified seeds for farmers and gardeners.

"This is an unprecedented achievement," said High Mowing Organic Seeds owner and founder Tom Stearns. "We committed to this because organic, non-GMO seeds have to be the foundation of the healthy food system of the future."

High Mowing Organic Seeds initiated the verification process for its 600+ varieties two years ago, committing itself to a rigorous process involving ongoing,

third-party evaluation of the company's extensive efforts to prevent cross-contamination in the field, along with sampling and testing of selected seeds. Every year, the company will submit to re-verification.

Based in Bellingham, Washington, the Non-GMO Project is North America's leading third-party verifier of non-GMO food and products.

The term GMO (genetically modified organism) refers to any organism that has had the genes of a different species inserted into its DNA. This differs from traditional methods of plant breeding, in which only members of the same species can be crossed to create new varieties.

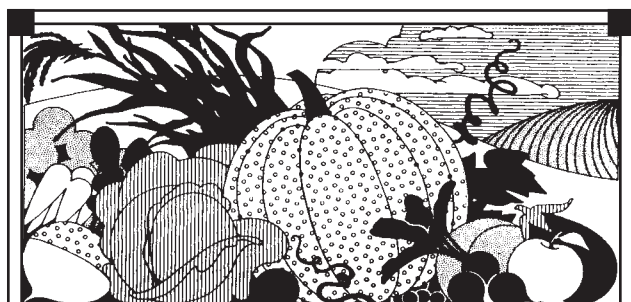
GMOs are not permitted under the National Organic Program, the federal regulatory framework govern-

ing organic foods. Since its founding in 1996, High Mowing Organic Seeds has been certified organic and has never sold genetically modified seeds. But as new genetically modified crops are developed, the risk that they will cross-pollinate and thus contaminate organic crops increases.

High Mowing has long established isolation and other methods to minimize the potential for cross-contamination in the growing and distribution of seeds.

Currently, 64 countries around the world require labeling of GMOs. In the U.S., only Vermont has passed a bill requiring GMO labeling.

High Mowing Organic Seeds, 76 Quarry Rd., Wolcott, VT 05680. (802) 472-6174. www.highmowingseeds.com.



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Vermont Country Calendar

EAST THETFORD. Cedar Circle Farm and Education Center. A certified organic, fifty-acre vegetable and berry farm. Certified organic fall vegetables, fresh greens, dried beans, frozen vegetables and berries. Farm-made pickles, jams, dairy, meats. Special order baked goods and holiday sides. See website. Farmstand open Friday 12-6, Saturday & Sunday 12-3 pm. (Coffee shop closed for the season). Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center, 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. growing@cedarcirclefarm.org. www.cedarcirclefarm.org. *Through December 14.*

FAIR HAVEN. Breakfast Buffet. \$7 adult, \$3.50 children. 8-11 am. Sponsored by the American Legion Post #49, 72 S. Main St. (802) 265-7983. *Continues monthly second Sundays.*

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

NEWPORT. Souper Lunch. Free. All are welcome. Noon at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 44 2nd St. (802) 334-7365. www.stmarksnewport.org. *Last Tuesday of each month.*

PITTSFORD. New England Maple Museum. World's largest maple museum. Tour through Vermont's famous maple industry and visit our unique gift shop. Open daily 10 am - 4 pm. New England Maple Museum, 4578 Rt. 7, south of town. (802) 483-9414. info@maplemuseum.com. www.maplemuseum.com.

PUTNEY. Green Mountain Orchards Farm Store. Apples and cider year round. Horse-drawn wagon rides by reservation. Farm store with our own bakery. 130 West Hill Rd. (exit 4, I-91), look for signs in Putney Village. (802) 387-5851. www.greenmtorchards.com.

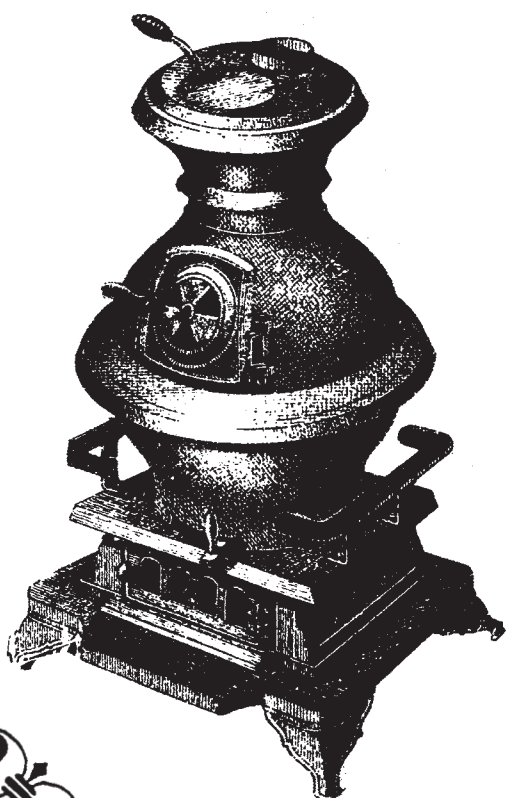
RUTLAND. Winter Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. EBT and debit cards. Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm November 1 through May 2, 2015. Vermont Farmers, Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. For info contact Doug Patac. (802) 753-7269. www.vtfarmersmarket.org.

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

SHARON. Sharon Sprouts Market. Local vendors will offer meats, poultry, eggs, breads, pies, quiche, herbs, canned produce, Greek specialties, and a selection of handmade crafts in gym from 10 am - 1 pm at Sharon Elementary, exit 2 off I-89. Info: Keenan Haley at (802) 763-7425. sharon.owsu.org. *Third Saturdays monthly.*

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. www.stalbansfreelibrary.org.

WEST RUTLAND. Vermont Herbal General Store. Tai' Chi Gung intro classes, Wed at 6 pm. Free intro classes. Reiki healings, Chinese ear coning, handmade herbal remedies, teas, and lotions. Crystals, stones, and books. All are welcome. Open Tues & Wed 1-6, Thurs-Sat 12-6, Sun 1-4, closed Fri. Vermont Herbal General Store, 518 Main St. (802) 438-2766. info@vermontherbal.com. www.vermontherbal.com.



WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Upper Valley Seed Savers meet on the second Thursday of the month at 5 pm at Upper Valley Food Coop, through the winter. Our mission is to further knowledge about seed saving and to work on projects that will help develop a body of locally-adapted open-pollinated vegetable seeds. For information, or if you can't come to meetings but would like to receive a monthly e-mail with our minutes which contain information on our projects, please contact Sylvia Davatz at sdav@valley.net or call (802) 436-3262.

WINDSOR. Cider Hill Gardens & Art Gallery. Open July-October Thursday-Sunday 10 am - 5 pm daily. At 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. (800) 232-4337. flowers@ciderhillgardens.com. ciderhillgardens.com. garymilek.com.

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

WINDSOR. All-You-Can-Eat Brunch Buffet. Menu includes pancakes and eggs, sausage, fruit salad, homemade bread, desserts and more. Adults \$7.50, 8 and under \$3. 11 am to 1 pm. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 27 State St. (802) 674-6461. *First Sundays.*

WOODSTOCK. Hand-in-Hand Community Meal. All are welcome. Free, donations accepted. Every Thursday, 5-7 pm in the Social Hall of the North Universalist Chapel Society, 7 Church St. (802) 457-2557.

WOODSTOCK. First Run Movies at the Woodstock Town Hall Theatre. Old-fashioned big-screen movie-going experience. Adults \$8, seniors \$7, students \$6. Famous maple popcorn! (802) 457-3981. www.pentanglearts.org.

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

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

BARRE. Vermont History Center and Leahy Library. Thousands of books, manuscripts, photographs, maps, audio, video and film recordings, and many other items which shed light on the lives and times of past Vermonters. One admission fee for both the Vermont Heritage Galleries in Barre and the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier. Adults: \$5; families: \$12; students, children, seniors: \$3; members and children under 6: free. Monday through Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. Vermont Historical Society, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500. vermonthistory.org.

BELMONT. Stephanie Stouffer Studio and Gallery Gift Shop. Hooked pillows and rugs, tapestries, holiday cards, and stoneware. Free admission. Call for appointment. Stephanie Stouffer Studio and Gallery Gift Shop, 250 Maple Hill Rd. (802) 259-2686. stouffer@vermontel.net. www.stephaniestouffer.com.

BELMONT. Mount Holly Community Historical Museum. Open year-round on second weekend of the month. Tarbellville Rd. (turn right immediately after the Belmont Store, museum is on your right). (802) 259-2460. www.mounthollyvtmuseum.org.

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. www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Center for the Arts. Permanent collections, theater productions, workshops. Exhibit: *The Heroism of Modern Life*, September 20 through November 30. Exhibit: *Portraying the Human Spirit*, depictions of soul, through December 21. Annual Laumeister Fine Art Competition, through December 21. *Small Works Show* with fine art 11" x 14" and smaller, through December 21. Admission: adults \$9, seniors & students \$8, families \$20, under 12 are free. Open Wed-Mon, 10 am - 5 pm. Bennington Center for the Arts, 44 Gypsy Lane. (802) 442-7158. thebennington.org.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Museum. Festival of Trees November 29 through December 30. Exhibits and programs, founding documents, fine art, and more. See Bennington Pottery, the 1924 Wasp Touring Car, Vermont furniture, and the Bennington Flag—one of America's oldest flags. Lectures, workshops, concerts, films, and the George Aiken Wildflower Trail. Admission \$10, children under 18 free. Free admission to the Gift Shop. Open 10 am - 5 pm every day except Wednesdays. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. www.benningtonmuseum.org.

BRANDON. Compass Music and Arts Center. Arts businesses and studios, classes & workshops, exhibits, concerts, and community events. Beginning piano lessons starting October 6. A gift shop features art and music related books, collectibles, and the music of the classical recording company, Divine Art Records. Onsite café. 10 am - 5 pm daily. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Drive, Park Village, 1.5 miles north of downtown. (802) 247-4295. www.cmacvt.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Kurn Hattin Homes for Children's New Historical Exhibit. *A Legacy of Caring: Adapting to the Changing Needs of Children and Families.* At the Robert H. Gibson River Garden, 157 Main St. www.kurnhattin.org. *November 6-30.*

Tree Feelings

I wonder if they like it—being trees?

I suppose they do.

It must feel good to have the ground so flat,
And feel yourself stand right straight up like that
So stiff in the middle—and then branch at ease,
Big boughs that arch, small ones that bend and blow,
And all those fringy leaves that flutter so.
You'd think they'd break off at the lower end
When the wind fills them, and their great heads bend.
But then you think of all the roots they drop,
As much at bottom as there is on top,—
A double tree, widespread in earth and air
Like a reflection in the water there.

I guess they like to stand straight in the sun
And just breathe out and in, and feel the cool sap run;
And like to feel the rain run through their hair
And slide down to the roots and settle there.
But I think they like wind best. From the light touch
That lets the leaves whisper and kiss so much,
To the great swinging, tossing, flying wide,
And all the time so stiff and strong inside!
And the big winds, that pull, and make them feel
How long their roots are, and the earth how leal!

And O the blossoms! And the wild seeds lost!
And jewelled martyrdom of fiery frost!
And fruit-trees. I'd forgotten. No cold gem,
But to be apples—
And bow down with them!



—CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Museums, Exhibits, and Galleries, continued)

BRATTLEBORO. Exhibit: World Leaders & Global Citizens—Photographs by Patrick Leahy. On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of his service as a U.S. senator. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, 10 Vernon St. www.brattleboromuseum.org. *Through March 7.*

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center. Exhibits and programs. Open 11-5. Closed Tues & Wed. Admission \$6/\$4/\$3. 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

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

CHESTER. 103 Artisans Marketplace. Hand crafted gifts, decorative accessories, small batch chocolates and Vermont maple products. Owned by artists Elise & Payne Junker, exclusive showroom of Junker Studio metalwork. Open every day 10 am – 5 pm, closed Tuesday. Located on Rt. 103, south of town. (802) 875-7400. Gallery103.com.

ENOSBURG FALLS. Art Exhibit. Featured artist reception first Sunday of every month, 1-3 pm. Open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm, Sunday 10-2 pm. Artist In Residence—a Cooperative Gallery, 321 Main St. (802) 933-6403. info@artistinresidencecoop.com. www.artistinresidencecoop.com.

GRAFTON. Art Exhibits. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. Gallery North Star, 151 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2465. gallery@gnsgraffton.com. www.gnsgraffton.com.

GRANVILLE, NY. The Slate Valley Museum. Tues-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 10 am – 4 pm. Admission \$5, under 12 free. Downtown at 17 Water St. (518) 642-1417. www.slatevalleymuseum.org.

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Museum, special events and bird walks, children's programs, gift shop, video, rest rooms and trails with maps available. Admission: adult \$6, senior \$5, child 3-17 \$3. 10 am – 4 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. www.birdsofvermont.org. *Open by appointment November 1 through April 30.*

LEBANON, NH. AVA Gallery and Art Center. Art exhibitions on display Tuesday-Saturday 11 am - 5 pm; Thursday 11 am - 7 pm. Carter Factory historic display, Monday-Saturday 9 am - 5 pm; Thursday 11 am - 7 pm, and green building tours by appointment. Free. 11 Bank St. (603) 448-3117.

LEBANON, NH. AVA's Annual Holiday Exhibition and Sale. Opening reception 5-7 pm on November 28. AVA Gallery and Art Center, 11 Bank St. (603) 448-3117. avagallery.org. *Also open December 1 & 8, 11 am – 5 pm; December 14, 12-4 pm; December 15, 11 am – 5 pm; December 21, 12-4 pm; December 22, 11 am – 5 pm; and December 24, 11 am – 3 pm.*

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

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. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont. The oldest chartered community history museum in the United States, welcoming visitors since 1882. Exhibits, research center, and museum shop. Current exhibit: Arthur K.D. Healy & His Students, *through November 9.* Holiday Open House in early December. Gallery Talk. Admission: adults \$5, youth 6-18 \$3, senior \$4.50, family \$ 12, under 6 free. Open Tues-Sat 10 am – 5 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, One Park St. (803) 388-2117. www.henrysheldonmuseum.org.

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

MONTPELIER. Vermont History Museum & Bookstore. One admission fee gives access to both the Vermont History Museum and the Vermont Heritage Galleries. Adults: \$5; families: \$12; students, children, seniors: \$3; members and children under 6: free. Open 9 am – 4 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Pavilion Building, 109 State St. (802) 828-2291. vhs-info@state.vt.us. www.vermonthistory.org.

NORWICH. Montshire Museum of Science. Exhibits, 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.

PITTSFORD. New England Maple Museum. World's largest maple museum. Tour through Vermont's famous maple industry and visit our gift shop. Admission: adults \$5, children \$1, under 6 free. Open seven days a week 10 am – 5 pm daily. New England Maple Museum, 4578 Rt. 7, north of the village. (802) 483-9414. info@maplemuseum.com. www.maplemuseum.com.

READING. Exhibition by Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson including *Waterfall*. Also currently on view, works by Georg Baselitz and Neil Jenny. Open weekends by appointment. Free admission. At The Hall Art Foundation, 551 Rt. 106. To book a tour, please visit www.hallartfoundation.org/location/vermont. *Through Nov. 30.*

ROCHESTER. Art Exhibits. Wed-Fri 10-5, Sat 12-5, Sun-Tues by appointment. BigTown Gallery, 99 North Main St. (802) 767-9670. info@bigtowngallery.com. www.bigtowngallery.com.

RUTLAND. Exhibits, classes, workshops, open studio evenings, gift shop. Gallery open Thursday and Friday 12-6 pm and Saturdays 12-5 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 South Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

RUTLAND. Chaffee Downtown Art Center. Exhibit: "Oil & Water," featuring husband and wife Peter Huntoon and Mareva Millarc, November 1-29. Exhibits, workshops, classes. Open Tuesday-Friday 12-6 pm, and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm. Chaffee Downtown Gallery, 75 Merchants Row. (802) 775-0062. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

RUTLAND. Castleton Downtown Gallery. Free admission. Open Wed through Sat 1-6 pm. Center Street Alley. For info call Bill Ramage at (802) 468-1266. castletoncollegegalleries@gmail.com.

SAXTONS RIVER. River Artisans Cooperative. 40 craftspeople keep the shelves stocked with a wide variety of handcrafted items. Open to new members. Year round, weekdays from 12-5 pm and weekends from 10 am – 3 pm. 26B Main St. (802) 869-2099. www.riverartisans.com.

The Farmer's Field

The branches are bare and a sodden sky
Hangs over the field where furrows lie
In long straight lines of grey black soil,
Turned, one by one, with patient toil.
In the snug warm stable munching hay
The old plow horses are tied away...
The cows are milked and the barn closed tight,
For the farmer says it will freeze to-night.

He eats his supper with a relish keen
And talks to the family in between...
"The fall's work is finished, the plowing done,
To-morrow I'll take my dog and gun
And a whole day off, if the weather is fair,
To chase the red foxes away to their lair."

Then he goes to bed for a well earned rest
And the clouds roll back from a star decked west.

Before the rising of the tardy sun
The farmer is off with his dog and gun...
A neighbor's boy his chores will do,
In fact the neighbor goes hunting too.
On the grey black furrows in the morning light
The frost lies heavy...It glistens white...
A herald of promise...The Farmer knows
He welcomes the shield of winter snows.

—ELLA WARNER FISHER



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The Taste of Bethel Dinner Coming on November 11

The Taste Of Bethel Dinner will take place again this year on Tuesday, November 11th, Veterans' Day, at the Whitcomb High School in Bethel, VT. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m.

Local caterers, restaurants, the Whitcomb H.S. Cafeteria, Randolph Area Vocational Center Culinary Program, and other food vendors will participate.

There will be entertainment by Whitcomb H.S., including solos by talented students who will perform

patriotic songs. We'll have a raffle with some very nice prizes, tickets sold in advance. Seating will be limited and we encourage everyone to get their tickets early.

This event is sponsored by the Bethel Business Association as a fundraiser for many worthwhile civic projects in town.

Whitcomb Jr/Sr High School is located at 273 Pleasant St., Bethel VT. For more information and tickets call (802) 234-5064.

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through
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Vermont Country Calendar

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

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

SO, STRAFFORD. Artworks by Harlow Lent. On display in the cafe. Tuesday-Friday 6 am - 2 pm, Saturday 7 am - 2 pm. Sunday 8 am - 2 pm; spring dinner hours Thursday & Friday 5-8:30 pm; closed Monday. Free wifi. Cafe 232, 232 Rt. 132, (802) 765-9232. (802) 885-6156. www.nlwatercolor.com. cafe232.com.

SPRINGFIELD. Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center featuring fine art and hand-crafted gifts from over 125 local and regional artists and craftsmen. Exhibits, classes, workshops. 6th Tuesday - Saturday 11 am - 5 pm. 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org.

SPRINGFIELD. The Great Hall Presents: Fibrations! New England Fiber Art & Mixed-Media Invitational Exhibition. Free reception for the public from 5-7 pm on November 7. Wine and light refreshments will be served. The Great Hall, 100 River St. (802) 885-3061. bob@springfielddevelopment.org. jam@vermontel.net. November 7 through Spring 2015.

SPRINGFIELD. Plein Air Exhibit. Open 8 am - 5 pm Monday through Friday. Art on the River Gallery, 100 River St. November 17 through mid-March.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium. Exhibits, programs, special events, wildflower table, collections. Admission: adults \$8, seniors and children under 17 \$6, under 5 free. Winter hours: Tues-Sat 9 am - 5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. www.fairbanksmuseum.org

ST. JOHNSBURY. The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain and Dog Chapel. Free. Winter hours from September 1 through April 30: Thursday through Monday 11 am - 4 pm. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (800) 449-2580. contact@dogmt.com. dogmt.com.

STOWE. Exhibit: Matthew Christopher. Beautiful reverent photography of abandoned spaces. Exhibit open 12-5 pm, Wed-Sun. Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St. (802) 253-8358. helenday.com. Through November 23.

WINDSOR. Cider Hill Art Gallery. Free. Fri-Sun, 10 am - 5 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.ciderhillgardens.com. garymilek.com.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Visit the Jersey herd, draft horses, oxen, and sheep and tour the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House. Open November-February Weekends, 10 am to 4 pm; Christmas and February Vacation Weeks, 10 am to 4 pm. Admission: adults \$14, age 62 & up \$13, children ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org.

COMMUNITY DANCES AND MUSIC

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Music Center. Now registering for fall. Individual lessons, as well as classes for kids, teens, and adults; instrumentalists, singers, and non-musicians; absolute beginners and accomplished musicians. Daytime adult program, programs for kids, conducting class. Brattleboro Music Center, 38 Walnut St. (802) 257-4523. www.bmvt.org.

CHESTER. Green Mountain Express hosts Monthly Open Mike Country Jamboree. All musicians and singers, bands and singles welcome. Refreshments, raffles and 50/50 tickets on sale. Admission \$5 donation. 1-4 pm. Gassetts Grange, junction of Rte 10 & 103N. (802) 875-2637. *Continues 2nd Sundays monthly.*

DANVILLE. Family Contra & Square Dance. First Friday of each month, July through May. By donation. Chip Hedler caller and David Carpenter band leader. 8 pm at Danville Town Hall. (802) 563-3225.

HANOVER, NH. Social Singing from The Sacred Harp. Early American hymns in the shape note tradition. Free and open to the public, no experience necessary, loaner books provided. Not a performance or church function, just fellowship in song. 7-9:30 pm. Hanover Friends Meeting House, 43 Lebanon St. Information: danhertzler@gmail.com. *Second Thursdays.*

NORWICH. Contradance with Northern Spy and caller David Millstone. No partner necessary. Beginners and singles always welcome. All dances taught and called. Please bring a change of clean shoes for the dance floor. Admission \$8 (Students \$5, under 16 free). 8 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 785-4607. rbarrows@cs.dartmouth.edu. *Second Saturdays.*

NORWICH. Contradance. Music by Cuckoo's Nest, caller Ruth Sylvester. Please bring a pair of clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing. All dances taught. Beginners and singles welcome. Admission \$5, under 16 free. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. 8 pm. At Tracey Hall, 300 Main St. For information call (802) 785-4607. *Fourth Saturdays.*

PLAINFIELD. Monthly Sacred Harp Sing. A free event, with beginners and loaner books available. The second Sunday of every month at 3 to 5 p.m. at the Community Center above the Co-op in Plainfield. For more information, contact Lynnette Combs at (802) 426-3850. lynnnetcombs@gmail.com.

TUNBRIDGE. Ed Larkin Contra Dancers Open House. \$8 per person. Refreshments at intermission. Second Friday's through May. 7:30-10 pm at the Tunbridge Town Hall, Rt. 110. For info e-mail clydo46@gmail.com.

WEST NEWBURY. Eastern Square Dance. Traditional singing squares, waltzes, polkas, foxtrots, two-steps, Virginia Reel, Portland Fancy, Paul Jones, others. All dances taught. With Adam Boyce, fiddler/caller, Donna Weston on piano. Admission by donation, all ages welcome. 7:30 pm at the Community Hall at 219 Tyler Farm Rd. (802) 429-2316 or adamrboyce@juno.com. *Fourth Saturdays.*

HORSEBACK RIDING & WAGON RIDES

CHITTENDEN. Mountain Top Equestrian Center. Open daily for all riding abilities, English & Western. 40 miles of trails, two outdoor arenas, cross country jumping course. Friday and Sunday Specials. Mountain Top Inn & Resort, 195 Mountain Top Rd. Reservations required: (802) 483-2311. www.mountaintoppinn.com.

PUTNEY. Green Mountain Orchards. Horse-drawn wagon rides year-round by reservation. 130 West Hill Rd. (exit 4, I-91), look for signs in Putney Village. (802) 387-5851. www.greenmtorchards.com.

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

WOODSTOCK. Annual Autumn Wagon Ride Weekend. Narrated horse-drawn wagon rides around the fields. Operating dairy farm with the Jersey herd, calf nursery, draft horse teams, sheep, and oxen, and restored farmhouse. Admission: \$14 adults, \$13 seniors, \$8 children 5-15, \$4 children 3 & 4. Open 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *November 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22 & 23.*

RECREATION & NATURE CENTERS

GRAFTON. Grafton Ponds Outdoor Center. A year-round recreation center. 783 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2400. graftonponds.com.

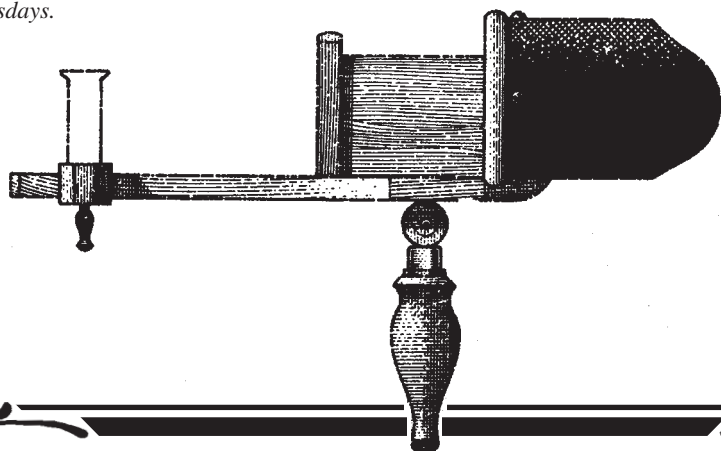
MONTPELIER. North Branch Nature Center. 713 Elm Street. (802) 229-6206. chip@northbranchnaturecenter.org. northbranchnaturecenter.org.

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science Nature Center. Adults \$13, seniors \$12, youth (4-17) \$11. 10 am - 5 pm. VINS Nature Center, 6565 Woodstock Rd., Rt. 4, (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. www.vinsweb.org.

RUPERT. Merck Forest and Farmland. Camping, cabins, trails, farm, workshops and seasonal events. Visitor's Center and store. Free admission. Open year round, dawn to dusk. 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

SHELburne. Shelburne Farms. Welcome Center, Farm and Farm Store. Open year round 10 am - 5 pm. Enjoy eight miles of walking trails in woodlands and meadows. Walkers, check in with the Welcome Center. Admission. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. www.shelburnefarms.org.

WOODSTOCK. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park. Trails, carriage roads, gardens and a mansion at Vermont's only national park. Admission: \$4 or \$8, under 15 free. Walk the grounds for free. Guided tours, reservations available. 10 am - 5 pm daily. 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368. www.nps.gov/mabi/index.htm.



Bethel's 2nd Annual Fall Into The Holidays Shopping Fair

On Saturday, November 8th, The 2nd Annual Fall Into the Holidays Shopping Fair will take place at the Whitcomb Jr/Sr High School Gymnasium from 9 am - 3 pm. The event is hosted by the Bethel Business Association of Bethel, VT.

Come get a start on your holiday shopping, or just spoil yourself a little. Help support your local direct sales and home businesses by shopping local for the holidays! 30+ vendors will be there including the Bethel Historical Society, Dove Chocolate, handmade jewelry, handcrafted soaps, Origami Owl, Party Lite, Thirty-One, Tupperware, unique antique Christmas décor and so many more local crafters, artisans, and businesses. Delicious home cooked food will be available from the Whitcomb High School Boosters. Admission is free and the school is handicap accessible.

Whitcomb Jr/Sr High School, 273 Pleasant St., Bethel VT. For more information contact Rachel Irish at (802) 234-0094.



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Chandler Music Hall Hosts Great November Entertainment

The DuPont Brothers • November 7

Chandler presents The DuPont Brothers, the first in a new "First Friday" series, on Friday November 7th at 7:30 p.m. in the Upper Gallery. As part of this new series, the \$19 admission (or two for \$35) includes one free drink at the cash bar and free snacks.

Brothers Sam and Zack DuPont play Vermont-made folk-Americana, reunited after years of geographical separation by a fortified collaboration in music.

The duo hit the ground running after the formation of the group in March of 2013. Since then, the brothers have released a debut EP and DVD of live in-studio performances and are working on a new record. They've shared the stage with Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, Ben Sollee, Gin Wigmore, Chris Thomas King, Langhorne Slim, Howie Day, and The Lone Bellow to name a few. Lush finger-style guitar work is complimented by elegant prose and a vocal blend that could only be matched by blood relation.

Play—Ransom • November 8

The White River Valley Players reprise their acclaimed production of Ransom, an original play with music inspired by the Civil War letters of Ransom W. Towle of West Rochester, VT on Saturday, November 8th at 7:30 p.m. Directed by Ethan Bowen, written by Dick Robson in collaboration with Joe Schenkman, Ethan Bowen and April Dodd. Original music by Dorothy Robson and Jake Wildwood. Historical research by Joe Schenkman. A complimentary reception for the cast and audience members follows the performance. Reserved ticket: adults \$15, students \$10. www.whiterivervalleyplayers.org.

Broken Hearts and Madmen • November 14

Broken Hearts & Madmen joins two of Canada's leading musical forces: the Gryphon Trio and vocalist Patricia O'Callaghan in a performance on November 14th at 7:30 p.m. Blending classical music with popular songs from around the world, they'll take listeners on a haunting and beautiful musical journey through the complexities of the creative spirit. Featuring songs by Leonard Cohen, Nick Drake, Elvis Costello, Lhasa de Sela, and Laurie Anderson alongside traditional melodies from Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil, Broken Hearts & Madmen is global in spirit and celebrates the romantic soul inside us all. The evening's program also features Beethoven's Archduke Trio. Reserved tickets: \$40; students \$10. www.gryphontrio.com.

Run Boy Run • November 15

Both tasty bluegrass and fresh local produce will be served on Saturday, November 15th at Chandler, with a performance by Run Boy Run at 7:30 p.m. and earlier at a farmer's mar-



Run Boy Run will play a concert at Chandler Music Hall on November 15. photo by Nancy Cassidy

ket starting at 3 p.m. that The Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT), is sponsoring as part of Agricultural Literacy Week, in the Esther Mesh Room of Chandler's Upper Gallery.

Run Boy Run is a young, progressive ensemble from Tuscon, Arizona. The members of the tightly-knit, five-piece group (which includes two pairs of siblings and one husband-wife team) became acquainted at bluegrass festivals and began singing and playing together in 2009. Only a few weeks later, they won the band competition at the Pickin' in the Pines Acoustic Music Festival in Flagstaff, Arizona. By 2012, they were asked to perform at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival in Colorado.

After winning at the Telluride festival, Run Boy Run gained attention following an appearance on Garrison Keillor's A Prairie Home Companion radio program. Keillor was so impressed that he asked Run Boy Run to perform on the show again just four weeks later. In addition, he wrote the liner notes for their first full-length album *So Sang the Whippoorwill*, released in March 2013.

Run Boy Run's sound has been described as "Arizona meets Appalachia." With roots that run deep in traditional Southern Appalachian music, the group is at the same time unmistakably fresh and contemporary. The group's second

album, *Something to Someone*, is set to be released on October 28, 2014.

The Farmer's Market at Chandler will be open from 3-7:30 p.m. and during intermission. In addition to buying fresh produce and sampling offerings cooked up by area chefs, visitors can also take in the photography of Ben DeFlorio, whose exhibit "Home Grown" celebrates the area's organic farmers and their produce.

The Hobbit • November 29

What would you do if a Wandering Wizard, accompanied by a band of Dwarves, drew you into a quest for treasure where you'd be certain to face grave dangers?

Discover hobbit Bilbo Baggins' response to this dilemma in No Strings Marionette Company's new production of *The Hobbit*, presented at Chandler on Saturday, November 29th at 11 a.m. This fantasy adventure story, first published in 1937 by British author J.R.R. Tolkien, introduces the Middle Earth characters that later take part in *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

Puppeteers Dan Baginski and Barbara Paulson have performed for over twelve years, dazzling children and adults with their marionette magic. On the stage of this traveling theater, the performance is a seamless blend of music, movement and masterful marionettes.

Two years in the making, this adaptation of the *Hobbit* is by far their most ambitious production to date. All honor the tradition of puppets performing great works.

A beloved Thanksgiving weekend tradition, the No Strings Marionette Company ushers in the magic of the holiday season in a performance perfect for all ages. Tickets are only \$6, and can be reserved online at www.chandler-arts.org or by calling the box office.

Chandler Center for the Arts is located at 71-73 Main St., Randolph, VT. Chandler's Main Hall and galleries are handicapped accessible. For information call (802) 728-9878. To reach the box office call (802) 431-0204, 3-6 p.m. weekdays. E-mail emily@chandler-arts.org. chandler-arts.org.



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The Artful Garden: Decorating Our Outdoor Spaces

by Judith Irven

With winter fast's garden put to bed, our thoughts turn towards our gardens of the future. As with our homes, every garden must meet certain functional needs, such as providing easy access from driveway to doorway. But, like our homes, all gardens give us personal space where we can indulge and please our aesthetic sensibilities.

When contemplating a new garden—or changing an existing one—our first consideration will be its spatial design. A compelling spatial design—like a well-designed floor plan—knits all the different piece-parts of the garden together—the flower beds, lawn, patio and driveway—into a functional and yet aesthetically pleasing whole. From here our thoughts turn to our plant choices, and how the different colors, shapes, and textures can be arranged for best effect.

But what about decorating our gardens with artwork and artifacts? This is like adding pictures to the walls of our homes, and the perfect way to imprint our unique personalities onto our outdoor spaces.

The possibilities for an artful garden are endless. Our choices are also extremely personal: one person's delight may leave the next person cold. Sometimes, as a way to expand our horizons, it helps to see examples in a beautiful public space. In other cases you might find a lovely hand-crafted item that ignites your imagination. With these thoughts in mind, let me share a few recent experiences with you.

Mesmerizing, glamorous glass

Last week I spent a wonderful day with my daughter and two granddaughters, meandering around the huge botanical gardens in the heart of downtown Denver. The twenty-three acre 'Denver Botanic Gardens' actually encompass numerous smaller interlocking garden spaces, like gardens-within-a-garden, with individual themes such as woodland, prairie, or mountain, and each on a scale that we, as ordinary gardeners, can embrace.

This wonderful public facility is always a treat, but this time it was made extra special because the gardens were hosting an exhibit by renowned glass artist Dale Chihuly, as part of his Garden Cycle series.

Strolling past purple asters, golden rudbeckia and multi-hued dahlias in the ever-popular O'Fallon Perennial Walk, visitors of all ages literally squealed with delight as they caught sight of spirited hand-blown glass creations snuggled in amongst the flowers. I understand Mr. Chihuly had made a point of visiting the gardens the previous year to get a sense of the colors and textures of late summer, and planned his exhibit accordingly.

As we wandered through each of the gardens-within-a-garden we encountered all manner of beautiful glass sculptures in vibrant colors like red, purple, yellow, orange or emerald green—each designed to enhance its unique space. An array of vermilion spires dominated the field of fall prairie grasses; a collection of sapphire onions floated alongside a blue and purple boat; a wooden gondola overflowed with multi-hued glass spheres; yellow and green cactus sprouted across the Monet pool; and a blue-ice tower stood tall above the Sacred Earth garden. And then, last but by no means least, the Summer Sun, an enormous ball of twisted strands of orange and yellow glass, smiled down on the children as they rolled from top to bottom of the vast grassy amphitheater.

You can see photographs from the Chihuly Denver exhibit on my North Country Reflections website. While many of these sculptures are clearly scaled for large public spaces, similar smaller items that are locally sourced could readily enhance a private garden.

The Denver exhibit ends on November 30, when workers from Chihuly's Seattle studio will carefully dismantle and pack each piece, many of which will become part a new show running from December 6 until the end of May in the Florida's Fairchild Botanic Gardens (a few miles south of Miami). Snowbirds, take note: if you will be in Florida this winter, be sure to plan a visit to Fairchild.

Gentle, soothing clay

For millennia people have created clay items both for function and for beauty and, even today, clay objects in our gardens impart a feeling of timelessness.

Also, in skilled hands, clay can be worked in so many ways and with innumerable interpretations, whether at a potter's wheel or, for very different results, through free-form modeling.

Over the years I have acquired four beautiful large clay pots, each an individual, in colors ranging from clear blue to oatmeal beige. All are the creations of master potter, Robert Compton, of Bristol, Vermont, who primarily works with a potter's wheel.

Every spring I carefully fill my pots with spouting tuberous begonias augmented with a mix of contrasting plants. Then, to catch the eye of garden visitors, I thoughtfully position each pot in the garden where it will be slightly elevated.

But do not limit your ideas to symmetrically thrown pots. To my mind, modeled clay figures, especially those in human form, perhaps a serene Buddha or an angelic cherub, always feel 'at home' in the garden. The trick is to set them off amongst a few simple plants with contrasting colors and a refined texture. I still remember a delightful small figure, maybe a cherub, combined with feather-reed grass and Queen Anne's Lace, that we spotted at the Tower Hill Botanic Gardens near Worcester, Massachusetts.

And finally my newest piece of garden art is a fanciful ceramic wall planter with a gently smiling face framed by leafy hair. Next summer she will be mounted on the wall beside our front door to greet each and every visitor. Like my pots, this too was locally made, in this case by Brandon ceramic



A metal sculpture by Bill Heise stands out against the snow in Judith's winter garden. photo by Dick Conrad

sculptor, Susan Smith-Hunter. You can find more of Susan's delightful ceramic faces at the Brandon Artist's Guild.

Elegant, sophisticated metalwork

Metalwork for the garden comes in various forms, such as a beautiful scrolled gate, a classic curved trellis or a contemporary stand-alone sculpture.


All work well in the summer garden at the end of a path or amongst the flowers. But in the quiet of a snowy winter's day they really stand out in the landscape and make quite a statement. And, unlike clay and glass which must come indoors for the winter, metal objects can remain outside year round, which is certainly an added point in their favor!

Several years ago now I had the good fortune to purchase several pieces created from recycled materials by metal sculptor Bill Heise, including three unique birds and a whimsical figure known as the 'Spirit Keeper'. This picture shows one of our Bill Heise birds set off against his white surroundings on a January afternoon sipping snow out of his birdbath.

Gardens are personal spaces

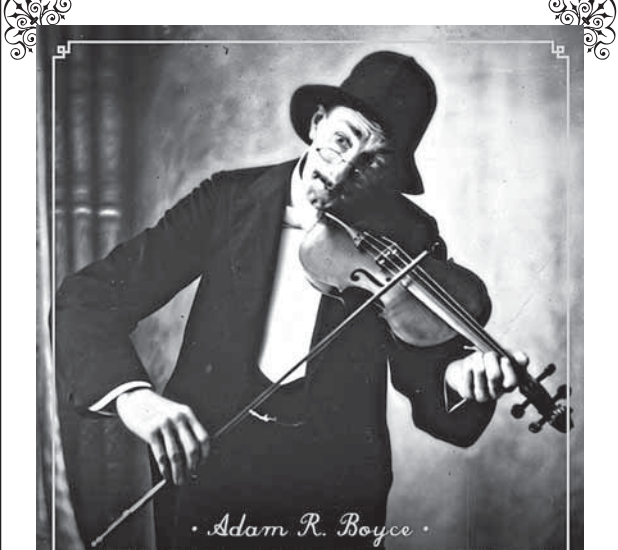
Your garden is your own private place where you can let your imagination run and express your creativity, not only with your plants, but also through your choices of decoration and embellishment. And winter is the perfect time to day-dream about its endless possibilities!

Judith Irven and Dick Conrad live in Goshen where together they nurture a large garden. Judith is a landscape designer and Vermont Certified Horticulturist who also teaches Sustainable Home Landscaping for the Vermont Master Gardener program. You can subscribe to her blog about her Vermont gardening life at www.northcountryreflections.com. Dick is a landscape and garden photographer; you can see more of his photographs at northcountryimpressions.com.

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Colors from Sublime To Ridiculous

by Burr Morse

Once again, Autumn in Vermont puts me in a “colorful” mood...lets talk colors, colors from the sublime to the ridiculous and all those in between. For the sublime...our fall foliage has been as usual a masterpiece right from God’s paint brush! The textures and hues around here were magical, ethereal, and, frankly, beyond interpretation by even the most expensive camera...you’ve gotta live it to see it the right way. Being a Vermonter, I’m so lucky to be able to live it and share it with folks from all over the world.

This fall we had some visitors who brought their colors on wheels—the antique tractor people. They moved in on Friday afternoon with pickups pulling trailers and unloaded their wares: John Deere greens, Ford grays, Farmall reds, Case yellows, and Allis Chalmers oranges all lined up to complement the bursting foliage. The tractor folks, all good Vermonters, stood ready with knee-slappin’ stories and brag-

“I was particularly drawn to a funny little machine that looked like a cross between a Ford tractor and a bull dog.”

gin’ rights intact...their purpose, to entertain everyone from English gentlemen to out-West good ol’ boys.

I was particularly drawn to a funny little machine that looked like a cross between a Ford tractor and a bull dog. On close inspection, I found the name “Worthington” printed on the side of its grey Ford Jubilee-shaped hood. It stood low to the ground as if ready to pounce. Even with my limited mechanical knowledge, I could see it had the motor of a tractor but the transmission and rear end of a truck. I was craning to see its frame and steering setup when the Worthington’s proud owner Paul Garcia came along. “Set up t’ mow golf courses and haul airliners,” he said. Paul, self proclaimed antique tractor addict, went on to describe stumbling across this strange little machine and how he just had to have it.

Talking with him reminded me of another “mongrel” trac-



A Worthington tractor, part of a display at Morse Farm in Montpelier, VT. photo by Claude Stone

tor from my own past. Back in the early seventies, money was scarce and “farmer toggling” was the order of the day. After a tough lifetime of use, the motor blew out on our Allis Chalmers WD-45 Diesel tractor. Since the cost of a replacement diesel engine was prohibitive, Dad and I decided to have a car engine put into it. Roy Hagggett, a mechanical genius and jack-of-all-steel- fabrications had a shop up the road in Adamant. One night my father, Roy, and I traveled to the sticks of Roxbury to the junkyard of one Rod Flint. Somehow between the end of a regular work day and twilight, we wrestled a Plymouth slant-six out of a rusted out Valiant and took it to Roy’s shop where the Allis sat waiting to be resurrected.

A couple weeks later, Roy called with the message, “I can’t do this—I give up!” My father, no push over with messages like that said “Aw c’ mon...give it one more try”. Roy did and a few days later drove into our yard with the thing.

He dismantled through a cloud of blue smoke shaking his head...“cussed thing don’t know whether it wants t’ be a car or a tractah”. He punctuated those words with “it’ll never work!” He was right. Long story short, a high horse power car engine is just not adaptable to the low horse power needs of a tractor. Roy had done a good job but that old slant six went right back to the junk yard, tractor and all!

At the end of this writing, our beautiful foliage is “raining” down into dry crunchy piles under foot and the tractor folks have returned to haul their colorful machines away. Enter the “ridiculous” side of our color spectrum: those fall political signs are blooming like patches of deadly nightshade on private lawns and every street corner. They come in all shades of “tacky” and stand in total defiance of human intelligence. The only possible sense they make is to stimulate the economy for our paper plants and printers but with due respect, this capitalist says “Baa Humbug!” My biannual disbelief is back—how can these eyesores possibly translate to anything positive in a public servant?

Soon even those signs will be coming down to be replaced with nothing but white. We’ll live with white for a few months. Through it, this writer’ll yearn for a return of the more colorful mix. Yup, in spite of one drawback, you can’t beat the Fall season in Vermont.

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Vermont Game Warden Adventures Chronicled by Megan Price

by Charles Sutton

When Megan Price was a young girl growing up in Fair Haven, VT, she spent hours reading books and filling journals with her writing. But she never dreamed of becoming a writer or an author of books. She also spent lots of time in the woods which would be a future source of inspiration.

Little did she know then that her journal writing (which she later burned up) was the key to becoming the writer she is today. That writing made her fluent with words and what they expressed much as one becomes fluent in a foreign language by working with it over and over.

So it is no surprise that this talent, polished and shaped by years as a newspaper reporter, would produce four books which retell the stories, hazardous or humorous, of Vermont fish and game wardens over a period of 30 years.

The books were instantly popular, and their many readers and fans are anxiously awaiting the fifth volume which she promises is in the works.

Game Wardens' stories and insights

The first book, *Vermont Wild* (2011), is a series of stories by Eric Nuse who was a Vermont game warden for 32 years. Intriguing chapter titles include Moose Vesuvius, Gimme the Gun, and Raccoon Riot. Storyteller Nuse is introduced to us in a cover drawing by Bob Lutz showing him being overrun by raccoons inside his car!

In *Vermont Wild, Volume 2*, four other wardens tell their tales with catchy names like Skinny Goose, Dog Fish, and the Satan series about a warden's water-loving dog, a trickster who outwits the warden at every turn. (The Satan stories are among Megan's favorites.)

Vermont Wild, Volume 3 has stories from nine wardens with such titles as Snow Brawl, Beaver Battles, and a series, Remembering Red, about warden Franklin Hooper.

This year, Megan also published *Maine Wild, Volume 1*, telling about the adventures of retired Maine Fish & Game Warden, Parker Tripp.

Megan got onto these stories by an unusual set of circumstances. She was participating in a program called Becoming Outdoor Women, where one is taught about surviving out-of-doors, proper shooting techniques, archery, fish-fly tying, tracking, and other skills. Storytelling around a camp fire was an evening ritual. Her instructor was warden Eric Nuse, who later talked her into managing the program. At some point he also came to Megan and asked her if she would be willing to write up those warden stories that amused so many people. Easier said than done, but Megan said "yes."

A writer and a publisher

Although the stories, as printed, run along easily with no wasted words or details, Megan admits getting them in printable shape involved a huge amount of time and effort. Having been a reporter at the Rutland Herald for a number of years, she knew the stories had to follow the newspaper writing guides of "who, what, where, and when." She took down all the stories by hand, knowing that tape recorders often inhibited the person being interviewed.

Before her newspaper career Megan went to college first at Antioch and then in Olympia, WA, and had numerous jobs before returning to Vermont. Determined to work full-time as a writer—she had been writing free lance—she managed to get the Rutland Herald to give her a job as reporter, when it seemed there were no openings. Her forte was being a "word slinger"—a writer who focuses on something a little different to make one think, laugh or have feelings. These warden stories certainly meet that goal.

Megan has published the Vermont Wild and Maine Wild books under her own imprint of Pine Marten Press, making her an author and a publisher.

Megan says she is pleased that her books appeal to people of all ages, but especially children, who today seem to have other interests than reading. The stories mean a lot to her especially because she has been able to record and save an important part of Vermont history that might otherwise have been lost.

Vermont Wild, Vols. 1, 2 & 3; and Maine Wild, Vol. 1, by Megan Price are available at your bookseller and some sporting goods stores for \$19.95 or can be ordered from PineMartenPress.com. Visit www.VermontWild.com.



A flock of wild turkeys cross the yard in Randolph, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

3rd Annual Swap Sisters Harvest Barter Fair in Greensboro, VT

Did you have a bumper crop of potatoes this year, but never got around to making any jam? Do you long for a chance to try someone else's home-grown handiwork or would like some more variety on your pantry shelf?

Come and participate in the Third Annual Harvest Barter Fair hosted by the Swap Sisters. On Sunday November 9th we'll be swapping the season's bounty at the Lakeview Union School in Greensboro, VT from 2-4 pm.


Bring items that you have grown, preserved, baked, or crafted to swap with neighbors. Items will be swapped on a one-for-one basis. Bring items with an estimated value of \$5, or in \$5 increments.

For example you could bring a quart of canned tomatoes, a jar of jelly, a bag

of tasty baked goods, a large winter squash, a pound of frozen meat, a bag of tea or other herbal product, tubers or house plants, or other small pieces of hand crafted art to swap for something you need or want. Please label your items with ingredients.

Come and participate whether you have a little or a lot to share, and bring a friend. People of all ages are encouraged to participate. We'll also have a table with art supplies for kids that would like to make and swap their art. This could also be a good place to find homes for items like extra canning jars.

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North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

A Season When Bears Hunker Down for Winter

Very shortly bears in northern climates, including black bears in the Northeast, will forego yet another winter and sleep it off in a snug cave or other safe burrow until spring.

We're familiar with the term 'bear hug' and may have had such a friendly hug but in *Bear Hug*, written and illustrated by Katharine McEwen (*Candlewick*, \$15.99, www.candlewick.com), we see a family of bears staying 'hugged' together all winter to help stay warm. In this delightful book we see how a young bear has been prepared by its mother and father to survive on its own and get ready for winter. The bear also finds a mate and they stay snuggled together all winter, and not surprisingly, emerge from the cave in the spring with a baby bear, hence the cycle of life is renewed. The artist sprinkles the pre-winter scenes with snowflakes in geometric circles—a nice touch to her exquisite drawings.

It may not be the best idea to go sightseeing for bears as they are wary of humans whatever their intentions. This popular story, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen and illustrated by Helen Oxenbury, (*Candlewick*, over-size board book \$12.99 and hardbound sound book \$19.99, www.candlewick.com), tells about a happy-go-lucky family—four children, a father

and a dog—surprisingly making their way through many obstacles—long, wavy grass; a deep cold river; thick, oozy mud; a big, dark forest; a swirling, whirling snowstorm—before finally finding a cave occupied by a scary, giant bear.

Pursued by the bear they hastily retrace their steps to home, shut the front door just in time to keep the bear out, and all take refuge under the covers of one big bed, vowing never to go bear hunting again. In the final drawing we see the bear heading for its own home. The family's misadventure is shown in large double-page colorful illustrations.

On July 15, 2014, 1,438 children broke the Guinness World Records for the Largest Reading Lesson, celebrating 25 years of *We're Going On a Bear Hunt* at Charter Hall in Colchester, Essex UK. For more about this, visit www.jointhebearhunt.com. The book was originally published in 1989 in England, where the author and illustrator both live.

We know bears eat blueberries, raspberries, and honeycombs, but in *Bear Sees Colors* by Karma Wilson and illustrated by Jane Chapman (*Simon and Schuster*, \$14.99, www.simonandschuster.com), you'll find out what else they like (or may try) to eat and in the process it will sharpen up

one's sense of colors. Bear and a companion mouse journey through landscapes featuring the colors blue, red, yellow, green, and brown. Readers are asked what colors and in what form they take that the bear might have missed. For example, the bear gets red cherries and raspberries, but may have missed the red watering can, red leaves, red flowers, red toadstools, red bird and red butterfly. Colorful animals add color, too.

A book-savvy mouse also is the companion to a reluctant bear in *A Library Book for Bear* by Bonny Becker and illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton (*Candlewick*, \$16.99, www.candlewick.com). The mouse convinces a rather large brown bear to go to the public library for more books as the bear has a limited collection of only seven books.

Setting the tone for this hilarious story the bear gets to the library on red roller skates, makes a loud nuisance of himself, and refuses to take any books. But we see 'brains over brawn' as the bear does take seven new books home, one called *The Very Brave Bear*, and reads them to the mouse that very same day.

Polar bears thrive on the cold and winter, but sometimes

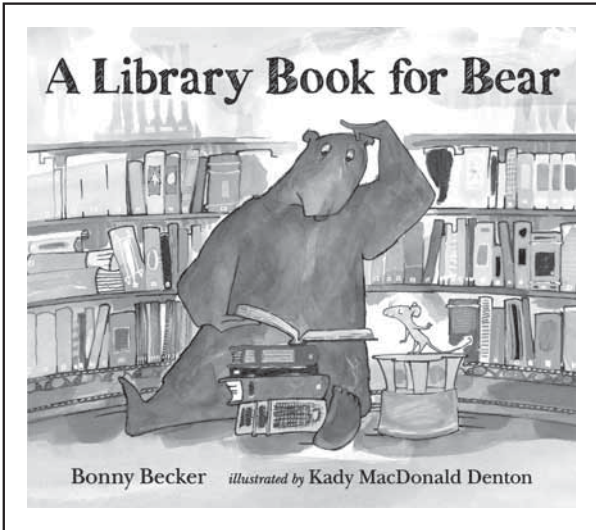
if a snowstorm is so severe their white form might just disappear into the snow. Such was the problem for the cub in *Baby Polar* by Vermont author Yannick Murphy and illustrated by Kristen Balouch (*Houghton Mifflin*, \$6.99 paper, www.hmco.com). Baby polar and mother are out playing and having fun in the snow until the blizzard hits and they become separated in all that whiteness. In a surprise ending see how mother bear becomes safe shelter for the baby in the storm.

If these bear stories arouse your curiosity then *Wild About Bears* by Jeannie Brett (*Charlesbridge*, \$17.95, www.charlesbridge.com), is a marvelous source of information on the eight species of bears that live on the earth today. How many can you name? They are the polar bear, brown bear, North American black bear, spectacled bear, Asiatic black bear, sloth bear, sun bear and the giant panda.

In addition to large drawings showing how they appear in their environments, the author shares intriguing data on each species. For example, the black bears that inhabit Vermont (about 6,000) may have litters that have different colored cubs, and their unusually long, sharp curved claws help them climb trees to avoid predators.

We all like to hear about the giant panda bear. But did we know their babies are born all white and weigh only four ounces at birth? The bears live in coniferous forests along the eastern rim of the Tibetan plateau. And they eat 26 to 33 pounds of bamboo every day.

Readers will find out where the bears live in the world, with recommendations for other bear books and websites.



Book News

25th Joe Gunther Mystery by Archer Mayor—Proof Positive

In *Proof Positive* (*St. Martin's Press*), Archer Mayor's latest mystery, Joe Gunther and his team leave New England for Philadelphia. Two bodies are found in a hoarder's Vermont home; one victim has a Philly rap sheet and may have played a role in the hoarder's demise.

Archer Mayor has written 25 bestselling Joe Gunther novels. He is a death investigator for Vermont's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and a police detective. He also has 25 years experience as a volunteer firefighter/

EMT. A Yale graduate, scholar, editor, researcher, photographer, his resume reveals work as a political advance man, a medical illustrator, and recently, a winner of the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts.

Industry peers often hear Mayor speak at national conferences on forensics. Booklist says: "Mayor's Joe Gunther novels are among the best cop stories being written today."

For more information visit www.archermayor.com.

Book Review

A Bird on My Hand

by Mary Bevis and illustrated by Consie Powell
(Raven Productions, Inc.)

Seen more chickadees lately? They are with us year-round, but with colder weather and less to eat in the woods and countryside, these popular little birds will be looking for feeders loaded with sunflower seeds.

After reading *A Bird on My Hand* by Mary Bevis and illustrated by Consie Powell, (*Raven Productions, Inc.*, \$17.95, www.ravenwords.com), your children will want to see if they can have chickadees land on their hands for a seed snack.

In this story a grandmother teaches her grandson the skills needed to hand feed chickadees: a quiet, patient,

caring manner and they will come and eat.

We learn there are seven kinds of chickadees: black-capped, chestnut backed, mountain, Mexican, gray-headed, boreal and Carolina. The book includes a chickadee cut-out ready to sit on your hand—no seeds needed!

A Bird on My Hand is available for \$17.95 at your bookseller or directly from the publisher, Raven Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 188, Ely, MN 55731. (218) 365-3375. raven@ravenwords.com.

They have many other interesting books. Have a look at www.ravenwords.com.



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The New Cider Maker's Handbook

A Comprehensive Guide for Craft Producers

by Claude Jolicoeur
(Chelsea Green Publishing)

Twenty-five years ago a young Canadian solar engineer bought some land with a beautiful view of the St. Lawrence River near Quebec with the intent to build a solar home there.

The property had some old abandoned apple trees, from which the author, on advice of friends, had the fall crop of apples made into cider. The next year he decided to make his own cider and purchased a brand-new apple juice press. He was hooked. And he writes:

"A few rows of old apple trees changed my life—the life of a young engineer who became a cider maker and author."

In this highly informative 340-page book you will find everything you need to know if you are a novice and want to make home-made cider. There are designs for making your own equipment at the least possible cost. For example, the apples should be cut up or 'milled' before they are pressed. He shows how a modified kitchen sink garbage grinder or a garden shredder can be adapted for your own mill. The garbage grinder costs about \$150 compared to a fancier Czech-made 'shark fruit' mill or an Italian 'trumpet' mill, each costing around \$1,000.

Even a veteran cider maker will find this book fascinating because the author explores the very

Book Review by Charles Sutton

chemistry of the cider apple—its sugar, acidity, the blending of tannins, the content of nitrogenous materials, pectins and microorganisms. He discusses the use of small and scabby apples and the 'sweating' of apples to keep them for maturation.

Most of the book concentrates on the fermentation and transformation of the apple juice into cider. In Canada and abroad the term cider refers to an alcoholic beverage made from the fermenting of apple juice—what is usually called hard cider in the United States.

What we call sweet cider or simply cider is really the fresh apple juice, or the 'must' from which the hard cider is made.

What we buy at farm stands, farmer's markets and at most of the smaller orchards is the pure apple juice which has not been filtered or altered in any way (pasteurized or irradiated). Left alone at home it often starts fermenting on its own, making bubbles, and having a slight alcoholic taste. We usually hope it isn't on its way to vinegar.

If you decide to make home-made cider (whether from your own apples, or getting them from a pick-your-own orchard or

orchard stand), the author has good advice on what the best apples are for making into cider. He has added to his small orchard of old trees, many other heirloom varieties including ones from England and France. He'll let us know whether or not they make good tasting cider.

He discusses 50 different apples, many with intriguing names like the Dutch Belle de Boskoop, British Brown Snout, French Frequin Rouge, Virginian Hewe's Crab, and Nova Scotian Golden Nugget.

He has asked other cider experts in different areas of North America to recommend their best cider apple. Some of these are familiar to us, and should be the ones to get if you start pressing apples at home. They recommend Baldwin, Cortland, Cox's Orange Pippin, Dabinett, Golden Russet, Harrison, Liberty, Northern Spy, Somerset Redstreak, Wickson, and Yarlington Mill.

Jolicoeur also has his own favorites, including Kingston Black for its high sugar content combined with ideal acidity and moderate tannin.

He recalls tasting some excellent ciders made from this apple at a Cider Days in

Massachusetts in 2009. The orchards producing their own blends with this apple were Poverty

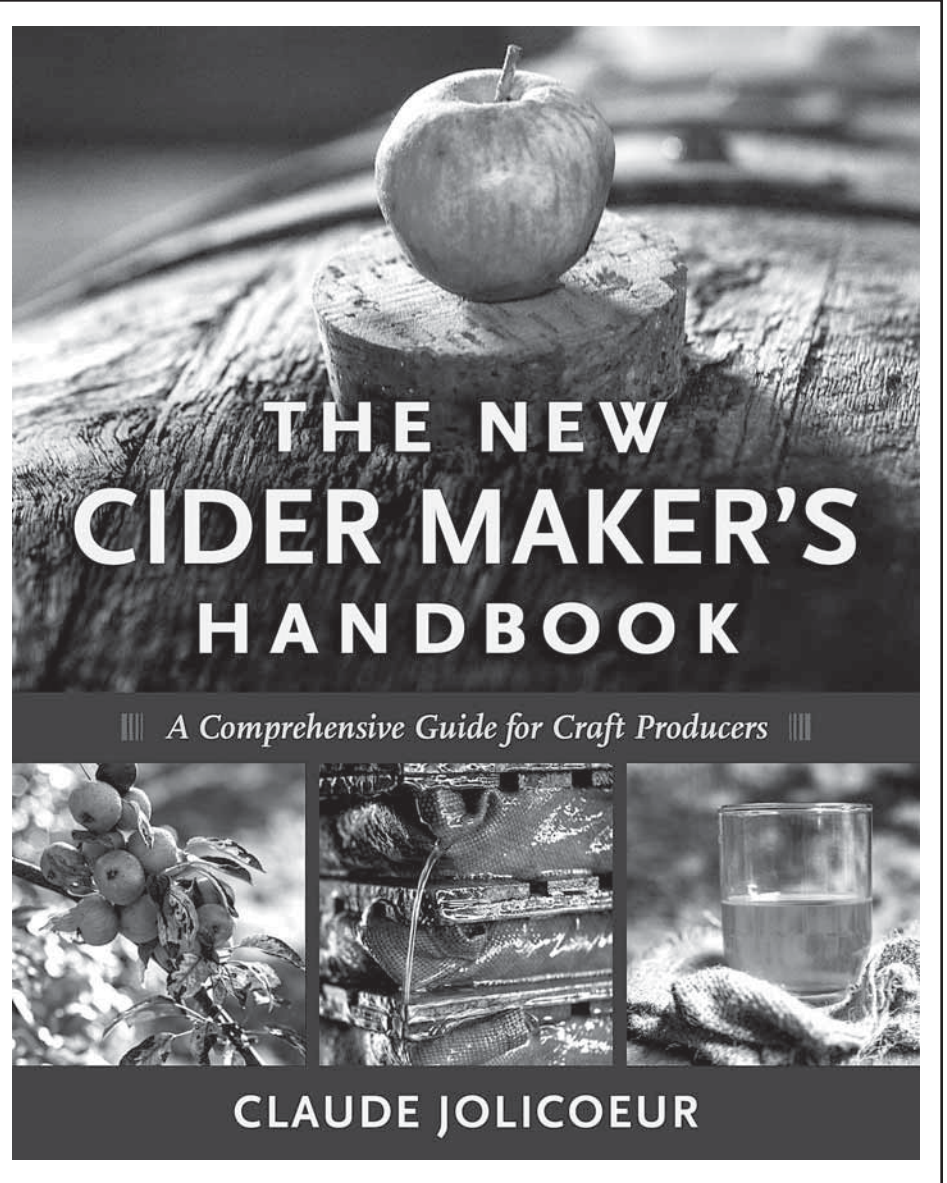
Lane Orchards in Lebanon, NH, Slyboro Cider House, Granville in NY, and West Country Cider in Colrain, MA.

The author has high praise for fellow orchardist and cider-maker Steve Wood of Poverty Lane Orchards for beginning in 1989 "one of the first true cider orchards in modern times in America: five acres with 1,000 trees of mainly English cider varieties—clearly a visionary undertaking."

Another preference for a cider-making apple is Honeygold: "medium vigor, good hardiness and scab sensitive." It is one of the few to give a juice rich in sugar, while the acidity in most years is close to the ideal for a blend.

If you were to plant one tree in your backyard, Jolicoeur recommends his favorite apple tree, Liberty. "This tree is vigorous, naturally takes a good shape, and is easy to prune. Also, hard and productive."

Another of his favorites which he found growing on his property was a huge multi-trunk 50-ft tall seedling tree whose apples were inedible, but had excellent qualities for making cider. He called it Banane Amere which would translate into bitter banana in



English. The apples do have a faint banana flavor, he wrote.

Jolicoeur has concise rules for cider making: seek quality cider; good cider needs good apples and time; cider makes itself; cider makers need patience; follow the KISS principle (keep it simple, stupid); clean before storing; sanitize before using; and remember what you did (keep good notes).

Up-close color photographs show all kinds of equipment needed in making both sweet and hard ciders. They include apple mills and presses, fermentation vessels, airlock, racking tube, hydrometer, sulfite, yeast and bottles.

Many of these items can be found in stores that sell beer and wine making equipment. Jolicoeur reuses empty wine and champagne bottles, readily available after New Year's Eve parties.

Because he is Canadian, the author in-

troduces us to ice cider (cidre de glace in French), a special type of sweet or syrupy cider that was developed in Quebec in the 1990s. Basically the apples are frozen or left to freeze on the tree. Pressed when partially thawed, the water remains trapped as ice crystals and the extracted juice has a higher concentration of sugar which produces more alcohol.

The author's name Jolicoeur in old French was the nickname for a cheerful person, 'joyful,' 'cheerful' plus coeur, 'heart.'

After reading this book you will agree this is a cheerful, heartfelt man who goes about converting apples into tasty cider with all his heart and soul.

The New Cider Makers Handbook: A Comprehensive Guide for Craft Producers by Claude Jolicoeur is available at your bookseller for \$44.95. chelseagreen.com.

Ice Cider from Southern Quebec Now in Vermont

Ice Cider is a sweet yet sophisticated dessert wine made from apples and concentrated by natural winter cold. Sometimes sold as "apple ice wine" in the USA, it was developed in Southern Quebec province in Canada over the past 10 years ("Cidre de Glace" in French). Ice Cider takes advantage of the long, cold winters that are typical of these parts.

Now a recognized dessert wine sold throughout Canada, Europe and Japan, the best thing about Ice Cider is its amazingly delicious taste. A distinct process designed to showcase apple at its most refined, the production process for Ice Cider is not the same as for ice wine. That's why the Ice Cider industry in Quebec has grown significantly and now includes over 50 producers.

Apples are harvested from their trees at peak ripeness and kept in cold storage until the onset of consistently cold winter temperatures. The apples are pressed, and the juice is set outdoors to freeze for 6-8 weeks. The freezing and melting-off process results in a residual concentrate that is naturally high in sugar and flavor. The concentrate is fermented at 50-55 F degrees over several weeks or months. The final product is cold stabilized, filtered and bottled with the resulting product typically 8-11% alcohol by volume, with 12-15% residual sugar.

The amount of Ice Cider produced is usually less than 1/4 of the original amount of juice pressed. It takes more than 8 lbs. of apples to make one 375ml bottle of Ice Cider!

Here are some orchards offering Ice Cider in Vermont:

Boyden Valley Winery, 64 Rt. 104, Cambridge, VT 05444. (802) 644-8151. www.boydenvalley.com.

Champlain Orchards, 3597 Rt. 74 West, Shoreham, VT 05770. (802) 897-2777. www.champlainorchards.com.

Eden Ice Cider Company of West Charleston, VT. Winner of 11 ice cider gold medals and the first in the nation to receive a federally approved label for Ice Cider. Northeast Kingdom Tasting Center, 150 Main St., Newport, VT 05855. Open Mon-Thurs 12-6 p.m., Fri-Sat 12-8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. (802) 334-1808 or www.edenicecider.com. www.nektastingcenter.com.

Hall Home Place, 4445 Main St., Isle La Motte, VT 05463. (802) 928-3091. hallhomeplace.com.

Newhall Farm, Weld Cemetery Rd., S. Reading, VT. 05062. (802) 342-1513. www.newhallfarmvt.com.

Windfall Orchard, Brad Koehler, 1491 Rt. 30, Cornwall, VT 05753. (802) 462-3158. windfallorchardvt.com.

We thank Eden Ice Cider for sharing the origins of Ice Cider with you. For more information visit www.vermonticecider.com.

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Happy Thanksgiving from Captain John Warner's Company of The Green Mountain Rangers

by Mary Ann Miano

"Welcome to the 18th century." That's how you will be greeted by the reenactors at a Revolutionary War encampment. While most of the men and some women portray the military side of the war there are large numbers of distaff that provide a glimpse of camp life and culture of the 1700s.

When the troops were based at a fort or camp for a long amount of time they would employ women to do the cooking, clothes washing, and nursing. These women were called retainees as they were retained and paid by the army. I serve as the company cook for Captain John Warner's Company of The Green Mountain Rangers. I have done extensive research on correct period recipes.

One of our members, Gil Olivarez, provides us with two wild turkeys per season. He hunts in his 18th century garb with a custom made fowler. The turkey pictured on his back is the turkey we prepared at Fort Number 4 in Charlestown, New Hampshire this fall.

The following is our menu for Saturday evening prepared with period and seasonally correct recipes. These are British recipes brought to this country with the colonists and, of course, were only served when the ingredients were available.

The spice trade was thriving at this time so the food is heavily spiced. We served herb roasted wild turkey, roasted head of cauliflower, new potatoes with herbs and butter, cheese, and herb flatbread with assorted pickles, and for dessert, a pumpkin custard with a maple bourbon glaze.

To Roast a Wild Turkey

Ingredients: one wild turkey; one stick of butter, two tablespoons of sage minced, two tablespoons of parsley minced, one tablespoon of rosemary minced, one large clove of garlic minced, for the herb butter. A bundle, tied or loose, of the same herbs, to place inside the carcass. Salt and pepper to taste.

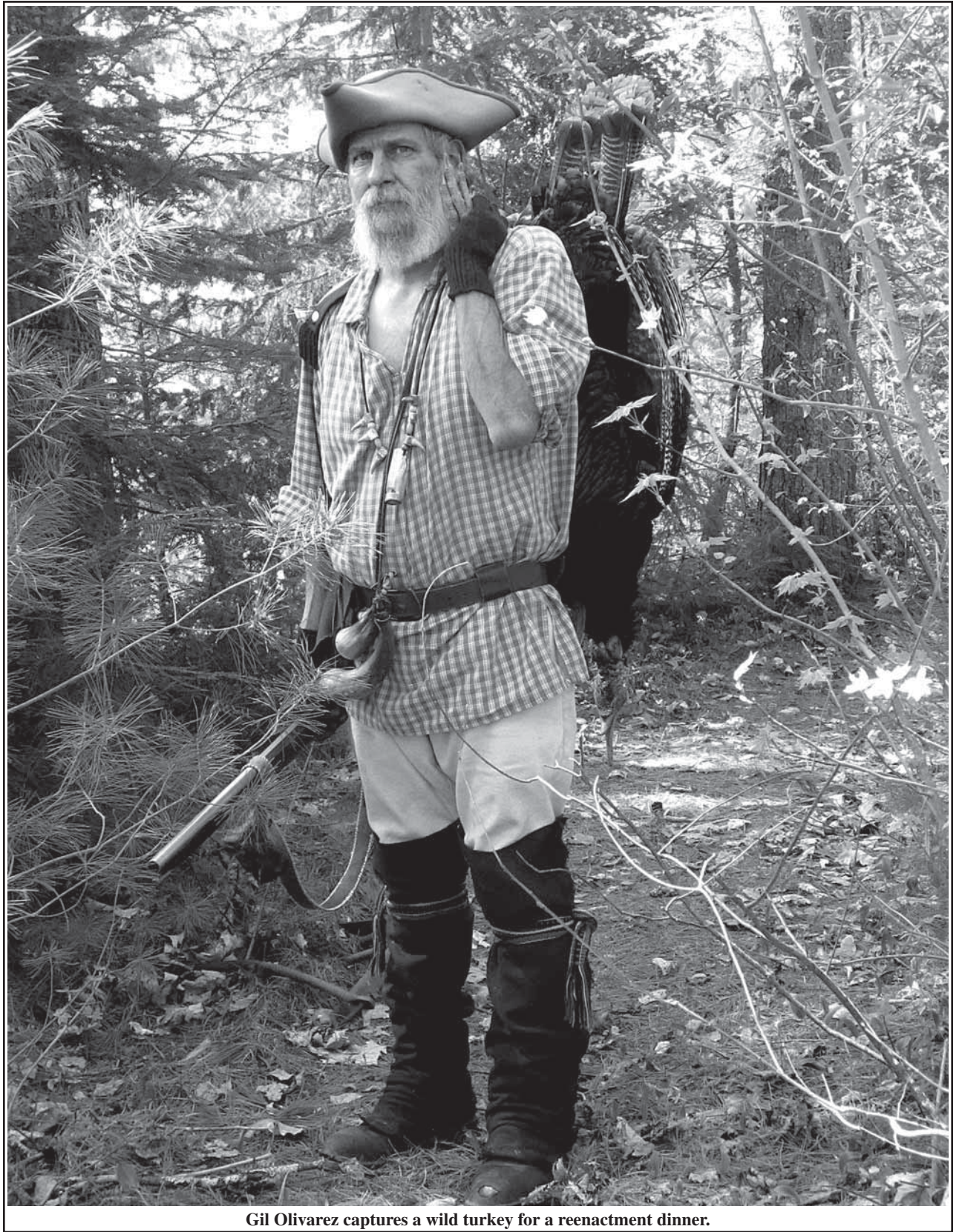
First prepare by brining the turkey in water to cover and approximately 1/3 cup of salt for 30 minutes. You may need to change the brine and soak a second time for 15 minutes as wild turkeys can be very bloody. The night before prepare an herb butter by mincing the fresh herbs finely and incorporating into one stick of soft butter.

After rinsing the turkey well in fresh water, make slits in the skin and using your finger push pieces of the herb butter under the skin. This is tricky as the skin has a tendency to seal up. Place salt and pepper the cavity and place the herb bundle in the cavity. You're now ready to skewer the turkey onto an iron rod. We have a device that the colonists had called poultry forks, which slide on the rod and keep the fowl from turning on the rod. If you don't have this, soak a piece of string in water for 20 minutes and then truss the bird to the rod.

Your fire should have been burning for at least an hour before the turkey goes on so you have some coals. Place the turkey over the fire leaving a foot or more between the flames and the bird. Height of the rod will depend on the heat of the fire which is regulated by the dryness of the wood, and the wind.

Cooking time is affected by these factors and the humidity. The average cooking time for an 18 lb. bird is 5-6 hours on a nice dry day. I sometimes baste the turkey with some broth if we have it. It is a myth that wild turkey is all dark meat and dry. Done over the fire correctly they are juicy and tender. This is just one variation of wild turkey. I have done it with many other herbs such as coriander, cumin and curry. I have also basted it with cognac but the recipe above is delicious.

The best part is relaxing by the fire and watching the turkey slowly roast. I turn them a quarter turn about every



Gil Olivarez captures a wild turkey for a reenactment dinner.

half an hour. In between relax, enjoy the fire and some good conversation and savor a real turkey!

Roast Cauliflower

Wash and dry a large head of cauliflower and season with salt and pepper. Put in a Dutch oven and place the oven on coals with coals over the top. Replace the top coals every 15-20 minutes for an hour. Test for doneness. Serve with butter.

Pumpkin Custard with Maple Bourbon Glaze

Pumpkins were a staple in Revolutionary War times. They used the same variety that we use now, Connecticut Field Pumpkins, thought to be one of the oldest field pumpkins in existence, and used by the Native Americans before the Europeans came.

For our pumpkin custard we start out by smashing a pumpkin and roasting it in a Dutch oven until tender. Place the Dutch oven on hot coals with hot coals over the top. When tender, peel the pumpkin, puree it, and add cinnamon, nutmeg, and maple syrup to taste. For each four cups of pumpkin puree, add six whole eggs and three cups of cream and mix well. Place in a baking dish on a trivet in the Dutch oven with about 2 inches of water. Place coals under and over the

Dutch oven and replace the coals on top about once in an hour and a half. For the glaze mix butter, maple syrup, and your liquor of choice (we use bourbon). Drizzle this over the custard as you serve it.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Green Mountain Rangers!

Author and Green Mountain Rangers company cook Mary Ann Miano also the proprietor of The Antique Shop at 45 N. Main Street in Rutland, VT. You can reach her at (802) 747-7800.

The Green Mountain Rangers were formed in the summer of 1777 as Vermont's first Home Guard. One of the companies in the Rangers was under the command of Capt. John Warner, brother of Col. Seth Warner, commander of the Continental Line Regiment, the "Green Mountain Boys."

For more of this interesting history and for information about current reenactment activities, or how to join the Green Mountain Rangers, e-mail info@greenmountainrangers.com or visit www.greenmountainrangers.com.

To learn more about the Revolutionary War in Vermont go to historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/hubbardton/history or visit the Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site itself, open late May through mid-October. Many reenactments take place there. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site is located at 5696 Monument Hill Rd., in Hubbardton, VT.



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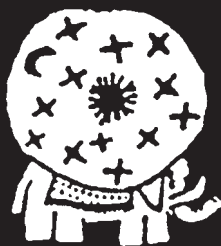
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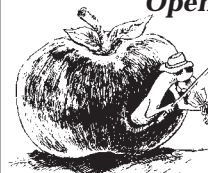
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2086 Royalton. 2½ acre building lot – surveyed driveway and in-ground septic design – small stream – year-round gravel road...**Price \$49,900.**

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2096 Orange. 34 acres land – mostly woodland – very private - very good hunting land...**Price \$39,500.**

2083 Chelsea. 50 Acres of Land – good open fields – excellent views to the south – both telephone and electric power on property – good year-round gravel Rd – private building sites...**Price \$200,000.**

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