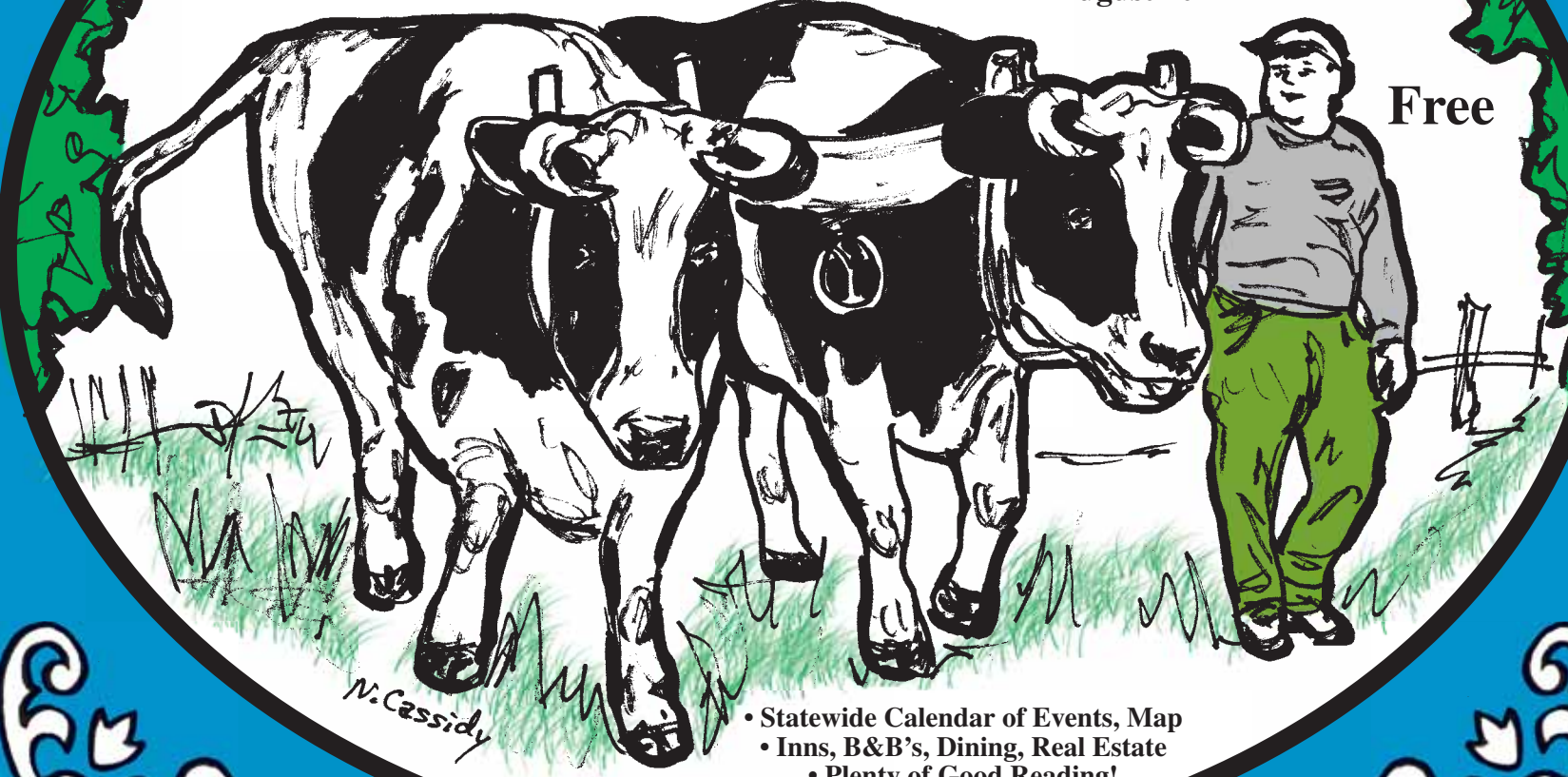


Vermont Country Sampler

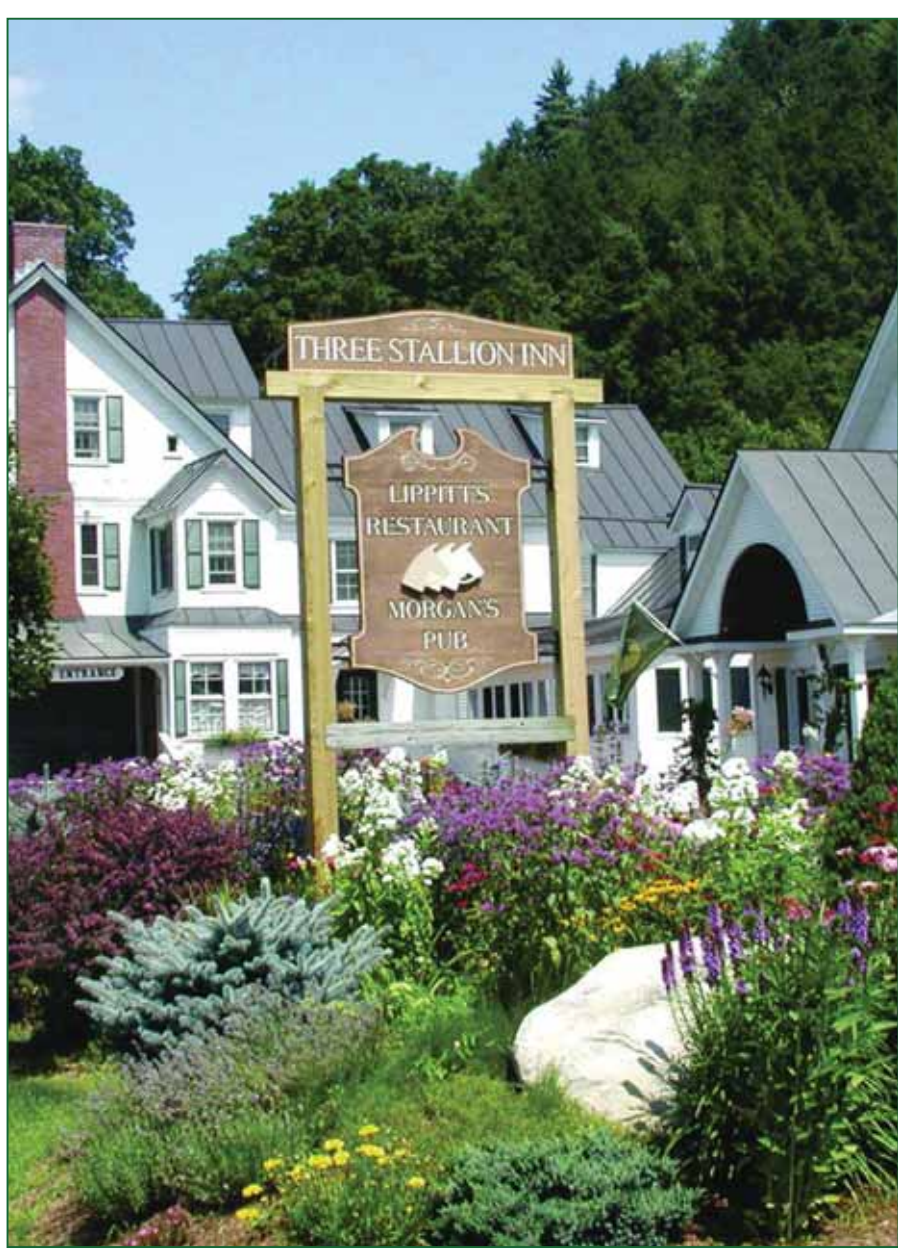
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Saxtons River to Host Ethan Lipton and His Orchestra

Main Street Arts is excited to host Ethan Lipton and His Orchestra in the Vermont premiere of *No Place To Go* on August 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Horowitz Hall at Vermont Academy in Saxtons River, VT.

Written by Ethan Lipton with music composed by Ethan Lipton and His Orchestra, *No Place To Go* was presented to sold out audiences at Manhattan's famed Joe's Pub as part of Public Theater's New York Voices Series. On May 21st, *No Place To Go* won a New York's Village Voice 57th annual Obie award.

The *No Place To Go* story: The company where he's worked for the past 10 years

is moving to another planet, and Ethan Lipton doesn't want to go. Part love letter to his co-workers, part query to the universe, part protest to company and country, *No Place To Go* delivers an irreverent and personal musical ode to the unemployed.

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Tickets \$15. Call (802) 869-2960, or go to brattleborotix.com. Reservations encouraged.

For more information go to www.mainstreetsrts.org and www.ethanlipton.com.



Cows take a rest at the yearly Tunbridge Fair.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

August Myopia

by Bill Felker

Summer is an entire life of landscape, lush and complete like the body and soul of a person grown to sweet and successful maturity. Now I see it coming all undone, see how perfection can unravel so swiftly and deliberately.

But in the year's symmetry and counterpoint, I tell myself, nothing really falls out of place: descent is as impeccable as ascent, renewal as clear as decay. Everything proceeds with such exact measure, easing resurgence into decline, changes demonstrating the whole nature of each thing, a nature which is only progression, which never has to do with only this or only that at any given moment, and in which objects never lie in stasis as in a photograph.

The unfolding of August reveals the truth of matter and time, buds beneath exhausted flowers, simultaneous move-

ment away and toward, tidal rotation, a perfect loop that denies cosmology of everlasting expansion, a circle which denies that everything is traveling toward some particular end, denies that our acts and our lives are expanding forever outward like the universe, exploding from a tiny seed and egg, their eventual end unknowable or tracked by Jesus for doomsday judgment.

Sometimes, of course, it doesn't help to try to understand how everything fits together, how bad is balanced out by good, how loss is soothed by gain, how everything must have a purpose, how life has meaning, how all my actions are watched and weighed. And when I try too hard to understand rebirth in dying, the truth of symmetry and counterpoint blurs all the edges of my late-summer confusion. Looking ever more closely, I find the borders of my thoughts and emotions are lost from view. Questions of ultimate concern become cloudy and irrelevant in my escape to August myopia.

I concentrate just on what is here before me now, understanding less of what I see the closer I move until I reduce geography to my unfocused inner eye; then everything is present and porous and connected. Then I lose control of transcendence and destiny. Blinded by the world so close, I foil the receding glow of the Big Bang and linear time. I curl up and ride dizzy and undone on the foggy, spinning radii of seasons.



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August 2012, Vol. XXVIII

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Amateur telescope makers gather at clubhouse at Stellafane on Breezy Hill in Springfield, VT.

photo by Alan Rohwer

Stellafane—The 77th Annual Convention of Amateur Telescope Makers in Springfield, VT

The Stellafane Convention And Why You Should Come

Every year in the dark of a midsummer new moon, amateur astronomers and telescope makers travel great distances to gather on a beautiful rural hilltop in Springfield, Vermont.

The 2012 Stellafane Convention will be held August 16–19. The oldest and one of the largest assemblies of night sky enthusiasts, The Stellafane Convention has been hosted here at the birthplace of American amateur telescope making by the Springfield Telescope Makers (STM) since 1926.

A special place

“Stellafane” means Shrine to the Stars. Time has also made it a shrine to the history of American astronomy. People who come here feel a rare connection to that history, and to each other in our common astronomical pursuit. Longstanding friendships are nurtured here—many folks return year after year to see friends they encounter nowhere else!

The Stellafane Convention is a wonderful opportunity to learn about astronomy and telescope making from talented amateurs and professionals who generously share their expertise. We present a broad range of talks and demonstrations from beginner to advanced (for children as well as adults), on all phases of telescope making and observing.

The dark skies of rural Vermont provide fine observing conditions. All are encouraged to bring and use their telescopes, home-built or commercial.

Convention highlights and competition

The Meteorite Men will give our keynote in the outdoor amphitheater (or indoors if the weather doesn’t cooperate). Come to Al Takeda’s astro-imaging workshop. And bring your “Solar Scope.”

The telescope competition is the heart and soul of The Stellafane Convention. Expert optical and mechanical judges pick the best amateur-built telescopes in several categories, from basic small Newtonians to more esoteric compound telescopes. Special awards are also made for design innovations. Winning at Stellafane is a real honor. Quite aside from awards, the competition is a rare chance for amateurs to compare notes, for prospective telescope makers to examine the designs of others before undertaking such a project, and for all to enjoy the ingenuity of these talented instrument builders.

Stellafane’s non-commercial swap tables always draw bargain hunters in the early hours of Saturday morning.

The Springfield Telescope Makers (a nonprofit organization) will hold a fundraising raffle with the drawing before the Saturday keynote address. Donated prizes include many thousands of dollars worth of very desirable equipment and accessories, and your odds of winning are great!

The site and camping

Although many stay in motels and inns in the Springfield area, camping out has been traditional at The Stellafane Convention from the very beginning. Camping is primitive.

Port-a-potties are provided. There is plenty of room, including space for RV parking. Hot meals are available from a catered food tent.

The original Stellafane site on Breezy Hill remains the location for the telescope competition, and of course is where the Stellafane clubhouse and Porter Turret Telescope are located. In 1986, faced with the loss of access to an adjacent field that had been the Convention’s camping area, the STM, with the support of members who mortgaged their homes, purchased a 40-acre farm across the road from the original Stellafane site. This became known as Stellafane East. In 1998, STM member Harty Beardsley donated another adjacent 45 acres, ensuring that the Convention has room for growth.

The Stellafane Clubhouse

The clubhouse was designed by Porter and constructed by the members. The pink color may simply have been that of donated paint, but it has been hallowed by long tradition. Although it’s now a tight fit with today’s larger membership roster, the Springfield Telescope Makers still hold meetings at Stellafane. The original site, including the clubhouse and the Porter Turret Telescope, was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1989.

The Porter Turret Telescope

The Porter Turret Telescope was constructed in 1930 by the club. Porter, who had endured more than his share of winter cold on polar expeditions early in his career, invented a design that allowed the observer to remain indoors and comfortable on the coldest winter nights. Extensively renovated including new optics in the 1970s, the Porter Turret remains an excellent instrument, and is operated during Convention, night and day (for solar observation).

The McGregor and the Domed Observatories

The McGregor Observatory at Stellafane East was constructed by the club between 1989 and 1995. It houses a unique instrument—a 13” f/10 Schupmann telescope mounted on a massive computer controlled alt-az mounting. For a time it was the largest operating Schupmann in the world. This design, which combines reflective and refractive elements, yields a coma-free and essentially apochromatic image, and is ideal for planetary observation. The Schupmann is operated during Convention. A browsing library is located in the warming room of the McGregor Observatory.

Stellafane East also hosts a beautiful 10” Ritchey-Chretien telescope mounted on a Springfield Mount (another Porter design), built by Dino Argentini in 1964 and eventually donated to the club. It is housed in a domed observatory built in 2006. This telescope’s stationary eyepiece is accessible to wheelchair users.

The history of Stellafane

In 1920, when a decent astronomical telescope was far beyond the average worker’s means, Russell W. Porter offered to help a group of Springfield machine tool factory workers

build their own. Together, they ground, polished, and figured mirrors, completed their telescopes, and began using them, soon becoming thoroughly captivated by amateur astronomy.

By 1923 they had formed a club, the Springfield Telescope Makers, and had built Stellafane, our now legendary clubhouse. In 1925 their activities drew the attention of Albert Ingalls, an editor at Scientific American. He visited the club, and soon began publishing articles by Porter and others about telescope making. This generated interest across the country, and the club decided to invite other amateurs to visit.

On July 3, 1926, 29 people came to Breezy Hill, and The Stellafane Convention was established. It’s been held every year since, except during the Second World War.

The convention grew rapidly, and today around a thousand enthusiastic amateurs make the pilgrimage to Springfield.

To learn more, please visit stellafane.org. You can register online for the convention and you can sign up for announcements at stellafane.org/about/announce.html. For more information call (802) 885-2404 x 2404. E-mail webmaster@stellafane.org. Mail can be sent to: The Springfield Telescope Makers, Inc., P.O. Box 601, Springfield, VT 05156

Stellafane is located on Breezy Hill at 211 Jordan Road, Springfield, VT 05156. There are directions on the website.



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 Tenderly dot the unmoved graves.
 A cedar, rugged and benevolent
 As Time himself, stands guard.
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 For near a century.

—HOWARD C. LAMORDER
 Putney, VT 1942



photo by John A. Leppman
 The Rockingham Meeting House in Rockingham, VT is Vermont's oldest public building. Construction started in 1787 and was completed around 1800, and the building still looks about as it did when it was completed. It is open to the public during summer months (donations gently solicited), and is used for private events (weddings and so forth) and some public events (concerts and the traditional Annual Pilgrimage the first weekend of August) each summer.

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Grafton Historical Society, Main St., Grafton, VT. Maureen Fletcher, Administrator. (802) 843-2584. grafhist@vermontel.net. www.graftonhistory.info. The museum occupies a seven-room 1845 house with attached barn. The permanent, Grafton-based exhibits are of 18th- and 19th-century furniture, textiles, toys, household utensils and tools, bottles, costumes, firefighting equipment, paintings, prints, historic documents, Civil War memorabilia, soapstone objects, writing implements, early inkwells, calligraphy, and alphabets, as well as an outstanding collection of photographs. *Hours and admission: Memorial Day - Columbus Day: Thursday-Monday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Daily during foliage season, or by appointment. Admission \$3, children under 12 free. Accessible to the disabled.*

Londonderry Historical Society, Custer-Sharp House, Middletown Rd. off Rt. 11, Londonderry, VT. Sally O'Gden, Vice President, (802) 824-3850. www.londonderryvt.org. Bernadine Custer Sharp, an artist and founding member of the Southern Vermont Arts Center, bequeathed her 1860 house to the LHS to be the home of the historical society and to be used as an arts and cultural center. Bernadine was a versatile and well known artist. Much of her art work now belongs to the society—over 3000 pieces. We also have a notable collection of Londonderry history and memorabilia. The historic glass plates may be seen at the South Londonderry Library. *Hours and admission: July-August: Saturday 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and by appointment.*

Old Rockingham Meeting House, Meeting House Rd., off Rt. 103, Rockingham, VT. John Leppman, President, (802) 463-3858, john.a.leppman@dartmouth.edu. The meeting house, built in 1787, remains substantially in its original form and is the oldest public building in Vermont that remains unchanged. The Meeting House is an architectural and cultural landmark and is registered as a National Historic Landmark. Historic cemetery. *Hours and admission: summer: daily 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. or by appointment. Admission: 50¢.*

Saxtons River Historical Society, Museum, Main St., Saxtons River, VT. Louise Luring, President, (802) 869-2566, luring@vermontel.net. The museum is located on the ground floor of the former Congregational church, built

in 1836. The sanctuary on the second floor has a beautiful tracker organ installed in 1900 that is still used for concerts and weddings. Collections range from children's playthings, farm implements, and tools to a completely furnished Victorian parlor and kitchen, local photographs, maps, genealogical records, and other documents. There is an annual organ concert in August. Donations accepted. *Hours and admission: summer: Sundays, 2-4:30 p.m., or by appointment.*

Weston Historical Society, Farrar-Mansur House Museum, Old Mill Museum, and Band Wagon Museum at the Historic Millyard, Weston, VT. Jean Lindman, Museum Director, (802) 824-5294. www.westonvt.com. The society curates three museums on the National Register of Historic Places. The Farrar-Mansur House, built by Oliver Farrar in 1795, served as a home, tavern, and community center. It was sold to Franklin Mansur in 1857 and remained in his family until 1932. Displayed in room settings, the collection includes many fine pieces of New England furniture; examples of early 19th century, Vermont-made brass, copper, silver, pewter, and tin items; toys; musical instruments; china, pottery, and glassware; costumes, quilts and samplers; and 19th century portraits. The Mill Museum overlooks a mill pond and waterfall. Built in 1785 as a sawmill, and later as a grist mill, its collection of early trade tools and products includes equipment used in farming, cheese making, coopering, blacksmithing, woodworking, weaving and spinning, and tinsmithing. The Bandwagon Museum houses a red Concord coach used as a bandwagon by the Weston Cornet Band from 1880 to 1930. *Open July-August: Wednesday & Sunday, 1-4 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., or by appointment.*

For more information about local historical museums you can visit throughout Vermont, go to the Vermont Historical Society's website at www.vermonthistory.org.



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For years, the Fellows Gear Shaper Building has loomed rundown and derelict along the Black River, a symbol of former Springfield's glory as the machine tool capital of the world. The factory's hidden creative possibilities were just waiting to be discovered.

Now, nearly 40 years after the old factory closed its doors, the 160,000-square-foot sprawling complex has a new name, a new look and a new purpose.

With a multi-million-dollar renovation nearly completed, the building, now known as One Hundred River Street, has been transformed.

Springfield's new gallery space

Inside, the Great Hall, a splendid, soaring gallery, has been inaugurated as Vermont's newest venue for the arts, capable of showcasing large artworks and sculptures, performance art, dance, music and lectures. The Great Hall is the vision of Rick Genderson and John Meekin, the project developers. "It will become a town center and gathering space and help showcase Springfield as a destination," said Genderson. "Here you have this beautiful old building on a beautiful river with an exceptional space."

The Fellows Gear Shaper Company's legacy helps tell the story of Springfield. "The first time I toured the huge, light-filled space that was to become the Great Hall, the 14-foot walls, the huge overhead timbers and the soaring ceiling, it inspired contrasting images of a Gothic church with clerestory windows and one of the sprawling, gritty workrooms of the industrial factory," said Nina Jamison, founder of Springfield's Gallery at the VAULT, a Vermont State Craft Center, and coordinator of the Great Hall. "Springfield's boom time echoed in our footfalls."

With a soaring 25-foot ceiling and clerestory windows, the 150-foot-long by 45-foot-wide world-class public art space is unique in the region and will accommodate and compliment very large artwork and sculpture. When word got out about the Great Hall via the Vermont Arts Council, the response was immediate from artists who have a difficult time finding display places for their extra-large work. "Within one month, a two-year lineup of shows was complete with both locally-known artists and those who are more widely recognized, such as Fran Bull and Sabra Field," Jamison said.

First exhibit in Great Hall

The first group art show, "Emergence," features works by artists from around Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine and includes sculpture, stoneware, tapestries, mobiles and more.

Even before completion, the space spiked the creative juices in every artist who toured the Great Hall. Sculptor Carolyn Enz Hack used her grant from the Vermont Community Foundation to create a sculpture in the Great Hall. She is among the artists who are featured in the first exhibit. Others include Patty Sgrecci of Brandon, mobiles; Rich Hearn of Chester, oil on canvas; Scot Borofsky of Brattleboro, enamel on linen; Robert Carsten of Springfield, pastel; Robert O'Brien of Perkinsville, watercolor; Oliver Schemm of Saxtons River, sculpture; Stephen Procter of Brattleboro, stoneware, and Tapestry Weavers in New England (TWiNE); Suzanne Pretty of Farmington, NH; Betsy Wing of Hartland; Sarah Robbins Warren of Jefferson, NH; Priscilla May Alden of East Boothbay Maine; and Eve S. Pearce of Bennington.

The entire project is a model of redevelopment—the Great Hall is the icing on the cake, said Bob Flint, Executive Director of the Springfield Regional Development Corp. The mixed-use facility will include a medical center and space for retail and restaurants. Located on the Black River upriver from the impressive Comtu Falls, which cascades 110 feet down over a series of drops, One Hundred River Street stands at the entrance to the Designated Downtown of Springfield. A new 16'x32' historic mural by local artist



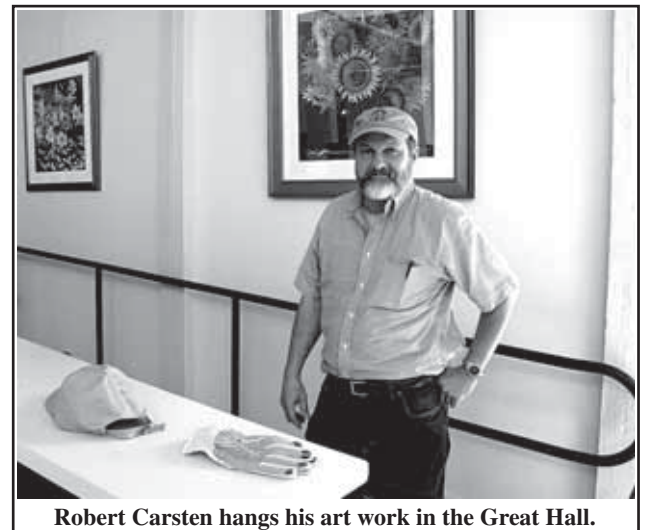
Patty Sgrecci and helpers install her mobile in the Great Hall at One Hundred River Street in Springfield, VT.

Jamie Townsend covers part of a long-neglected building, an artistic "stepping stone" between the Great Hall and the heart of downtown. Historical information on the 1800s Springfield-to-Charlestown, NH Stagecoach is mounted next to the mural.

Come for the art, stay for the docents

The Great Hall "Emergence" exhibit is open during August on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 12-4 p.m. There will be docents on hand, all long-time employees of Fellows Gear Shaper, to answer your questions, refer you to the artist guides, and give you information beyond what is in the history reference guide.

Henry Swierczynski will be on hand Thursdays 12-4 p.m. Henry is also an artist. Don Whitney will be there Fridays 12-4 p.m. Don worked at the Fellows Gear Shaper factory for over 50 years. Walter Pluss will be the docent for Saturdays, 12-4 p.m. Walter is a graduate engineer and long-time engineering employee at Fellows. Walt now has a small shop in Springfield known as "Precision Pluss" that specializes in centerless grinding.



Robert Carsten hangs his art work in the Great Hall.



Carolyn Hack installs *Sowing Good Will*.

Great Hall is located at 100 River St. in downtown Springfield, VT. Directions to the Pearl St. entrance: coming into town on Rt. 106 from the west, turn right in the center of town, go over a little bridge and go right up hill on Park St. Turn right onto Pearl St. The entrance to Great Hall is on the right. Info: (802) 885-3061. www.springfielddevelopment.org. See us on www.facebook.com/GreatHallSpringfield.

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A Vermont Almanack for Late Summer 2012

by Bill Felker

"It is the floral solstice a little after mid-summer, when the particles of golden light, the sundust, have, as it were, fallen like seeds on the earth, and produced these blossoms. On every hillside, and in every valley, stood countless asters, coreopses, tansies, goldenrods, and the whole race of yellow flowers, like Brahminical devotees, turning steadily with their luminary from morning till night."

—Henry David Thoreau

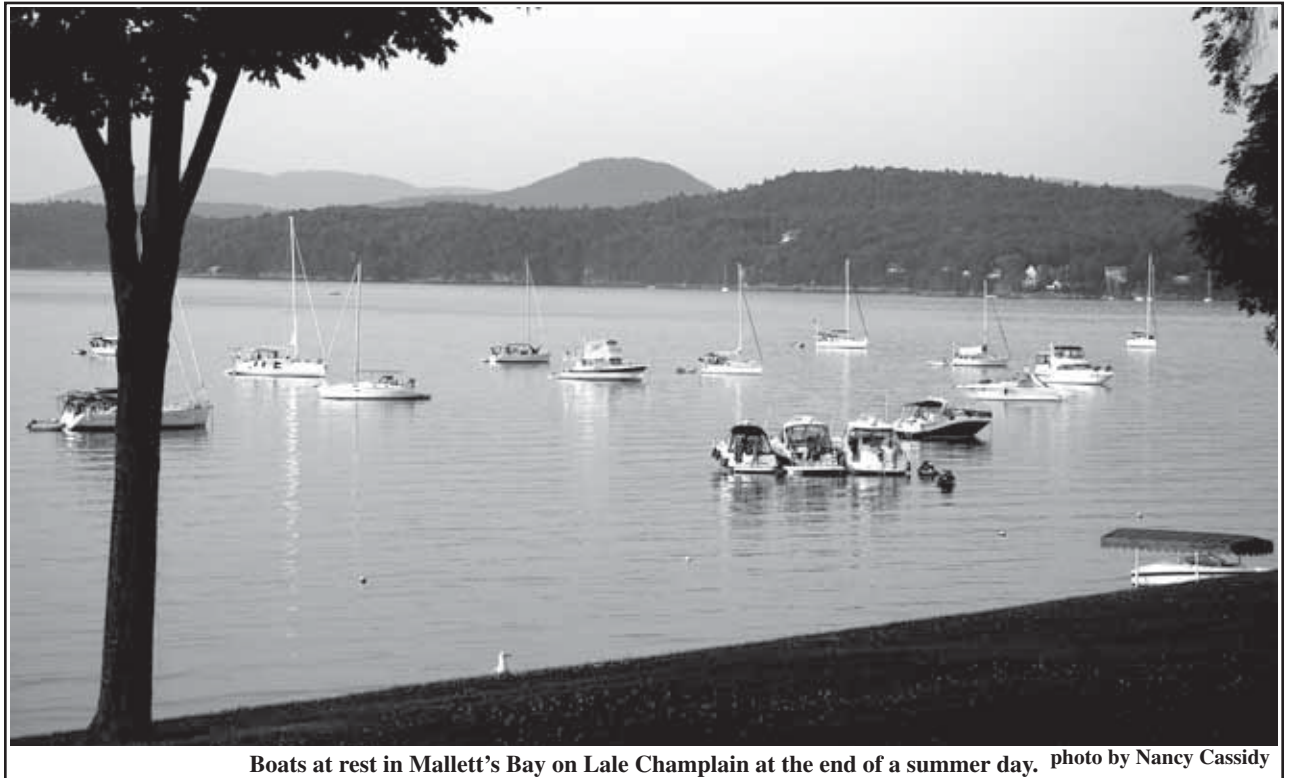
The Monarch Butterfly Moon & the Hickory Horned Devil Moon

Partial to the leaves of hickory, black walnut, ash and sycamore, the giant caterpillar of the Regal Moth (often called the Hickory Horned Devil because of its horn-like spines) prowls the woods in Late Summer and Early Fall. In spite of its fierce appearance, this caterpillar, is gentle and easily handled.

August 1: The Monarch Butterfly Moon is full at 10:27 p.m. **August 9:** The moon enters its final quarter at 1:55 p.m. **August 17:** The Hickory Horned Devil Moon is new at 10:54 a.m. **August 24:** The moon enters its second quarter at 8:54 a.m. **August 31:** The moon is full at 8:58 a.m. (the only "Blue Moon" of 2012.

Lunar Influence

Tidal and lunar influences have been shown to be greater at full moon and new moon times. You might expect more



Boats at rest in Mallett's Bay on Lake Champlain at the end of a summer day. photo by Nancy Cassidy

trouble with your flock, herd, spouse, parents or children, therefore, on or about August 1, 17 and 31. Since the moon may exert less influence on ocean tides and on human and animal behavior when it comes into its 2nd and 4th quarters, it might make more sense to transport your animals or perform routine maintenance on your livestock on or about August 9 and 24.

The Stars and the Shooting Stars

Boxy Libra moves deep into the southwest this month, Scorpio with its red Antares right behind it. In the middle of the southern sky, find Sagittarius, followed by Capricornus and Aquarius. Above them, the Summer Triangle fills the heavens. The Perseid meteors reach their best on the nights of August 12 and 13, but the waning crescent moon may keep some of these shooting stars from view. Plan to watch for the meteors after midnight high in the northeast.

The Planets and the Sun

Jupiter rises just after midnight in August, almost overhead by the time Venus rises several hours later in Gemini. Mars and Saturn in Virgo are visible after dark, low in the southwest.

August 22 is Cross-Quarter Day and marks the halfway point between summer solstice and autumn equinox.

The Seasons of Late Summer

Week One: The first week of August brings White Snake-root, Boneset, Clearweed and Jumpseed Seasons. Ragweed

Season spreads across the Northeast, and the pollen count begins its slow climb from an average of 30 grains per cubic meter at the end of July to about 300 by the end of August. Blackberry Season and Grape Season has moved up from the South.

Week Two: High Katydid Season marks the slow decline of Dog Day Season this week of the year. Migration seasons intensify for wood ducks, Baltimore orioles and purple martins. This is the week of Joe Pye Seeding Season and the week that Spiderweb Weaving Season becomes more noticeable throughout the woods with spiders taking all the prey they can before cold settles in. Firefly Season moves to a close as Late Summer Monarch Butterfly and Swallowtail Butterfly and Imperial Moth Seasons swell. As windfall apples drop to the earth, Autumn Yellowjacket Season reaches Vermont.

Week Three: The third week of August brings Judas Maple Time to the woodlots. Complementing that maple season, Sumac, Poison Ivy and Virginia Creeper Reddening Seasons grow along the fencerows. Wild Plum Season compounds the sweetness of Elderberry Season. Goldenrod Season presages September as Ironweed Season and Wingstem Season continue to brighten the fields.

Week Four: The last week of August brings the peak of Purple Pokeweed Berry Season. Deep in the woods, the final days of this year's wildflowers coincide with the first days of the Season of Second Spring, a season that lasts well past February. March's henbit comes up in the garden, initiating its eight-month season of growth and flowering. The garlic mustard that will flower two Aprils from now sprouts in the rain. Next May's sweet rockets and sweet Cicely grow back, and next July's avens send up fresh basal leaves.

Bill Felker's Poor Will's Almanack for 2012 is available. Send \$20 (includes s/h) to Poor Will, P.O. Box 431, Yellow Springs, OH 45387. Bill's weekly radio essays are broadcast on NPR's WYSO Ohio (available by podcast at www.wyso.org). Visit www.poorwillsalmanack.com for weekly Almanack updates.

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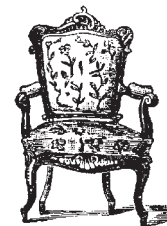
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Forever Boys

by Burr Morse

They say that “still waters run deep.” After a recent meeting with a wonderful neighbor, I would extend that to “Still ‘wells’”...let me explain. Her name is Evelyn Webler and she called to say she had an idea for one of my columns. I met her out in our parking lot after she nudged her ancient station wagon into a space and grabbed her cane which she introduced as “Herman.” She slowly followed me out to our deck where we sat facing each other. If eye twinkles counted, this woman would have already spoken volumes before we even sat down. She chided right from the start though, “This is not to be about me.” I promised to honor that—boy is it ever going to be hard not to break that promise!

I immediately found out that “eye twinkles” do indeed count but only those of her father, John Augustine Mitchell Hopper Stillwell, “everyone called him Dick” she said, and my father Harry Morse. Just like that, her idea, “fathers who are forever boys,” was on the table. She described her father as “full of the Dickens” and, yes, having an eye twinkle. Dick Stillwell, a printer by trade, was a “comedian, entertainer, gardener—loved to make people laugh—a tremendous draw for kids.” She went on to describe one time during a card game when Dick, a teetotaler, “planted” a rubber dog poop on the floor nearby. She said when her mother discovered it, the poor dog got soundly scolded. Dick “owned up” and spent a long time making up to the animal! “That’s the way he was” she said, and then she went on to my father.

One time she came up to Morse Farm after my father had reached old age and spent much of his time sitting by the pot-bellied stove in our store. That day she had charge of a boy with disciplinary issues. “The boy” she said, “always wanted to go up to your place and he’d immediately gravitate to your father.” She described my father, like her own, as having an eye twinkle, and being one who drew kids. “While that boy was with your father” she said “it was almost like they were the same age. He’d behave just fine so I’d go into the store for a while and leave them alone.” When they got in her car to go home, she said the boy commented “Well, I said goodbye to the ‘old boy.’” That lad has no doubt grown into a man by now, possibly with boys of his own, but Evelyn will always remember the day he made that comment about Harry Morse.

For the next part of Evelyn’s story, the clock must be turned back to Father’s Day, 1952. Unbeknownst to each other, Evelyn and I were both hiking on Owl’s Head Mountain over in Groton State Forest. She and most of her family had reached the top and my parents, my three older siblings, and I were about half way up. The four of us kids were well



Fly fishing for brook trout on Noyes Pond in Groton is considered among the best in Vermont

photo by Nancy Cassidy

ahead of our parents, excited as kids on a hike will be, and all of a sudden we came across a man in the sitting position leaned up against a tree. On closer inspection, my older siblings discovered that the man had died. I was only four at the time so they hustled me away. I was left with only a faint memory of the man and the mountain.

Soon other hikers came along and congregated at the scene. The deceased man was Dick Stillwell. Evelyn said word traveled to the mountain top that she and her family should

not go down right then. “I wasn’t allowed to go see my father” she said, “but I was told by someone who had seen him that he had an incredibly peaceful look on his face.” She ended with the words, “I wish I knew for sure.” At that

moment, sixty years after my fleeting glimpse, one thing suddenly “jumped out at me”—that the man had looked so peaceful that, incredibly, I remember not even feeling sadness. I looked across the table at Evelyn, lowered my voice, and said “Evelyn—it’s true.”

Looking back on it, that was the beginning of my lifelong belief that people do not end with death, that good folks go on to something great. Evelyn and I had a wonderful talk that day and, with a minor breach of my promise to her, I found Evelyn Webler to be one of the most vibrant and interesting people I’ve ever talked to. She suggested that I write a story about our two dads and I said I’d try. Usually that agreement comes with a bit of uneasiness—sometimes the “literary spirit” simply will not move but in this case I knew I could

do it. After all, it would be about two great men who had twinkles in their eyes—fathers who are forever boys. Here’s to Dick and Harry, wherever you are!

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A Summer In the Mountains

by Charles Sutton

Before World War II many families spent their summer vacations at one of those old-fashioned, comfortable-looking hotels that lined many lakes in the Northeast. The wife and kids would usually have an extended stay and the husband would come up weekends or for a week or two. Back then major railroads would bring the vacationers to depots on or near the lakes

Our family enjoyed this experience for many years because my mother's parents had a cottage next to one of those old hotels on Big Moose Lake in the Adirondacks and we were invited to come and stay with them. But we took all our meals at the nearby hotel which prized itself on sumptuous home cooking in a large, spacious dining room, white linen table cloths and all. The hotel manager boasted all he had to do to keep his customers happy was to "feed 'em and sit 'em."

For the "sit 'em" part of his success there was a long line of comfortable rocking chairs on the front porch that overlooked the lake. The women would sit there for hours, chatting, knitting, and reading books or magazines. Some took naps. There was little noise from the lake as mostly canoes and rowboats plied its waters. Outboards were a rare sight.

My brother Fred and I couldn't wait to get to the dining room for each meal. Pretty young girls of high school or collage age waited the tables. They could safely flirt with us pre-teeners.

Each meal had its own printed menu with more than enough tempting offerings. One could have as many helping as one wanted, whatever was on the menu, including desserts.



Turn-of-the-century vacationers spend a leisurely summer in Vermont.

One could order a steak along with one's pancakes or waffles, and eggs for breakfast. Orange juice was freshly squeezed. A glass of milk still had some cream on the top. The hotel made its own ice cream and baked fresh breads daily.

Chicken and turkey came from local, not factory farms, as did the fruits and vegetables. This was American food at its best.

Aside from good food, the daily treat for us boys was swimming in the lake. The cottage had its own walk-way and dock. The challenge for us was to swim to an island about 300 yards from the dock. We made it a couple of times during the summer with an adult rowing the "rescue" boat a few feet ahead of the would-be Olympian swimmers. Our skills were limited to a combo of breast stroke and dog paddle. A

bigger reward though was being allowed to go swimming at night when the usual choppy lake was still as a mill pond and the water seemed warmer than the air.

Sometime there's a downside to so much fun. My turn came the day my mother asked if I would like to have a horseback riding lesson. My older and wiser brother Fred declined, but I was always anxious to please, so I said I'd give it a try. A day or two later the college girl instructor showed up with two horses. When I got on mine the ground seemed an awful long way away. Shortly thereafter the horse, mindful of its naive and really quite scared passenger, decided to give this humanoid an unforgettable moment. Off it ran into the woods, out of control, with me having dropped the reins and hanging on to the pommel with both hands for dear life. I was smart enough to duck way down so as to avoid being scratched too badly by the low-hanging tree branches. The instructor caught up to us and got the horse (and me) under control. Somehow I was made to believe the misadventure was all my fault. Riding lessons were never offered again.

It's hard to believe today, but the hotel then lacked 'modern' amenities like television, telephones in the bedrooms, air conditioning, and of course, no WiFi! But it did have ten slot machines—one armed bandits—which would line up oranges, lemons and other fruits, sometimes, matching three in a row, and there would be coin winnings. Fred and I didn't have much money to play the slots, but that is when we met a Mr. Crowley who was glad enough to give us a few coins and watch us play.

Mr. Crowley had huge, hairy eyebrows, so much so that we privately called him Mr. Eyebrows. Any winnings we made with Mr. Crowley's coins, we offered to give back to him, after all it was his money. "No," he said, "you boys keep it, but save some, don't spent it all here."

That was good advice from a man we learned had been president of the New York Central Railroad, having worked his way to the top after starting out as a brakeman. He came to Big Moose in a private railroad car which rested on a siding while he and his wife had their vacation. We came to the lake by train, too, pulled by steam engine. The route followed along the Hudson River from New York City to Utica, NY where we transferred to another train to the Adirondacks. Mother would pack a picnic for the all-day trip that included a mason jar full of slices of tomatoes marinating in a French dressing. She would bring bread and butter and make fresh tomato sandwiches as the train rolled along.

The Big Moose Hotel closed during World War II and sadly did not reopen. It eventually was torn down. With gasoline rationing over and vacations again possible, a new era began with vacationers on the road exploring their country, staying at inexpensive motels and dieting on fast foods. The days of "feed 'em and sit 'em" when two small boys could play the slots are now long gone except for fond memories.

"A bigger reward was being allowed to go swimming at night when the choppy lake was still as a mill pond and the water seemed warmer than the air."

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August 4. Ferrisburgh, VT. Kingsland Bay Morning Outing & Picnic Lunch. Bike, walk, kayak, swim or just socialize. Helmet required for cycling; PFD required for kayaking. Park entrance fee or Green Mountain Passport. Bring something for the potluck, your utensils & plate. Sponsored by the Bread Loaf Section of the Green Mountain Club. *RSVP to leader: Jan Abbott at jabbott4111@myfairpoint.net or call (802) 878-4873 for meeting time.*

August 12. Waterbury Center, VT. Hike on Hunger Mountain. Ascend via the Waterbury Trail for great views

of the Green and White Mountains from the 3,539-foot summit. Hunger Mountain and Camel's Hump are nice to hike because of the lack of development. Hunger has views of the Green Mountains to the west and Groton State Forest and the White Mountains of New Hampshire to the east. "Bring your bow & arrows for the Hunger Mountain Games." Difficult, 5 miles, 2,290 feet of elevation gain. Sponsored by the Killington Section of the Green Mountain Club. Meet at 8:30 a.m. *Leader: Allison Henry (802) 775-1627.*

August 16. Middlebury, VT. Thursday Hike on the Trail Around Middlebury. Leader will select an interesting section of the trail. The Rutland Recreation and Parks Department sponsors a series of hikes at a less strenuous pace for seniors, typically covering two to four miles, with limited to moderate elevation gain. Meet on Thursdays at 9 a.m. at the Godnick Center on Deer St. in Rutland, VT to car pool. We return in early to mid-afternoon. *Leader: Tom Copps, (802) 774-5144.*

August 18. Ripton, VT. Silver Lake Outing. Hike to this beautiful lake via the North Branch Trail and out by the Goshen Trail. Cool off with a swim at the beach. Moderate pace, five miles. Sponsored by the Killington Section of the Green Mountain Club. Meet at 9 a.m. *Leader: Tom Copps, (802) 774-5144.*


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WHOLE GRAIN BLACKBERRY MUFFINS

1 c. whole wheat flour
1 tbsp. baking powder
½ cup raisins
1 cup water
3 egg substitute
¼ cup wheat germ (optional)

1 cup quick oats
½ cup honey
1-1½ cups blackberries
½ cup oil
½ to 1 cup chopped pecans

Mix oats, baking powder and flour together. Then mix liquid ingredients together. Add blackberries, raisins, nuts and wheat germ; stir in with spoon. Spray muffin tins with non-stick spray. Spoon mixture into muffin tins and bake 30 minutes at 400 degrees.

BLACKBERRY PUDDING-PIE, YANKEE STYLE

Sweet milk, 1 cup; 1 egg; butter, 1 tablespoonful heaping; baking powder, 1 teaspoonful; flour, 1 cup, or sufficient to make rather a thick batter ("batter" means like cake—better to handle with a spoon, or pour out); a little salt; raspberries to half fill an earthen pudding-dish. *Directions*—Stir the baking powder into the sifted flour; melt the butter, beat the egg and stir all well together. Having picked over the raspberries, buttered the dish and laid in the fruit to only half fill it, dip the batter over fruit to wholly cover it, as with a crust. The dish should not be quite full, for as it rises it runs over in baking. Bake in a moderate oven to a nice brown, to be done just "at the nick of time" for dinner. Turn it bottom up upon a pie-plate, and sprinkle on some powdered cinnamon other spices, as preferred; then sprinkle freely of nice white sugar over all. Serve with sweetened cream or rich milk, well sweetened. Raspberries, strawberries, apples, peaches, pears etc., in their season, work equally as well. *Remarks*—This plan avoids the soggy and indigestible bottom crust of pie; and it matters not whether you call it pie or pudding. It eats equally well, even cold, with plenty of sugar and milk, having the cream stirred in.

—Mrs. Sarah A. Earley, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, 1884



THE ASH GROVE (LLWYN ONN)

The ash grove how graceful, how plainly 'tis speaking
The harp through its playing has language for me.
Whenever the light through its branches is breaking,
A host of kind faces is gazing on me.
The friends from my childhood again are before me
Each step wakes a memory as freely I roam.
With soft whispers laden the leaves rustle o'er me
The ash grove, the ash grove alone is my home.

Down yonder green valley where streamlets meander
When twilight is fading I pensively rove
Or at the bright noon tide in solitude wander
Amid the dark shades of the lonely ash grove.
'Twas there while the black bird was cheerfully singing
I first met that dear one the joy of my heart
Around us for gladness the blue bells were ringing
But then little thought I how soon we should part.

My lips smile no more, my heart loses its lightness;
No dream of the future my spirit can cheer.
I only can brood on the past and its brightness
The dear ones I long for again gather here.
From ev'ry dark nook they press forward to meet me;
I lift up my eyes to the broad leafy dome,
And others are there, looking downward to greet me
The ash grove, the ash grove, again is my home.

—JOHN OXENFORD
England, 1812-1877

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Canada geese out for a swim on Noyes Pond at Seyon Ranch in Groton, VT. photo by Nancy Cassidy

BLACKBERRY JELLY FLUFF FROSTING

1 cup blackberry jelly
2 egg whites

1/8 teaspoon salt

Combine all ingredients in top of double boiler. Beat with mixer over rapidly boiling water 7 minutes, or until mixture stands in peaks and is smooth and free of bubbles. Yield: frosting for 2-layer, 9-inch cake.

—Band Mothers Club, Deering High School,
Portland, Maine

FLUFFY BLACKBERRY PANCAKES

1½ cups part-skim ricotta
cheese or drained small-
curd cottage cheese
¼ cup sugar
8 egg whites
2 cups fresh blackberries

¼ cup butter, melted
4 egg yolks
½ cup flour
2 teaspoons grated lemon
peel (yellow part only)

In a medium-sized bowl, combine ricotta, butter and egg yolks until blended. In a small bowl, stir together flour, sugar and lemon peel. Stir dry ingredients into ricotta mixture. In a medium-sized bowl, beat egg whites until they form soft peaks. Fold egg whites and then blackberries into batter. Over medium heat, form cakes by spooning ¼ cup of batter per pancake onto a hot lightly greased griddle or skillet. Cook cakes, turning once, until browned, about 4 minutes. Works well with other berries. *Serves 6.*

BLACKBERRY COBBLER

½ c. melted butter
1½ c. sugar
1½ tsp. baking powder

¾ c. milk
1 c. flour
2 cups blackberries

Pour the melted butter into the bottom of a 7"x11" baking dish. Mix together the milk, 1 cup sugar, flour and baking powder. Pour this mixture over the butter. DO NOT STIR. Pour the berries over the batter and butter. DO NOT STIR. Pour the remaining sugar over the berries. DO NOT STIR. Bake the cobbler at 350°F for 30 to 45 minutes, or until the crust is browned and set.

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Modern Woodmen of America Carnival and Parade in Wells, VT

The Modern Woodmen of America in Wells, VT will be sponsoring their Annual Carnival taking place Wednesday, August 15th through Saturday, August 18th.

There will be live bands every night, rides for the kids provided by Family Fun Amusements, and of course the food—hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage & peppers, fried clams, homemade french fries, and fried dough!

Our goal for this annual event is to be a celebration of the community. Our game prices have stayed the same for many, many years. We have a cake booth, pie booth, blanket booth, dart booth, plush booth, birthday booth, ring toss, bingo of course, and our annual money raffle with drawings every night, and our famous dime toss. The Wells Volunteer Fire Department has a booth selling their raffle tickets with four large prizes to lucky winners and free balloons for the kids.

Saturday the day starts with antique tractor pulling at 10 a.m. There is a break for the parade at 1 p.m., and the tractor pull finishes afterward, when the carnival also opens. The theme for this year's parade is "Community—It's where you, I, we belong." If anyone is interested in joining in the parade, they can call Todd Fenton at (802) 645-9522

or e-mail him at wellsfire@hotmail.com.

On Saturday from 4-7 p.m. there will be a Chicken Barbeque presented by the Ladies Aid of the Wells Methodist Church on the MWA grounds. This 60-year tradition offers a menu of half a barbecued chicken, corn on the cob, cole slaw, potato & macaroni salads, rolls, coffee, tea, and lemonade, with brownies for dessert. For information call (802) 645-0422.

This event is about having a good time with your family and friends. It's the belief of what the Woodmen stand for, helping our friends and family, and our community.

The Modern Woodmen of America is a life insurance company located in Rock Island, Illinois, with fraternal chapters across the U.S.A. The MWA Chapter 10244 in Wells, VT is very active, with bingo as the main fundraiser for area charities. We help build access ramps for those in need, house the area food shelf, donate \$500 to fifteen-plus area churches annually, and just gave out a total of over \$15,000 in scholarships to area students.

The carnival is held on the Modern Woodmen of America grounds at 10 Main St., Wells, VT. For information call (802) 645-0323.



Kids at play in Randolph, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social at Rokeby Museum

Got a hankering for homemade pie? Plan on heading down to Rokeby Museum on Rt. 7 in Ferrisburgh, VT for the Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 12 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Rokeby Museum volunteers have been perfecting the art of pie baking for more than 25 years. Peach, apple, berry pies of every kind, even recipes from the Robinson family collection, including "Maple Butternut Chiffon." It's a selection like you've never seen before! Why not make it "a la mode," with ice cream from Vermont's own Wilcox Dairy? And you can justify helping yourself to a

second slice because all proceeds support the Museum's mission. Enjoy the rousing sounds of the Vergennes City Band as you relax in the shade with summer's sweetest treat.

Guided tours of the house will be available every half-hour through the afternoon and includes a house fully furnished with family belongings spanning more than 200 years. There are also eight outbuildings, all of which are open to view. Tour admission is \$6 adults, \$4 for seniors and students, and \$2 for children.

Rokeby's hiking trails take you through more than 50

acres of working and former farmland and historic orchard and are open year round during daylight hours. You may wander on your own or take the self-guided hike, "How A Farm Becomes A Forest."

Rokeby Museum is a 90-acre historic site and National Historic Landmark designated for its exceptional

Underground Railroad history. Rokeby was home to four generations of the Robinson family, from 1793 to 1961.

Rokeby Museum is located on Rt. 7 in Ferrisburgh, VT.

For more information call (802) 877-3406. rokeby@comcast.com. Visit www.rokeby.org.

What an Old Housekeeper Has Learned

That clabbered milk is better than water for freshening salt fish.

That apples which take a long while to bake, should have a little water in the pan. That if we wish to prolong our lives we should put one day between washing and ironing.

That salt pork will be nearly as nice as fresh, if soaked in sweet milk and water.

That half a cup of vinegar

in the water will make an old fowl cook nearly as quick as a young one, and does not injure the flavor in the least.

That ripe cucumbers make a good sweet pickle.

That liver should be thrown into boiling water after being sliced thin and then fried in lard or drippings.

That pie crust will not be soggy if it is brushed over with the white of an egg before the fruit is put in.

—The Farm and Household Cyclopaedia, 1885

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Annual Colonial Day Coming to Castleton, VT

Visit Castleton, Vermont on August 18 for the Annual Colonial Day with many interesting activities and festivities.

The 2012 Castleton Colonial Day House Tour will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The tour features over a dozen sites throughout the village, including outstanding period homes, public buildings, galleries and historic sites. There will be exhibits of antique tools, carriages and a period costume display. Demonstrations of Early American crafts including chair caning, weaving and quilting will be found in homes along the tour.

Join The Blue Cat of Castleton as he walks through the town in search of *The River's Song*. Relive the enchantment of visiting homes, historic sites and public buildings of a time gone by.

Meet docents in period costumes and learn of the blue cat's adventures. View outstanding architecture such as the beautifully carved pulpit often described as builder Thomas Royal Drake's architectural masterpiece at the Castleton Federated Church.

The Higley House, home of the Castleton Historical Society, will be open and visitors can tour the exhibits, antique tools, carriage collection and period costume and hat displays. On display at the Higley House will be the famous Blue Cat Quilt depicting historic landmarks

in town and highlights from the book, *The Blue Cat of Castleton*. The quilt was entirely hand sewn and hand quilted with over 375 hours spent in creating the unique pattern of quilting stitches.

Additional activities planned for Colonial Day include a reenactment of "a day in camp" by members of the 53rd Regiment of Foot in America. Soldiers will be practicing drills and women will be cooking, baking and making butter.

The Castleton Library will hold an Ice Cream Social from 2-4 p.m. And the Federated Church will host a Ham Dinner at 5 p.m. with baked ham, assorted salads, beverage and dessert.

Tickets can be purchased on Colonial Day at two locations on Main Street: the Castleton Federated Church, and the Langdon Hitchcock House. Tickets are \$20 and \$18 for seniors 62+. The Federated Church dinner is \$8 adults, \$5 children ages 12 and under.

For information about Colonial Day call (802) 468-5691, rileytvt@comcast.net.

The Castleton Historical Society's Higley Homestead Museum is open to the public from July to September on Wednesday afternoons. (Same day as the local Farmers Market). For information call (802) 468-5761 or visit their website at www.bsi-vt.com/castleton/chs.



Hostesses in front of the Hitchcock House with the Blue Cat of Castleton (sitting) during Castleton's Annual Colonial Day.

Grandmother

I never see the sun shining on a chair
But what I think of Grandmother.
She'd be sitting there with her white hair
bent over somebody's mending.
She could find the sun spots anywhere,
somehow or other.
When I have white hair and years of care
have brought life near its ending,
I want to find the sun spots anywhere
like Grandmother.

—VERA DOYLE WILLARD
St. Johnsbury, VT, 1932



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THE CURFEW DEW

The curfew dew is falling
In bright bells upon the grass,
Where the feet of tiny insects
Will make music as they pass.

The cricket will play hearth-songs,
And the katy-did, duets
In their words of did and didn't,
That nobody quite forgets.

The locust, tapping dewdrops,
Will bring out a banjo's voice,
While lanterns of the fireflies
Will flicker and rejoice

Over this unusual music;
And if you will watch with care
You will see their little lanterns
Dancing figures in the air.

It will be so very thrilly
That the tiny insect world
Will all form together
Till the whole field is whirled.

Over on the maple
The croaking treetoad's rhyme,
Will gurgle out the calls
For the dancer's time.

When the moon comes riding
And the stars snap through,
The little insect concert
Played on the drops of dew,


Will make a lovely memory
Through the night, back in town,
Of evening in the garden—
When the curfew dew came down.

—J. REBA JOHNSON
1932


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Vermont Country Calendar

ONGOING EVENTS

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Special Exhibit: What Lies Beneath—9,000 Years of History at Chimney Point. Admission adults \$3, children 14 and under free. Wed-Sun and Monday holidays, 9:30 am – 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 7305 Rt. 125. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov. Through October 8.

BARRE. Exhibits, classes, workshops, and artists' studios. Free. Tues-Fri 10-5, Sat 12-4. Studio Place Arts, 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, broadsides, maps, audio, video and film recordings, and many other items of ephemera which shed light on the lives and times of past Vermonters. Vermont Historical Society, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500. vermonthistory.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. Farmers Market. Local produce, meats, eggs, cheese, prepared foods, and entertainment. Open mic every fourth Friday. On Fridays 4-7 pm at the Waypoint Center. (802) 463-2018. bffarmersmarket.com. Through October 19.

BELLOWS FALLS. Third Friday Art Walk. Stores and galleries in town and in the surrounding area host special exhibits and events. 5-8 pm. Flyer available at Village Square Booksellers, 32 The Square. (802) 463-9404. villagesquarebooks.com. Monthly on the third Friday.

BELMONT. Mount Holly Farmers Market. Vermont-made and Vermont-grown products, fresh produce, baked goods, hand crafts. Saturdays, 10 am – 1 pm, rain or shine. On the Belmont Village Green. (802) 259-2322.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Battle Monument. Admission: adult \$2, children 6-14 \$1, age 5 and under free. Open 9 am – 5 pm. 15 Monument Circle. (802) 447-0550. www.historicsites.vermont.gov.

BENNINGTON. Art exhibits, permanent collections, theater productions, workshops. Admission: adults \$9, seniors/students \$8, families \$20, under 12 are free. Bennington Center for the Arts, 44 Gypsy Lane. (802) 442-7158. www.benningtoncenterforthearts.org.

BENNINGTON. Bennington-Walloomsac Outdoor Farmers Market. Fresh vegetables, baked goods, dairy products, meats, crafts, and more. Entertainment and prepared foods. Saturdays 10 am – 1 pm at the scenic Riverwalk Park along the Walloomsac River at Bennington Station on Depot Street. Tuesdays 3-6 pm at Greenberg's, 321 Main St. Market manager: Katherine Keys, (802) 688-7210. www.walloomsac.org. Saturday mornings and Tuesday afternoons through October.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Museum—Exhibits and Public Programs, Founding Documents, Fine Art, Grandma Moses, and more. See Bennington Pottery, the 1924 Wasp Touring Car, Fine Art, 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. Open 10 am - 5 pm every day except Wednesdays. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. www.benningtonmuseum.org.

BERLIN. Afro-Caribbean Dance. With live percussion every Thursday from 10:30 am – 12 pm. All levels welcome. Also Capital City Grange Potluck—share delicious food with your friends and future friends, starting about 6:30 each first Saturday, all are welcome, no charge. Capital City Grange, 6612 VT Rt. 12, Northfield Rd. (802) 985-3665. capitalcitygrange.org.

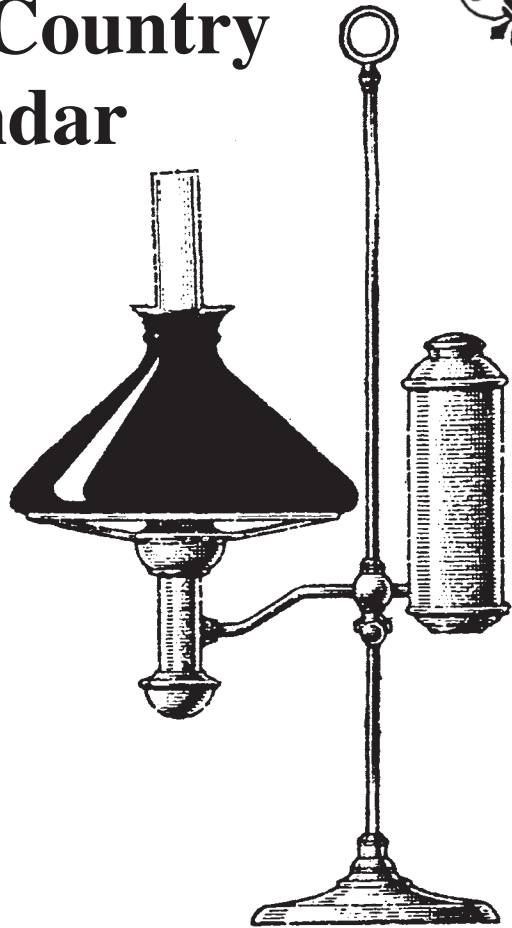
BRANDON. Sustainable Living Book Exchange. Self-service—take a book, leave a book. Donations accepted. Also visit our farmstand. Neshobe Farm, 142 Steinberg Rd. off Rt. 7 just north of the village. For more information call (802) 310-8534.

BRANDON. Brandon Farmers Market. seasonal vegetables and plants, honey, maple syrup, handcrafted jewelry, local mohair and alpaca products, handknit and crocheted items, baked goods, jams and jellies, local meats, and other handcrafted items. Fridays 9 am – 2 pm, Central Park. cijka4@gmail.com. Through October 12.

BRANDON. Brandon Museum at the Stephen A. Douglas Birthplace. Also houses the Brandon Visitor Center with public restrooms, which is open daily 8 am – 6 pm, 365 days a year. The museum is at 4 Grove St., next to the Baptist Church at the corner of Routes 7 and 73 West. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. brandon.org.

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.

BRATTLEBORO. Fair Winds Farm Wagon Rides. Half-hour reserved horse-drawn wagon rides around the farm through fields and woods, and along a babbling brook. Adults \$10, kids 3-12 \$6, minimum \$50, after 5 pm \$80. Visit our farm store. Fair Winds Farm is a "Diversified, Horse Powered, Vermont Family Farm" on Upper Dummerston Rd. (802) 254-9067. fairwind@sover.net. www.fairwindsfarm.org.



BRATTLEBORO. Social Singing from The Sacred Harp. Free and open to the public, no experience necessary, loaner books provided. 7-9 pm. Kidsplayce, 20 Elliott St. cuvvlever@gmail.com. First and third Thursdays.

BRATTLEBORO. 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. 3-5:30 pm. Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main St. Information: laurat@crocker.com. Third Sundays.

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

BRATTLEBORO. Post Oil Solutions meets frequently and sponsors events with a mission to advance cooperative, sustainable communities. For info contact Tim Stevenson at info@postoilsolutions.org or www.postoilsolutions.org.

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

BURLINGTON. Burlington Summer Farmers' Market. At City Hall Park, corner of College St. & St. Paul St. Every Saturday 8:30 am – 2 pm. Accepts EBT and debit cards. Chris Wagner, (802) 310-5172. chriswag31@gmail.com. www.burlingtonfarmersmarket.org. Through October.

BURLINGTON. Vermont Farm Tours. Artisan Cheese Tour, Vermont Farm Tour, Urban Farm Tour, Vermont Vineyards, and Islands Bike Tour. Call for rates and schedule. (802) 922-7346. chris@vermontfarmtours.com. www.VermontFarmTours.com. Through December 15.

BURLINGTON. First Friday Art Walk. Visit over 30 galleries, studios, and interesting venues all around town. Free. 5-8 pm. Map available. (802) 264-4839. www.artmapburlington.com.

CASTLETON. The Historic Higley House. Open for guided tours and historical research on Thursdays from 2-4 pm. Part of the Castleton Historical Society. 407 Main St. (802) 265-3208. mfeeney3@aol.com.

CASTLETON. Annual Summer Concert Series on the Village Green. At 7 pm. Free admission. Rain site: Castleton State College, Casella Theater. Each Tuesday.

CASTLETON. Castleton Village Farmers Market. Main Street. Thursdays 3:30-6. Market manager: Lori Barker, (802) 273-2241. Through October 5.

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

CHESTER. Art Exhibits, Programs and Music. Free admission. Wednesday through Sunday 11 am – 6 pm. Vermont Institute of Contemporary Arts, 15 Depot St. (802) 875-1018. info@vtica.org. www.vtica.org.

CHESTER. Monthly Public Astronomy Meetings for the Southern Vermont Astronomy Group. Second Tuesday of the month – free to the public at Whiting Library. 7 pm. For membership info contact Southern Vermont Astronomy Group, PO Box 424, Chester, VT 05143. www.sovera.org.



51st Annual Art in the Park Fine Art & Craft Festival

Celebrate 51 years of Art in the Park in Rutland this Summer and Fall!

In 1961 a small group of local Rutland artists had a brainstorm—let's have an art show in Main Street Park! So, with nothing more than an idea, they launched what has become a signature event for the central Vermont region.

Since its inception, Art in the Park has been voted one of "Vermont's Top Ten Events" by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce, named one of the "Sunshine Artist 200 Best," and voted Rutland Herald's Best of the Best in the category of the Best Arts Festival.

From the original five artists, Art in the Park has grown to nearly one hundred artists and artisans representing handmade art & craft made from clay, glass, wood, fiber, metal, stone and more. In 2012 Art in the Park will be held August 11 & 12 and October 6 & 7 and if you are a lover of fine handcrafted products made in America, you won't want to miss the opportunity to attend.

Main Street Park is at the Junction of Routes 4 & 7 in the heart of Rutland, which provides a wonderful outdoor venue for artisans of every kind. Several vendors will provide hands-on demonstrations of jewelry making, spinning and knitting, or woodworking for those who like to see how things are made. Of course, if you're a frequent visitor to Art in the Park and come each year,

you will no doubt see your favorite artisans from past years as many are returning.

Art in the Park vendor Peter Huntoon said, "Art in the Park 2011 was a success all the way around with exceptional weather, appreciate crowds, high quality art, and enthusiastic organization. We look forward to more of the same in 2012!"

This juried event holds the promise of quality and authenticity; all items sold are handcrafted. Locally made food will also be available from several new food vendors who rely on the region's farms for their meat and produce needs. Various types of live music, like jazz, blues, acoustic, and folk, will be provided by area musicians, which include the Tin Penny Band & Phil Henry Band.

There is no fee for admission but voluntary contributions are welcome, which help to support the non-profit enterprise of The Rutland Area Art Association (RAAA) and the Chaffee Art Center. The event is held rain or shine from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

A special thank you goes to our supporters Stewarts Shops, Price Chopper, Berkshire Bank, and Central Vermont Public Service (CVPS).

Chaffee Art Center is located at 16 South Main St., Rutland, VT 05701. (802) 747-7900. info@chaffeeartcenter.org.

Visit www.chaffeeartcenter.org for a list of current exhibitors and food vendors.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing events continued)

CHESTER. Peace of Paradise—Holistic Wellness Emporium. Wellness services and products. Reiki, apothecary, acupuncture, massage, meditation, yoga and drumming. Classes, workshops and seminars. Events, groups and gatherings. Locally-made creations, yoga mats, drums, jewelry and art. Open Thurs–Sun, 10-5 pm. On the Village Green at 78 The Common. (802) 875-8008. www.peaceofparadisevt.com.

CHESTER. High Tea at Inn Victoria. Afternoon savories, sweets, fruit, and a variety of teas. \$19.99 per person. Open by reservation on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 3-4:30 pm. Inn Victoria, 321 Main St. (802) 875-4288. innkeeper@innvictoria.com. www.innvictoria.com.

CHESTER. Gallery 103. Dedicated to promoting fine American Craft and Design, with an exclusive showroom of Junker Studio Ironwork. Monthly "Featured Artists." Owned and operated by Elise & Payne Junker. Gallery is open every day 10-5 pm, closed Tuesdays. On Rt. 103, just south of town. (802) 875-7400. Gallery103.com.

DANBY. Mountain View Ranch & Sun Bowl Ranch. Horse-drawn wagon rides, all-season trail rides, lessons, boarding, special events. 502 Easy St. off Brook Rd. Call to reserve. (802) 293-5837. riding@mountainviewranch.biz. www.mountainviewranch.biz.

DANBY. Free Summer Food Service Program for Children 18 and Younger. Meals will be provided to all children without charge Monday through Friday. Breakfast 8-8:30 am, lunch 11:30-12 pm. Children must be supervised. Adults can purchase breakfast for \$2 and lunch for \$3.50. Open to anyone from any town. Funded by the USDA. Currier Memorial School, 234 North Main St. (802) 293-5191. *Through August 17.*

DANBY FOUR CORNERS. Danby Dog Art Studio. Folk Art, Primitive Paintings & Reproductions by Susan Houghton Debus. Open most days—but please call ahead. Studio is located at 1764 Tinmouth Rd, 1.5 miles north of the Four Corners Store. (802) 293-2489.

DANBY FOUR CORNERS. Chipman Stables, 33 Danby-Pawlet Rd. Trail rides, kid's camps, lessons, boarding & horses for sale. New indoor arena. Open daily, reservations appreciated. (802) 293-5242. www.chipmanstables.com.

EAST CHARLESTON. NorthWoods Stewardship Center. Programs, workshops and special events in all seasons. Public is welcome. 154 Leadership Dr. (802) 723-6551. www.northwoodscenter.org.

EAST HARDWICK. Pleasures Nursery and Tea Garden. Vermont-grown heirloom plants. Buy phlox at the nursery and online. Tea Garden Café 11:30 am – 4 pm every day but Monday during the summer. Free garden skillsshops Sunday mornings at 10:30. Free Sunday garden tours at 12 pm. Phlox Fest through August 12. Perennial Pleasures Nursery and Tea Garden, 63 Brick House Rd. (802) 472-5104. www.perennialpleasures.net. *Tours through mid-August.*

EAST THETFORD. Cedar Circle Farm and Education Center. A certified organic, fifty-acre vegetable and berry farm. Farmstand and Hello Coffee Shop (with wireless internet). Dinner in the Field Aug. 11 and Tomato Tasting Aug. 25. Open Mon–Sat 10 am – 6 pm, Sun 10 am – 5 pm. Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center, 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. growing@cedarcirclefarm.org. www.cedarcirclefarm.org. *Open through October.*

FAIR HAVEN. Concert in the Park. 7 pm. At the Gazebo. Free admission. Rain site: Baptist Church. *Each Thursday.*

FERRISBURGH. Rokeby Museum, a National Historic Landmark, one of the best-documented Underground Railroad sites in the country. The farm was home to a family of Quakers, farmers, abolitionists, authors, and artists. Furnished house and outbuildings, exhibits, tours, hiking trails, and special events. Pie and Ice Cream Social Aug. 12. House tours Thurs–Sun 11 am, 12:30 pm, 2 pm. Fee: \$6 adults, \$4 seniors/students, \$2 children 12 and under. Open Tues–Sun, 10 am – 4 pm. Grounds open year round during daylight. Rokeby Museum, Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org. *Through October 14.*

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum, Rt. 122. One of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets in the world. Events and exhibits. Performances during the summer. Free admission, donations welcome. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org.

GLOVER. The Museum of Everyday Life. New exhibition, "Healing Engine of Emergency—the incredible story of the Safety Pin." A self-service museum, open every day from 8 am – 8 pm. At 3482 Dry Pond Rd. (Rt. 16) a short distance south of the Shadow Lake Rd. For more information call (802) 626-4409. www.museumofeverydaylife.org.

GRAFTON. Grafton Ponds Outdoor Center. A year-round recreation center. Enjoy mountain biking, bike terrain park, hiking, canoeing, swimming and kids camps in summer. 783 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2400. graffonponds.com.

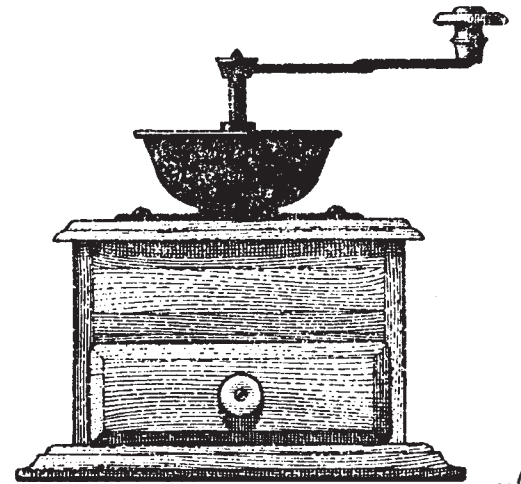
GRAFTON. Grafton Valley Arts Guild invites you to visit the Cricketers Gallery in historic Grafton Village at 45 Townshend Road. Open Thursday thru Sunday from 10 am – 4 pm. (802) 843-4824. www.graffonvalleyartsguild.com.

GRAFTON. The Nature Museum at Grafton. Exhibits, gift shop, family activities, and special events. Admission: adults \$5, seniors/student \$4, children 3-12 \$3, family \$15. Open everyday 10 am – 4 pm through Labor Day weekend, then Wed. & Sat. 10 am – 4 pm and Sun. 10 am – 1 pm through October. The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. www.nature-museum.org.

GRANVILLE, NY. The Slate Valley Museum. Exhibits, events, demonstrations, programs, First Fridays, and gift shop. 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.

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.*

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



Birding Hot Spots in Rutland County

The Tinmouth Channel Wildlife Management Area is Rutland County's birding hidden treasure. The 450-acre wetland, one of only three Class I protected wetlands in Vermont, can sometimes be difficult to negotiate, but it is well worth the effort. It is owned by the State of Vermont and managed by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. The WMA is located in the town of Tinmouth.

Tinmouth Channel can be explored on foot or by water. There are two access points for walking in. The northern access is just west of the parking area on North End Rd. between Hook Rd. and North East Rd. The western access on Rt. 140 is marked with a sign and information kiosk. The channel flows into Clarendon River between East and Otis Roads.

Both trails are frequent-

ly overgrown and can be muddy, but birding is also worthwhile along the road. Brown Thrasher, Golden-winged Warbler and Eastern Towhee have been seen in the area across the road from the north access. Twenty species of warblers have been recorded at Tinmouth Channel WMA in May. Both Northern and Louisiana Waterthrush are present spring and summer as well as Canada Warbler. Fall sightings include Hermit Thrush and Fox Sparrow.

Canoeing or kayaking is best done in the spring through June, as accessibility is dependent on water levels. You can put in just west of the channel on North End Road where a short, fairly concealed path leads to the water. You will soon have the feeling of being in a remote area as the Clarendon River winds slowly south. Virginia Rails and Marsh Wrens are among the birds that

nest here. American Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Alder Flycatcher, Yellow Warbler, and Swamp Sparrow are present. Wood Duck, American Black Duck, Mallard, and Hooded Merganser are frequently seen and breed here as well.

In addition to the birds, Tinmouth Channel WMA provides a variety of habitats that support a multitude of species. The upland forest is a mix of white pine, white cedar, tamarack, red maple, beech, hophornbeam and hemlock. A significant portion of the forested area is one of the larger deer wintering areas in the State. White-tailed deer are abundant, given the small amount of good wintering habitat available.

Bobcats can be found in the woods and occasionally foraging along the banks. Fishers, black bears and coyotes also inhabit the area but their sign is more likely to be seen than the animals them-



selves. Snowshoe hares and raccoons can be found in the wooded areas. This habitat may also be used by meadow voles and masked shrews. Moose can be seen browsing in the wetland and shoreline woods—a safe distance is recommended when viewing. Beavers and muskrats can be found throughout the wetland complex, while mink are more associated with brooks.

Because this is a wildlife management area, it is open for hunting. Check the Vermont Fish and Wildlife website for hunting seasons.

Directions: from Rt. 7 in Wallingford, go west on Rt. 140 till you come to a "T". Turn right on North East Rd. Proceed to North End Rd. and turn left. The parking area is on the left before you get to Hook Rd. There is a printable map on the website

For more information visit Rutland County Audubon Society's website at www.rutlandcountyaudubon.org.



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Vermont Country Calendar



HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. The only Revolutionary War battle fought entirely in Vermont. Bring your flag to be raised over the Hubbardton Battlefield and receive a certificate. Adults \$2, 14 and under free. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd, seven miles north of Rt 4. (802) 273-2282. hubbardton@historicvermont.org. historic-sites.vermont.gov. *Through October 8.*

HUNTINGTON. Monthly Bird Monitoring Walk. Help monitor bird populations in the Green Mountain Audubon Center. Gather data on the presence of bird species, their abundance, and changes in populations. Donations accepted. 8-10 am. Green Mountain Audubon Center, 255 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-3068. vt.audubon.org.

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Features over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Museum, special events and bird walks, children's programs, gift shop, video, restrooms, refreshments, 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. *Through October 31.*

ISLE LA MOTTE. St. Anne's Shrine. Historic shrine built in 1893 commemorating the French fort and chapel built in 1666. Mass, summer reflection, rustic grottos, grounds to explore, picnic area. Buffet breakfast at the café in July and August, snacks and ice cream daily. Gift shop. The shrine is at 92 St. Anne's Rd. (802) 928-3362. www.saintannesshrine.org. *Through October 8.*

KILLINGTON. The Killington Summer Concert Series. Free outdoor evening concert on the lawn at the Sherburne Library, River Rd. 6 - 7:30 pm, open to all. Bring a blanket, pack a picnic and enjoy. (802) 422-3932. *Each Thursday.*

LANDGROVE. Horse-Drawn Wagon and Carriage Rides. Rides leave on the hour from Landgrove Inn. Call for reservations. (802) 824-4663. www.karlpfistersleigh.com.

LEBANON, NH. Listen Community Dinner. Nutritious free meals served from 5-5:30 pm every Tuesday and Thursday. At Sacred Heart Church on Hough St. (603) 448-4553. www.listen.org.

LEBANON, NH. ValleyNet Community Technology Center. 10-seat computer lab in the new Grafton County Senior Citizens Council building, Campbell St., downtown. Center is open for walk-ins 9 am - 4:30 pm, Mon-Fri. Free. (802) 649-2126.

LEICESTER. Addison County Farm Animal Homeopathy Study Group. Learn how other farmers are applying homeopathy to their herds or flocks. Discussion includes an in-depth look of at least one remedy, some theory and a case analysis. Meets the first Monday of each month and is open to all levels. 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at Taconic End Farm. For more info call Annie Claghorn, (802) 247-3979. foxclag@gmail.com.

LUDLOW. Fletcher Farms School for the Arts and Crafts. Vermont's oldest residential arts and crafts school. Register for our arts and crafts classes. Woodworking, oil and watercolor painting, kirigami and much more. Registration fee. Monday-Saturday, 9 am - 4 pm. Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts, 611 Rt. 103 South. (802) 228-8770. info@fletcherfarm.org. www.fletcherfarm.org.

LYNDONVILLE. Lyndon Summer Farmers' Market at Lyndonville's Bandstand Park. Fresh fruits and vegetables, meat, eggs, milk, bread and baked goods, maple products, jams and jellies, candies and sweets, as well as arts and crafts and live music. Fridays 3-7 pm, rain or shine. For info e-mail lyndonfarmersmarket@gmail.com. www.lyndonfarmersmarket.com.

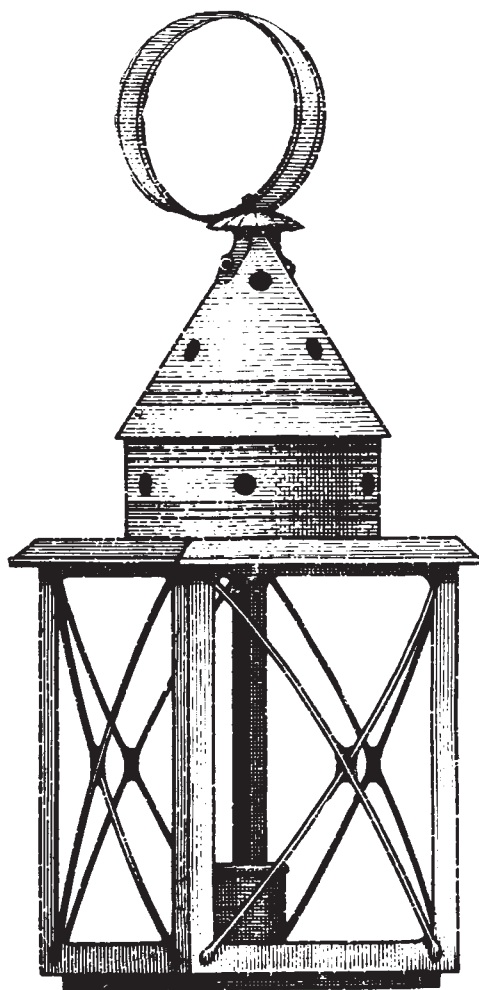
MANCHESTER. Southern Vermont Art Center. Galleries, exhibits, classes, performances, gift shop, café. Free admission to some exhibits. Open Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Yester House Galleries, Southern Vermont Arts Center, West Rd. (802) 362-1405. www.svac.org.

MANCHESTER. Revolutionary War Tour. Visit historic sites from Manchester to Bennington. Your guide will be Dick Smith, author of *The Revolutionary War in Bennington County*. 8-passenger tour vehicle. Fee. Daily 9:30-11:45 am. (802) 362-4997. bckrddisc@aol.com. www.backroaddiscovery.com. *Through September 28.*

MANCHESTER. Monday Evening Young Artists Concert Series. Featuring gifted young musicians from around the world. 7 pm. Burr and Burton's Riley Center for the Arts, Seminary Rd. For tickets call (802) 362-1956. mmfvt@comcast.net. www.mmfvt.org. *Through August 13.*

MANCHESTER. Boswell Botany Trail. A bucolic wildflower walk, stately white birches, native orchids, grasses and moss, and most of the 67 varieties of fern found in Vermont, all in a unique glacial microclimate. Explored at a leisurely pace by most walkers in a half-hour or less. At Southern Vermont Art Center, off West Rd. (802) 362-1405. www.svac.org.

MANCHESTER. Visit Historic Hildene, the summer home of Robert Todd Lincoln. Special activities, lectures, bird walks, museum store, visitor's center, and walking trails. Tickets: \$16 adults, \$5 youth under 14, children under 6 free. Grounds pass: \$5 adults, \$3 youth, children under 6 free. Open daily 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Historic Hildene is off Rt. 7A, just south of the village. (802) 362-1788. info@hildene.com. www.hildene.org.



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

MIDDLEBURY. Middlebury Farmer's Market. By the falls at the Marble Works. 9 am - 12:30 pm, every Saturday through October and every Wednesday through mid-October. Market manager: Pam Taylor, (802) 388-0178. middleburyfm@yahoo.com. www.middleburyfarmersmarket.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Middlebury Arts Walk. Join us on the second Friday of the month through October. More than 40 venues will be displaying art. Stores remain open, becoming galleries displaying the work of dozens of area artists. 5-7 pm. Free. Downtown Middlebury. (802) 388-7951 x 2. info@middleburyartswalk.com. www.middleburyartswalk.com.

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. Saturdays 10 am - 5 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, 1 Park St. (803) 388-2117. www.henrysheldonmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Vermont Folklife Center. Exhibits, gallery, archives & research center, programs, and Heritage Shop. Free admission. Open Mon-Sat, 10 am - 5 pm, Sun 11 am - 4 pm. At 88 Main St., downtown. (802) 388-4964. info@vermontfolklifecenter.org. www.vermontfolklifecenter.org.

MONTPELIER. Capital City Summer Farmers' Market. At corner of State St. & Elm St. in downtown Montpelier. Every Saturday 9 am - 1 pm. (802) 223-2958. www.montpelierfarmersmarket.com. *Through October.*

NORTH SPRINGFIELD. Ascutney Mountain Audubon Society North Springfield Kettle Bog. A boreal kettle bog, an artifact of the last glacial age 10,000 years ago. To allow viewing of the bog plants, including some remarkably large pitcher plants, AMAS constructed a boardwalk through the bog. A walking trail leads to and around the bog with many views of both the bog as well as surrounding spruce and pine groves. *Directions:* from Springfield take Rt. 11 west to Riverside Middle School. Turn right onto Fairground Rd. Drive about two miles to a small parking lot on the left side of the road just before the town garage. The short trail to the bog begins at the green sign showing a pitcher plant. For more information e-mail amas@vermontel.net.

NORWICH. Norwich Summer Farmers Market. Local/organic produce, meats, cheeses, eggs, handicrafts, baked goods, prepared foods, and live music. Saturdays 9 am - 1 pm. Rt. 5, one mile south of Norwich village. (802) 384-7447. norwichfarmersmarket.org. *Through October.*

NORWICH. Montshire Museum of Science. Exhibits, trails, programs, and museum store. 10 am - 5 pm daily. \$12 adults, \$10 children 2-17, under 2 free. One Montshire Rd. (802) 649-2200. montshire.org.

Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night

Do not go gentle into that good night,
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Though wise men at their end know dark is right,
Because their words had forked no lightning they
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,
And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way,
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight
Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

And you, my father, there on the sad height,
Curse, bless, me now with your fierce tears, I pray.
Do not go gentle into that good night.
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

—DYLAN THOMAS

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing events continued)

NORWICH. 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. 1:30-4:30 pm. Parish Hall of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 262 Main St. For information contact Daniel Hertzler at danhertzler@gmail.com. *Fourth Sundays.*

ORWELL. Mount Independence State Historic Site. In 1776, this military complex was one of the largest communities in North America. 300 acres of pasture, woodlands, spectacular vistas of Lake Champlain and trails, some wheelchair accessible. Visitor's Center and Museum with archaeological artifacts. Open daily 9:30 am – 5 pm. Admission: adults \$5, children 14 and under free. On Mount Independence Rd., off Rt. 73. (802) 948-2000. historicites.vermont.gov. *Through October 8.*

PERU. The Mountain Adventure Park and Aerial Adventure Park. Open 10:30 am – 5 pm., till 7:30 pm on Fridays, and 5:30 on Saturdays. Bromley Mountain, 3984 Rt. 11, six miles east of Manchester. www.bromley.com.

PITTSFORD. New England Maple Museum. World's largest maple museum. Antiques, paintings, slide show, folk art exhibits, maple syrup samples. A simulated boiling process, "sap to syrup" is presented all year. Tour through Vermont's famous maple industry and visit our gift shop. Maple Sugar making demonstration, no charge, from 10:30 am – 3 pm, Wednesdays through October 10. Admission adults \$2.50, children under 12 years 75¢, under 6 free. Open 8:30 am – 5:30 pm daily. New England Maple Museum, 4578 Rt. 7, south of town. (802) 483-9414. info@maplemuseum.com. www.maplemuseum.com.

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. lynnetcombs@gmail.com.

POULTNEY. Free Historical Audio Walking & Driving Tours. View and learn about Main Street Poultny, East Poultny Village, and the Quarries, Farms & Forests. (802) 287-5252, www.poultneyhistoricalsociety.org. www.poultneyvt.com.

POULTNEY. Farmers Market. Everything from fresh fruits, veggies, plants, flowers and herbs to local baked goods, Vermont maple products and honey, homemade crafts and foods. Thursdays 9 am – 2 pm along Main St. (802) 468-5805. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through late October.*

PUTNEY. Green Mountain Orchards Farm Store. Open all year with berries, plums, local apples and cider. 130 West Hill Rd. (exit 4, I-91), look for signs in Putney Village. (802) 387-5851. www.greenmtnorchards.com.

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science Nature Center. Exhibits, programs, nature trail, nature store. Admission: adults \$10.50, seniors \$9.50, youth (3-18) \$8.50, children 3 and under free. 10 am – 5:30 pm, 7 days a week. VINS Nature Center, 6565 Woodstock Rd., Rt. 4, 1/4 mile west of Quechee Gorge. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. www.vinsweb.org.

RANDOLPH. Art Exhibit: "The Landscape Revisited"—Vermont artists paint the landscape in 2012. Gallery hours: Thursday, 4-6 pm, Saturday-Sunday, 1-3 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-9878. www.chandler-arts.org. *Through September 2.*

RANDOLPH CENTER. Turkey Hill Farm. Farmer's Kitchen cooking classes. Farm skills workshops. Spacious farm-stay apartment for short-term stays. Chapter meetings for the Weston A. Price Foundation. Stuart and Margaret Osha, 55 Turkey Hill Rd. (802) 728-7064. localfood@turkeyhillfarmvt.com. www.turkeyhillfarmvt.com.

ROCHESTER. Art Exhibits. Summer Reading Series through September 2; and Celebration Weekend for the 25th Anniversary of Green Mountain Bikes, August 24-26. Big Town Gallery, 99 N. Main St. (802) 767-9670. www.bigtowngallery.com.

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

RUTLAND. The Rutland City Band performs a concert every Sunday through August in Main Street Park, 7-8:30 pm. Free admission. Located at the corner of Main St. and West Street.

RUTLAND. Free Wednesday Summer Concert. 7-8:30 pm at Main Street Park, corner of Main St. and West St. *Each Wednesday.*

RUTLAND. Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. The largest in the state with over 90 vendors—a great place to shop, eat and visit. Live entertainment. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. Saturdays 9 am – 2 pm and Tuesdays 3-6 pm. Market manager, Doug Patac, (802) 753-7269. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. www.rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October 27 and Tuesdays through September 25.*

RUTLAND. Chaffee Art Center—Rutland Area Art Association. Exhibits, classes, workshops, open studio evenings, gift shop. Vermont Watercolor Society Annual Show through August 4. Gallery open Tues-Sat 10 am to 5 pm. 16 South Main St. (802) 775-0356. www.chaffeeartcenter.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. \$10. Pyramid Holistic Wellness Center, 120 Merchants Row. For reservations call (802) 775-8080. www.pyramidvt.com.

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

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

SOUTH WALLINGFORD. Line Dancing every Tuesday. Beginners and experienced. \$5 per person, snack bar available. 6:30 pm at the Maple Valley Grange Hall, Rt. 7. (802) 446-2872. www.wallingfordvt.com.

SPRINGFIELD. Stellafane. A place and an organization devoted to amateur astronomy, founded by Russell W. Porter in 1923, and considered by many to be the "Birthplace of Amateur Telescope Making." Home to The Springfield Telescope Makers, Inc., an active amateur astronomy and telescope-making club that sponsors many events, classes, activities, and a convention Aug. 16-19, 2012. Springfield Telescope Makers, Inc., PO Box 601, Springfield, VT 05156. Webmaster@Stellafane.com. www.stellafane.com.

SPRINGFIELD. Eleanor Ellis/Springweather Nature Area. Overlooks North Springfield Lake. Trails meander through 70 acres of fields and forests, and provide many opportunities to enjoy the natural world. Reservoir Rd, off Rt 106 (Exit 7, I-91), turn at the sign for North Springfield Lake. Free to the public. (802) 263-5321. www.weathersfieldvt.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain and Dog Chapel. Summer Dog Party, August 5. Free. Open Mon-Sat 10 am-4 pm and Sun 11 am-4 pm. The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (802) 748-2700. info@dogmt.com. www.dogmt.com.

Billings Farm and Museum 26th Annual Quilt Exhibition and August Events

Billings Farm & Museum, will host its 26th Annual Quilt Exhibition from August 1 to September 23, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The exhibit features over 50 quilts made by quilters residing in Windsor County, VT. Included are quilting activities and demonstrations for every age and skill level, with quilters on hand to discuss their work.

Two historic quilts from the museum collection serve as the inspiration for this year's "quilt challenge," by the Delectable Mountain Quilters' Guild. One quilt, circa 1850-1875, features the Delectable Mountain pattern and was hand-pieced and hand-quilted. The second quilt was hand-pieced, appliqued, and hand-quilted, circa 1840-1880, with a design commonly known in New England as Woods Lily.

A quilt challenge requires specific design and construction rules agreed upon by

guild members, with the goal of improving their quilting skills.

Guild members were encouraged to consider the historic quilts as possible inspiration when designing their 2012 challenge quilts, which must include hand quilting and cannot exceed a 96-inch perimeter. The two historic quilts and challenge quilts will be on display with the 26th annual juried exhibition.

During the past quarter-century, Billings Farm & Museum has played a significant role promoting and encouraging the quilting tradition in Windsor County. Still considered both a creative and utilitarian household craft, renewed interest in the tradition dovetails with the museum's mission of celebrating Vermont's rural heritage. Since 1985, over 250 quilters have submitted more than 900 quilts for exhibit at the Farm & Museum.

Chicken & Egg Day

Billings Farm & Museum, is featuring Chicken & Egg Day on Saturday, August 4, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Learn about chickens and eggs, no matter which came first! Many varieties of chickens will be displayed—all protected breeds of The American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, a nonprofit membership organization working to conserve over 180 historic breeds of livestock and poultry and maintain genetic diversity.

See newly hatched chicks and learn how an egg grader works. Join in chicken-themed activities and programs including the egg toss, stenciling, children's stories, and make-it-and-take crafts.

12th Annual Antique Tractor Day

Billings Farm & Museum, will host the 12th Annual Antique Tractor Day on Sunday, August 12, from 10 a.m. to 5



photo by Billings Farm & Museum
A quilting demonstration at Billings Farm & Museum's Annual Quilt Exhibition.

p.m. The event features both restored and unrestored tractors, dating from the 1930s to the 1960s.

A narrated tractor parade is set for 1 p.m.—an opportunity to see the machines operating, with interesting

and historical background details about each tractor. Tractor-drawn wagon rides will be offered; also rope making demonstrations, make-it-take-it wooden tractors for children, a toy tractor sandbox, ice cream making, and more. Lunch and snacks will be provided by the Teago Volunteer Fire Department with all proceeds benefitting the department.

Admission to Billings Farm & Museum's 26th Annual Quilt Exhibition, Chicken and Egg Day, and the 12th Annual Antique Tractor Day all include the operating dairy farm, orientation and farm life exhibits, the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House, plus daily programs and activities. The Billings Farm & Mu-

seum is owned and operated by The Woodstock Foundation, Inc., a charitable, nonprofit institution founded by Mary French and Laurance Spelman Rockefeller.

Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 141-year tradition of agricultural excellence. It is open daily May 1 through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends Nov. – Feb., and Christmas & Presidents' weeks, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission: adults: \$12; 62 & over: \$11; children 5-15: \$6; 3-4: \$3; 2 & under: free.

The Farm & Museum is located one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12.

For info call (802) 457-2355 or visit www.billingsfarm.org.

— Come to —

The Community Guild of Mount Holly

Annual Bazaar

Odd Fellows Hall, Belmont, VT

Saturday, August 4, 2012 • 9 am to 1 pm

Handmade Items

Quilts, Afghans, Lap Robes, Baby Items, Embroidery, Table Runners, Placemats...

Collectibles - Jewelry - Crafts - Bake Sale

See our Raffle Quilt on display. Also visit the Farmer's Market on the Church Green, and the Art Fest at the Museum!

For info call Carol Venter at (802) 259-2661

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Vermont Country Calendar



VERGENNES. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Field trips, shipwreck tours, programs, special events, museum store. Something for all ages and interests. Step aboard replica 1776 gunboat Philadelphia II, Nautical Archeology Center, Key to Liberty exhibit, replica 1862 Lois McClure schooner, Steam to Gasoline exhibit. Admission: adult \$10, seniors \$8, students 5-17 \$6, under 5 free. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. (802) 475-2022. www.lcmm.org.

WEATHERSFIELD. Weathersfield Trail, Cascade Falls Rd. Of four hiking trails that go to the summit of Mt. Ascutney, the Weathersfield Trail is probably the most scenic. Highlights include Little Cascade Falls (.04 miles), Crystal Cascade Falls (an 84 foot high waterfall at 1.1 miles), Gus's Lookout and the West Peak Vista where hang gliders launch from in the summer. Great observation platform on the summit for hikers. For more information contact VT Dept. of Forest, Parks and Recreation at (802) 886-2215. www.weathersfieldvt.org.

WELLS. Wells Village Farmers Market. Saturdays 9 am – 1 pm. At the Wells Country Store on Rt. 30. (802) 325-3478.

WEST BRATTLEBORO. Tasha Tudor Museum. Current Exhibit: For the Love of Frocks: Tasha Tudor's Favorite Dresses. Admission: adults \$5, children 6-12 and seniors over 65 \$3. Children under 5 free. Wednesday-Saturday 11 am – 4 pm, through October 20, 2012. Also open free the first Friday of the month for Gallery Walk 4-7 pm. Located in the Jeremiah Beal House at 974 Western Ave. For more information call (802) 258-6564. Or visit www.tashatudormuseum.org.

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. 8 pm at the Community Hall at 219 Tyler Farm Rd. (802) 429-2316 or adamboyce@juno.com. *Fourth Saturdays*.

WEST PAWLET. West Pawlet Community Farmers Market. A Year-Round Friday Evening Farmers Market. Fresh, honest food and goodies brought to you from your local farmers, chefs, and crafters. Good food, good hospitality, good neighbors. Every Friday from 5-8 pm, indoors and out. West Pawlet Fish & Game Club building, 2849 VT Rt. 153 (next to the post office). "Like" us on Facebook and watch for weekly market menus and specials. wpcfmkt@gmail.com.

WEST RUTLAND. Reiki Healings. Herbal remedies and teas, crystals and stones. Vermont Herbal General Store, 518 Main St. (802) 438-2766. www.vermontherbal.com.

WEST RUTLAND. Home Buyer Education Classes. Call for schedule. NeighborWorks office at 110 Marble St. (802) 438-2303 x 216. www.nwvt.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Public Sitting Meditation. Free meditation instruction is available at most of these times: Tues 5:30-6:30 pm, Thurs 12-1 pm, Sun 9 am – 12 pm. Shambhala Meditation Center of White River, 158 S. Main St. (802) 785-4304. whiteriver.shambhala.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Main Street Museum. A small, public collection of curiosities and artifacts, each one significant and telling a story about human beings and the universe we are part of—an alternative experiment in material culture studies. Open Thurs-Sun 1-6 pm. Parking adjacent to the rear of the building. Located at 58 Bridge St., Studio 6, near the underpass. (802) 356-2776. info@mainstreetmuseum.org. www.mainstreetmuseum.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Upper Valley Co-op's First Friday Celebration. Live music by local artists, samples of local foods, 5% off all purchases for every shopper. 4-6 pm at the Upper Valley Food Co-op. The First Friday of every month is celebrated by businesses in White River Junction. (802) 295-5804. Kye@uppervalleyfood.coop. www.uppervalleyfood.coop.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Listen Community Dinner. Free nutritious meals served 5-6 pm every Monday and Wednesday. Take-home available. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 749 Hartford Ave. For more information call (603) 398-2780. www.listencs.org.

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

WILMINGTON. Field of Blue at Boyd Family Farm. Celebrate blueberry season during August! Come pick your own. The Boyd Family Farm, 125 East Dover Rd. (802) 464-5618. www.boydfamilyfarm.com.

WINDSOR. Art Show: Sculpture in the Garden. Our first group summer sculpture show. Regional sculptors from Vermont and New Hampshire will be exhibiting in the gardens. Open Thurs. thru Sun. 10 am – 6 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. (800) 232-4337. flowers@ciderhillgardens.com. www.ciderhillgardens.com. *Through October 28*.

WINDSOR. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery. Potted herbs, vegetable starts and unusual perennials in addition to very large collections of primroses, wildflowers & woodlanders, peonies, daylilies and hostas. Meander through well-established display gardens nestled within our wild apple orchard, woodlands and fields. Open Thurs-Sun 10 am – 6 pm, through October. At 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. (800) 232-4337. flowers@ciderhillgardens.com. www.garymilk.com. ciderhillgardens.com.

WINDSOR. Old Constitution House State Historic Site. The restored Old Constitution House looks as it did more than 200 years ago. See an exhibit recounting the writing of the most progressive constitution of its time. Open 11 am – 5 pm, Sat-Sun. Admission: adults \$2.50, children 14 & under are free. 16 N. Main St. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 8*.

WINDSOR. American Precision Museum. Peruse many historical and interesting exhibits and collections. Admission: adults \$6, students \$4, under 6 free, family \$18. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. 196 Main St. (802) 674-5781. www.americanprecision.org. *Through October 31*.

WILMINGTON. Adams Farm. Horse-drawn wagon rides to the trout pond and around the farm. Evening wagon rides and bonfire. Saturday and Sunday morning fishing without a license in our own trout pond. Tour the livestock barn, see the animals, and visit the farm store. Special events. Call for rates and reservations. Adams Farm, Higley Hill Rd. (802) 464-3762. www.adamsfamilyfarm.com.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Premiere Jersey dairy farm, restored 1890 farmhouse, family programs, wagon rides, special events and museum. 26th Annual Quilt Exhibition, Aug. 1-Sept. 23. Chicken & Egg Day, Aug. 4. 12th Annual Antique Tractor Day, Aug. 12. Admission (includes all activities): \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under are free. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org.

WOODSTOCK. Market on the Green. Downtown on Rt. 4. Wednesdays 3-6 pm. Market manager: Lalita Karoli (802) 457-2508. lalitaKaroli@yahoo.com. www.woodstockvt.com. *Through October 10*.

WOODSTOCK. 29th Annual Mt. Tom Farmers Market. 25 vendors offering produce, take out and eat in foods, eggs, meat products, breads, and much more! Handicap accessible, restrooms available, free parking. Saturdays 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. Mt. Tom parking lot on Rt. 12 North. foxxfarm@aol.com. www.mttomfarmersmarket.com

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

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1

JAMAICA. Pike's Falls Chamber Music Festival. Opening Concert. Free admission. 7 pm. At Jamaica Town Hall on Main St. www.pikesfallschambermusicfestival.com.

PITTSFORD. Maple Candy Making at the New England Maple Museum. Crystallizing pure Vermont Maple Syrup into Maple Sugar is demonstrated. Visitors can sample the final product fresh from the mold without touring the Museum on these Wednesdays. No charge. 10:30 am – 3 pm. Admission to the museum is: adults \$2.50, children under 12 years 75¢, under 6 free. Open 8:30 am – 5:30 pm daily. New England Maple Museum, 4578 Rt. 7, south of town. (802) 483-9414. info@maplemuseum.com. www.maplemuseum.com. *Also August 8, 15, 22, 29; September 5, 12, 19, 26; October 3 & 10*.

WEST RUTLAND. Workshop: Small Equipment & Tools for Vegetable Growers. Followed by a RAFFL community potluck. Join Johnny s Selected Seeds tools manager and reps for a tool demonstration for home gardeners and commercial growers. See weeding, seeding, transplanting, cultivating and harvesting tools in action, try the tools yourself, troubleshoot with tool experts, and learn how to set up a small high tunnel! Hosted by Rutland Area Food and Farm Link (RAFFL) and NOFA-VT. \$5-\$10 donation. 4-6 pm. At Scott Courcelle & Lindsay Arbuckle's Alchemy Gardens, 1030 Boardman Hill Rd. (802) 434-4122. nofavt.org.

WOODSTOCK. 26th Annual Quilt Exhibition. This highly-anticipated juried exhibition of more than 50 quilts made exclusively in Windsor County will celebrate 26 years of quilting excellence at the Billings Farm. Quilting demonstrations, programs, and activities for children and adults. Admission (includes all activities) \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. Open daily from 10 am to 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. north of the village green. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Through September 23*.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2

ADDISON. An Evening to Remember. At the 9th evening social spend a relaxing summer evening in an old resort on Lake Champlain. Enjoy the museum, music, children's activities, rock on the porch, watch the sun set, visit with costumed personages from Chimney Point's past, and play period games. 6-8 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 7305 Rt. 125. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov.

BRANDON. Jazz Night at Brandon Music: Michael Benedict and Bopitude. 7:30 pm. Call for tickets. Brandon Music Café at Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 465-4071. brandon-music.net.

CHESTER. Summer Music Series—Starline Rhythm Boys. 6:30-8 pm on the Academy Building lawn. In case of inclement weather, concerts will move to The Stone Hearth Inn on Route 11 West. All concerts are free. For more information call (802) 875-3400. *Also August 9*.

DORSET. Play: "The Whore and Mr. Moore." Starring Judd Hirsch. Daily except Mon., 8 pm, matinees at 3 pm on Sat., Sun., & Wed. Dorset Playhouse, 104 Cheney Rd. For tickets call (802) 867-2223. www.dorsettheatrefestival.org. *Through August 11*.

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. A country fair that features the finest of Franklin County. Demolition Derby at 7:15. Admission \$10, children under three feet tall are free. Fairgrounds are on Airport Rd. (802) 868-2514. www.franklincountyfielddays.org. *Through August 5*.

JAMAICA. Pike's Falls Chamber Music Festival. Kid's Concert at 2 pm. Kid's Art Creation from 12-2 pm. Community Potluck & Picnic at 6 pm. Free admission, donations welcome. At Jamaica Town Hall on Main Street. www.pikesfallschambermusicfestival.com.

MANCHESTER. Manchester Music Festival Summer Concert Series. Antonin Dvorak, Johann Sebastian Bach, David Chaitkin, Grigoras Dinicu. Tickets \$35. 7:30 pm. Southern Vermont Arts Center, Arkell Pavilion, West Rd. For tickets call (802) 362-1956. mmfvt@comcast.net. www.mmfvt.org.

WESTON. Musical: Fiddler on the Roof. Weston Playhouse MainStage, 12 Park St. For tickets call (802) 824-5288. klarsen@westonplayhouse.org. www.westonplayhouse.org. *Through August 25*.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

JAMAICA. Pike's Falls Chamber Music Festival. Closing concert at 7 pm with a pre-concert talk at 6 pm and a post-concert reception. Free admission, donations are welcome. At Jamaica Town Hall on Main Street. www.pikesfallschambermusicfestival.com.

MANCHESTER CENTER. Southern Vermont Art & Craft Festival. Over 200 exhibitors. Handmade crafts, original art, live music, and an array of gourmet edible treats. 10 am – 5 pm. At the Field at Riley Rink, 410 Hunter Park Rd. (802) 0150. www.hildene.org. *Through August 5*.

POULTNEY. First Friday Art Walk. Ruth Hamilton Studio at 142 College St.; Julianne McCarthy & Matt Solon Studio at 287 E. Main St.; Kerry O. Furlani Studio, Dick & Nancy Weis, and Brian May Illuminated Press, all at 188 Main St; Poultney Artist's Guild at The Station. 4-7 pm.

STOCKBRIDGE. 4th Annual Tweed River Music Festival. Three days and two nights of camping and music. Hosted by Bow Thayer and the Perfect Trainwreck. Tickets \$40/day or \$100 for weekend including camping. Tickets on sale at the website. Festival grounds at the junction of Rts. 100 & 107. www.tweedrivermusicfestival.com. *Through August 5*.

WESTMINSTER WEST. Third Annual Northeast USA Rice Conference. Rice cuisine, culture, and history in the morning and general rice agriculture in the afternoon. A Farmers' Exchange. Lunch includes presentations by local chefs. \$50/person, \$60/couple, \$40/student. 9 am – 4 pm. Held rain or shine at Akaogi Farm, 27 Earthbridge Rd. makaogi@gmail.com. www.ricenortheasternus.org.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

BENNINGTON. Guided Tour: "Best of the Greenberg Reserve—Wetland, Woodland and Meadow." Marcus Chiaretto leads guided tours. Free. 10-11 am. One World Conservation Center, 413 US Rt. 7 South. (802) 447-7419. www.oneworldconservationcenter.org.

BRANDON. Town-Wide Yard Sale Day. Scores of yard sales all over town. Starts at 9 am sharp—no early birds! Rain or shine. Pick up a map on Aug. 4 starting at 7 am at the Visitor Center at the Stephen A Douglas Birthplace, 4 Grove St. next to the Church at the corner of Rts. 7 and 73 West. The map is also on the web at www.brandon.org. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org.

BRANDON. John Gailmor in Concert. Tickets \$4 adults, \$2 children 12 and under. One child free with each adult admission. 7 pm at Town Hall. www.brandon.org. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org.

KILLINGTON. Killington Music Festival presents the Season Finale: European Tour. Music by Schumann, Turina, Manuel de Falla, Arensky. 7 pm. Rams Head Lodge. To purchase tickets call (802) 442-1330. For information call (802) 773-4003. www.killingtonmusicfestival.org.

Vermont Country Calendar

(August 4, continued)

LYNDONVILLE. Book & Author Event. Local VT author Nessa Flax will read from her new book *Voices in the Hills* and discuss and answer questions. Free for all ages. Green Mountain Books and Prints, 1055 Broad St. For more information call (802) 626-5051. www.greenmtbooks.com. www.bunkerhillpublishing.com.

MANCHESTER CENTER. Southern Vermont Art & Craft Festival. Handmade crafts, original art, live music, and gourmet edible treats. 10 am – 5 pm. At the Field at Riley Rink, 410 Hunter Park Rd. (802) 0150. www.hildene.org. Also August 5.

PLYMOUTH. Plymouth Old Home Day. Join the Plymouth town organizations for a traditional Old Home Day, a fun-filled festival of wagon rides, chicken barbecue, sheep shearing, and traditional Vermont craft demonstrations. "Victoria's Games"—historic children's activities—organized by the Vermont Historical Society. At 2 pm, Linda Radtke presents "Vermont History through Song," sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council 10 am – 4 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicites.vermont.gov.

RUTLAND. Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. The largest in the state with over 90 vendors. A great place to shop, eat and visit. Live entertainment. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. 9 am – 2 pm. Market manager, Doug Patac, (802) 753-7269. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. www.rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

TOWNSHEND. Grace Cottage Hospital Fair Day. A day full of fun. Free admission and fun for all ages. 9 am – 7 pm. on the Townshend Common, Rts. 30 & 35. (802) 365-9109. www.gracecottage.org.

WILMINGTON. 5th Annual Deerfield Valley Blueberry Festival. Blueberry Parade in Dover at 11 am. Craft Fair in Dover. Car Show at Mount Snow. Barbeque at Dover Forge Restaurant in West Dover. Dots of Dover offers blueberry specials. Lots more! Check our website for schedule. www.vermontblueberry.com. Also August 5.

WOODSTOCK. The Chicken & the Egg. See a variety of breeds of chickens with their similarities and differences, plus baby chicks. Fun facts about chickens and eggs, and an egg toss and games. \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. north of Green. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

ENOSBURG FALLS. Raw Milk Theater. The story of Vermont country life told through songs, stories, and skits. Rain or shine. Bring your own chair. 7:30 pm. Flack Family Farm, 3971 Pumpkin Village Rd. (802) 933-7752.

MANCHESTER CENTER. Southern Vermont Art & Craft Festival. 10 am – 4 pm. At the Field at Riley Rink, 410 Hunter Park Rd. (802) 0150. www.hildene.org.

ORWELL. Hike into History at Mount Independence State Historic Site. Mount Independence Coalition president Steven Zeoli leads a hike on the trails of the Mount. Walk in the footsteps of Revolutionary War soldiers 2 pm. Admission: adults \$5, children 14 and under free. On Mount Independence Rd., off Rt. 73. (802) 948-2000. historicites.vermont.gov.

PLYMOUTH. Grace Coolidge Musicale #1. The first of three recitals named in honor of one of America's most popular First Ladies. Soprano Jane Berlin Pauley and pianist Abigail Charbeneau perform songs of the Roaring Twenties by legendary musicians Cole Porter, Duke Ellington, and Josephine Baker. An afternoon tea follows at the Wilder House Restaurant. Donations appreciated. 3-4:30 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicites.vermont.gov.

WILMINGTON. 5th Annual Deerfield Valley Blueberry Festival. Rotary Blueberry Pancake Breakfast, 8-11 am at the Deerfield Valley Elementary School. Check our website for more. www.vermontblueberry.com.

MONDAY, AUGUST 6

BRANDON. Organic Greenhouse Tomato Production & VOF Social. Join Jon Satz as he explains his strategies for managing 8,000 sq. ft. of greenhouse space dedicated to the production of certified organic tomatoes. Fee: \$20. Call to pre-register. 3-6 pm. Wood's Market Garden, 93 Wood Lane. (802) 434-4122. nofavn.org.

RUTLAND. Summer Monday Night Book Sales. Sponsored by the Friends of the Rutland Free Library. New books added weekly. All proceeds go to support library activities and collections, 4-8 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. Also August 13.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

NEW HAVEN. Addison County Fair and Field Days. Vermont's largest agricultural fair. Exhibits and midway. Admission \$12/\$10/\$5. 1790 Field Days Rd. (802) 545-2557. www.addisoncountyfielddays.com. Through August 11.

ROCHESTER. Concert: "Devilish Ditties." Gerald Elias, violin and narrator, Cynthia Huard, piano. Selections, both musical and literary, from three detective novels by Gerald Elias. Free admission, donations accepted. 7:30 pm. Rochester Federated Church. (802) 767-9234. lesley@rcmsvt.org. www.rcmsvt.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. A great place to shop, eat and visit. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. 3-6 pm. (802) 753-7269. www.rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org. Tuesdays through September 25.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

PITTSFORD. Maple Candy Making at the New England Maple Museum. Crystallizing pure Vermont Maple Syrup into Maple Sugar is demonstrated. Visitors can sample the final product fresh from the mold without touring the Museum on these Wednesdays. No charge. 10:30 am – 3 pm. Admission to the museum is: adults \$2.50, children under 12 years 75¢, under 6 free. Open 8:30 am – 5:30 pm daily. New England Maple Museum, 4578 Rt. 7, south of town. (802) 483-9414. info@maplemuseum.com. www.maplemuseum.com. Also August 15, 22, 29; September 5, 12, 19, 26; October 3 & 10.

SHAFTSBURY. Organic Sweet Corn Production Summer Workshop & NOFAvore Social. Andrew Knafel, of Clear Brook Farm, has been growing organic sweet corn for 18 years, presently planting 6-8 acres annually. Learn about seeding techniques, his homemade plate seeder, and why he uses transplants to get his corn started and the best ways to manage that process. The NOFAvore social to follow will feature organic products from Clear Brook Farm. Fee: \$20. Registration requested for the social so we know how much food to prepare. 4-6:30 pm at Clear Brook Farm off Rt. 7. (802) 434-4122. nofavn.org.

SO. BURLINGTON. Workshop: Berry Bushes—Canning & Preservation. Marijke Niles from Perennial Gardens Plus shows how to grow and preserve the best crops of gooseberries, currants, raspberries, josta berries, blueberries and more. Learn the best methods to reserve and freeze, and more. Taste samples of fruits she has grown. Free. 5-8 pm. UVM Horticulture Research Center, 65 Green Mountain Dr. (802) 864-3073. info@friendsofthehortfarm.org. friendsofthehortfarm.org.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Wednesdays. Horse-drawn wagon rides through the fields and around the farm. Admission. 11 am – 2 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. north of the village Green. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org. Wednesdays through September 26.

Visit the Rutland Downtown Farmers Market on Saturdays!

Vermonters are among the top in the nation for buying local and supporting a local agricultural economy and Rutland, VT proudly hosts The Downtown Farmers Market, the largest in the state! The market is open at Depot Park (across from Walmart) on Merchants Row in Rutland, VT every Saturday from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m. There is a smaller mid-week market every Tuesday from 3 p.m. till 6 p.m. They are open rain or shine till October 27th. The Downtown Farmers Market, has been named again as the Rutland Herald's Best of the Best Readers Choice for 2012.

Over 90 vendors offer a bounty of locally grown produce, meats, wines, cheeses, pickles and jams, handmade crafts, pet treats, mushrooms, sweet treats, and baked goods. With great live music, and a variety of prepared foods for breakfast

and lunch, including ethnic foods, the market is the place to be on Saturday!

Evening Song Farm is back. After losing their farm to the ravages of Irene last year, they have relocated their farm land and will be offering onions, garlic and a variety of radishes and other root vegetables. Their story is one of passion for their land and hard work.

Riverside Farms has a nice selection of raspberries grown on their farm, end-of-season blueberries, and lots of cucumbers, summer squash, eggplant and yellow and green beans. Plums will be in short supply due to the early frost.

Visit with Yvonne Daley, author of *A Mighty Storm*. Yvonne has a small booth next to Boardman Hill Farm's. Sale of the book goes to support three charities to help those who were most severely impacted by Irene.

Mendon Mountain Orchards will have early apples—Melba, Petrel, Wealthy, Yellow Transplant, Paula Red and McIntosh. Bill and Sue Clark from Clark Farm and Maple Country Kitchen will have everything maple—syrup, maple pepper, mustard, and candy. Don't go home without a dozen ears of sweet corn from Grabowski's. Or some sweet corn and

apple cider from Brown's Farm Stand. According to one very loyal customer, Charlie has the best apple cider in the state.

Lori Barker of Lori's Crafts is bringing her wonderful pickled asparagus, dill pickles and a variety of hand-crafted kitchen items. Woods Market has tomatoes. Yoder Farm now offers chocolate popcorn, dried beans and spinach. Radical Roots Farm has artichokes, summer squash, green beans, and tomatoes. New to the market is Suzanne's Sweet Savories—sauces to compliment lunch and dinner menus. And located next door, try a sample of Whistle Pig's 100-proof Straight Rye Whiskey.

The market offers a variety of vendors selling grass-fed beef, pork and free-range eggs. So much tastier than super-market offerings.

If you're hungry, stop at Ooh La La Bakery and for a pini or stuffed crepe, made to order. And don't forget to take home a couple of baker Daniel Pol's loaves of French bread.

Samosa Man is bringing his new Vermont apple samosa, Vermont spicy potato samosa, and delicious chicken curry with coconut rice. Anna's Empanadas will be there with her tempting baked meat and veggie turnovers. And JIA Indian Restaurant is bringing Indian dishes, sandwiches, and samosas. Flavors of Asia offers Korean noodles, spring rolls, and Kimchee. And Thai Iced Tea will be available from Tondao.

Bomosen Bread Basket, will have gluten-free muffins: blueberry, corn, carrot spice and apple cinnamon with struesel topping, and other gluten-free breads and desserts.

Good Dog! Cookies has K-9 Skinny Chicken, dehydrated chicken breast *not* made in China.

Meet your friends and just have a great time visiting with all of our vendors. They love to tell you about how their products are grown or produced. Dogs on leashes are welcome. Debit and EBT Cards are accepted.

Market manager is Doug Patac, (802) 753-7269. Visit www.vtfarmersmarket.org.



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Vermont Country Calendar

WOODSTOCK. Program: Junior Farm Vet for a Day. For ages 10-15. Spend the day at the farm and learn the anatomy of farm animals. Participate in grooming, and learn how to do a physical exam, working alongside a large animal vet. Wear barn clothes. Fee: \$75 includes stethoscope and workbook to take home. Call to register. 9 am – 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

ALBURGH. Annual UVM Extension Crops & Soils Field Day. The Northwest Crops and Soils Program, under the leadership of Dr. Heather Darby, has been conducting research on grains, forage crops, hops, oilseeds, nutrient and fertility management, water quality, and soil health for 8 years! Tour Borderview Research Farm, where many of the experiments are conducted. Fee: \$20. 10 am – 4 pm. Borderview Research Farm, 146 Line Rd. (802) 524-6501 x 432. susan.brouillette@uvm.edu. www.uvm.edu/extension/cropsoil.

BRANDON. Jazz Night at Brandon Music: N'goni & Fula Flute Project (Craig Meyers, Dave Kobrenski, & Friends). Early bird dinner special, 4-6 pm (last seating 5:30). Reservations required. Dinner and concert is \$22. 7:30 pm. Call for tickets. Brandon Music Café at Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 465-4071. brandon-music.net.

CHESTER. Summer Music Series—Rusty Belle. 6:30-8 pm on the Academy Building lawn. In case of inclement weather, concerts will move to The Stone Hearth Inn on Route 11 West. All concerts are free. For more information call (802) 875-3400.

HARTLAND. Upper Valley Seed Savers meet on the second Thursday of the month at 5 pm at member's gardens. You're welcome to join us. 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.

HUBBARDTON. By the Light of the Silvery Moon. The Green Mountain Alliance of Amateur Astronomers bring their telescopes and reveal the magic of moonlight in Vermont. If you like, bring binoculars, blankets, and flashlights. We provide the marshmallows. Call to confirm. If inclement weather, inside illustrated program. Free, donations appreciated. 8-10 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd, seven miles north of Rt 4. (802) 273-2282. hubbardton@historicsites.vermont.gov.

MANCHESTER. Manchester Music Festival Summer Concert Series. Prokofiev, Tchaikowsky. Tickets \$35. 7:30 pm. Southern Vermont Arts Center, Arkel Pavilion. West Road. For tickets call (802) 362-1956. www.mmfv.org.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

MIDDLEBURY. Middlebury Arts Walk. More than 40 venues will be displaying art. 5-7 pm. Free. Downtown Middlebury. (802) 388-7951 x 2. middleburyartswalk.com. *Second Fridays through October.*

TUNBRIDGE. Ed Larkin Contra Dancers. With live music. All dances taught. \$5 donation. 7:30-9:30 pm. Tunbridge Town Hall. www.tunbridgevt.com.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

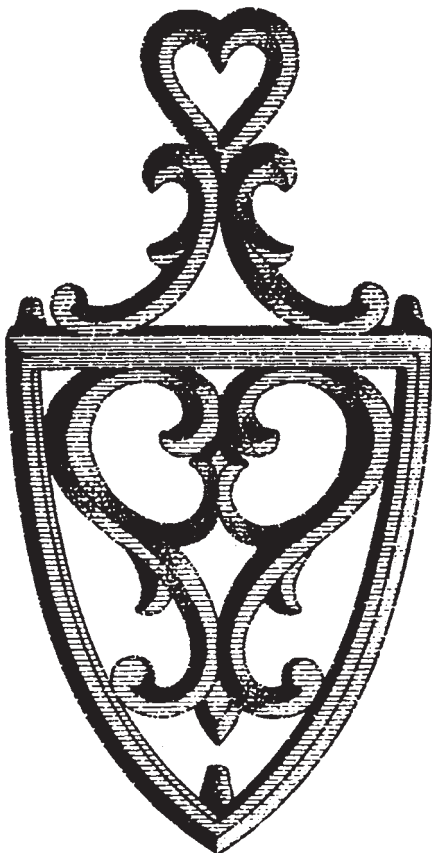
BELMONT. Roast Pork Dinner. Menu: roast pork with all the fixings and home-baked pies for dessert. At the Odd Fellows Hall in Belmont with settings starting at 5 pm and 6 pm. Served family style. Admission \$10 adults and \$5 children 11 years and under. For more information call (802) 259-3445.

BRANDON. Concert at Otter Valley Winery—The Willoughbys. A four-piece band playing Americana. Free admission. 4 pm at Cozy Cottages and Otter Valley Winery. (802) 247-6644. www.brandon.org.

CHESTER. Film Night. An Evening of the World's Best Film Shorts Presented by Asbury Shorts. Our show is like a trip to the best film festivals in the world where you sample the elite of the short film genre but without competition and plenty of live surprises! Admission \$15. 8 pm. Vermont Institute of Contemporary Arts, 15 Depot St. (802) 875-1018. VTica.org.

CRAFTSBURY COMMON. Craftsby Old Home Day. The fun begins on the Common at 9:30 am with the traditional Pet Show. Kids' games, including the Dunking Booth and Bounce House, are scheduled to be open from 10 am to noon. Field Day Games, Pie Eating Contest and the Crazy Hat Contest will also be scheduled. Check out the new Art contest! Craftsby Historical Society will be open with wonderful exhibits and Craftsby history. 9:30 am – 2 pm. www.townofcraftsbury.com.

EAST CHARLESTON. Kingdom Coffeehouse: Tim Lancaster. This Central Florida native has a penchant for songwriting that is deeply rooted in traditional soils. After the release of his first album, *A Finer Line*, Tim settled in the Green Mountains. We'll be on the patio if weather allows! Fee: \$10 includes refreshments. 7 pm. Northwoods Stewardship Center, 154 Leadership Dr. (802) 723-6551. www.northwoodscenter.org.



EAST THETFORD. Big Night: Dinner and a Movie. Dinner in the Field at 6 pm followed by a movie at 9 pm, shown outdoors on the barn. Call for reservations. Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center, 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. growing@cedarcirclefarm.org. www.cedarcirclefarm.org.

MANCHESTER. Classical Comedy Performance: Ingudesman & Joo. Tickets \$48/\$40. 9:50 pm. Southern Vermont Arts Center, Arkel Pavilion. West Road. For tickets call (802) 362-1956. mmfv@comcast.net. www.mmfv.org.

NEW HAVEN. Addison County Fair and Field Days. Vermont's largest agricultural fair. Admission \$12/\$10/\$5. 1790 Field Days Rd. (802) 545-2557. www.addisoncountyfielddays.com.

PUTNEY. Garden Conservancy's Open Days Program. Visit Gordon and Mary's Garden, 508 McKinnon Rd., 10 am – 4 pm. Rain or shine, no reservations required. Admission \$5. (845) 265-5384. www.opendaysprogram.org. www.haywardgardens.com.

RUTLAND. 51st Annual Art in the Park. Juried fine artists, craftspeople, specialty foods, demonstrations, music, and kids activities. Free admission, donations accepted. 10 am – 5 pm. Main Street Park, at the junction of Routes 4 & 7. (802) 797-7400. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. www.chaffeeartcenter.org. *Also August 12.*

RUTLAND. Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. The largest in the state with over 90 vendors. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. 9 am – 2 pm. Market manager, Doug Patac, (802) 753-7269. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. www.rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October 27.*

RUTLAND. Concert: Travis Tritt. Tickets \$49.50/\$59.50. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

SOUTH BURLINGTON. Weeding Bee at the Burlington Community Tree Nursery. 9-11 am. 65 Green Mountain Dr. (802) 862-2930. www.branchoutburlington.org.

TUNBRIDGE. 4th Annual Quilt and Needlework Show. 10 am – 3 pm. Tunbridge Town Hall. (802) 889-5560. www.tunbridgevt.com.

WILMINGTON. Garden Conservancy's Open Days Program. Visit North Forte Garden, 71 Top of Hill Rd., 10 am – 4 pm. Rain or shine, no reservations. Admission \$5. (845) 265-5384. www.opendaysprogram.org.

WINDSOR. Hosta Days—From Miniature to Huge. Talk and Tour 10:30-11:30 am. Light refreshments. Free. Open 10 am – 6 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. (800) 232-4337. www.ciderhillgardens.com. *Also August 12.*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

ELMORE. Workshop: Turn Your Lawn into Eden. See what you can grow on the coldest hillsides in Vermont during this exploration of Elmore Roots Nursery hosted by owner Dave Fried. Terry Bradshaw from UVM's Horticulture Research Center will discuss disease and pest management. Fee: \$20. 1-4 pm. Elmore Roots Nursery, Symonds Mill Rd. (802) 434-4122. nofavt.org.

FERRISBURGH. Annual Pie & Ice Cream Social. Don't miss our annual extravaganza of homemade pie and ice cream. Relax to music provided by the Vergennes City Band as you sample pies of every type. Proceeds support the Museum's work—so have a second piece! 1-4 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org.

Freezing Berries

If I'm in a hurry, I freeze berries to use later on in the year. They are as simple as putting them into quart freezer bags or containers and setting them in the freezer. It takes only a few minutes to put up a bucketful this way. Kids love to suck on frozen berries for a healthy snack anytime of the year.

Unfortunately when they thaw out they are never quite the same; they tend to get soggy and seedy, although some kinds of berries fare better than others. They just aren't as good in the desert recipes as the fresh berries. Since they won't behave in pie or cobbler recipes anymore, I run my thawed berries through a sieve and just use the pulp or juice to make a variety of treats.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(August 12, continued)

RUTLAND. 51st Annual Art in the Park. Juried fine artists, craftspeople, specialty food, music, demonstrations, and kids activities. Free admission, donations accepted. 10 am – 5 pm. Main Street Park, at the junction of Routes 4 & 7. (802) 797-7400. www.chaffecenter.org.

WOODSTOCK. 12th Annual Antique Tractor Day. Tractors made between 1930 and the 1960s will be displayed by the proud and talented folks who restored them. The tractor parade at 1 pm, includes restoration details and historical information. Tractor-drawn wagon rides and tractor activities for children, including the popular tractor sandbox. Lunch from the Teago Volunteer Fire Department—all proceeds benefit the department. \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13

MANCHESTER. Manchester Music Festival Young Artists Concert. Tickets \$10. 7 pm. Riley Center for the Arts at Burr & Burton Academy. For tickets call (802) 362-1956. mmfvt@comcast.net. www.mmfvt.org.

RUTLAND. Summer Monday Night Book Sales. Sponsored by the Friends of the Rutland Free Library. New books added weekly. All proceeds go to support library activities and collections, 4-8 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

ADAMANT. 71st Annual Season at Adamant Music School. Participants from the Master Classes of Menahem Pressler will present a concert at 7:30 pm. Admission \$10. Adamant Music School, Haggart Rd. (802) 229-9297. www.adamant.org. Also August 15.

MANCHESTER. Manchester Music Festival Summer Concert Series. Young Artists from the Metropolitan Opera perform with an appearance by the Manchester Area Chorus. Tickets \$45, lawn seating for \$15 weather permitting. 7:30 pm. Southern Vermont Arts Center, Arkell Pavilion, West Road. For tickets call (802) 362-1956. www.mmfvt.org.

NORTH TUNBRIDGE. Historical Society Pot Luck Picnic. Slide program with Euclid Farnham and Mick Maguire highlighting businesses and public buildings along the First Branch. 6:30 pm – 9 pm at the North Tunbridge Church, Rt. 110. tunbridgevt.com.

RUTLAND. Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. 3-6 pm. Market manager, Doug Patac, (802) 753-7269. www.rutlandcountymarket.org. Tuesdays through September 25.

STOWE. Concert—Banjo Dan and the Mid-nite Plowboys' Fortieth Anniversary Tour. Stowe Performing Arts offers summer concerts at the gazebo in front of the Helen Day Memorial Building. Free. 7 pm. www.banjudan.com.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

BARTON. 145th Annual Orleans County Fair. An agricultural blue ribbon fair! Harness racing, milking parlor, horse shows, chain saw carving, petting zoo, terrific midway, horse, pony & tractor pulls. Free carnival rides with admission. Fairgrounds are at 278 Roaring Brook Rd. (802) 525-3555. orleanscountyfair.net. Through August 19.

PITTSFORD. Maple Candy Making at the New England Maple Museum. Crystallizing pure Vermont Maple Syrup into Maple Sugar is demonstrated. Visitors can sample the final product fresh from the mold without touring the Museum on these Wednesdays. No charge. 10:30 am – 3 pm. Admission to the museum is: adults \$2.50, children under 12 years 75¢, under 6 free. Open 8:30 am – 5:30 pm daily. New England Maple Museum, 4578 Rt. 7, south of town. (802) 483-9414. info@maplemuseum.com. www.maplemuseum.com. Also August 22, 29; September 5, 12, 19, 26; October 3 & 10.

STOWE. Concert. Taj Mahal Trio—one of the most influential figures in late 20th century blues and roots music. Tickets \$70/\$50. 8 pm. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, Rt. 108N. (802) 760-4634. www.sprucepeakarts.org.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Wednesdays. Horse-drawn wagon rides around the farm. Admission (includes all activities) \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. 11 am – 2 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org. Wednesdays through September 26.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

BENNINGTON. Bennington Battle Day. The event is free and open to the public. Bennington Monument. (802) 447-0550. historicsites.vermont.gov.

BRANDON. Free Summer Concert Featuring Ten Rod Road. Come and dance to a variety of tunes — from ballads to rockers. 6:30 pm at Central Park, 20 Park St. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. www.brandon.org.

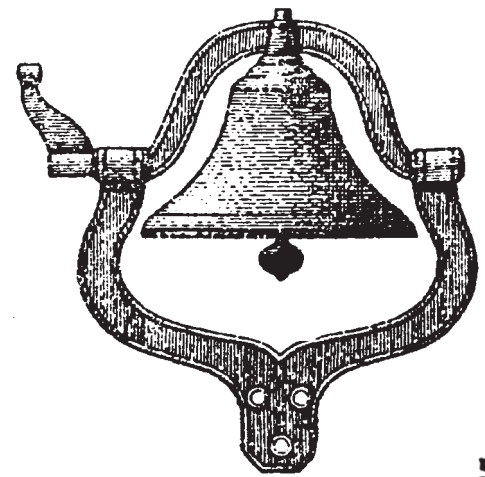
BRANDON. Jazz Night at Brandon Music: Giacomo Gates. Early bird dinner special, with our chef's award-winning chili, cornbread and a home-baked dessert of choice, from 4-6 pm (last seating 5:30). Reservations required and the cost for dinner and concert is \$22. The cafe menu available. 7:30 pm. Call for tickets. Brandon Music Café at Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 465-4071. brandon-music.net.

DORSET. Lunchtime Lecture Series. Stenciling with Kathie Wall Evans. 12-1 pm. Dorset Historical Society's Bley House Museum, Rt. 30 at Kent Hill Rd. (802) 867-0331. info@dorsetvthistory.org. www.dorsetvthistory.org.

DORSET. Play: "Deathtrap." By Ira Levin. Daily except Mon., 8 pm, matinees at 3 pm on Sat., Sun., & Wed. Dorset Playhouse, 104 Cheney Rd. For tickets call (802) 867-2223. dtf@dorsettheatrefestival.org. www.dorsettheatrefestival.org. Through September 1.

RANDOLPH. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival. Open rehearsal. Free admission. 7 pm. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.chandler-arts.org. www.centralvtchambermusicfest.org.

RUTLAND. Concert: Guy Davis plays the Blues. He's a musician, composer, actor, director, and writer. But most importantly, Guy Davis is a bluesman. Presented in the intimate setting of the Brick Box, limited seating. Tickets \$15. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org.



Sculpture Exhibit at Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery in Windsor, VT

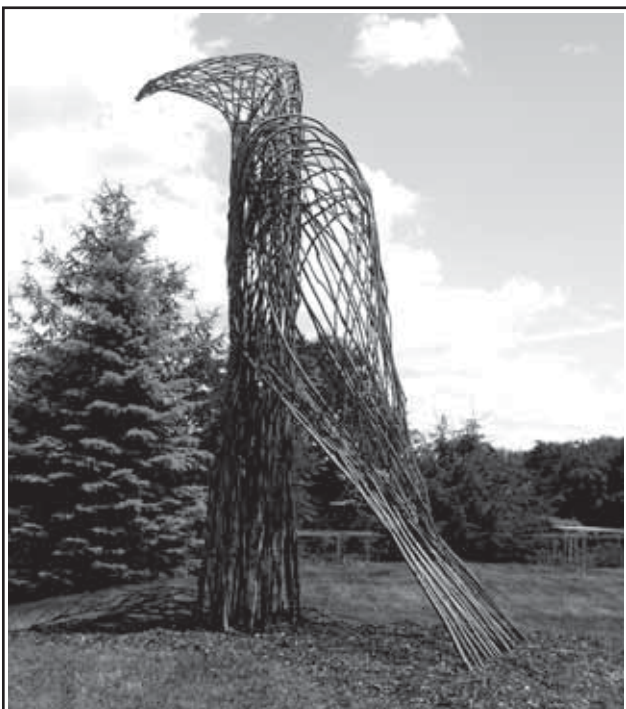


photo by Cathryn Brown

The Spirit of the Red Tail Hawk created at Cider Hill Gardens by sculptors Andy Moerlein of Bow, NH and Donna Dodson of Jamaica Plains, NY as part of their Mythmaker collection of mythical creatures.

Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery in Windsor, Vermont is hosting their first major group sculpture show through October 28. This powerful exhibit features 35 works created in bronze, wood, steel, granite and ceramic by thirteen celebrated sculptors from Vermont, New Hampshire and New York, along with 29 paintings in the Gallery.

There are monumental works and intimate ones, abstract and figurative, imaginatively placed amongst Cider Hill's sun and shade gardens, ledge outcroppings, fields and woodlands. Bow, NH sculptor Andy Moerlein's phenomenal "Journey" greets visitors as they enter into the outdoor exhibition.

Within the gardens one can see Windsor, VT's Lawrence J. Nowlan's bronze statue "Innocence" perched on a stone wall, study the Zen moss and granite boulder carving of Gary Haven Smith of Northwood, NH, situated near the granite works of long-time independent monument carver John Hikory of Brownsville, VT.

The sounds of Meriden, NH sculptor Eric O'Leary's sculptural fountain lures people into another area of the garden, while Andover, VT sculptor John Cassin's "Flying Woodland Nymph" leads one through a field where Middlesex, VT artist Brian Goblík's work, "Creative Minimalism Minimally Creative" draws one to the wild woodland beyond.

In the open fields, Mythmakers Andy Moerlein and Donna Dodson of Jamaica Plain, NY, have chosen to construct "Red Tail Hawk" their first Vermont work adding to their collection of mythical creatures. Nearby is "Sky Flower" a monumental work by Herb Ferris of Windsor, VT. Dimitri Gerakaris of Canaan, NH, John Kemp Lee of White River Junction, VT and Max Van Pelt of Hanover, NH, have also sited their cutting edge steel and amalgamated works just beyond the garden spaces.

Cider Hill Gardens and Gallery was created 30 years ago from an ancient apple orchard by expert gardener and herbalist Sarah Milek and gardener and internationally-renowned painter Gary Milek. Believing that their gardens are the perfect venue for an outdoor sculptural exhibition of this type and that art needs an audience, the Mileks expanded their traditional gallery space to include the gardens and invited thirteen sculptors to participate in this major group sculpture show, curated by landscape architect Cathy Brown, also of Cider Hill Gardens.

According to Gary Milek, "The show is the lyrical interpretations of our world in a positive sense as created by thirteen forceful artists who are extremely creative and perceptive. We are thrilled to invite the public to Cider Hill to see their work in such a beautiful setting."

In the main art gallery, the bold wooden mystic bird effigies of Donna Dodson greet visitors, while the gallery walls exhibit works by Varujan Boghosian of Hanover, NH, known primarily for his sculptures, who has chosen to show "Twelve Variations on a Theme by Hokusai" a new colorful watercolor series of butterflies, along with Gary Milek's paintings in egg tempera and gold leaf.

The Mileks unique combination of flower gardens and fine art make Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery a favorite destination for both gardeners and art-lovers alike.

The Sculpture Garden is open for public viewing Thursdays through Sundays from 10-6, or by appointment, through October 28. Cider Hill Gardens and Galley is located at 1747 Hunt Road, off of State Street, 2.5 miles from downtown Windsor. More info can be found at CiderHillGardens.com and GaryMilek.com or by calling (802) 674-6825.

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Early Bird Camping begins Sunday August 26th for only \$10 more for 4 extra nights! (with the purchase of a weekend ticket).

Vermont Country Calendar

VERSHIRE. Workshop: Orchard Health and Apple Intensive. With Michael Phillips, a leading expert in organic orchard management. Flag Hill Farm owners Sebastian Lousada and Sabra Ewing talk about what's different about growing organic apples for hard cider production and the ins-and-outs of the cider craft. Tour their processing facility. Samples and sales of Flag Hill's products to participants of legal drinking age with valid I.D.. Fee: \$40. 1-5 pm. Flag Hill Farm, 135 Ewing Rd. (802) 434-4122. nofavt.org.

WILMINGTON. 95th Annual Deerfield Valley Farmers' Day Fair. A long standing local tradition with neighborly competition, education in agriculture, entertainment, exhibits of area residents, and good clean fun! Admission: adults \$6, seniors \$2, kids \$2, under 6 free, midway bracelet \$22, parking free! (802) 319-0117. www.dvfair.com. *Through August 19.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

VERGENNES. Concert: Roots to Your Soul Show. With Mississippi Soul Man Johnny Rawls, The Dave Keller Band, and the roots music of Aaron Flinn. Tickets \$20. 8 pm. Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. (802) 453-5213. www.vergennesoperahouse.org.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

ALBANY. Peace of Earth Farm Hands-on Skill Share. Check out our experiments and results from two years of no-till farming. Then help us to do some sheet mulching and learn the process. Enjoy a meal with us at the end of the day. Free but please RSVP! 2-5 pm. Peace of Earth Farm, 43 West Griggs Rd. (802) 755-6336. www.peaceofearthfarmalbany.wordpress.com. rebeccabeidler@yahoo.com.

BARTON. 145th Annual Orleans County Fair. An agricultural blue ribbon fair! Great American Frontier Show, harness racing, milking parlor, horse shows, chain saw carving, petting zoo, terrific midway, horse, pony & tractor pulls. Free carnival rides with admission. Fairgrounds are at 278 Roaring Brook Rd. (802) 525-3555. www.orleanscountyfair.net. *Also August 19.*

BENNINGTON. The Weekend Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Bennington. Living History Encampment on the grounds of the Bennington Monument with drill presentations, musket and artillery demonstrations, educational exhibits, and activities for children will be ongoing hourly. Authentic cannons will be on display and fired periodically during the day Saturday and Sunday. The event is free and open to the public. 10 am – 5 pm. Bennington Monument. (802) 447-0550. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Also August 19.*

BENNINGTON. The annual Battle Day 5K road race sponsored by the Friends of the Monument. Registration at 8 am, race begins at 9:30 am, starts and finishes at the Monument with cannon fire. Following the 5k will be the ½ mile Kids Fun Race—a fun easy race for children. Registration forms are available at the Monument gift shop. Bennington Monument. (802) 447-0550. historicsites.vermont.gov.

BRANDON. Riptide in Concert. An alternative rock band. Freewill offering. 7 pm at Town Hall. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. www.brandon.org.

CRAFTSBURY COMMON. Black River Wetlands Walk. Explore rich fens, sedge meadows and marshes with Liz Thompson, Conservation Biologist and co-author of Wetland, Woodland, Wildland. Meet at the Craftsbury Elementary School parking lot, and dress for getting wet! Sponsored by the Hosmer Ponds Watershed Initiative. Free and open to the public. 9:30-10:30 am. (802) 586-9697.

HARDWICK. Kingdom Farm & Food Days. Bicycle Tour with the Craftsbury Outdoor Center. See the region's farms, small producers and agricultural businesses. Check website for schedule. (802) 472-5840. www.kingdomfarmandfood.org. *Also August 19.*

LUDLOW. Annual Arts and Crafts Fair. Over 90 of New England's finest artists and craftsmen exhibiting top quality wares. Free. 10 am – 4 pm. Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts, 611 Rt. 103 South. (802) 228-8770. info@fletcherfarm.org. www.fletcherfarm.org.

ORWELL. Fungi Workshop. Noted mycologist Sue Van Hook leads another daylong workshop on foraging for mushrooms, what to look for, what's safe and what's not. Workshop fee. Pre-registration required. Call for details. 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. On Mount Independence Rd., off Rt. 73. (802) 948-2000. historicsites.vermont.gov.

RANDOLPH. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival Concert. Britten Phantasy Quartet; Francaix String Trio; Saint-Saëns Piano Quartet. Tickets \$25. 8 pm. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.centralvtchambermusicfest.org. www.chandler-arts.org.

RIPTON. Silver Lake Outing. Hike to this beautiful lake via the North Branch Trail and out by the Goshen Trail. Cool off with a swim at the beach. Moderate pace, five miles. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Sponsored by the Killington Section of the Green Mountain Club. Meet at 9 a.m. Leader: Tom Copps, (802) 774-5144. www.greenmountainclub.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. The largest in the state with over 90 vendors. A great place to shop, eat and visit. Live entertainment. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. 9 am – 2 pm. Market manager, Doug Patac, (802) 753-7269. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. www.rutlandcountymarket.org. *Saturdays through October 27.*

RUTLAND. An Evening with Captain Sig and the Friends of the Deadliest Catch. Tickets \$54.50/\$74.50. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

SO. BURLINGTON. Leaf Casting Workshop. Create natural objects to show off in your home or garden. Nancy Simson will show you how to make leaf castings using your favorite large-leaved plants. Fee: \$25/\$35. 9 am – 12 noon. UVM Horticulture Research Center, 65 Green Mountain Dr. (802) 864-3073. info@friendsofthehortfarm.org. friendsofthehortfarm.org.

VERGENNES. Rabble in Arms. The 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812. Costumed re-enactors in traditional boats at North Harbor recreate the British attack on Fort Cassin, at the mouth of Otter Creek. Enjoy demonstrations of maritime skills, presentations of firearms, boat maneuvers, open air cooking, blacksmithing and more. Admission: adult \$10, seniors \$8, students 5-17 \$6, under 5 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. (802) 475-2022. www.lcmm.org. *Also August 19.*

WILMINGTON. 95th Annual Deerfield Valley Farmers' Day Fair. Agriculture, entertainment, exhibits by area residents, and lots of good, clean fun! Admission: adults \$6, seniors \$2, kids \$2, under 6 free, midway bracelet \$22, parking free! (802) 319-0117. www.dvfair.com. *Also August 19.*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

BENNINGTON. The Weekend Anniversary Celebration of the Battle of Bennington. Living History Encampment on the grounds of the Bennington Monument with drill presentations, musket and artillery demonstrations, educational exhibits, and activities for children will be ongoing hourly. Authentic cannons will be on display and fired periodically during the day Saturday and Sunday. The event is free and open to the public. 10 am – 5 pm. Bennington Monument. (802) 447-0550. www.historicsites.vermont.gov.

HUBBARDTON. Battlefield Third Sunday. A Hubbardton resident from 1777 comes to life to tell you about life in the path of the Revolutionary War and what happened in Hubbardton after the battle. Adults \$2, 14 and under free. Rain or shine. 1 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd, seven miles north of Rt. 4. (802) 273-2282. historicvermont.org. www.historicsites.vermont.gov.

JERICHO CENTER. Mobbs Farm Walk. Good for kids and dogs—walk in beautiful preserved farmland near Jericho Center. Lunch at the riverside "beach." Easy hike, easy pace, approximately three miles, rolling hills. Limit three dogs. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Sponsored by the Burlington Section of the Green Mountain Club. Contact leader, Kelley Christie, by 8/17 at (802) 999-7839 or kelleymchristie@gmail.com. www.greenmountainclub.org.

ORWELL. Kid's Archeology Afternoon at Mount Independence. Kids are invited to learn about archeology in this fun afternoon. Try the sandbox dig activity, look at copies of old maps, and see what archeology tells us about the past at Mount Independence. Admission: adults \$5, children 14 and under free. On Mount Independence Rd., off Rt. 73. (802) 948-2000. www.historicsites.vermont.gov.



NIGHT MILKING TIME

Night milking time in our goat barn
With hand-hewn frame and planking worn
From daily passing, night and morn;

Across the board wall, mellowed brown,
Light from the windowed loft slants down
Through the trap door where hay is thrown;

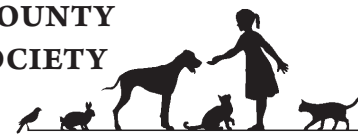
The dusky stable facing east
Rustles with many a munching beast,
Smelling of out-of-doors, snow-fleeced.

How low in light of all the sky
The space here covered dim and dry—
And yet so generous, so high,

One tenant more would cause no cramp
If I should make a corner-camp
In here tonight—no bed, no lamp.

—JAMES HAYFORD
Orleans, VT, 1951

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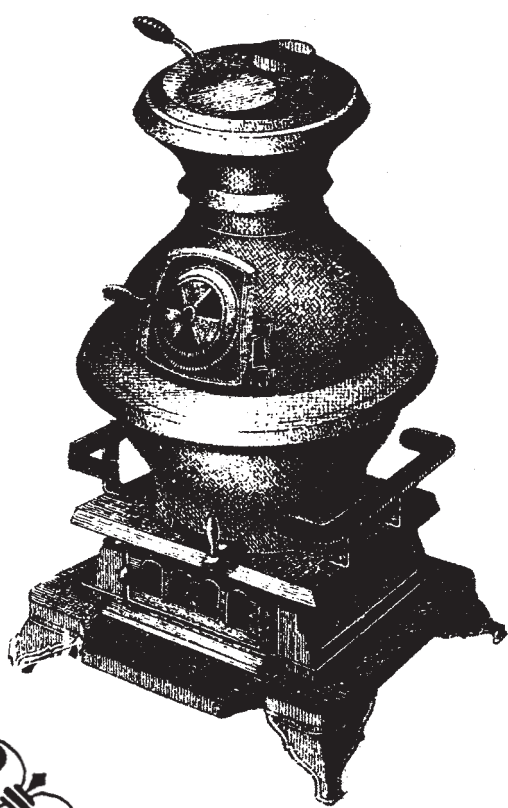
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Vermont Country Calendar

(August 19, continued)

RANDOLPH. Central VT Chamber Music Festival 2nd Annual Breakfast with Bach. Breakfast 11 am in Chandler's Upper Gallery, \$8. Concert at 12:30 pm in Bethany Church, Main St. Goodwill offering. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

ROCHESTER. Concert. Dan Levitam, harp and Laura Carnibucci, flute. Free admission, donations accepted. 4 pm. Rochester Federated Church. (802) 767-9234. lesley@rcmsvt.org. www.rcmsvt.org.

VERGENNES. Rabble in Arms. The 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812. Costumed re-enactors in traditional boats at North Harbor recreate the British attack on Fort Cassin, at the mouth of Otter Creek. Maritime skills, presentations of firearms, boat maneuvers, open air cooking, blacksmithing and more. Adult \$10, seniors \$8, students 5-17 \$6, under 5 free. 10 am - 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. (802) 475-2022. www.lcmm.org.

WOLCOTT. Kingdom Farm & Food Days. Tours, music, workshops and a Local Foods Showcase at the High Mowing Organic Seeds Trial and Showcase Gardens on Marsh Rd. (802) 472-5840. www.kingdomfarmandfood.org.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21

WINDSOR. Hosta Days—From Miniature to Huge. Talk and Tour 10:30-11:30 am. Light refreshments. Open 10 am - 6 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. (800) 232-4337. flowers@ciderhillgardens.com. www.ciderhillgardens.com.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

LYNDONVILLE. Caledonia County Fair. The oldest fair in Vermont! Agricultural shows, lumberjack contest, demolition derby, midway, family fun. Admission \$15. 1 Fairgrounds Rd. off Pinehurst St. (802) 626-5917. www.vtfair.com. *Through August 26.*

PITTSFORD. Maple Candy Making at the New England Maple Museum. Crystallizing pure Vermont Maple Syrup into Maple Sugar is demonstrated. Visitors can sample the final product fresh from the mold without touring the Museum on these Wednesdays. No charge. 10:30 am - 3 pm. Admission to the museum is: adults \$2.50, children under 12 years 75¢, under 6 free. Open 8:30 am - 5:30 pm daily. New England Maple Museum, 4578 Rt. 7, south of town. (802) 483-9414. info@maplemuseum.com. www.maplemuseum.com. *Also August 29; September 5, 12, 19, 26; October 3 & 10.*

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Wednesdays. Horse-drawn wagon rides around the farm. Admission (includes all activities) \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. 11 am - 2 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Wednesdays through September 26.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23

BRANDON. Free Summer Concert. Featuring Avant Garde Dogs Band. 6:30 pm at Central Park, 20 Park St. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. www.brandon.org.

BRANDON. Jazz Night at Brandon Music: The Chronicles. Early bird dinner special, with our chef's award-winning chili, cornbread and a home-baked dessert of choice, from 4-6 pm (last seating 5:30). Reservations required and the cost for dinner and concert is \$22. The cafe menu available. 7:30 pm. Call for tickets. Brandon Music Café at Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 465-4071. brandon-music.net.

STOWE. Celebrate Vermont Festival. We celebrate the foods, farms, forests, and markets that have made Vermont a symbol of community. Check website for schedule. Admission: adults \$8, children over 5 \$4, seniors \$5, weekend pass \$10/\$5. 10 am - 5 pm. At the Stowe Events Field on Weeks Rd. and other venues around town. (802) 425-3399. celebratevermontfestival.com. *Through August 26.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24

BONDVILLE. The Bondville Fair. The oldest continuously running fair in Vermont! Horse pulls, demonstrations, quilt exhibit, midway and more. Admission: \$6 includes free stage entertainment, track events & unlimited rides. Rt. 30 across from the Stratton Mountain access road. (802) 297-9810. bondvillefair.org. *Through August 26.*

HARTFORD. Bagpipe Concert. Bagpiper Cameron Anderson will be with us to provide us with music that can make you weep or to stir the blood. He will also give us a history of the pipes and answer any questions you may have in the Recreation Field. Park fee: \$3/\$2/free. 7 pm. Quechee State Park. 5800 Woodstock Rd. (802) 295-2990. vtstateparks.com.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

BONDVILLE. The Bondville Fair. The oldest continuously running fair in Vermont! Horse pulls, demonstrations, quilt exhibit, midway and more. Admission: \$6 includes free stage entertainment, track events & unlimited rides. Rt. 30 across from the Stratton Mountain access road. (802) 297-9810. bondvillefair.org. *Also August 26.*

BRANDON. Atlantic Crossing in Concert. An alternative rock band. Tickets at the door. 7:30 pm at Town Hall. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. www.brandon.org.

CHESTER. Opening Reception for The Uncommon Thread Exhibit. Contemporary quilts and fiber wall art by eight of this region's most talented fiber artists. Come and enjoy the creative use of fiber as each artist brings their unique technique in which they quilt, weave and sew using a variety materials. Wine and hors d'oeuvres served. 8 pm. Vermont Institute of Contemporary Arts, 15 Depot St. (802) 875-1018. VTica.org.

CHESTER. Opening Reception for The Uncommon Thread Exhibit. Contemporary quilts and fiber wall art by eight of this region's most talented fiber artists. Come and enjoy the creative use of fiber as each artist brings their unique technique in which they quilt, weave and sew using a variety materials. Wine and hors d'oeuvres served. 8 pm. Vermont Institute of Contemporary Arts, 15 Depot St. (802) 875-1018. VTica.org.

EAST CHARLESTON. Workshop: Trail Design and Layout. Sustainable trail design techniques suitable for small landowner and community-scale projects. Come prepared for walking in the woods (up to 1/2 mile) and bring a bag lunch. Fee: \$20. Register by Aug. 18. 9 am - 1 pm. North Woods Stewardship Center, 154 Leadership Dr. (802) 723-6551. www.northwoodscenter.org.

EAST THETFORD. Annual Tomato Tasting by the River. Taste organically grown heirloom tomatoes, tomato appetizers, hear live music, take home tomato preserves and more from our farmers market. 2-4 pm. Tickets \$25, children under 12 \$15. Call for reservations. Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center, 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. growing@cedarcirclefarm.org. www.cedarcirclefarm.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Hundreds of animals, free stages, largest art show in Vermont, more than 40 thrilling rides, concerts and shows, strolling musicians, and much more! Grandstand concerts with the J. Geils Band, Train, Demi Lovato, The Band Perry, and Zac Brown Band. Admission: \$12, children 5-12 \$5, under 5 free, ride bracelet \$30. Open 10 am to midnight. At Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Through September 3.*

HINESBURG. Book & Author Event. Vermont author Amy Huntington presents her new book, *When Grandma Drove the Lobsterboat!* Free and open to the public. 11 am - 12 pm. Brown Dog Books and Gifts, 22 Commerce St. (802) 482-5189. www.browndogbooksandgifts.com.

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Vermont Country Calendar

HUBBARDTON. Mount Independence-Hubbardton Military Road Car Tour. The Crown Point Road Association offers a driving tour along part of the 1776 Mount Independence-Hubbardton Military Road. Call for details. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd, seven miles north of Rt 4. (802) 273-2282. hubbardton@historicvermont.org. historicites.vermont.gov.

LYNDONVILLE. Caledonia County Fair. The oldest fair in Vermont! Agricultural shows, lumberjack contest, demolition derby, midway, family fun. Admission \$15. 1 Fairgrounds Rd. off Pinehurst St. (802) 626-5917. www.vtfair.com. Also August 26.

LYME, NH. Flea Market on the Lyme Common. Find Bargains or set up your booth. Sponsored by the Lyme Boy Scout Troop 273. 9 am - 4 pm. (603) 795-2897. Also September 29.

PUTNEY. Summer Workshop: Backyard Season Extension. Join Bob DeCoteau for this introductory class on how to extend harvest through fall and winter for a variety of crops. Bring a dish for a potluck lunch following the workshop. Fee: \$20. 9 am - 12 pm. Harmony Circle Farm, Holden Rd. (802) 434-4122. nofavt.org.

QUECHEE. 40th Annual Quechee Scottish Festival and Celtic Fair. Celtic folk music, children's games, clan and society tents, bag pipe competitions, celtic arts and crafts, Highland athletics, Scottish country dancing, historic Highlanders, Celtic music groups, Scottish souvenirs, clothing, antiques, dancing competition, sheepdog trials, Gaelic workshop. Scottish and American specialty food and drink available. Admission: adults \$12, children 12 \$8, under 5 free. Parking is free. 8 am - 4:30 pm. On the Polo Field. (802) 295-5351. www.quecheescottishfestival.com.

RANDOLPH. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival. LARK Quartet performs. Tickets \$25. 8 pm. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.centralvtchambermusicfest.org. www.chandler-arts.org.

ROCHESTER. Green Mountain Bikes 25th Anniversary Weekend. Public unveiling of Custom Bikes by Zak Hinderyckx, 10 am - 6 pm at Green Mountain Bikes. Anniversary Celebration starting at 5 pm with live music, pizza, and cash bar at Green Mountain Bikes and BigTown Gallery on Rt. 100. (802) 767-4464. www.greenmountainbikes.com. Also August 26.

RUTLAND. Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. The largest in the state with over 90 vendors. A great place to shop, eat and visit. Live entertainment. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. 9 am - 2 pm. Market manager, Doug Patac, (802) 753-7269. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. www.rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

ADDISON. The Shortest Distance Between Two Points Guided Walk. Delve into the history of what you're seeing while walking across the new Lake Champlain Bridge! Join State historic site managers Elsa Gilbertson from Chimney Point and Thomas Hughes from Crown Point (NY) on a guided walk. Meet at the Chimney Point museum. Binoculars welcome. Rain or shine, dress for the weather. Fee: \$5. 1 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 7305 Rt. 125. (802) 759-2412. chimneypoint@historicvermont.org. historicites.vermont.gov.

BONDVILLE. The Bondville Fair. The oldest continuously running fair in Vermont! Horse pulls, demonstrations, quilt exhibit, midway and more. Admission: \$6 includes free stage entertainment, track events & unlimited rides. Rt. 30 across from the Stratton Mountain access road. (802) 297-9810. bondvillefair.org.

CHESTER. Reiki Share. 2-4 pm. Peace of Paradise, 78 the Common. Call to register. (802) 875-8008. www.peaceofparadisevt.com.

NORTH CLARENDON. Workshop: How to Cut, Cook, and Extend Poultry with Scott Gordon. 1-4 pm. Presented by Rural Vermont. Fee: \$20-\$40, reservations required. Meet & greet potluck picnic free and open to the public from 6-8 pm. Bring the family and a dish to share, your place settings, and a blanket. At Pine Hollow Farm. (802) 223-7222. shelby@ruralvermont.org. www.ruralvermont.org.

RANDOLPH. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival. Concert at the Inn. The Sixth Floor Trio performs. Tickets \$25. 12:30 pm. Three Stallion Inn, Stock Farm Rd. (802) 728-6464. www.chandler-arts.org. www.centralvtchambermusicfest.org.

ROCHESTER. Green Mountain Bikes 25th Anniversary Weekend. Sunday morning ride starting at Green Mountain Bikes at 9 am. Road ride on Route 100 & Contest Trail 25th Anniversary mountain bike ride with bagel breakfast to follow at the bike shop on Rt. 100. (802) 767-4464. www.greenmountainbikes.com.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28

BRATTLEBORO. Tasha Tudor Day. A quiet celebration of what would have been Tasha's 97th birthday at the Tasha Tudor Museum or nearby location. Participants will make a tussie-mussie to take home. We will explore the book Becky's Birthday as we enjoy our tea and birthday cake. Tickets \$25. Tickets limited, reservations required. 5:30-7:30 pm. Tasha Tudor Museum, 974 Western Ave. (802) 258-6564. www.tashatudormuseum.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. 3-6 pm. (802) 753-7269. www.rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org. Tuesdays through September 25.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29

PITTSFORD. Maple Candy Making at the New England Maple Museum. Crystallizing pure Vermont Maple Syrup into Maple Sugar is demonstrated. Visitors can sample the final product fresh from the mold without touring the Museum on these Wednesdays. No charge. 10:30 am - 3 pm. Admission to the museum is: adults \$2.50, children under 12 years 75¢, under 6 free. Open 8:30 am - 5:30 pm daily. New England Maple Museum, 4578 Rt. 7, south of town. (802) 483-9414. info@maplemuseum.com. www.maplemuseum.com. Also Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26; Oct. 3 & 10.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Wednesdays. Horse-drawn wagon rides around the farm. \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. 11 am - 2 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. Wednesdays through September 26.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30

BRANDON. Jazz Night at Brandon Music: Syncopation Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Early bird dinner special, with our chef's award-winning chili, cornbread and a home-baked dessert of choice, from 4-6 pm (last seating 5:30). Reservations required and the cost for dinner and concert is \$22. The cafe menu available. 7:30 pm. Call for tickets. Brandon Music Café at Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 465-4071. brandon-music.net.

WESTON. Musical: Pregnancy Pact. Weston Playhouse MainStage, 12 Park St. For tickets call (802) 824-5288. klarsen@westonplayhouse.org. www.westonplayhouse.org. Through September 8.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

EAST CHARLESTON. Once in a Blue Moon Paddle. The Blue Moon is the second full moon to appear in the night sky within the same month. While the sounds of the Village's Friday Night Live Music drift out from shore, we'll paddle Island Pond's waters, with the surrounding hills as company. Fee: \$10. 8 pm. North Woods Stewardship Center, 154 Leadership Dr. (802) 723-6551. www.northwoodscenter.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Hundreds of animals, free stages, the largest art show in Vermont, the huge craft show, more than 40 thrilling rides, concerts and shows, strolling musicians, and more! Admission: \$12, children 5-12 \$5, under 5 free, ride bracelet \$30. Open 10 am to midnight. At Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. Through September 3.

HARTFORD. Full Moon Hike. Have you ever wondered what Quechee Gorge looks like under the glow of a full moon? Join us for a full moon hike and see first hand the Gorge and its river in a whole new light. Meet at the visitor center, check with park for start time. Park fee: \$3/\$2/free. Quechee State Park. 5800 Woodstock Rd. (802) 295-2990. vtstateparks.com.

RUTLAND. Vermont State Fair Opening Day. The Demolition Derbies are on September 2 at 7:30 pm. Scotty McCreery, 2011 American Idol winner, performs on September 8 in the grandstand, and September 9 at 5 p.m. The trotters and pacers are back with Harness Racing on September 5 at 1 p.m. And there is draft horse pull on September 7 at 11 a.m. Most days tickets are \$10, senior \$5, child \$4, parking \$3 with special day admissions; grandstand extra. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.net. Through September 8.

Green Mountain Bikes 25th Anniversary Celebration

Green Mountain Bikes in Rochester, VT is celebrating 25 years of bike culture this August with special events and a 25th Anniversary Weekend on August 24-26.

BigTown Gallery presents the *Big Bike Show* running from August 1 through September 30. The show is a 2D & 3D multi-media exhibit dedicated to the bicycle. Featured are works by many of BigTown's artists & six limited edition custom road and mountain bikes by designer/builder, Zak Hinderyckx—Green Mountain Bikes' founder Doon's son!

You're invited to the opening reception on August 25th, 5-7 p.m. at the Gallery.

Anniversary Weekend Schedule

Friday, August 24—Private VIP launch of Custom Bikes by Zak Hinderyckx at Green Mountain Bikes. For your invitation go to www.greenmountainbikes.com.

Saturday, August 25—Public unveiling of Custom

Bikes by Zak Hinderyckx, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at Green Mountain Bikes.

Saturday, August 25—Anniversary Celebration starting at 5 p.m. with live music, pizza, and cash bar at Green Mountain Bikes and BigTown Gallery.

Sunday, August 26—Sunday morning ride starting at Green Mountain Bikes at 9 a.m. Road ride on Route 100 & Contest Trail 25th Anniversary mountain bike ride with bagel breakfast to follow at the bike shop.

We hope to see you there!

BigTown Gallery, 99 N. Main St., Rochester, VT. Hours: Wednesday-Saturday 10-5, Sunday 11-4, Monday & Tuesday by appointment. (802) 767-9670. www.bigtowngallery.com.

Green Mountain Bikes, 105 N. Main St., Rochester, VT. Open daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (802) 767-4464. doon@GreenMountainBikes.com. greenmountainbikes.com.

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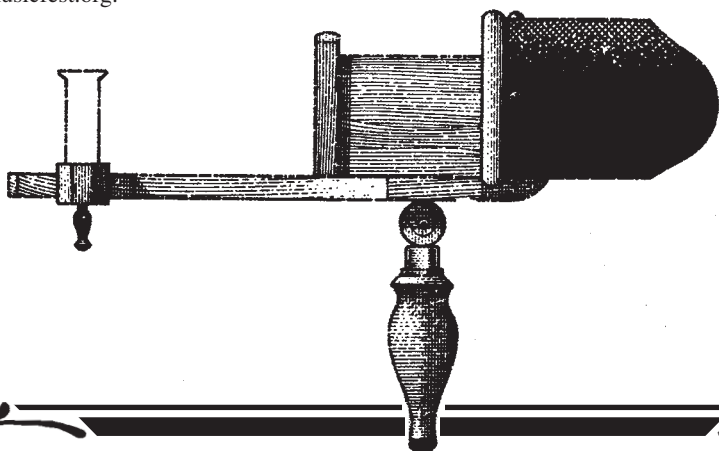
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Béatrix Méthé performs at the New World Festival in Randolph, VT. photo by Robert Eddy

Chandler's 20th Annual New World Festival— Sunday, September 2 in Randolph, VT

Chandler's New World Festival, a beloved music tradition, celebrates its 20th anniversary year on Sunday September 2.

This 12-hour event on Labor Day Sunday, celebrates the Celtic and French American musical heritage so prevalent in this part of the New World brought to northern New England by English, Scottish, Irish and French-Canadian immigrants. It has earned a reputation as one of the finest traditional music events in Vermont. With Main Street closed to traffic, the festival site is an intimate pedestrian village. Nearly 75 of the best regional and international musicians play concerts, offer workshops, participate in dance bands, and share tunes and traditions.

The New World Festival is unusual in that it is run entirely by volunteers whose only payment is the gratitude of the community and the joy brought to patrons and performers. Even Kevin Dunwoody, the New World Festival's music director for all 20 years of its existence, works for no pay. The Clayfoot Strutters and Wind That Shakes the Barley are two bands on the 1993 roster returning to the festival this year. De Temps Antan, the Nuala Kennedy Band, and The Fretless are on the line-up for the first time.

Executive Director Becky McMeekin praises Dunwoody's efforts. "Kevin has built an incredible network of musicians over the years, and the seeds of many new artistic collaborations have been planted at the festival. Patrons trust that he will put together a terrific line-up featuring both new and established musicians."

The Festival is one of Vermont's premier cultural heritage events, and it has established a firm niche in the world of traditional music. This year's anniversary festival was designated as a Top Ten Fall Event by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce. While other Vermont festivals have come and gone or struggled financially, the New World Festival has survived, in large part, because it has built an extremely loyal

fan-base that returns year after year, often introducing friends and relatives to the Festival. Last year their loyalty was put to the test as patrons and performers braved challenging road conditions in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene.

Notable are the connections and exchanges between audience members and musicians that have effectively championed the Celtic and French Canadian musical traditions celebrated by the New World Festival. Festival-goers appreciate the opportunity to watch performances in intimate settings, to observe musicians connecting with others from the same musical tradition through impromptu musical sessions, and to interact with performers through the sharing of a bowing technique, a fiddle tune, or dance step.

The lines between performers and audience members are almost non-existent and it is this intimacy and accessibility that has done the most to build bridges between cultures. The musicians are especially appreciative of students who are their most avid audience members, eager to soak up as much as they can in this rich environment.

People interested in volunteering for three hours in exchange for free admission to the festival are urged to contact volunteer coordinator, Marda Donner at (802) 276-3808 or mardadonner@hotmail.com.

The New World Festival has sponsorship support from its founding sponsor, Randolph National Bank, and these other area businesses and organizations: Gifford Medical Center, The Holland Fund, Delegation du Québec, New England Land Company, Depot Restaurant, Montague Golf Club, Green Mountain Stock Farm, Morgan's Put & Grill at the Three Stallion Inn, and The Three Stallion Inn.

Discounted advance tickets are available through August 31 online or by calling the Chandler Box Office at (802) 728-6464, 3-6 p.m. weekdays. For more information, visit the festival's website at www.NewWorldFestival.com. All performance sites are wheelchair accessible.



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Harvest Time at Cedar Circle Farm

Dinner in the Field And 4th Annual Tomato Tasting

A special tasting event featuring orange, black and colorfully striped heirloom tomatoes and an intimate country dinner, featuring fresh organic food from the farm served at tables set with linens, china and silverware under a tent along the banks of the Connecticut River, are on the menu for August at Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center in East Thetford, VT.

On Saturday, August 11 at 6 p.m., Guest Chef Richard LaMarita of the Natural Gourmet Institute in New York City stars as the guest chef at Cedar Circle Farm's Big Night: Dinner & The Movie. Guests enjoy a classic Fresca Italian multi-course menu, inspired by the acclaimed 1996 film "Big Night." After dinner, at 9 p.m., the film—about a failing Italian restaurant run by two brothers who gamble on one special night to try to save the business—will be shown at the barn. Come for dinner and the film, or just come for the movie with your friends for free (sleeping bags and popcorn welcome). The dinner is \$85 per person. Reservations are required.

On the last Saturday of the month, August 25, from 2-4 p.m., the 4th Annual Tomato Tasting by the River draws people for a casual celebration with live music, a sampling of fresh-picked organically grown heirloom tomatoes in the raw, and a wide selection of delicious farm-made tomato appetizers created by Cedar Circle Farm Chef Alison Baker. There will be complimentary tea and coffee.

To give you an idea of what to expect, here is the appetizer menu from last year: Heirloom Tomato & Watermelon Salad, Chilled Tomato & Coconut Soup, Goat Cheese Bruschetta with Our Tomato Chili Jam, Pesto Bruschetta with Our Rosemary Oil and Rex Romano Cheese, Will's Famous Salsa & Tortilla Chips, Sparkling Tomato Water with Lemongrass & Ginger.



photo by Elizabeth Ferry

Cedar Circle Farm hosts Dinners in the Field at their site down by the Connecticut River during the summer. The next one is on August 11, followed by the 4th Annual Tomato Tasting on August 25.

Cedar Circle Farm's Education Coordinator Cat Buxton says, "Our annual tomato tasting is a delightful way to honor the heirloom tomato and the generations of farmers and gardeners who have preserved the biological and cultural diversity of the fruit through seed saving." Guests can take home the flavors of the tomato tasting at a special farmers' market features tomato preserves, flavored oils and vinegars (cash and checks only). The Tomato Tasting is \$25/person; children under 12 \$15/person.

Cedar Circle Farm is a fifty-acre certified organic farm, dedicated to "growing for a sustainable future" through the production of certified organic vegetables and berries, bedding plants, and quality flowers and herbs. The farm offers a CSA program, dinners in the field, harvest festivals, gardening workshops, cooking classes, and guided educational farm tours for schools and groups.

Seating is limited for both events and pre-registration is required. Additional details and registration are available at www.CedarCircleFarm.org or by calling the Farmstand at (802) 785-4737. Cedar Circle Farm is located at 225 Pavillion Rd., off Rt. 5 in East Thetford, VT.



photo by Robert Eddy

Kate Duesterberg, farm co-manager, brings in a basket of tomatoes.



photo by Elizabeth Ferry

A guest helps himself at a Dinner in the Field.

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A Celebration of Vermont Food & Agriculture

August 18 & 19, 2012

Vermont's Northeast Kingdom

Pile in the car or hop on a bike, but get yourself, your friends and your family to Vermont's Northeast Kingdom for The Kingdom Farm and Food Days, a two-day event on August 18 & 19. Start with tours of the region's farms, small producers and agricultural businesses and end with a full day of tours, music, workshops and a Local Foods Showcase at the High Mowing Organic Seeds Trial and Showcase Gardens on Marsh Road in Wolcott, VT.

The area's farms, gardens, small producers and agricultural businesses have opened their doors to the public, inviting us in to explore, learn and enjoy.

Saturday, August 18

Bicycle Tour with the Craftsbury Outdoor Center. Join us for a scenic bike ride, with stops at some of the area farms and ending with a Potluck at Pete's Greens. The \$35 registration fee will go to support the Center for an Agricultural Economy's Food Access Fund, a fund that supports access to local food within the community. You can learn more at www.hardwickagriculture.org. Appropriate for riders in moderate athletic shape as our region is hilly with some challenging climbs. Get the details at Kingdom Farm & Food Day's website or contact bikes@craftsbury.com for more information or to register for the ride.

Pete's Greens Farm Tour and Potluck. As you explore the rural areas of the Northeast Kingdom, join Pete Johnson and his crew for guided farm tours, music and a potluck. Guided farm tours are at 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. There will be live music and a picnic from 4-6 p.m. Please feel free to bring a favorite dish to feed yourself plus a few others.

Kingdom Farm & Food Open Farm Day. The Northeast Kingdom is beautiful, wild and brimming with good food, good farms and good people. Here in Hardwick, along with the surrounding towns, we consider ourselves the gateway to this pristine and remote region. Join us in celebrating the farms and the people who work them by joining a self-guided or farmer-guided tour from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Although new farms are being added daily, the following are a sample of the farms and agricultural businesses participating in self-guided or farmer-guided tour.

Agape Hill Farm, 618 Houston Hill Rd., Hardwick, VT. (802) 472-3711. www.agapehillfarm.com. A family run



Bicycle touring with the Northeast Kingdom Farm and Food Days.

photo courtesy of CAE

llama farm that gives trail walks with their llamas and sells fresh eggs and produce on their farm. Call for information on the trail walks (\$20/llama per hour).

Applecheek Farm, 567 McFarlane Rd., Hyde Park, VT. (802) 888-4482. www.applecheekfarm.com. A 44 year-old farm that produces organic dairy, grass-fed beef, humanely raised veal, pasture-raised poultry, raw milk, emu oil and more. There will be guided tours of the property!

Hazen Monument Farm, 1547 Hardwick St., East Hardwick, VT. (802) 472-5750. A farm and dairy which provides milk to Organic Valley. Visit their beautiful farm stand along a tree-lined road.

Sunday, August 19

The celebration continues on the beautiful grounds of High Mowing Organic Seeds Trial & Showcase Garden on Marsh

Rd. in Wolcott, VT. Situated on land preserved through the Vermont Land Trust—with over 800 vegetable, herb and flower varieties—visitors will see side-by-side comparison of many popular and some unreleased varieties. There will also be self-guided and guided tours as well as workshops on seed saving and pest and disease identification, live music and an evening bonfire.

In the afternoon, the New England Culinary Institute (NECI) will present a Local Foods Showcase. This is an e chance for visitors to taste the finest Vermont-made food products and culinary delights, all donated by local businesses and prepared by NECI students and Chef Ryan O'Malley.

All of Sunday's festivities will be held at the High Mowing Organic Seeds Trials & Showcase Gardens on Marsh Road in Wolcott, VT.

For more information on the Kingdom Farm and Food Days, more farms to visit, and a downloadable map, www.kingdomfarmandfood.org. Contact: Elena Gustavson, Center for an Agricultural Economy, Hardwick, VT. (802) 472-5840. elena@hardwickagriculture.org.

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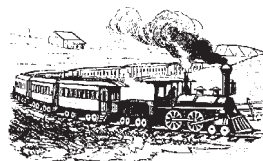
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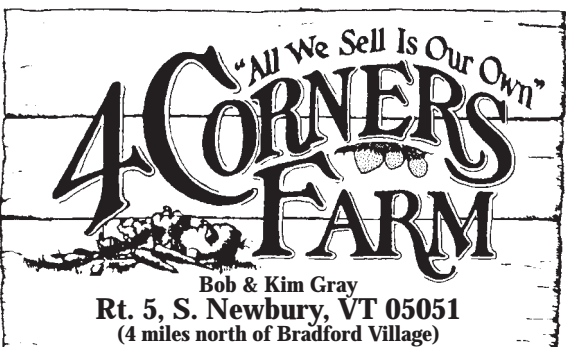
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Dancing Grasses

by Judith Irven

Movement is magical. Rhythmic motion captivates as it soothes—whether a group of dancers twirling in time with the music or the wind rippling through a field of uncut hay.

And motion in the garden is always special—a host of swallowtail butterflies swarming over the lilacs or a flock of cedar waxwings swooping down to feast on the ripening crabapples.

But such magical encounters with wildlife are all too brief. So, if you love the idea of movement in the garden, but want it to last longer, consider planting ornamental grasses. From June to October their graceful leaves and airy flowers will dance in the lightest breeze.

And grasses offer more than the magical gift of movement to your outdoor world. Some make grand architectural statements, while others create glistening translucent screens. Here, from the diminutive to the grand, are five favorite grasses that I grow here in my Vermont garden.

Blue Oat Grass

The spiky blue-gray mounds of *Helictotrichon sempervirens* are no more than two feet high and fit nicely at the front of the bed.

In June and July the filmy flowers create an undulating curtain that catches both sun and wind. However by August, having achieved their mission, they start to disintegrate, at which point I cut them off, leaving the steel-blue leaves to grace the garden right through the winter.

Tussock Grass

In July and August the low green hillocks of *Deschampsia cespitosa* send up an amazing four-foot high billowing cloud of flowers. Planted en masse, tussock grass is perfect as part of a minimalist design. And a grouping of just two or three plants makes a lovely addition to the mixed border.

Feather Reed Grass

The straight vertical look *Calamagrostis* 'Karl Foerster' is readily recognized; a dozen plants in a straight line creates a living fence that, on a windless day, appears stiff and soldier-straight. Then a gentle wind brings graceful movement to an otherwise static scene. This effect starts in June and lasts into winter.

Purple Moor Grass

Molinia arundinacea 'Skyracer,' with its broad mass of soft green leaves, is my personal favorite. Suddenly in late July the most slender stems and delicate flowers appear, creating a towering diaphanous gauze that glistens like a thousand diamonds in the morning dew.

These stems are deceptively strong; more than once I have watched a song sparrow cling to a single stem, feasting on the seeds of autumn! But alas—they are not quite robust enough to last the winter, so after the first snow I cut everything back, leaving a stubble of leaves that protects the crowns over winter.

Maiden Grass

Maiden Grasses are big plants that do best in large spaces. In September, just as many perennials are calling it quits for the year, these autumn queens are reaching their full glory, and they will withstand our winter snow without collapsing.

Most maiden grasses are cultivars of *Miscanthus chinensis*, including 'Sarabande' with wiry leaves and 'Strictus' with stripy leaves—take your pick.

I am also fond of *Miscanthus 'Purpurascens'*, a cross of unknown origin, which turns a glorious orange-red in fall. Since it grows a little shorter, it is an excellent choice for the not-quite-so-big garden.

Note: Where the summers are both longer and warmer than here in Vermont—Southern New England and further south—*Miscanthus* can self seed and spread into the wild. So, if you garden in these parts, before the seeds ripen you should remove the flower-heads.

Using Grasses for Best Effect in the Garden

Match your space—Even the smallest garden has room for smaller grasses, especially the low growing Blue Oat Grass and Tussock Grass, or the tall but slender Feather Reed Grass. But, should you have an expansive country garden, then a stand of *Miscanthus 'Purpurascens'* or a grouping of Purple Moor Grass will fill your space admirably.

Create a 'meadow style' planting—Emulate the way wildflowers grow along our country roads and in the mead-



Outside Judith's bedroom window the six-foot high flowers of her Purple Moor Grass dance in the low morning sunlight. photo by Judith Irven

ows by mixing easygoing perennials, Daylilies, Black-eyed Susans, Shasta Daisies or Purple Cone Flowers, with fine-textured grasses.

Site grasses to catch the morning or evening sun—The more delicate garden grasses, Blue Oat Grass, Tussock Grass and Purple Moor Grass, look positively diaphanous when illuminated, from behind or from the side, by low-angled light. So position these grasses where you can readily see them at dawn or at dusk.

Choose 'clumpers,' avoid 'runners'—Pick varieties of grass that spread by gradually enlarging their base clump, usually described as 'clump-forming.' You can always expand your plant collection by lifting and dividing them in late fall or early spring.

But be sure to avoid anything that spreads via rhizomes (described as 'rhizomatous')!! After a decade I am still living with the bad effects of experimenting with Blue Lyme grass, *Elymus arenarius*, which offers an attractive coloration, but has rhizomes that travel both wide and deep. The only way to use something like that in the garden is to grow it in a pot or contain it inside a vertical root barrier that extends three feet below ground level. Not worth the effort for this gardener!

Enjoy your grasses all winter long—Wait until spring before consigning your Blue Oat, Tussock, Feather Reed or Maiden Grasses to the compost pile.

Snow or no snow all tougher grasses remain relatively unscathed through the long months of winter. Etched with the frost, their skeletons look positively ghostly wafting, slow motion, in the wind.

Judith Irven is a landscape and garden designer. She and her husband Dick Conrad live in Goshen, VT. Visit her sites outdoorspacesvermont.com & northcountryreflections.com.

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North Country Book News

Camping, Fair Time, and Other Summer Tales for Kids

National parks have been around so long that few of us realize that one president, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt, long before the environment became a national issue, helped save more wild land than any president in history. And during his time in office (1901–1909), 148 million acres were added to the National Forest, the number of National Parks doubled, and 55 bird sanctuaries and game preserves were established.

In *The Camping Trip That Changed America: Theodore Roosevelt, John Muir, and Our National Parks* by Barb Rosenstock and illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein (www.penguin.com, \$16.99) Roosevelt and Muir, the Scottish-born naturalist and author who founded the Sierra Club, went on a four-day camping trip into the Yosemite wilderness in California wilderness. The men traveled on horseback, slept outdoors under the trees, even in a spring snowstorm. An outdoors advocate already, Teddy 'got an earful' from the knowledgeable Muir, and saw enough of the area's natural beauty that he became dedicated to saving the wild lands from the lumber barons, ranchers, and mineral interests.

The book's illustrator captures the glory of the area's giant trees, glaciers, its mountains and valleys. And the enchant-

ing story is an eye opener for young naturalists and their parents who might be glad to know more about where our parks came from.

Summertime for many is a trip to the beach whether on a lake or oceanside. A family of mice, including septuplets, have such an outing in *Seven Little Mice Go to the Beach* by Haruo Yamashita and illustrated by Kazuo Iwamura (www.northsouth.com, \$16.95). Join them for fun in the water, a picnic of rice balls and orange soda, and see how the young ones save father who is stranded on a rock offshore.

Many of us go camping in the summer but what do you do if you are a family of six penguins living in the arctic? In *Tacky Goes to Camp* by Helen Lester, illustrated by Lynn Munsinger (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, www.hmhbooks.com, \$6.99 paper), our sixsome named Goodly, Lovely, Angel, Neatly, Perfect and Tacky go camping Antarctica-style complete with telling scary stories around a campfire at night. A make-believe story comes true when the group is accosted by a giant polar bear. Find out how Tacky, having gorged on toasted marshmallows and chocolate smashed between two graham crackers, scares off the big, bad bear!

Children who can't wait to go to the fair will like *Hurry Down to Derry Fair* by Dori Chaconas, illustrated by Gillian Tyler (www.candlewick.com, \$16.99). There are so many chores to get ready for the fair with mom baking lemon pies, animals being groomed for showing, and father chopping wood to be sold, that grandma finally takes the impatient child Dinny to the fair ahead of everyone else. A surprising gatefold at the book's end shows the whole fair.

Any gardener who has had a row of string beans or eggplant leaves become a tasty meal for a woodchuck can relate to *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush* by Aza Trapani (www.charlesbridge.com, \$6.95 paper) where a dedicated gardener is no match for an army of predators that include rabbits, woodchucks, mice and deer. A high wooden fence is her last defense only to find a family of raccoons have used their agile fingers to unlock the gate. And all the animals come in for a feed! The drawings of the free-loading wildlife, just make the story which is set to the familiar childhood song, *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*, words included.

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Children's Book News

Magnus Fin and the Selkie Secret

by Janis Mackay

(A Kelpies book published by Floris Books)

Janis MacKay begins, "I dedicate this book to all children who have ever felt, in some way, different. You're not alone."

Inspired by life in the far north of Scotland, *Magnus Fin and the Selkie Secret* is a tale about one unusual boy's gripping adventure saving his family and the ocean from elements of greed and callousness.

On his eleventh birthday, schoolboy Magnus Fin found out that he is half selkie—part human, part seal. Although he looks like a boy and lives on land, he can breathe underwater.

When a rusty metal chest is flung ashore in a storm, Magnus Fin decides to investigate. But he injures his hand on the strange box, and his sealskin starts to show through. His teacher realizes that there's something very unusual about Magnus Fin.

Deep in the ocean, the great sea god Neptune has problems of his own. The treasures of wisdom have been stolen, and his memory and powers are fading fast. Could his missing treasure be inside the chest that's been washed ashore?

Magnus Fin is the only one who can find out and return Neptune's precious

jewels and saving the ocean and restoring order under the sea. Magnus must complete his mission before the selkie secret is revealed and his selkie family are forced to leave the bay forever.

The gentle, imaginative prose of the story, especially the undersea world, carries you along and makes this a worthwhile read for kids and fanciful adults.

Janis Mackay also wrote the Kelpies Prize-winning *Magnus Fin and the Ocean Quest*, and *Magnus Fin and the Moonlight Mission*. She was born and grew up in Edinburgh, where she now lives teaching creative writing and working as a writer and storyteller. She studied journalism in London and has an MA in Creative Writing.

Magnus Fin and the Selkie Secret by Janis MacKay is published by Floris Books in Edinburgh, Scotland. For more books with a Scottish connection, visit discoverkelpies.co.uk.

The book is available for \$9.95 from your bookseller, on the web, or from the American distributor, SteinerBooks. Call (703) 661-1594. e-mail: service@steinerbooks.org or visit www.steinerbooks.org.

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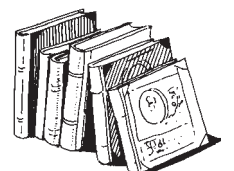
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The Fruit Gardener's Bible

A Complete Guide to Growing Fruits and Nuts in the Home Garden

by Leonard Perry and Lewis Hill
(Storey Publishing)

This is the time of year when a great abundance of Vermont-grown fruits and berries are coming on the market, almost as if there's a new irresistible treat each week. Now it's blueberries with peaches and plums and Paula Red apples coming shortly followed by blackberries and fall raspberries.

Many of us will chide ourselves for not having planted a few of berry bushes or fruit trees as a family hobby and food source or a small cash crop. Wait no longer—with this remarkable fruit gardener's bible, one can find out exactly what and when to plant with this climate and soil conditions, be it in your own backyard or an open field.

Leonard Perry, a UVM Extension professor and frequent contributor to this and other newspapers with articles on gardening, has updated Lewis Hill's classic *Fruits and Berries for the Home Garden*. Hill, a legend among Vermont nurserymen for more than 35 years, also authored some 15 books on gardening.

Interestingly, readers will soon become aware that global warming has indeed reached Vermont, and that with warmer seasons it is now possible to grow semi-tropical fruits — something that was unheard of a few decades ago. You will be tempted to try growing some of these following fruits: hardy kiwi (a smaller fruit similar to their tropical cousins); maypops (a hardier version of the tropical passionflower whose fruit resembles guava); quinces (four different varieties); pluots and plumcots (a cross between apricots and plums); America and Oriental persimmons; mulberries; Chinese dates; and medlar (an odd-looking chestnut brown apple).

One may have noticed, too, that more Vermont orchards have home-grown peaches, even enough for pick-your-own. Until recently peach trees had a hard time surviving here because of extremely cold winters. Twenty different peach cultivars are recommended including some familiar ones like Elberta, J.H. Hale, Red Haven, and Peento, the flat or 'donut' peach.

For the gardener who wants to try unusual bush fruits, the authors recommend astringent chokeberries (which make a good jam), lingonberries (a substitute for cranberries), pineapple guava (a sub-tropical evergreen), and saskatoon whose fruit is a small pome, like an apple or pear.

If you drive around Vermont, you may have noticed a growing number of vineyards and wine makers. This is another indication of the state expanding its agricultural frontiers. Some 40 types of grapes are recommended,

including ones for eating or using fresh, called table grapes, and those used primarily for wines.

Some of our parents or grandparents will recall the days they would go 'nutting' on a fall day, heading into the woods to harvest chestnuts, walnuts or those challenging to-pick-out butternuts. Today, wild butternut trees are almost gone because a canker disease wiped out most of the native stands. Well, why not grow some nut trees yourself. But don't nut trees take years and years to mature and produce?

You'd be surprised to learn that many nut trees will start bearing in only four to five years. Only hickory trees which grow to 70-100 feet in height take 10 to 12 years before they start bearing. Almonds, black walnuts, butternuts, Chinese chestnuts, filberts and hazelnuts start bearing in four to seven years. Pecans take five to eight years.

Notwithstanding the expression, "as American as apple pie," the apple has been around since 8,000

B.C. With the apple season about to start, the authors have advice on what apples are best for that long-awaited home baked apple pie. Their choices are Braeburn, Cortland, Empire, Ginger Gold, Idared, Jonagold, Jonathan, Liberty and Northern Spy. Looking for the best cider (fresh or hardened)? Some cider-maker friends offer this formula: two or three parts each (by volume) of Liberty, Northern Spy, Ida Red, Cortland and McIntosh. For extra flavor, add at least one part each of Tolman, Greening, Empire, Jonagold and Russet. For your own touch add crab apples or heirlooms.

The Fruit Gardener's Bible also has comprehensive information for all small fruits like strawberries, raspberries, and blueberries as well as orchard fruits, such as apples, pears, plums, apricots and cherries. Backyard gardeners are shown how really easy it is to successfully grow organic fruit at home. This book covers absolutely everything you need to know, from choosing the best varieties to planting, pruning, protecting from wildlife, and harvesting a bountiful crop. Like the family bible, this book should be kept in the family and passed on to future gardeners!

The Fruit Gardener's Bible—A Complete Guide to Growing Fruits and Nuts in the Home Garden by Leonard Perry and Lewis Hill, published by Storey Publishing, is available at your bookseller for \$24.95. eBooks are available in popular digital formats. For more information visit www.storey.com.

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The Fruit Gardener's Bible

A Complete Guide to Growing Fruits and Nuts in the Home Garden



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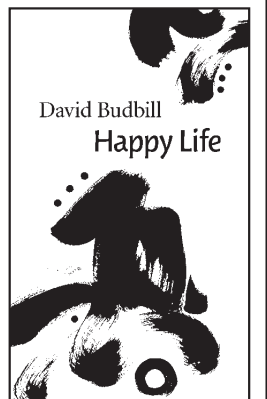
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Take in the views from the wraparound deck of this Lake Hortonia chalet in Sudbury. (Listing #127) photo by Cheryl Weseman

can barbecue on the patio, eating under the stars, and then enjoy an outdoor fire and marshmallow roast. Comfortable beds in three spacious bedrooms with king, king and twin, and queen + crib accommodations. Sleeps seven. Two baths. Of course, there are 150 TV channels, stereo, DVD, assorted games and high-speed Internet for those who must keep in touch. Stairs lead to an on-the-water deck with a 20' dock (bring your own boat if you like). Fishing is great, most of the time! There are many attractions in the area including Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream and the Cabot Cheese Factories, as well as a pastoral countryside for unsurpassed touring, and countless areas for shopping and antiques. Fine dining and casual restaurants, supermarkets, and hospital nearby. No smoking. Ask about pets. Contact Don Ross, (514) 697-2082. donh@videotron.ca. (Listing #403)

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Please bring a separate pair of soft-soled shoes for dancing.

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photo by Charles Sutton

Vicki Day and her daughter Josie harvesting black currants at Cherry Hill Farm in Springfield, VT.

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Native's Return

I like a small house by the road,
Not one set far back in
Behind dark trees, where all day long
It's quiet as a pin
That drops upon a cushion, or
Perhaps a rug-laid floor,
And where life seldom comes to rap
Upon the heavy door.
I like to sit beside the road
And watch the waving grass,
Where daisies and bright buttercups
Nod as the people pass,
And birds fly up and sway around

Upon a bending limb,
Singing a joyous snatch of song,
Or little, heartfelt hymn.
How much I pity people who
Have slowly aged, like me,
And yet must live where they must live,
Who cannot ever see
The lovely softness of the grass,
The trees, the lively birds—
A city life is, for the old,
Too pitiful for words.

—NELLIE S. RICHARDSON
Springfield, VT, 1944

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