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September  
2012

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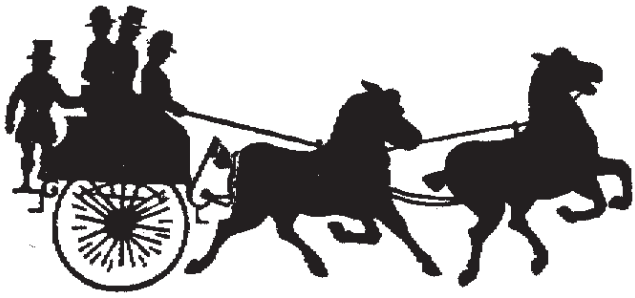
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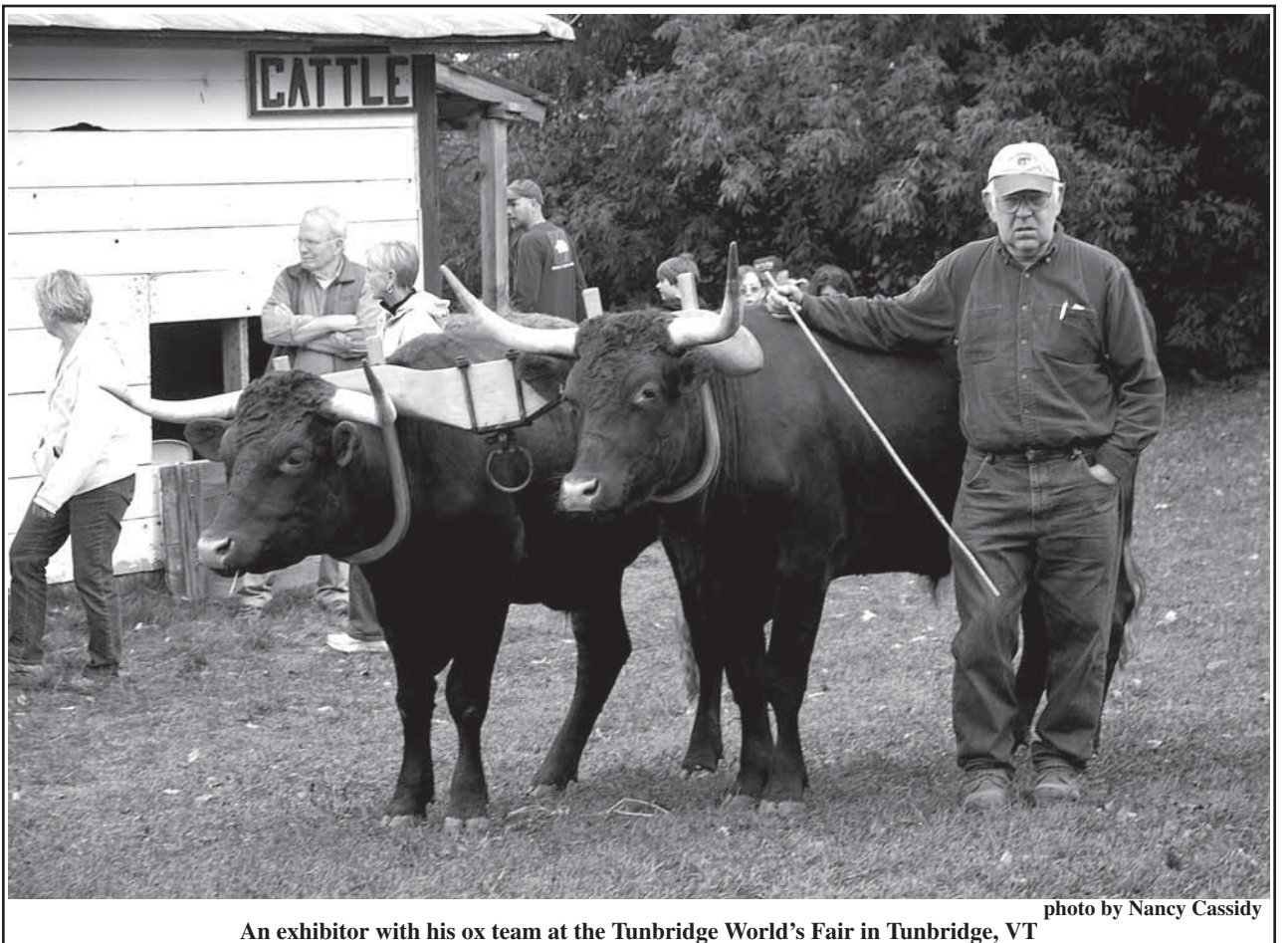
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An exhibitor with his ox team at the Tunbridge World's Fair in Tunbridge, VT

photo by Nancy Cassidy

## Athens Historic Preservation Society Hosts Historical Presentation and Pig Roast on September 16

On Sunday, September 16, 2012, the Athens Historic Preservation Society will be hosting an afternoon of history and food.

Starting at 2 p.m., join us at the Athens Brick Meeting House to learn more about black history in the state of Vermont and locally through the story of the Turner Family as told through the voice of Jessie Daisy Turner.

Eric Gilbertson of the Vermont Preservation Trust will be sharing insights on the early history of African Americans in Vermont, and Naima K. Wade, perfor-

mance artist and educator, will bring to life parts of the Daisy Turner story. Daisy Turner, born in 1883, was the daughter of Alexander Turner, a former slave who settled and developed a farmstead in Grafton VT. Daisy became known nationally as an oral historian, sharing the stories she heard from her father about his life as a slave and his journey to Grafton, VT where he created a successful hill farm and raising a family of 16 children with his wife Sally.

Following this presentation, we invite both history

enthusiasts and the general public to join us for a good old-fashioned pig roast with all the fixins' on the Meeting House lawn beginning at 4 p.m. with typical outdoor games and activities. The cost is \$15/plate; children 12 and under are \$10.

This event is being sponsored by the Athens Historic Preservation Society as part of an effort to raise awareness and community support for efforts to preserve and restore this gem of a historic building.

The Meetinghouse is historically significant to this region, particularly for the thirteen towns which formed a group for religious purposes including Athens, Grafton, Rockingham, Townshend, Londonderry, Weston, Chester, Acton, Springfield, Landgrove, Windham, Putney and Mt. Holly. These towns comprised the "Old Athens Circuit," through which circuit preachers traveled to perform religious

services. Quarterly meetings of members from all of these towns often lasted two days.

For years after regular religious services ceased at the Meetinghouse, the Meetinghouse was maintained by funds raised at summer events for speeches by various politicians and other notables.

The Athens Brick Meeting House will be open for tours after the history presentation.

Consider joining the Athens Historic Preservation Society. Your membership will assist us in conserving the Meetinghouse, other local historical information, and enable us to provide future cultural and historical programming.

*The Athens Brick Meeting House is on Rt. 30, Meeting House Rd., in Athens, VT.*

For more information about the day's event or the Athens Historic Preservation Society call Beth Ann at (802) 365-7740.

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## Vermont Country Sampler

September 2012, Vol. XXVIII

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Calendar of Events published free of charge. Mail your information to us by the 10th of the preceding month.

Advertising rates available upon request. Deadline the 10th of the preceding month.

Vermont Country Sampler

P.O. Box 226, Danby, VT 05739 • (802) 293-5752  
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# Music, Festivals, Fairs—Fall Family Fun in Vermont

## Plymouth Folk and Blues Concerts

*Plymouth Notch, September 1 and 2, 2-5 pm*

Musicians from across the country and throughout Vermont team up for a festival of folk and blues music performed in the pure country air of beautiful Plymouth Notch, the historic birthplace of the 30th U.S. President. Free admission; donations appreciated. [www.plymouthfolk.com](http://www.plymouthfolk.com), 802-672-3773.

## New World Festival at Chandler

*Randolph, VT • September 2*

This Festival celebrates the vitality of a small Vermont town and the Celtic and French Canadian heritage of northern New England through music and dance. At the center of the historic village are six continuous performance stages featuring music, storytelling, and dance. Children's activities, unique crafts and great food. Performances take place in all-weather tents, at the Bethany Church and at the Chandler Music Hall from noon to midnight. Adults \$37 (\$32 in advance), students \$11, children \$5. (802) 728-6464. [www.newworldfestival.com](http://www.newworldfestival.com).

## Southern VT Garlic and Herb Festival

*Bennington, VT • September 2-3*

Enjoy live music all weekend, kids' activities, everything garlic, and maybe even try to solve the popular hay maze! Over 100 vendors include garlic growers, food vendors and wonderful local restaurants featuring garlic ice cream, wood fired pizza, garlic pesto, herbal products, a signature garlic cocktail at the beer tent, organic honey, pickles and more. Adults \$5. Free parking. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Held at Camelot Village just west of town. (802) 447-3311. [www.bennington.com](http://www.bennington.com).

## South End Art Hop

*Burlington, VT • September 7-8*

Vermont's largest visual arts exhibition, featuring more than 500 artists exhibiting their work in over 100 Burlington businesses and studios. The event highlights the connection between culture and commerce. This is an inclusive, all-ages community event expressing the best of Burlington! Exhibits are free, Fashion Strut shows are \$12. Friday 5-10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (802) 859-9222. [www.seaba.com](http://www.seaba.com).

## Killington Hay Festival

*Killington, VT • Labor Day to Columbus Day*

A five-week free celebration of autumn in Vermont. The Festival showcases a collection of 40 giant hay animals (the "Grass Menagerie") on display at businesses throughout the town as well as a variety of daily and weekly events and activities. The event also includes an educational scavenger hunt around the 40 giant sculptures! (802) 422-2146. [www.discoverkillington.com](http://www.discoverkillington.com).

## The 141st Tunbridge World's Fair

*Tunbridge, VT • September 13-16*

Tucked away in a charming valley, the Tunbridge World's Fair is a blend of beautiful farm animals, competitive harvest and crafts exhibits, tractor pulling, free entertainment, an expanded midway and a superb Antique Museum with live re-enactors! See gymkhanas, horse shows, horse, pony & ox pulling, and heritage breeds shows. There will be ever-popular harness racing on Thursday, Sept. 13 at the grandstand at 2 p.m. and on Friday, Sept. 14 at noon. The Livestock Cavalcade takes place at the Grandstand on Saturday, Sept. 15 at 12:30 p.m. The Ed Larkin Contra Dancers will perform each day in the Entertainment Tent. Both the fairgrounds and the village of Tunbridge are a designated Historic District. Admission: Thursday \$8, Friday \$10, Saturday \$12, Sunday \$10, children under 12 years free every day. Fair is open Thursday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (800) 889-5555. [www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com](http://www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com).



Harness racing is a popular event at the Tunbridge World's Fair in Tunbridge, VT. photo by Nancy Cassidy

## Stowe Rotary's Oktoberfest

*Stowe, VT • September 28-30*

Don't miss this weekend celebration of the harvest and fall foliage. Events include a free Friday night "Rocktoberfest" kick-off concert, a Saturday morning grand parade, and two days of oompah bands, authentic Bavarian food, Vermont microbrew beer, and lots of singing and dancing! With silent auctions, raffles, a "bouncy-haus" and other games for kids, there is something for everyone, young and old, to enjoy. Friday 7-11 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (802) 253-4788. [www.stowerotary.com](http://www.stowerotary.com).

## Vermont Fine Furniture & Woodworking Festival

*Union Arena, Rt. 4, Woodstock, VT • September 29-30*

Add life to your home or office with the warmth of wood. Watch traditional woodworking demonstrations, purchase products, and see why Vermont woodworkers are some of the best. Entries from the Vermont Woodworking Design Competition will be on display. Explore the forest at the Forest Festival at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park. Local food, live music, kids' activities and more! Bring home your piece of Vermont! Adults \$10. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (802) 747-7900. [www.vermontwoodfestival.org](http://www.vermontwoodfestival.org).

## Northern Decadence Vermont

*Burlington, VT • September 21-22*

A great celebration of Vermont's diversity and culinary tourism, the weekend includes a culinary cruise on Lake Champlain, a food, art and travel expo, and a dance party that shouldn't be missed! Produced by the Vermont Gay Tourism Association, this event promotes Vermont's natural beauty, farm-to-table culture and welcoming attitude to GLBT travelers, groups and families. See website for admission fees. Friday cruise from 9 p.m. to midnight, Saturday food expo 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a dance at 9 p.m. (802) 244-6828. [www.northerndecadence.com](http://www.northerndecadence.com).

## Dummerston Congregational Church Famous Apple Pie Festival

*Dummerston, VT • October 7*

Come see Vermont at its best. There will be 1500 pies sold whole or by the piece, baked from local apples, made in the historic Dummerston Congregational Church, homemade ice cream, fresh donuts, Grafton cheddar cheese, hot and cold cider, and Green Mountain Coffee. Worship at 9 a.m. in the church surrounded by all the pies. Fire Department provides breakfast. Lunch at the Grange. 10 a.m. till all sold out. (802) 257-0544.



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# A Vermont Almanack for Early Autumn 2012

by Bill Felker

As we lay awake long before daybreak, listening to the rippling of the river and the rustling of the leaves...we already suspected that there was a change in the weather, from a freshness as of autumn in these sounds. That night was the turning-point of the season. We had gone to bed in summer, and we awoke in autumn; for summer passes into autumn in some unimaginable point of time, like the turning of a leaf.

—Henry David Thoreau

The Hickory Horned Devil Moon and the Cobweb Moon The sun reaches almost halfway to winter solstice by the time the Hickory Horned Devil Moon (named for the giant caterpillar of the Regal Moth that prowls the woods in Late Summer and Early Fall) changes to the Cobweb Moon. Even if the weather is hot, the spiders realize that the end of their hunting season will soon be coming to a close. Spurred by the shortening days, they spin their webs more and more throughout the woods. On woodland paths, these webs often seem to catch more hikers than insects.

**August 31:** The Hickory Horned Devil Moon is full at 8:58 a.m. (the only "Blue Moon" of 2012. **September 8:** The moon enters its final quarter at 8:15 a.m. **September 15:** The Cobweb Moon is new at 9:11 p.m. **September 22:** The moon enters its second quarter at 2:41 p.m. **September 29:** The moon is full at 10:19 p.m.

## Lunar Influence

Tidal and lunar influences have been shown to be greater at full moon and new moon times. You might expect more trouble with your flock, herd, spouse, parents or children, therefore, on or about September 15 and 29. 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 talk to your family, make hard decisions, transport your animals, or perform routine maintenance on your livestock on or about September 8 and 22.

## The Planets

Venus keeps moving retrograde, coming into Cancer during September and into Libra during October, rising several hours before sunup and moving far up into the eastern sky by dawn. Mars, backpedaling into Scorpio, continues to shine as the red star of evening in the west. Jupiter in Taurus is visible in the east by midnight, overhead when Venus dominates the eastern horizon. Saturn in Virgo lingers for a while along the western horizon after sunset.

## The Sun

From a declination of 8 degrees and 14 minutes on September 1, the sun continues to move toward fall at a little more than one degree every three days until it reaches equinox at 9:49 a.m. on September 22. The sun enters Libra at the same

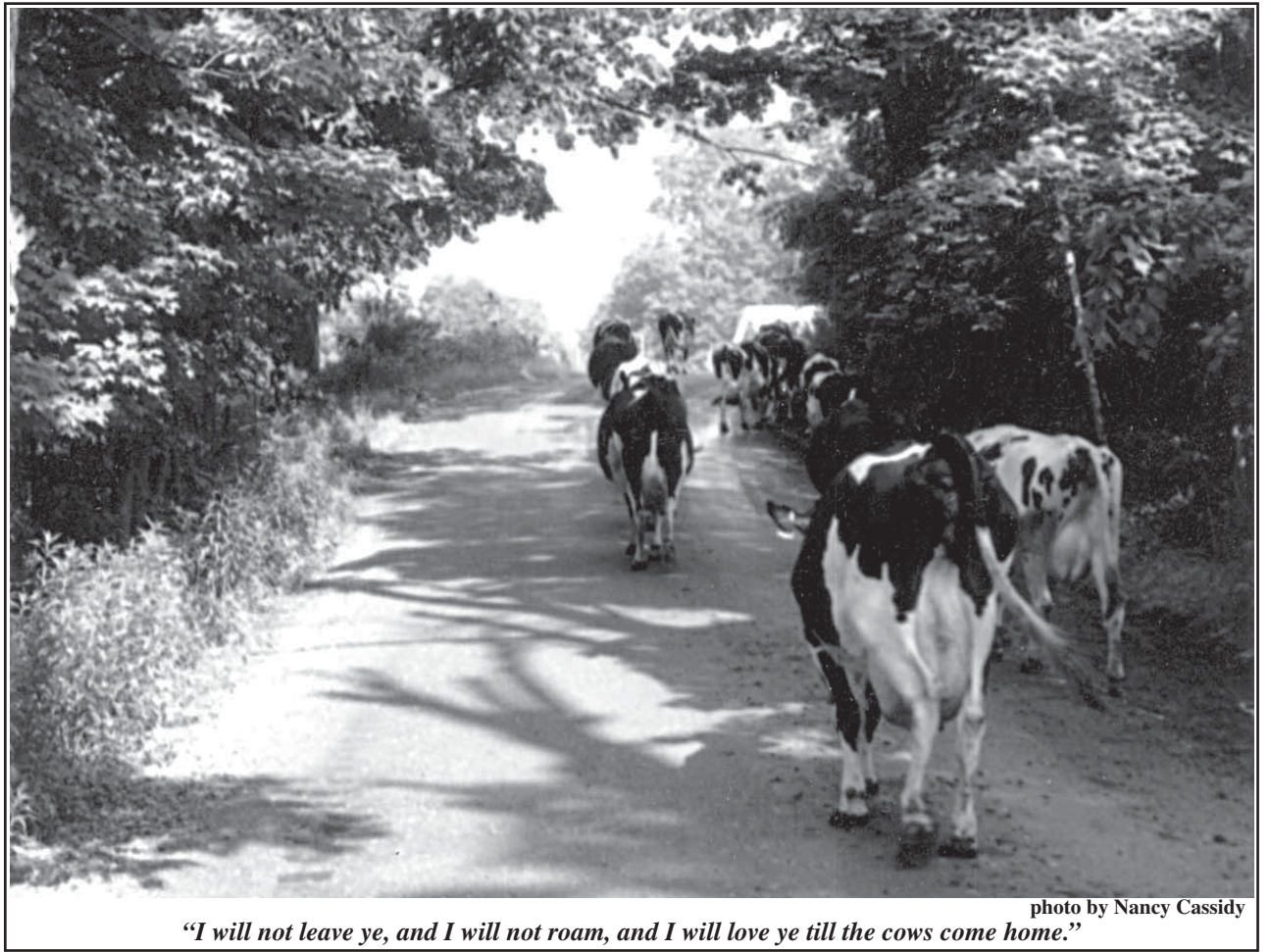


photo by Nancy Cassidy

"I will not leave ye, and I will not roam, and I will love ye till the cows come home."

moment. Within several days of that moment, the night is about 12 hours long, two hours shorter than the length that starts to stimulate estrus in many ewes.

## The Stars

Early mornings of September bring Orion into the middle of the southern sky. As your sheep and goats come into estrus throughout the all, the Dog Star will be moving in from the east, and bright Regulus will be following Cancer behind Gemini in the middle of the heavens. In the far west, the Great Square will be setting, and the points of the Big Dipper will be pointing east-west. When Orion sets before dawn, all the ewes and does should be nurturing their young, and when the Summer Triangle comes up before sunrise, lambing and kidding time will be underway. The Piscid meteors fall through Pisces, in the southern sky, on the night of September 21. The Alpha Aurigid meteors pass through between August 28 and September 5.

## Weather Trends

Weather history suggests that cold waves usually cross the Mississippi River on or about the following dates: September 2, 8, 12, 15, 20, 24 and 29. Storms can occur prior to the passage of each major front. The period between the 19th through the 25th of September historically brings an increased chance for dangerous weather. Full moon on August 31 and September 29, and new moon on September 15 increase the likelihood of a hurricane coming ashore along the East Coast or a strong frost-bearing cold wave to reach Vermont around those dates.

## The Seasons of Early Fall

**Week One:** The first week of September is the week that the last tier of wildflowers comes into bloom, creating Aster Season, Beggartick Season, Burr Marigold Season, Tall Goldenrod and Zigzag Goldenrod Seasons, Jerusalem Artichoke Season and Japanese Knotweed Season. Along the roadsides, it is Elderberry and Wild Grape Picking Season. In the orchards, early September marks the close of Summer Apple Season and the entry of Fall Apple Season.

**Week Two:** As Ragweed Season disappears, Red Berry

Season begins for silver olive shrubs, Orange Berry Season for the American mountain ash, and Purple Berry Season for the pokeweed. Now the High Season of Blackbird Abundance coincides with the end of Dove Calling Season. And this week ushers in the Season of Early Fall, which lasts until Peak Maple Color Season and the Season of Middle Fall.

**Week Three:** The third week of September brings the conclusion of Wildflower Season, as all of the major late-blooming plants gradually close their flowering cycle for the year. Light Frost Season gathers momentum, the chances for a light freeze by this time in the year approaching 50 percent. Katydid Season weakens in the cool nights, and Black Walnut, Buckeye, Cottonwood and Serviceberry Leaf-fall Seasons are ending in town just as Winter Wheat and Barley Planting Seasons commence on the farm.

**Week Four:** Milkweed Pod Bursting Season reveals the passage of equinox. Insect Season slowly winds down now, and Bird Migration Season tapers off as insect numbers decline and spiders weave fewer webs. Across the countryside, Ashturn and Hickoryturn Seasons turn the ashes and hickories gold. Red Barberry Season spreads through the barberries, and Box Elder Leaf-fall Season deepens. Finally, the Season of Killing Frosts (which lasts through the middle of May) completes September.

## Autumn Geese

The local geese are becoming restless again. I heard their first late summer flights over July 25th this year. Some years they begin earlier: July 6th in 1986, July 20th in 1990. Some years I hear them later: July 30th in 1984, July 31st in 1992, August 11th in 1991.

The geese fly over most often in October and November, continue only slightly less frequently through the winter. Beginning in late February, they find their nesting sites and settle down through spring and early summer to have and raise their young. Rarely does a pair or flock leave the water to fly over in May and June. In July or August, their movements start again.

My informal notes on the geese tell me less about the habits of local wildlife than about myself. Like the coming of fall, the restless flights above my house make me uneasy, and remind me of things I've put aside. They remind me of the way I used to be, of the ways I wanted to be or might have been. Their calls are like the changes in the color of the leaves, and they excite a primitive autumn conscience in me that says I shouldn't really stay here in this place, that there's too much left unfinished and too much of the world still unexplored.

That conscience suggests I ought to be moving on, no matter how happy in the moment I may be. It reminds me I'm younger than I think, and that passions sometimes grow rather than break down with time. It transcends social contracts, is the voice of the deepest self that has to return alone to its source and follow what Wisconsin author August Derleth called the "dark laws," the true north of the soul.

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# Corn, Corn, Corn

by Burr Morse

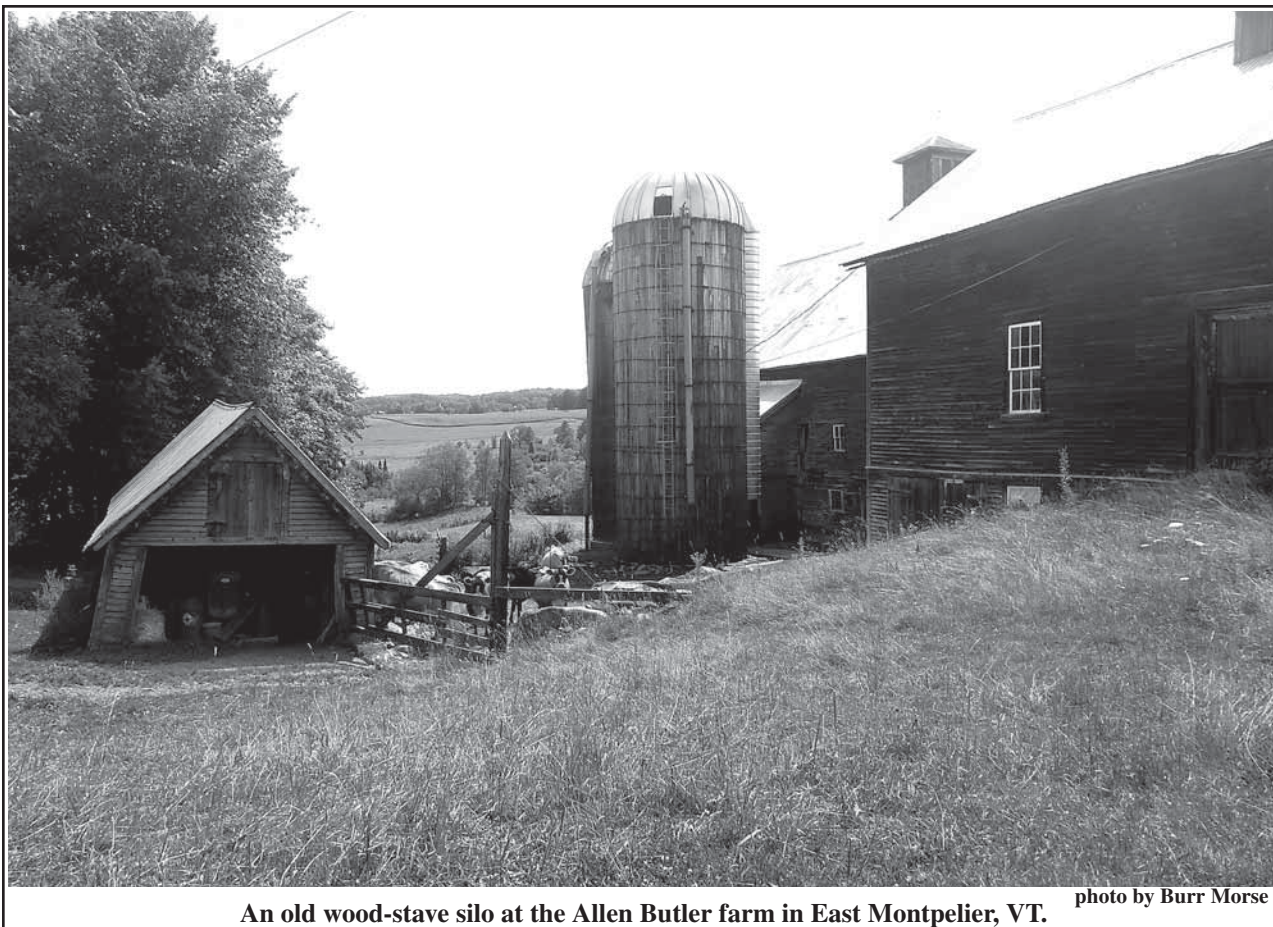
Corn, corn everywhere and not a kernel to eat. That's the way it is here in Vermont this time of year when all the gardens have gone the way of Jack Frost and what's left are only fields of peaked-looking corn stalks saved for the cows. Yup, that's the way cows like their corn, frost-hardened, kernel-dented, and chopped into little tiny pieces. In Vermont, farmers don't pick, harvest, glean, or gather their corn... they chop it. Although corn chopping brings nostalgia as big as silos, it's a wonder that anyone ever survived a single season; the history of chopping corn is rife with man-eating machinery and careless ways.

Our Allis Chalmers chopper was connected to an Allis D-17 tractor via a long hitch pole and a brutal power take off shaft. The chopper, resembling a pumpkin-orange Brontosaurus creeping through the cornfield, was followed by our black '48 Ford farm truck with high sides. The person driving the D-17, usually my father, had to somehow "zero" the thing in on a single corn row while using the proper gearing and engine speed. For the duration of chopping season, he needed the pivotal dexterity of a hoot owl; it was essential to keep his eyes on both the chopper's thousand moving parts and the corn rows ahead. The Ford had a jumpy clutch, a grinding transmission, and a flathead V-8 engine that stalled at the drop of a hat. The Ford's driver, constantly blinded by a "sand storm" of corn silage, had to "match bumpers" with the chopper at 5 mph through mudholes and sidehills. That old Ford had more idiosyncrasies than the corn field had stalks; a person who could successfully drive it deserved the unofficial title of "master of anything on wheels".

There wasn't a lot of danger out in the corn field except for the constant temptation to jump in the chopper's opening out of sheer frustration built up from all the breakdowns and plug ups! The real danger came back at the silo with the unloading. It was usually a quagmire out there since "Murphy's" design for chopping season was most always torrential rain. Our silo, an old wood-stave Unadilla, was thirty feet high. It was fed by a ten inch steel pipe which went from the extremely "unforgiving" blower to an opening in the silo's dome. The blower was powered by a slapping leather belt which was spun at frightening RPMs by the pulley of an ancient farm tractor. The most dangerous part of the blower, however, was a long trough with an endless chain conveyor. The conveyor had paddles which were designed to convey corn silage, or anything else that might fall in the trough, into the blower.

When the Ford truck was full, we'd drive it to the silo area and ram it backwards, through the mud, to where it would empty into the trough. It had a dump body and after we unlatched the tailgate, we raised the body to an angle that would allow gravity to help with removing the silage but not let the whole load spill out all at once. Then we started the blower tractor and "threw her into gear". One of us climbed into the silo to level the blown silage; the other stayed outside to pull the stuff steadily from the truck with an implement fashioned from a long iron pipe and a potato digger.

To this day, I have nightmares thinking of that moving



An old wood-stave silo at the Allen Butler farm in East Montpelier, VT.

photo by Burr Morse

conveyor; one misstep and the guy unloading the truck would have been drawn right into the blower's gaping maw. My brother, Elliott, said one time the blower "swallowed itself". He was up high in the silo doing the leveling and all of a sudden there was a deafening clatter.

"I scrambled to the edge of the silo and stood there with my back pasted to the wall. Shrapnel was sprayin' all around me and all I could do was pray that none of it would hit me!" he said.

It must have started with the conveyor chain breaking and being "sucked" into the blower and up the pipe; it ended with a total voiding of the blower's bowels until there was enough spare parts mixed in with the silage to repair a battleship. Luckily Elliott escaped injury that day but said he and Dad spent several days separating metal from cattle feed and somehow toggling that blower back into working order.

To this day I'm still full of nostalgia about chopping corn. I loved the fermented smell of the puckery ooze that seeped from the silo's bottom. I loved driving that old Ford bumper to bumper with the chopper, guided by "by-guess-and-by-gory" through a tiny hole in its corn coated windshield. I loved the feel of blown silage against my face, danger be damned. We no longer chop corn at Morse Farm so it's a clear-cut case for nostalgia. We do, however, "flaunt" foliage season to the thousands of tourists who come here. I love the crispness of autumn and the beauty that surrounds us; it's almost nature at its absolute perfection. Like an expensive steak, however, there's always room for a little seasoning and from my point

of view, autumn is only perfectly "seasoned" when you have a field of corn to chop.

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Til past ten o'clock!

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With a shovel and a spoon,  
She weeds her lazy lettuce  
By the light of the moon,

She walks up the walk  
Like a woman in a dream,  
She forgets she borrowed butter  
Any pays you back in cream!

Her lawn looks like a meadow,  
And if she mows the place  
She leaves the clover standing  
And the Queen Anne's lace!

—EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY

## UVM Extension Master Composter Course This Fall

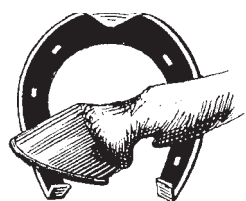
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For just \$40, you can take an exceptional course offered by Vermont Master Composter. The fee includes the course plus an extensive "Vermont Master Composter Resource Manual." This course is designed to increase composting and extend composting information to the public. It is held on four Thursday evenings, October

18th through November 8th from 6-9 p.m. Register by October 5th. Classes are held at Vermont Interactive Television sites at: Bennington, Brattleboro, Montpelier, Johnson, Lyndon, Middlebury, Newport, Randolph Center, Rutland, Springfield, St. Albans, White River Jct. and Williston.

This program is managed by UVM Extension Master Gardener with funding from Vermont ANR Compost Center.

To register: phone (802) 656-9562 or download a registration form at: [www.uvm.edu/mastergardener](http://www.uvm.edu/mastergardener).



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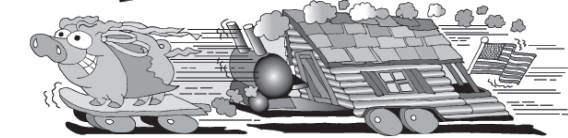
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# Puppets Come to The Dollhouse And Toy Museum of Vermont

Punch and Judy—Howdy Doody—Roland and Pinocchio. A lively and engaging new exhibit at the Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont in Bennington features a large assortment of puppets and marionettes, old and new, and several puppet theaters as well.

From the Middle Ages right through the early days of television, puppets were a popular form of entertainment in many parts of the world. Hand puppets were used in Britain for Punch and Judy shows. Marionettes (puppets on strings) dressed as warrior knights were used in Sicily to depict scenes from the "Song of Roland," the epic tale of the knight who died while protecting his French king, Charlemagne, from Saracens in a battle fought in 778. Shadow pup-

pets, many featuring tigers and women dancers, were popular in Indonesia.

A wooden dummy, Charlie McCarthy, sat on the lap of ventriloquist Edgar Bergen as part of Bergen's vaudeville routines from the 1930s through the 1950s.

One of the most popular of the early television shows in the 1950s was "The Howdy Doody Show," which was performed live in a New York television studio. "Howdy Doody," who usually was dressed as a cowboy, was a red-headed freckle-faced marionette with 11 strings and 48 freckles, one for each of the 48 states that made up the union when the program began. The name was taken from the saying "Howdy-doody" or "Howdy-do," which were slang versions of the common greeting

"How do you do?" Examples of all of these different kinds of puppets are part of the exhibit, which will be at the museum through the fall.

The best known puppet shows in the English-speaking world were the Punch and Judy shows that became popular in Victorian England. In fact, however, they dated back to 16th century Naples, where Punch's wife originally was called "Joan". The stick Punch used to beat his wife and other puppet characters was called a "slapstick," which has become a term to describe a heavy-handed and unsophisticated form of comedy.

Along with Punch and Judy, the exhibit includes marionettes of Little Red Riding Hood and the wolf; Pinocchio, the puppet who became a boy and whose nose grew when he told a lie; a flying witch on a broom; and a Mexican bandit. There are "wayang golek" rod puppets from Java, hand puppets of circus animals, a finger puppet depicting Rasputin, the infamous Russian monk, and hand puppets of Rodolfo and Mimi from the opera *La Boheme*. Two of the more modern puppets, dating back to the 1970s, are hand puppets representing former President Richard Nixon



photo courtesy of Dollhouse and Toy Museum  
Jackie Marro with a Nixon puppet at the Dollhouse and Toy Museum in Bennington, VT.

and former Vice President Spiro Agnew, both of whom had to resign their offices because of the political scandals known as Watergate.

The permanent exhibit at the museum includes many different styles of dollhouses—including a Tudor cottage, an urban townhouse, a Victorian mansion, and an 18th Century Cape Cod—all of them fully furnished, as well as a large collection of vintage dolls, including many of the Madam Alexander movie star dolls and international dolls. Tedi Petrelis has loaned her collection of Black dolls. And Arlene Saunders collection of many dolls, baby bottles, and baby cards is available to view.

There is a collection of vintage toys for boys, including old trains, planes, trucks, cars, cap pistols, and Jack Thurber's train collection. A Museum Shop offers

dollhouse furniture, dolls with tea sets, paper dolls, and dollhouse kits.

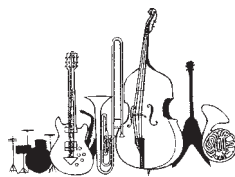
*The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont is located at 212 Union Street, at the corner of Union and Valentine, in Bennington, VT. The museum is in an 1860s Victorian house that looks like a doll house.*

*Museum hours are Saturdays and Sundays from 11-4 p.m. and every day of Christmas week from 1-4 p.m.*

*Admission is \$2 for children three and older, \$4 for adults and \$10 for families.*

*For more information about the museum please visit the web site at [www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com](http://www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com).*

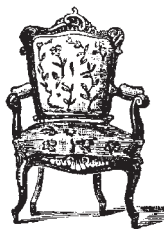
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## A Fall Swim

by Charles Sutton

For most families Labor Day weekend marks the end of summer—children go back to school, seasonal activities like swimming are over, and the fall fairs have started.

But wait, really why give up swimming so soon? By now the water temperatures are just right, days can be balmy and warm, and you should have the swimming places almost all to your own.

Ours was a family of swimmers; the best swimmer being Father who had been on the college swimming team. Mother in her old-fashioned full body swim suit and bathing cap would splash around and seem to enjoy it. My brother Fred, the naturalist, would explore the waters with his snorkel wherever we were. Even I, a mediocre swimmer at best, enjoyed the whole ambience, especially the picnic and foods included in an outing to the beach, river or lake.

At age three I got rolled by a two-foot wave, and remember not liking getting a mouthful of salty sandy water. This early experience never frightened me, but I was always careful of big waves, the possible undertow, and the way they seem to come in cycles with every ninth wave a big one. Dive under that!

When I went swimming in the fall the beach was almost all mine. People dressed in sweaters and jackets walking the beach would stare at me and probably think: what kind of a fool or diehard that swimmer was—perhaps in training for a Polar Bear Club winter dip on New Years Day that was always featured in newspapers and on television. Little did they know that the water was really so crystal clear and warm—just perfect for staying in a long time. Fall swimming also meant you often were joined with an array of brightly-colored fall leaves that had blown onto the water.

What about swimming in the frigid ocean waters of Maine? For water that was better suited for lobsters than people, that took a daredevil courage. But in the fall when northeasterly storms journeyed along on coast on their trip Down East, the warmer waters of the Gulf Stream would be pushed toward the shores, and for a few extraordinary days, the ocean was bearable and swimmable.

Cold water swimming for me (or a really quick dip) came later in life when we were living in a north country cottage on a lake. The family dared me to go swimming every day without fail as far as possible into the fall or even into winter. Being in my mid-forties and at an age when one still thinks he has to prove himself, especially in front of the wife and



Boating and fishing on Lowell Lake in Londonderry, VT, 1899. photo by Everett M. Vaile

kids, I took up the challenge. It was easy at first. Our cottage had a wood furnace in the basement, only a few feet from the lake. So first there was the warm-up, putting logs into the furnace, so I could come there after the cold swim to warm up. Quite often the three children would stare from the screened-in porch at the crazy man going into the icy waters—not for them!

Skim ice covered the lake's shore on a final day in November when I was forced to end the challenge. Bare feet shattered the ice before the final plunge. A complete immersion from head to toe had to take place, a challenge rule, even if it was a quick in-and-out of the water. The feat might have "hardened" me off for the winter, but frankly the daily swim at that time of year never was much fun.

The lake however had a surprising "thank-you" for me. Shortly after the last swim, I was watching the lake one chilly morning when suddenly there was a widespread agitation on the water's surface, making a noise like tissue paper or aluminum foil being crinkled together. Then within seconds

the cove froze over solid, capped with a layer of ice. Now visitors would have to be skaters or ice fishermen. Wildlife, too, would crisscross the frozen expanse all winter.

Swimmers would come again after the ice-out the next April or May. I awaited my turn too, but forever with a special gratitude for the privilege of seeing and hearing the lake making its annual icy shield. What an intriguing and beautiful sight!

## THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER IN VERMONT

Now the year begins to slope  
Towards the chilly season;  
Autumn pokes his bald head up,  
Summer hollers "Treason?"  
I don't know and never shall  
Jest the solar reason.

My! the nights are cooling off  
Faster than they oughter;  
Makes you think the cowbarn wall  
Needs some dabs of mortar;  
Makes the wimmen realize  
Dresses can't be shorter.

Fair ground folks are in a stew  
Over Fair Week weather;  
Butnut thieves are hoping God  
Gives them strength to gather;  
Soon a dollar's worth of shot  
Buys a partridge feather.

Sunny Chipmunk has the corn  
That you want for dinner;  
Prize-pig boys are teasing dad  
How to grow a winner;

Second wives at last perceive  
Stockings can't be thinner.

Sweet preserving odors float  
From the kitchen quarter;  
Ain't you glad you've got a farm  
And a stay-home daughter;  
Ain't you glad you ain't a doc,  
A lawyer or exhorter!

Old Jack Frost is on the move,  
Three more months to "Santy;"  
Five before them heavenly smelt  
From the fishing shanty:  
Joyful days—when wife won't dress  
Quite so stunning scanty.

—DANIEL L. CADY

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## Harvesting and Storing Fall Fruits

by Dr. Leonard Perry,  
Extension Professor, University of Vermont

Harvesting fall fruits at the correct stage, and storing them properly, will result in their longest life and usefulness, often for months.

If you find a grower with fall raspberries, or like me grow your own, these are a special treat this time of year. As with the summer raspberries, pick when they easily pull off from the central "core or stem, refrigerate soon if you don't eat them first. Make sure to wash well, checking for insects that may be enjoying a fall snack as well. They won't keep long, so eat or use in a few days, or freeze them. Rinse well, spread on paper towels or cookie sheets in a freezer, then place loosely into freezer containers. If you place into containers and then freeze the berries, they tend to freeze into one large mass.

### Grapes

Don't rely on color alone when deciding when grapes are ripe and ready to pick. Growers actually measure sugar content ("brix") to determine when to pick. You can do this simply by tasting. Ripe grapes are sweet (particularly if table grapes), many have a whitish "bloom" coating, seeds are brown, and clusters separate easily from vines. Birds eating your fruit also are a clue that fruit are ripe! You can pick grapes slightly unripe or "green" if you will use them for jelly, or if they won't ripen further. This occurs if the average temperatures drop below 50°F, and frost has killed the vines.

Grapes store best if picked dry, and if the whitish bloom isn't rubbed off. Pick whole clusters rather than individual grapes, leaving the stems intact. Harvested this way they'll store for several weeks in a refrigerator.

### Plums and pears

Many tree fruits ripen in the north in early fall. Fruit should separate from branches easily, with a slight upward twist. Resist the temptation to squeeze and poke fruit with fingernails. For European plums, such as the late 'Stanley' or 'Damson', pick when they are fully colored and covered



Crisp ripe Vermont apples ready for the picking.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

with a white, powdery bloom similar to grapes. They'll store for a few weeks in a refrigerator.

If you grow some of the hardy European pears, such as 'Flemish Beauty', 'Luscious', 'Parker' or 'Patten', pick fruit early. Unlike most tree fruits, don't let these ripen on the tree, otherwise they'll become gritty and begin to rot inside the fruit. Use a gentle, upward twist when picking, and leave stems on the fruit. Wrap them in tissue paper or newspaper, and store cool (35 to 45 degrees F) for a week or more, until ready to eat. For best flavor, leave them at room temperature for a few days before using or eating.

### Peaches

If you're lucky to have a warm enough area to grow peaches, such as the hardier 'Redhaven' or 'Reliance', they're best ripened on the tree prior to picking. Ripe peaches and the related nectarines (basically a non-fuzzy peach) are fully colored when ripe and somewhat soft. For this reason pick and handle with care, as they easily bruise. Apricots—ripe when still firm but a blush color—are a bit firmer, but still handle with care. These will store generally for 5 to 6 days if cool, or 3 to 4 days if at room temperature. Wait to wash them until you're ready to use.

### Apples

Apples are probably the most popular tree fruit, with many cultivars (cultivated varieties) ripening at various times. Some, such as 'Baldwin', 'Cortland', 'McIntosh', and 'Northern Spy' ripen over a fairly short season. Others, such as the heirlooms 'Gravenstein', 'Jonathon', and 'Winesap' ripen and are harvested over a longer period. If you plan to store apples, use them for cooking, or just need to beat local wildlife to them, pick unripe.

Apples are fully ripe when they've turned the appropriate color. Ripe apples separate from the tree easily. Just make sure when picking not to damage any of the short stems called "spurs" that will produce next year's fruit. If in doubt about ripeness, cut an apple open and look at the flesh and seeds. The flesh of ripe apples is less green, more white, in general. Seeds of ripe apples have turned brown. The best indicator, though, is taste. A ripe apple is crisp, juicy, and sweet (although, of course, the particular flavor will vary with cultivar).

Wash apples and store cool soon after picking, unless you want to ripen them at room temperature or are going to use them. They should last 4 to 6 weeks in a refrigerator. Later cultivars generally store longer than earlier ones. Mid-season ones such as 'Cortland' and 'McIntosh' will last up to 4 months while later ones, such as the heirlooms 'Rome' and 'Winesap', often last 5 months or more. Best conditions to store apples are cool (40 degrees F or below but not freezing), with high humidity.

Make sure to store fruits away from vegetables, if possible. Apples can pick up a musty flavor from nearby potatoes. Both apples and pears can pick up strong odors from nearby cabbages, turnips, and onions. Keep apples away from other fruits too. They give off ethylene gas which can cause other fruits to ripen more quickly.

More tips on picking, storing, as well as using these and other fruits, can be found in the *Fruit Gardener's Bible* by Lewis Hill and Leonard Perry (Storey Publishing).

You can contact Leonard Perry at the Dept. of Plant and Soil Sciences, Jeffords Hall, 63 Carrigan Dr., University of Vermont, Burlington VT 05405. (802) 656-0479. Have you visited Perry's Perennial Pages lately? Go to: [perrysperennials.info](http://perrysperennials.info).

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# Blue Skies, Colorful Days And Crisp Ripe Apples!

To taste the fruit of yon celestial tree...

—William Shakespeare

This recipe collection is from The Encyclopedia of Practical Horticulture published in 1914 in North Yakima, Washington. Quoting associate editor Wm. Worthington, "A very complete department of recipes for cooking, preserving and serving the various fruits and vegetables is given". The collection was edited by Miss Alice M. Hodge, Stout Institute, Menominee, Wisconsin. These recipes offer a glimpse into the kitchen of 100 years ago and are still worthy of trying today.

## SHAKER APPLE PIE

Pare, core, and cut into eighths sour apples and put into a lower crust; add a half a pint of seeded raisins. Put on the upper crust being careful to not let it stick to the lower crust. Bake in a slow oven until the apples are thoroughly cooked and the crust is nicely browned. This will require about forty minutes. While the pie is hot take off the top crust and lay it aside, then with a wooden or silver knife stir the apples and remove any hard pieces that may be left. Add sugar, nutmeg, and a small piece of butter and replace the top crust.

## APPLE CUSTARD PIE

Heat a pint of milk steaming hot and pour it into a mixture of three eggs slightly beaten, three heaping tablespoons of sugar, a pinch of salt, and a very little nutmeg or lemon. Grate one cup of apple using mellow slightly tart fruit; add to the milk mixture and bake in a very moderate oven without an upper crust. If the pie is baked too quickly the apple will separate from the milk.

## APPLE PAN PUDDING

Add sufficient milk to a pint of flour to make a stiff dough; knead for fifteen minutes. Cut into four pieces; roll each piece in a thin sheet about one-sixteenth of an inch thick and the size of an ordinary roasting pan. Grease the pan with melted suet. Mix one-fourth pound of almonds blanched and chopped fine, one cup of chopped raisins, one-half pound of chopped apples, and one cup of brown sugar. Put a layer of this mixture on the paste and cover with another layer of paste. Brush with suet and continue until all the sheets of paste are used. Brush over with suet and sprinkle with sugar; bake in a quick oven for three-quarters of an hour.

## INDIAN PUDDING WITH APPLES

Scald two quarts of sweet milk. Stir in a cup of corn-meal. Stir until the mixture thickens. Remove from the fire. Add one and one-sixth cups of molasses, one teaspoon of salt, one-half teaspoon each of nutmeg and cinnamon, and two cups of sweet apples pared, cored, and quartered. Pour into a deep pudding dish and bake for four hours. When the pudding has baked for one and one-half hours, add without stirring one pint of cold milk. Serve with cream and sugar or syrup.

## APPLE CAKE

Stew 3 apples and let cool; take one-half cup of butter, 1 cup of sugar, 2 eggs, 1 tablespoonful soda, 1 cup of sour milk, 4 cups of flour, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg; then 2 cups of apple sauce, 2 cups of molasses; bake in moderate oven; when done spread with whipped cream.

## CLARIFIED APPLES

Make a syrup of 2 cups of sugar and 1 cup of water. Pare, core, and cut into sixths 6 large tart apples. Cook a few at a time in the syrup until clear remove and drain; add the rind and juice of one half lemon to the syrup boil until thick; remove the lemon rind and put over the apples.

## CODDLED APPLES

Take tart ripe apples of uniform size and remove the cores. Place the fruit in the bottom of a porcelain kettle; spread thickly with sugar; cover the bottom of the kettle with water and allow the apples to simmer until tender. Pour the syrup over the apples and serve cold.

## APPLE CONSERVE

For each pound of quartered and pared apples, allow three quarters of a pound of sugar and half a pint of water. Boil sugar and water until a rich syrup is formed; add the apples and simmer until clear. Take up carefully, lay on plates and dry in the sun. Roll in sugar and pack in tin boxes lined with waxed paper.

## APPLE FRITTERS

One cup of sweet milk, one egg, one teaspoon of baking powder, one-fourth teaspoon of salt, one half cup of chopped apples; flour to make a batter stiff enough to drop heavily from the spoon. Fry in deep fat.



photo by Nancy Cassidy

Three children dressed from times gone by on Antique Hill at the Tunbridge World's Fair.

## APPLE BROWN BETTY

Pare and chop six apples. Place a layer of apple in a well-buttered pudding dish, then a layer of bread crumbs; sprinkle with brown sugar and cinnamon; repeat until the dish is full; add several generous lumps of butter and pour sweet milk or hot water on until it comes within an inch of the top of the pan. Bake in a moderate oven until brown and serve with plain or whipped cream.

## TO DRY APPLES

Select sound fruit that has matured. Pare, core, and quarter and slice lengthwise. String and dry near the fire or spread on frames covered with muslin or netting and let dry in the sun. If the winter apples are not keeping well it is a good plan to dry them to prevent waste. Although some people object to dried apples, they can be made very palatable with a little care.

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**Shoreham, VT**

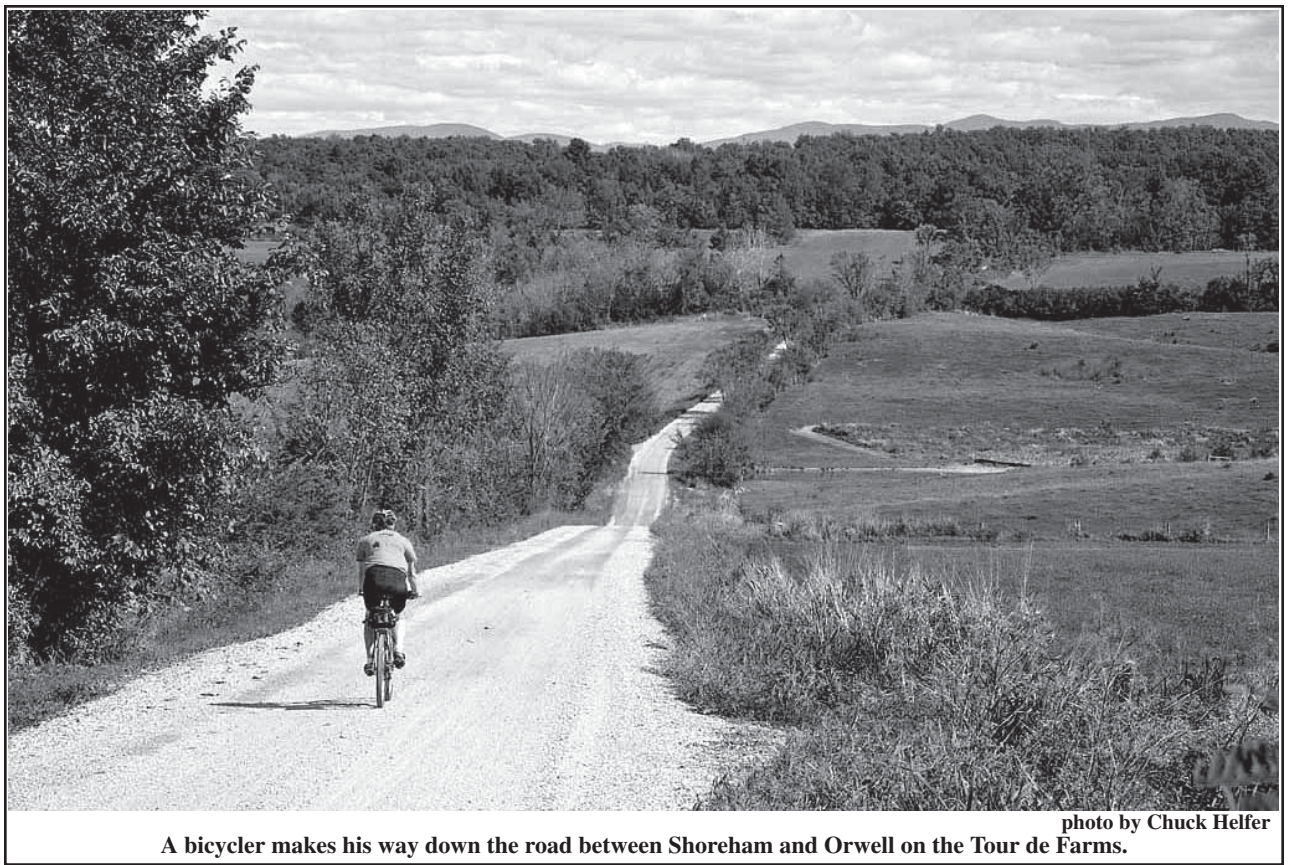
**5th Annual Tour de Farms  
Great Food, Fun and Bicycling!**

Fantastic foods, amazing bicycling, and spectacular scenery are in store for all those who participate in the 5th Annual Tour de Farms! Scheduled for Sunday, September 16 in Shoreham, VT, the Tour de Farms offers three loop rides (approx. 10, 25 and 30 miles) and a family-friendly five-mile walking or biking option. At frequent designated stops, family farmers will treat bicyclists and walkers to tasty samples of local foods such as apple cider, quiche, bread, roasted vegetables, yogurt, wine, maple syrup, and cookies. Because the event is a tour and not a race, the pace is low key, allowing ample time to chat with farmers and relax with friends in the beautiful Champlain Valley. The Tour attracts 600 bicyclists from Vermont, northeastern states, and Canada.

**Plenty to see, plenty to eat!**

Riders can expect to sample foods from B Vineyard, Champlain Orchards, Danz Ahn Farm, Doolittle Farm, Golden Russet Farm, Lemon Fair Honeyworks, Millborne Farm, Middlebury Natural Foods Coop, Misty Knoll Farms, Neshobe Farm, North Branch Farm & Gardens, Singing Cedars Farmstead, Solar Haven Farm, Stonewood Farm, Sunrise Gardens Greenhouse, Sylvan Shade Farm, Vermont Trade Winds Farm, Windfall Orchard, and the restaurants Morgan's Tavern (Middlebury Inn) and Tourterelle.

In addition to the stops at farms and food producers, wood-fired pizza will be for sale from NOFA-VT, a visit at a quirky art gallery and three StoryWalks for young children—the opportunity to read great children's books while walking in



A bicyclist makes his way down the road between Shoreham and Orwell on the Tour de Farms. photo by Chuck Helfer

beautiful, natural settings. There is a competition open to all who wish to make a short film about the 2012 Tour de Farms. Contest rules can be found at [www.ruralvermont.org](http://www.ruralvermont.org)

If you're not interested in riding, but want to be involved, consider volunteering! Volunteers are needed to assist with various aspects of the Tour de Farms, including registration, parking, farmers' helpers, photography, crowd control, and ride marshalling. In return for a three-hour time commitment, volunteers will receive a free Tour de Farms t-shirt.

**Shoreham's Apple Fest**

At 12:30 pm on September 16, Shoreham will kick off their Annual Apple Fest on the town green, complete with

continuous live music, crafts, and a farmers' market featuring a variety of delicious items for sale. Apple Fest continues until 5 pm and all proceeds benefit the Platt Memorial Library in Shoreham.

Champlain Orchards in Shoreham will be celebrating apples—visit the orchard for pick-your-own apples, shop at the farm market, sample hard and ice ciders and enjoy live music from 12–4 pm (for directions and information go to [www.champlainorchards.com](http://www.champlainorchards.com)). Then join Champlain Orchards on the Shoreham town green for everything apple the town has to offer!

**Registration now open**

If you register in advance for the Tour de Farms the fees are: \$28 for adults and \$13 for kids 16 and under. Day-of registration fees are \$50 for adults and \$20 for kids 16 and under. Children in trailers and bike seats ride free and don't need to be registered. Registration is open at [www.ruralvermont.org](http://www.ruralvermont.org). All routes begin and end at the Shoreham Town Green. The 30-mile riders depart at 10:30 am, the 25-mile riders depart at 11:00 am, and the 10-mile riders depart at 11:30 am.

**A community effort**

The Tour de Farms is co-organized by the Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN), Rural Vermont, and the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition as a fundraiser for all three non-profits.

For more information, contact the VT Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition, [www.vtbikeped.org](http://www.vtbikeped.org), (802) 225-8904; Rural Vermont, [www.ruralvermont.org](http://www.ruralvermont.org), (802) 223-7222; or Addison County Relocalization Network, [www.acornvt.org](http://www.acornvt.org).

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# Peregrine Falcon Nesting Cliffs Reopened for Hikers

Vermont Fish and Wildlife has reopened the eleven cliffs closed to hiking and access earlier this spring to protect nesting peregrine falcons.

"The young peregrines have fledged, and nesting data suggest the species had a very good year due, in part, to cooperation from hikers and rock climbers during this critical nesting period," said Fish and Wildlife's migratory bird biologist John Buck. "Peregrine nesting success is also helped by the many volunteers that monitor the nest sites from March to the end of July."

According to Audubon biologist Margaret Fowle, who coordinates the monitoring effort, at least 40 pairs of peregrines occupied Vermont cliffs in early spring and summer. Preliminary results indicate at least 39 pairs nested, with 28 pairs successfully producing at least 60 young. This is a 44 percent increase in nesting pairs and a 55 percent increase in pairs producing young compared to the 2011 nesting season.

"We greatly appreciate the

time and effort volunteers put into monitoring the population this year, and we thank landowners and recreationists for their cooperation in protecting nesting peregrines from human disturbance," said Fowle.

"We appreciate the cooperation of the trail and cliff users," added Buck. "The success of the peregrine nesting season reflects that this mutual effort was very worthwhile."

Vermont Fish & Wildlife and Audubon Vermont partner to monitor and protect peregrine nesting sites in Vermont. Peregrine falcons were removed from the state's Threatened and Endangered Species List in 2005. Ongoing cooperation from recreationists and continued monitoring efforts by Audubon and Fish and Wildlife will help ensure the peregrine's remarkable recovery in future years.

For more information contact the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department at [www.vfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vfishandwildlife.com).



photo by Cathy Merrill

Thirty-eight pairs of peregrine falcons occupied Vermont cliffs at the start of nesting season this year. The peregrine was removed from Vermont's endangered species list in 2005 after restoration efforts by wildlife professionals. Peregrines are still monitored to ensure their success.

## Vermont State Fair in Rutland Runs through September 9

The Vermont State Fair, a 167-year-old family tradition, is in Rutland, VT from Aug. 31 thru Sept. 9, 2012.

Scotty McCreery, 2011 American Idol, will perform on Sept. 8. The Demolition Derbies are on Sept. 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 9 at 5 p.m. Harness Racing is on Sept. 5 at 1 p.m. There's a great midway and free entertainment. Ag events include horse & cattle shows, a farm

museum, forestry, crafts, 4-H and horse, pony & ox pulling, and the ever-popular Rosaire's Racing Pigs. The Maple Sugar House has maple cremees and more.

Most days tickets are: adult \$10, senior \$5, child \$4, and parking \$3 with special day admissions; grandstand tickets extra.

For info call (802) 775-5200. [vermontstatefair.net](http://vermontstatefair.net).

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The Vermont Woodlands Association and VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation have partnered to offer a Project Learning Tree workshop. PLT grows stewardship one student at a time and has been for more than thirty-five years.

Teachers across the country use this curriculum as a basis for natural resource education. If you are interested in opening opportunities for education on your property, or want to learn how to share your knowledge with our

youth, this workshop is for you!

The PLT workshop will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park's Forest Center in Woodstock, VT. The cost to attend is \$20, which includes lunch and all materials.

Completion of the workshop will certify you as a PLT leader and provide you with PLT's Pre-K-8 Environmental Education Activity Guide and a "toolbox" of supplies and materials for activities.

As a PLT leader, you can put your newfound knowledge to work on Friday, October 19, 2012 as part of the national Walk in the Forest.

Visit [www.vermontwoodlands.org](http://www.vermontwoodlands.org) to register or call (802) 747-7900.

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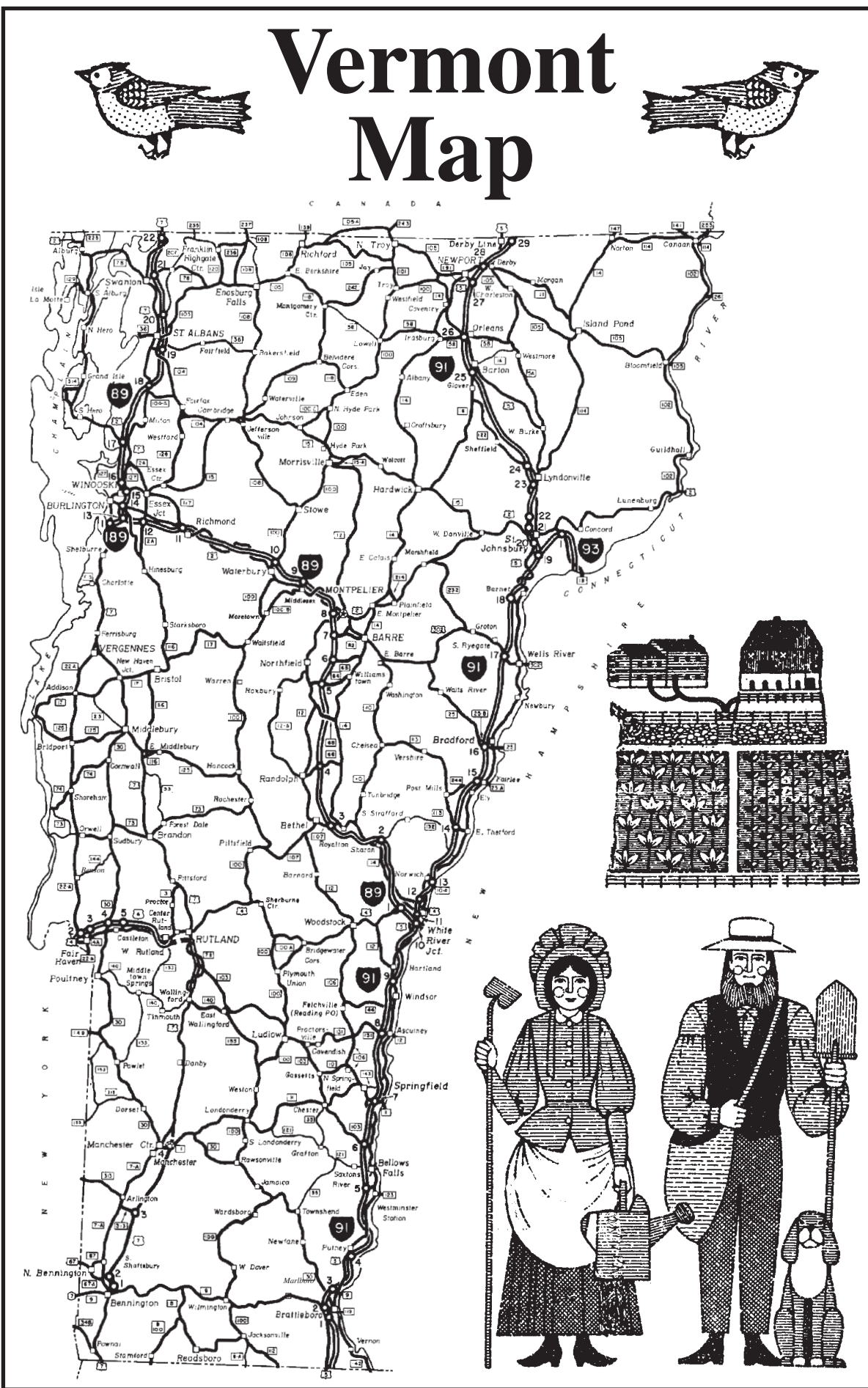


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# Vermont Country Calendar

## 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](http://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](mailto:info@studioplacearts.com). [www.studioplacearts.com](http://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](http://vermonthistory.org).

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Farmers Market. Local produce, meats, eggs, cheese, prepared foods, and entertainment. Open mic night every fourth Friday. On Fridays 4-7 pm at the Waypoint Center. (802) 463-2018. [www.bffarmersmarket.com](http://www.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](http://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](http://www.historicsites.vermont.gov).

**BENNINGTON.** Puppet Exhibit. Admission is \$2 for children three and older, \$4 for adults and \$10 for families. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am - 4 pm. The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont, 212 Union St. at the corner of Union and Valentine Streets. [www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com](http://www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com).

**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](http://www.benningtoncenterforthearts.org).

**BENNINGTON.** Bennington-Walloomsac Outdoor Farmers Market. 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 info call (802) 310-8534.

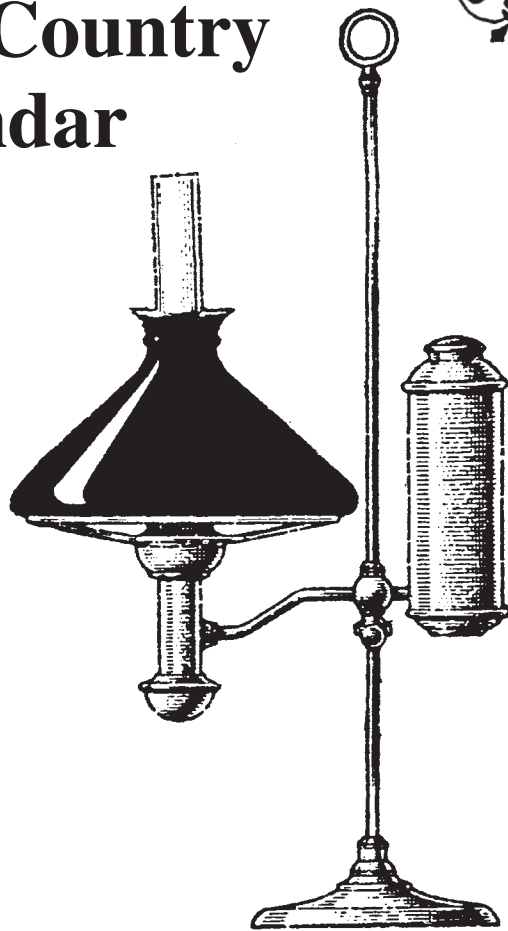
**BRANDON.** Brandon Farmers Market. Fridays 9 am - 2 pm in Central Park. [cijka4@gmail.com](mailto:cijka4@gmail.com). Through Oct. 12.

**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. 4 Grove St., next to the Baptist Church at the corner of Rt. 7 and 73 West. (802) 247-6401. [brandon.org](http://brandon.org).

**BRANDON.** First Fridays. Our restaurants and merchants are keeping their doors open till 9 pm the first Friday of each month. Visit "indie" shops, galleries, and restaurants. (802) 247-6401. [www.brandon.org](http://www.brandon.org).

**BRATTLEBORO.** Brattleboro Music Center Fall Classes. Lessons in 16 instruments and more. (802) 257-4523. [www.bmcvt.org](http://www.bmcvt.org).

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



**BRATTLEBORO.** Fair Winds Farm Wagon Rides. Half-hour reserved horse-drawn rides 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](mailto:fairwind@sover.net). [www.fairwindsfarm.org](http://www.fairwindsfarm.org).

**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. Not a performance or church function, just fellowship in song. 3-5:30 pm. Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main St. Information: [laurat@crocker.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:info@postoilsolutions.org) or [www.postoilsolutions.org](http://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](mailto:info@echovermont.org). [www.echovermont.org](http://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. (802) 310-5172. [chriswag31@gmail.com](mailto:chriswag31@gmail.com). [www.burlingtonfarmersmarket.org](http://www.burlingtonfarmersmarket.org). Through October.

**BURLINGTON.** Vermont Farm Tours. Call for rates and schedule. (802) 922-7346. [chris@vermontfarmtours.com](mailto:chris@vermontfarmtours.com). [www.VermontFarmTours.com](http://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](http://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. [mfeeny3@aol.com](mailto:mfeeny3@aol.com).

**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](mailto:rra@rutlandrailway.org). [www.rutlandrailway.org](http://www.rutlandrailway.org).

**CHESTER.** Art Exhibits, Programs and Music. Jazz Night Sept. 13 with Eugene Uman. Free admission. Wednesday through Sunday 11 am – 6 pm. Vermont Institute of Contemporary Arts, 15 Depot St. (802) 875-1018. [info@vtica.org](mailto:info@vtica.org). [www.vtica.org](http://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. Star parties and other events. For membership and information contact the Southern Vermont Astronomy Group, PO Box 424, Chester, VT 05143. [www.roversa.org](http://www.roversa.org).

## Rutland, VT

### Local Food and Farm Economy Heats Up As Farmers Purchase Former Mintzer Complex

Building on the successful Vermont Farmers' Market model in Rutland that annually generates over a million dollars in sales, the Vermont Farmers Food Center will open on November 3. The Center ushers in a new food system that will insure that everyone, regardless of economic status, has access to fresh, wholesome, local food year-round.

The three-acre complex on 251 West Street in Rutland, VT will be the permanent home of the Winter Vermont Farmers' Market, the Vermont Foodbank and the Rutland Community Cupboard.

Multiple activities are planned for the Vermont Farmers Food Center, which is owned by the Vermont Farmers' Education Center, a nonprofit arm of the Vermont Farmers' Market. The Center will meet the needs of farmers and food-related businesses who will be able to refrigerate, store and process locally grown foods in a state-of-the-art commercial kitchen. It will also serve as an agricultural events center hosting wine tastings and a variety of food festivals during the summer months.

Education and training will be a hallmark of the Center's activities which will include job training for a range of food-related occupations. Food demonstrations and cooking classes will be featured regularly to enable more consumers to learn to

prepare and love the healthy foods that are available in the greater Rutland area.


"Vermont spends two billion dollars annually to feed itself but only 5 percent of those dollars stay here. The rest goes out into the corporate universe when those dollars could stay in Vermont and grow the local economy. New jobs and businesses would result, and our kids could stay in Vermont and earn a living," says Greg Cox, owner of Boardman Hill Farm and a leader in the agricultural community.

Renovations have begun on the former Mintzer property which has a long and rich tradition in Rutland's industrial history, but has been vacant for years.

A committee has formed to raise the funds needed to renovate the structures for this coming November occupancy. Volunteers are welcome to come to the site each Sunday as work crews continue to clear and prepare the property for renovation.

The Vermont Farmers' Market will continue in Depot Park during the summer and fall months.

For more info about the Vermont Farmers Food Center e-mail [info@vermontfarmersfoodcenter.org](mailto:info@vermontfarmersfoodcenter.org) or write to Vermont Farmers Food Center, P.O. Box 1008, Rutland, VT 05701. Visit [www.vermontfarmersfoodcenter.org](http://www.vermontfarmersfoodcenter.org).



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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](http://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](mailto:innkeeper@innvictoria.com). [www.innvictoria.com](http://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." Photography, jewelry, textiles, blown glass, pottery, soaps, and more. 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](http://Gallery103.com).

**CRAFTSBURY COMMON.** Community Dinner. On the third Wednesday of every month, we gather for a free community supper. Really; it's free! We have a great time with old and new friends. The food is great; the fellowship is wonderful—and you don't have to wear fancy clothes! 6 pm. United Church of Craftsbury, 7 Church Lane. (802) 586-8028.

**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](mailto:riding@mountainviewranch.biz). [www.mountainviewranch.biz](http://www.mountainviewranch.biz).

**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](http://www.chipmanstables.com).

**EAST CHARLESTON.** North Woods Stewardship Center. Programs, workshops and special events in all seasons. Everyone is welcome to attend. 154 Leadership Dr. (802) 723-6551. [www.northwoodscenter.org](http://www.northwoodscenter.org).

**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), gardening and cooking classes. 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Pumpkin Festival October 7. 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](mailto:growing@cedarcirclefarm.org). [www.cedarcirclefarm.org](http://www.cedarcirclefarm.org). Open through October.

**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. 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](http://rokeby.org). Open 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. Open winter by appointment. Free admission, donations welcome. (802) 525-3031. [www.breadandpuppet.org](http://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](http://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. 783 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2400. [grafftonponds.com](http://grafftonponds.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.grafftonvalleyartsguild.com](http://www.grafftonvalleyartsguild.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 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](http://www.nature-museum.org).

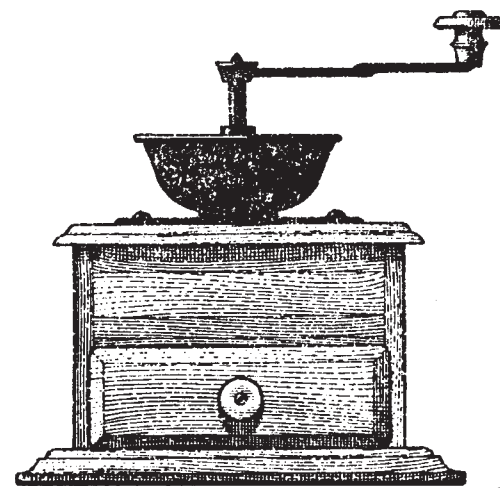
**GRANVILLE, NY.** The Slate Valley Museum. Exhibits, events, demonstrations, programs, First Fridays, and gift shop. Tues-Fri 1-5 pm, Sat 10 am – 4 pm. Adm. \$5, under 12 free. 17 Water St. (518) 642-1417. [slatevalleymuseum.org](http://slatevalleymuseum.org).

**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. 7-9:30 pm. Hanover Friends Meeting House, 43 Lebanon St. [danhertzler@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:sdav@valley.net) or call (802) 436-3262.

**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. (802) 273-2282. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). *Through October 8.*

**HUNTINGTON.** Monthly Bird Monitoring Walk. Help monitor birds in the different habitats at the Green Mountain Audubon Center. Our monthly walks gather long-term data on the presence of bird species, their abundance, and changes in populations. Donation appreciated. 8-10 am. Green Mountain Audubon Center, 255 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-3068. [Vermont@audubon.org](mailto:Vermont@audubon.org). [vt.audubon.org](http://vt.audubon.org).



## Birding Hot Spots in Rutland County

Rutland County Audubon is developing a list of places to bird in our area—places that are special to us and are representative of variety of habitats we are fortunate to have in our area. These are places that are publicly accessible; some large, some small. A few involve hiking and others can be canoed or kayaked.

The spots are selected because they host special birds or habitats. Some are chosen because they are a good place to take kids or a place for a quick break from our everyday lives.

We hope you will visit these places and report your sightings to [www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org) as well so that we can increase the knowledge of the

birds of Rutland County. If there is a place that is special to you, please let us know!

### Pomainville Wildlife Management Area

Pomainville Wildlife Management Area, comprised of 356 acres in Pittsford, VT, is a change from the wooded habitats most of us associate with the Green Mountain State. This recently preserved land is comprised of old agricultural fields, now floodplain wetland and grassland, along the Otter Creek.

This is a great spot to see Bobolinks and hear their bubbling song. It is also worthwhile to visit the area in late September through October for migrating sparrows. In October 2009 a Le Conte's Sparrow and a Nelson's Sparrow was recorded at Pomainville. Recent improvements have made this an ideal habitat for a variety of ducks, including Mallard, Wood Duck, and Hooded Merganser, which

all breed here. American Bittern, Green Heron, Pied-billed Grebe, Virginia Rail, and Wilson's Snipe can also be observed near the small ponds.

The trees surrounding the along Otter Creek support a good number of Warbling, Red-eyed and Yellow-throated vireos as well as Baltimore Oriole. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers have nested here. Alder and Willow flycatchers, more often heard than seen, utilize the shrubs that dot the area.

Pomainville WMA is frequently flooded; tall waterproof boots are helpful. Also, the area is used by hunters. Check the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department for hunting schedules.

*Directions:* Pomainville WMA is on the west side of Rt. 7 between Pittsford and Brandon. There is a parking area and information kiosk.

For more information visit Rutland County Audubon Society's website at [www.rutlandcountyaudubon.org](http://www.rutlandcountyaudubon.org).



**Southern Vermont Dairy Goat Association**

[www.vtgoats.org](http://www.vtgoats.org)

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[learn.uvm.edu/foodsystemsblog](http://learn.uvm.edu/foodsystemsblog)

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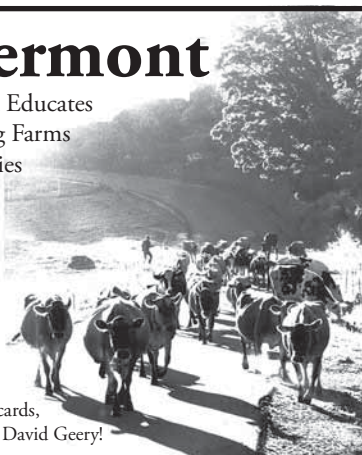
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# Vermont Country Calendar

**HUNTINGTON.** Birds of Vermont Museum. Features over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Visit the museum, come to our special events and bird walks, children's programs. Enjoy the gift shop and video. Public restrooms, refreshments, and trails with maps available. Admission: adult \$6, senior \$5, child 3-17 \$3. Open 10 am - 4 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. [www.birdsofvermont.org](http://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. Snacks and ice cream daily. Gift shop. The shrine is at 92 St. Anne's Rd. (802) 928-3362. [www.saintanneshrine.org](http://www.saintanneshrine.org). *Through October 8.*

**KILLINGTON.** Killington Hay Festival. Giant hay sculptures on display throughout town. (802) 422-2185. September 1 through October 8.

**LANDGROVE.** Horse-Drawn Wagon and Carriage Rides. Rides leave on the hour from Landgrove Inn. Call for reservations. (802) 824-4663. [www.karlpfistersleigh.com](http://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.listencs.org](http://www.listencs.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](mailto: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. Craft & Gift Shop open through October 8. Monday-Saturday, 9 am - 4 pm. Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts, 611 Rt. 103 South. (802) 228-8770. [www.fletcherfarm.org](http://www.fletcherfarm.org).

**LYNDONVILLE.** Lyndon Summer Farmers' Market at Lyndonville's Bandstand Park. Fresh local food, arts and crafts and live music. Fridays 3-6 pm, rain or shine. [www.lyndonfarmersmarket.com](http://www.lyndonfarmersmarket.com). *Through October 19.*

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

**MANCHESTER.** Fall Foliage Sampler Tour. Experience the fall foliage in Vermont while exploring the region's best-kept secrets. Your guide will be Dick Smith. 8-passenger tour vehicle. Fee. Daily 1-4 pm. (802) 362-4997. [backroaddiscovery.com](http://backroaddiscovery.com). *September 27 through October 26.*

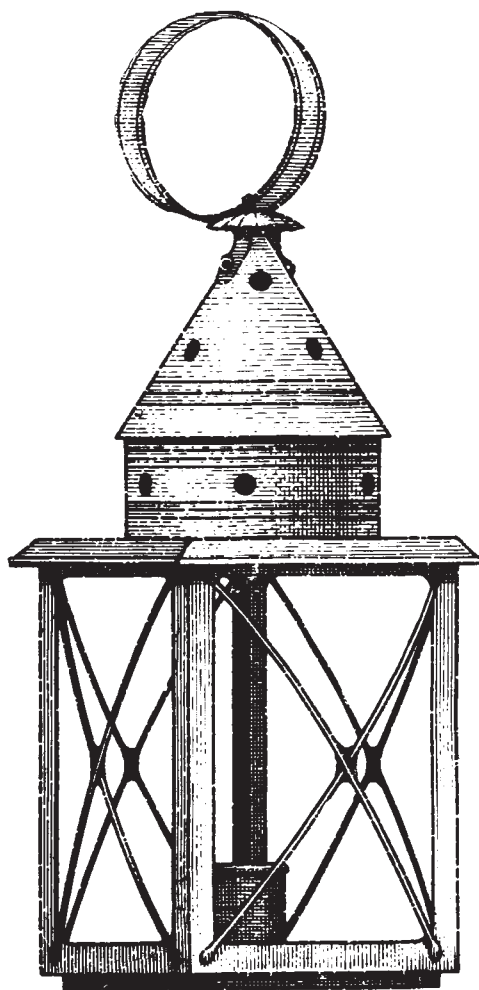
**MANCHESTER.** Boswell Botany Trail. A bucolic wildflower walk, stately white birches, native orchids, grasses and moss, and most of the 67 varieties of fern found in Vermont, all in a unique glacial microclimate. Explored at a leisurely pace by most walkers in a half-hour or less. At Southern Vermont Art Center, off West Rd. (802) 362-1405. [www.svac.org](http://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](mailto:info@hildene.com). [www.hildene.org](http://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. Free Wildlife Festival September 15. 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](mailto:museum@sover.net). [www.vermontmuseum.org](http://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. For info contact market manager: Pam Taylor, (802) 388-0178. [middleburyfm@yahoo.com](mailto:middleburyfm@yahoo.com). [www.middleburyfarmersmarket.org](http://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](mailto:info@middleburyartswalk.com). [www.middleburyartswalk.com](http://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](http://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](mailto:info@vermontfolklifecenter.org). [vermontfolklifecenter.org](http://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. [manager@montpelierfarmersmarket.com](mailto:manager@montpelierfarmersmarket.com). [www.montpelierfarmersmarket.com](http://www.montpelierfarmersmarket.com). *Through October.*

**MONTPELIER.** Library Book Sale. Thousands of books, CDs, DVDs, maps, sheet music and more. Books organized by subject for easy browsing. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St. (802) 223-3338. [www.kellogghubbard.org](http://www.kellogghubbard.org). *September 10 - October 13, December 10 - January 12.*

**NORWICH.** Norwich Summer Farmers Market. Local and 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. [www.norwichfarmersmarket.org](http://www.norwichfarmersmarket.org). *Through October.*

**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. Not a performance or church function, just fellowship in song. 1:30-4:30 pm. Parish Hall of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 262 Main St. For information contact Daniel Hertzler at [danhertzler@gmail.com](mailto:danhertzler@gmail.com). *Fourth Sundays.*

**NORWICH.** Montshire Museum of Science. Exhibits, trails, programs, and museum store open 10 am - 5 pm daily. Admission \$12 adults, \$10 children 2-17, children under 2 are free. One Montshire Rd. (802) 649-2200. [www.montshire.org](http://www.montshire.org).

**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 many interesting 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. Go two miles to a small parking lot on the left just before the town garage. The short trail to the bog begins at the green sign showing a pitcher plant. For more info e-mail [amas@vermontel.net](mailto:amas@vermontel.net).

**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. Mount Independence Rd., off Rt. 73. (802) 948-2000. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). *Through October 8.*



## LOOSE WOMAN

She acquired a farm, we never knew how;  
She garnered some stock and learned to plow.  
She never dressed as a woman should—  
Couldn't wear skirts when gettin' out wood!  
She had left her church, and also a man—  
Didn't hold with divorce in one life's span.  
Never kept house as the neighbors did;  
Always yelling at her half-wit, "Sid".  
Then Bert was born, sired by some dolt.  
Gossips squinted and said, "Woods colt"  
She sure could curse to raise the dead,  
But there was sense in what she said.  
"Damn you, Will! Get over here.  
You son-of-a-gun, go get that steer!  
Milk pails ain't washed and the barn's not cleaned.  
And feed those calves that have just been weaned!"  
She did the work of several men  
And then was ready to start again.  
And children were told, as parents will,  
"You must not stop at that house on the hill."  
But they did stop in, on their way from school,  
Forgetting, on purpose, that idle rule.  
They were welcomed and warmed;  
They saw nothing bad  
In the chocolate cake and the milk they had.  
She never gossiped. She had no time.  
Harvests to be gathered, fields spread with lime.  
Her only friends were the children and dogs,  
The Holstein cows, and the Berkshire hogs.  
But she raised her kids as well as the other;  
They drifted away, ashamed of their mother.

—BETTE STALDER WRIGHT, 1962

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# Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing events continued)

**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, Rt. 11, 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. Halloween and Fall Celebration starting Sept. 15. 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, call (802) 426-3850. lynnetcombs@gmail.com.

**PLYMOUTH.** President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Admission: adults \$7.50, children 6-14 \$2, under 6 free, family pass \$20. 9:30 am - 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicites.vermont.gov. Open through October 14.

**POULTNEY.** Free Historical Audio Walking & Driving Tours. View and learn about Main Street Poultney, East Poultney Village, and the Quarries, Farms & Forests. (802) 287-5252, (802) 287-2010. www.poultneyvt.com. www.poultneyhistoricalsociety.org.

**POULTNEY.** Farmers Market. Thursdays 9 am - 2 pm along Main St. For info call Kris at (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, and apple pies & other baked goods. 130 West Hill Rd. (exit 4, I-91), look for signs in Putney Village. (802) 387-5851. www.greenmtorchards.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 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. Big Bike Show through September 30—BigTown Gallery presents a 2D & 3D multi-media & multi-staged exhibition of sculpture, painting, printmaking & drawing in dedication to the bicycle & Green Mountain Bikes. BigTown 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.** Annual Full House Exhibit. Features five local artists. The Chaffee Art Center, 16 South Main St. (802) 775-0356. www.chaffeeartcenter.org. Through September 29.

**RUTLAND.** Library Book Sale. Sponsored by the Friends of the Rutland Free Library. New books added. All proceeds go to support library activities and collections. Sept. 19, 4-8 pm; Nov. 2, 9:30 am - 4:30 pm; Nov. 3, 9:30 am - 2 pm; Dec. 5, 4-8 pm. In the basement, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860.

**RUTLAND.** Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. The largest in the state with over 90 vendors. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. Saturdays 9 am - 2 pm and Tuesdays 3-6 pm. (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. 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, workshops, lectures, 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 BURLINGTON.** UVM Apple Sales. \$1.25 per pound for all fruit. Bulk orders are welcome. In addition to our IPM fruit, we will also have our Certified Organic crop. Every Friday through October from 10 am to 4 pm at the UVM Horticulture Research Center, Green Mountain Dr. off Rt. 7. Terry Bradshaw, (802) 658-9166. tbradsha@uvm.edu.

**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 yearly convention in August. 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. Reservoir Rd, off Rt 106, turn at the sign for North Springfield Lake. Free to the public. (802) 263-5321. weathersfieldvt.org.

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain and Dog Chapel. Free. Open Mon-Sat 10 am - 4 pm and Sun 11 am - 4 pm. The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. (802) 748-2700. dogmt.com.

**STRAFFORD.** Justin Smith Morrill Homestead State Historic Site. Admission. Open Saturday and Sunday 11 am - 5 pm. 214 Justin Morrill Highway. (802) 828-3051. historicites.vermont.gov. Open through October 8.

**VERGENNES.** Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Field trips, shipwreck tours, programs, special events, museum store. Nautical Archeology Center, Key to Liberty exhibit, replica 1862 Lois McClure schooner, Steam to Gasoline exhibit. Lake Champlain through the Lens—A Juried Photography Show from September 2—October 13. 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.

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### POPULAR MUSIC SERIES

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Mary Chapin Carpenter                              | 9/13/2012  |
| An Evening with Bruce Hornsby                      | 9/29/2012  |
| Big Head Todd & The Monsters                       | 10/6/2012  |
| Weird Al Yankovic: The Apocalypse Tour             | 10/21/2012 |
| Keb' Mo'   | 11/7/2012  |
| Arlo Guthrie: A Tribute to Woody Guthrie's         |            |
| 100th Birthday                                     | 11/11/2012 |
| Eddie Money  | 2/2/2013   |
| Vermont Symphony Orchestra featuring Peter Yarrow: |            |
| Songs of Freedom                                   | 4/6/2013   |
| Tommy Dorsey Orchestra                             | 4/26/2013  |

### COMEDY SERIES

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Norm Macdonald                | 9/23/2012  |
| Bob Newhart                   | 10/5/2012  |
| Ralphie May                   | 10/19/2012 |
| Ron White: Moral Compass Tour | 11/14/2012 |
| Brewhaha III                  | 11/24/2012 |
| John Pinette                  | 1/19/2013  |
| The Capitol Steps             | 2/1/2013   |

### FAMILY SERIES

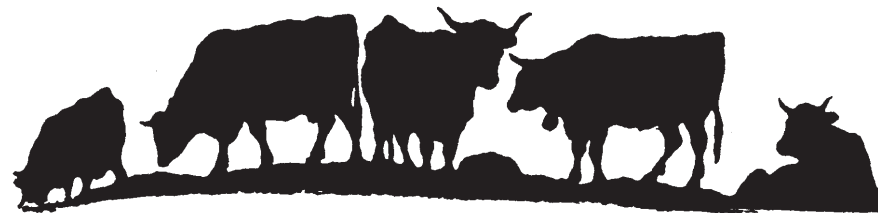
|   |            |
|---|------------|
| New York Theatre Ballet: The Nutcracker | 11/30/2012 |
| Tap Dogs                                | 12/7/2012  |
| Popovich Comedy Pet Theatre             | 2/8/2013   |
| The Peking Acrobats                     | 3/1/2013   |
| Celtic Nights                           | 3/15/2013  |
| The Ugly Duckling                       | 4/13/2013  |

### THEATRE SERIES

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Vermont Broadway National Tour Premiere of Rock of Ages | 9/4-5/2012   |
| National Broadway Tour of Titanic The Musical           | 9/25/2012    |
| Middlebury Actor's Workshop: Richard III                | 11/9/2012    |
| Opera Theatre of Weston: Noye's Fludde                  | 1/6/2013     |
| The Full Monty - Directed by Saskia Hagen Groom         | 2/15-16/2013 |
| National Broadway Tour of Fiddler On The Roof           | 4/19/2013    |

### PASSAGES AT THE PARAMOUNT

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Classical Music Series  |            |
| Mixt Ensemble           | 10/27/2012 |
| Capital Cities Concerts | 11/18/2012 |
| Hahn-Bin                | 3/22/2013  |
| Veit Hertenstein        | 4/14/2013  |



## THE OLD BRINDLE COW

Of all old memories that cluster round my heart,  
With their root in my boyhood days,  
The quaintest is linked to the old brindle cow  
With sly and mysterious ways.  
She'd linger round the lot near the old potato patch,  
A sentinel by night and by day,  
Watching for the hour when all eyes were asleep,  
To start on her predatory way.

The old brush fence she would scorn in her course,  
With turnips and cabbage just beyond,  
And corn that was blooming through the halo of the night—  
What a banquet so choice and so fond,  
But when the stars of morn were paling in the sky  
The old brindle cow would take the cue,  
And dressing up her line she'd retreat beyond the fence,  
For the old cow knew just what to do.

What breed did you say? Why the very best blood  
That could flow in a democratic cow;  
No herd-book could tell of the glory in her horns  
Or whence came her pedigree or how:  
She was Jersey in her milk and Durham in her build,  
And Ayrshire when she happened in a row,  
But when it came to storming the old "slash" fence  
She was simply the old brindle cow.

It seems but a day since I drove her to the gate  
To yield up her rich and creamy prize;  
For her theft at midnight hour she would yield a double dower,  
With peace of conscience lurking in her eyes.  
But she's gone disappeared with the ripened years of time,  
Whose memories my heart enthrall e'en now;  
And I never hear a bell tinkling through the forest dell  
But I think of that old brindle cow.

—THOMAS O'HAGAN



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# Vermont Country Calendar



**WEATHERSFIELD.** Weathersfield Trail, Cascade Falls Rd. Probably the most scenic trail up Mt. Ascutney. 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 in the summer. Great observation platform on the summit for hikers. VT Dept. of Forest, Parks and Recreation at (802) 886-2215. [www.weathersfieldvt.org](http://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. On Exhibit through October 20: "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. Open Wednesday-Saturday 11 am – 4 pm. Also open free the first Friday of the month for Gallery Walk 4-7 pm. In the Jeremiah Beal House at 974 Western Ave. (802) 258-6564. [ashatodormuseum.org](http://ashatodormuseum.org). *Open through October 20.*

**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 [adamrboyce@juno.com](mailto:adamrboyce@juno.com). *Fourth Saturdays.*

**WEST PAWLET.** West Pawlet Community 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 4-7 pm, indoors and outdoors, year-round. West Pawlet Fish & Game Club (next to the Post Office), 2849 Rt. 153. "Like" us on Facebook. [wpcfmkt@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.vermontherbal.com).

**WEST RUTLAND.** Home Buyer Education Classes. Call for schedule. NeighborWorks office at 110 Marble St. (802) 438-2303 x 216. [www.nwvvt.org](http://www.nwvvt.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](http://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](mailto:info@mainstreetmuseum.org). [www.mainstreetmuseum.org](http://www.mainstreetmuseum.org).

**WHITE RIVER JUNCTION.** Upper Valley Co-op's First Friday Celebration. Live music by local artists, samples of local foods, discounts. 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](mailto:Kye@uppervalleyfood.coop). [www.uppervalleyfood.coop](http://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. (603) 398-2780. [www.listencs.org](http://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.

**WINDSOR.** Sculpture in the Garden Show. Regional sculptors from Vermont and New Hampshire will be exhibiting in the gardens in a Group summer sculpture show. Open Thurs. thru Sun. 10 am – 6 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. (800) 232-4337. [flowers@ciderhillgardens.com](mailto:flowers@ciderhillgardens.com). [www.ciderhillgardens.com](http://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](mailto:flowers@ciderhillgardens.com). [www.garymilek.com](http://www.garymilek.com). [ciderhillgardens.com](http://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](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). *Through October 8.*

**WINDSOR.** American Precision Museum. Peruse many historical and interesting exhibits and collections. Special events. 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](http://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. [adamsfamilyfarm.com](http://adamsfamilyfarm.com).

**WOODSTOCK.** 26<sup>th</sup> 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 \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [billingsfarm.org](http://billingsfarm.org). *Through September 23.*

**WOODSTOCK.** Billings Farm & Museum. Premiere Jersey dairy farm, restored 1890 farmhouse, family programs, wagon rides, special events and museum. Admission (includes all activities) \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. Open daily. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org).

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

**WOODSTOCK.** 29<sup>th</sup> 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. [mttomfarmersmarket.com](http://mttomfarmersmarket.com). *Saturdays through October 13.*

**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](http://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.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

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

**BENNINGTON.** 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Vermont Garlic & Herb Festival. Garlic growers, garlic products, live music, herbal workshops, garlic ice cream, children's activities, workshops on growing & cooking garlic. Beer and Wine Garden under a tent with live music. Free parking. \$5/adult, children 12 and under \$1. 10 am - 5 pm. Rt. 9 just 1.5 miles west of the junction Rts. 7 & 9 at Camelot Village. (802) 688-7422. [ovegarlic.com](http://ovegarlic.com). *Also September 2.*

**BRANDON.** Concert at Otter Valley Winery—Woodchuck's Revenge. Free admission. 4 pm at Cozy Cottages and Otter Valley Winery. (802) 247-6644. [www.brandon.org](http://www.brandon.org).

**BRIDGEWATER.** Annual North Branch Bluegrass Festival. 16 bands, 15 music workshops, songwriter's contest, rough camping, games, horseshoes. 10 am. 74 Chateaugay Rd. For tickets call (802) 672-3042. [info@nbbluegrass.com](mailto:info@nbbluegrass.com). [www.pickvt.com](http://www.pickvt.com). *Also September 2.*

**BROOKFIELD.** End of Summer Celebration. Giant flea market, craft sale. Chicken pie supper, \$10 adults. Country Gospel Music Concert. 9 am - 8 pm. VT Grange Center Camp, 308 West St. (802) 223-7961

**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! Open 10 am to midnight. At Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. [www.champlainvalleyfair.org](http://www.champlainvalleyfair.org). *Through September 3.*

**HANOVER, NH.** 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Town of Hanover/Dartmouth College Yard Sale. 11 am – 3 pm rain or shine on the Dewey Field Parking Lot, located at the NW corner of the junction of S. Park St. (Rt. 120) and Lyme Rd. (Rt. 10N). [www.sustainablehanovernh.org](http://www.sustainablehanovernh.org).

**KILLINGTON.** Killington Classic Motorcycle Touring Rally. Group rides, opening and closing concert events, marketplace, bike show, themed dinners and more, welcome parade & music. For information and schedule visit [www.killingtonclassic.com](http://www.killingtonclassic.com). *Through September 3.*

**NORTHFIELD.** Northfield Labor Day Celebration. Three days of family-friendly free entertainment. Labor Day Parade, food, games, foot races and fun. Free admission, handicapped-accessible. Sat & Sun 10-10, Mon 10 am - 3:30 pm. Around the Northfield Commons, Depot Square. (802) 485-9206. [northfieldlaborday.org](http://northfieldlaborday.org). *Thru September 3.*

**PLYMOUTH.** 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival. Two days of celebration and music. Hayrides on Saturday, face painting, children's concert both days. The concerts are free, donation suggested. Rain or shine. 2-5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. [www.plymouthfolk.com](http://www.plymouthfolk.com). [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). *Also September 2.*

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Maple products judging, Grange exhibit judging, rabbit show, goat show, 4-H animal costume class. Allstar Weekend performs at 7:30 pm. Most days tickets are \$10, senior \$5, child \$4, parking \$3 with special day admissions; grandstand extra. (802) 775-5200. [www.vermontstatefair.net](http://www.vermontstatefair.net). *Through September 8.*

**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. (802) 753-7269. [rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org](http://rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org). [vtfarmersmarket.org](http://vtfarmersmarket.org). *Saturdays through October 27.*

**SPRINGFIELD.** Market Madness. Farmer's market, local produce, BBQ, culinary delights, and lots of local music. Vermont craftsman and artisan displays. Free family fun—chalk murals, face painting, demos, games, dancing, classic car show and lots more! 10 am - 8 pm. Downtown. (802) 885-1527. [springfieldcommunitymarket.org](http://springfieldcommunitymarket.org).

**WATERBURY CENTER.** Lawn Fest and Craft Sale. 9 am - 4 pm. At the Waterbury Center Community Church on Rt. 100. (802) 244-8089. *Through September 3.*

**WOODSTOCK.** Traditional Craft Saturdays—Learn about Blacksmithing. Admission. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [billingsfarm.org](http://billingsfarm.org). *Also Sept. 8, 15 & 22.*

**WOODSTOCK.** 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Quilt Exhibition. 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. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [info@billingsfarm.org](mailto:info@billingsfarm.org). [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org). *Through September 23.*

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

**BENNINGTON.** 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Vermont Garlic & Herb Festival. Garlic growers, garlic products, live music, herbal workshops, garlic ice cream, children's activities, workshops on growing & cooking garlic. Beer and Wine Garden under a tent with live music. Free parking. \$5/adult, children 12 and under \$1. 10 am - 5 pm. Rt. 9 just 1.5 miles west of the junction Rts. 7 & 9 at Camelot Village. (802) 688-7422. (802) 447-3311. [lindyslych@yahoo.com](mailto:lindyslych@yahoo.com). [lovegarlic.com](http://lovegarlic.com).

**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 much more! Open 10 am to midnight. At Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. [www.champlainvalleyfair.org](http://www.champlainvalleyfair.org). *Also September 3.*

**NORWICH.** Sunday Craft Fair. Outdoor craft fair with food and live music. Rain or shine. Local musicians Juke Joynt perform. Wonderful prepared foods available. Free. 10 am - 3 pm. Norwich Farmers Market. [www.norwichcrafts.org](http://www.norwichcrafts.org).

**ORWELL.** Hike into History. Archaeologist Allen Hathaway focuses on archaeology, and what was built and what remains from 1777—235 years ago. 2 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site. On Mount Independence Rd., off Rt. 73. (802) 948-2000. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**PLYMOUTH.** 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Plymouth Folk & Blues Concert. The concerts are free, donation suggested. Rain or shine. 2-5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. [www.plymouthfolk.com](http://www.plymouthfolk.com). [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**RANDOLPH.** 20<sup>th</sup> Annual New World Festival. Celebrate Vermont's Celtic and French-Canadian heritage with traditional music and dance. More than 70 musicians from New England, Canada and the British Isles. Concerts, music and dance workshops, children's activities, and open dancing on six stages from noon till midnight. Food and drink served. Tickets \$37, students 13-18 \$10, children 2-12 \$5, after 6 pm \$2. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org).

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Agricultural exhibits and shows. Demolition Derby at 7:30 pm. Most days tickets are \$10, senior \$5, child \$4, parking \$3 with special day admissions; grandstand extra. For info call (802) 775-5200. [www.vermontstatefair.net](http://www.vermontstatefair.net). *Through September 8.*

**THETFORD.** Labor Day Craft Demonstrations. Farm and home exhibits of 18th and 19th century life. Demonstrations, live music, for all ages. 2-5 pm. Hughes Barn Museum, 2274 Rt. 113. (802) 785-2068. [www.thetfordhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.thetfordhistoricalsociety.org)

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

**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, shows, strolling musicians, and much more! Midway and lots of fair food. Open 10 am to midnight. At Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. [champlainvalleyfair.org](http://champlainvalleyfair.org).



# Vermont Country Calendar

(September 3, continued)

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Open Horse Gymkhana 11 am, Open Dairy judging 11 am, 4-H Sheep show 11 am, Tractor Pulls 1 pm. Most days tickets are \$10, senior \$5, child \$4, parking \$3. Grandstand extra. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.net. *Through September 9.*

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

**EAST FAIRFIELD.** Workshop: Incorporating Draft Horses onto the Small Farm. Horses are an integral part of Does' Leap Farm and are used for spreading manure, haying, land preparation, cultivation, and logging. George van Vlaanderen will cover the topics of buying a horse, housing, feeding (including grazing strategies), harnessing, horse-drawn equipment and resources for getting started as a teamster. NOFA-VT Summer Workshop Series. Fee: \$20. Rain date: September 11. 2-4 pm. Doe's Leap Farm, #1703 Rt. 108 South. (802) 434-4122. info@nofavt.org. nofavt.org.

**LYME, NH.** Sunday Concert Series: House Concert with Jay Kelly et. al. Buffet dinner at 6 pm followed by music at Post Pond. Adults \$18, kids 12 and under \$8. Loch Lyme Lodge, Rt. 10 just north of town. Please call for reservations. (603) 795-2141. lochllymelodge.com.

**RUTLAND.** Concert. The worldwide party musical Rock of Ages featuring a mix of 28 rockin' 80's tunes. Tickets: \$59.50/\$69.50. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Z-Factor Karaoke Contest 7:30 pm. Admission \$1, rides \$1. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.net. *Through September 9.*

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

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

**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. maplemuseum.com. *Thru October 10.*

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Midway opens 12 pm. Free harness racing 1 pm. Free admission today only! (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.net. *Through September 9.*

**SWANTON.** Community Breakfast. Hot and cold breakfast foods. Cost is \$2.50 per person. 7-9 am. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 38 Grand Ave. (802) 868-7185 x 10. www.holytrinityswanton.org. Also September 19.

**WOLCOTT.** Workshop: Seed Variety Selection for Disease Resistance. Join Jodi Lew-Smith, Director of Research and Production at High Mowing Seeds, along with Vern Grubinger and Anne Hazelrigg from UVM Extension, for a discussion on choosing and producing seeds for disease resistance. Tour High Mowing's five acres of land dedicated to trialing and breeding. Fee: \$20, free for farmers and VVBGA members. 4-6 pm. High Mowing Organic Seeds, Marsh Rd. (802) 434-4122. info@nofavt.org. nofavt.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. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Wednesdays through September 26.*

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

**BRANDON.** Jazz Night at Brandon Music: Left Ear Trio featuring Michael-Louis Smith. Early bird dinner special. 7:30 pm. Call for tickets. Brandon Music Café at Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 465-4071. brandon-music.net. *Thursdays through October 25.*

**BURLINGTON.** Workshop: Putting your Garden to Rest. Practical tips for season extension, cover cropping, what to leave in your garden and what you can move inside, and steps you can take to make spring planting easier. 4-6 pm. At Ethan Allen Homestead. (802) 434-4122. info@nofavt.org. nofavt.org. www.ethanallenhomestead.org.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Ox pulling 3 & 6 pm. Free Battle of the Bands 7:30 pm. Family Day: admission \$15 per person includes unlimited rides. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.net. *Through September 9.*

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

**BURLINGTON.** 20th Annual South End Art Hop. Vermont's largest visual arts events. More than 500 artists exhibiting their work in nearly 100 businesses and studios. Free. Fri. 5 pm - 10 pm, Saturday 9 am - 10 pm, Sunday 10 am - 4 pm. 180 Flynn Ave. (802) 859-9222. www.seaba.com. *Through September 10.*

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Horse pulling 11 am, 2:30 pm, 6 pm. Most days tickets are \$10, senior \$5, child \$4, parking \$3. Grandstand extra. Today only, \$4 admission till 4 pm. (802) 775-5200. vermontstatefair.net. *Thru Sept. 9.*

**WOODSTOCK.** Foodways Fridays. Discover how to use seasonal vegetables and herbs from our heirloom garden in historic recipes. Different take-home recipes each week! \$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. info@billingsfarm.org. billingsfarm.org. *Fridays thru October 19.*

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

**CHESTER.** Bonnie's Bundles Dolls Reunion. A two-day event celebrating connections with dolls in families who own or collect dolls from Bonnie's Bundles Dolls over 44 years. Prizes, parades, photo shoots, sharing stories, music, food and good old-fashioned fun. Free. 9 am - 5 pm. 250 North St., Rt. 103N, The Stone Village. (802) 875-2114. www.bonniebundlesdolls.com. *Also September 9.*

**CHESTER.** The Annual Steiff Party. Free Admission! Peruse the shop in the morning. Refreshments at Noon. Steiff presentation at 1pm. 2012 Steiff event bear. Steiff door prizes. RSVP to reserve your free goody bag. Special sale items. Come visit and have some fun! Hugging Bear B&B and Teddy Bear & Toy Shoppe, 244 Main St. (800) 325-0519. www.huggingbear.com.

**EAST THETFORD.** Community Cannery Day. Our cannery day is free and open to the public. No canning experience required. Work alongside kitchen staff to can the day's crop and go home with your share of the product. A light snack served at end of day. 11 am - 3 pm. Please pre-register. Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center, 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. growing@cedarcirclefarm.org. www.cedarcirclefarm.org.

**MIDDLEBURY.** Workshop: Overwintering and Second Year Management of Bee Hives. Ross Conrad will cover swarming, honey production and harvesting. Cost: \$20. Held at the Elmer Farm, a conserved, certified organic, 90 acre farm. Rain date: September 15. 12-3 pm. Elmer Farm, 855 Case St. (802) 434-4122. info@nofavt.org. nofavt.org.

**MONTPELIER.** Books and Brew. Join us on the library lawn for a Beer Garden with The Three Penny Taproom and The Mad Taco as we kick-off our Fall Foliage Book Sale. Scottish Fiddler Joanne Garton followed by Michael Jermyn on guitar. Books are arranged by genre for easy browsing. 6-9 pm. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St. (802) 223-3338. www.kellogghubbard.org.

## Draft Animal Power Network Gathering, September 14-16

The Draft Animal Power Network (DAPNet) is planning their Sixth Annual Gathering and you're invited. This year's event will start around noon on Friday, September 14th and will run through Sunday, September 16. It will be held at the Perry Farm in Brownington, VT.

The event offers resources for farmers, loggers, and forest landowners pursuing the use of draft animals as part of their land-based livelihoods. The three days will be filled with draft animal demonstrations, field and forest intensives, and networking sessions.

A large audience comes each year including 4-H students, college students, young farmers looking to build skills and find mentors, resource individuals and businesses sharing their knowledge and tools, experienced farmers wanting to adopt new practices, and veteran teamsters sharing stories and experiences. We welcome spectators from the local community who come to see and learn more about draft animal-power and renewable energy.

Presenters are featured who use draft animals on a daily basis, among of the most skilled and informed people in the northeast. And, of course, there are the beautiful draft horses and oxen.

Friday's highlight is a tour of Webster Farm. There are thousands of pieces of horses driven farm equipment. Come see equipment that you never even dreamed about. This is a collection that has been kept under cover for years. Discuss mower gearing with 15+ models to compare. Plan on wearing good walking shoes. Friday evening there will be a potluck supper with music and visiting. T-shirts and hats will be available for purchase with our new DAPNet Logo.

Saturday morning we will have oxen and a single horse in the woods, plus we will do some plowing and some mowing and haymaking. With any luck Chuck Cox will bring his new Pioneer Homesteader so we can have a chance to see it in action. Saturday afternoon will include the annual meeting of members of DAPNet after lunch at 12:30 p.m. Come vote for the new board members and see where people are needed to make 2013 a successful year. After the meeting we will have a training session on training and starting young horses.

On Sunday morning we'll start off with a Sermon from the Mount, filled with spiritual reflections on six-footed partnerships. There will be another trip to the Webster farm for those that missed it on Friday or those that just want to see more. We will finish up any projects left from Saturday.

*Directions:* Perry Farm is located off I-91, Exit 26 (Orleans) in Brownington, VT. (Do not use Mapquest!!! You will arrive via Timbucktoo and an unused sleighride trail!!) From Interstate 91 and the Village of Orleans: follow Rt. 58 East, through the village. Just after you leave the business district turn left/straight on East St. following signs for the Old Stonehouse Museum in Brownington Village. Go about two miles up the hill, bearing left at the stop sign, staying on the main road. About 1/2 mile after the stop sign in the center of Brownington Village, turn right on Old Stonehouse Rd. Go about 1/2 mile and turn left on Dutton Brook Lane. We are about 1/2 mile in, you can't miss it!

Please pre-register so that we can plan meals. Fees are \$35-\$50, meals additional. Camping available. For info

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# Vermont Country Calendar

**NORWICH.** 8th Annual Antiques Show. Informal appraisals by William A. Smith, Inc., from 2-4 pm for \$5 per item (maximum of three pieces per customer). Great food and live music! Benefit for Norwich Historical Society. 10 am - 4 pm. Norwich Historical Society, 277 Main St. (802) 649-0124. [www.norwichhistory.org](http://www.norwichhistory.org)

**NORWICH.** Contra Dance with Northern Spy. Caller: David Millstone. 8 pm. Admission \$8 (students \$5, under 16 free, seniors by donation). Tracy Hall. (802) 785-4607.

**ORWELL.** 235th anniversary Soldiers Atop the Mount. Living history weekend looks at the September 1777 American raid to take Mount Independence back from the British. Reenactors demonstrate military tactics, camp life, colonial crafts, cooking, and clothing. Drilling lessons and Mistress Davenport's schoolhouse and storytime. Reading of the Declaration of Independence and music by the Seth Warner Mount Independence Fife & Drum Corps. Late afternoon artillery firing. Admission \$6 adults, free for children under 14. 9:30 am - 5:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site on Mount Independence Rd., off Rt. 73. (802) 948-2000. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). Also *September 9*.

**RANDOLPH.** Concert: Aoife O'Donovan Band. Alternative bluegrass/string band music. For the past 10 years Aoife has been fronting for the band, Crooked Still. Tickets \$32. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org).

**RUPERT.** 8th Annual Sheepdog Trials. Sanctioned by the Northeast Border Collie Association. Trials, young dog training, on-farm demonstrations, horse-drawn wagon rides, traditional farm games, and farm-to-table food offerings. \$5/adult, \$3/12 & under, 4 and under free. 9 am - 4 pm. Merck Forest and Farmland, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. [merckforest.org](http://merckforest.org). Also *September 9*.

**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. (802) 753-7269. [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org). [www.rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org](http://www.rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org). *Saturdays through October 27*.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Scotty McCreery, American Idol winner, performs at 7:30 pm. Most days tickets are \$10, senior \$5, child \$4, parking \$3. Grandstand extra. (802) 775-5200. [www.vermontstatefair.net](http://www.vermontstatefair.net). Also *September 9*.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Gun & Knife Show. Antiques & collectibles, free appraisals, buying, selling trading. Admission. Open to the public. Free parking. Sat 9 am - 5 pm, Sun 9 am - 3 pm. Franklin Conference Center at The Howe Center, 1 Scale Ave. (802) 875-4540, (802) 380-8351. [www.greenmtgunshowtrail.com](http://www.greenmtgunshowtrail.com). Also *September 9*.

**WOODSTOCK.** Traditional Craft Saturdays—Weaving. Admission (includes all activities) \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [info@billingsfarm.org](mailto:info@billingsfarm.org). Also *September 15 & 22*.

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

**BRANDON.** Twilight in the Meadow—A September Celebration of Seasonal Food & Area Farmers. Cocktails, performance by Rusty DeWees, live auction, dinner and dessert. Tickets: \$100/person. 4:30 pm. Wood's Market Garden, Rt. 7. Sponsored by Rutland Area Farm and Food Link. For reservations and info call (802) 417-1528. [info@rutlandfarmandfood.org](mailto:info@rutlandfarmandfood.org)

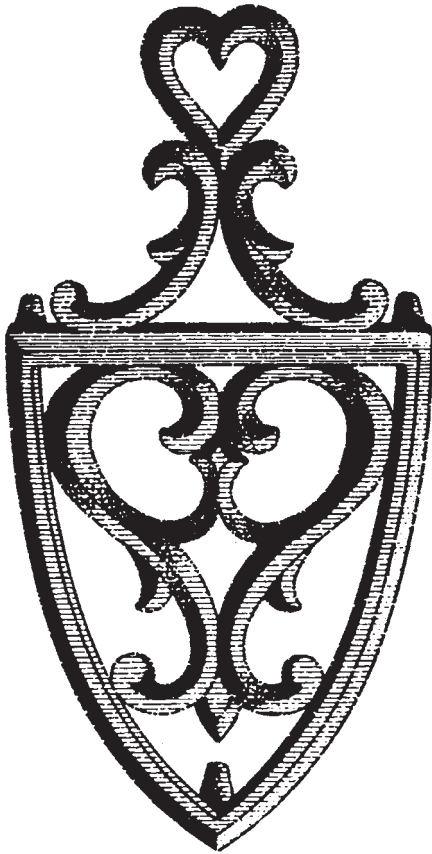
**FAIR HAVEN.** Breakfast Buffet. \$7 adult, \$3.50 children. 8-11 am, American Legion Post #49, 72 S. Main St. (802) 265-7983.

**GREENSBORO BEND.** Swap Sisters Preservation Party. Enjoy workshops about food preservation all day (fermenting vegetables and beverages, canning, sourdough, sausage making, root cellaring and more). Potluck lunch and home-made happy hour at the end. 10 am - 4 pm at Wheelock Mountain Farm. For directions check out [www.wheelockmtnfarm.wikispaces.com](http://www.wheelockmtnfarm.wikispaces.com). For more information contact [swapsisters@gmail.com](mailto:swapsisters@gmail.com) or call (802) 533-2296.

**ORWELL.** Soldiers Atop the Mount. Annual living history weekend looks at the September 1777 American raid to take Mount Independence back from the British. At this 235th anniversary event, reenactors demonstrate military tactics, camp life, colonial crafts, cooking, and clothing. Meet and greet the soldiers. Drilling lessons and Mistress Davenport's schoolhouse and storytime. 9:30 am - 2 pm. Admission \$6 adults, free for children under 14. Mount Independence State Historic Site on Mount Independence Rd., off Rt. 73. (802) 948-2000. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**RUPERT.** 8th Annual Sheepdog Trials. Trials, young dog training, on-farm demonstrations, horse-drawn wagon rides, traditional farm games, and farm-to-table food offerings. \$5/adult, \$3/12 & under, 4 and under free. 9 am - 4 pm. Merck Forest and Farmland, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. [info@merckforest.org](mailto:info@merckforest.org). [www.merckforest.org](http://www.merckforest.org). Also *September 9*.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont State Fair. Stoney Roberts VT State Demolition Derby 5 pm. Most days tickets are \$10, senior \$5, child \$4, parking \$3. For information call (802) 775-5200. [www.vermontstatefair.net](http://www.vermontstatefair.net).



**RUTLAND.** Vermont Gun & Knife Show. Antiques & collectibles, free appraisals, buying, selling, trading. Admission. Open to the public. Free parking. 9 am - 3 pm. Franklin Conference Center at The Howe Center, 1 Scale Ave. (802) 875-4540, (802) 380-8351. [www.greenmtgunshowtrail.com](http://www.greenmtgunshowtrail.com).

**THETFORD.** 3rd Annual Pie Contest. Roll that dough! Peel that fruit! Whip that cream! Don't bake? Come for a slice of pie! 2-5 pm. Hughes Barn Museum, 2274 Rt. 113. (802) 785-2068. [info@thetfordhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@thetfordhistoricalsociety.org). [www.thetfordhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.thetfordhistoricalsociety.org).

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

**MONTPELIER.** Library Book Sale. Thousands of books, CDs, DVDs, maps, sheet music and more. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St. (802) 223-3338. [kellogghubbard.org](http://kellogghubbard.org). *Through October 13 and December 10 - January 12*.

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

**HUBBARDTON.** Day of Remembrance. The site is open without charge for those who wish to contemplate or to honor past heroes. 9:30 am - 5:30 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd, seven miles north of Rt. 4. (802) 273-2282. [hubbardton@historicsites.vermont.gov](http://hubbardton@historicsites.vermont.gov).

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

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

**MARSHFIELD.** Workshop: Soil Testing, Management, and Cover Crop Strategies & NOFAvore Social. Fee: \$20. 4-6 pm. Wellspring Farm. Registration requested for the NOFAvore Social. Call for directions. (802) 434-4122. [info@nofavt.org](mailto:info@nofavt.org). [nofavt.org](http://nofavt.org).

**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](mailto:info@maplemuseum.com). [www.maplemuseum.com](http://www.maplemuseum.com). *Through October 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](mailto:info@billingsfarm.org). [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org). *Wednesdays through September 26*.

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

**ADDISON.** What Lies Beneath—9,000 Years of History at Chimney Point. Kate Kenney, historian and archaeologist from the University of Vermont Consulting Archeology program and guest curator for the special exhibit, shares the finds from the new Lake Champlain Bridge project and what they mean for the understanding of our history. Free. 7 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 7305 Rt. 125. (802) 759-2412. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**BARRE.** Vermont Archaeology Heritage Center Grand Opening. Enjoy tours of the new space and the inaugural exhibit, and learn about flint-knapping and pottery reconstruction. 3:30-6:30 pm. The Vermont History Center, 60 Washington St. (802) 828-3050

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# Vermont Country Calendar

(September 13, continued)

**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, contact Sylvia Davatz at sdav@valley.net or call (802) 436-3262.

**HUBBARDTON.** Starry, Starry Night. Experienced stargazers from the Green Mountain Alliance of Amateur Astronomers share their telescopes and knowledge. Bring blankets, flashlights, and your own binoculars or telescopes if you like. The marshmallows are on us. If inclement weather, inside illustrated program with exciting photos from deep space. Call to confirm. 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@historicvermont.org. historicites.vermont.gov.

**RUTLAND.** Concert: Mary Chapin Carpenter. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. For tickets call (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

**TUNBRIDGE.** The 141st Tunbridge World's Fair. Antique Hill, gymkhanas, horse shows, horse, pony & ox pulling, and heritage breeds shows, midway. Harness racing at 2 pm. The Ed Larkin Contra Dancers in the Entertainment Tent. Admission: Thursday \$8, children under 12 years free. Fair is open 8 am to 9 pm. (800) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com. Through September 16.

**WATERBURY CENTER.** Workshop: Growing for Seed Production. Visit NOFA Journey Farmer Nate Lewis at his start-up farm that produces tomato and pepper seed, as well as small fruit and garlic. Fee: \$20. 4:30-6:30 pm. Lewis Farm. (802) 434-4122. info@nofavt.org. nofavt.org.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

**BROWNINGTON.** Northeast Animal Power Gathering & Draft Animal Power Network Annual Meeting. A gathering of folks who use and appreciate draft animal power. Families are welcome, camping is available. Fees: \$35 adult, \$50/family per day. Camping and meals extra, order in advance. 12 pm. Perry Farm, 509 Dutton Brook Lane. For information contact Rebekah Bailey at (802) 754-2396. bekah@nealperryfarm.com. www.nealperryfarm.com. www.draftanimalpowernetwork.org. Through September 16.

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

**TUNBRIDGE.** The 141st Tunbridge World's Fair. Antique Hill, gymkhanas, horse shows, horse, pony & ox pulling, heritage breeds shows, and midway. Harness racing at noon. The Ed Larkin Contra Dancers in the Entertainment Tent. Admission: Friday \$10, children under 12 years free. Fair is open 7 am to 9 pm. For information call (800) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com. Through September 16.

**WEST PAWLET.** West Pawlet Community 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 4-7 pm, indoors and outdoors, year-round. West Pawlet Fish & Game Club (next to the Post Office), 2849 Rt. 153. wpcfmkt@gmail.com.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

**ALBANY.** Peace of Earth Farm Hands-on Skill Share. Check out our experiments and results from two years of no-till farming. 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. rebeccebeidler@yahoo.com. www.peaceofearthfarmalbanyp.wordpress.com.

**BENNINGTON.** 19th Annual Bennington Quiltfest. The Quiet Valley Quilters Guild quilt show. See several hundred quilts, new, vintage, challenge, special exhibit. Lectures by featured quilter George Siciliano, vendors, demonstrations, food, consignments, and Guild-made raffle quilt. Admission. Saturday 9 am - 5 pm. Sunday till 4 pm. Mt. Anthony Middle School, 747 East Rd. (802) 442-8596. benningtonquiltfest.com. Also September 16.

**BROWNINGTON.** Northeast Animal Power Gathering & Draft Animal Power Network Annual Meeting. A gathering of folks who use and appreciate draft animal power. Annual meeting after lunch. Families welcome, camping available. Fees: \$25 adult, \$45/family per day. Camping and meals extra, order in advance. 12 pm. Perry Farm, 509 Dutton Brook Lane. Info call Rebekah Bailey at (802) 754-2396. bekah@nealperryfarm.com. www.nealperryfarm.com. www.draftanimalpowernetwork.org. Also September 16.

**CHESTER.** Animal Communication Class. With Linda Carley. Fee: \$60. 7-8 pm. Peace of Paradise, 78 the Common. Please call to pre-register. (802) 875-8008. www.peaceofparadisevt.com.

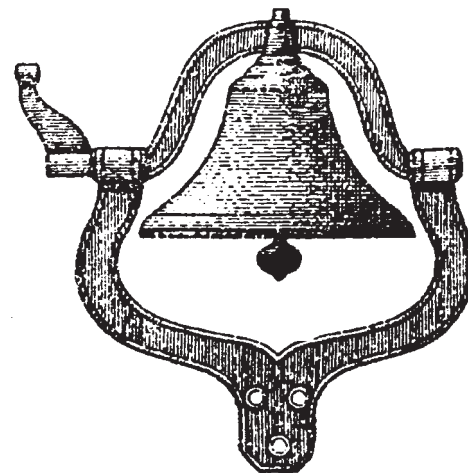
**EAST THETFORD.** Class: This Rots!—Demystifying Compost. Reduce your trash size and smell, feed the soil and save money by composting. Led by Cat Buxton and Nick Cook. Limited space. Pre-register. \$20/person. 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center, 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. growing@cedarcirclefarm.org. www.cedarcirclefarm.org.

**MANCHESTER.** Free Bird Walk. The Vermont Bird Place & Sky Watch and local birders meet to conduct a survey of the wild birds present on the grounds of Hildene. For info call Randy Schmidt at (802) 362-2270. Meet at 8 am at the Welcome Center parking lot. Hildene, Rt. 7A. (802) 367-7961. www.hildene.org. Also Oct. 13, Nov. 17 & Dec. 8.

**MARLBORO.** Third Annual Vermont Wildlife Festival. Free day of outdoor fun and learning, on-going guided hikes. Over 20 outdoor organizations including the Wolf Conservation Center with live wolves. 10 am - 4 pm. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum, Rt. 9, Hogback Mountain. (802) 464-0048.

**MONTPELIER.** Bethany Church Lawn and Bake Sale. Sat. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun. noon - 3 p.m. Bethany Church, 115 Main St. (802) 223-2424. bethanychurchvt.org. Also Sept. 16.

**MORRISVILLE.** Genealogy Primary and Secondary Source Workshop. Collect information from diaries, letters, newspapers, books and magazines associated with your ancestors. Please RSVP. Free. 10-11:30 am. Noyes House Museum, 122 Lower Main St. (802) 888-7617. noyeshousemuseum.org. noyeshousemuseum@gmail.com.



## Watching Romuald

by Bill Felker

"Sit in your cell as in paradise," stated Romuald of Ravena, founder of the Camaldolese monastic order. "Put the whole world behind you and forget it. Watch your thoughts like a good fisherman watching for fish. Empty yourself completely and sit waiting, content with the grace of God, like the chick who tastes nothing and eats nothing but what his mother brings him."

These days, a green frog named Romuald lives in the pond near my house, and he doesn't seem to mind that I watch him. When I am sitting on the bench close to the pond, he will jump right up on the stones I have placed around the water's edge, and there he will stay for as long as I care to stay, motionless and without affect, betraying no emotion, giving no signs of his intent. Although I sometimes hear him croak in the night, he is always quiet when I am watching, both of us in our cell.

For a while, I waited to see if Romuald would actually do something. Maybe he would catch a fly, I thought, or dive

in after a piece of fish food that was floating by. But the frog soon showed me that there was nothing to do. And when I tried to understand my frog, when I conjectured, imagined, assumed, surmised, I found no answers, no logical conclusions. The frog was a tabula rasa, a blank slate, diffusing sequence and purpose.

Now if I were a naturalist or a scientist, I would stay by the water as long as it took to know exactly what Romuald ate and where he slept, and really how long he could stay out of water, and how far he could jump. If I were an environmentalist, I would find out how to save him from humans and raccoons. If I were an activist or an academic, then I would learn all of those things and much more.

But Romuald teaches me to leave behind the world of reason and false utility, and so I am free to contemplate the frog in himself, whatever that may be. I can rest lightly in his impassivity and in his inscrutability. He is, after all, in his cell. He seems to be empty and content, waiting for grace in paradise.



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# Vermont Country Calendar



## HORSE IN PASTURE

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

—JAMES HAYFORD  
1962

**RUPERT.** Workshop: Mushroom Madness. Join former Skidmore professor and local mycologist, Sue Van Hook, for a hands-on workshop to make your own oyster, shiitake and wine cap spawn, bags and logs. Fee: \$35/person, and \$50/couple. 1–4 pm. Merck Forest and Farmland, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. info@merckforest.org. www.merckforest.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. vtfarmersmarket.org. rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

**SHELburne.** 34th Annual Harvest Festival. Hay rides, demonstrations, farm-fresh food from Shelburne Farms and neighboring farmers, antique farm machines, farm animals, newly expanded hay bale maze. Music by Banjo Dan and the Mid-Nite Plowboys. 10 am - 4 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. www.shelburnefarms.org.

**TUNBRIDGE.** The 141st Tunbridge World's Fair. Antique Hill, gymkhanas, horse shows, horse, pony & ox pulling, heritage breeds shows and midway. The Livestock Cavalcade at 12:30 p.m. The Ed Larkin Contra Dancers daily in the Entertainment Tent. Admission: \$12, children under 12 years free every day. Fair is open 7 am to 10 pm. (800) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com. Also September 16.

**WINDSOR.** Welcome to Our Neighborhood! Join town historian Barbara Rhoad for an architectural walking tour down Windsor's historic Main Street. A walk around Runnemed Lake follows the tour; attendees should wear sturdy shoes and are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at the gazebo. Admission: adults \$2.50, children 14 & under are free. 10 am - 12 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site. 16 N. Main St. (802) 672-3773. historicites.vermont.gov.

**WOODSTOCK.** Traditional Craft Saturdays—Cooperage. David Salvetti of Fulton, NY will demonstrate the steps to make barrels and buckets. Admission (includes all activities) \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. Also September 22.

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

**ATHENS.** Historical Presentation and Pig Roast. Hosted by the Athens Historic Preservation Society. Join us at 2 pm to learn more about black history in Vermont through the story of the Turner Family as told through the voice of Jessie Daisy Turner. Pig roast to follow at 4:30 pm. Tickets \$15, 12 and under \$10. Athens Brick Meeting House, Rt. 30, Meeting House Rd. (802) 365-7740.

**BROWNINGTON.** Northeast Animal Power Gathering. Families welcome, camping available. Fees: \$25 adult, \$45/family per day. Camping and meals extra, order in advance. 12 pm. Perry Farm, 509 Dutton Brook Lane. Info call Rebekah Bailey at (802) 754-2396. bekah@nealperryfarm.com. www.nealperryfarm.com. www.draftanimalpowernetwork.org.

**HUBBARDTON.** Hubbardton Military Road Hike. Site interpreter Carl Fuller leads a vigorous guided hike on part of the 1776-77 military road leading from the Mount to the Hubbardton Battlefield. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. 2-5 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd, seven miles north of Rt. 4. (802) 273-2282. hubbardton@historicvermont.org. historicites.vermont.gov.

**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. tyfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

**SHOREHAM.** Apple Fest Day at Champlain Orchards. Whether on two wheels or four, come to the orchard for a free sample and listen to the music of the Bondville Boys from 12-4 pm. Also join us on the Shoreham town green for Apple Fest. Champlain Orchards, 3597 VT Route 74 W. (802) 897-2777. www.champlainorchards.com.

**SHOREHAM.** Annual Apple Fest. Continuous live music, crafts, and a farmers' market featuring a variety of delicious items for sale. Apple taste testing, hayrides, cider pressing, pie contest, children's activities, and more! Join us for everything apple our town has to offer! To benefit the Platt Memorial Library. 12-5 pm on the Town Green. (802) 897-2647.

**SHOREHAM.** 5th Annual Tour de Farms. Fantastic foods, amazing bicycling, and spectacular scenery. Three loop rides and a family-friendly five-mile walking or biking option. Family farmers treat bicyclists and walkers to tasty samples of cider, quiche, bread, roasted vegetables, yogurt, wine, maple syrup, and cookies. Advance registration: \$28 adults, \$13 kids 16 and under. Day-of registration: \$50 adults, \$20 kids 16 and under. Children in trailers and bike seats ride free. Register at www.ruralvermont.org. All routes begin and end at the Shoreham Town Green starting 10:30 am. For info: www.vtbikeped.org, (802) 225-8904; Rural Vermont, www.ruralvermont.org, (802) 223-7222; or Addison County Relocalization Network, www.acornvt.org.

**TUNBRIDGE.** The 141st Tunbridge World's Fair. Antique Hill, gymkhanas, horse shows, horse, pony & ox pulling, heritage breeds shows and midway. The Ed Larkin Contra Dancers in the Entertainment Tent. Admission: \$10, children under 12 years free every day. Fair is open 8 am to 6 pm. (800) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com.

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

**BRATTLEBORO.** Windham Orchestra Open Rehearsal. All area amateur and profession musicians are invited. Come play with a full symphony orchestra under the direction of Hugh Keelan. 7:30 pm, at the River Garden on Main Street. RSVP to info@windhamorchestra.org, so that we have music ready for you. Bring you instrument and come play! For info call the Brattleboro Music Cener at (802) 257-4523.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

**JOHNSON.** Workshop: Potato Production. Tony Lehouillier, owner of certified organic Foote Brook Farm will cover the essentials for potato production: understanding your soils, cultivation techniques, irrigation needs, harvesting with a two-roll picker, and disease issues. Bring boots for field walking. Vern Grubinger, UVM Vegetable and Berry Specialist will co-lead this workshop. Fee: \$20, free for farmers and VVBGA members. 4-6 pm. Foote Brooke Farm. (802) 434-4122. info@nofavt.org. nofavt.org.

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

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

**CRAFTSBURY COMMON.** Community Dinner. On the third Wednesday of every month, we gather for a free community supper. We have a great time with old and new friends. 6 pm. United Church of Craftsbury, 7 Church Lane. (802) 586-8028.

**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 September 26, October 3 & 10.

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

**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.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

**ADDISON.** Atlatl Workshop. Atlatl experts Bob and Cheryl Berg of Thunderbird Atlatl teach traditional and modern techniques of atlatl and dart construction, flint knapping, hafting stone points, and cordage making. Enjoy atlatl lore and coaching on the use of your new atlatl. Pre-registration required. 12-5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 7305 Rt. 125. (802) 759-2412. historicites.vermont.gov.



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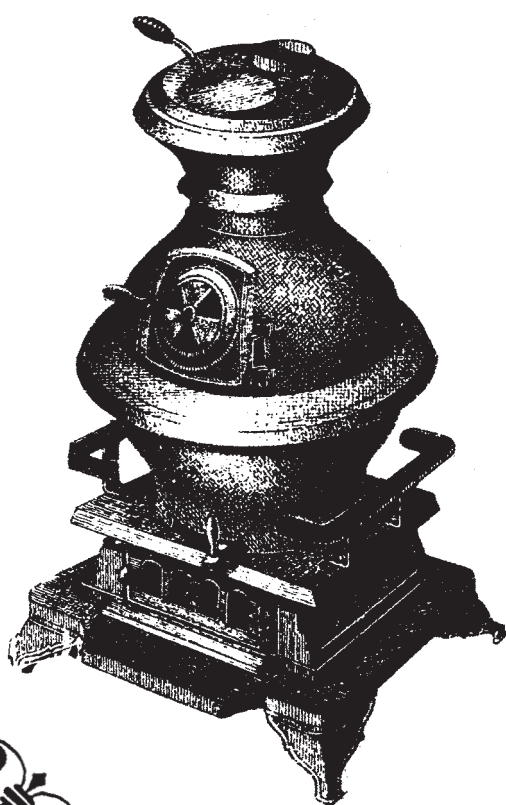
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# Vermont Country Calendar

(September 21, continued)

**BURLINGTON.** Eighth Annual Burlington Book Festival. Readings, signings, panels, workshops, demos, musical performances, family activities and special events featuring literary luminaries from around the world and just around the corner. All events are free of charge and open to the public. To volunteer e-mail [burlingtonmag@gmail.com](mailto:burlingtonmag@gmail.com) or call (802) 658-3328. [burlingtonbookfestival.com](http://burlingtonbookfestival.com). *Through September 23.*

**DERBY LINE.** "Forty and Farewell" Concert with Banjo Dan and the Mid-Nite Plowboys. Tickets are \$17. 7:30 pm. Haskell Opera House, 93 Caswell Ave, 7:30 PM, (802) 873-3022. [www.haskellopera.com](http://www.haskellopera.com).

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

**ADDISON.** 7th Annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship. The sport of atlatl throwing is based on the ancient hunting technique of using the atlatl or spear thrower. Demonstrations and workshops on flint knapping, woodland pottery, and other crafts and skills. 10:30 am - 4:30 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 7305 Rt. 125. (802) 759-2412. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**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.

**CHESTER.** Vermont Teddy Bear Artists. Visit the booths on our lawn. Hugging Bear B&B and Teddy Bear & Toy Shoppe, 244 Main St. (800) 325-0519. [www.huggingbear.com](http://www.huggingbear.com). *Also September 23.*

**CHESTER.** 37th Annual Fall Festival On The Green. Sponsored by the Chester Rotary Club. Artisans, crafters, food concessions. (802) 376-4131. *Through September 23.*

**CLAREMONT, NH.** Concert with Banjo Dan and the Mid-Nite Plowboys. 8 pm. Claremont, NH, Opera House, 58 Opera House Square. (603) 542-4433. [www.claremontoperahouse.com](http://www.claremontoperahouse.com).

**EAST THETFORD.** Cooking Class: Ferment!—Sauerkraut & Kimchee. Led by John Mellquist. Bring your own apron, knife, and cutting board. Limited space. Pre-register. \$45/person. 2-5 pm. Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center, 225 Pavillion Rd. off Rt. 5. (802) 785-4737. [growing@cedarcirclefarm.org](mailto:growing@cedarcirclefarm.org). [www.cedarcirclefarm.org](http://www.cedarcirclefarm.org).

**PERU.** 31st Annual Peru Fair. An old-fashioned country fair. Music, crafts, cloggers, antiques, clowns, pony rides, hay rides, food, baked goods, fun for everyone! Parade at 9:45 am. Pig roast 11 am, cost: \$10, roast corn \$2 extra. Admission \$5, children under 6 free. Rain or shine. 9 am - 4 pm. Parking at Bromley Mountain, Rt. 11. [perufair.org](http://perufair.org).

**PLYMOUTH.** Plymouth Cheese & Harvest Festival. At 2 pm, Adam Boyce performs as "Charles Ross Taggart: Vermont's Traveling Entertainer." Adults \$7.50, children 6-14 \$2, under 6 free, family pass \$20. 10 am - 4 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. [www.plymouthfolk.com](http://www.plymouthfolk.com). [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**RUTLAND.** Rutland Train Show. Hosted by the Rutland Rail Museum and Model Railroad Club. Model train layouts and exhibits. Admission \$3, children free. 10 am - 4 pm. Franklin Conference Center, at Howe Center. [fiskinvt@sover.net](mailto:fiskinvt@sover.net).

**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. (802) 753-7269. [rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org](http://rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org). [vtfarmersmarket.org](http://vtfarmersmarket.org). *Saturdays through October 27.*

**SOUTH BURLINGTON.** Fall into a Good Book. The South Burlington Public Library and the National Gardening Association are hosting a free reading and craft day at the Vermont Garden Park. Kids and families will be making arts and crafts, listening to nature-themed stories, and sampling fresh fruits and vegetables from the gardens. While garden-fresh foods will be available, you are welcome to bring a picnic. Free. 10 am - 2 pm. Vermont Garden Park, 1100 Dorset St. (802) 863-5251. [www.vermontgardenpark.org](http://www.vermontgardenpark.org).

**WOODSTOCK.** Traditional Craft Saturdays: Lacemaking with Evelyn Gant of Putnamville. Admission \$12 adults, \$11 seniors, \$6 children 5-15, \$3 children 3 & 4, children 2 and under free. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [info@billingsfarm.org](mailto:info@billingsfarm.org). [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org).

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

**ADDISON.** ISAC Atlatl Championship. Second morning of Atlatl International Standard Accuracy Competition. After ISAC, master class/coaching for boys and girls. 10 am. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 7305 Rt. 125. (802) 759-2412. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**BRATTLEBORO.** Performance: "Of Bread and Paper." Part of Sandglass Theater's Puppets in the Green Mountains Festival. 5:30 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. [brattleboromuseum.org](http://brattleboromuseum.org). *Also September 26 & 30.*

**CHESTER.** Vermont Teddy Bear Artists. Visit the booths on our lawn. Hugging Bear B&B and Teddy Bear & Toy Shoppe, 244 Main St. (800) 325-0519. [huggingbear.com](http://huggingbear.com).

**FERRISBURGH.** Nature Hike. How does a farm become a forest? Join the state's Addison County forester Chris Olson for a hike across acres of Rokeby's old fields and pastures. 2 pm. On the grounds at Rokeby Museum, Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. [rokeby@comcast.net](mailto:rokeby@comcast.net). [www.rokeby.org](http://www.rokeby.org).

**PLYMOUTH.** Grace Coolidge Musicale #2. Violinist Bozena O'Brien, cellist Kate Jensik, and pianist Abigail Charbeneau presenting a program of piano trios by Haydn, Mendelssohn, and Piazzola. An afternoon tea follows at the Wilder House Restaurant. Donation is suggested. 3-4 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. [www.plymouthfolk.com](http://www.plymouthfolk.com). [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**RUTLAND.** Performance—Comedian Norm MacDonald. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. For tickets call (802) 775-0903. [www.paramountvt.org](http://www.paramountvt.org).

**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. (802) 753-7269. [rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org](http://rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org). [vtfarmersmarket.org](http://vtfarmersmarket.org). *Saturdays through October 27.*

**SHAFTSBURY.** Talk—Country Houses for a New Republic: Master Builders of Connecticut and Vermont. This talk by New Haven Connecticut Museum and Historical Society Director William Hosley is about Connecticut's legendary builders after the Revolutionary War. Free. 2 pm. First United Methodist Church of Shaftsbury, Church St. (802) 447-3836. [www.shaftsburyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.shaftsburyhistoricalsociety.org).

**STRAFFORD.** Field Walk and Workshop: Fiddleheads, Lamb's Quarters, Nettles and Nuts—Wild Edible, Medicinal, and Poisonous Plants. A 1.5-hour walk led by Michael Caduto. \$10 adults, \$5 under 14. Justin Smith Morrill Homestead State Historic Site, 214 Justin Morrill Highway. (802) 828-3051. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

**RUTLAND.** Titanic The Musical. Performed by the National Broadway tour. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. [paramountvt.org](http://paramountvt.org).

**RUTLAND.** Rutland Downtown Farmers Market. Depot Park across from Walmart at Merchants Row. 3-6 pm. (802) 753-7269. [vtfarmersmarket.org](http://vtfarmersmarket.org). [rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org](http://rutlandcountyfarmersmarket.org).



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# Vermont Country Calendar

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 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 October 3 & 10.

**WOODSTOCK.** Wagon Ride Wednesdays. Horse-drawn wagon rides around the farm. Admission. 11 am - 2 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Annual Manchester Fall Art & Craft Festival. Over 180 juried artisans. Handmade contemporary and traditional crafts, art, live music, and an array of gourmet treats including the VT Beer, Cheese & Sausage Tent. Admission \$10, 12 and under free. 10 am - 5 pm. At the Fields at Riley Rink, 410 Hunter Park Rd. off Rt. 7 north of town. (802) 425-3399. www.craftproducers.com. Through September 30.

**STOWE.** Stowe Rotary's Oktoberfest. Free Friday night "Rocktoberfest" concert, Saturday grand parade, and two days of oompah bands, authentic Bavarian food, microbrew beer, and singing and dancing! Silent auctions, raffles, a "bouncy-haus" and kids' games. (802) 253-4788. stowerotary.com. Through September 30.

**SWANTON.** Free Open Door Community Dinner. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Memorial United Methodist Church, 23 Grand Ave. (802) 868-7185 x 10. www.holytrinityswanton.org.

**TINMOUTH.** Contra Dance. \$9 adults, \$7 teens, \$3 for 12 and under. 8 pm at Tinmouth Community Center, 573 Rt. 140. (802) 446-2458. tinmouthvt.org.

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**BENNINGTON.** Chicken Pie Dinner. Homemade chicken pie topped with biscuits, mashed potatoes, gravy, winter squash, apple cabbage salad, orange-cranberry relish, more biscuits and warm apple crisp with real whipped cream. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 13 and children under 3 are free. Two seatings at 5:15 and 6:30 pm. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 200 Pleasant St. Reservations email office@stpetersvt.org or call 9 am - 1 pm. (802) 442-2911.

**BARRE.** "Forty and Farewell" Final Concert with Banjo Dan and the Mid-Nite Plowboys. Tickets \$20/\$18. 8 pm. Barre Opera House, 6 North Main St. (802) 476-8188. www.barreoperahouse.org.

**BRANDON.** HarvestFest—Make Your Own Leaf People. Hayrides and pumpkins. Lion's Club delicious grill. Rotary Club's famous apple pies, and St. Mary's brings lots of treats. The first "Harvest Person" per family is free of charge. After that, they are only \$5 each. 10 am - 1 pm. Central Park. (802) 247-6401. www.brandon.org.

**CHESTER.** Vermont Gun & Knife Show. Antiques & collectibles, free appraisals, buying, selling trading. Admission. Open to the public. Free parking. Sat 9 am - 5 pm. Sun 9 am - 3 pm. American Legion #67, Rt. 103. (802) 875-4540, (802) 380-8351. www.greenmtgunshowtrail.com. Also September 30.

**JAMAICA.** White Water Release. Every spring and fall, there is a water release on the West River from Ball Mountain Dam. Great conditions for kayakers and canoeists from all over New England. Jamaica State Park. (802) 874-4600. www.vtstateparks.com.

**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.

**MANCHESTER.** Art on the Hill. SVAC's largest free family event is a day packed with fun art-related activities, live music, food, a raffle, and access to all SVAC exhibitions. Southern Vermont Art Center. 11 am - 3 pm. Southern Vermont Arts Center, West Rd. (802) 362-1405. www.svac.org.

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Annual Manchester Fall Art & Craft Festival. Over 180 juried artisans. Quality arts and crafts for view and sale. Live music, and gourmet edible treats available. Fabulous food court. Beer, cheese & sausage tent. Admission \$10, 12 and under free. 10 am - 5 pm. At the Fields at Riley Rink, 410 Hunter Park Rd. off Rt. 7 north of town. (802) 425-3399. craftproducers.com. Also September 30.

**RUPERT.** Trail Volunteer Work Party for National Public Lands Day. Merck Forest and Farmland, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. info@merckforest.org. merckforest.org.

**RUTLAND.** Concert: Bruce Hornsby. Tickets: \$32.50-45.50. 8 pm. Brick Box, Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

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

**SOUTH STRAFFORD.** Open Farm Day. Visit a beautiful working farm home to 50+ alpacas including this year's spectacular crop of babies. Alpaca products and refreshments. 10 am - 4 pm. Vermont Alpaca Company, 18 Justin Morrill Memorial Hwy. (802) 765-9639. VermontAlpacaCo.com.

**VERGENNES.** Archaeology Weekend. Meet archaeologists and share hands-on presentations about shipwrecks, nautical archaeology, and the story of the Vergennes shipyard where the fleet was built that saved America in 1814. Admission: adult \$10, seniors \$9, students 5-17 \$6, under 5 free. 10 am - 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. (802) 475-2022. lamm.org. Also September 30

**WOODSTOCK.** Vermont Fine Furniture & Woodworking Festival. Watch traditional woodworking demonstrations and visit vendors. Local food, live music, kids' activities and more! Explore the forest at the Forest Festival at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park. Admission \$10. 10 am - 5 pm. Union Arena at Woodstock Union High School, Rt. 4. (802) 747-7900. www.vermontwoodfestival.org. Also September 30.

**WOODSTOCK.** Pumpkin & Apple Celebration. Apple tasting, cider pressing, pumpkin bowling, apples-on-a-string, making pumpkin & apple ice cream, cooking apple butter in the farmhouse, and horse-drawn wagon rides. Admission \$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. billingsfarm.org. Also September 30.

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

**ADDISON.** The Shortest Distance between Two Points Guided Walk. Learn about the history of what you're seeing while walking across the new Lake Champlain Bridge! Led by state historic site managers Thomas Hughes from Crown Point (NY) State Historic Site and Elsa Gilbertson from Chimney Point. Meet at the Crown Point, NY 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. historicites.vermont.gov.

**BROWNINGTON.** Cheese & Apple Tasting at the Old Stone House Museum. Heirloom vegetable exhibit and contest, apple pressing, presentations on cheese making and apple varieties. Local food producers will give tastes and sell their products around the Samuel Read Hall House. 11 am - 3 pm. \$8 per person, under 9 and over 90 free. At the Old Stone House Museum, 109 Old Stone House Rd. (802) 754-2022. information@oldstonehousemuseum.org. oldstonehousemuseum.org.

**CHESTER.** Vermont Gun & Knife Show. Antiques & collectibles, free appraisals, buying, selling and trading. Admission. Open to the public. Free parking. 9 am - 3 pm. American Legion #67, Rt. 103. (802) 875-4540, (802) 380-8351. www.greenmtgunshowtrail.com.

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Annual Manchester Fall Art & Craft Festival. Handmade contemporary and traditional crafts, original art, live music, and gourmet treats. Admission \$10, 12 and under free. 10 am - 5 pm. At the Fields at Riley Rink, 410 Hunter Park Rd. (802) 425-3399. www.craftproducers.com.

**SHOREHAM.** Champlain Orchards Fall Concert. Your picking will be serenaded by a trio of members from Atlantic Crossing. Bring a picnic lunch, or grab some local products from our Farm Market and enjoy the afternoon. 1-3:30 pm. Champlain Orchards, 3597 VT Route 74 West. (802) 897-2777. champlainorchards.com.

**WOODSTOCK.** Pumpkin & Apple Celebration. Apple tasting, cider pressing, pumpkin bowling, apples-on-a-string, making pumpkin & apple ice cream, cooking apple butter and wagon rides. Admission. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

## Preservation Party and Harvest Swap in Greenboro Bend, VT

The Swap Sister's Annual Food Preservation Party take place Sunday, September 9 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (followed by happy hour) at Wheelock Mountain Farm in Greenboro Bend, VT

There will be workshops on fermented foods and also the basics of preserving many types of food in fun ways. Those who are just exploring the arts of canning, brewing and drying as well as those who have been preserving the harvest for many years are welcome. Workshops include: vegetable fermenting basics, pectin free chutneys and jams, sourdough bread, brewing and home made soda, sausage making, tomato paste balls, miso, duck confit, tempeh, and more.

There are many ways to share and experience the event—bring a dish for the potluck lunch, offer or take canning jars, bring your experience, ideas and recipes, and stay for the homemade happy hour at the end.

Keep the upcoming Harvest Swap in mind. On October 21 at the Greensboro Elementary School, join the Swap Sisters for the First Annual Harvest Swap. If you long for a chance to try someone else's homegrown handiwork come and participate. Bring some items that you have grown and preserved to swap on a one-for-one basis. Bring items with an estimated value of \$5, or in \$5 increments. For example: a quart of canned tomatoes, a jar of jelly, a loaf of bread, a large winter squash, or a pound of frozen meat.

Wheelock Mountain Farm is deep in the rural, rugged beauty of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. We're a 20 minute drive from Hardwick in Greenboro Bend. Call for directions.

For more information about the Preservation Party or the Harvest Swap e-mail swapsisters@gmail.com or call (802) 755-6336.



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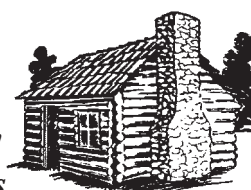
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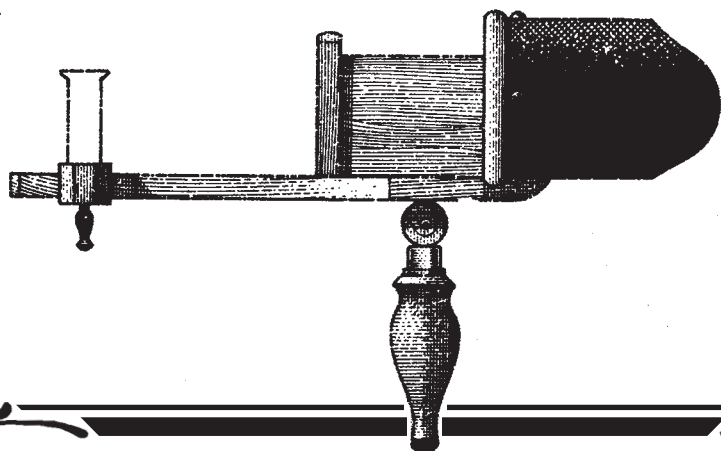


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# Mellow Fruitfulness

by Judith Irven

September in Vermont is when the world bids goodbye to summer, and starts making preparations for winter.

Many of our summer residents, from hawks to hummingbirds, not to mention the amazing monarch butterflies, are departing for warmer climes. The flowers are abuzz with bees as they replenish nectar supplies. And squirrels and chipmunks are stashing away seeds in the dark recesses of our woodpile. Will they ever remember, six months from now, where they hid their loot?

In our vegetable garden tomatoes are ripening beautifully, winter squash are filling out under a rampant blanket of leaves, and the kale is lush and full.

At summer draws to a close our garden produces far more than two people can possibly consume on a day-to-day basis. So now is the time to preserve the excess for the months ahead. It will taste all the more special when the snow is on the ground!

I have already dug and cured the garlic. After replanting 64 cloves to make next year's crop, the remaining bulbs are set on a wire rack in the basement.

The winter squash also goes into a cool corner of the basement. I grow the delicata and the butternut varieties. Both roast well and become the basis of all sorts of winter specialties—just set the unpeeled squash halves with a little water in a shallow pan and cook at 375° until they are soft all through. Butternut squash is also an excellent keeper and, since it easy to peel and cube, these big fruits feature in many wonderful winter soup recipes.

But, unlike squash and root vegetables, which can remain for several months in a cool basement, for long-term storage most of our harvest must be either canned or frozen.

I marvel at people who devote hot summer days to canning. But I am blessed with a freezer and I fill it well with both fruits and vegetables. These are some of my freezer favorites:

### Black and blue

Blackcurrants are a great source of vitamin C, so much so that 'Ribena' blackcurrant juice was a fixture of my English childhood.

Here in our Vermont garden we have 18 large blackcurrant bushes. The small fruit takes a lot of picking but this summer we managed to put away a dozen quarts of blackcurrant sauce in the freezer.

To make this sauce I simmer the cleaned blackcurrants with a little water for about 10 minutes. Then I add a pinch



Judith Irven's fall garden with abundant kale in Goshen, VT.

photo by Dick Conrad

of baking soda to neutralize the acidity, and sweeten it with maple syrup.

The health benefits of blueberries are renowned. Blueberries also grow very well in Vermont generally acidic soil.

Here in the garden we have a dozen bushes, many of which are sixty years old. Last fall I fertilized them liberally with composted coffee grounds, courtesy of Gourmet Provence in Brandon. Coffee grounds will boost the acidity of the soil, and certainly this year's crop has been nothing short of spectacular.

Blueberries are delicious eaten fresh, but they are also a cinch to prepare for the freezer. Just wash and drain the fruit, and store in large freezer bags.

Frozen blueberries can be added directly to pancakes and muffins. I also like to simmer the fruit for a short time to make a sauce for our evening yogurt.

### Red and yellow

I also grow a lot of cherry tomatoes. They ripen almost a month earlier than the full sized ones—an important consideration for me given the short growing season at our altitude (1700').

This year I grew a total of eight plants—both red 'Sweet 100' and yellow 'Sungold', and now we are awash in ripe fruit.

I have found that roasting cherry tomatoes is really easy and it intensifies their sweetness. Lay the uncut cherry tomatoes in a single layer in a flat baking tray, coat them very lightly in olive oil, sprinkle with chopped garlic and rosemary and roast in a 375° oven for about 20 minutes.

Sprinkle the cooked tomatoes with Parmesan cheese for a delicious topping to pasta or quinoa. Freeze the excess in flat containers, and in midwinter they will taste like a breath of summer.

### Green

We all know green vegetables are good for us!! The good news is that in Vermont—where our summers are cool and the growing season relatively short—several green vegetables with high nutrition also grow really well. Take Swiss chard and kale for instance. Kale matures in about 55 days from

when you set the seedlings out in the spring, and chard even sooner. However, unlike spinach, kale and chard do not bolt when the weather turns warmer.

All summer long you can cut their leaves for stir-fries and the like. I usually separate the chard stems so that I can cook them a bit longer than the leaves. And be sure to remove and discard the stems of the kale as they have a tough texture resembling old bootlaces.

By September the plants are robust and full, and this is when I start my freezing regime. Both kale and chard should be blanched before freezing. After washing and preparing, drop the leaves into a pot of boiling water and cook for two minutes—one minute for the chard leaves. Then drain and dunk them in cold water, pat them dry and freeze in small quantities. Both will make great additions to sautéed vegetables and winter soups.

### The season of mellow fruitfulness

September is when summer comes to a close. The bees are preparing for winter, fruit is ripening on the vine, and the garden is fulfilled.

It is a surely brief season, but one to be savored and enjoyed.

John Keats enduring poem 'Ode to Autumn', written in another time and another place, still rings true today:

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,  
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;  
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,  
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;  
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells  
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,  
And still more, later flowers for the bees,  
Until they think warm days will never cease,  
For Summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

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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# Learn to Make Sauerkraut, Gluten-Free Baked Goods & Whole Grain Sourdough Breads at Cedar Circle Farm

Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center grows organic vegetables May through October, offered at their farmstand in East Thetford, VT. To help people enjoy and process local foods, they offer cooking and baking classes in their new commercial kitchen. In the fall the focus is on teaching people how to preserve the harvest and enhance their baking skills for the cold weather months ahead.

## An ancient preservation method

The annual fermentation class, Sauerkraut & Kimchee, will be offered on Saturday, September 22, from 2-5 p.m. Lacto-fermentation is an ancient method of food preservation that offers many health benefits and is part of virtually all food cultures the world over. Using farm fresh ingredients, John Mellquist, the farm's draft horse teamster and professional bread baker, teaches traditional techniques for making lacto-fermented foods such as sauerkraut and kimchee.

## Baking bread with sourdough culture

Using the farm's team of draft horses, John plants wheat and rye which he mills into flour and uses in the sourdough breads he sells in the farmstand and local food coops. For an overview of the entire process watch Cedar Circle Farm's Wheat to Bread video featuring John, on YouTube.

Owner of Trukenbrod Mill and Bakery, John Mellquist will offer an all-new, two-day Wholegrain Sourdough Breads class on October 13 and 14, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Designed for serious home bakers interested in making nutritious sourdough breads, participants learn about stone-milling whole grains into flour, preparation and feeding of the sourdough culture, and mixing, shaping and baking bread.

According to Mellquist, "For millennia, bakers have made their bread with a sourdough culture, producing nutritious and easily-digestible products from whole grains. In modern times, however, sourdough has been replaced with baker's yeast, a fast-acting and convenient leavening which unfortunately results in nutritionally-inferior bread with a shorter shelf life. In this class we'll learn how to nurture and control the sourdough so that it will perform for us in making good bread every time. We will cover baker's math, enabling you to convert any recipe into a formula so you can adjust the quantity easily. You will leave with spreadsheet templates containing recipes for a variety of wholegrain German, Finnish, Danish, Portuguese and French breads."

John Mellquist began making wholegrain breads in 1964 and has studied wholegrain baking with Dave Miller of Miller's Bakery in California, and with Richard Bourdon of Berkshire Mountain Bakery in Massachusetts.

## Gluten-free goodies

For those interested in learning about gluten-free baking, Cedar Circle Farm's kitchen manager and professional chef Alison Baker will teach Gluten-Free Baking on Saturday, October 27, from 1-4 p.m. Whether you're caring for someone with celiac disease or simply interested in experimenting with a wheat- or gluten-free diet, this class will give you the skills and knowledge you need to bake delicious gluten-free delights at home, from morning buns to irresistible desserts. Chef Alison says, "In our cooking classes we try to emphasize topics of interest to the community, as well as emerging health concerns such as food allergies. Our fall gluten-free baking class is a great example, since more and more people are discovering an intolerance to modern wheat, especially in its processed form. This class is an opportunity to learn more about what leads to this increasingly prevalent condition



Alison Baker, farm chef and kitchen manager, prepares vegetables in the Farm Kitchen at Cedar Circle Farm. photo by Robert Eddy

while also learning to make delicious gluten-free substitutes." Cedar Circle Farm, located on Pavillion Road, off Route 5, in East Thetford, VT, 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. For more information, visit [www.CedarCircleFarm.org](http://www.CedarCircleFarm.org)

Space is limited and pre-registration is required for all classes. Additional details and online registration is available at [www.cedarcirclefarm.org/events/classes](http://www.cedarcirclefarm.org/events/classes) or by calling Cedar Circle Farm at (802) 785-4737.

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# Visit Seyon Lodge State Park in Groton, VT

One of Vermont's best kept secrets, Seyon Lodge State Park provides rustic and welcoming facilities in the midst of the inspiring beauty of Groton State Forest. Situated on the pristine shores of Noyes Pond, the Lodge provides year-round lodging and meeting facilities for individual guests and groups, including small conferences, retreats, and weddings.

Private rooms with shared bath accommodate 16 overnight guests, while a fully equipped commercial kitchen prepares meals, catering to the whims of your guests.

The Lodge at Seyon is situated within the 27,000 acres of Groton State Forest. The secluded setting allows guests to enjoy some of the most beautiful and undisturbed natural scenery in Vermont. Wildlife abounds and hiking and cross-country ski trails provide easy access to the solitude of the surrounding forests. Fly fishing for brook trout on Noyes Pond is considered among the best in Vermont, with boat rentals available at the Lodge.

You can rent the conference room at Seyon Lodge. This indoor room seats up to 30 people and offers restrooms, electricity, tables, chairs, and Wifi. The rental fee is \$300 and reservations can be made through Seyon staff directly by calling (802) 584-3829.

Nearby things to do: other state parks in the Groton State Forest; Montshire Museum of Science, Norwich; Cabot Cheese Factory, Cabot; Ben & Jerry's Factory, Waterbury.

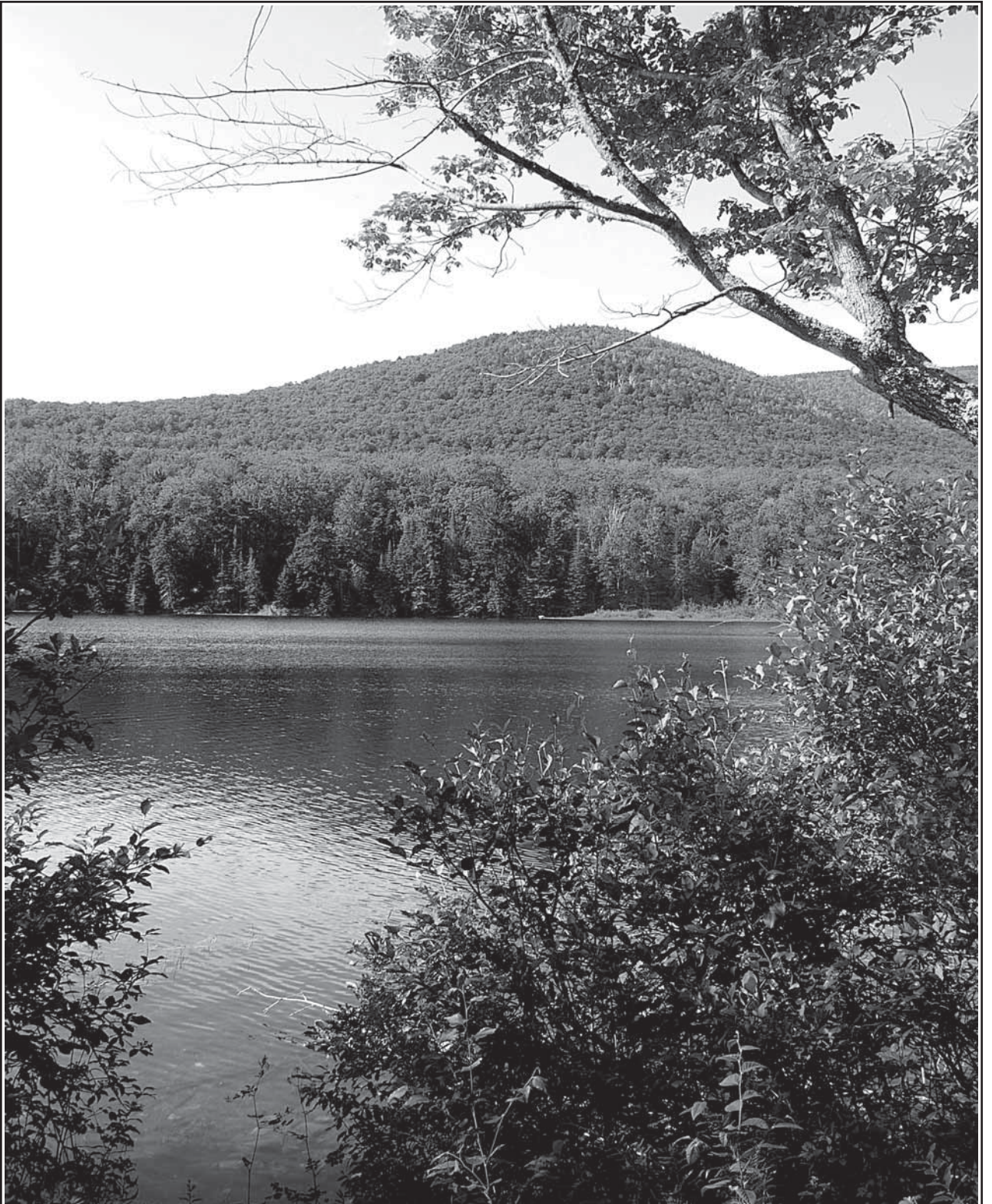
Open for day use: 6 a.m. till official sunset. The season is year round, with closures during stick season, mud season and Christmas break. Pets are not permitted in lodge, but are allowed on trails during the summer and fall.

Directions: from Groton go three miles west on U.S. 302, then three miles west on Seyon Pond Rd.

*Seyon Lodge State Park is located at 2967 Seyon Pond Rd., Groton, VT 05046. Park phone: (802) 584-3829. www.vtstateparks.com.*



The Lodge at Seyon Lodge State Park in Groton, VT.



Noyes Pond at Seyon Lodge State Park in Groton, VT is excellent for fly-fishing. photo by Nancy Cassidy

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photo by Sue Brown

The 1st Vermont Regiment musters in at Rutland in May of 1861, as portrayed by the Champlain Valley Historical Reenactors. This group will be at the Cambridge Civil War Days.

## Cambridge Civil War Days

The historic village of Cambridge, VT will step back 150 years this October 6 and 7 to be transformed into a bustling community of Civil War-era activities by both military and civilian reenactors.

Selected by the governor's Sesquicentennial Commission as one of the top ten Civil War events for 2012, this wide range of displays, speakers, and other programs concludes each day with a demonstration of battle tactics used in the conflict. Visitors of all ages will be entertained and educated at this free event, held annually by the Cambridge Historical Society during the commemoration of the 1861-1865 War of the Rebellion.

Located 35 miles east of Burlington on VT Route 15, the Grand Army of the Republic Highway named for the veterans' organization formed after the war, the village of Cambridge still retains much of the character of the period. Sites around the community will present a variety of activities. Music will include Linda Radtke's popular Civil War Songbook (sponsored by the Vermont Humanities Council), O'hAnleigh's rousing tunes of the period, and local talent. Talks on diverse subjects related to the war will be given throughout both days and a variety of interesting displays and demonstrations are sure to hold the interest of those attending. Vendors will offer appropriate goods, including food for sale during the event and a barbecue chicken dinner Saturday evening (tickets must be purchased in advance—e-mail [wmckone@stoweaccess.com](mailto:wmckone@stoweaccess.com)). A reenactor who is a real-life minister will lead a church service appropriate to the era at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, all denominations welcome to attend.

Visitors can converse with civilian reenactors, from townspeople through politicians, or have a picture taken with the Vermont governor, President Lincoln, and others. A photo booth equipped with clothing of the day is available to dress for a memorable souvenir. An authentic Civil War encampment will demonstrate army life, including the important role of the sutler, a general store that travelled with the military. Volunteers of any age or gender can enlist in the army, be

trained as a new recruit, and learn about the harsh realities of the war. Experienced reenactors will stage a battle display at the end of the day, showing the role of infantry, cavalry, and artillery. Be aware: loud noises are involved! Spectators can then see a casualty carried from the field and treated at the medical station set up behind the battle line.

Hours for this free event, rain or shine, are Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with dinner immediately after, and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Other activities in the area that in-

clude book sales, organic farm tours, and even a "pumpkin chuckin" promise to provide visitors to Cambridge a variety of experiences.

Anyone wishing to volunteer or to reserve a dinner ticket can contact the committee co-chair at [wmckone@stoweaccess.com](mailto:wmckone@stoweaccess.com). For more information and the daily schedule, please see [Facebook/CambridgeHistoricalSociety](https://www.facebook.com/CambridgeHistoricalSociety) and [www.cambridgehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.cambridgehistoricalsociety.org).

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# North Country Book News

## Children's Book Reviews

### In the Lake and Under the Sea

This collection of children's picture books about underwater life can be a jumping-off place for exploration or a tribute as we worry more and more about the health of our lakes and oceans. Kids learn about the species that live underwater and grown-ups will enjoy the variety of stunning artwork.

Following the alphabet from A to Z, name a fish for each letter. We tried and got stuck on G, J, K, L and X. Now try it by naming freshwater fish only. Salmon, trout and walleye are easy choices, but what after that?

In this fascinating and beautifully illustrated book, *The Freshwater Alphabet Book* by Jerry Pallotta and illustrated by David Biedrzycki (www.charlesbridge.com, \$7.95 paper), one can see detailed drawings of all sorts of unusual fresh water fish from A (Amazon River Dolphin) to Z (Zebra Mbuna, a fish living in Lake Malawi in Mozambique, Africa). Strange and unusual fresh water fish with equally exotic names are displayed in their watery environments.

The author has written dozens of alphabet books for beetles, birds, butterflies, frogs and other animals as well as flowers, vegetables and dinosaurs. Visit him at www.alphabetman.com.

A very different kind of fish book, *Happy* by Mies Van Hout (lemniscat-usa.com, \$17.95) uses colorful, impressionistic drawings to illustrate the many moods common to humans (and, also, apparently fish). These amusing drawings depict happy, curious, nervous, brave, shy, surprised, sad, furious, proud, jealous, loving, angry, glad, confused, content, afraid, sure, shocked, astonished, bored, and delighted. If your children like to draw, have them pick an animal or fish, and see if they can capture a particular mood. This book is an inspiration.

For another amusing book about denizens of the deep look into the "spy" hole in *I Spy Under The Sea* by Edward Gibbs (www.candlewick.com, \$14.99), and try to identify what fish is there by seeing only a small portion of its body. The beautifully designed book has a hole in its center for you to spy through! The reader will discover the hidden clown fish, sea horses, crabs, swordfish, octopuses, dolphins, and one big shark.

In another intriguing look at what lives in the depths of the ocean, *In The Sea* by David Elliot and illustrated by Holly Meade (www.candlewick.com, \$16.99), simple descriptive poems accompany the sea life depicted in large colorful paintings made from woodcuts.

For example: The Starfish—Five fingers, like a hand, the starfish shines in a sky of sand. And: The Puffer Fish—A trickster. A Clown. A magician. A buffoon. One minute she's a fish; the next, she's a balloon.

Double page artwork is given to each species. Some, like the giant squid and the Moray eel, seem to come off their pages right at you. Quite a trip!



## Welcome to the Eighth Annual Burlington Book Festival!

The Eighth Annual Burlington Book Festival will take place at a variety of locations in downtown Burlington throughout the weekend of September 21-23, 2012.

The Queen City's latest annual celebration of the written word will offer readings, signings, panels, workshops, demos, musical performances, family activities and special events featuring literary luminaries from around the world—and just around the corner.

There will be *Words Come Alive* theater and dance workshops for children 6-9 years old and their families at the Flynn Center of Saturday.

Emergent Media Panels & Workshops include eight

different topics from self-publishing to blogging.

Millennial Writers on Stage will showcase Vermont's best young writers at 2 p.m. on Saturday at the Main Street Landing Film House. All this and many more events are planned.

All events will be free of charge and open to the public. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like to be part of the fun and excitement, by volunteering, e-mail burlingtonbookfestival@gmail.com or call (802) 658-3328.

For more information about events, schedules and venues visit [burlingtonbookfestival.com](http://burlingtonbookfestival.com).



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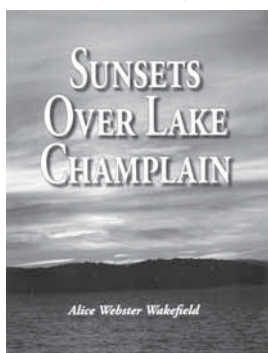
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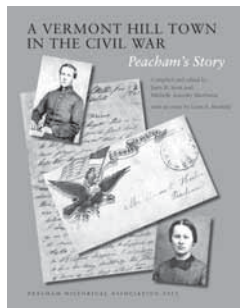
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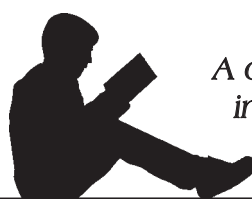
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# Minnie Rose Lovgreen's Recipe For Raising Chickens

Edited by Nancy Rekow  
(NW Trillium Press, Bainbridge Island, WA)

In 1899, when Minnie Rose was 11 years old, she left home to be lady's maid. She would eat her breakfast in a tiny pantry, and for company, she would feed a few birds on the windowsill. Years later she would still be feeding and caring for a different kind of bird—flocks of feisty bantam hens. She did this for 30 successful years!

Her experiences and keen observations are a must for anyone about to start raising chickens and for those already there but who soon will be saying, "well, I didn't know that."

Since her death in 1975, more than 26,000 copies of her hand-written 36-page book, now in its third edition, have been sold throughout America and beyond.

We learn that as a young Englishwoman on to way to Canada in 1912, she was scheduled with her brother to cross the Atlantic on the Titanic, but when the ship wasn't ready to sail, the impatient would-be passengers safely hopped aboard another ship, the RMS Megantic.

In 1920 she moved to Bainbridge Island near Seattle, where she married Danish-born Leo Lovgreen. The couple raised a family and had a prize-winning 170-acre dairy and chicken farm. Their milk with its pint of cream on top was sold to island residents for ten cents a quart. And Minnie Rose made "the egg money."

Her husband Leo would tell visitors that the chickens belonged to the wife and that she wouldn't even eat her breakfast until she had gone out and fed the chickens. And she never failed to inspect brooding hens that were sitting on their eggs. Chicken-raisers know that brooding hens, when approached, fluff up their feathers and make scary "kwark" noises.

But she tells us that the "hen talks to her chicks while they are still in the shells, and that she leaves her nest for only a short break to eat, take a dust bath, and clean her beak."

We also learn that the mother hen pecks off a bunch of its breast feathers so that the baby chicks, when they come, can get body warmth directly from the skin. The feathers would block her heat from the chicks.

Minnie Rose was successful in sneaking other eggs-to-be hatched or even some other hen's baby chicks under a nesting mother.

And she writes: "A good-sized bantam can hatch out about 5 duck eggs or 2 or 3 goose eggs, or 11 guinea eggs, or 9 turkey eggs. She'll even turn the large goose eggs over every day! Then after the eggs hatch, she'll still bring up the babies, whatever kind they are."

She found that bantams make particularly good, extra-protective mothers, and she tells how one bantam mother stood down a cow from harming her flock. "It made me laugh to see a bantam try to fight a cow. That little thing fluffing her feathers out!"

The book is packed with practical advice on the general care of chickens, feed, coops, and even some medical tips on what to do if chicks get fleas or mites.

Her advice to all chicken-raisers is above all, "keep them happy."

Minnie Rose's remarkable story might well have been lost to history if it hadn't been for a neighbor and friend Nancy Rekow who edited and published the chicken-raising book, as well as a tape-recorded story of Minnie Rose's life titled *Far As I Can Remember: An Immigrant Woman's Story 1888-1975*.

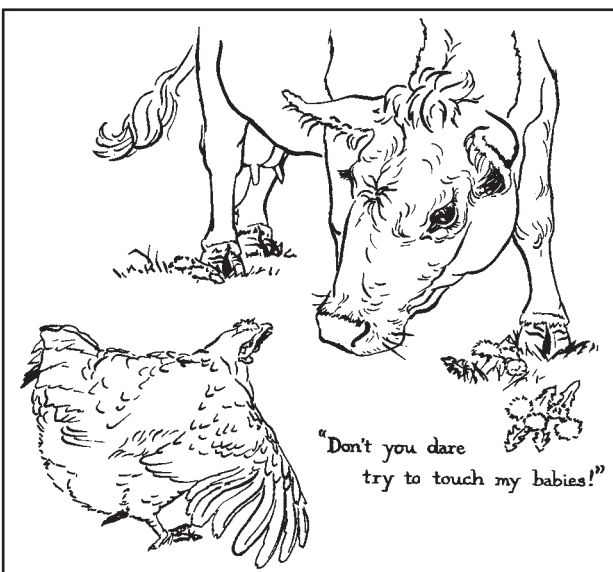
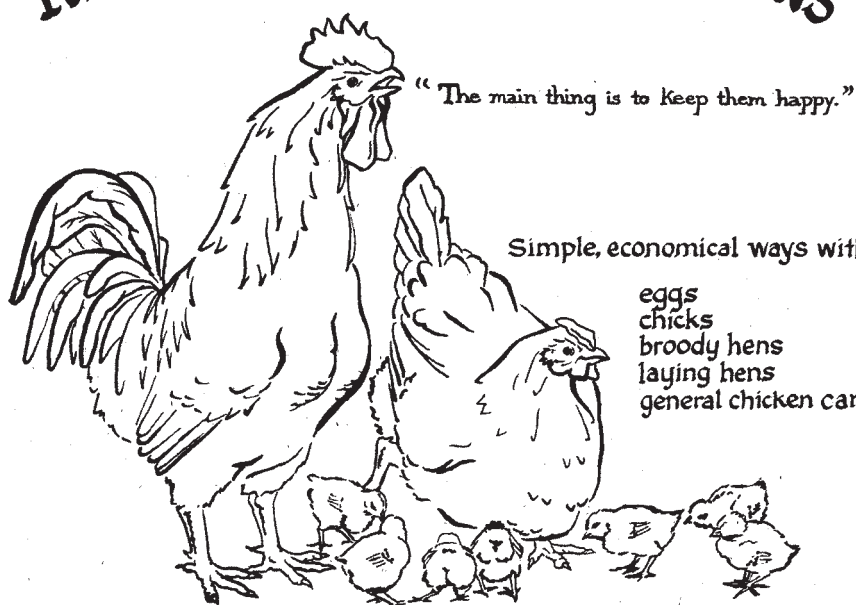
We learn that Minnie Rose was born "down the fen" in Norfolk County, England, the eighth of 19 children on her father's 200-acre wheat farm.

When she was four, her mother died and her father soon remarried. An unhappy farm life there with an abusive stepmother prompted her to leave, and so a new life began, and like her book on the secrets of raising chickens, she shares her remarkable life story with all of us.

*Minnie Rose Lovgreen's Recipe For Raising Chickens* (\$13) edited by Nancy Rekow and *Far As I Can Remember: An Immigrant Woman's Story, 1888-1975* (\$14.95) recorded by Nancy Rekow are available from NW Trillium Press, 8525 Jennie Ave. NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110. (206) 842-6908. [www.nwtrilliumpress.com](http://www.nwtrilliumpress.com).

## Books Review by Charles Sutton

# Minnie Rose Lovgreen's RECIPE FOR RAISING CHICKENS



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Minnie Rose Lovgreen at her dairy farm many years ago.

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## DANBY, VT

**The Mountain View Ranch** offers a charming and spacious two-bedroom country farmhouse with spectacular views of surrounding mountains by the night, week or month. The Ranch offers horse-boarding options and is delighted to create custom riding opportunities for horse lovers. Their focus is to bring humans and horses together with compassionate communication and connection. They facilitate an exercise they call "Equine Touch" where one approaches and connects with the horses with gratitude and appreciation to build a fulfilling relationship based on trust and mutual respect. They offer daily individual clinics, group retreats, scenic trail riding, lessons, riding camps, carriage rides and winter wagon rides and ride-and-stay packages for the horse enthusiast and country living for everyone. The Southern VT Horse Show is just 10 minutes away. Come and relax and get away from it all in Danby, one of the most scenic places in the US. Also swim at Emerald Lake (five minutes) or in ranch's spring-fed pond, hunt, hike, bike, or ski nearby. No smoking. Contact Letitia Sisters, (802) 293-5837. (Listing #936)

## CORINTH, VT

**Perfect Vermont Get-away on 114-Acre Equestrian Farm.** Our fully equipped rental guest cottage with awesome views is set away from our farmhouse in a private setting. 20 acres of enclosed horse pasture with three resident horses and two quiet miniature donkeys



Lodging for horse and rider at Mountain View Ranch in Danby, VT. (Listing #936)

photo by Charles Sutton

on premises. Please let us know if you would like to bring a horse or two. Great get-away for the equestrian, hiker or for a unique peaceful and relaxing vacation. Hiking trails from property. This one-level cottage has a large open living area, with lots of windows and hardwood floors, open to the dining area with a half-wall to the open galley kitchen. Off the living room is a covered deck where you can dine at the picnic table and enjoy views of pasture and woods. The three bedrooms have carpeting and very good mattresses: master bedroom with king bed and master bath with tiled shower, second bedroom with queen bed, and third bedroom with twin beds. The second bathroom has a tiled tub/shower. Sleeps six maximum. In East Corinth off a dirt road near I-91's Bradford exit, 35 minutes north of Hanover NH. Lake Morey and Lake Fairlee are a short drive south. Weekly rentals. No pets or smoking. Contact John, (802) 439-3184 home, or (802) 439-3181. (Listing #1883)

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For photos, rates, and more information about these vacation retreats, go to [vermontproperty.com](http://vermontproperty.com) and search by the listing number (provided above) on the home page or on the advanced search page. For information on more Vermont vacation rentals, visit [www.vermontproperty.com](http://www.vermontproperty.com), write Vermont Vacation Rentals, PO Box 1564, Montpelier, VT 05601 or call (802) 229-2433.

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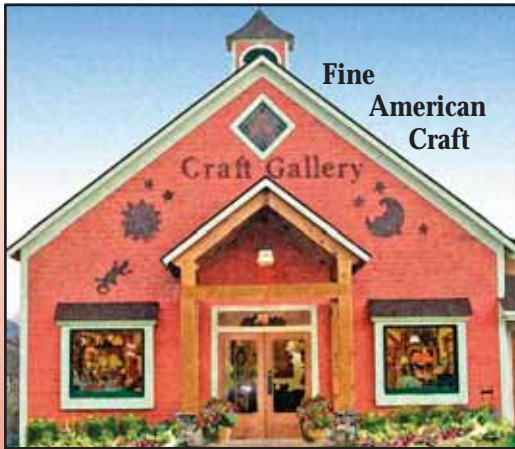
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photo by Nancy Cassidy

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