

Vermont Country Sampler

September
2018



- Statewide Calendar of Events, Map
- Inns, B&B's, Dining, Real Estate
- Sights to See, Things to Do
- Plenty of Good Reading!

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September Journal

Stepping to the Side

by Bill Felker

Today has brought me where I've been before: just past the edge of summer, maybe just a handful of days past, but the subtle decays of early September have accumulated until the change seems sudden to me now. The rapid onset of color, the vague smoky tint of last week has quickly become clear and bright, streaking the maples.

Yesterday, I saw another long flock of grackles when I was on my way north of town. Every day on my drives, more birds.

In the garden, swallowtails and monarchs have disappeared. Asters are still at their peak, but the first beggarticks are brown now near the river: white snakeroot is finally breaking down in the woods.

When I look back at my notes for this particular day from previous years, I feel like I am returning, after a long absence, to a comfortable, familiar place. If I remain in that feeling, I can be suspended in this one location and time, outside of the turning of the Earth, outside of the sequence which ages me with one season after another, and which pulls me out of the here and now and this one day.

So I bask in this stasis and suspension of knowledge. I will die, after all, in the procession of days that follow one after another, along the straight road of some near or distant year. But if I stop now and step to the side, I hide the truth in the deception of the present.



A group of bicyclists head out on the West Hill Grinder in Putney, VT.

photo by Diny Sweitzer

Teacher Treasures

A Teacher Resource Store & More!

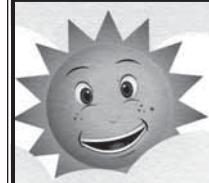
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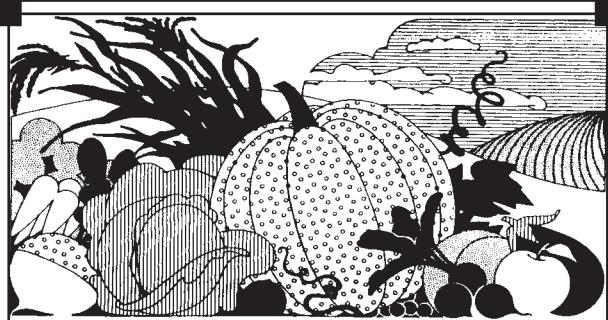
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Putney, VT

Calling Adventurous Bikers to the 2018 West Hill Grinder

Sunday September 23 is the date for this year's West Hill Grinder, organized by the West Hill Shop in Putney, VT. The shop specializes in cycling and repairs, cross-country equipment and tuning, rentals, and boots and clothing.

Three different gravel-road biking loops will offer a variety of rural challenges for intermediate and advanced cyclists.

Routes ranging from 19-39 miles will wind through scenic Westminster, Dummerston, Brookline, and Putney on town dirt roads, Class-4 woods roads, and Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association hiking trails, with a bit of

pavement here and there.

The "West-West" Loop is the easiest and shortest ride on packed dirt roads without technical challenges. There are bail-out points on all routes if a ride must be shortened.

Both the start (at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m., depending upon the route chosen) and finish will be at High Meadows Farm, 742 Westminster West Rd. in Putney, VT. The farm is again offering water, facilities, protected seating, and onsite parking.

Individual, student, and family rates for the event include a post-ride gourmet grinder buffet catered by the Putney Coop. Gluten-free

and vegetarian options are available.

The 2018 Grinder is a fundraising thank-you from Diny and Jim Sweitzer, owners of the West Hill Shop, to the Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association for "creating and maintaining an incredible resource of trails in Putney, Westminster, Athens, Grafton, and Brookline and for renovating the cabin at the Pinnacle overlook." The Pinnacle Association's 25-mile trail system runs from Putney Mountain to Grafton.

For information on the routes, bike recommendations, equipment requirements, prices, and food, as well as registration, visit www.bikereg.com and search for West Hill Grinder. Or go to www.westhillshop.com/

[about/group-rides-
pg103.htm](#)

For questions, call the West Hill Shop at (802) 387-5718 or email jim@westhillshop.com. The West Hill Shop's Facebook page will give updates on routes and announce any changes responding to weather conditions.

This adventurous gravel-road ride is a great way to see really different and beautiful sections of the area while supporting an organization that helps to conserve land and make many of the area's rural features accessible to hikers and bikers.

For information about the Pinnacle Association, visit www.windmillhillpinnacle.org.

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www.strollingoftheheifers.com

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The Community Asylum Seekers Project

The Community Asylum Seekers Project (CASP) supports those fleeing hardship elsewhere and seeking asylum in the United States. We provide basic needs and a supportive community to a growing number of guests.

Find out how you can help this effort at www.caspvt.org

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Vermont Country Sampler

September 2018, Vol. XXXIV

The Vermont Country Sampler is distributed free over-the-counter in and out of Vermont. Advertising rates on request. Deadline 10th of preceding month.

Calendar of Events published free of charge. Mail your information to us by the 15th of the preceding month.

Vermont Country Sampler
P.O. Box 197, N. Clarendon, VT 05759
(802) 772-7463 • info@vermontcountysampler.com
www.vermontcountysampler.com

Come Celebrate Autumn in Vermont

Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival

Plymouth Notch, VT • September 1-2

Stars from Vermont and nationally known musicians team up for a two-day festival of folk and blues music performed in the pure country air of historic Plymouth Notch, birthplace of the 30th U.S. President. Wagon rides, children's crafts and face painting, Vermont Food Bank drive, and barbecue add to the festivities. Musicians include: Jay Ottaway, Julia Mark, Seth Adam, Cricket Blue, Alice Howe, and Dan Weber. 2-5 p.m. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. www.plymouthfolk.com.

23rd Annual Southern Vermont

Garlic & Herb Festival

Bennington, VT • September 1-2

Over 200 vendors feature "garlic-inspired" booths. Food vendors incorporate garlic into menus. Enjoy the live music, beer and wine garden, and demonstrations of planting/growing garlic, olive oil information, cocktail preparation, etc. Kids activities, too (Roaming Railroad rides, etc). 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Camelot Village, 66 Colgate Heights off Rt. 9 west of town. (802) 447-3311. www.lovegarlic.com.

Vermont Wine & Harvest Festival

West Dover and Wilmington, VT • September 20-23

Set in the picturesque southern Vermont mountains during peak foliage, the Festival celebrates the finest wineries, distilleries, specialty food, artists and crafters in Vermont. The four-day event features a Wine and Soup Stroll through historic downtown Wilmington, a Grand Tasting event at the foot of Mount Snow Resort, wine pairing dinners, the Vermont Wildlife Festival and so much more. (802) 464-8092. www.thevermontfestival.com.

37th Annual Peru Fair

Peru, VT • September 22

The Fair begins with a parade down Main Street, featuring antique cars, alpacas, entertainment and local service groups. Something for all ages, with over 120 local food and craft vendors, numerous entertainment groups and the renowned Village Green Pig Roast. At this old-fashioned country fair, enjoy local and exotic foods, music and a crisp fall Vermont day. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. www.perufair.org.

30th Annual VT Sheep & Wool Festival

Tunbridge, VT • September 29-30

Celebrating small farms and natural fibers, with over 70 vendors offering fleece and yarn, fiber animals, hand-spinning and fiber crafting supplies, and handcrafted farm and fiber products, including local meat and cheese. Contests, fiber arts classes and demonstrations, shepherd workshops, herding and shearing demos and a fleece sale, plus maple creemees and local music. Set amidst the rolling hills of Tunbridge during peak fall foliage. (802) 685-3267. www.vtsheepandwoolfest.com.

19th Century Apple & Cheese

Harvest Festival

Strafford, VT • September 30

Celebrate Johnny Appleseed's birthday with our Harvest Festival at the Justin Morrill State Historic Site. Meet live farm animals, make cider in an antique press and play period games and crafts. Taste heirloom apples, artisan Vermont cheeses, Vermont ice cream and homemade apple pie. Face painting, live music, apple pie contest with prizes, Fairy Village, hiking, Valley Quest, gardens, exhibits, icehouse and pond, and tour of historic home decorated with gingerbread designs. Admission includes lunch. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Justin Morrill Highway. (802) 765-4288. historicites.vermont.gov.

21st Annual Mount Snow Oktoberfest

West Dover, VT • October 6-7

Oom-pah music provides a fitting back-drop to our famous schnitzel toss, keg toss, yodeling and Stein-holding contests, apple slingshot, and of course, tons of beer and German fare! Don't miss the breathtaking Vermont foliage, best seen from a scenic chairlift ride. Pumpkin painting, a corn maze and bouncy house keep the kids entertained, and the 44th Annual Harvest Arts and Crafts Show (10-5 pm) is a great opportunity to start your holiday shopping. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (800) 245-7669. www.mountsnow.com.

125 Varieties of Heirloom Apples!



WORKSHOPS

- Hard Cider Making (Sept 30)
- Heirloom Apple Pies (Oct 21)

EVENTS

- Heirloom Apple Day (Oct 7)
- Hard Cider Festival (Oct 20)
- Harvest Dinner (Oct 27)

Scott Farm

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Details at ScottFarmVermont.com



photo courtesy of the VT Sheep & Wool Festival

Goats will be on exhibit at the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival on September 29 & 30 in Tunbridge, VT.

35th Annual Weston Craft Show

Weston, VT • October 5-7

Featuring 47 juried artisans from around the state, showing the very best Vermont has to offer. Historic Weston Playhouse is the perfect place to highlight these inspired works, as all three floors are filled with everything from photography and blown glass to wood toys and fine furniture. All proceeds support historic preservation in Weston. Weston Playhouse is at 703 Main St. in Weston, VT. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (802) 336-0083. www.westoncraftshow.com.

Bean & Brew Festival

Jay, VT • October 13

Some of the finest locally-roasted coffees coupled with New England's finest beers. Enjoy sampling while listening to live music and playing lawn games; this event is kid and family friendly. Try beers from breweries like: Harpoon, Narragansett, Queen City, Kingdom Brewing, Zero Gravity, Citizen Cider, Long Trail, Redhook, Kona, Widmer, Omision, Goose Island, Blue Point, Covered Bridge, Fiddlehead, Left Coast/Lucky Buddha, Crazy Mountain, 14th Star and others. 12-6 p.m. Jay Peak Resort, 830 Jay Peak Rd. (802) 488-2611. Tickets available at www.jaypeakresort.com.

13th Annual Nightmare Vermont and

Spookyville Vermont

Essex Junction, VT • October 18-20 & 25-27

Nightmare Vermont is a unique Halloween event combining live stage combat, an original theatrical story line, and all the best in interactive scares and special effects, created by an all-volunteer crew. Evil fae, zombies, werewolves, demons, serial killers and cannibal clowns have graced our halls. Tickets are \$10-\$15. Shows run 6-10:30 p.m. Spookyville, our children's show, has interactive stories and kooky characters to get children in the "spirit" of Halloween and is available on October 20, 21 & 27 from 12-4 p.m., all tickets \$10. At Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 355-3107. www.nightmarevermont.org.

Utilities

Horned am I
And hooved am I,
Shaggy-skinned
From heel to thigh

I can caracole
And stamp
In the dry leaves
And the damp;

Sharp thorns will not
Pierce my hams;
I can butt
With bulls and rams.

Horned and haired
And hooved am I:
You have wings
And cannot fly.

—JAKE FALSTAFF

aka Herman Fetzer, Akron OH 1899-1935



Curtis' Barbeque



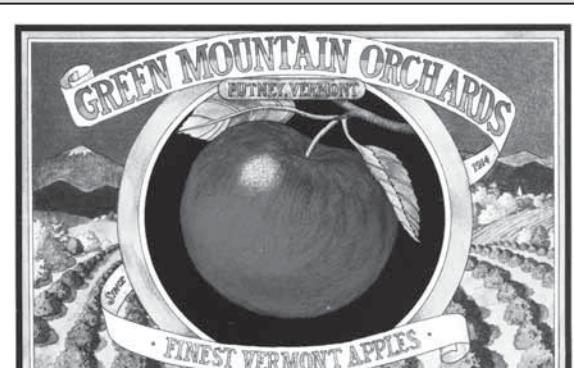
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Newfane, VT

Remembering The Hurricane of '38

On the 80th anniversary of the Hurricane of '38 Steve Long will present how the '38 Hurricane transformed New England. The program takes place Thursday, September 13 at 7 p.m. at Union Hall in Newfane Village. It will explore how the hurricane brought about social and ecological changes that can still be observed these many decades later.

A hurricane will never surprise us again. But that's just what happened to the people of New England and Long Island on September 21, 1938.

In 1938, not a single living person had ever experienced a hurricane in New England. The previous one had been so long before that people in the Northeast believed that hurricanes only happened down south—Florida, Texas, maybe North Carolina. Not Vermont. Then, without warning, the most destructive weather event to ever hit the Northeast blasted all the way through to Quebec.

On Long Island, and in Connecticut, and Rhode Island, the "Long Island Express" killed hundreds of people and destroyed roads,

bridges, dams, and buildings that stood in its path. Not yet spent, the hurricane then raced inland, maintaining 100 mile per hour winds into Vermont and New Hampshire and uprooted more than a half million acres of forest. It knocked down forests in patches large and small across a region totaling 15 million acres. City streets and rural roads were criss-crossed with a tangle of trunks and limbs, all of which had to be removed with axes and crosscut saws.

Steve Long is the founder of Northern Woodlands magazine and was its editor for 17 years. Copies of his book *Thirty Eight: The Hurricane That Transformed New England* (Yale University Press) will be available for purchase.

The program is sponsored by both the Historical Society of Windham County and the Moore Free Library.

Union Hall is located on West St. in Newfane Village. (802) 348-7891. info@historicalsociedadwindhamcounty.org. www.historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org



photo courtesy of Steve Long

Man with an ax works on clearing a tree from the road after the Hurricane of '38 passed through Vermont.

Chester, VT

Vermont Fall Craft Festival

The Vermont Fall Craft Festival kicks off the fall season on September 15 & 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the 44th year in Chester, VT.

Join us on the Green in this free outdoor event and enjoy unique handmade crafts by over 60 vendors including fine woodworking, glass, jewelry, photography, watercolors, fiber arts, paper arts, pottery, quilts, and soaps with something for everyone.

Discover the Beer Garden held behind the Fullerton Inn on Saturday afternoon.

The festival is sponsored by the Chester Rotary Club.

For more information go to www.chesterfallfestival.org. Visit Facebook.

A Children's Tent and hands-on projects at local not-for-profit tents offer activities for children. Stroll

through the village and enjoy its unique architecture and local studios, shops and restaurants. Sample local foods, including BBQ, soups, fudge, ice cream, walking tacos, and more, and enjoy mid-day music showcasing Vermont musicians.

The sky was very dark and the wind had picked up, making our half-mile bike ride home seem like fun although challenging. Mother told us a big storm was coming and she had already gotten out the kerosene lamps for when the lights would be bound to go out. The rains and a howling wind came swiftly, and by 3 p.m. my brother and I had made several trips to the attic with pots and pans to catch water leaking through the roof. A big chestnut tree near our front porch

Way Back Then

A Child's Memory of a Devastating Storm

by Charles Sutton

The catastrophic Hurricane of September 21, 1938 claimed 600 lives throughout New England but thankfully our family escaped its wrath.

Even as young children my brother Fred and I (ages 8 & 7) thought it odd when a doctor came to our Timothy Dwight K-8 Grade School in Fairfield, CT, to give the children a quick check-over before we were taken or sent home. It was only noon.

The sky was very dark and the wind had picked up, making our half-mile bike ride home seem like fun although challenging. Mother told us a big storm was coming and she had already gotten out the kerosene lamps for when the lights would be bound to go out. The rains and a howling wind came swiftly, and by 3 p.m. my brother and I had made several trips to the attic with pots and pans to catch water leaking through the roof. A big chestnut tree near our front porch

seemed to be swaying a worrisome bit too much. Between our dining and living rooms was a shortcut through a hall with high, small windows which my brother and I had to stand on tiptoe to look out of. There we witnessed the apple trees in our orchard being blown over or large limbs cracking off one after the other.

After World War I my father had bought this property which included an antique farmstead on two acres of land with a dozen apple trees and some pear, cherry and quince trees. This was the family home for the next 80 years.

Before the phone went dead Mother had talked to Father in New York City where he commuted for work. He said the trains into Connecticut were still running, but would be quite late, and that he would be on the one leaving Grand Central Station at 5 p.m. We had the only family car so he had to be picked at the Southport railroad station sometime around 7.

Mother got the handyman-gardener Frank to go with us. He was smart enough to put crosscut saws and an axe in the trunk of our four-door Pontiac sedan. There were many trees and power and phone lines down and lots of water on the roads on the way to the station. We had a long wait before the train finally came in.

The storm had passed, but it was very dark and downed trees, limbs, debris continually blocked our way home—some five miles away on Greenfield Hill. Father and Frank got out of the car several times to clear the road but one route after another was blocked by downed wires and trees. We finally got to the bridge at the bottom of Burr St., another possible way up a hill to our home. The stream, now a rampaging river and full of debris, was pouring over the bridge. A car ahead of us sped on through, dangerous as it was. We tried it next. The 1930s Pontiac, fortunately built high off the ground and with our extra weight was able to splash through the flooding river and on up Burr St. to our dark but welcoming home.

When we entered the stream I looked out the car's back window and saw the car behind us stalling mid-stream. I have wondered and worried to this day about what happened to the people in that car. That could have been us.



Fran Janick Photographer

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The Nature Museum

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Grafton, Vermont

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Grafton, VT

The Nature Museum's 10th Annual Fairy House Festival

Each year, The Nature Museum welcomes thousands of visitors from across Vermont, New England, and beyond to the Fairy House Festival, a family-friendly celebration of nature, creativity, inspiration, and community. The 10th Annual Fairy House Festival at The Nature Museum in Grafton, VT will welcome the fairies in our forests once more for this Grafton tradition on Saturday, September 29 and Sunday, September 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

With the final weeks of summer come the first signs of autumn: an unexpected cool breeze, a shock of bright yellow in the branches of a sugar maple, and the first few skeins of geese flying south. In the villages surrounding Grafton, residents may also feel the magical spark of fairy dust in the air.

Fairies afield

"The fairy magic is particularly strong this year," writes Carrie King, Executive Director of The Nature Museum. "I can feel it." For the tenth annual festival, King has seen an unprecedented level of engagement from the community: "The fairy houses are the stars of the show. Our fairy house trail invites festival guests on a magical walk in the woods, where our incredible volunteers have placed their unique creations to welcome the sprites, elves, and fairies of the forest. Fairy schools, fairy libraries, fairy pirate ships, and fairy hot air balloons... each year, we are thrilled and inspired by the inventive creations of our hardworking volunteers. The 2018 fairy house trail promises to be the most colorful and diverse collection of structures we've seen."

In the months leading up to the festival, volunteers for The Nature Museum have been pulling on their hiking boots and heading out the door, combing fields, streambeds, forests, and hilltops with a basket in hand. These volunteers have been foraging for moss, bark, pine cones, twigs, pebbles, acorns, and other natural materials. With these earthy ingredients, they will craft this year's fairy house village.

Natural materials will also be available at the festival, where the museum's gardens become a fairy house construction zone, and festival attendees young and old are able to create little homes, and leave them there overnight, for the garden fairies to nest in.

Building a village in the forest

Celia Bohannon of Saxtons River, who built fairy houses in her childhood and now creates them with her grandchildren for the museum's festival, recommends birch bark to new builders: "It's easy to find around here, on limbs or branches already on the ground. The bark can be sturdy or flexible, large or small, round or flat, white or shades of brown. A hot-glue gun works well on it, and you can even use a long sharp needle and invisible thread to attach decorations to it or fasten pieces together."

Kate DesLauriers, a Girl Scout Troop leader and mother from Chester who has been a volunteer for The Nature Museum for seven years, says her favorite material to work with is moss, which can fill in cracks and cover other materials.

Some structures are light-hearted and cozy, while others are spell-binding and intricate. Each fairy house is a reflection of its creator, celebrating the individuality among the volunteers who make the magic year after year.

Jeanne Waldren, Youth Services Librarian at the Whiting Library in Chester, first built a fairy house for the festival in 2012. An experienced volunteer, she has built dozens of fairy structures with her grandchildren and with the children at the Whiting Library over the years, sharing the creative process with the next generation. "The imagination can go wild," says Waldren. "Nothing is as exciting as picturing a place for the smallest creatures imaginable to get out of the rain and get a good night's sleep."

Ms. Waldren is working again with the kids at the Whiting Library to build a fairy structure for this year's festival. When asked if she had ever seen one of the fairies staying in her houses, she responded: "I haven't seen a fairy because they are so clever; but I have found the fairy dust left after their visit!"

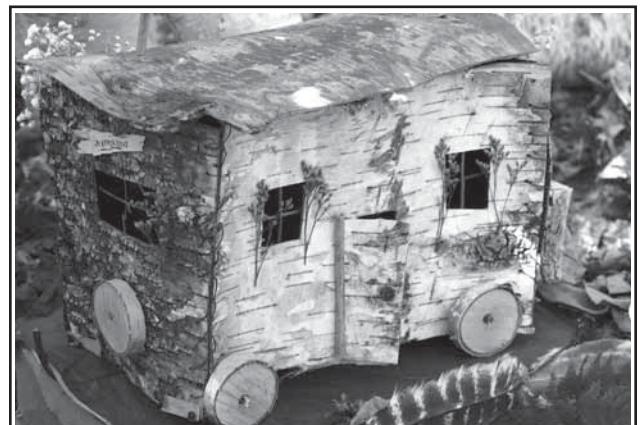
Volunteers welcome to come and help

The Nature Museum welcomes volunteers to help at and before the festival, and donors to support the event, which is the Museum's biggest fundraiser of the year. Volunteers



photo courtesy of The Nature Museum

A young visitor gets a close look at a fairy theater-in-the-woods at the Fairy House Festival in Grafton, VT.



A fairy vacation trailer at the Fair House Festival.

building fairy houses need to register by September 8, and space is limited. These volunteers also need to come the day before the festival to place their creation on the trail.

There is also an opportunity to build fairy houses at the festival in the gardens and anytime in your own neck of the woods.

Tickets can be purchased at www.nature-museum.org or at the fairy gate the day of the event. Adults are \$10, seniors 64 and over are \$8, and kids 3-17 are \$4.

The Nature Museum is located at 186 Townshend Rd. Grafton, VT. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org.

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photo courtesy of The Nature Museum

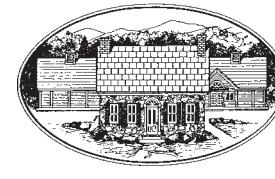
The Sylvan Dew Drop Tavern all ready for the fairies at the Fairy House Festival in Grafton, VT.


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Poor Will's Daybook for September

by Bill Felker

September 1 – Squirrels shred Osage fruits in the woods. Rose of Sharon, which was bright from the Midwest to the Northeast a few weeks ago, has suddenly lost most of its flowers. Japanese knotweed petals darken and fall.

September 2 – The Blackberry Jam Moon enters its weak final quarter this evening. This is also the date of the September 2 weather system, but the moon's weak phase reduces its power.

September 3 – Lunar influence is expected to be low today through the 5th. Take advantage of this period to work with family, pets and livestock, family and clients.

September 4 – As the day moves to within a few degrees of equinox, sycamores, tulip trees, slippery elms, poplars, locust, elms, box elders, buckeyes, dogwoods, chinquapin oaks, lindens and redbuds may begin to show their autumn colors.

September 5 – Autumn apple picking has begun across the North, and the harvest is nearly half over for tobacco, tomato and potato growers in the South. Cottonwoods fade as the goldenrod turns and the soybean fields yellow.

September 6 – Kingbirds, finches, ruddy ducks, herring gulls and yellow-bellied sapsuckers move south. The last young grackles and hummingbirds leave their nests.

September 7 – The moon reaches perigee this morning, beginning a three-day period of strong lunar influence (from perigee, the September 8 cool front and new moon).

September 8 – Today is the average date for a significant high-pressure system to cross the Mississippi River and head for Vermont. Yesterday's perigee and tomorrow's new moon are very likely to strengthen this system. Expect precipitation as the front comes through. Near the Canadian border, night time temperatures will tumble into the 30s. Hurricanes are likely to come ashore in the Gulf or along the East Coast.

September 9 – The Jumping Jumpseed Moon is new at midday. Frost is more likely tonight and tomorrow night than any other times so far in the second half of the year. Berries are red on the silver olives, orange on the American mountain ash, purple on the pokeweed. Wild cherries have disappeared from their branches. Seed pods of the touch-me-not burst in the wind.

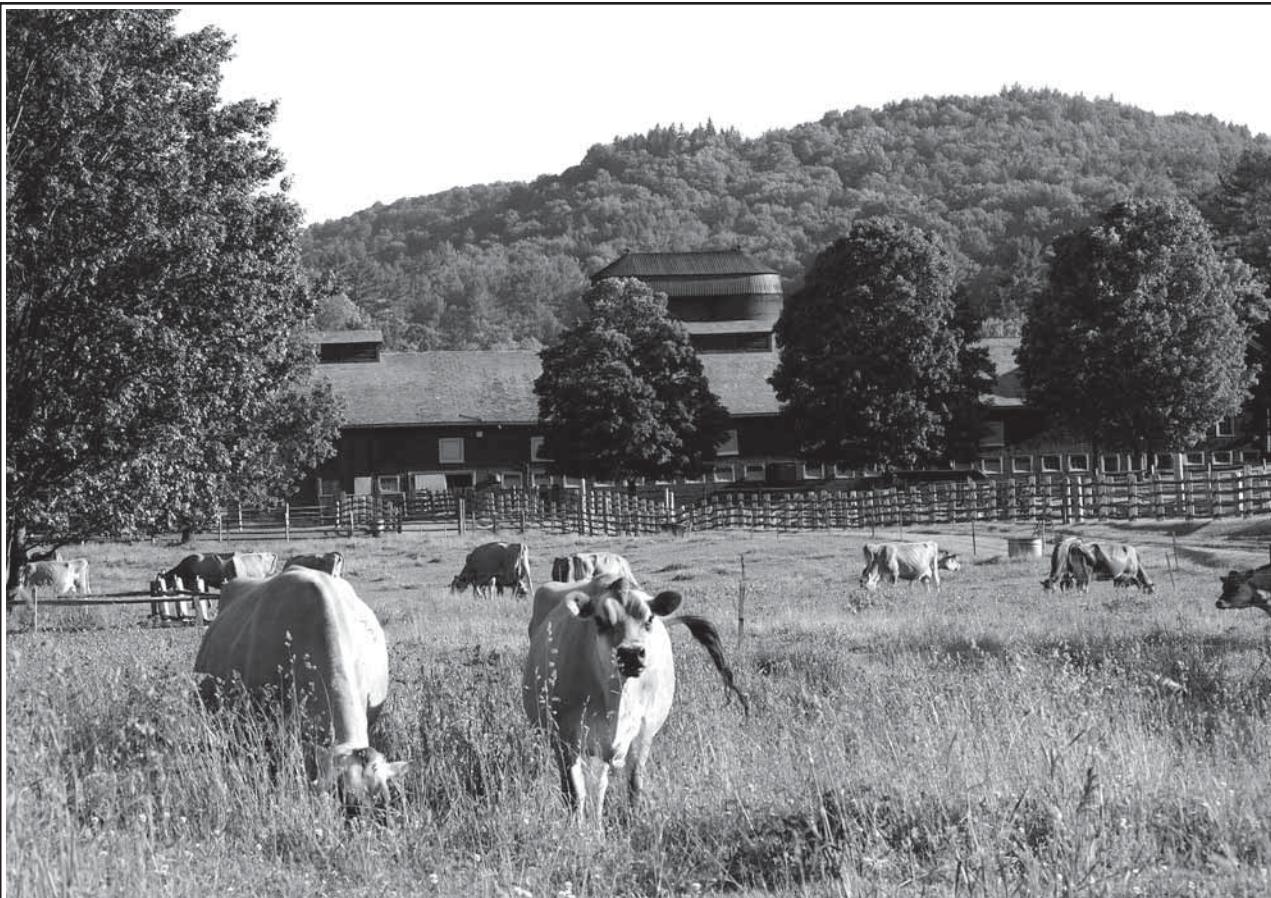
September 10 – The soybean harvest has begun across the northern half of the United States. Cobwebs are everywhere in the woods, and the number of butterflies swells in the gardens.

September 11 – The waxing moon favors the seeding of winter grains and green manure crops. Test the soil and make corrective lime and fertilizer applications for autumn plantings.

September 12 – Doves stop calling before dawn until February.

September 13 – August's boneset goes to seed as the corn silage harvest picks up speed. Aster bloom peaks. In the North, corn is denting, and the whole crop is mature in the South. The cutting of silage has taken over from the second and third cuts of hay; soybeans are turning as well as setting pods.

September 14 – Almost everywhere above the equator, people are digging potatoes, picking commercial and private



The Jersey herd grazes in the fields at Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, VT.

tomato plants clean. The seasons for everbearing strawberries, plums, pears, water-melons and peaches begin in the North.

September 15 – The cold front that usually brings Early Fall to the Northern states today will be weakened considerably by the moon's position between new and full.

September 16 – The moon enters its gentle second quarter this evening. Between today and September 23, lunar influence will be at its lowest of the month, favoring relatively stable weather (but dry and warm conditions) and low stress.

September 17 – When the days are cool, the cicadas are quiet. On the colder nights, the katydids refuse to chant and the frogs are silent.

September 18 – Wood nettle seeds are black and brittle. Throughout the pastures, milkweed pods are ready to open. In the perennial garden, late-blooming hostas discard their petals.

September 19 – Great crested flycatchers, blue-gray gnatcatchers, ruby-throated hummingbirds, eastern wood peewees and bank swallows move south. The cobwebs that blocked summer paths become less common. The wingstem bows to sets its seeds.

September 20 – The moon reaches apogee after sundown, further weakening the power of the moon to influence the high-pressure system that usually crosses the nation near this date. On the other hand, lunar fortunes quickly reverse as the moon reaches the end of its second quarter (on September 24).

September 21 – In the northern half of the United States, the first tier of trees, including the ashes, cottonwoods, box elders, hickories and locusts, turns quickly after equinox.

September 22 – Today is equinox, the sun's halfway position between summer and winter. Poison ivy, sumac and Virginia creeper turn the fencerows red and gold.

September 23 – Precipitation is expected today as the September 24 cool front approaches and the moon becomes full.

September 24 – The full moon breaks the stability of middle September and brings the chance of frost to most of the Northern states and hurricane rains to the Southeast and Lower Midwest.

September 25 – Now as the moon wanes, put in spring bulbs, divide perennials, shrubs and trees.

September 26 – The sugar beet, pear, cabbage and cauliflower harvests commence near this date in the Great Lakes region. In Wisconsin, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon and Washington State, the cranberry harvest begins as berries darken in the cooler weather.

September 27 – Monarch and swallowtail butterflies often become more numerous and visit the last flowers in the afternoon sun.

September 28 – Tree after tree joins in the collapse of year, some foliage turning color overnight. Aster blossoms start to disappear; their departure parallels leaf fall, the end of the insect season, the end of the spiderweb season and an acceleration in bird migration.

September 29 – The final cold front of September, still under the sway of the gibbous moon, is due to reach the Mississippi today. More signs to accompany the new chill: goldenrod flowers become tufted and gray.

September 30 – Milkweed pods burst. Most black walnut trees are bare. Crab apples are thinning. Color spreads across the maples.

A Vermont Almanack for Early Fall

by Bill Felker

Time of crisp and tawny leaves
And of tarnished harvest sheaves,
And of dusty grasses—weeds—
Thistles, with their tufted seeds
Voyaging the Autumn breeze
Like as fairy argosies.

—James Whitcomb Riley

Phases of the Blackberry Jam Moon And the Jumping Jumpseed Moon

Among the many signs of approaching autumn, the maturing of the jumpseed plant is one of the more dependable. When its flowers have turned to brittle seeds, then the last tier of wildflowers starts to open throughout the country. White and violet asters, orange beggarticks and bur marigolds, late field goldenrod and zigzag goldenrod come into bloom, blending with the last of the purple ironweed, yellow sundrops, blue chicory, golden touch-me-nots, showy coneflowers and great blue lobelias.

September 2: The Blackberry Jam Moon enters its final quarter at 9:37 p.m.

September 7: The moon reaches perigee at 8:21 a.m.

September 9: The Jumping Jumpseed Moon is new at 1:01 p.m.

September 16: The moon enters its second quarter at 6:15 p.m.

September 20: The moon reaches apogee at 7:54 p.m.

September 24: The moon is full at 9:52 p.m.

The Sun's Progress

Autumn equinox occurs (and the Sun enters its Middle Autumn sign of Libra) at 8:01 p.m. on September 22. Within several days of that moment, the night is about 12 hours long almost everywhere in the continental United States.

The Planets

Mars in Capricorn and Saturn in Sagittarius move into the southern sky after sundown. Venus in Virgo is the giant evening star in the far west, Jupiter at her heels in Libra in the southwest.

The Stars

With Libra and Scorpio lost in the western horizon, Cygnus, the Northern Cross, with Deneb its brightest star, is a sky guide for autumn, moving slightly west from its central August position. Leading it on, just a little further west, is Lira and its major star, Vega. Below Cygnus lies Aquila and its keystone, Altair.

Meteorology

Weather history suggests that the cold waves of Early Fall usually cross the Mississippi River on or about the following dates: September 2, 8, 12, 15, 20, 24 and 29.

Tornadoes, hail, floods or prolonged periods of soggy pasture are most likely to occur in connection with tropical storms moving up the Atlantic coast, especially near lunar perigee, September 7, new moon on September 9 and full moon on September 24.

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Healing: The Transformative Imagery of Art

The Great Hall in Springfield, VT, is celebrating Springfield Hospital's 105th Anniversary with the presentation of, "Healing: The Transformative Imagery of Art," a group exhibition of 12 artists. Drawing on personal, in some cases tragic experiences, these artists have created inspiring pieces to share with the viewer. The exhibition will open Thursday, September 27 and go through March 30, 2019 with an artists' reception for the public from 5:30–7 p.m. on September 27 at One Hundred River Street. Wine and light refreshments will be served.

The healing in art

Research confirms that viewing enjoyable or stirring art creates a surge of the feel-good chemical, dopamine, a chemical related to intense positive sensations. Additional health benefits include increased relaxation, inner calm and reduced stress.

In recent years, hospital leaders, physicians and patients have discovered that art and music in the hospital environment can help patients deal with their illnesses more effectively and possibly return to full functioning earlier.

Nina Jamison, Director of Exhibitions at the Great Hall says, "In creating this show, we were seeking art that has a positive impact and helps viewers rise above challenges, offering hope and inspiration. The 12 artists in the exhibition have used their creativity to provide a path forward towards healing for others, for the planet and for themselves."

"We also wanted to showcase various mediums including painting, sculpture, ceramics, stained glass, blown glass and fiber. The healing power of art is important now more than ever in the midst of worldwide turbulence, extremism and negativity."

New England artists

The exhibition features renowned New England artists including: painters: Robert O'Brien, Springfield, VT; Cai Xi Silver, Brattleboro, VT; Robert Carsten, Springfield, VT; sculpture: Pat Musick, Manchester, VT; Carolyn Enz Hack, E. Thetford, VT; Mary Admasian, Montpelier, VT; Margaret Jacobs-Enfield, NH; tiles, Ceramic Wall Art: Natalie Blake, Brattleboro, VT; Stained Glass, Karen Deets, Fair Haven, VT; blown glass: Robert DuGrenier, Townshend, VT; fiber, Priscilla Petraska, Chester, VT; and Neomi Lauritsen, Springfield, VT.

Nina Jamison comments about artist Pat Musick, "Pat's strong environmental esthetic and her iron willed spirit bring a sense of harmony to the Great Hall. Her extraordinary talent for transferring a quiet, harmonious peace that create a dialogue with the viewer is exemplified and celebrated."

In talking about her art, Pat Musick says, "My art is a reflection of the tensions that exist between man and the natural environment. I search for ways to create harmony and reconciliation both in the media and the content. Stone and wood speak for the physical world while rusted steel addresses human abuse of the environment. Through my work these conditions come together in a conversation of peace and spiritual quiet. In today's world so many of us cry out for such a healing."

About another artist, Margaret Jacobs, Nina says, "Bridging Native American culture and history with contemporary abstract art feels like a 'healing.' The viewer is moved by the boldness and strength of Jacobs's sculptures. Jacob's powerful, contemporary sculpture is definitely not the typical



photo courtesy of Cai Xi
Cai Xi's Earth and Sky Series painting number 34 reflects her love of the beauty of the Vermont landscape. She says this series is an ongoing prayer for peace on Earth. This painting is in the "Healing: The Transformative Imagery of Art" exhibition at the Great Hall in Springfield, VT. Cai Xi is based in Brattleboro, VT. Visit her website at caixiart.com.

beadwork and birch craft one might associate with Native American art. Jacobs is one of the top 10 Native American artists in the country."

The Great Hall

With a soaring 25-foot ceiling and clerestory windows, the 150-foot-long by 45-foot-wide world-class public art space is unique in the region and accommodates and complements very large artwork and sculpture. The Great Hall, located in the Springfield Medical Center can be entered from either River Street, across a pedestrian bridge, or from the Pearl Street entrance. There is plenty of parking at both entrances.

The Springfield Medical Center is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. when the Great Hall can be viewed. There are docents on Fridays from 1-4 p.m. They can explain the history of the building. A history display of the former Fellows Gear Shaper Factory is in The Great Hall.

The Great Hall will be open on Saturday and Sunday, October 13 and 14 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. as participants in Vermont's Statewide Open Studio weekend.

The exhibits at the Great Hall are sponsored by Springfield Regional Development Corporation and Springfield Hospital.

For more information go to: Facebook.com/GreatHallSpringfield. (802) 885-3061.



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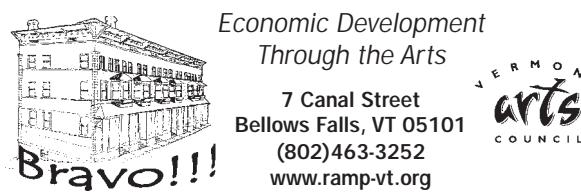
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Statewide

Pick Apples for a Cause During Hunger Action Month

September is National Hunger Action Month, and here in Vermont local apple orchards are teaming up with the Vermont Foodbank to give Vermonters a fun way to take action.

In partnership with sponsors, Target and Front Porch Forum, and 18 local apple orchards, the Vermont Foodbank is mobilizing groups and individuals throughout the state to pick apples for people facing hunger through the Pick For Your Neighbor Program.

During apple harvest season, the Vermont Foodbank encourages individuals, families, civic groups and businesses to visit participating apple orchards to pick and purchase extra apples for people struggling to afford healthy food. The fresh picked apples go to the Vermont Foodbank, which then distributes them to food shelves and meal sites throughout the state to provide to people in their local communities.

Since its inception, Pick for Your Neighbor has brought more than 100,000 pounds of fresh, local apples to Vermonters facing hunger.

An apple a day

"The impact you can have when you share healthy food with people is incredible," says Vermont Foodbank CEO, John Sayles. "Many of the people served by the Foodbank struggle with health issues, so we are working hard to make sure all our neighbors have access to the fresh food they need to lead healthy lives. In this case, an apple a day really can keep the doctor away!"

Food insecurity is closely linked to health. According to Hunger in America 2014, 72% of the people served by the Vermont Foodbank report having to purchase inexpensive, unhealthy food because they could not afford healthier options. Hunger also coincides with diet-related illnesses, with 23% of Vermont Foodbank clients suffering from diabetes and 46% living with high blood pressure. By meeting the needs of Vermonters with fresh, nutritious foods, programs like Pick For Your Neighbor can help them achieve better health, lower health care bills, and a higher quality of life.

Pick for your neighbor

"All year long, we look forward to the harvest season and the bounty it brings our state," says Sayles. "Spending a day



photo by Nancy Cassidy

Apple ready for the picking at the Vermont Technical College orchard in Randolph Center, VT.

picking apples with friends and family is always a highlight of season. This is a great opportunity to add a great cause to that experience. As you make your annual orchard visit, take a little extra time to pick a few apples for someone who doesn't always have access to the incredible fresh food our state has to offer."

Each year businesses, civic groups, and community members have come together to participate. Last year Wood Chuck Hard Cider employees visited Champlain Orchards and picked 2,000 pounds of apples to donate. "This is a wonderful opportunity for businesses to offer their employees a fun team-building day while giving back to the community," adds Sayles. "We encourage all businesses, civic groups, and community members to Pick For Your Neighbor this year!"

The Vermont Foodbank is the state's largest hunger-relief organization, providing nutritious food and promoting health through a network of 215 food shelves, meal sites, senior centers and after-school programs, and directly to families, children, older adults and individuals at schools and hospitals. In 2017, the Vermont Foodbank distributed nearly 12 million pounds of food to 153,100 Vermonters. The Vermont Foodbank, a member of Feeding America, is nationally recognized as one of the most effective and efficient nonprofits and food banks in the nation. Learn more at www.vtfoodbank.org.

To learn more and to see a list of participating orchards, visit: www.vtfoodbank.org/PFYN.

Recipes from a Century Past

Blue Skies, Colorful Days and Crisp Ripe Apples!

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. Finish baking and serve with cream and sugar or maple syrup.

Apple Slump

Pare, core, and quarter apples add a little water and sugar to taste. Stew until tender and cover with the following mixture; sift 1 pint of flour and 1 teaspoon of baking powder, add a pinch of salt, and 2 cups of milk, mix, and turn out onto a lightly floured board. Roll to a one-half-inch thickness and place over the stewed apples. Cover and cook for 10 minutes without lifting the lid. Serve hot with cream and sugar or a soft custard.

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.

The Apple Picker

On a limber ladder
Bending in the breeze
See the plucky picker
Try the trembling trees.

Picking-bag on shoulder,
Darting here and there,
Ever growing bolder,
Swinging in the air.

Pippin, Pearmain, Baldwin,
King and Spy and Sweet,
Spitzenberg and Codlin,
Never stop to eat.

In the sunlight glancing'
On their branches tall,
Merrily they're dancing,
Do not let them fall!

Tantalizing torments
Almost out of reach,
Tenderly you touch them
As if egg or peach.

Careful with the packing
In the barrels neat,
Nothing now is lacking,
Here's a fruit complete!

—DORIC A. KNEELAND
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Woodstock, VT

Billings Farm & Museum Autumn Festivities

Billings Farm & Museum has served as a gateway to Vermont's rural heritage for over 1.5 million visitors. Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 146-year tradition of agricultural excellence and offers farm programs and historical exhibits that explore Vermont's rural heritage and values. In addition to the following special events, you can visit the farm for Wagon Ride Wednesdays and Foodways Fridays. Whether your are a visitor or make Vermont your home, plan a trip to Billings Farm & Museum this fall. You'll have a great time!

Labor & Leisure—Billings Farm & Museum will host Labor & Leisure Day on Saturday, September 1, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It's a day of work and fun on the farm! Building split rail fencing, ice cream making, historic "base ball" and laundry using a washboard and wringer.

Pumpkin & Apple Celebration—The Annual Pumpkin & Apple Celebration is coming on Saturday and Sunday, September 29 & 30 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This family-friendly celebration features engaging hands-on activities, programs, and displays centered around these vital crops and explores their historical importance and many uses. Take the apple taste test and vote for your favorite! Lend a hand pressing cider, making pumpkin or apple ice cream, and peeling apples for drying. Join in the "pumpkin and apple fun" with apple races, pumpkin bowling, apples-on-a-string, sampling pumpkin bread, and watch apple butter being made in the farmhouse kitchen. Horse-drawn wagon rides are included with admission.

Billings Farm & Museum is open daily through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; weekends November – February, and Christmas & Presidents' weeks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Adults \$16, 62 & over \$14, children 5-15 \$8, ages 3-4 \$4, age 2 & under free. Includes all activities and programs, plus the operating dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House. The Farm & Museum is located one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on VT Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355. Visit www.billingsfarm.org.

Rupert, VT

September Events at Merck Forest & Farmland

Early autumn has come to Merck Forest and Farmland Center. There are plenty of organized activities and events, or you may just bring family and friends to enjoy a stroll around the farm, or an invigorating hike along our 30+ miles of trails.

Early Autumn Event Schedule

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

Harvest Festival. September 15, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fun on the farm for everybody! Wagon rides, food, family-oriented activities around the farm and pond, and demonstrations of farm skills (donation provides admittance to the contra dance as well). Suggested donation \$3.

Contra Dance. September 15, 3-5 p.m. Fern Bradley calls. Swing your partner and have a rollicking good time at this popular annual event. Suggested donation \$3.

Full Corn Moon Walk. September 22, 6-8 p.m. Join a staff-guided hike in the evening landscape. Moderate difficulty. Will take place only if weather conditions permit. Reservations are requested; Fee: \$5 per person.

Merck Forest and Farmland Center, is located between Rupert and Dorset, atop the very large hill at 3270 Rt. 315 in Rupert, VT. Please do not rely solely on your GPS: once you reach the top of the big hill on 315, turn into Merck Forest's Driveway. If you start going downhill, you've missed us! (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.



photo by Billings Farm & Museum

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

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Tinmouth, VT

Autumn Concerts at The Old Firehouse Stage

The Old Firehouse Crew up in Tinmouth is bringing back some long time favorites this fall, and a guitarist from England who hasn't been to Vermont before. All concerts are on a Friday at 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.) at the Old Firehouse in downtown Tinmouth, VT.

September 14—Guitarist Claude Bourbon from England. This French-born guitarist grew up in Switzerland where for a time he was classically trained. Now based in the UK, he has become a world-renowned player, highly acclaimed for his finger-picking style—plucking, picking and strumming at such speed that his fingers seem to appear just as a blur. His music utilizes strains of folk, western, jazz and blues through such melodic delights as the traditional English Dance, the hypnotic Rodrigo, and vocals that display his slightly gruff, world-weary voice.

September 28—Martin and Susanne Bring the Blues and Old-time American Music. Martin Grosswendt and Susanne Salem-Schatz make beautiful music together, presenting a delightful gumbo rooted in the blues and old-time traditions. Martin is internationally known for his mastery of pre-war blues and other southern traditional genres on guitar, banjo, and mandolin among others. Susanne is becoming known for her dynamic interpretations.

October 12—Cosy Sheridan Comes Back to Delight. Cosy Sheridan has been called “one of the era’s finest and most thoughtful singer-songwriters.” Her concerts are wide-ranging explorations of modern mythology, love songs for adults, contemporary philosophy for the thoughtfully-minded, and her signature parody on aging and women. Her lyrical dexterity is backed by her percussive bluesy guitar style. A New Englander by birth, Cosy tours all over the country.

October 26—Ireland comes to Tinmouth for an Evening with Extra Stout. Extra Stout will fill the Old Firehouse with its Irish singing, whistling and fiddling! This traditional Irish band brings raucous drinking songs, ballads of home and country; slow and haunting airs; and rocking reels, jigs and polkas. Six engaging vocalists lend their voices to great songs from Ireland’s rich history, while skillfully playing a variety of instruments—guitars, fiddle, whistles, and drums.

Donation of \$10 to \$15 of which 90% goes to the musicians; the balance pays the town for the hall. Coffee, tea, and locally made treats for sale, provided by local groups.

The Old Firehouse is at VT Rt. 140 and Mountain View Rd. in downtown Tinmouth, VT. Try 8 Mountain View Rd., Tinmouth on your GPS if you aren’t sure of the way. www.tinmouthvt.org/events. www.facebook.com/TinmouthOldFirehouseConcerts.



The Tinmouth Contra Dance

Friday, September 21
8–11 p.m.



(802) 446-2928
www.tinmouthvt.org

All dances are taught. Come on time if you are a beginner. Exuberant dancers of all ages welcome. Admission: \$10-\$12 adults, \$8 teens, free for children 12 and under.

Tinmouth
Community Center
573 Rt. 140 in downtown Tinmouth, VT



Sunday, September 16th, 2018

11th Annual Tour de Farms
Vergennes, VT

This is the first time the Tour will start and end in Vergennes. Two routes: 10 and 30 miles. Sign up early and save \$25!

Register at www.acornvt.org/tourdefarms
For more information contact amelia@acornvt.org
or call (802) 382-0401



The Addison County Relocalization Network



Claude Bourbon, guitarist from England, will be performing at the Old Firehouse in Tinmouth, VT on September 14th.

Rutland, VT

Vermont Farmers Food Center's 4th Annual Harvest Festival

The Vermont Farmers Food Center is pleased to invite you to their 4th Annual Harvest Festival, on Sunday, September 23rd from 3-8 p.m. at the center in Rutland, VT.

The event is the primary fundraiser for the year in

their effort to create a vibrant local-regional food system.

A wonderful late afternoon of fun, food, and community is planned. Childcare will be provided.

Cash bar reception, music, and silent auction begins at 3 p.m. The Vermont Farmers

Food Center overview and community awards takes place at 4 p.m. The family style dinner and open auction #1 is at 4:30 p.m. Dessert and open auction #2 available at 5:30 p.m.

Ticket prices: \$40 ages 13 and over, \$20 ages 7-12, ages 6 and under are free.

Please purchase your tickets and consider an additional donation-contribution. Year-

ly Vermont Farmers Food Center sponsorships are also much needed, and greatly appreciated!

Vermont Farmers Food Center Farmer's Hall is located at 251 West St. in Rutland, VT. For information and tickets contact Chris Siliski at: (802) 558-4338 or siliski_chris@gmail.com. vermontfarmersfoodcenter.org.

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Memories Of Hot Summers Past

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

This summer, when it was so scorching and humid that our 1840s house became a rich stew of faint scents, (the smell of hot dust and old wood, a whiff of long-ago pets—that singular summertime perfume) some particular memories of mine returned to mix the past with the present.

We had our annual Fourth of July party, and several of the people who've come for decades stayed home. Everyone who braved the heat wound up sitting out under the trees in a big circle of assorted summer chairs, eating and talking until afternoon crept into dusk, then into soft, mosquito-filled, darkness.

That morning, I'd gone out and settled down in a secluded spot between our porch columns, the spot where I settle down every year to watch Castleton's Fourth of July parade.

First, I saw The Governors Institute on the Arts, kids dressed in white, hooting, chittering, making Brazilian-rain-forest sounds, running, slashing, and swirling multi-colored plastic banners, a chaotic anarchy that brought to mind the

"The mothers led a group of kids on wagons and scooters and little bicycles decorated with American Flags."

rabble-assault on the Bastille. But they were tempered by a following vanguard of law and order elements, the Castleton police force and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Young mothers pushing strollers and leading toddlers grouped together under the trees at the edge of the parade route. They exchanged PTA and pediatrician-type information and regularly shouted commands, "Conner, I can see you. Stop that now."

Later, the mothers led a school group made up of kids on wagons and scooters and little bicycles decorated with American flags.

About half way through the parade, I heard distant, but steadily-approaching, drums and pipes. This was battle re-enactors. When thrilling-music regiments like this one



turned up in little Vermont towns, it's no wonder they had little trouble rounding up boys to join them and go off to war.

The grave-faced, horse-empire O'Rourke men rode by with their flags, like medieval knights in Stetsons. And then there was a Cassella truck hauling the Lake Bomoseen Association's new weed harvester with a DJ up on top of this behemoth rig blasting out a pounding, joyful, "I'm proud to be an American. God bless the USA."

After it was all over, I stayed sitting on the porch watching people drifting away, and I thought back to the evening the San Francisco Ragazzi boys' chorus came to Castleton to sing at the Federated Church across the street. I'd gone over to see the church filled, even the balcony filled—something I've only experienced a few times in my life.

The boys sang selections from Handel and Schubert, but near the end of the program they spread out across the sanctuary, in front of the pulpit, and danced and sang "Put a Little Love in Your Heart." The church hadn't felt that full of joyous energy since, maybe, the fifties.

Afterward, the deaconate set up long tables outside and served cookies, cake, and make-your-own-sundaes. Much later, because it was too hot to sleep, I sat out and listened to the little boys, now in T-shirts and shorts, small ghostly shapes running back and forth on the town green, close to the church graveyard, filling the humid darkness with wild cries.

One summer, the Castleton select board voted to buy

American flags to hang on the utility poles along Route 4, and my son, a member of the select board at that time, volunteered to put up some of them. I was driving home from Fair Haven when I spotted his truck parked by the side of the road. I saw that he'd set a chair on the truck bed and had with him Matt Wade, a dry-waller friend who was working for us that summer. I couldn't figure out at first what was going on.

My son, holding an armful of flag, had climbed on the chair. He was straining up toward the utility pole, but there was a breeze that day so he couldn't manage to attach the flag, moved by what a stirring sight it was, like the Marines lifting the Stars and Stripes at Iwo Jima.

I didn't think he would have much interest in seeing his mother at this moment of difficulty, so I just drove slowly past watching the two of them struggling together to raise the flag, moved by what a stirring sight it was, like the Marines lifting the Stars and Stripes at Iwo Jima.

One July 4th, the Castleton Corners realtors—there used

to be several of them doing a seemingly lively business in

offices at the Corners—bought what must have been bales

of miniature American flags.

I remember returning to town from our cottage early in the morning on the Fourth of July, and there were the realtors' flags. They started along the road in Hydeville, marched around the Hydeville green, continued through Castleton Corners.

They took a little break, and then began again in Castleton Village—tiny, bright, fluttering, flags dancing along the edge of the road as far as I could see.

Even now, remembering, it takes my breath away.

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

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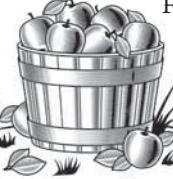
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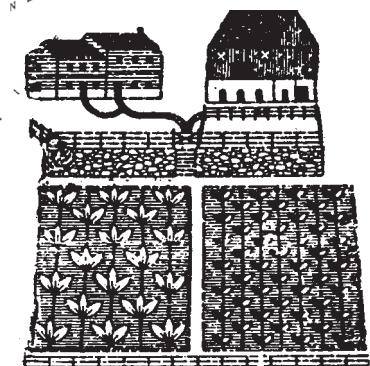
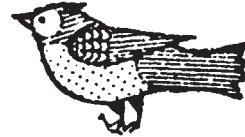
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Vermont Map



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Vermont Country Calendar

See the end of the daily event calendar for ongoing activities; museums, exhibits, and galleries; community dances and music; recreation and nature centers; and farmers markets.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

ANDOVER. Annual Andover Day Fair. Arts, crafts, and homemade items. There will also be music, fly fishing demonstrations, food, a raffle, children's wood workshop and other activities. 11 am – 2:30 pm. Andover Town Hall, 953 Andover Rd. (802) 875-5454.

BENNINGTON. Fourth Annual Sun and Fun Festival. Activities and fun for all ages. Displays by over 25 local environmentally-friendly groups. Kids will have a great time playing games and activities such as face painting and giant mural painting, and making and bringing home their own Solar Fairy light. Music by the Hale Mountain Pickers and the Throwbacks. Delicious homemade luncheon. Educational exhibits on topics such as tick prevention, climate change, and nature. Interactive exhibits including an ELF Solar powered electric bike, a smoothie bike, and others. Breakout sessions by Vermont Natural History Museum—Vermont wildlife (meet a live owl, turtle, snake, rabbit and raptor), parachute yoga, wind power, composting, beekeeping, update on climate action in the Capitol by local senator, solar power and financing. Quiet room available for those who need it throughout the day. Free. Rain or shine from 10 am – 3 pm. Second Congregational Church, 115 Hillside St. (802) 442-2559. On Facebook.

BONDVILLE. 221st Annual Bondville Fair. The oldest continuous fair in Vermont! Midway rides, live music, Cheryl the Clown. Craft fair, quilt show. Horse, ox, truck and tractor pulls. Farm animals, sugar house demonstration. Flowers, vegetables, handcrafts, art & more. 30 Rt. 30. www.bondvillefair.org. *Also August 26.*

CANAAN. 27th Annual North Country Moose Festival. Festivities include a dog show, Moose Festival art contest, food vendors, live music, cruise night, maple tasting, classic car show, moose chili, barn dance, local area artisans, cow plop bingo, moose calling contest, horse-drawn wagon rides, and more! Admission: \$5 per adult (12 and up), children 5-12 \$3, 4 and under free. 10 am – 3 pm. Recreation Park. (603) 237-8939. northcountrychamber.org.

CHELSEA. First Annual Arts on the Green Market & Festival. More than twenty-five New England artists and vendors, culinary treats. Art activities for children and families, silent auction of regional works. Music by Jason Baker and Doug Perkins, Arabalon drumming ensemble, Tamarack, and Jazz Tweed Duo. Free. 10 am – 5 pm. North Common green. chelsearts.com.

CHITTENDEN. Chittenden Day. 8:30 am Bobcat Bolt race. Parade at noon. 1 pm Opening Ceremonies at Barstow School. Lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers. Live music, food, crafts, vendors, silent auction. 1:30-3:30 pm Old-fashioned games, 4 pm softball game. 5 pm chicken BBQ, with free ice cream. Fireworks beginning around 8:50 pm. Barstow School, 223 Chittenden Rd. (802) 483-6963. chittendenday@gmail.com.

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Performance by Gabriel "Fluffy" Iglesias. Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Through September 2.*

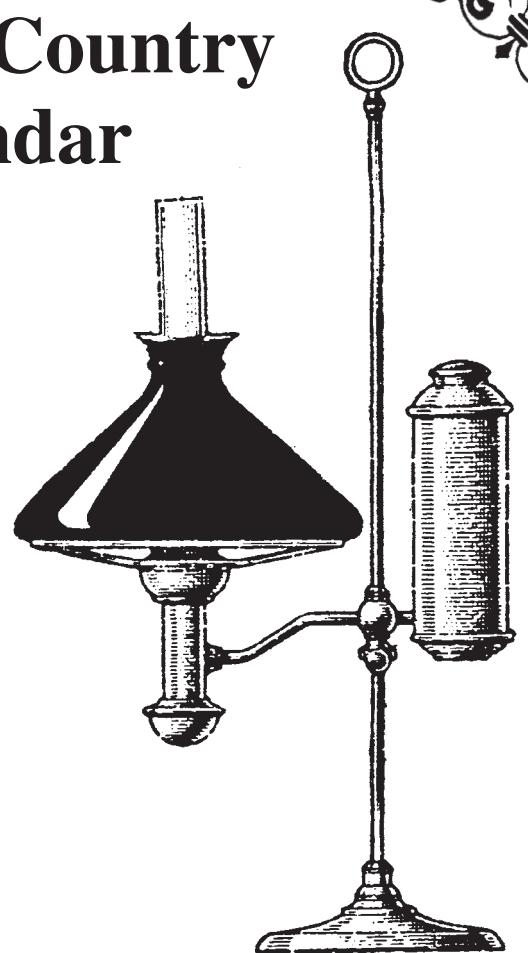
LYNDONVILLE. 163rd Annual Caledonia County Fair. Admission: \$17. Open 7 am. Mountain View Park. (802) 626-8101. www.caledoniacountyfair.com. *Also August 26.*

MIDDLEBURY. Fourth Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival. An incredible weekend of films, parties, panels, and special guests and presentations. Screening about 90 films, a diverse array of features and shorts across all genres, as selected by Artistic Director Jay Craven. Three venues: Town Hall Theater, the Marquis Theater and Dana Auditorium at Middlebury College. Tickets: \$80, \$32, \$12. 10 am – 10 pm. middfilmfest.org. *Through August 26.*

NEWFANE. Program: The Old & New Village of Newfane. Introduction to the old Village of Newfane and tour of monuments with Laura Wallingford-Bacon. Tour of the Town Forest with Bill Guenther, County Forester. Historic background information of the Common with Larry Robinson at County Courthouse, followed by discussion of the Common's legacy tree maintenance. Starting at 8:30 am at Old Newfane Common, top of Newfane Hill Rd. historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org

ORWELL. 7th Annual Mount Independence-Hubbardton Military Road Car Tour. Jim Rowe, president of the Crown Point Road Association, is your leader for the first leg of the 1776 Mount Independence-Hubbardton Military Road. Meet at the Mount Independence museum with your own car. The tour will end at the Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site in Hubbardton. Co-sponsored by Crown Point Road Association. Adults \$5, children under 5 are free. 12:30-3:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 759-2412. historicalsites.vermont.gov.

RANDOLPH. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival Concert. Beethoven, Klein and Dvorak. Tickets \$25. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.cvcmf.org. *Also August 26.*



RUPERT. Super Saturday Volunteer Workday. Share purposeful work with friends. Join us for a project on the trails or on the farm, and we'll work together to get it done. 9 am – 4 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUPERT. Full Sturgeon Moon Hike. Staff-guided hike, moderate difficulty, weather-permitting. Dress for the weather with sturdy footgear, headlamps, water and snacks. Reservations requested. Fee: \$5 per person. 6-8 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. Located between Rupert and Dorset, at the top of the very large hill. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October 27.*

TINMOUTH. Library Book Sale. To benefit the Tinmouth Public Library. 8 am – 12 noon. Two-dollar bag sale 12:1-30 pm. In the Old Firehouse next to the Library. www.tinmouthvt.org/tinmouth-library.

VERGENNES. 37th Annual Vergennes Day. Live music. Little City Road Races. Pancake breakfast at the fire station. More than 60 crafters and vendors, free horse and wagon rides, kids games, rubber ducky race, and library drawing. Chicken BBQ. 7 am – 3 pm. At venues around town and City Green. (802) 388-7951. vergennesday.com.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

BONDVILLE. 221st Annual Bondville Fair. The oldest continuous fair in Vermont! 30 Rt. 30. bondvillefair.org.

COLEBROOK, NH. Concert: The Sky Blue Boys & Cookie. Tickets: \$10, students \$5. 2 pm. Tillotson Center, 14 Carriage Ln. banjodan@pshift.com. skyblueboys.com.

COLCHESTER. 10th Annual Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival. Concerts, talks, masterclasses. Tickets: \$25-\$40, some concerts free. 7:30 pm. Elley Long Music Center, 223 Ethan Ave. (802) 846-2175. jody@lccmf.org. www.lccmf.org. www.flynnitix.org.

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Through September 2.*

GLOVER. Show: The Grasshopper Rebellion Circus & The Naked Truth Pageant. Suggested donation \$10. Circus Field, Bread and Puppet Farm, Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. breadandpuppet.org.

HUBBARDTON. Last Sunday: East Hubbardton Cemetery. Site interpreter Carl Fuller leads this walk, to talk about the early settlers of Hubbardton, their roles in the 1777 Battle of Hubbardton, and life after the war. If inclement weather shorter inside program. 2-4 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.

LYNDONVILLE. 162nd Annual Caledonia County Fair. Admission: \$17. Open 7 am. Mountain View Park. (802) 626-8101. www.caledoniacountyfair.com.

MIDDLEBURY. Fourth Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival. Three venues: Town Hall Theater, the Marquis Theater and Dana Auditorium at Middlebury College. Tickets: \$80, \$32, \$12. Closing night free. 10 am – 10 pm. middfilmfest.org. *Through August 26.*

PLYMOUTH. Grace Coolidge Musicale #3. Abigail Charbeneau and Susan Cobb present a "piano four hands" program featuring Mozart's Sonata in F major and Johannes Brahms' Variations on a Theme by Robert Schumann. Donation. 4-5:30 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicites.vermont.gov. william.jenney@vermont.gov.

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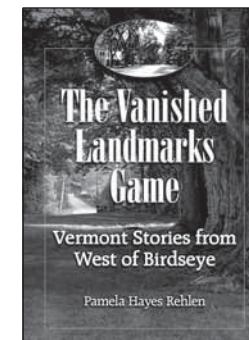
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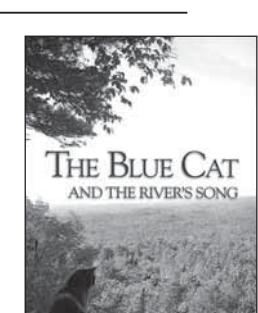
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Vermont Country Calendar

(Sunday, August 26, continued)

STOWE. Race to the Top of Vermont. As many as 800 hikers, bikers, and runners from across the U.S. and Canada climb Mt. Mansfield, Vermont's highest peak. Entry fee includes a high quality tech shirt, post-race BBQ and over \$15,000 in raffle prizes. Fee: \$40-\$50. 8 am - 5 pm. (802) 253-3000. www.stowe.com. www.rtttovt.com.

WOODSTOCK. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival Concert. Beethoven, Klein, Dvorak. Tickets \$10. 4 pm. Woodstock Unitarian Universalist Church, 7 Church St. (802) 457-3981. www.cvcmf.org.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am - 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Through September 2.*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

BARNET. Caledonia Day. Bagpiping, tours, exhibits and demonstrations including hand-hewn lumbering, blacksmithing and Scottish step-dancing. Scones, shortbread and home baked goods. Scottish supper. Evening concert. 10 am - 8 pm. Center Church, Barnet Center Rd. (802) 633-4436. barnetvt.org/historical.

BELLOWS FALLS. Workshop: All About Black Bears. Recommended for children ages 4 and up. Sponsored by the Nature Museum at Grafton. Free. 10-11 am. Bellows Falls Visitor Center and Fish Ladder, 17 Bridge St. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org.

BENNINGTON. 23rd Annual Garlic Fest. Demonstrations, workshops, food, arts and crafts vendors. Everything garlic. Face painting, inflatable fun jumps and other children's activities. Live music. Adult \$8, child 12 and under \$2, adult. 10 am - 5 pm. Camelot Village, 66 Colgate Heights, Rt. 9. (802) 447-3311. bennington.com. *Also September 2.*

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am - 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Also September 2.*

GUILFORD. 53rd Annual Labor Day Weekend Festival. Concert in the Barn: James Gerber performs works by Buxtehude, J. S. Bach, J.G. Walther, Léon Boëllmann, and Herbert Howells. Admission free, donations welcome. 7:30 pm The Organ Barn, off Packer Corners Rd. (802) 257-2616. GalleryWalk.org. *Also September 2.*

MIDDLEBURY. Ilsley Book and Media Sale. All sales support library programs. 11 am - 2:30 pm. Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. (802) 388-4095. *First Saturdays.*

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Festival. Street dance, food, craft and game booths. Breakfast buffet at American Legion 7-11 am. Fire department tag sale. Book sale at Brown Public Library. Gold panning, face painting, Boy Scouts soap box derby at 4 pm. northfieldlaborday.org. *Through September 3.*

PLYMOUTH. 14th Annual Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival. Lineup includes Jay Ottaway, Julia Mark, Seth Adam, Cricket Blue, Alice Howe, and Dan Weber. Wagon rides on Saturday; children's crafts and face painting. Concerts are free; donation suggested. 2-5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. plymouthfolk.com. *historic sites.vermont.gov*. *Also September 2.*

RIPTON. Concert: Night Tree. Six conservatory-trained musicians who have absorbed genres from across the globe. \$10 admission, \$15 generous admission, \$3 kids under 12. Doors open 7 pm. 7:30 pm open mic, followed by featured performers. Ripton Community Coffee House, Rt. 125. (802) 388-9782. rcch.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Farm fresh veggies and fruits, artisan cheeses, breads, maple syrup, VT crafts, prepared foods. Live music. 9 am - 2 pm, in Depot Park. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October 27.*

SHOREHAM. Town-Wide Yard Sale. Pancake Breakfast: Blueberry pancakes, French toast, sausages, egg dishes, home fries, fruit, and beverages; adults \$8, children \$4, families \$20. 8-10 am at Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-8591.

TINMOUTH. Town-Wide Tag Sale. Community bake oven. 9 am - 2 pm. The Old Firehouse, Mountain View Rd. vtsjohnson@icloud.com. On Facebook.

WELLS RIVER. So Long Summer, Hello Fall Festival. Giant Zucchini Contest, Sidewalk sales, in-store specials, Baldwin Memorial Library book sale, WRAP bake sale, sidewalk vendors, music, Cohase Chamber Rubber Ball River Race. 9 am - 2 pm. For more information contact Wells River Action Program at wrapwr@gmail.com. (802) 757-2708.

WEST DOVER. 24th Annual Brewers Festival. Tons of great food options on the festival grounds with a huge BBQ on Cuzzins deck along with vendors whipping up kettle korn, crepes, waffles and a few other surprises. Quality live music will be on-stage throughout the event. 12-5 pm. Mount Snow Resort, 39 Mount Snow Rd. (802) 464-4203. www.mountsnow.com. *Also September*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

BENNINGTON. 23rd Annual Garlic Fest. Workshops, demonstrations, food, arts and crafts vendors. Everything garlic. Face painting, inflatable fun jumps and other children's activities. Live music both days. Tickets: adult 8, child 12 and under \$2. 10 am - 5 pm. Camelot Village, 66 Colgate Heights, Rt. 9. (802) 447-3311. bennington.com.

BRATTLEBORO. Annual Dawn Dance. All night dancing. Contra dancing with three bands and three callers from 8 pm Sunday evening to 7 am Monday morning. There may also be English Country Dancing on Sunday afternoon from 2:30-5:30 pm. Tickets at the door 7:30 pm or online. More information on website. Gibson-Aiken Center, 207 Main St. (Rt. 5). www.dawndance.org.

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am - 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. www.champlainvalleyfair.org.

GLOVER. Bread and Puppet Theater Performs The Basic Byebye Show. A poem on transformation, inspired by Albrecht Dürer's apocalyptic woodcuts, birch branches lost during an ice storm, and the daily news. Suggested donation \$10. In the Paper Mache Cathedral at 3 pm. Bread & Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadpup@together.net. www.breadandpuppet.org.

GUILFORD. 74th Annual Guilford Fair. Adults \$8, seniors \$5. children 6-12 \$2, 5 and under free, Ride bracelets from 1-4 pm \$20. 163 Fairgrounds Rd. guilfordfairvermont.com.

GUILFORD. 53rd Annual Labor Day Weekend Festival. Orchestra Concert on the Lawn. Traditional finale sing-in of Randall Thompson's Alleluia. Grounds open at noon for picnicking and lunch sales. Cookies and lemonade available. Admission free, donations welcome. Rain venue: West Village Meeting House (All Souls Church UU), 29 South St., West Brattleboro. 2 pm. The Organ Barn, off Packer Corners Rd. (802) 257-2616. GalleryWalk.org.

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Festival. Wunderle's Big Top Adventure. Food, craft and game booths. Breakfast buffet at American Legion. Fire Dept. tag sale. Library book sale. 9th Annual Car Show. Bonfire- AC/DC Tribute Band 7-10 pm. northfieldlaborday.org. *Also September 3.*

ORWELL. Hike into History. On this guided tour, walk in the footsteps of Revolutionary War soldiers. Meet at museum for orientation. Adults \$5, children under 15 free. 1-3 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historic sites.vermont.gov.

Tinmouth, VT

Tinmouth Contra Dance Returns for the Season

Dance to the splendid tunes of the Tartan Raiders (Brendan Taaffe on guitar and foot percussion and Joanne Garton on fiddle) with excellent calling from Luke Donforth on Friday September 21 from 8-11 pm. at the Tinmouth Community Center in Tinmouth, VT.

All dances are taught, and

you do not need a partner. If you are a beginner, come right at 8 p.m. for a beginner's lesson to learn the moves.

There will be live music, enthusiastic swinging and dancing, refreshments and a fun night for all. Bring your friends and family.

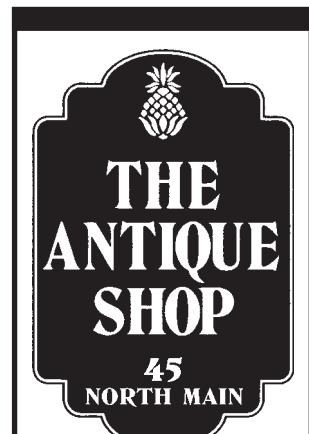
The dance takes place in

the Tinmouth Community Center on the third Friday of the month. The Community Center is at 573 Rte. 140 in the center of Tinmouth, five miles west of Wallingford. Please bring clean, non-marring shoes.

Admission is \$10-\$12, \$8 for teens and free for children 12 and under. Shine up those dancing shoes and bring a couple of friends to dance with!

Our October 19 dance features a hot young band made up of parts of Nova and Cloud Ten with Ron Blechner calling. November 23 (4th Friday) and December 21 are up on deck.

For more information visit www.tinmouthcontradance.org. Call (802) 446-2928. E-mail tinmouthdance@gmail.org. Like us on Facebook at Tinmouth Contra Dance.



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Vermont Country Calendar

PLYMOUTH. 14th Annual Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival. Concerts are free; donation suggested. 2-5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. plymouthfolk.com. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicites.vermont.gov.

RANDOLPH. Chandler's New World Festival. Celebrate Vermont's Celtic and French Canadian heritage. Tickets: adults \$44, students 13-18 \$12, children 12 and under free. After 6 pm \$31. Noon to midnight downtown. For tickets call (802) 728-6464. www.newworldfestival.com.

WEST DOVER. 24th Annual Brewers Festival. Tons of great food options on the festival grounds. Live music on-stage. 12-5 pm. Mount Snow Resort, 39 Mount Snow Rd. (802) 464-4203. www.mountsnow.com.

WOODSTOCK. Pentangle Arts Mozart Concert. Celebrated violist Scott Woolweaver, will highlight a selection of Mozart masterpieces. Tickets: \$10. 4-6 pm. Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church, 7 South St. (802) 457-3981. pentanglearts.org.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

GUILFORD. 74th Annual Guilford Fair. Admission: adults \$8, children 6-12 \$2, 5 and under free, seniors \$5. 163 Fairgrounds Rd. guilfordfairvermont.com.

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Festival. Parade at 10 am. Food, craft and game booths. Celtic dancing. Chicken BBQ at noon. No Strings Marionette Show. Fire Dept. tag sale. Library book sale. 9th Annual Car Show. AC/DC Tribute Band, 7-10 pm. northfieldlaborday.org.

SHEFFIELD. The Pat O'Hagan Memorial Fiddlers' Contest will take place at Sheffield Field Day. The competition begins at 2 pm. Admission free, but donations gratefully accepted. Miller's Run School Gymnasium, Rt. 122. (802) 626-8293 or bbkinnell@aol.com.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

RANDOLPH. Concert: Del McCoury Band. The reigning kings of bluegrass. Tickets: \$55, \$48, \$41. 7:30 pm. Main Hall, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

ROCHESTER. Bread and Puppet Performance: The 6000 Generation Circus, with giant dwarves, cardboard grasshoppers, and the Bread & Puppet Circus Band. Picnic style seating; bring a blanket—first come best seat. Free sourdough rye bread with aioli. Rain location: Rochester School Gymnasium. Tickets: \$10, 5 & under free. 6 pm, doors at 5 pm. BigTown Gallery, 99 North Main St. bigtowngallery.com. breadandpuppet.org.

RUTLAND. Friends of the Rutland Free Library Book Sale. Special sale: all items are buy one get one of equal or lesser value free. Thousands of organized, gently-used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages. Most items \$.25 - \$3. As always, a nice selection of rare and antique books at discounted prices. 10 am – 4 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org. Also September 8.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

COLCHESTER. Vermont Genealogy Library Annual Open House. Huge genealogy book sale, demonstrations using FamilyTreeMaker & RootsMagic software as well as tips on using Ancestry.com and FindMyPast.com. Volunteers will provide tours of the library and its resources including 4500 books and online subscriptions (Ancestry.com, FindMyPast.com, two powerful Quebec websites & two others). Free refreshments throughout the day. Free & open to the public. 10 am – 4 pm. VT Genealogy Library, Dupont Hall, Ft. Ethan Allen. (802) 310-9285. www.vtgenlib.org.

EAST BURKE. Second Annual Vermont Hemp Fest. Ten hours of interactive panel presentations in two locations. Agricultural, hemp and CBD exhibitors, investors forum, food trucks, live music, outdoor bar and lawn games. Admission. 11 am – 10 pm. Burke Mountain Hotel and Conference Center, 2559 Mountain Rd. headyvermont.com. Also September 9.

NORWICH. Contra Dance. Music by Audrey & Clayton with David Millstone calling. Adults \$12, students \$8, under 16 free. Please bring soft-soled shoes. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. Beginner session at 7:45 pm, regular dance from 8 pm to 11 pm. At Tracy Hall. (802) 295-6225. www.udm.org. Also September 22.

PROCTORSVILLE. Vermont Golden Honey Festival. Part farmers market, part craft fair, and part beekeepers event. Honey apple wood-fired pizza. Honey-related food and drinks (including mead and honey gin), crafts, books and kids' activities. 10 am – 4 pm. Golden Stage Inn Bed and Breakfast, 399 Depot St. (802) 226-7744. www.goldenstageinn.com.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

RUTLAND. Wonderpaws Story Time. Read a book with Phoenix Books Rutland's bookstore dog. This event is part of Wonderfeet Kids' Museum's 4th Annual Wonderpaws Festival & Paw Parade, a community event for all ages. 11 am. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St. (802) 855-8078. phoenixbooks.biz.

RUTLAND. 4th Annual Wonderpaws Festival & Paw Parade. Hosted by Wonderfeet Kids' Museum. Kid-friendly and dog-friendly festival features demonstrations, a scavenger hunt, crafts, an obstacle course, a hay maze, activities, photo opportunities, food and more. A raffle of Pet Gear merchandise open to all. Paw Parade at noon. Free and open to the public. All dogs must register to participate. Registration starting 10:30 am at the event. 11 am – 2 pm. In downtown Rutland on Center St. (802) 282-2678. www.wonderfeetkidsmuseum.org.

RUTLAND. Friends of the Rutland Free Library Book Sale. Special sale: all items are buy one get one of equal or lesser value free. Thousands of organized, gently-used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages. Most items \$.25 - \$3. As always, a nice selection of rare and antique books at discounted prices. 10 am – 4 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org.

SHOREHAM. Fall Rummage and Food Sale. Bargains in clothes and miscellaneous items, bag sale starting at noon. Clean usable items can be dropped off at the church on the preceding Thursday and Friday from 1-3 pm. 9 am – 2 pm. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-8591.

WEST RUTLAND. SculptFest2018. A group of artists will present sculptural and video installations with the theme of "Interdependence" at an opening reception for the annual exhibition. Guest curator Alisa Dworsky has selected site-specific works by artists Charles Hickey, Amy Königbauer, Sophia Latysheva, Jessica Leete and Nathaniel Lieb. 5-8 pm. Free and open to the public, featuring music by the Harry Drum Trio, refreshments and annual Fine Art Raffle drawing. Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. www.carvingsstudio.org. Through October 22.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

EAST BURKE. Second Annual Vermont Hemp Fest. Interactive panel presentations in two locations. Agricultural, hemp and CBD exhibitors, food trucks, live music, outdoor bar and lawn games. Admission. 10 am – 1 pm. Burke Mountain Hotel and Conference Center, 2559 Mountain Rd. headyvermont.com.

GLOVER. Indoor Performance at Bread & Puppet. A forever-changing indoor performance at the Paper Maché Cathedral. Suggested donation \$10, no one turned away for lack of funds. 3 pm. Bread & Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadup@together.net. Also September 16 & 23.

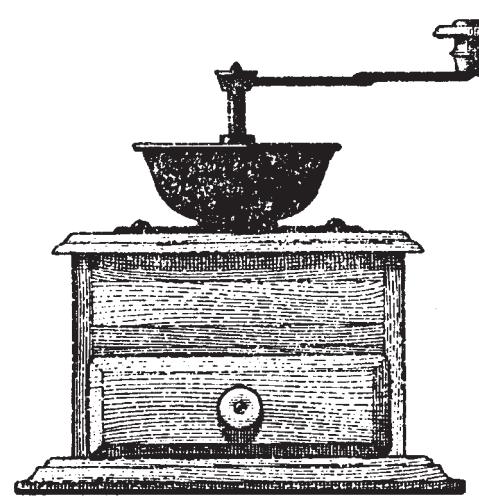
NORWICH. English Country Dance. Dances taught by David Millstone. Music by Thal Aylward (violin and viola), Carol Compton (piano and recorders). All dances taught beforehand and prompted to live music. Bring shoes to change into at the hall, no high heels. Potluck snacks at the break. Admission: \$10. 1-4 pm. Tracy Hall. davidmillstone7@gmail.com. Also October 28, November 11, December 9.

RUTLAND. Olate Dogs. Ever since they ran away with the million dollar grand prize on Season Seven of "America's Got Talent," the Olate Dogs have been on a nonstop roller coaster with appearances around the country. Led by father Richard Olate and his son Nicholas Olate, the Olate Dogs are a high-energy, fast-paced act filled with amazing, doggie-friendly tricks. Tickets \$25. 2 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

BURLINGTON. Book & Author Event. Dr. Paul Seward talks about his book, *Patient Care: Death and Life in the Emergency Room*. Proceeds from ticket sales will go to the Vermont Foodbank. Your \$3 ticket comes with a coupon for \$5 off a copy of the featured book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. 7 pm. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. phoenixbooks.biz.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses, handcrafted breads, maple syrup, Vermont crafts, prepared foods, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 24.



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Vermont Country Calendar

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

BURLINGTON. Author Appearance. Mike DeSanto hosts Gray Basnight, reading and signing his new political thriller, *Flight of the Fox*. Tickets: \$3, with a coupon for \$5 off a copy of the book. Proceeds from ticket sales go to the Vermont Foodbank. 7 pm. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. phoenixbooks.biz.

NEWFANE. Presentation: The Hurricane of '38. Author, Steve Long, chronicles how the hurricane of '38 transformed New England, bringing about social and ecological changes that can still be observed these many decades later. Free. 7 pm. Union Hall, West St. (802) 365-4148. info@historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org. historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org

STOWE. Concert: Livingston Taylor. Well-crafted, introspective, and original songs. Tickets: \$25-\$35. 7 pm. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center. (802) 760-4634. sprucepeakarts.org.

TUNBRIDGE. 147th Annual Tunbridge World's Fair. Old-fashioned agricultural fair in a rural setting. Rt. 110, (802) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com. Through September 16.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

CANAAN. Fall Doe Camp. An outdoor education retreat for adventurous women 18 years and older. Cost: \$390. Jackson's Lodge & Log Cabins. (802) 425-6211. voga.org. www.outdoorswoman.org. Through September 16.

STOWE. British Invasion. Three-day event featuring "all things British." British Invasion Block Party. Live music, food and beverages, with over 600 British motorcars to view. 8 am – 5 pm. On Stowe's Main Street. (802) 253-7321. gostowe.com. Through September 16.

TINMOUTH. Fall Concert. French-born guitarist Claude Bourbon now based in England plays folk, blues, jazz and rock music highly acclaimed for his finger-picking style. Donation of \$10-\$15. Coffee, tea, and locally made treats provided by local groups. 7:30 pm (doors open at 7 pm). The Old Firehouse, Rt. 140 and Mountain View Rd. www.tinmouthvt.org/events.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

CHESTER. 43rd Annual Vermont Fall Craft Festival. Unique handmade crafts offered by over 60 vendors: wood products, glass, jewelry, and more. Music and food. Beer garden behind the Fullerton Inn. 10 am – 4 pm. chesterfallfestival.org. Also September 16.

CHESTER. Homemade Outdoor Breakfast. Get an early start at the Chester Fall Festival on the Village Green with a homemade breakfast outdoors at nearby St. Luke's. Table seating on the lawn, homemade pancakes, sausage/bacon, blueberries, real maple syrup, and beverage. \$6 per plate. Served 8-11 am. St. Luke's Church, 313 Main Street. (802) 875-6000.

COLCHESTER. Beginning Genealogy Class. Sheila Morris will help you get started by discussing: how to find records plus methods and best practices for conducting sound research and how to organize what you find. Bring as much information as you can about your grandparent's births, marriages, deaths and where they lived. After the talk our volunteers can help you get started using our many resources. Fee: \$10. 10:30 am - 12 pm. VT Genealogy Library, Hegeman Ave., Ft. Ethan Allen. (802) 310-9285. www.vtgenlib.org.

MIDDLEBURY. 11th Annual Theater Flea Market. A variety of vendors and dealers. Coffee and snacks available. 9 am – 2 pm. The Town Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. (802) 382-9222. www.townhalltheater.org.

MONTPELIER. Vermont Conference on Healing Power of Cannabis: Medicinal Uses, Preparation & Organic Cultivation. The first New England conference on cannabis as medicine. Led by Jane Bothwell and Rosemary Gladstar. Over 25 workshops. Dr. Donald Abrams, keynote speaker. Second keynote by Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman. Notable experts on the medicinal uses, preparation & organic cultivation of cannabis are coming to Vermont from across the nation. Held at Vermont College of Fine Arts For information and registration go to medicinalcannabisconference.com. Also September 16 & 17.

NORWICH. 14th Annual Norwich Antique Show. Quality regional dealers inside and under the outdoor tent. Appraisals from 1-3 pm (limit 3 items @ \$5 each). Refreshments available. 10 am – 3 pm. Norwich Historical Society, 277 Main St. (802) 649-0124. norwichhistory.org.

RUPERT. Harvest Festival. Fun on the farm for everybody: Wagon rides, food, family-oriented activities around the farm and pond, and demonstrations of farm skills. Contra dance from 3-5 pm. Suggested donation: \$3 per person. 9 am – 3 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. Located between Rupert and Dorset, at the top of the very large hill. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Book & Author Event. Join Pat Goudey O'Brien and Lisa Halvorsen as they present their new book, *Backroads & Byways of Vermont*, an all new guide to the scenic routes of our state. Free. 12 pm. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St. (802) 855-8078. phoenixbooks.biz.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

STOWE. British Invasion. Featuring "all things British." British Invasion Block Party. Live music, food and beverages, with over 600 British motorcars to view. 8 am – 5 pm. On Stowe's Main Street. (802) 253-7321. gostowe.com. Also September 16.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

ADDISON. Points of Interest: Lake Champlain Bridge Guided Walk, led by Thomas Hughes and Elsa Gilbertson. Learn about the history of what you see walking across the Lake Champlain Bridge. Rain or shine, dress for the weather. Cost: \$6. 1-3 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point.

CHESTER. 43rd Annual Vermont Fall Craft Festival. Unique handmade crafts offered by over 60 vendors: wood products, glass, jewelry, photography, watercolors, fiber arts, paper arts, pottery, quilts, soaps and more. Music and food. Beer garden behind the Fullerton Inn. 10 am – 4 pm. chesterfallfestival.org.

FERRISBURGH. Talk: The Quilt Code Myth and Other Mysteries of the Underground Railroad. Kate Clifford Larson will speak about the root of the Quilt Code myth, its counterfactual elements, its curious proliferation during the late 20th century, and its place in Underground Railroad mythology. 3 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. director@rokeby.org. rokeby.org.

GLOVER. Indoor Performance at Bread & Puppet. A forever-changing indoor performance at the Paper Maché Cathedral. Suggested donation \$10, no one turned away for lack of funds. 3 pm. Bread & Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadpup@together.net. www.breadandpuppet.org. Also September 23.

MONTPELIER. Vermont Conference on Healing Power of Cannabis: Medicinal Uses, Preparation & Organic Cultivation. Day two keynote by Will Rap, founder of Gardner's Supply & Intervale Center. Held at Vermont College of Fine Arts. For information and registration go to medicinalcannabisconference.com. Also September 17.

STOWE. British Invasion. Featuring "all things British." British Invasion Block Party. Live music, food and beverages, with over 600 British motorcars to view. 8 am – 5 pm. On Stowe's Main Street. (802) 253-7321. gostowe.com.



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— Through October 27th —

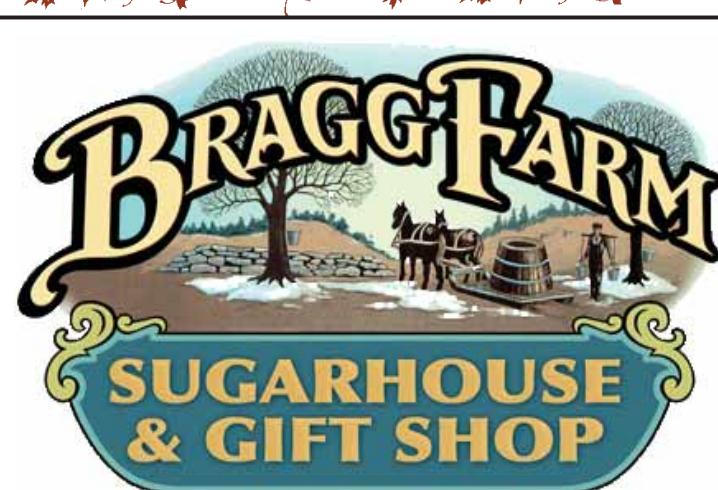
Every Wednesday, 3–6 pm

— Through October 24th —

Fair Haven Market at Fair Haven Park

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Vermont Country Calendar

VERGENNES. 11th Annual Tour de Farms. Cycling farm tour will follow 30 miles of rolling hills and backcountry roads. Six farm stops. Also a shorter, kid-friendly 10-mile route. 30 farms, food producers and restaurants provide fresh samples. 8:30 am – 5 pm. Vergennes Union High School, 50 Monkton Rd. (802) 382-0401. acornvt.org/tourdefarms.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

MONTPELIER. Vermont Conference on Healing Power of Cannabis: Medicinal Uses, Preparation & Organic Cultivation. Five intensives on Monday including a field trip to a farm for an in-depth overview of cannabis cultivation, harvesting and drying. Held at Vermont College of Fine Arts. For information and registration go to medicinalcannabisconference.com.

WESTMINSTER. History Talk: "Forgotten People of the Upper Valley". Return to the 1800s with author Alec Hastings. Discover Ammi Young, Clarinna Nichols, and others who shaped our country. Q&A at the end. A brief business will precede the talk. Westminster history books and books written by Alec Hastings will be available to purchase. Refreshments served. Sponsored by the Westminster Historical Society. Free. 7 pm at the Westminster Fire Station, Grout Ave. (802) 387-5778.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

ADDISON. Atlatl Workshop. Bob and Cherryl Berg teach traditional and modern techniques of atlatl and dart construction, flint knapping, hafting stone points, and cordage making. Pre-registration required. Cost: \$70, includes materials. 12 noon – 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point.

BRATTLEBORO & PUTNEY. 10th Puppets in the Green Mountains Festival: Opening the Doors. Puppet theater companies from Wales, Taiwan, Canada and the United States. 9 am – 9 pm. (802) 387-4051. puppetsinthe greenmountains.com. *Through September 23.*

MANCHESTER CENTER. Best of Vermont Storytellers. Join us for an evening of great Vermont storytellers swapping tales. Presented by Michael Kingsbury! Free. 6 pm. Northshire Bookstore, 4869 Main St. (802) 362-2200. northshire.com.

NORTH CLARENDON. B-17 Flying Fortress Stop. "Aluminum Overcast," one of only eleven remaining flying B-17s, will be here for three days of flights and ground tours. 9 am – 5 pm. Rutland Regional Airport, 1002 Airport Road. (802) 359-6217. *Through September 23.*

TINMOUTH. Contra Dance. Music by Tartan Raiders, calling by Luke Danforth. Admission \$10-\$12, \$8 for teens, free for children 12 and under. 8 pm. Tinmouth Community Center, 573 Rt. 140. (802) 446-2928. On Facebook. *Also Oct. 19, Nov. 23 and Dec. 21.*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

ADDISON. 23rd Annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship, testing skills in accuracy and distance. Children's activities. Workshops and demonstrations on flint knapping, Woodland pottery, and other crafts and skills. Competitors: \$7 pre-registered, \$8 same-day. Visitors: adults \$5, under 15 free. 10:30 am – 4:30 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point.

BELMONT. Ham Supper. Menu: baked ham, mashed potatoes with gravy, vegetables. Rolls, and desserts. All you can eat, homestyle. Adults \$12, children under 12 \$6. To benefit the Mount Holly Volunteer Rescue Squad. Settings 5 pm till gone. At the Odd Fellows Hall. (802) 259-6001.

BRATTLEBORO & PUTNEY. 10th Puppets in the Green Mountains Festival: Opening the Doors. Puppet theater companies from Wales, Taiwan, Canada and the United States. 9 am – 9 pm. (802) 387-4051. puppetsinthe greenmountains.com. *Also September 23.*

BRISTOL. Annual Bristol Harvest Festival. 65+ crafters and vendors, demonstrations. Live musical entertainment on the bandstand throughout the day. Free. 10 am – 4 pm. Town Green, West St. (802) 388-7951. info@addisoncounty.com. bristolharvestfest.com.

COLCHESTER. FamilySearch.org Class. The Family History Library is the largest genealogical repository in the world and its website, FamilySearch.org, is the primary portal for accessing this collection online. You might have searched FamilySearch.org before, but there's a lot more there than you think. In this talk Marcie Crocker will discuss both major and minor collections, search strategies, use of wildcards and other techniques. She'll also take a look at some of the not-so-obvious sources at FamilySearch.org, where to get assistance and how to get the most out of this huge, free, and very useful website. Fee: \$10. 10:30 am - 12 pm. VT Genealogy Library, Hegeman Ave., Ft. Ethan Allen. (802) 310-9285. www.vtgenlib.org.

JAMAICA. US Army Corps of Engineers Recreational Whitewater Release. The controlled releases make for great whitewater paddling. Day use for the event weekends is paid at the park entrance. 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Jamaica State Park, 48 Salmon Hole Lane. (802) 874-4600. vtstateparks.com. *Also September 23.*



KILLINGTON. Vermont Viking Invasion. Games, craft workshops, food, mead, vendors, storytellers, Live steel competitions, activities for the entire family. Period dress encouraged. Admission: a non-perishable item for the food bank or humane society. 10 am – 6 pm. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Rd. (802) 422-9765.

MANCHESTER CENTER. Kids Storytime Event. Kate DiCamillo & Harry Bliss present *Good Rosie* which introduces some delightfully doggy dogs in a warm, funny tale of a timid pup who needs a friend. Free. 2 pm. Northshire Bookstore, 4869 Main St. (802) 362-2200. www.northshire.com.

NORTH CLARENDON. B-17 Flying Fortress Stop. "Aluminum Overcast," one of only eleven remaining flying B-17s, will be here for three days of flights and ground tours. 9 am – 5 pm. Rutland Regional Airport, 1002 Airport Rd. (802) 359-6217. *Also September 23.*

NORWICH. Contra Dance. Music by Audrey & Clayton with David Millstone calling. Come by yourself or with friends, everyone welcome. Potluck munchies at the break. Adults \$12, students \$8, under 16 free. Please bring soft-soled shoes. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. Beginner session at 7:45 pm, regular dance from 8 pm to 11 pm. At Tracy Hall. (802) 295-6225. uvdm.org. *Also October 13 & 27.*

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, September 22, continued)

RUPERT. Full Harvest Moon Walk. Staff-guided hike, moderate difficulty, will take place weather-permitting. Dress appropriately for the weather with sturdy footgear, headlamps, water and snacks. Reservations requested. Fee: \$5 per person. 6-8 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. Located between Rupert and Dorset, at the top of the very large hill. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Book & Author Event. John Churchman presents his new children's book, *Alpaca Lunch*. Free. All ages welcome. 11 am. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St. (802) 855-8078. phoenixbooks.biz.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

WOODSTOCK. Old Time Fair. Hands-on crafts, games, live music, photo booth with vintage clothing, old-time treats and old-time prices. Admission includes four complimentary tokens. 1-4 pm. In the back lawn of the Woodstock History Center, 26 Elm St. (802) 457-1822.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

BRATTLEBORO & PUTNEY. 10th Puppets in the Green Mountains Festival: Opening the Doors. Puppet theater companies from Wales, Taiwan, Canada and the United States. 9 am – 9 pm. (802) 387-4051. puppetsinthegreenmountains.com.

DUMMERSTON. Orchard Stroll. Join orchardist Zeke Goodband for a tour of the heirloom orchard (otherwise not open to the public). Free. 10 am. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. ScottFarmVermont.com.

GLOVER. Indoor Performance at Bread & Puppet. A forever-changing indoor performance at the Paper Mâché Cathedral. Suggested donation \$10, no one turned away for lack of funds. 3 pm. Bread & Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadpup@together.net. www.breadandpuppet.org.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield Hike. Trek around the battlefield with Bob Franzoni. See locations of main points of the battle, learn about military tactics and key personalities of the battle, and look at a replica soldier's kit. Wear sturdy shoes, dress for the weather. 1:30–4:30 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.

JAMAICA. US Army Corps of Engineers Recreational Whitewater Release. The controlled releases make for great whitewater paddling. 8:30 am – 4:30 am. Jamaica State Park, 48 Salmon Hole Lane. (802) 874-4600. vtstateparks.com.

NORTH CLARENDON. B-17 Flying Fortress Stop. "Aluminum Overcast," one of only eleven remaining flying B-17s, will be here for three days of flights and ground tours. 10 am – 5 pm. Rutland Regional Airport, 1002 Airport Rd. (802) 359-6217.

PUTNEY. West Hill Grinder. Three different gravel-road biking loops for intermediate and advanced cyclists. Routes ranging from 19–39 miles. Water, facilities, protected seating, and onsite parking. Post-ride gourmet grinder buffet. Fundraiser for the Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association. Start (at 10 or 11 am) and finish at High Meadows Farm, 742 Westminster West Rd. (802) 387-5718. jim@westhillshop.com. bikereg.com. westhillshop.com. windmillhillpinnacle.org.

RUTLAND. 4th Annual Food Center Festival. Hosted by The Vermont Farmers Food Center. A fundraiser to create a vibrant local-regional food system. Cash bar reception, music, and silent auction at 3 pm; community awards at 4 pm; family style dinner and open auction #1 at 4:30 pm; dessert and open auction #2 at 5:30 pm. Tickets: \$40 ages 13 and older, \$20 ages 7-12, ages 6 and under are free. The Vermont Farmers Food Center, 251 West St. (802) 558-4338 or siliskichris@gmail.com. vermontfarmersfoodcenter.org.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

LEBANON, NH. Concert: Pat Metheny. NEA Jazz Master. Tickets: \$45–\$65. 7:30 pm, doors at 7 pm. Lebanon Opera House, 51 North Park St. (603) 448-0400. lebanonoperahouse.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 24.

SMUGGLERS' NOTCH. AppleFest. Pick your own fruit. Guided walks. Learn about cider making and sample hard ciders. Activities with an apple theme. 9 am – 5 pm. Smugglers' Notch Resort, 4323 VT Rt. 108 South. (888) 328-0892. smuggs.com. Through September 30.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

RUTLAND. Ageless Authors Open Mic. Featuring writers 65 and older. Come to read, come to listen, or come for both! Those interested in reading can sign up at the door. Free and open to all. 6:30 pm. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St. (802) 855-8078. phoenixbooks.biz.

SMUGGLERS' NOTCH. AppleFest. Pick your own fruit. Guided walks. Learn about cider making and sample hard ciders. Apple theme activities. 9 am – 5 pm. Smugglers' Notch Resort, 4323 VT Rt. 108 South. (888) 328-0892. smuggs.com. Through September 30.

SO. WOODBURY. 43rd Annual Bessie Drennan Fall Foliage Art Exhibit, Craft Fair, and All-day Luncheon. Featuring paintings of this interesting primitive Woodbury artist from the turn of the century. Presenting creative works and products from Woodbury artists, crafts people and local farmers. Homemade sandwiches, soups, and pies starting at 10:30 am. All proceeds go toward scholarships offered at Hazen Union H.S. and Buck Lake Conservation Camp. 10 am – 4 pm. South Woodbury Church, Rt. 14. (802) 456-8108 or (802) 472-5051. Through September 30.

SPRINGFIELD. The Great Hall Presents "Healing: The Transformative Imagery of Art." Free artist's reception for the public from 5:30-7:00 pm. Wine, Trout River craft beer, and light refreshments served. Great Hall, One Hundred River St. (802) 885 3061. bobspringfielddevelopment.org. ninajamison150@gmail.com. September 27 through March 30, 2019.

WESTON, LUDLOW, STRATTON. Vermont Antiques Week. Five antique shows, with over 175 local, regional, and national antique dealers. Weston Playhouse Show September 27-30. Okemo Lodge, Black River, Antiques at Stratton Mountain—Vermont Antique Dealers Show, and Vermont Picker's Market. 8 am – 5 pm. Various locations. (330) 610-5319. Through September 30.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

LEBANON, NH. Concert: Còig. With fiery Celtic rhythms at its musical core, musical force. Tickets: adults \$25, youth \$15. 7:30 pm. Lebanon Opera House, 51 North Park St. (603) 448-0400. lebanonoperahouse.org.

MANCHESTER. 35th Annual Fall Art and Craft Festival. Handcrafted creations by artists and artisans. Specialty foods and spirits tent. Maple syrup, craft distilled spirits, gourmet items. Wine, beer, food, live music and entertainment. Admission: \$10 daily, weekend pass \$12, kids free. Free parking. 10 am – 5 pm. Riley Rink at Hunter Park, 410 Hunter Park Rd. (802) 316-5019. craftproducers.com. Through September 30.

SMUGGLERS' NOTCH. AppleFest. Pick your own fruit. Guided walks. Learn about cider making and sample hard ciders. Activities with an apple theme. 9 am – 5 pm. Smugglers' Notch Resort, 4323 VT Rt. 108 South. (888) 328-0892. smuggs.com. Through September 30.

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Country Woman

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Of honey, brown eggs in water glass,
Of the braided bulbs of garlic and onion
Hung from the rafter?

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

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

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Vermont Country Calendar

SO. WOODBURY. 43rd Annual Bessie Drennan Fall Foliage Art Exhibit, Craft Fair, and All-day Luncheon. Featuring paintings of this interesting primitive Woodbury artist from the turn of the century. Presenting creative works and products from Woodbury artists, crafts people and local farmers. Homemade sandwiches, soups, and pies starting at 10:30 am. All proceeds go toward scholarships offered at Hazen Union H.S. and Buck Lake Conservation Camp. 10 am – 4 pm. South Woodbury Church, Rt. 14. (802) 456-8108 or (802) 472-5051. *Through September 30.*

TINMOUTH. Blues Concert. Martin Grosswendt and Susanne Salem-Schatz perform the blues and old-time American music. Donation of \$10-\$15. Coffee, tea, and locally made treats provided by local groups. 7:30 pm (doors open at 7 pm). The Old Firehouse, Rt. 140 and Mountain View Rd. www.tinmouthvt.org/events.

WESTON, LUDLOW, STRATTON. Vermont Antiques Week. Five antique shows, over 175 local, regional, and national antique dealers. Weston Playhouse Show September 27–30. Okemo Lodge, Black River, Antiques at Stratton Mountain—Vermont Antique Dealers Show, and Vermont Picker's Market. 8 am – 5 pm. Various locations. (330) 610-5319. *Through September 30.*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

COLCHESTER. Class for Using Family Tree Maker 2017. Family Tree Maker is a powerful and popular genealogy software program. In this presentation, Peter Crosby will provide an overview of Family Tree Maker 2017 (FTM 2017), its organization and how to navigate within the software discussing various windows including Pedigree View, Family Group Sheet, Index of Individuals and Person View. Peter will also cover the charting options, reports, mapping capability, the source citation tool and how to manage media. Fee: \$10. 10:30 am – 12 pm. VT Genealogy Library, Hegeman Ave., Ft. Ethan Allen. (802) 310-9285. www.vtgenlib.org.

DUMMERSTON. Hard Cider Tastings. Whetstone Ciderworks of Marlboro, VT will pour samples, answer questions, and sell their delicious, dry, food-friendly artisanal hard ciders—showcasing heirloom and traditional European cider apples, mostly grown at Scott Farm. No fee or registration. 21 and over. 11 am – 3 pm. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. events@scottfarmvermont.com. scottfarmvermont.com. *Also September 30, and October 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 & 28.*

EAST BURKE. 31st Annual Fall Foliage Festival. 10 am parade. Citizen of the Year. Farm critters, horse-drawn wagon rides, free ice cream, bounce house, face painting. Reptiles on the Move. Shoe box auctions, cow flop bingo. Library silent auction. Cider sale and farm stand. Soup & sandwich luncheon. Raffle. Over 70 vendors on the Green. BBQ. Music by Chickweed and Nobby Reed Project. (802) 626-4124. burkechamber@burkevermont.com. BurkeVermont.com.

GRAFTON. Tenth Annual Fairy House Festival. Follow a nature path sprinkled with charming fairy houses. Build your own fairy dwellings in the gardens. Hands-on crafts, face painting, hula-hooping, costumes, local food vendors, music, and bubbles. Light refreshments available for purchase; picnicking encouraged. Tickets: adults \$12, seniors \$10, children 3-18 \$5. 10 am – 4 pm. The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. nature-museum.org. *Also September 30.*

MANCHESTER. 30th Annual Fall Art and Craft Festival. Admission: \$10 daily, kids free. Free parking. 10 am – 5 pm. Riley Rink at Hunter Park, 410 Hunter Park Rd. (802) 316-5019. craftproducers.com. *Also September 30.*

PITTSFORD. 14th Annual Harvest Fair. Only handmade, home grown items by local artists and crafters. Basket raffle & bake sale. Jack o lantern decorating contest hosted by the Marble Valley Pittsford Grange, win prizes and trophies. 10 am – 3 pm. Pittsford Village Green. (802) 773-2843. jandbofvvt@comcast.net.

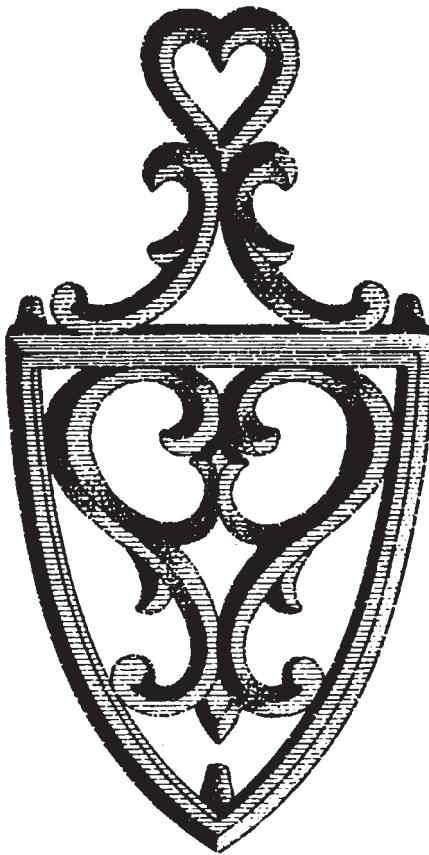
PITTSFORD. Pittsford Village Farm Flea Market. 9 am – 3 pm. 42 Elm St. (802) 345-0970. info@pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

PITTSFORD. Maclure Library Annual Book Sale. 9 am – 5 pm. Maclure Library, 840 Arch St. (802) 483-2972. contact@maclurelibrary.org.

RANDOLPH. Concert. Vermont Symphony Orchestra: "Made in Vermont." Works by Haydn and Brahms. Internationally renowned violinist Soovin Kim treats us to a Mozart concerto in addition to conducting the ensemble. Tickets: adult \$25, age 6-17 \$10, 5 and under free. 7:30 pm. Main Hall, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Railway Association Seventh Annual Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet. Model railroad vendors, exhibits, operating modular train layout. Free advice, food concession. Admission: \$6, under 13 free. 10 am – 3:30 pm. Holiday Inn, South Main St. (Route 7 South). (802) 259 2123. modelrailroadsbyjohn.com.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses, handcrafted breads, maple syrup, Vermont crafts, prepared foods, and more. Live music. EBT and debit cards. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org.



SMUGGLERS' NOTCH. AppleFest. Pick your own fruit. Guided walks. Learn about cider making and sample hard ciders. Activities with an apple theme. 9 am – 5 pm. Smugglers' Notch Resort, 4323 VT Rt. 108 South. (888) 328-0892. smuggs.com. *Also September 30.*

SO. WOODBURY. 43rd Annual Bessie Drennan Fall Foliage Art Exhibit, Craft Fair, and All-day Luncheon. Featuring paintings of this interesting primitive Woodbury artist from the turn of the century. Presenting creative works and products from Woodbury artists, crafts people and local farmers. Homemade sandwiches, soups, and pies starting at 10:30 am. All proceeds go toward scholarships offered at Hazen Union H.S. and Buck Lake Conservation Camp. 10 am – 4 pm. South Woodbury Church, Rt. 14. (802) 456-8108 or (802) 472-5051. *Also September 30.*

STRATTON. Vermont Antiques Dealers' Association Annual Antique Show. Saturday, September 8 am – 5 pm, Sunday 11 am – 3 pm. Admission: \$10. Stratton Mountain Base Lodge, Stratton Mountain Resort, 5 Village Lodge Rd. (800) 787-2886. *Also September 30.*

TUNBRIDGE. 30th Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival. Natural fibers, yarns, patterns, needles & hooks, buttons, books and dyes. Equipment and supplies for fiber arts. Handcrafted garments, accessories and household items, baskets, soaps. Fleece Show. Meat and cheese. Animal Barn with sheep, goats, llamas, alpacas and angora rabbits. North American Cashmere Goat Show. Demos, fiber crafting sessions, contests. Exhibit, Sheep Breeds, showcases 71 breeds and their fiber. Music by Royalton Community Radio. Food vendors. Sugarhouse. Fiber arts classes beginning Thursday at Tunbridge Town Hall. Admission: \$6, seniors \$5, under 12 \$1. 10 am – 5 pm, rain or shine. Tunbridge Fairgrounds. vtsheepandwoolfest.com. *Through September 30.*

WARDSBORO. Concert: Gail Wade Trio. Folk, blues, old-time, bluegrass and swing favorites. Cost: \$10, includes concert & refreshments and benefits Wardsboro Fire and Rescue. Doors open 6:30 pm. Wardsboro Town Hall Café, 71 Main St. www.wardsborocurtaincall.net.

WESTON, LUDLOW, STRATTON. Vermont Antiques Week. Five antique shows, over 175 local, regional, and national antique dealers. Weston Playhouse Show September 27–30. Okemo Lodge, Black River, Antiques at Stratton Mountain—Vermont Antique Dealers Show, and Vermont Picker's Market. 8 am – 5 pm. Various locations. (330) 610-5319. *Also September 30.*

WOODSTOCK. Billings Pumpkin & Apple Celebration. Hands-on programs will highlight these two essential fall crops, including apple tasting, cider pressing, pumpkin bowling, apples-on-a-string, making pumpkin and apple ice cream, and cooking apple butter in the farmhouse. Wagon rides. Adults 16-61 \$16, seniors 62 and over \$14, student 16 and up \$9, children 5-15 \$8, children 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. *Also September 30.*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

BRATTLEBORO. 11th Annual Domino Toppling Extravaganza. Veteran domino toppler Lily Hevesh and other domino whiz kids arrive 48 hours in advance to begin setting up the big show. Correctly guess how many dominoes are set up, and you could start the entire chain reaction. Admission: \$5, 8 and under free. 5:30 pm, doors open at 5 pm. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. brattleboromuseum.org.

DUMMERSTON. Workshop: Introduction to Making Hard Cider. With Jason MacArthur of Whetstone Ciderworks. Fee: \$50. 10 am – 12 noon. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Road. (802) 254-6868. ScottFarmVermont.com.



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Pittsford September 29th Events

14th Annual Harvest Fair Village Green • 10 am to 3 pm

Only hand-made, home-grown items by local artists and crafters. Basket raffle & bake sale. Jack-o-lantern decorating contest hosted by the Marble Valley Grange, prizes & trophies! Beth Richards, (802) 773-2843

Pittsford Village Farm Flea Market 42 Elm St. • 9 am to 3 pm

Donna Wilson, (802) 345-0970

Maclure Library Annual Book Sale 840 Arch St. • 9 am to 5 pm • (802) 483-2972

Info: Kelly Connaughton, kfield16@yahoo.com

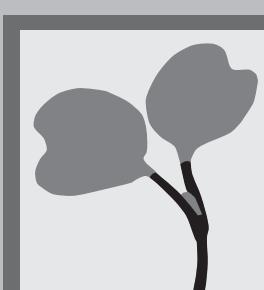


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Vermont Country Calendar

(Sunday, September 30, continued)

DUMMERSTON. Hard Cider Tastings. Whetstone Ciderworks of Marlboro, VT will pour samples, answer questions, and sell their delicious, dry, food-friendly artisanal hard ciders—showcasing heirloom and traditional European cider apples, mostly grown at Scott Farm. No fee or registration. 21 and over. 11 am – 3 pm. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. events@scottfarmvermont.com. scottfarmvermont.com. *Also October 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 & 28.*

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Theater: Come celebrate the change of color in the North East Kingdom with our Annual Political Leaf Peeping event. Suggested donation \$10. 3 pm. Bread & Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadpup@together.net. www.breadandpuppet.org.

GRAFTON. Tenth Annual Fairy House Festival. Follow a nature path sprinkled with charming fairy houses. Build your own fairy dwellings in the gardens. Hands-on crafts, face painting, hula-hooping, costumes, local food vendors, music, and bubbles. Light refreshments available for purchase; picnicking encouraged. Tickets: adults \$12, seniors \$10, children 3-18 \$5. 10 am – 4 pm. The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. nature-museum.org.

MANCHESTER. 30th Annual Fall Art and Craft Festival. Admission: \$10 daily, kids free. Free parking. 10 am – 5 pm. Riley Rink at Hunter Park, 410 Hunter Park Rd. (802) 316-5019. craftproducers.com.

MARSHFIELD. Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival: Marshfield Harvest Festival. Arts and crafts, field games. Music by Cold Country Bluegrass. Book sale, bake sale, horse and wagon rides, Chili cook-off. Slide show and talk about the ten cemeteries of Marshfield. 11 am – 3 pm. Old Schoolhouse Common, 122 School St. (802) 426-3581. nekchamber.com. jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

ORWELL. Lecture. The 24th Foot: A British Infantry Unit in Burgoyne's Campaign. Living historian Robert Grandchamp gives a lecture on the 1777 Burgoyne Campaign of the American Revolution. Question and answer period to follow. 1-2:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000.

SHOREHAM. Annual Jamaican Hymn Sing. Jamaican apple pickers come together for fellowship and worship in song. All are invited. The free will offering goes to mission work in Jamaica. 7:30 pm. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-8591.

SMUGGLERS' NOTCH. AppleFest. Pick your own fruit. Guided walks. Learn about cider making and sample hard ciders. Activities with an apple theme. 9 am – 5 pm. Smugglers' Notch Resort, 4323 VT Rt. 108 South. (888) 328-0892. smuggs.com.

SO. WOODBURY. 43rd Annual Bessie Drennan Fall Foliage Art Exhibit, Craft Fair, and All-day Luncheon. Featuring paintings of this interesting primitive Woodbury artist from the turn of the century. Presenting creative works and products from Woodbury artists, crafts people and local farmers. Homemade sandwiches, soups, and pies starting at 10:30 am. All proceeds go toward scholarships offered at Hazen Union H.S. and Buck Lake Conservation Camp. 11 am – 3 pm. South Woodbury Church, Rt. 14. (802) 456-8108 or (802) 472-5051.

STRAFFORD. 19th-Century Apple & Cheese Harvest Festival. Make cider in an antique cider press. Live farm animals, period games and crafts. Heirloom apples, cheeses, ice cream, homemade apple pie. Face painting, live music, apple pie contest. Fairy village, hiking, Valley Quest, gardens, exhibits, icehouse and pond. Tour historic home. Admission includes lunch. 11 am – 3 pm. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Morrill Memorial Hwy. (802) 765-4288. morrillhomestead.org.

STRATTON. Vermont Antiques Dealers' Association Annual Antique Show. Saturday, September 8 am – 5 pm, Sunday 11 am – 3 pm. Admission: \$10. Stratton Mountain Base Lodge, Stratton Mountain Resort, 5 Village Lodge Rd. (800) 787-2886.

TUNBRIDGE. 30th Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival. Natural fibers, yarns, patterns, needles & hooks, buttons, books and dyes. Equipment and supplies for fiber arts. Handcrafted garments, accessories and household items, baskets, soaps. Fleece Show. Meat and cheese. Animal Barn with sheep, goats, llamas, alpacas and angora rabbits. North American Cashmere Goat Show. Demos, fiber crafting sessions, contests. Exhibit, Sheep Breeds, showcases 71 breeds and their fiber. Music by Royalton Community Radio. Food vendors. Sugarhouse. Admission: \$6, seniors \$5, under 12 \$1. 10 am – 4 pm, rain or shine. Tunbridge Fairgrounds. vtsheepandwoolfest.com.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Pumpkin & Apple Celebration. Hands-on programs will highlight these two essential fall crops, including apple tasting, cider pressing, pumpkin bowling, apples-on-a-string, making pumpkin and apple ice cream, and cooking apple butter in the farmhouse. Wagon rides. Adults 16-61 \$16, seniors 62 and over \$14, student 16 and up \$9, children 5-15 \$8, children 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

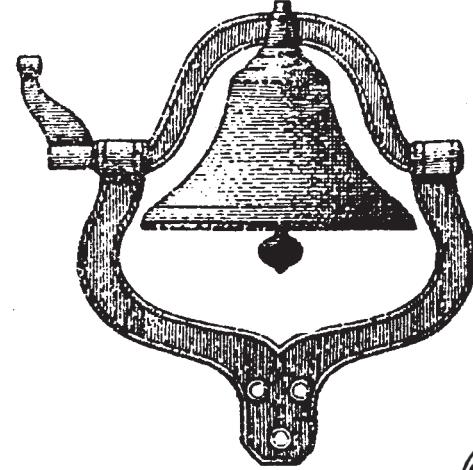
ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2018

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Exhibits and hands-on activities. Chimney Point History Trail, with interpretive signs and pier from the 1929 Lake Champlain Bridge. Access for boating and fishing. Adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open Wednesday–Sunday and Monday holidays, 10 am – 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point. *Through October 14.*

ALBURGH. Soldiers & Citizens Civil War Museum. Explore free exhibits on soldier life, home front, Civil War medicine, Underground Railroad and more. Visit Room of Curiosities for fossil, mineral and local history displays. Located in the Via Vermont building, 28 Milk Road, across from the post office. Open seasonally 10 am – 5 pm, Wed. and Sun. by chance. (802) 796-3665. Check Facebook for updates. www.newenglandviavermont.com.

BARNARD. Weekly Tasting Room Hours. Taste seven to eight different living wines/ciders. Cost: \$20/person, includes local organic cheeses, nuts and olives. 3:30-6:30 pm. Fable Farm & Fermentory, 1525 Royalton Tpke. (802) 234-5667. fablefarmfermentory.com. *Every Friday.*

BENNINGTON. The Bennington Battle Monument. An elevator takes visitors to the observation floor of the 306-ft. monument for a spectacular view of three states. \$5 adult admission, 6-14 \$1, children 5 and under are free. The Monument and gift shop are open seven days a week from 9 am – 5 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, 15 Monument Circle, just off Rt. 9. (802) 447-0550. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. *Open Through October 31.*



Green Living

www.GreenLivingJournal.com

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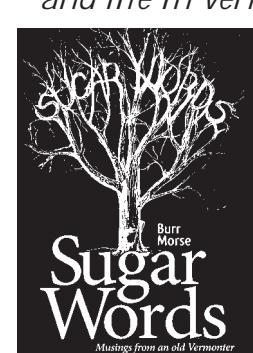
uppervalleydmc@gmail.com

Beginners & singles welcome. All dances taught. Please bring soft-soled shoes. Yummy potluck snacks at the break.

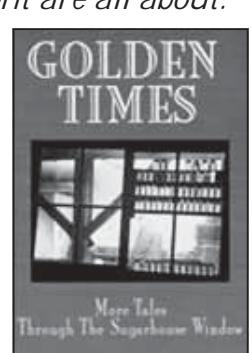
Admission \$12, students \$8, under 16 free.

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Vermont Country Calendar

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

CHESTER. Monthly Square Dance and Rounds. Refreshments on sale in the kitchen. 50/50 tickets on sale; drawing held for free admittance for the next month's dance. \$5 donation at the door. 7-11 pm. Breakfast 8-9:30 am for \$7. Gassetts Grange Hall, junction of Rt. 10 & 103N. (802) 875-2637. *Monthly on first Saturdays.*

DANVILLE. The Great Corn Maze. Largest Maze in New England and one of the top 10 mazes in America! Also, enjoy world's first Barnyard Golf and the Pretendin' Play Area for young children with small western style play village. 10 am - 5 pm. Great Vermont Corn Maze, 1404 Wheelock Rd. (802) 748-1399. www.vermontcornmaze.com. *Through October 14.*

DUMMERSTON. The Scott Farm. 125 heirloom apple varieties & other fine fruits. CSA fruit shares. Vegetables. Pies. Vermont products. Pick your own apples. Heirloom cider. Thanksgiving pies. Farm market. Baking, preserving & hard cider workshops. Harvest dinner. Hard cider tastings & festival. Weddings. Vacation rentals. Open daily 9am - 5 pm. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. ScottFarmVermont.com. *September 1 thru November 21.*

FAIRFIELD. President Chester Arthur State Historic Site. In 1881, Vermonter Chester Alan Arthur was sworn in as the nation's 21st President. The son of an impoverished Baptist minister, Arthur was born in a small temporary parsonage. He became a lawyer who advocated for civil rights and as President, a champion of civil service reform. Donations appreciated. Chester Arthur Historic Site, 4588 Chester Arthur Rd. (802) 933-8362. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 15.*

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Exhibit: "Hubbardton Battle—American Rebels Stem the Tide, July 7, 1777." Period artifacts, battle diorama, and a large fiber optic map. Children's colonial dress-up basket, Interpretive Trail. Bring your flag to be raised over the Hubbardton Battlefield and receive a certificate. Admission: adults \$3, children under 15 free. Open 10 am - 5 pm, Wednesday-Sunday and Monday holidays. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton. *Through October 14.*

NO. BENNINGTON. The Park-McCullough House, one of the finest and best preserved Victorian Mansions in New England. Guided tours on the hour: Friday 10 am - 2 pm, Saturday 10 am - 4 pm, Sunday 12 noon - 4 pm, and holiday Mondays 10 am - 4pm. Tickets: adults \$15, seniors \$12, children 8-17 \$8, under 8 free. Historic Park-McCullough, 1 Park St. (802) 442-5441. parkmccullough.org. *Through October 8.*

ORWELL. Mount Independence State Historic Site. Celebrating the 241st anniversary of the start of American construction of the Revolutionary War's Mount Independence and the military road to Hubbardton and Rutland, the 51st anniversary of the trail system, and the 26th anniversary of the Mount Independence Coalition. Children's Discovery Corner. Six miles of walking and hiking trails. Admission: adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open daily 10 - 5:30. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. [www.historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). *Through October 14.*

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

PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site Opens for the Season. Plymouth Notch, Vermont is the birthplace and boyhood home of Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President of the United States. The Village is virtually unchanged since the early 20th century. New exhibit: "Presidential Holiday: The Coolidge Summer Retreats, 1924-1928." Admission: adults \$10, children 6-14 years \$2, children under 6 years free. Registered groups of 10 or more: \$7/person. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 28.*

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

POULTNEY. Check Out a Bike at the Poultney Public Library. Five bicycles available to be checked out for two days, with a helmet and a lock. A current Poultney Public Library patron over the age of 18 will need to sign a borrower agreement form. Poultney Public Library, 205 Main St. (802) 287-5556. poultneypubliclibrary.com.

POULTNEY. Stone Valley Arts. Visual art shows, literary events, music concerts, dance performances, guest speakers, and classes in dance, drawing, music, scriptwriting, yoga and meditation. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St. (802) 884-8052. www.stonevalleyarts.org.

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

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

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

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

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Farms. Property Tours, Farmyard and Trails, Welcome Center & Farm Store. Admission: \$8 adult, \$7 senior, \$5 child 3-17, property tours additional. Open daily 9 am - 5:30 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. shelburnefarms.org. *Through mid-October.*

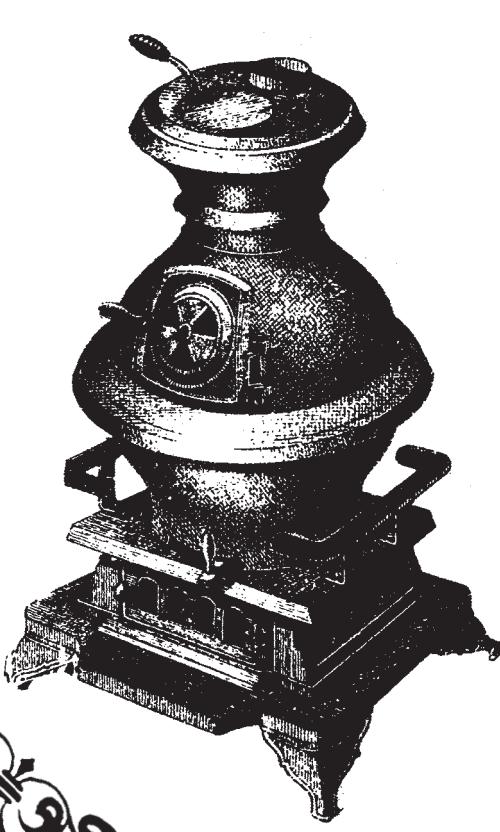
SPRINGFIELD. Eureka Schoolhouse State Historic Site. the oldest one-room schoolhouse in Vermont and one of the few surviving eighteenth century public buildings in the State. Donation appreciated. Open weekends 10 am - 5 pm. Eureka Schoolhouse State Historic Site, 470 Charlestown Rd. (802) 828-3051. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 14.*

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

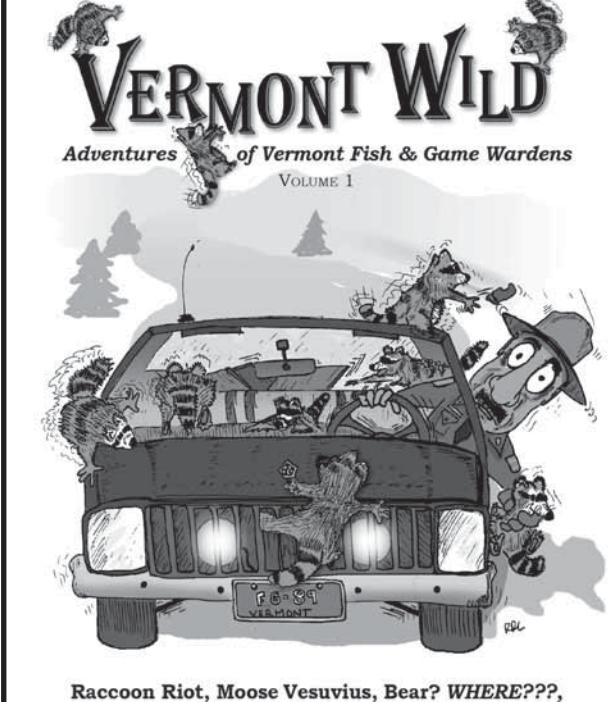
STOWE. Auto Toll Road to Summit of Mount Mansfield. Fees charged. Open daily 9 am - 6 pm, subject to weather. Mountain Rd. (802) 253-3500. www.stowe.com. *Through October 22.*

STRAFFORD. Justin Morrill State Historic Site. Self-guided tours of the formal Victorian gardens, interpretive exhibits, fairy village and walking trails also available. Admission: \$6, 14 and under free. Open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Morrill Memorial Hwy. (802) 765-4484. tracy.martin@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 14.*

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



VERMONT WILD
Adventures of Vermont Fish & Game Wardens
VOLUME 1



Raccoon Riot, Moose Vesuvius, Bear? WHERE???,
Gimmee the Gun, Cover Me & many more...

Written by **Megan Price**
Stories by **Eric Nuse**
Illustrated by **Bob Lutz**

Vermont Wild Author Signs TV Contract

Geoffrey Sharp, a Hollywood producer/director, whose work has appeared on the National Geographic network and earned an Emmy nomination, has been granted the exclusive right to bring the popular "Vermont Wild, Adventures of Fish and Game Wardens" stories to television.

"I'm very happy Mr. Sharp reached out to me," Author Megan Price said of her agreement with the Hollywood executive, signed this August. "Mr. Sharp has a proven track record of writing, producing and directing for television as well as movies. He has the skills to make this happen."

With five volumes released to date, any network choosing to make a TV series based on Vermont Wild will have close to 100 stories from which to create future shows.

"That is a tremendous asset for any network considering developing a TV series," Price noted. "But the bottom line for me is, to have Mr. Sharp believe, as I do, these stories could make great television and deserve to be brought to life in that way, for millions to see, is a great compliment. Will it happen? We'll have to wait and see."

Price began collecting and writing warden encounters with hungry bears, angry moose, reluctant hunting dogs and endless wily poachers a decade ago, at the urging of friend and retired warden

Find *Vermont Wild* at all independent Vermont bookstores, Kinney Drugs and gift shops statewide. Order online at VermontWild.com and the books will be mailed to you.

Billings Farm & Museum Celebrating 35 Years

Pumpkin & Apple Celebration

Sept. 29 & 30, 2018
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Making Pumpkin & Apple Ice Cream
Apple Races • Apples-on-a-String
Cider Pressing • Pumpkin Bowling
Pumpkin & Apple Displays • Apple Tasting
Making Apple Butter in the Farmhouse Kitchen
Wagon Rides

Rte. 12 • Woodstock, Vermont
802-457-2355 • www.billingsfarm.org

Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities 2018, continued)

WINDSOR. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery. Come and explore our gardens. 10 am – 5 pm Thursday through Sunday through September; Friday through Sunday October & November. 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.garymiles.com. www.ciderhillgardens.com.

WINDSOR. Old Constitution House. The Vermont Constitution was far reaching—the first to prohibit slavery, establish universal voting rights for all males, and to authorize a public school system. The Constitution guided the Republic of Vermont for 14 years until 1791, when Vermont was admitted to the Union as the 14th state. See exhibits and the house where the constitution was signed. Adults \$3, children under 15 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 North Main St. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 21.*

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Visit our award-winning Jersey herd, draft horses, and sheep and tour the restored 1890 Farm House. *A Place in the Land* our Academy Award®-nominee film will be shown every hour in the theater. Daily programs and activities. Admission: adults \$16, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. Open April 2 through October 31 for the season, 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.

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

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

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

BELLOWS FALLS. River Artisans Cooperative. Really Handmade... Really Vermont. The works of 30+ of New England's finest craftspeople await you. The shop is open year round Wednesday through Monday 10 am – 4 pm (closed Tuesday). River Artisans Cooperative, 28 the Square. (802) 460-0059. www.riverartisans.com.

BENNINGTON. The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont. Dolls and dollhouses, puppets, trucks and trains, toys, and educational displays. Museum shop. Admission is \$2 for children three and older, \$4 for adults and \$10 for families. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 pm. 212 Union St. at the corner of Valentine St. (802) 681-3767. www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com.

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

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

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

BRATTLEBORO. Five Exhibits: "Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?", original illustrations from The New Yorker by cartoonist Roz Chast. "Handle With Care," Robert DuGrenier's sculptures crafted from blown glass and remnants of tools. "And I Hear Your Words That I Made Up," mixed media works by David Rios Ferreira. "Painting Time," an installation by Debra Ramsay. "Terrestrial Vale," silverpoint drawings by Shona MacDonald. Admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, 18 and under are free. Open every day except Tuesday, 11 am – 5 pm. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. brattleboromuseum.org. *Through September 24.*

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

BURLINGTON. Fleming Museum of Art. Admission: adults \$5, family \$10, students and seniors \$3, children 6 and under free. Tue, Thu, Fri 10 am – 4 pm, Wed 10 am – 7 pm, Sat– Sun noon – 4 pm. Fleming Museum of Art, 61 Colchester Ave. (802) 656-0750. fleming@uvm.edu. www.flemingmuseum.org.

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

CHESTER. Hearse Museum, built in 1830, features the Town's handsome horse-drawn hearse. Tells the story of its renovation and transformation, and of funeral customs of the times. Starting point of a self-guided walking tour of historic Chester Village. Free. Open daily during good weather, 8 am – 5 pm. The Hearse House, Main St. opposite the Town Green. *Memorial Day through Columbus Day.*

FERRISBURGH. Exhibit. The Fabric of Emancipation: The African Diasporic Lens of American History through Contemporary Fiber Arts. The work of eight of the country's preeminent fiber, textile and needle artists expressing what it means to be of African descent in the Americas. Admission: adults \$10, seniors \$9, students \$8, children younger than 5 free. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org. *Through October 28.*

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum, One of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets in the world housed in a 100-foot-long converted dairy barn built in 1863. Events, exhibits, performances. Free admission, donations welcome. Open 10 am – 6 pm daily summertime. By appointment off-season. Bread and Puppet Farm, 753 Heights Rd., Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org. *Through November 1.*

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Green Mountain National Forest: fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl

Vermont Outdoor Guide Association: voga.org

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Vermont Country Calendar

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Features over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Museum, special events and bird walks, exhibits, children's programs, gift shop, video, restrooms and trails with maps available. Exhibit: "Common Grounds"—Art in Recognition of 100 Years of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and its conservation consequences. Admission: adult \$7, senior \$6, child 3-17 \$3.50. Daily 10 am – 4 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. birdsofvermont.org. Through October 31.

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

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

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

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. Admission: adults \$5; youth (6-18) \$3, seniors \$4.50, family \$12. Open Tues-Sat 10 am – 5 pm. The Henry Sheldon Museum, One Park St., across from Ilsley Library. (802) 388-2117. henrysheldonsmuseum.org.

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

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

MONTPELIER. Vermont History Museum & Bookstore. Admission: adults: \$7; families: \$20; students, children, seniors: \$5; members and children under 6: free. Open 9 am – 4 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Pavilion Building, 109 State St. (802) 828-2291. www.vermonthistory.org.

NO. BENNINGTON. 21st Annual Outdoor Sculpture Show. 30+ internationally recognized and emerging artists exhibiting outdoor sculpture sited around the Village of North Bennington. (802) 430-9715. vtartxchange.org. facebook.com/NBoutdoorsculptureshow. Through November 3.

NEWFANE. Windham County Museum. Early Vermont furniture, folk art, Civil War artifacts, clothing, toys, and tools. Open Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays, 12 noon – 5 pm, and by appointment. Windham County Museum, Main St., Rt. 30. historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org. Through Columbus Day weekend.

NEWFANE. West River Railroad Museum. Old Depot and Water Tank House, built in 1880. Large collection of artifacts, documents and photographs documenting the Railroad's impact over its 50 years of operation in the West River Valley. Admission free. Saturdays and Sundays, noon – 5 pm, and by appointment. The Railroad Museum, Cemetery Hill Rd. historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org. Through Columbus Day weekend.

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

ORWELL. Exhibits: Building Independence on Lake Champlain, illustrates the role Mount Independence played in the American Revolution. The Faces of Mount Independence, a look at the people who served during the Revolutionary War. Admission: adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open daily, 10 am – 5 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicsites.vermont.gov. Through October 14.

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

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

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Museum. Renowned for its collection of American folk art and quilts. Admission: adult \$25, seniors \$23, ages 13-17 \$14, children 5-12 \$12, under 5 free. 10 am – 5 pm daily. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. shelburnemuseum.org. Through October 31.

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

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

SPRINGFIELD. The Great Hall Presents "Healing: The Transformative Imagery of Art." Great Hall, One Hundred River St. (802) 885 3061, bob@springfielddevelopment.org. ninajamison150@gmail.com. September 27 through March 30, 2019

SPRINGFIELD. Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center featuring fine art and hand-crafted gifts from over 125 local and regional artists and craftsmen. Classes, workshops. Exhibit: Local Glimpses" open through October 18. Tuesday – Saturday 11 am – 5 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org.

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

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

VERGENNES. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Shipwreck tours, courses and workshops, exhibits, collections, special events. Fleet of full-size replica vessels which visitors may board. Small craft of display. Maritime Research Institute. Museum store. Admission: adult \$14, seniors \$12, youth 6-18 \$8, children 5 and under free. Open 7 days a week, 10 am – 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Dr. (802) 475-2022. lcmm.org. Through October 14.

WEST RUTLAND. Carving Studio and Sculpture Center Gallery. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 am-1 pm, or by appt.. 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. carvingstudio.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. Open Tues & Wed 4-7 pm. Parking adjacent to the rear of the building. Located at 58 Bridge St., Studio 6, near the underpass. (802) 356-2776. mainstreetmuseum.org.

WOODSTOCK. 32nd Annual Quilt Exhibition. Featuring quilts made by Windsor County, Vermont quilters. Quilting activities and demonstrations for every age and skill level, with quilters on hand to discuss their work. Challenge quilts made by the Delectable Mountain Quilt Guild will be exhibited. Adults \$16, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. Through September 16.

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

Sliced Green Tomato Sweet Pickles

Slice one peck of green tomatoes the night before pickling, sprinkling them slightly with salt; in the morning drain off the liquor. Slice twelve large onions; take a granite kettle and put in a layer of the sliced tomatoes, then of onions, and between each layer sprinkle the following spices: six red peppers coarsely chopped, one coffee-cupful of brown sugar, one tablespoonful each of ground allspice and cinnamon and one teaspoonful of cloves. Tie the spices in small muslin bags. Turn over two pints of good vinegar; boil until tender.

—Anna Bluer, 1910

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Tunbridge, VT

30th Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival

Plan to visit the The 30th Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival on the weekend of September 29th & 30th at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds in Tunbridge, VT. You will enjoy the classic setting amidst the rolling hills of Vermont during the height of Fall Foliage.

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

Vendors include farmers and artisans

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

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

Stop by the Animal Barn to see the sheep, goats, llamas, alpacas and angora rabbits. This is a great opportunity to talk directly to producers about raising fiber animals.

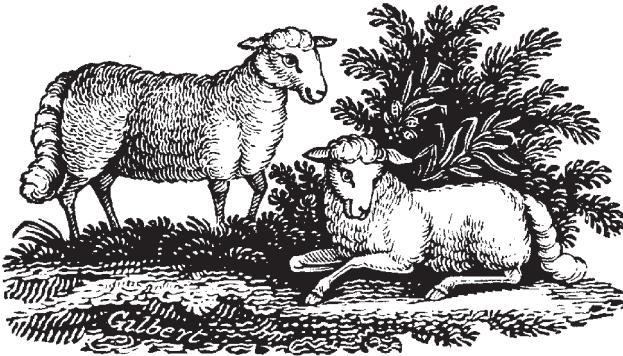
The Cashmere Goat Association will hold its 2018 CGA North American Cashmere Goat Show in the fairgrounds' Riverside Barns. The Floral Hall features a variety of demos and "drop-in" fiber crafting sessions, as well as the contests and fleece sale. This year the Festival hosts an amazing exhibit, "Sheep Breeds: A World of Difference", from John Crane Studio. The display showcases 71 different breeds of sheep and their fiber.

Fiber arts classes and workshops

Fiber arts classes take place beginning Thursday, September 27th, at the Tunbridge Town Hall and will include spinning, felting, knitting, dyeing, weaving, basketry and rug hooking. Our featured instructor this year is Jillian Moreno, author of *Yarnitecture: A Knitter's Guide to Spinning: Building Exactly the Yarn You Want*.

For those interested in showing off their skills, this year's Not-Just-Fiber-Arts contests will offer a chance to compete for ribbons and prizes. Our contest theme is: "30 years of the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival celebrating animal husbandry and agriculture in Vermont." Contest rules and entry forms are on the website.

Shepherd workshops and vendor demonstrations allow vendors, farmers and fiber artists the chance to share their knowledge and skills. These talks and demos are free and offered throughout the weekend. Visit the website for a full schedule.



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- Mike McPhetres -



Visitors explore the vendors at the Sheep & Wool Festival in Tunbridge, VT.

Music, food and Border Collies!

Music by Royalton Community Radio provides a background rhythm as visitors wander from building to building and visit outdoor demonstrations including the popular Border Collie herding demos and sheep shearing with Jim McRae.

Food vendors will offer delicious local food featuring everything from lamb, pizza, soups, salads, sandwiches and desserts. Visit the sugarhouse operated by the Orange County Maple Producers for maple syrup, maple creemees and more.

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

For a full description of classes, teacher biographies and online class registrations, and for more information and schedules, visit www.vtsheepandwoolfest.com.



My, what lovely horns you have! A ram exhibited at the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival in Tunbridge, VT.



Sample of yarn from different breeds of sheep on display at the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival.



photo by Grand View Farm

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Randolph, VT

The Chandler Center For the Arts Offers Stellar Entertainment

2018–2019 Season

The Chandler Center for the Arts in Randolph, VT has announced the most ambitious and far-reaching season of performances in the 111-year history of the historic music hall and gallery. Chandler's MainStage, Upper Gallery, and Student Series will feature 40+ performances of powerful storytelling, bluegrass, country, classical, blues & more.

Country music

The Chandler Music Hall MainStage kicks off on Friday evening, September 7th, with Del McCoury's outfit—the reigning kings of bluegrass and the music's most awarded band of all time. Grammy-winning troubadour Rodney Crowell checks in later in the month on September 22nd, revisiting many of his 15 #1 country hits in a stripped down acoustic setting. Other upcoming, standout Music Hall performances in the country, bluegrass, and Americana arena include Vermont's own honky tonk heroes, The Starline Rhythm Boys on November 3rd; four-time Country Music Association "Female Vocalist of the Year" Lorrie Morgan in a special tribute to firefighters on Saturday, December 1st; and progressive/contemporary bluegrass and string band sounds featuring The Seldom Scene on April 12th; and Della Mae on May 3rd.

The wildly eclectic cult band Donna the Buffalo weaves together a soulful mix of Cajun, zydeco, rock, folk, reggae, and country to stir up its own, singular Americana musical stew on December 15th.

Blues, soul, gospel and jazz

Blues, soul, gospel and jazz music have their say on the Music Hall stage beginning with guitarist Jorma Kaukonen and bassist Jack Cassidy—the fearsome, longtime duo known as Hot Tuna on October 11th. Randolph-born R&B and soul chanteuse Myra Flynn will bring her hot, emotionally charged, full band FLYNN back home to Chandler on October 13th. The Campbell Brothers serve up gospel as you've never heard it before, backed not by an organ or piano, but by the wailing, growling, shouting, singing sound of the pedal and lap steel guitars on February 1st. Veteran New England bluesman Ronnie Earl—a three-time Blues Music Award winner as Guitar Player of the Year—brings his ace band The Broadcasters to Chandler on February 9th for a fiery evening of electric blues, evoking such masters as Muddy Waters, B.B. King, and Stevie Ray Vaughan. On March 23rd, The New Black Eagle Jazz Band returns to Chandler with the high-spirited sounds of traditional New Orleans.

Holiday fare

Chandler will mark two holidays with two wildly divergent events. First up is a moving, thought-provoking, bridge-building evening of storytelling and theater, The Telling Project, presented on November 10th, the eve of Veterans Day. The Chandler production of The Telling Project will mark Veterans Day by featuring nine central Vermonters sharing their own, personal narratives of service, spanning the years from the Vietnam War to the present-day conflicts in the Middle East.

St. Patrick's Day weekend in 2019 brings the much-anticipated return on March 16th of Celtic fiddling sensations Natalie MacMaster, her husband, Donnell Leahy, and their high-energy, family-based troupe of musicians and folk dancers.

Folk music

2019 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Pete Seeger. The Vanaver Caravan, one of America's most celebrated folk music and dance troupes, pays homage to its longtime friend and mentor, in a concert entitled "Turn, Turn Turn" on October 19th.

Fans of great songcraft will appreciate the All in a Family tour, featuring an evening of thoughtful songs and familial harmonies with Loudon Wainwright III, Suzzy Roche, and Lucy Wainwright Roche on March 29.

Classical performances

Classical music has always been a part of Chandler's programming. This season features The Vermont Symphony



Cellist Matt Haimovitz will be performing at Chandler Music Hall in Randolph, VT on October 6th & 7th.

Orchestra in their annual "Made in Vermont" concert on September 29th. The Opera Company of Middlebury presents Donizetti's "L'elisir d'amour" on October 14th. Cellist Matt Haimovitz performs the Bach Cello Suites and a selection of commissioned, contemporary overtures to Bach during two-days of "pop-up" performances and a MainStage recital on October 6th and October 7th. One of today's most critically acclaimed ensembles, the Borromeo String Quartet, brings the music of Haydn, Beethoven, and Ligeti to Randolph for a Sunday matinee performance on December 9th. Pianist Simone Dinnerstein, a longtime Chandler friend and collaborator, returns with a program featuring works by Couperin, Glass, Satie, and Schumann on May 4th.

Family fare

The annual Chandler Daytime Performance Series features events presented especially for schools, students, and families. All five events in the series—two stage plays, a black-light puppet theater masterpiece, a musical theater adaptation, and a kid-friendly opera—originated as great works of literature. They include the New Rep Theater's adaptation of George Orwell's Animal Farm on October 25th; Viva la Musica Opera Company's presentation of O'Henry's classic holiday tale, The Gift of the Magi on December 6th; charming puppetry with Mermaid Theater of Nova Scotia and The Very Hungry Caterpillar & Other Eric Carle Favorites on January 10th; Vermont Pride Theater with its adaptation of the young adult novel M or F? on January 25th; and Lucy Maud Montgomery's classic Anne of Green Gables, in a musical theater production featuring the ArtsPower ensemble on May 2nd. The performances are all at 10 a.m.

Live & Upstairs

Chandler presents its "Live & Upstairs!" series of acoustic music and other performances in the intimate confines of

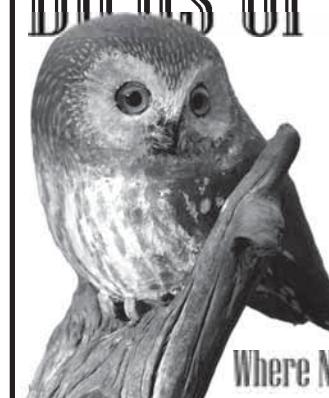


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151st Annual Tunbridge World's Fair • September 13–16, 2018



A family affair—three Guernseys exhibited at the Tunbridge World's Fair in Tunbridge, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

151st Annual Tunbridge World's Fair Rt. 110, Tunbridge, VT September 13–16, 2018

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www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com



photo by Nancy Cassidy
Harness racing is always popular at the fair!



photo by Nancy Cassidy
A young witch with her ox headed for the costume class.

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Burr of All Trades...

by Burr Morse

Here I am in my dotage, actually thinkin' of hangin' up th' old Husqvarna. Yup, the other day I went out and cut a medium sized rock maple. It should'a been a simple job but "Murphy's Law", coupled with Murphy's cousin, Stupidity, settled in at the first pull of the starter cord. The tree's lean spoke "eastward ho" to me but "west" quickly won out. And that hardwood change of heart lodged my trusty Husky tightern'a, well, chainsaw in a bench vise. After several trips back to the shop for logging paraphernalia enough to "persuade" a giant sequoia, I finally succeeded in freeing the saw. Unfortunately the rock maple still stood upright, embraced by the limbs of his neighboring hemlock. At that point, even though my genius woodsman friend Paul Cate has repeatedly told me not to do it, I proceeded to buck off 18 inch sections from the upright tree.

Any chance that we could just pick this thing up and point it the other way...

Now one might think that dropping a whole tree a foot and a half at a time would quite quickly free it from a neighboring hemlock's embrace but remember, Murphy's still in complete control! Only after a trailer load of 18-inch sections had come off Tootsie Roll style and the tree was reduced to only

"...this fool found himself slightly dazed and crawling out from under a wicked tangle of rock maple branches."

a slender top, did it finally fall over. Following that level of "success", this fool found himself slightly dazed and crawling out from under a wicked tangle of rock maple branches. And then for the pièce de résistance, this same fool, in the process of cutting up a mere smidgen of limb wood, proceeded to saw directly into one of his steel logging tools, ruining a brand new chain...enough!

In the name of "winding down" in my dotage, in fact, I've been thinking about golf; not golf, mind you, with greens and fairways and folks in sharp clothing but "farm boy golf". It's a new and revolutionary game invented by "yours truly". Here's how it works: Every pickup truck has a ball hitch. Every trailer has a ball receptacle (meets the "golf" theme so far, right?) and every farm boy is a veritable pro at backing and hitching. Farm boy golf's object is for the player, in the cab of a pickup, to back up to the trailer using only his mirrors. If he happens to land his ball hitch directly under the trailer receptacle on first try, it's a hole in one. Repeated tries bring eagles, birdies, pars and bogeys.

My good friend and fellow "Woodchuck Vermonter" Ed Hartman really liked my new game. He recently wrote a letter with his frustrations, however: "I am hooked on farm boy golf and I can't afford it. My nice truck, only ten years old, is full of tailgate dents from various trailer tongues." He went on, "I can't afford a new tailgate and I sure as #@%& will not put a silver one on which is the only extra I have."



Burr Morse (in the middle) taking down a giant maple in Montpelier, VT.

Ranting on about beefing up bumpers and the like, he ended by asking how I am at welding.

Well folks, I've done my share of welding but never ended up honing my skills any more than I honed my chainsaw act. Yup, it may be time to hang up the Husky and put away the welding rods but I gotta do something to keep busy like, say, farm boy golf. I can picture being in tournaments at farm field days and county fairs all over the country. I'll be competing to a golf announcer's hushed tone: "Burr Morse tee's off...mirror image perfect. He's in low range and he creeps back. His 'address' is impeccable...perfect alignment and approach!...oooh, trouble here on the fairway. That's a nasty tailgate ding...doesn't look good for Morse!"

And so goes life. Most folks my age look forward to a long and fulfilling retirement. I suppose this old guy is no exception but I ain't-a going to do it traditionally. My house'll still be heated with wood, split and delivered wood which I'll stack myself. Yup...can't imagine life without a good woodpile close by. And as for my recreation, there'll never be any green fees for this boy. Nope, I've already paid my fees for farm boy golf and I'm getting' better all the time. FORE!

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North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

Stories and Lessons of the Undersea World

In these days of climate disruption we hear startling things about the condition of the largest part of our planet—the ocean. There is so much to learn about fish, sea creatures, and the briny deep. Here are a few engaging books that tell stories ranging from a boy's failing goldfish to a friendly shark, whales old and whales large, and all manner of glorious undersea creatures in exquisite drawings.

When little boy Arthur's pet red fish Leon is sick and also seems to be dying from boredom, his mommy suggests Arthur must give him a poem. A poem? What's that? So begins the poetic quest of *This Is A Poem That Heals Fish* by Jeann-Pierre Simeon (\$16.95. Enchanted Lion Books. www.enchantedlionbooks.com), a wonderfully sensitive seek-and-find experience for all of us. The determined Arthur asks his neighbors, his grandmother, and his grandfather what a poem is. Remarkable drawings accompany the boy's journey making each reply even more mystical, and yes, poetic. The bicycle repairman says "a poem is when you are in love and have the sky in your mouth." The baker Mrs. Round says, "a poem" is like hot fresh bread—"When you eat it, a little is left over." The neighbor Mahmoud, who comes from the desert and waters his rhododendrons every morning at 9 o'clock says "a poem is when you hear the heartbeat of a stone." Grandfather suggests "a poem, well...it's what poets make—even the poets do not know themselves." Other answers are as baffling including Grandma's comment, "poets turn words around, even upside down."

Arthur reports his findings to Leon his fish who awakes and speaks for the first time, in tune with the other answers: "Then I am a Poet, Arthur...and my poem is my silence."

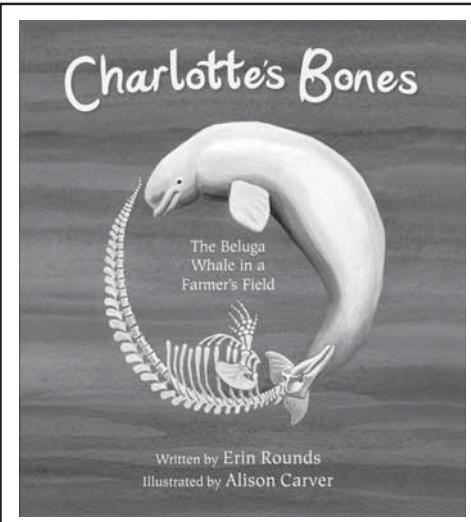
"I see," replies the grateful, wiser little boy.

The author, Jeann-Pierre Simeon and illustrator, Olivier Tallec of this contemplative story are both French. It is Simeon's second children's book while Tallec has illustrated over 40 books for children.

Being a small child everything seems big, too big, maybe sometimes enormous. We find out what the biggest thing in the ocean is in the non-fiction picture book, *The Blue Whale* by Jenni Desmond (\$17.95. Enchanted Lion Books. www.enchantedlionbooks.com). One double-page spread alone shows 50 children (not scary at all) sitting on a blue whale's tongue that weighs three tons. The children also see that the top of the whale's mouth is lined with 300-400 baleen plates made of a black fingernail-like material. To eat, the blue whale takes huge mouthfuls of a tiny shrimp-like

creature called krill which are filtered out of the seawater through the baleen plates. Whales eat 35 million krill a day.

More fascinating information about this giant whale is passed on through spectacular drawings comparing the whale's bigness to the child's smallness. The book is both fun and full of surprising information about this wonderful creature.



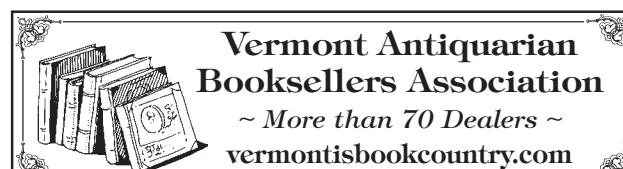
The blue whale may be ocean's largest mammal, but the ocean is also the home to other huge creatures as well as some of the tiniest, micro-creatures. Their large and minute details are magnified into some hard-to-imagine spectacular drawings in *Secrets of the Sea* by Kate Baker and illustrated by Eleanor Taylor (\$24.99. Big Picture Press, an imprint of Candlewick Press. www.candlewickpress.com).

There you will meet Giant Tube Worms, Giant Pacific Octopus (arms 13 feet long) and the 440-pound Giant Clam. For more of the fascinating 'things' in five areas of seas see: *In The Shallow*—coconut octopus, European lobster and horseshoe crab; *Forest of the Sea*—giant kelp, purple sea urchin and tiny diatoms; *Coral Gardens*—pygmy sea horse, bubble coral shrimp and queen parrotfish; *The Wide, Wide Blue*—the blue dragon and man-of-war, sea butterfly and sea angel; and *Into the Deep*—swordtail squid, atolls

jelly and radiolarian ooze. For readers intrigued by the microscopic life forms on this planet you will learn about cyanobacteria, zooxanthellae, foraminifera, moon jelly, sea sparkle, galaxy coral, and more.

The Ice Age in New England retreated some 17,000 years ago making a basin that allowed the Atlantic Ocean to flood inland and create an expansive lake (full of sea life including whales) that comprised the present-day Lake Champlain and the land on which the cities of Montreal and Ottawa now stand. Imagine finding the bones of a whale in Vermont! How did they get here? Children are bound to enjoy this story of how the bones of one of those whales was discovered in Charlotte, VT in *Charlotte's Bones—A Beluga Whale in a Farmer's Field* by Erin Rounds and illustrated by Alison Carver (\$17.95. Tilbury House Publishers. www.tilburyhouse.com). A crew building a railroad line in Charlotte, VT, in 1849 uncovered the whale's skeleton. Fortunately the bones were retrieved, studied, and the skeleton was put back together, and it was named Charlotte. It is housed today in the Perkins Geology Museum at the University of Maine. Charlotte's life and surroundings are beautifully told in song-like verse and illustrated in this handsome book. An unusual example of "Save the Whales."

For a different and humorous take on how the seafood chain usually works imagine what tasty food minnows must be to a hungry shark in *Nugget & Fang: Friends Forever—or Snack Time?* by Tammi Sauer and illustrated by Michael Slack (\$12.99. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. www.hmhco.com). Here's a thriller where the minnow Nugget goes to Minnow School only to learn that sharks' food includes minnows, rusty license plates and surfers. What shall Nugget do? Fang the shark is his best friend! In the action-packed large-sized boardbook rescue thriller that follows, see how Fang proves that minnows (a school of 10 plus Nugget) can be his friends, not food. The large, colorful drawings will captivate you, and you'll be sure Fang could be your friend, too.



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Book Review by Charles Sutton

Foraging, Harvest, Feast —A Wild-Inspired Cuisine—

and fluffy Wisteria pancakes.

Anyone who has been plagued by burdocks—"a weed that generates a flurry of tenaciously lockjaw and persistent seed capsules (their hook-and-loop design inspired the invention of Velcro in 1950s England)"—may wonder why anyone would want to eat any part of such a plant.

However, my older brother Fred, a budding naturalist, used to harvest and prepare burdock root for the family. Marie is right—it tastes like artichoke heart and Jerusalem artichoke with both its taproot and immature stem being edible.

As a youngster she collected wild watercress and mushrooms, but in her early teens the botanical world became a passion, and she writes, "I paid fascinated attention to whatever was growing at my feet, wherever I was."

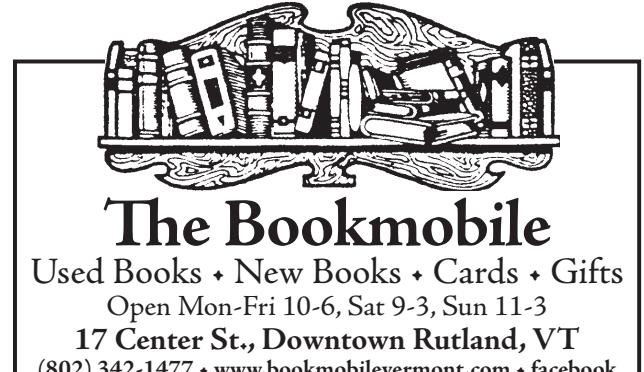
When she later moved to an apartment in Brooklyn, she found its backyard overrun with Quickweed, one of some 36 so-called weeds featured in this 470-page encyclopedic masterpiece.

She may have pulled Quickweed out by the bushel then, warning that "it is gardeners' formidable enemy, called quick because it germinates and grows while your back is turned." But under the control of a cook, the weed actually is delicious, much like lambs quarters and amaranth.

Several of her choice plants are also considered pests. Among those getting a bad rap are Wisteria, "known to twine around anything vertical, shading other plants sometimes girding and killing less robust species"; also the tenacious but sweet-smelling Honeysuckle, another strangler; and Garlic Mustard considered one of the most destructive invasive plants in North America.

Marie has plans for them including a Roasted Pork Rib Stew with Garlic Mustard; Honeysuckle Sea Bass Burger with Sweetfern Butter; and Wisteria and Chickpea Salad,

As a final note one can tell that Marie really loves to find and prepare wild plants. She pays homage to all this free, wild food with her thoughtful and sometimes amusing writing and her beautiful photographs. Hers is a wild-inspired cuisine.



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Apples

Sixty Classic and Innovative Recipes for Nature's Most Sublime Fruit
by Christophe Adam

(\$25. Rizzoli International Publications, Inc., www.rizzoliusa.com)

This apple season again will be challenging home cooks and chefs to prepare something new and tasty, and more than the usual, although delicious, apple pie, sauce and jellies.

French pastry chef-cookbook author Christophe Adam meets this challenge with 60 enticing apple recipes of which many of you will say "I've got to try that" especially after seeing the colorful, mouth-watering, full-page illustrations.

Our chef-author has made eclairs a specialty at his eight pastry boutiques called Le'Eclair de Genie (literally, "a stroke of genius") which also serve chocolate bars, spreads and chocolate candies. There are six of these boutiques in Paris and several located throughout Asia. They feature upscale, "easy to eat nibbles for people-on-the-go." That is, for people who find themselves in Paris or Asia (it could happen).

Previous to opening the boutiques Adam was in charge of operations for Fauchon patisseries in France as well as New York, Moscow, Beijing, Dubai and other foreign cities.

Christophe Adam's is a stellar world but fortunately he shares his discoveries with us. A good example is Apple Pizza covered with a caramel glaze and topped with very thin slices of Granny Smith or Golden Delicious apples. Another eye catcher is Iced Apple—a scooped out Granny Smith filled with apple sorbet, described as "a dessert for all seasons." You'll want to try his Apple Upside-Down Eclairs—a combination of Madagascar vanilla cream, Choux pastry, caramel glazed apples, and hazelnut streusel.

For something even more original consider his Apple Burger—layers of apple, burrata

cheese, and jellied raspberries between a roll made of French brioche. The apples used are Pippins, Granny Smith, or the large Chanterler, a popular French dessert apple now found in some supermarkets.

This cookbook gives recipes for these pastries and other treats including Vanilla and Granny Smith Eclairs, Apple Upside-Down Eclairs, Apple Barlettes, Apple-Pecan Chocolate Bars and various Tarts and Tartlets.

Adam introduces the reader to 37 varieties of apples with details about their flavor, history, and their best use. To make sure one uses the right apple for a particular recipe, the book arranges the apple recipes according to crunchy, crisp, soft, smooth or liquid.

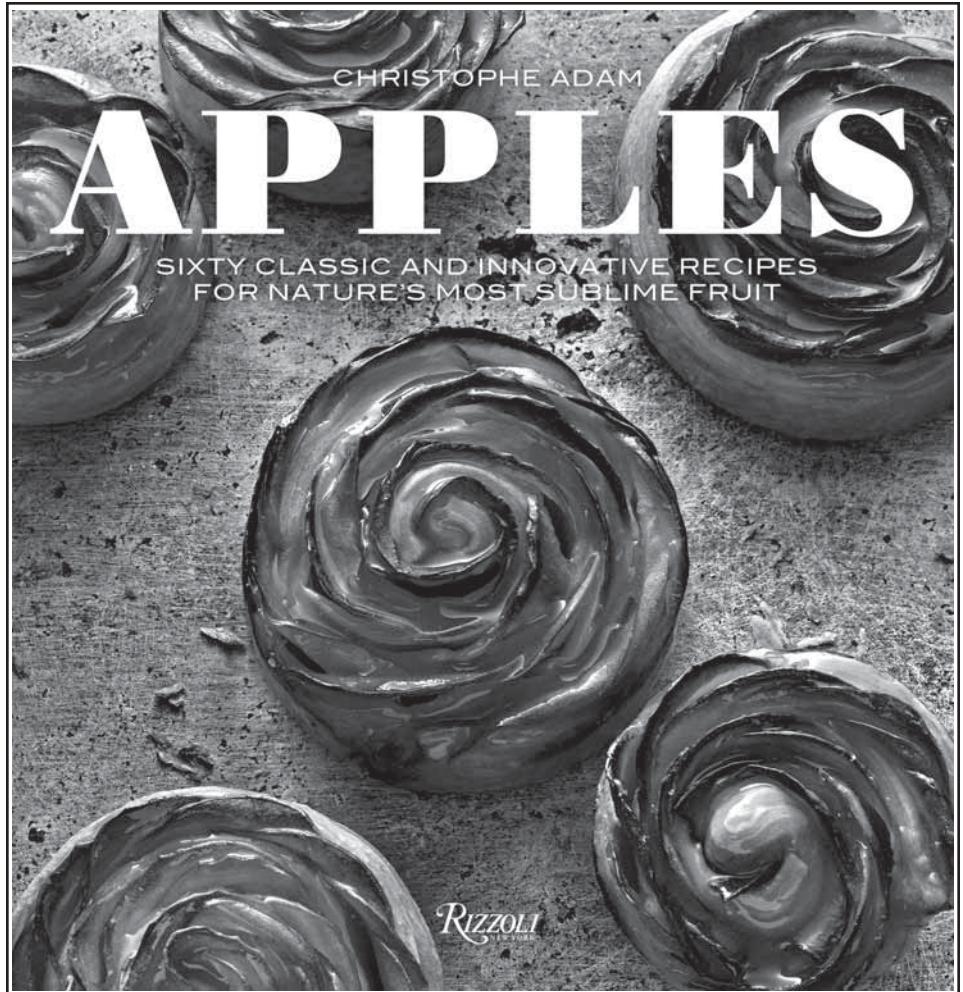
You may want to try Hungarian Apple Soup which is popular in that country served both hot or cold. The

recipe calls for very tangy apples: Belle de Boskoop, Braeburn, and Reinette Grise du Canada or Granny Smith. Another tempting dish is Apple Soup under a Pastry Crust—flavored with vanilla bean, orange and lemon zest, some fresh raspberries, and apple brandy (Calvados).

We learn some new combinations for apples in salads: Apples and Orange Salad in Red Wine; Poached Apple Salad; and Refreshing Apple Salad with Vanilla-Scented Olive Oil.

Apples are also used in making cakes with Adam introducing us to Apple Cheesecake, Apple Clafoutis (a pancake batter over fruit) with Pecan Praline and Caramelized Pecans, Apple-Calvados Cake, Apple-Maple Syrup Cake, and Apple, Rhubarb, and Polenta Cakes.

The book has many surprises. Top of the



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Phoenix Books Co-owner Mike Santos Hosts Gray Basnight Introducing His New Political Thriller, "Flight of the Fox"

Mike Santos, co-owner of Phoenix Books, is pleased to host an author event with Gray Basnight and his political thriller, *Flight of the Fox*. The event will take place on September 13 at 7 p.m. at the Burlington bookstore on Bank St.

Mike Santos and Gray Basnight had studied acting in graduate school together many decades ago and subsequently pursued separate life paths only to reconnect by happenstance this year. Mike now owned a book store and Gray had been writing nov-

els. *Flight of the Fox* was just released this July.

In *Flight of the Fox* an innocent math professor tries to decode a mystery file that lands in his in-box while a team of hitmen chase him from the Catskills to NYC and down the East Coast. Their goal is to suppress dark government crimes from decades past. His goal is for the truth to be told.

The action switches between the J. Edgar Hoover era and Professor Sam Teagarden's decoding of the mystery file in 2019, against

the 50th Anniversary of the Woodstock Festival.

As the professor runs for his life, armed only with his wits and intellect, he worries whether the truth will be told, and if he'll be seen as a hero, whistle blower, or a pariah. Or worse, will he end up dead?

Joseph Finder, New York Times bestselling author of *The Switch* says, "Flight of the Fox is an explosively paranoid thriller that pays

homage to classics of the genre. Basnight delivers non-stop action and an everyman hero to root for."

Proceeds from \$3 ticket sales go to the Vermont Foodbank. Each ticket comes with a coupon for \$5 off a copy of *Flight of the Fox*. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event.

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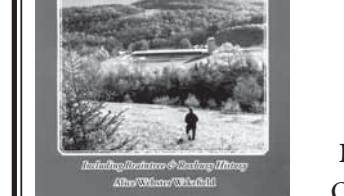
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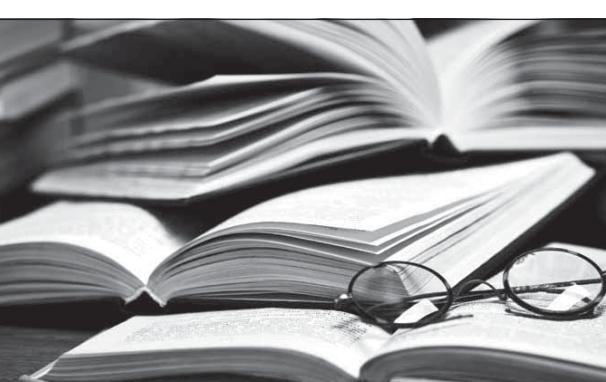
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North Country Reflections

Butterfly Magic

by Judith Irven

It is pure magic to watch a group of delicate butterflies fluttering around the garden. At first glance they seem to move entirely at random. But watch quietly for a few minutes and you will see they have an unmistakable sense of direction as they navigate from flower to flower in search of nectar.

And, for me, 2018 has been a very special year for butterflies. In addition to many different kinds making delightful cameo appearances in my garden, there were also three very special butterfly 'happenings' which I truly cherish.

Clouds of blue

One beautiful morning, back in early May, I was strolling across the open area on Hogback Mountain near our house where the wild blueberries grow, soaking up the sights and smells of spring.

Then suddenly I saw clouds of miniature blue butterflies. I was completely mesmerized as I watched these tiny creatures flitting back and forth, presumably gathering food and maybe seeking a mate.

I came home and indeed I found these same blue butterflies, each measuring barely an inch long, were also greeting the spring in my garden.

I have seen these butterflies in previous years, but usually just two or three. After a little checking I concluded they were most likely Spring Azure Butterflies (*Celastrina ladon*).

But, whatever their name, I cannot forget the sight of those dancing blue clouds.

A butterfly ballet

A few weeks later it was time for the Tiger Swallowtails (*Papilio glaucus*) to arrive. These are large yellow butterflies with easily recognized black stripes that are indeed reminiscent of a tiger's stripes.

For many years now the Tiger Swallowtails have predictably arrived in large numbers in early June. They would stay about four weeks to feast on the various lilacs that grow in my garden—first the common lilacs, then the Korean Lilacs and finally the Late Lilacs. And then, once the lilacs were finished flowering, in past years the butterflies quickly disappeared.

But 2018 was special. The Tiger Swallowtails arrived on cue to enjoy the lilacs, but then they stayed with us all summer long.

It is a wonderful sight to see them flying around the summer garden, and then stopping at flowers like Echinacea, Helenium, Heliopsis and Shasta Daisies to enjoy the nectar.

And many times I would watch a pair of butterflies spiral higher and higher, dancing together in a graceful duet. Was this a mating dance?

Tiger Swallowtails will only lay their eggs on the leaves of a select number of trees, including black cherry, ash and birch. And fortuitously many of these trees grow in the surrounding forest, thus making our garden a place where they can indeed, complete their life cycle.

Those intrepid travelers

The iconic American Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*), with their orange wings, black veining and a distinctive black and white checkered pattern around the margins, are instantly recognizable by gardeners and non-gardeners alike.

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photo by Dick Conrad

Tiger Swallowtail butterfly on the lilacs in Judith and Dick's garden in Goshen, VT.

A decade ago every year in late summer we would see dozens of Monarch butterflies in our garden. Seeking the nectar, adult butterflies flocked to the Shasta Daisies, Blazing Star, Echinacea, Rudbeckia, Aster, and—always a huge favorite among all the butterflies—the ornamental Oregano. They would also spend time in the meadow across the road among the wild Aster and Goldenrod.

Also, since the Monarch caterpillars can ONLY eat plants in the milkweed genus (*Asclepias*), when it comes time to lay their eggs the adults always seek out the milkweed plants. Fortunately that same meadow has a good supply of milkweed.

But in the past decade we have all witnessed an enormous decline in the number of Monarchs; recently in any one season I probably only saw two or three of these beautiful butterflies in our garden, typically arriving around the middle of August! In fact studies show that, all across the country, the number of Monarchs has declined precipitously—with an estimated loss of about 90% of the overall Monarch population over the last decade.

But this year I am delighted to report that we have seen quite an increase in the number of Monarchs in our garden. And, what is especially interesting, while they first arrived in mid-June, we are still watching the Monarchs in August.

To understand what has been happening in the world of the Monarch butterflies it helps to know a little about their amazing life cycle.

There are actually several populations of American Monarchs, with the two major populations, the Eastern Monarchs and the Western Monarchs, both famous for their distributed breeding patterns and for their legendary long distance migrations. In the summertime Eastern Monarchs can be found all the way from Mexico to southern Canada and from the Rocky Mountains to the Eastern seaboard. And, all across this huge land area, as many as four generations of butterflies are born in a single season.

Then, starting in September and October, all Eastern Monarchs, (with the exception of a few that use the Atlantic seaboard) undertake a single prodigious migration to reach their over-wintering destination, the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, in Southern Mexico.

During this migration, these tiny creatures fly the most astonishing distances. Those that start out in Vermont will travel almost three thousand miles to reach their winter

destination in Mexico, while the population that begins its journey in the Canadian Maritime Provinces will fly nearly five thousand miles!

The following March those same butterflies set out on a northbound trip. However no individual butterfly flies all the way north. At successive stops along the way the females seek out milkweed plants where they lay their eggs. Then the resulting caterpillars produce the next generation of butterflies that continues its journey northwards. Typically, over the course of the entire summer, four generations will be raised. The generation reaching Vermont will be either the great-grandchildren or even the great-great-grandchildren of the butterflies that overwintered in Mexico. But, we need to understand that, in order to complete this incredible life cycle, Monarchs absolutely require milkweed (the only plant that their caterpillars can eat) at EACH breeding area on their journey north.

However, due to large-scale farming practices in the Midwest, milkweed is inadvertently being eradicated. Many farmers spray their fields with the herbicide Round-up in the springtime and then plant 'Round-up ready' seed. But all too often the herbicide spray goes beyond the fields onto the surrounding rough ground, killing plants like milkweed (which farmers consider a weedy 'nuisance plant' that is toxic to livestock) growing there.

The good news is that, across the country, milkweeds are actually starting to make a come-back. In 2016, to help the beleaguered butterflies, the USDA started offering incentives for farmers and ranchers to plant milkweed and other pollinator friendly plants. And since milkweeds can also be grown in gardens, many gardeners and schools have also been experimenting with planting them.

And there is also a fascinating initiative underway, both in Quebec and in the Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, to grow milkweed commercially and harvest the floss (downy material that surrounds the milkweed seeds) to use as an insulating material. Imagine your next winter jacket might actually be helping the Monarch butterflies.

Welcoming butterflies to your garden

Some of the best garden plants to attract butterflies are those in the huge daisy family (*Compositae*) including Echinacea, Heliopsis, Shasta Daisies, and Black Eyed Susans, all of which have easily available nectar.

And then, for those butterfly species you do see, you want to encourage them to stay around and lay eggs for the next generation. Do a little research to find out which plants their caterpillars need. Thus for the Monarchs it always helps to plant any type of milkweed, including the cheery orange variety, appropriately called Butterfly Weed!

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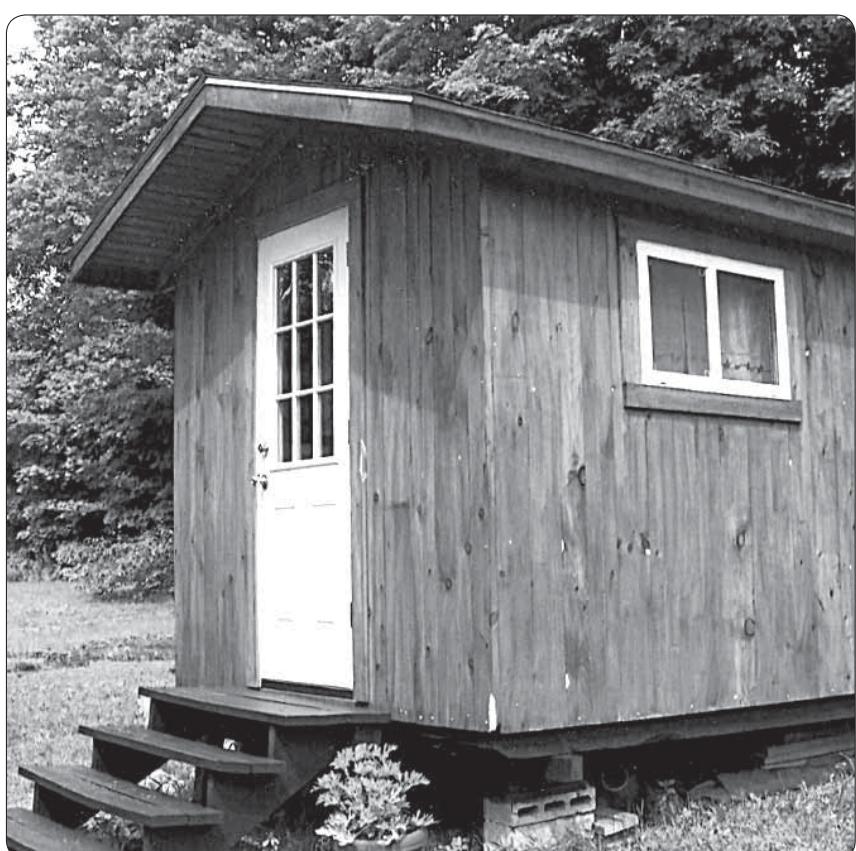
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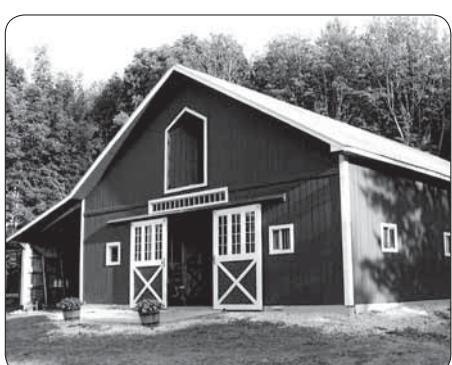
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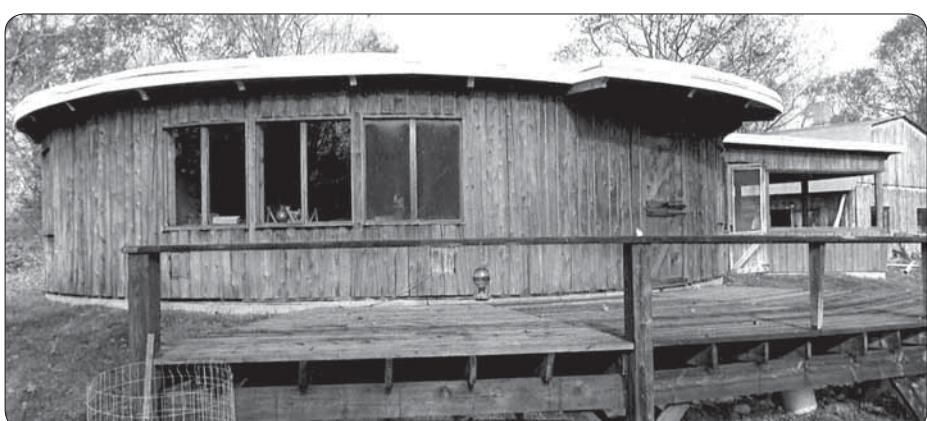
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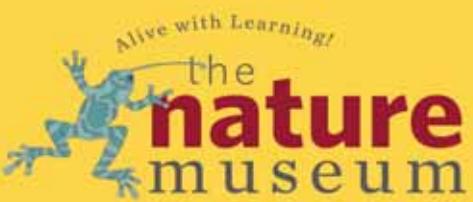
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