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October
2018

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N. Cassidy



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Easy Birding

by Bill Felker

My life list leaves something to be desired. That is, my birding life list, which would list all the different species of birds I have ever seen. I know a few neighborhood and shore birds, but that's about it.

However, I have seen lots of house sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) in the honeysuckles that hide my property from the street. The sparrows are practically my pets. Like tame koi in a pond of sky and branches, they come when I feed them.

I have no problem identifying their song. It has few subtleties or variations that I can hear. Unlike the koi, they often sing from morning until past sunset, a steady, monotonous chirp-chirp-chirp (which chirps, I have found, have the approximate interval of my pulse). When their young hatch and beg throughout early summer, their chatter drowns out the sound of the cars passing by.

The sparrows, like my honeysuckles, are invasive. Introduced in the United States around the middle of the 19th century, they have spread throughout the country. Actually, they have invaded almost the whole world. People trap and shoot and even poison the *Passer domesticus*. Like the honeysuckles, house sparrows

are dreaded by nativists. Still, they make me feel good. They are year-round companions. I can watch them any time I want without fear of mistaking them for something else. They are, too, an interesting society to observe.

Like humans (which have also taken over the planet, shoving out more beautiful and melodious species), they are loud, competitive and seemingly lacking in compassion. They talk all the time, and it seems their talk is just noise. Unlike more elegant and colorful solitary species which somehow tolerate and survive around them, they take their food communally and fight over it a lot.

But they know who they are. Even if I wanted, I couldn't change them or uproot them. Like my honeysuckles, they are tough and aggressive and will be here long after humans have disappeared. And against all ecological sense, all political correctness and self-respect, I like them. They are easy birds, conducive to easy birding.

What good is a life list, really? So I feed them and watch them, and in return they teach me about myself, about people and about the planet we have overrun.



Vermont's Fall Open Studio Tour takes place this year on October 13th & 14th.

Statewide

Vermont's Fall Open Studio Tour on October 13 & 14

Combine fall foliage viewing and harvest activities with visits to local artists across Vermont.

Bright yellow signs compete with oranges and reds of October along Vermont's roads enticing visitors to the studios of craftspeople and fine artists across Vermont during the 2018 Fall Open Studio Tour weekend on October 13 & 14. The Vermont Crafts Council is coordinating the event with American Craft Week, a national celebration of craftwork, that takes place from October 5 through October 14.

Visit 95 studios and exhibits. Open Studio Weekend is a statewide celebration of the visual arts and creative process, offering a unique opportunity for visitors to meet a wide variety of local artists and craftspeople in their studios, and purchase high quality, hand made artwork.

The self-guided Open Studio tour features the work of glassblowers, jewelers, printmakers, potters, furniture makers, weavers, ironworkers, painters, sculptors, quilt makers and wood carvers. Many participating galleries will host gallery talks and special exhibits in conjunction with this event.

Most Vermont craftspeople work in studios located in or close to their residences. These are places of production and

inspiration located in downtowns as well as at the ends of dirt roads. Wherever their locations, they are exciting places to visit because they reflect the dynamic yet organized process that is used to produce the finished work of art.

The studio itself is enormously informative because you can see at a glance how the artist works. You see the swatches that have not been chosen for the quilt or the work that is experimental or not serious enough for the gallery. Buying or ordering work during an Open Studio sale is a unique experience because you have the opportunity to speak to the artist directly.

The Vermont Crafts Council launched Open Studio Weekend in 1993 to increase the visibility of artists and craftspeople in Vermont and to foster an appreciation for the creative process and the role that artists and craftspeople play in the vitality of Vermont's communities.

The Vermont Crafts Council is a non-profit organization serving the Vermont visual arts community. Open Studio Weekend is supported by the Vermont Arts Council and by The Point radio station.

The Vermont Crafts Council publishes a free map with directions to participating sites. The Fall Open Studio Map is available throughout the state at Tourist Information Centers, galleries and studios. It is also available on the Vermont Crafts Council website at www.vermontcrafts.com/OSW/fallmaps-directions.html or by calling (802) 223-3380.

For more information call Vermont Craft Council at (802) 223-3380. vt1crafts@aol.com. Visit www.vermontcrafts.com.

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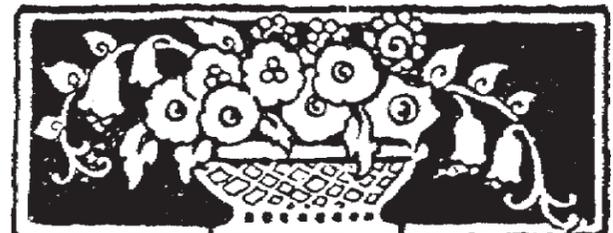
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October 2018, Vol. XXXIV

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

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16th Annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival

As first few hard frosts appear, Wardsboro rolls out the red carpet to honor, sell, and cook up the harvest of their very special turnip.

On Saturday, October 27, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., people will come from all over New England to celebrate Vermont's state vegetable at the Gilfeather Turnip Festival.

Craft and farmers market vendors will arrive early on festival day to set up shop inside and outside of Town Hall and under big and small tents on Main Street and the turnip cart will be filled with multiple bushels of freshly dug turnips, many grown on neighboring farms such as Dutton's in Newfane or in local gardens. Turnips are sold by the pound, along with Gilfeather seed packets.

The festival, now in its 16th year, raises funds for the Friends of the Wardsboro Library to support the Gloria Danforth Memorial Building, the home of the Wardsboro Public Library. It is the Friends largest community fundraising event.

This free event takes place rain, snow, or shine. A \$2 donation is suggested for parking.

Gilfeather Turnip Contest

A featured part of the festival is the annual turnip contest, free for all to enter. Contestants may register Gilfeather turnips in one or more categories from 10 a.m. to 12 noon upstairs in the Town Hall.

Contest categories are: largest grown in Wardsboro, largest grown outside Wardsboro, best turnip name, and best strange and funny turnip.

The largest turnip, measured by total weight with greens, will be awarded grand champion of the festival. Winners are announced and ribbons awarded immediately after the judging.

All children age 12 and younger who enter a turnip will receive an honorable-mention award ribbon.

Yummy turnip soup!

The Turnip Soup Cart outside Town Hall serves homemade cider donuts and coffee beginning at 10 a.m., followed by Gilfeather Turnip Soup for take out beginning at 11 a.m. Inside Town Hall, The Turnip Café opens for turnip lunch samplings at 11 a.m. also. Local cooks peel, slice, and shred the tubers to make the creamy Gilfeather turnip soup, served until the food runs out.

Recipes for all food served at the festival are published in the third edition of the Gilfeather Turnip Cookbook, on sale in the Turnip Patch Boutique in Town Hall. The cookbook exclusively features all categories of turnip recipes, many old favorites but most brand new to this third edition.

Arts, crafts, music and food

More than 40 craft and farmers' market vendors are set up inside Town Hall and outdoors under the several big and small tents on Main Street. Vendors sell goods such as pottery, cheese boards, folk art and, of course, food. All food vendors at this year's festival are from Vermont. A complete vendor list is available at www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org.

Live music is always a big draw at the Turnip Fest. Wardsboro's own strolling troubadour, Jimmy Knapp, loves to serenade visitors throughout the festival with his original Gilfeather turnip ballads and many more of his original guitar compositions. Marvin Bentley will perform outside the entrance to the Town Office on Main Street.

The Wardsboro School Club is sponsoring face painting and games throughout the day to entertain the younger set.

Best raffle ever

The drawing for the Friends of the Wardsboro Library's annual "Best Raffle Ever" takes place at Town Hall at 2 p.m. This year's prize is a one-of-a-kind, handcrafted maple side table, custom made and generously donated by Wardsboro resident Peter Sebastian. Details are available at the library's website or at the festival until the drawing. The winner need not be present.



Contestant Braiden Pearson with his winning Gilfeather turnip! photo courtesy of the Friends of the Wardsboro Library

Throughout the day four large gift baskets will be raffled off beginning at 10:30 a.m. Winners must be present at the drawings. The baskets contain items donated by festival vendors—food, decor items, ceramics, and jewelry.

Heirloom, humble root

The Gilfeather turnip, designated the Vermont state vegetable in 2016, has the added distinction of being the only turnip included in Slow Food USA's Ark of Taste, a catalog comprised of only the best-tasting endangered foods.

Wardsboro farmer John Gilfeather could never have imagined that one day his town and the state of Vermont would celebrate and honor the humble tuber that he first propagated in the early 1900s.

Gilfeather Farm still exists, right in the heart of Wardsboro, and the current owners carry on the tradition of Farmer John by planting a large crop of the heirloom turnip that originated on their farm at the turn of the century.

Increasing numbers of people are discovering the culinary

possibilities of the now-famous heirloom vegetable, and the menu at the Turnip Café illustrates how turnips are adaptable to savory as well as sweet offerings.

The humble root vegetable—knobby, rough-skinned and not especially attractive—has attracted much attention to the small town.

Growers agree that the Gilfeather turnips are hardy and easy to cultivate from seed, but that they shouldn't be harvested before the bite of hard frost, which gives them a special sweetness.

Wardsboro is in southern Vermont on Rt. 100. Turn south off Rt. 30 between Jamaica and Townshend, VT. For questions call (802) 896-3416. friendsofwardsborolibrary@gmail.com. Visit www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org.



photo courtesy of the Wardsboro History Group
John Gilfeather in Wardsboro, VT in the early 1900s.

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Heirloom Apples & Hard Cider at Scott Farm Orchards

Come visit the 571-acre historic Scott Farm Orchards in Dummerston, VT that border Rudyard Kipling's former Vermont home, Naulakha, and other historic rental properties owned and renovated by Landmark Trust USA.

Apple lovers of all ages are invited to celebrate this iconic fall fruit with festivals, orchard walks, pick-your-own apples, and a farm store stocked with jewels of the season.

16th Annual Heirloom Apple Day Sunday, October 7th

Celebrate heirloom apples—fresh, baked and squeezed! Join orchardist Zeke Goodband in the Apple Barn at Scott Farm Orchards in Dummerston, VT on Sunday, October 7th at 10 a.m., 12 p.m. or 2 p.m. for apple lore and a tasting of some of our 125 varieties of heirlooms in season.

After the talk and tasting, guests can fill totes with the heirlooms they liked best, to purchase and take home, along with freshly pressed heirloom cider.

Whetstone Ciderworks of Marlboro, VT will offer complimentary hard cider samplings (for those 21 and up) and have bottles for sale. Food vendors, to include Rigani Wood Fired Pizza and SpringMore Farm, will be cooking so guests can enjoy lunch at picnic tables overlooking the Farm's scenic ponds and mini-covered bridge.

New this year—live music, kids' activities, and guided dry stone wall tours by The Stone Trust. Admission and activities are free. No dogs please. Rain or shine.

2nd Annual Kingston Black Cider Festival Saturday, October 20th

Scott Farm and Eden Specialty Ciders host the 2nd Annual Kingston Black Cider Festival in the Apple Barn at Scott Farm on Saturday, October 20th from 12 to 4 p.m. In honor of the Kingston Black, the "One Apple to Rule them All", five cider makers from four states showcase their hard ciders made from this highly-prized heirloom apple.

Hard cider enthusiasts will have the opportunity to meet and talk with Scott Farm Orchardist Ezekiel Goodband, and cider makers from Eden Specialty Ciders of Newport, VT and Whetstone Ciderworks of Marlboro, VT. Ben Watson, author of *Cider Hard and Sweet: History, Traditions and Making Your Own*, will be available to sign books.

Along with local food pairings, guests can sample six or more Kingston Black ciders from Eden Specialty Ciders, Whetstone Ciderworks, Farnum Hill Ciders of Lebanon, NH, Slyboro Ciderhouse of Granville, NY, and Stormalong Ciders of Sherborn, MA.

Kingston Black apples, sparsely grown in the United States, are among the 125 varieties of heirlooms produced at Scott Farm Orchard. Some of these mostly inedible bitter cider apples will be available for tasting.

According to Scott Farm Orchardist Zeke Goodband, "Kingston Black is one of our most popular hard cider varieties; people get in line early in the summer to reserve this apple for their hard cider making." A British variety, Kingston Black contains the three ingredients necessary to make a well-balanced cider: tannins, acidity and sugar. Their skin, a deep red color, accounts for "black" in their name, and gives their fresh juice a distinct ruby color.

Festival co-organizer and co-owner of Eden Specialty Ciders, Eleanor Leger says, "What distinguishes the great ciders of the world is their use of 'bitter' apple varieties that



photo by Kelly Fletcher Photography

Visitors choose among the hard ciders offered at Scott Farm Orchards in Dummerston, VT.

provide tannic structure. Kingston Black is arguably the most famous of these mostly inedible varieties."

The 2nd Annual Kingston Black Festival is the only one of its kind in New England. According to Scott Farm and The Landmark Trust USA Operations Manager and festival co-organizer Kelly Carlin, "We're excited to co-host this festival with Eden Specialty Ciders. Cider makers from all over New England, and sometimes further, come to the farm to buy our apples because we grow so many hard-to-find varieties."

Scott Farm also offers a workshop, "Introduction to Mak-

ing Hard Cider" with cider maker Jason MacArthur of Whetstone Ciderworks in Marlboro, VT, on Sunday, September 30 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Whetstone Ciderworks will also offer complimentary Hard Cider Tastings at Scott Farm on September 29-30, and Saturdays and Sundays throughout October from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Established in 1791 when George Washington was serving his first term as President, Scott Farm encompasses 571 acres and 23 buildings, all listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1995 the Vermont-based nonprofit The Landmark Trust USA acquired the farm.

Under the guidance of Orchardist Zeke Goodband, the orchard has been converted from conventionally-grown McIntosh to 125 varieties of ecologically-grown heirloom apples. The farm also grows and sells other fine fruits such as peaches, plums, nectarines, pears, grapes, cherries, quince, medlars, gooseberries, and hops.

Four authentically-restored historic vacation rental homes surround the farm and are available for self-catered stays throughout the year. Details at LandmarkTrustUSA.org.

Festival entry is \$20 and includes a commemorative tasting glass. Attendants must be 21 and over. To register go to scottfarmvermont.com/farm-events or call (802) 254-6868. Pre-registration is appreciated but walk-ins are welcome.

Scott Farm Orchard is located at 707 Kipling Rd. in Dummerston, VT. The Scott Farm Market is open daily through November 21, and you-pick apples are available into October. (802) 254-6868. Visit scottfarmvermont.com.



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Autumn Festivities at Billings Farm & Museum

Vermont's rural heritage, is in its 35th season. Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a nearly 150-year tradition of agricultural excellence and offers farm programs and historical exhibits that explore Vermont's rural heritage and values.

This is a great place to visit with your family. There are horse-drawn wagon rides, and farm programs, in addition to the operating dairy farm, the 1890 restored farmhouse and farm life exhibits! Visit the Museum Shop with items for all ages including Vermont cheeses and preserves.

For a quick snack while you're visiting, stop by the Dairy Bar, located on the ground floor of the 1890 Farm House. You will find Vermont-made Wilcox ice cream, milk, healthy snacks, seasonal hot and cold drinks, and a Farm Picnic featuring Billings Farm Cheddar, crackers, and fruit. Plan a trip to Billings Farm this fall. You'll have a great time!

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.

Hands-on programs will highlight two essential fall crops, apples and pumpkins. Lend a hand pressing cider, making pumpkin or apple ice cream, and peeling apples for drying, including apple tasting. 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.

34th Annual Harvest Weekend

Billings Farm & Museum will host its Annual Harvest Weekend on October 6 & 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The weekend features a husking bee and barn dance, plus a variety of 19th century harvest activities and programs for the entire family.

A traditional husking bee will begin at noon each day, followed by a barn dance from 1-4 p.m. Lend a hand pressing cider, preserving apples, threshing grain, and making ice cream. Harvesting the heirloom vegetable garden will be nearing completion and children can help dig potatoes and other root crops and learn how crops are "put up" for the winter.

Other activities include shelling beans, apples-on-a-string, and 19th century games. Hot-spiced cider and homemade doughnuts will be on hand for all to enjoy!

Autumn Wagon Ride Weekend

The Annual Autumn Wagon Ride Weekend takes place on Saturday and Sunday, October 13 & 14, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Capture the brilliant colors of a Vermont autumn on a scenic narrated wagon ride around the farm fields. The

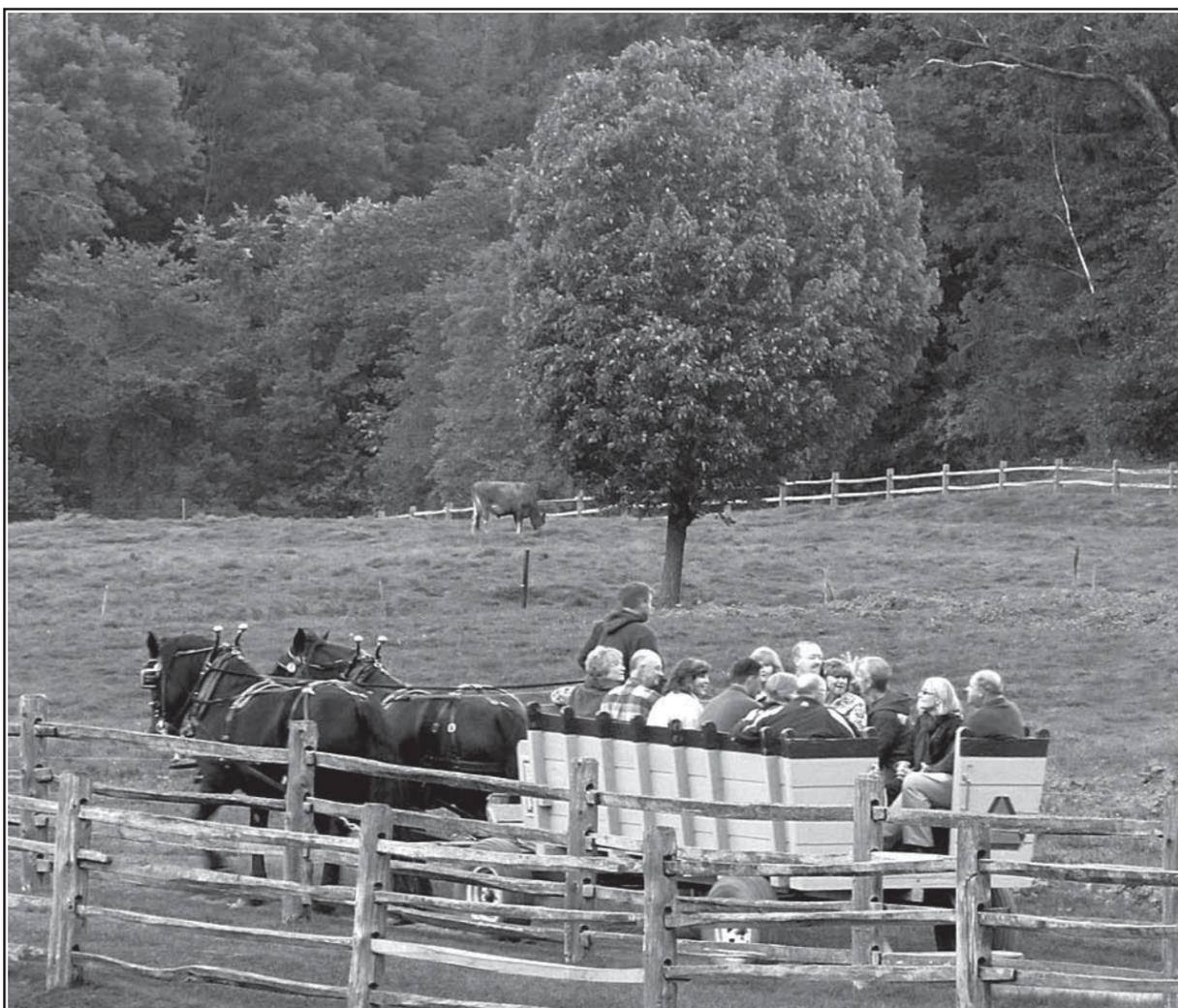


photo courtesy of Billings Farm & Museum
Visitors enjoy a horse-drawn wagon ride around the autumn farm fields at Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, VT.

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

A Family Halloween

The Annual Family Halloween is on Sunday, October 28, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Children in costume receive free admission when accompanied by an adult (adults pay the regular admission fee).

Pumpkin carving, doughnuts-on-a-string, wagon rides, hand-cranked pumpkin ice cream, plus "not-too-scary" Halloween stories, pumpkin games, and animal programs will be featured. Costume parades around the farm will be

held at 12 & 2 p.m., and all children will receive a ribbon. Admission to A Family Halloween includes all programs and activities, plus the working dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and farm house.

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

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

Open daily April 1 through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends November - February, and Christmas & Presidents' weeks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: adults \$16, 62 & over \$14, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, 2 & under are free.

Women's Favorite Cookbook

Tips for Harvest-Time Preserving, circa 1902

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

Mixed Fall Fruit Marmalade

This recipe is unsurpassed. Take equal quantities of white apples, yellow pears and white plums; pare and cut in small bits, stew in a little water till tender, then strain through a hair sieve. Now weigh the pulp and add to it, its own weight in sugar. Put on the stove and cook carefully three hours in a thick-lined granite kettle. Stir often the first two hours and continually the last hour. It is hard to make because it is easily burned but it always pays for the trouble. When thick turn into shallow pans and tie down. When desired for use slice off in slices and put on plate like cheese.

—Hilda Becker

Quince Jelly

Do not pare but polish quinces smooth with a flannel cloth. Cut in small pieces, core and put all in a kettle. Pour over cold water to cover and boil until soft. Pour all into a flannel bag and hang up to drain carefully, pressing occasionally to make the juice run more freely. To one pint of the juice add three-fourths of a pound of sugar and boil fifteen minutes. Pour into tumblers.

—Elsie MacKenzie

Preserved Pears

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

—Mrs. R. Andersen

Raspberry Syrup

Put as many quarts of raspberries into a granite saucepan as desired, press gently, sprinkle with little sugar and let remain a good half day. Pass the juice through a muslin bag, measure, and pour it into a preserving kettle and to each cupful of the juice add four ounces of sugar; boil until the juice commences to thicken, skimming frequently. Let cool and then put into bottles. Cork and seal; let stand in a dry place until wanted.

—Alice Yeomans

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Poor Will's Guide To Farming and Gardening

by Bill Felker

October 1: Seed winter greens and winter grains while the moon is dark (the next ten days).

October 2: The Jumping Jumpseed Moon enters its weak first quarter, moderating the first cold front of October.

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

October 4: The waning moon is favorable for pruning shrubs or trees to retard growth and for killing weeds. Also complete autumn culling of sheep and goats before pasture season comes to a close.

October 5: The moon reaches perigee today, increasing the possibility that the October 7 cold front will bring frost across the Northern states.

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

October 7: Peak leafturn now occurs in woodlots where maples, ashes, buckeyes, wild cherry and locusts predominate. Many Osage leaves are yellow now, a few ginkgoes starting to fade. Cottonwoods and the rest of the box elders lose their leaves, and great openings form in the high canopy.

October 8: The Shattering Ginkgo Moon is new today, setting a chilly platform for the arrival of Middle Fall in just a few days. Under the dark moon, plants and bulbs intended for spring forcing should be placed in light soil now and stored in a place where temperatures remain cool (but not freezing).

October 9: Expect relatively mild temperatures and precipitation as the barometer falls in advance of the October 13 cold front. Terns and meadowlarks, yellow-rumped warblers and purple martins migrate south. Chimney swifts, wood thrushes, barn swallows and red-eyed vireos join them as Early Fall moves to a close.

October 10: Fencerows are shedding the leaves of poison ivy and Virginia creeper. Grape vines hold on yellow green.



Dapple gray horse grazes among the fallen leaves in central Vermont. photo by Nancy Cassidy

October 11: Half of the winter wheat is normally in the ground by now just as beech leaves rust at the edges.

October 12: The tips of many spruce trees are putting on fresh growth, forecasting spring.

October 13: Middle Fall begins near this date. The coldest morning so far in the season often occurs as the October 13 cold front arrives. This front is the first front to bring a chance of snow flurries at average elevations along the 40th Parallel.

October 14: Migrating robins feed on the honeysuckle berries. Water willow yellows by the rivers.

October 15: The heaviest time of Halloween market sales begins in the middle of October as rutting time begins.

October 16: The moon enters its gentle second quarter today, and temperatures, which dipped at the arrival of Middle Fall, should now start to rise.

October 17: The moon reaches apogee, contributing to the warm-up, and stable weather conditions are likely for several days throughout the nation.

October 18: In the cooler, wetter nights, crickets and katydids are weakening, but woolly bear caterpillars appear on back roads when the sun warms the pavement. Monarch butterflies have left. Only a few swallowtails and fritillaries visit the garden, and just a few fireflies glow in the grass.

October 19: Mulch root crops to keep them from turning to mush when the ground freezes solid.

October 20: Peak leaf color usually starts to fade today throughout the Northeast. Peak leaf coloring is just beginning, however, in the middle and southern Appalachians.

October 21: Soil temperatures have ordinarily fallen into the 50s, and pasture growth slows. The chance for light snow increases as Full Moon and the October 23 high-pressure system approaches.

October 22: Process honey from your hives, leaving plenty for the bees. Schedule garlic planting.

October 23: Some ginkgoes are green, others fully gold and losing foliage; they will drop their leaves overnight as the Shattering Ginkgo Moon departs early in November.

October 24: One year in three brings frost with the October 23 cold front above the Border States, and today's full moon is very likely to strengthen that front.

October 25: Silver maples are champagne gold, and the sugar and red maples are down or are shedding quickly. Tulip trees are almost bare. Morning fogs become more common.

October 26: Harvest continues all around the country, with about half of the corn and three-fourths of the soybeans cut.

October 27: Most of the cranberries have been brought in from the bogs.

October 28: Fertilize the lawn as the moon wanes. Then feed the trees after all their leaves are down.

October 29: High pollen counts are over in most of the country until Early Spring.

October 30: The last weather system of the month, strengthened by tomorrow's lunar perigee, comes across the country with Halloween.

October 31: The last cabbage butterflies look for cabbages. At night, the hardest crickets take the place of katydids.

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Springfield, VT

Come to These Open Studio Weekend Events in Springfield

There's a lot going on in the Springfield area over the upcoming statewide Vermont Open Studio Weekend on October 13th and 14th.

Gallery at the VAULT on Main St. in Springfield, a Vermont State Craft Center, is exhibiting the work of 165 artists, and will be your information center, open on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Photographer, Jeffrey Spring, will be on hand both days from 1-3 p.m. to talk with visitors about photog-

raphy and his work. Stop in! We're right next door to the Copper Fox Restaurant.

A brand new exhibit at the Great Hall is close by at 100 River Street and will be open on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit: "Healing, The Transformative Imagery of Art" is a celebration of Springfield Hospital's 105th Anniversary. Twelve artists explore the connections between the arts, healing, and health in painting, sculpture, glass, fiber, and mixed media.

Next to the Great Hall is

Trout River Brewery. Sample their craft beer and have something to eat at their Food Truck starting at noon on Saturday.

Other Open Studios in the area include Rich DeTrano (Woodturner), Robert O'Brien (Watercolor Paintings), Angie Follensbee-Hall (Mixed Media), Sunrise Hill Farm and Crafts (Fiber and Wool), and L.G. Mansfield Artworks (Watercolor Paintings). Booklets available at Gallery at the VAULT and on www.vermontcrafts.com have details and directions for the Open Studios and exhibits.

Open Studio Weekend is

a statewide celebration of the visual arts and creative process, offering an opportunity for visitors to meet artists and craftspeople in their studios, some of which are only open to the public during this event.

The event is sponsored by the Vermont Craft Council, a non-profit organization serving the Vermont visual arts community; and is also supported by the Vermont Arts Council and by the VT Dept. of Tourism and Marketing.

Gallery at the VAULT, is located at 68 Main St. in Springfield, VT. (802) 885-7111. www.galleryvault.org.

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A Vermont Almanack for Middle Autumn

by Bill Felker

There are no fixed limits,
Time does not stand still.
Nothing endures,
Nothing is final.
The game is never over,
Summer and winter,
Birth and death
Are even.

—Chuang Tzu
(from Thomas Merton)

The Sun's Progress

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

Phases of the The Jumping Jumpseed Moon And the Shattering Ginkgo Moon

Jumpseeds jump and milkweed pods burst, flowers go to seed, and frost season opens across the northern part of the United States. Following a hard freeze, and among the most spectacular doorways between Middle Autumn and Late Autumn is the collapse of the foliage of the ginkgo tree. Often after a cold spell in late October or early November, the ginkgo leaves turn deep gold all at once, and then in a day or so, they shatter suddenly into a gilded coverlet of the ground below.

October 2: The Jumping Jumpseed Moon enters its final quarter at 4:45 a.m. **October 5:** The Moon reaches perigee at 5:28 p.m. **October 8:** The Shattering Ginkgo Moon is new at 10:47 p.m. **October 16:** The Moon enters its second quarter at 2:01 p.m. **October 17:** The Moon reaches apogee at 2:16 p.m. **October 24:** The Moon is full at 11:45 a.m. **October 31:** The Moon enters its final quarter at 11:40 a.m. It reaches perigee this same date at 3:05 p.m.

The Planets

Saturn in Sagittarius, followed by Mars in Capricorn, lies in the south-southwest after the Sun goes down. Venus in Virgo remains the evening star until the middle of the month, when it fades into the sunset Jupiter, in Libra, flirts with the western horizon throughout October, disappearing shortly after Venus.

The Stars

At 11 p.m., Cygnus is still high above you in the west, along with late summer's Aquila and Lyra. But the Pleiades and the Hyades of Taurus lie on the eastern horizon, announcing Middle Autumn. A few hours after midnight,

Grafton, VT

Find Inspiration and Fun at The Fairy House Festival

The 10th Annual Fairy House Festival celebrates nature and creativity on Saturday, September 29th and Sunday, September 30th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Nature Museum in Grafton, VT.

Visitors of all ages are invited to walk the half-mile Fairy House Trail, sprinkled with fairy houses, schools, boats, airplanes, libraries, carousels, and more.

After a shady stroll down the trail, festival guests can return to the Nature Museum via an easy hike over grassy and forested terrain to create their own fairy dwellings in the Museum's gardens. Hands-on crafts, face painting, and bubbles create a magical atmosphere and provide hours of engaging fun. Light refreshments will be available for purchase and picnicking is encouraged.

Wander down a forested path and enjoy the sounds of birdsong and children's laughter. Strolling at your

own pace, you can examine the enchanting details of the small houses which have been built here for the fairies: the birch branches transformed into bridges, the twigs woven into tiny treehouse ladders, the acorn cap dinnerware set for a fairy party. You are invited to enter a world of imagination and nature at the Fairy House Festival.

The Fairy House Festival is The Nature Museum's key annual fundraiser: all proceeds are used to fund year-round environmental education programming in our community. Advance tickets can be purchased online at The Nature Museum by visiting www.nature-museum.org. Tickets are also available at the gate. Children age 2 and under attend for free.

The Nature Museum is located at 186 Townshend Rd. in Grafton, VT. For information call (802) 843-2111. www.nature-museum.org.



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Hikers pause to rest at the entrance of the Ethan Allen Cave in 1914. (Photo from the Dr. George Marshall Lantern Slide Collection). Ethan Allen's Cave, also known as Warner's Cave and the Cave of the Green Mountain Boys, is located on the Ethan Allen Trail, about one-quarter mile from the end of the Branbury State Park camping area in Brandon, VT.

Orion appears in the far east, and it moves to the center of the sky before sunrise.

The Shooting Stars

The Draconid meteors fall at the rate of about ten per hour in the vicinity of the North Star after midnight between October 6 and 10. The Orionid meteors appear in Orion during the early morning hours of October 21 and 22 at the rate of 15 to 30 per hour. The bright gibbous Moon may obscure some of those meteors with its light.

Meteorology

Weather history suggests that cold waves usually reach Vermont on or about October 2, 7, 13, 17, 23, and 30.

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Surviving Rough and Tumble Days of Early Football

by Charles Sutton

Football started in my pre-teens when a few friends would come over to my home in Fairfield, Conn. for a rugged game of 'sandlot' tackle football. The field was a mowed lawn of about 50 yards extending down from our home into an orchard. We had no equipment, no goal posts nor yard lines. No one ever got hurt, at least enough to complain about it. We ran up big scores in the 60s or more even with no extra points or points for field goals. An apple tree actually wasn't a very good substitute for a goal post.

Later when I went to the Berkshire boarding school in the fall of 1945 students had to choose a sport for each season. I chose football, basketball and track which I did for all three years there.

During my sophomore year I played so-called midget football. We had the same equipment as junior and varsity teams including helmets with no face guards. Most of the playing was scrimmages between ourselves but we did play a few other schools.

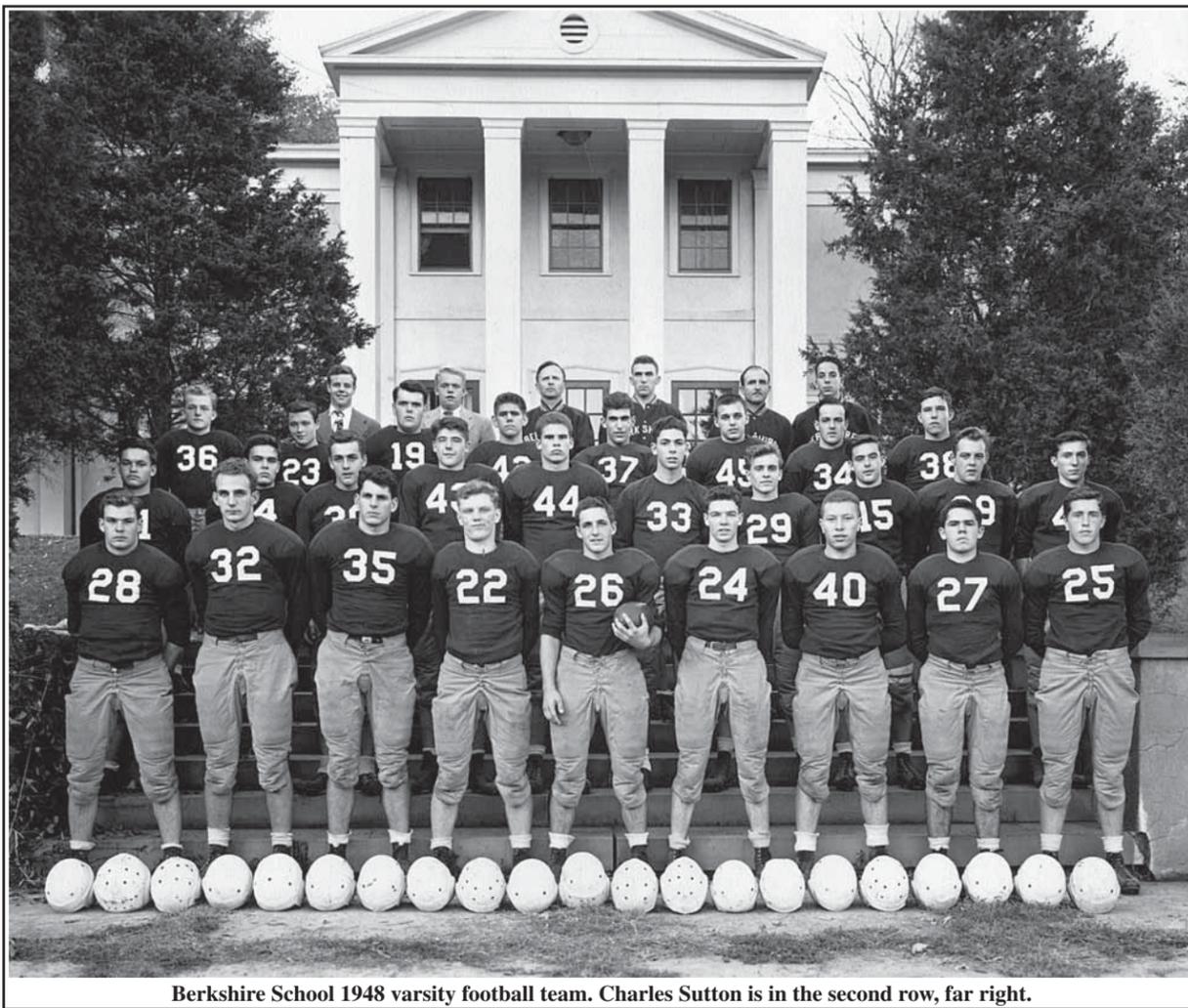
The next year I graduated to the junior varsity where we were divided into the Greens and the Grays. I was a Green. We scrimmaged among ourselves, but also played a few other

"I made varsity as a second string guard. Considering I weighed only 120 pounds this was quite unusual."

schools. It was then I sustained my only serious football injury in three years of playing. I got smacked in the face by a fellow student from the Gray team which diviated the septum in my nose. I never got the nose fixed because a fellow student warned me the operation would be too painful; and not worth it. Since then I have been able to breath okay with one nostril partially blocked.

During my senior year I made the varsity as a second string guard. Considering I weighed only 120 pounds this was quite unusual. Guards and tackles needed to be big and strong. Bill Boardman, a friend of mine from Fairfield, one of the players in our sandlot games, also was on the squad as a guard. He might have weighed around 120 pounds too. It is hard to believe but we were able to sneak around (or under) our much larger opponents and harass the quarterback and sometimes make tackles in the backfield.

In our first game—it was away at another New England boarding school, I couldn't believe it when early in the games



Berkshire School 1948 varsity football team. Charles Sutton is in the second row, far right.

the coach, a Mr. Beatie, told me to go in at right guard. I thought I would be mostly warming the bench, or as it was at practice, a member of the team the varsity practiced against. As it turned out I played in all the games for that season and was rewarded with a Varsity Letter B. At age 17 that made me quite happy.

When I went onto Cornell there was an opportunity to play 150-pound football. This was like the midget team of old, but at the college level. I decided not to try out as

I thought schedule was full having joined a fraternity and was a member of the Naval ROTC. I eagerly went to many of the Cornell varsity games.

That was the end to football until years later when many collage and pro games were shown on television—better and better reception year after year. I might have watched more, but the revelation of about how bad head injuries were just took the fun out of the game. The better helmet with its face guard—that came too late for me—sadly just falls short of the goal line.

A morning's walk is a blessing for the whole day.
HD Thoreau

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October Events at Merck Forest & Farmland Center

Autumn has come to Merck Forest and Farmland Center. There are plenty of family-centered fun activities and events, or you can just enjoy a stroll around the farm, or an invigorating hike along our 30+ miles of trails.

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.

Felting Workshop. October 13, 1-3 p.m. This will be a class in Basic Felting for teens and adults, and wool-wrapped castile soap scrubbies will be the project. Fee: \$30. Includes materials for up to three scrubbies. Please call to register.

Full Moon Hike. October 20, call for time. We'll hike out to view the Hunter Moon. This hike will be of moderate difficulty and will take place weather-permitting. Remember your headlamp/flashlight, snacks & water. Fee: \$5 per person.

Super Saturday Volunteer Workday. October 22, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Many happy favorite memories are made as teams of volunteers work together on projects up on the farm or in the woods. This time we'll pick a project and get our hands dirty with our volunteer friends—join us, won't you?

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

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

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

By Design

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



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

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

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

—BILL FELKER



photo by Merck Forest and Farmland Center
Draft Horses munch on hay in a sunny fall field at Merck Forest and Farmland Center in Rupert, VT.

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Enjoy Dead Creek Wildlife Day on October 6th



A young visitor meets a little owl up close at the Dead Creek Wildlife Day in Addison, VT.

photo by Tom Rogers, VT Fish & Wildlife Dept.

If you enjoy wildlife be sure to make plans to attend the 17th annual Dead Creek Wildlife Day in Addison, VT on Saturday, October 6th.

Activities at Dead Creek Wildlife Day appeal to people who enjoy hunting, fishing, birdwatching, or learning about Vermont's diverse wildlife.

The event will be held at the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department's Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on Rt. 17 west of Rt. 22A.

Early risers can begin the day with a bird banding demonstration at 7 a.m. Two large tents at Dead Creek WMA headquarters will open at 9:30 a.m. featuring wildlife-related exhibits and activities such as decoy carving, building bluebird boxes and wildlife photography.

The Dead Creek Visitor Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with displays about conservation and wildlife management in Vermont.

A highlight of the festival is always the live critters where visitors can see snakes, turtles, owls, and more up close and learn about their ecology.

There is a youth waterfowl

calling contest with prizes and a wildlife photography clinic. Nature walks, illustrated talks, hunting dog demonstrations, fishing and hunting tips, and much more will be held until 4 p.m. All events are free, and a free shuttle bus will provide regular access to nearby field events throughout the day.

"There's nothing quite like Dead Creek Wildlife Day," said Amy Alfieri, manager of the Dead Creek WMA. "The activities are fun; the demonstrations are very exciting and the setting is beautiful. Visitors love to see the live animals and working dogs and the kids love to build their own blue bird box to take home. With the visitor center operational, there are many ways for people to experience and learn about Vermont's wildlife."

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

For more information and a schedule of events, visit Vermont Fish & Wildlife's website (www.vtfishandwildlife.com) and check under Watch Wildlife.

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Snow geese land at the Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area in Addison, VT on their way south for the winter.

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Time with the Cousins

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

For a number of years now on the last Saturday in July, most of my nine first cousins—the offspring of the children of Claude Delos Gibbs, born in Hubbardton in 1877, and his wife Sarah Fish Gibbs—gather at my house, The Manse, in Castleton, VT. We get together to celebrate being cousins and being Gibbsses.

We had our first Cousins' Weekend nearly fifty years ago in the middle of winter, and we held that in East Barnard at our three Paige-Gibbs cousins' farm. We stayed overnight. We made snowmen, sledged down the hillside by the pond, and after our potluck supper stayed up late playing poker, Monopoly, and Risk.

For this year's summer weekend, the cousins arrived mid-morning. Half of us live in Vermont, one cousin lives in New Hampshire, one in Maine. And one, years ago, went off to Peru to do missionary work.

We first sat and drank coffee and talked about our parents, the aunts and uncles who always stayed closely connected. Then we drove out to Castleton Corners to the Homestead, our grandparents' house from the 1930s until the early 1950s.

Aunt Alma bought the house after they died and spent her summers here for years. At the end of her life—thanks

"I was carried, a newborn in a picnic basket, from the hospital to this house, and lived there for a time."

in large part to the Alma Gibbs Donchian Foundation—it became Castleton's 'Homestead' Seniors' Center.

I was carried, a newborn in a picnic basket, from the hospital to this house, and lived there for a time. With the other older cousins, I can remember it in the 1940s when the life of the house was probably very close to life as it was lived fifty years earlier.

My grandfather had farmed in Hubbardton, and later became a rural mail carrier. This job gave him security and a dependable income. After he bought his Castleton Corners home, he treated it as a farmstead.

He had an acre garden and cows and chickens. Cousin David says he also had a pig, and I once remember a pig-butchering, which is an event that stays in the mind.

Directly across busy Route Four, there's a one-time-pasture, now a pretty meadow. When Aunt Alma owned the house, in order to block a view of Dunlop's blackened, ramshackle barn, she planted rows of white pines. I remember those seedlings being put in, and now they've grown so tall they block, not the view of the long-gone barn, but of scenic Birdseye Mountain.

This Cousins' Weekend, we all hiked the new, quarter-mile, senior-exercise trail along the meadow perimeter and beneath these now-towering pines. The land to the south drops away abruptly here—we knew that from our childhoods. Through the tree branches there's a glint of the Castleton River far below and railroad tracks bound for New York City.



Cousins planting flowers at Claude Delos Gibbs's grave in Hubbardton, VT. photo by Mary Rehlen

Back across the road at the Homestead, framed photos of the weddings of the aunts and uncles hang on the living room walls, and I was overwhelmed with a feeling for the room as it once had been, with my grandfather's reading chair by the coal stove and a table with a goldfish bowl – containing a goldfish that, seemingly untended, thrived for years.

There was an early television set behind the hall door with only one channel on which I never saw anything but 'Freddy Freihoffer' Baked Goods ads and Glens Falls fur coat fashion shows.

We cousins walked from room to room, everyone with memories—mine of my grandmother and the acolyte-aunts out in back on summer days grouped around the Maytag wringer washer, pegging up sheets on clothes lines that stretched around the yard.

I remembered my aunt bathing infant cousin Emily in the kitchen sink, and across the room my father sitting with my grandfather in rocking chairs drawn up to the coal range.

I remembered the winy smell of apples heaped in a dark stone bin at the bottom of the cellar stairs, the slate set tubs (laundry tubs) in the back pantry, and the black, prickly, horsehair sofa in the parlor where when he died my grandfather was laid out, a scene so overwhelmingly sad, I had to run from the room.

After our tour of the Homestead—all of us now carrying spades, trowels, geraniums and day lilies—we cousins headed for a steep, rutted, track hidden behind the Hubbardton Town Garage and leading to the hill-top cemetery where generations of Gibbsses are buried.

Later, back here at the Manse in the late afternoon, when it was almost time for everyone to head home, we formed up to make our yearly restaged, old-age-version of the Ritual Pyramid.

Once, back in 1961, when all of us had been visiting Aunt Alma at our grandparents' house, someone had suggested it. We'd pushed in together, and climbed up onto each other's shoulders, never realizing how iconic this would one day be.

It had been merely a chance for Cousin Sandra to use her new Brownie Hawkeye camera, just a picture of all of us larking around on a sun-filled, end-of-summer afternoon.

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

To Autumn

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness!

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

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?

Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers;

And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
Steady thy laden head across a brook;
Or by a cider-press, with patient look,
Thou watchest the last oozings hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river shallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-crickets sing; and now with treble soft
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft;
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

— JOHN KEATS
London, England 1795-1821

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Stowe Foliage Arts Festival
October 5-7, Topnotch Field, Stowe

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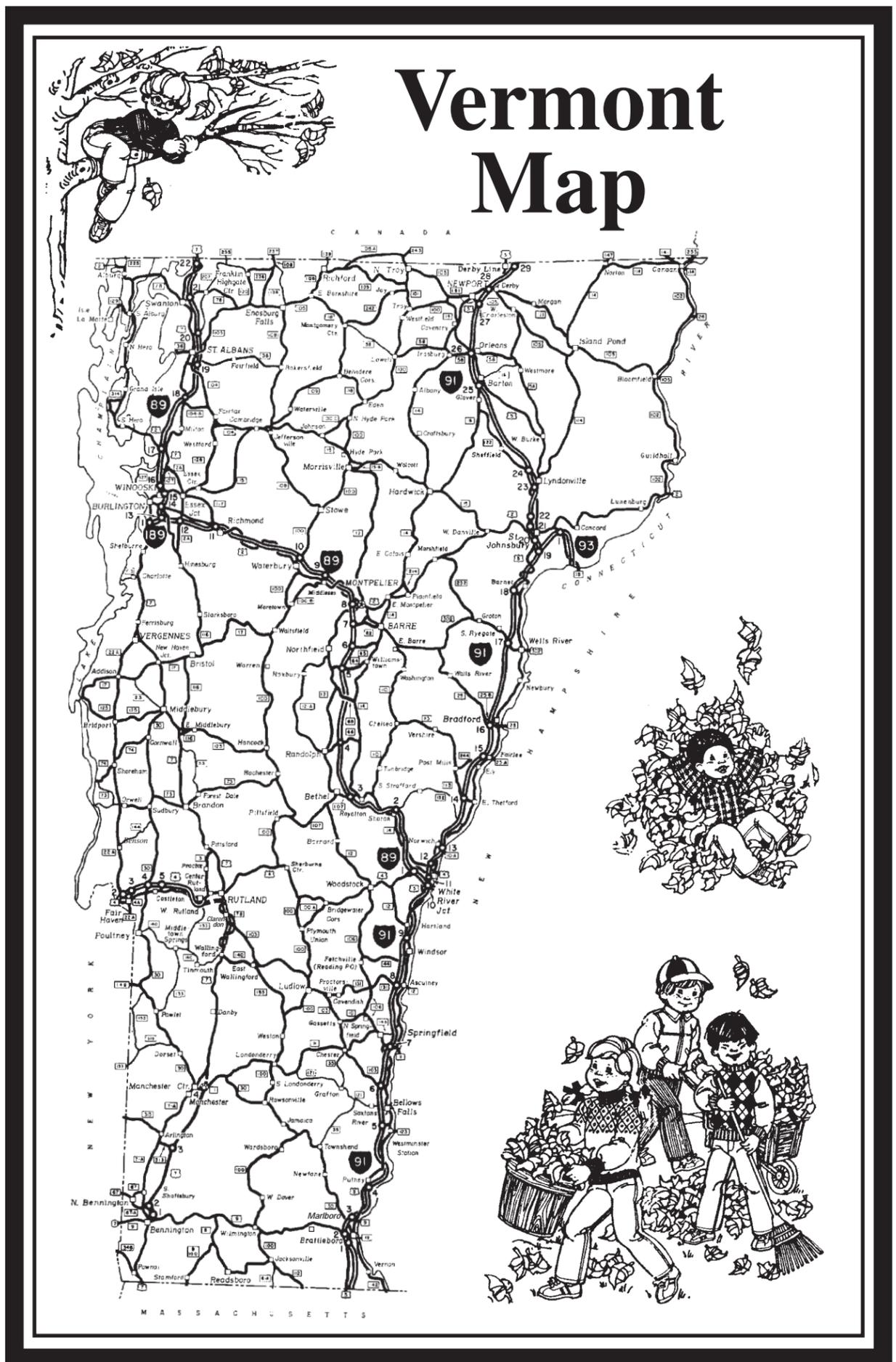
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End of Season Sale!

Vermont Country Calendar

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

CASTLETON. Concert. Vermont Symphony Orchestra: "Made in Vermont." Works by Mozart, LaRocca, Haydn and Brahms. Internationally renowned violinist Soovin Kim performs in addition to conducting the ensemble. Tickets: adult \$25, age 6-17 \$10, 5 and under free. 7:30 pm. Castleton University Fine Arts Center. (802) 864-5741. vso.org.

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." The exhibition will open with a free artist's reception for the public from 5:30-7:00 pm. Wine, Trout River craft beer, and light refreshments will be served. Great Hall, One Hundred River St. (802) 885 3061. bob@springfielddevelopment.org. ninajamison150@gmail.com. *September 27 through March 30, 2019.*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

MANCHESTER. 35th Annual Fall Art and Craft Festival. 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.*

RUTLAND. The Vermont Theatre Lab Presets Candide. Music by Leonard Bernstein. Tickets \$20-\$25. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org.

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. *Thru September 30.*

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

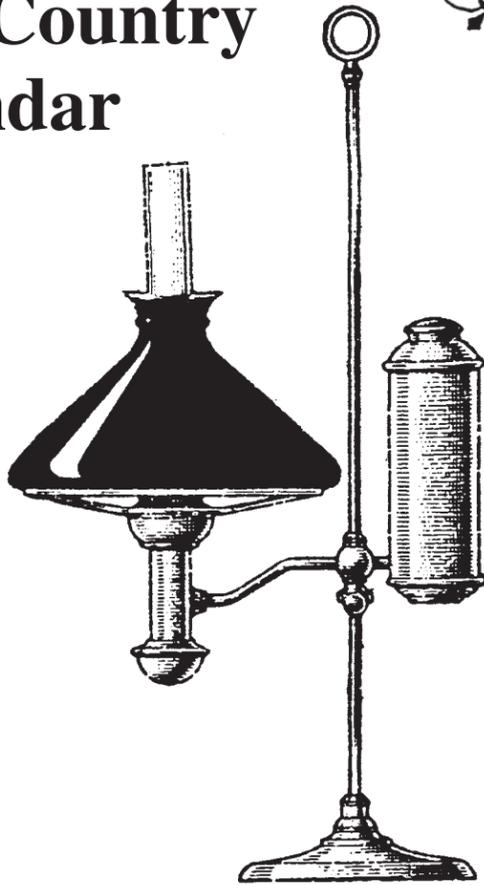
COLCHESTER. Class for Using Family Tree Maker 2017. Family Tree Maker is a powerful and popular genealogy software program. In this presentation, Peter Crosby will provide an overview of Family Tree Maker 2017 (FTM 2017), its organization and how to navigate within the software discussing various windows 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, October 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 & 28.*

EAST BURKE. 31st Annual Fall Foliage Festival. Over 70 vendors on the Green. Parade at 10 am. 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. 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. 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. \$10 daily, weekend pass \$12, kids free. 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. jandbofvt@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. 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 performs and conducts. 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, Rt. 7 South. (802) 259-2123. modelrailroadsbyjohn.com.

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

SMUGGLERS' NOTCH. AppleFest. 9 am - 5 pm. Smugglers' Notch Resort, 4323 Rt. 108 South. (888) 328-0892. smuggs.com. *Also September 30.*

SO. BURLINGTON. Apple Tasting and Orchard Tour. Come for a tour and tasting during peak harvest season with orchard research technician Jess Foster and learn more about this iconic Vermont crop. Fee: \$10. 10 am - 1 pm. UVM Horticulture Center, 65 Green Mountain Dr. info@friendsofthehortfarm.org. friendsofthehortfarm.org.

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. 8 am - 5 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. 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 - 5 pm, rain or shine. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. vtsheepandwoolfest.com. *Through September 30.*

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

WOODSTOCK. Billings Pumpkin & Apple Celebration. Apple tasting, cider pressing, pumpkin bowling, making pumpkin and apple ice cream, and cooking apple butter. 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.*



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Vermont Country Calendar

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.

DERBY LINE. Concert. Vermont Symphony Orchestra: "Made in Vermont." Works by Mozart, LaRocca, Haydn and Brahms. Internationally renowned violinist Soovin Kim performs in addition to conducting the ensemble. Tickets: adult \$25, age 6-17 \$10, 5 and under free. 7:30 pm. Haskell Free Library and Opera House. (802) 864-5741. vso.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 Rd. ScottFarmVermont.com.

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, 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.

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. \$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.

MARSHFIELD. Marshfield Harvest Festival. Face painting, cider pressing, pop-corn popping, arts and crafts, field games. Music by Cold Country Bluegrass. Book sale, bake sale, horse and wagon rides, yard sale, craft sale, 50/50 raffle. 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.

RUTLAND. Concert: Three Dog Night. Legendary music icons celebrate their fourth decade with songs like "Mama Told Me (Not To Come)", "Joy to the World", "Black and White", and "One". Tickets \$55-\$75. 7 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org.

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

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.

STOWE. Tenth Annual Vermont Pumpkin Chuckin' Festival. Celebrates the sport of "chuckin'" pumpkins, using a do-it-yourself constructed trebuchet or gravity-powered catapult. Cash, prizes, trophies. Music by House Dunn and John Smyth, chili cook-off, cornhole tournament. \$10 to enter; + \$10 to enter cornhole tournament. 11 am – 4 pm. Stoweflake Mountain Resort & Spa, 1746 Mountain Rd. (603) 630-4800.

STRAFFORD. 19th-Century Apple & Cheese Harvest Festival. Live farm animals, make cider in an antique press, period games and crafts. Heirloom apples, cheeses, ice cream, homemade apple pie. Face painting, live music, apple pie contest. Fairy village, hiking, Valley Quest, ric 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. 11 am – 3 pm. Admission: \$10. Stratton Mountain Base Lodge, 5 Village Lodge Rd. (800) 787-2886.

TUNBRIDGE. 30th Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival. Admission: \$6, seniors \$5, under 12 \$1. 10 am – 4 pm, rain or shine. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. vtsheepandwoolfest.com.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Pumpkin & Apple Celebration. 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.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 1

WALDEN. Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage Festival in Walden. 9 am registration, coffee & donuts at Walden Church. Visit with crafters. Meet artisans at their home businesses. Homemade soup and sandwich lunch. Musical entertainment. Barbecued Beef Supper, family style: mashed potatoes, veggies, rolls and home-baked pies, beginning at 5:30 pm. For supper reservations call (802) 793-5011. For information on the day of the event, call (802) 563-2265. nekchamber.com.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

CABOT. Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival in Cabot. Tours 9 am – 1 pm. Corn chowder and chili lunch at the Cabot Church 11:30 am – 1 pm. Turkey supper, seatings at 5 pm and 6:15 pm. Meal reservations: (802) 563-2715. Performance at 7 pm by Danza del Fuego, Romani-inspired music, admission by donation. (802) 563-3338. cabotvermont.org. nekchamber.com.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Sally Pinkas with the Adaskin String Trio perform Brahms's plus music by Bridge and the recently rediscovered French composer Jean Cras. Tickets: \$14-\$25. 7 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

PLAINFIELD. Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival in Plainfield. Coffee hour at 9 am and registration at Grace United Methodist Church. Foliage tours at 10 am and 1 pm. Quarries, Owl's Head and Plainfield village tours available on a self-guided basis. Cafeteria-style luncheon from 11:30 am – 1 pm, \$6. Barbecued Chicken, Mostaccioli and Baked Bean Supper at 5 & 6 pm, \$14. For reservations call (802) 454-7301 or (802) 454-8306. nekchamber.com.



Making cider on a century-old cider press on the Belmont Green during the annual Cider Days.

Mount Holly, VT

Cider Days On the Belmont Green October 6th & 7th

Come to the Belmont Green in Mount Holly, VT on Saturday, October 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Sunday, October 7 from 12-4 p.m. for the annual Cider Days.

Imagine watching fresh cider being made on a century-old press and then enjoying a cup of that cider (hot or cold) with home-baked apple pie or crisp topped with ice cream or Crowley Cheese. You don't have to imagine it. Come to Belmont and take it all in along with wonderful fall colors, fresh cider for sale by the gallon, food and crafts vendors and more.

The Soupers—Mt. Holly Elementary School students and their hand-made soup bowls—are a treat. Special Cider Days aprons for sale.

Cider Days, sponsored by the Mount Holly Community Association (MHCA), builds on a community tradition of local residents bringing

their apples to the green to be pressed by neighbors—originally on a hand-cranked press. It's still a hands-on process, but the century-old press used today does have an engine. And you don't have to bring your own apples. They are provided, right from the trees at Brown's Orchard in Poultney, VT.

Browse among hundreds of books at the library's used book sale. The Mount Holly Museum, located next to the green, will be open.

On Saturday, stick around for a roast beef dinner, seatings at 5 & 6 p.m. (\$12 for adults, \$5 for children).

To get to Cider Days, turn toward Belmont, VT at the flashing light on Rt. 103 or turn at the Belmont sign from Rt. 155. Head up the hill, find a place to park and stroll through Belmont Village to the Green.

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Vermont Country Calendar

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

LUDLOW. Ninth Annual Big Buzz Chainsaw Carving Competition. 10 am – 6 pm. Jackson Gore Resort Ice House, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. (508) 965-3211. barre.pinske@gmail.com. *Through October 8.*

MONTPELIER. Play: *Disappearances*. A teen and his larger-than-life father set out to save the family farm by running Canadian whiskey in prohibition-era Vermont. Recommended for ages 10 & up (infants & toddlers not admitted). Friday & Saturday evenings \$30, Thursdays & Matinees \$25, Youth 11 & under \$10. Lost Nation Theater, 39 Main St. (802) 229-0492. lostonationtheater.org. *Thursdays—Sundays, October 4 through October 21.*

PEACHAM. Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival in Peacham. Arts and Crafts Sale. Exhibits at Blacksmith Shop, Roller Barn, and Peacham Historical House. Library book sale. Scenic bus tour. Lunch at Peacham Elementary School, 11 am – 1:30 pm, \$8. Northern Skies Observatory. Ghost walk at the church at 2 pm. Alan Greenleaf concert 4-6 pm (by donation). Italian Supper, seatings at 5 & 6:30 pm, adults \$12, children \$5, under 6 free. (802) 592-3320. nekchamber.com.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Play: *Dear Elizabeth*. The story of the beautiful and bittersweet friendship between Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell. Thursday–Saturday 7:30 pm, Saturday matinee 2 pm. Northern Stage, Barrette Center for the Arts, 74 Gates St. (802) 296-7000. *October 4-12 and 24-28.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

BARNET. Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival in Barnet. Pancake breakfast 8-11 am. Arts and Crafts. Free bus tour at 10 am. Soup and sandwich lunch. European coffee hour 1-4 pm. Ham dinner 4-6 pm. (802) 633-2242. (802) 633-4397. nekchamber.com.

GREENSBORO. Concert: North Sea Gas. One of Scotland's most popular folk bands. 7:30 pm. Main Stage, Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St. (802) 533-2000. highlandartsvt.org.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Arturo O'Farrill and the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra. Tickets: \$17–\$50. 8 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

LUDLOW. Ninth Annual Big Buzz Chainsaw Carving Competition. 10 am – 6 pm. Jackson Gore Resort Ice House, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. (508) 965-3211. barre.pinske@gmail.com. *Through October 8.*

RUTLAND. Ninth Annual United Methodist Church Chocolate Festival and Silent Auction. 300 items from local businesses and artisans, and gift certificates. Sampling of decadent chocolate desserts, continuous bidding throughout the evening. Door prizes. Admission: \$5. 6–9 pm. Holiday Inn, 476 Rt. 7 South. (802) 773-2460.

RUTLAND. Performance: Thunder From Down Under—Girl's Night Outback. Chiseled bodies, seductive dance routines, cheeky humor, and boy-next-door charm. 18+ only. Tickets: \$29–\$49. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org.

WESTON. 35th Annual Weston Craft Show. 10 am – 5 pm. Weston Playhouse. (802) 336-0083. westoncraftshow.com. *Thru October 7.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

BARRE. Annual Rocktober Fest Granite Festival. Adults \$5, children \$3, family \$10. 10 am – 4 pm. Granite Museum, 7 Jones Brothers Way. (802) 476-4506. agelessp@gmail.com. vtgranitemuseum.org.

BARNET. 15th Annual Rubber Ducky Derby. Tours of the mill. Kid's table. Food, fun for all. Rental of duck: \$5, or a quack pack of 5 for \$20. 10 am – 3 pm. Ben's Mill. (603) 653-3046. lgahea1308@gmail.com. www.bensmill.com.

BENNINGTON. Sixth Annual Oktoberfest. Admission: \$8, under 12 free. 11 am – 5 pm. Historic Colgate Park, Rt. 9 West. (802) 845-641-6007. norshaftlions.org.

BURLINGTON. Concert: Twisted Pine celebrates New Dreams EP. Steeped in traditional music, these musicians are also fearless, tuneful improvisers and passionate lovers of pop. Show is 18+. Tickets: \$8. 7 pm. Club Metronome, 188 Main St. (802) 658-4771. clubmetronome.com. signaturesounds.com.

CHESTER. "Christmas Under the Tent" Sale. Holiday items. Bake sale, raffle, free hot dog lunch. 10 am – 3 pm. Chester Andover Family Center, 908 Rt. 103. (802) 875-3236. *Also October 7.*

DANVILLE. 16th Annual Autumn On The Green. Over 100 artisans & crafters. Demonstrations, live music and delicious food. American Society of Dowsers free demonstrations. Gourmet wraps, salads, soups & stews, BBQ pulled pork, burgers, dogs, and some of the best fries around. Free Admission. 10 am – 4 pm. Danville Town Green, Route 2. (802) 684-2247. (802) 473-2284. autumnonthegreen.org.

ENOSBURG FALLS. Fall Family Fun Day. Visit the farm and feed and pet the goats. Free. 10 am – 2 pm. Boston Post Dairy, 2061 Sampsonville Rd. (802) 933-2749. bostonpost@bpd.comcastbiz.net. bostonpostdairy.com.

GROTON. Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival in Groton. Lumberjack Breakfast. Library book sale. Peter Paul Historical House tours. Great Pumpkin weigh-in. Parade at 1:30 pm. Old-fashioned hymn sing at the Methodist Church, 8 pm. World Famous Chicken Pie Supper, serving times 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 pm. Tickets: adults \$12, under 12 \$5, reservations required. (802) 584-3020. nekchamber.com.

HUBBARDTON. Deep Sky Astronomy Night. Enjoy the autumn colors, the sun and sliver of moon before they set, and the wonders of deep space. The Green Mountain Astronomers share their telescopes and knowledge. Bring a flashlight and blanket. Call to confirm. Admission by donation. 5:30–10 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.

LUDLOW. Ninth Annual Big Buzz Chainsaw Carving Competition. 10 am – 6 pm. Jackson Gore Resort Ice House, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. (508) 965-3211. barre.pinske@gmail.com. *Through October 8.*

MANCHESTER. Imagining the Dog's Point of View. Alexandra Horowitz describes her research into the perceptual and cognitive abilities of our faithful companions, and the dog's impressive sense of smell. Tickets: \$20. 2–3:30 pm. Burr and Burton Academy, 57 Seminary Ave. (802) 867-0111. greenmtacademy.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Concert. Vermont Symphony Orchestra: "Made in Vermont." Works by Mozart, LaRocca, Haydn and Brahms. Internationally renowned violinist Soovin Kim performs in addition to conducting the ensemble. Tickets: adult \$25, age 6-17 \$10, 5 and under free. 7:30 pm. Mahaney Center for the Arts. (802) 864-5741. vso.org.

MOUNT HOLLY. Annual Cider Days. Fresh cider made on a century-old press, home-baked apple pie or crisp topped with ice cream. Fresh cider by the gallon, food and crafts vendors, library book sale, and more. The Soupers, Mt. Holly Elementary students' hand-made soup bowls. Visit the Mt. Holly Museum. Saturday roast beef dinner, seatings at 5 pm and 6 pm (adults \$12, children \$5). Saturday 10 am – 4 pm, Sunday 12 noon – 4 pm. Belmont Green. *Also October 7.*

NEWFANE. 48th Annual Newfane Heritage Festival. Over 90 Juried arts, crafts and specialty products. Live music, homemade apple pie and great food. Flea tent full of great bargains. Free Admission. 10 am – 4 pm. On the Common, in the Village of Newfane, Vermont Route 30. (802) 365-4079. newfaneheritagefestival.org. *Through October 7.*

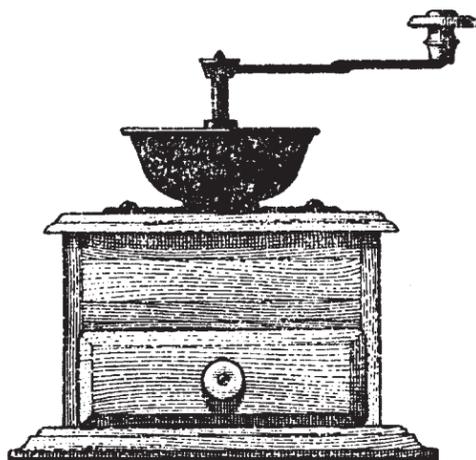
PLYMOUTH NOTCH. Antique Apple Fest. Tour the heirloom orchard. Cider pressing, wagon rides, historic farm & craft demonstrations, barbecue & harvest treats, cheese making, guided tours of the Cheese Factory. 10 am – 4 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773.

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

RUTLAND. 57th Annual Art in the Park Fine Art & Craft Festival. 10 am – 5 pm. Main Street Park, Corner of Rt. 4 & Rt. 7. (802) 775-0356. www.chaffeeartcenter.org. *Also October 7.*

RUTLAND. Eighth Annual Dancing with the Rutland Stars. Fundraising event benefits Kids on the Move and the Pediatric High-Tech program of the Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of the Southwest Region. Tickets: \$45, \$25. 7 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org.

SHOREHAM. Annual Harvest Festival, Celebrating our 20th Anniversary! Live music by Luminous Crush. NOFA Pizza oven, cocktails by Stonecutter Spirits. Scavenger hunt. First 500 people pick apples for free. 10 am – 4 pm. Champlain Orchards, 3597 Route 74 West. (802) 897-2777. champlainorchards.com.



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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, October 6, continued)

SHOREHAM. 10th Annual Farmall Hill Antique Field Days. Antique, tractor and horse demos. Games, demonstrations, and displays of all types of equipment. Held on the James' property at 695 Doolittle Rd., 1 mile east of VT Rt. 22A and the Halfway House Restaurant. (802) 897-2075. farmallhill.org. *Through October 7.*

SPRINGFIELD. Vermont Apple Festival and Craft Fair. Over 60 vendors filling the gym, cafeteria, and outside grounds. Pony rides, apple cider making, farmer's market, amusement rides, train for both kids and adults, kids' races, pie eating contest. Free. 9 am – 4 pm. Riverside Middle School. facebook.com/vtapplefest.

ST. ALBANS. Fourth Annual St. Albans Oktoberfest. 2-6 pm. 14th Star Brewing Company, 133 N Main St, # 7. (802) 527-7933. stamuseum.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Fall Festival. Live music. Bounce house, door prizes, food, dog contests, and more. Free. 12-4 pm. Rain or shine. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. (802) 748-3075. info@dogmt.com. dogmt.com.

STOWE. 36th Annual Stowe Foliage Arts Festival. Admission: adult \$10, adult weekend \$12, Kids free. 10 am – 5 pm. Topnotch Field. craftproducers.com. *Also Oct. 7.*

STRATTON. Brewfest. More than 100 regional and Vermont breweries to sample. Ages 21 and over only; all ages allowed in the venue to enjoy live music, chili cook-off and activities. Tickets: \$39, includes ten 4 oz sample pours, one 7 oz tasting glass. 12 noon – 6 pm. Main Base Area, Stratton Mountain Resort, 5 Village Lodge Rd. (800) 787-2886.

TINMOUTH. Art and Craft Show. 9 am - 4 pm. The Old Firehouse, Mountain View Rd. vtjohnson@cloud.com. On Facebook.

VERGENNES. Dead Creek Wildlife Day. Wildlife demonstrations and guided nature walks. Displays and wildlife exhibits including the new black bear cub display. Live critters. Waterfowl calling contest. Decoy carving. Hunting dog handling. Fishing how-tos. Wildlife photography tips & tricks. Building bluebird boxes. Face painting. Nature art and crafts. Free. 9:30 am – 4 pm. Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, 966 Rt. 17. (802) 759-2398.

WAITSFIELD. Green & Gold Weekend. Foliage lift rides on "The Single" chairlift. Mad River Glen, 57 Schuss Pass Rd. (802) 496-3551. *Through October 7.*

WEST DOVER. 45th Annual Harvest Arts & Crafts Show & 21st Annual Oktoberfest. 50+ vendors including local artisans, specialty food makers and more. Original works of art, handmade jewelry and furniture, homemade fudge. Free admission. 10 am – 5 pm. Main Base Lodge and base area, Mount Snow Resort, 39 Mount Snow Rd. (802) 464-4203. *Also October 7.*

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. 38th Crossroads Postcard & Stamp Show. 24 dealers with stamps and postcards. Sponsored by the Upper Valley Stamp Club. Free exhibits, free admission, free parking. 9 am – 3 pm. Mid-Vermont Christian School Gym, 399 W. Gilson Ave.

WILMINGTON. Evening Wagon Ride & Farm-to-Table BBQ. Evening wagon ride pulled by an antique John Deere Tractor around the perimeter of the farm. Explore bear caves. Log cabin farm-to-table BBQ with farm-raised meats: burger, chicken, or sausage; two side salads, corn bread, dessert, and drink. Bonfire with s'mores. Reservations required. 5:30 pm. Adams Family Farm, 15 Higley Hill Rd. (802) 464-3762. adamsfamilyfarm.com.

WOODSTOCK. Harvest Weekend. Husking bee and barn dance, plus 19th century harvest activities for the entire family. Pressing cider, preserving apples, threshing grain, and making ice cream. Help dig potatoes and other root crops and learn how crops are "put up" for the winter. Shelling beans and 19th century games. Hot-spiced cider and homemade doughnuts for all! 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.

WOODSTOCK. Apples & Crafts Fair. Admission: \$4, 12 & under free. Saturday 10 am – 5 pm, Sunday 10 am – 4 pm. Bailey's Meadow, Rt.4 west of town. (802) 457-1502. woodstockrec.com. *Also October 7.*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7

CHESTER. "Christmas Under the Tent" Sale. Holiday items for decorating, entertaining and gift giving, including toys, gifts, items for your holiday table, artificial trees, Christmas cards and decorations. Bake sale, raffle, free hot dog lunch. 9 am – 1 pm. Chester Andover Family Center, 908 Rt. 103. (802) 875-3236.

CHESTER. Fall Foliage Train Rides from Chester to the Summit in Ludlow. Three-hour round-trip with narrations, lunch menu, cocktail or hot apple cider. Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday departing at 10 am and 2 pm, and Saturday at 10 am. Tickets: adults \$25, 12 and under \$20, under 3 free. Green Mountain Railroad, 563 Depot St. (800) 707-3530. passenger@vrs.us.com. trainridesvt.com. *Thru October 21.*

DANVILLE. Autumn on The Green. Over 100 artisans & crafters. Musicians play from the bandstand. Demonstrations by the American Society of Dowsers, a blacksmith, chair maker, and wood turner. Delicious food. Pope Library chicken and biscuit lunch. Free. 10 am – 4 pm. Danville Town Green. (802) 626-851. info@travelthekingdom.com. autumnonthegreen.org.

DUMMERSTON CENTER. Annual Apple Pie Festival. Fresh cider, Grafton cheese, hand-cranked ice-cream, whole pies and slices of delicious apple pie. 9:30 am – 4 pm. Dummerston Congregational Church, intersection of the East-West Rd. and Middle Rd. (802) 257-0544.

DUMMERSTON. 16th Annual Heirloom Apple Day. Heirloom apple talks & tastings at 10 am, noon, & 2 pm with Zeke Goodband, PYO. Dry stone wall tours, kids' activities, food vendors. Heirloom apple cider available in recyclable glass jars. 9 am – 5 pm Scott Farm Market: heirloom apples, frozen pies, Vermont cheeses, other locally made products. Oven-fired pizza. Hard cider samplings and bottles for sale. Free. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. events@scottfarmvermont.com. scottfarmvermont.com.

EAST THETFORD. 16th Annual Pumpkin Festival. Horse-drawn wagon rides, pumpkin picking, live music, storytelling, kids' activities, cider pressing, and organic food concessions. Hay bale climb, press cider, worm colonies, raptors from VINS, face painting. Suggested donation: \$10-\$15 per car. No pets, please. Rain or shine. 11 am – 5 pm. Cedar Circle Farm, Pavillion Rd., just off of Rt. 5. cedarcirclefarm.org.

HUBBARDTON. 21st Annual Mount Zion Hike. Enjoy the autumn colors and sweeping views of the battlefield. Wear sturdy shoes, dress for the weather, and bring water. Meet at the visitor center. 1:30-4:30 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.

LUDLOW. Ninth Annual Big Buzz Chainsaw Carving Competition. 10 am – 6 pm. Jackson Gore Resort Ice House, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. (508) 965-3211. barre.pinske@gmail.com. *Also October 8.*

MOUNT HOLLY. Annual Cider Days. Fresh cider made on a century-old press, home-baked apple pie or crisp topped with ice cream. Fresh cider by the gallon, food and crafts vendors, library book sale, and more. The Soupers, Mt. Holly Elementary students' hand-made soup bowls. Visit the Mt. Holly Museum. Saturday roast beef dinner, seatings at 5 pm and 6 pm (adults \$12, children \$5). Saturday 10 am – 4 pm, Sunday 12 noon – 4 pm. Belmont Green.

2018/2019 SEASON

October 2018 Shows



MICHAEL FRANTI & SPEARHEAD

Sunday, October 7 / 7:00 pm



An Evening with Branford Marsalis

Saturday, October 20 / 8:00 pm



FRIENDS! The Musical Parody

Tuesday, October 23 / 7:30 pm

Plus LIVE from The Met

Aida: Verdi *Encore* Sunday, October 14 | 12:55 pm

Samson et Dalila: Saint-Saens *New/Encore* Sunday, October 21 | 12:55 pm

La Fanciulla del West: Puccini *Encore* Sunday, October 28 | 12:55 pm



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Depot Park, Rutland, VT
(Next to Walmart)

Every Saturday, 9 am – 2 pm

— Through October 27th —

Every Wednesday, 3–6 pm

— Through October 24th —

Fair Haven Market at Fair Haven Park

— Thursdays, 3-6 pm, through October 25th —

vtfarmersmarket.org



Vermont Country Calendar



PERU. Auchmoody Wood Carving Creations. Watch Peter Auchmoody of Brattleboro carve logs into bears, hearts, and more. Free. 1-4 pm. Bromley Mountain, 3984 Rt. 11. (802) 824-5522.

PITTSFORD. Pittsford Sheep Festival. Local craft vendors, felters and spinners. Sheep shearing demonstrations. Sheep dog handling demonstrations. Children's craft activities. The Leaping of the Lambs: sheep run through an obstacle course. Live music. Food for sale. 11 am - 4 pm. Pittsford Recreation Area, off Furnace Rd. (802) 342-3176. vermontshepherds.com.

RANDOLPH. Concert: Cellist Matt Haimovitz will perform the Bach Cello Suites and a selection of commissioned, contemporary overtures to Bach. Tickets: adults \$45, students \$15. 7:30 pm. Main Hall, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. 57th Annual Art in the Park Fine Art & Craft Festival. 10 am - 5 pm. Main Street Park, Corner of Rt. 4 & Rt. 7. (802) 775-0356. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

RUTLAND. Concert: Michael Franti & Spearhead—Stay Human Tour. World-renowned musician, filmmaker, and humanitarian, recognized as a pioneering force in the music industry. Tickets: \$58.50-\$78.50. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org.

SHOREHAM. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont's Apple Days. Games, healthy snacks, and a Blue Apple Hunt for prizes. Fill a free "Pick-a-Peck" apple bag with your favorite varieties. Free. 11 am - 3 pm. Champlain Orchards, 3597 Rt. 74. (802) 371-3205. mcnellyk@bcbsvt.com. bcbsvt.com.

STOWE. 36th Annual Stowe Foliage Arts Festival. Price: adult \$10, adult weekend \$12, Kids free. 10 am - 5 pm. Topnotch Field. craftproducers.com.

WEST DOVER. 45th Annual Harvest Arts & Crafts Show & 21st Annual Oktoberfest. Free admission. 10 am - 5 pm. Main Base Lodge and base area, Mount Snow Resort, 39 Mount Snow Rd. (802) 464-4203.

WOODSTOCK. Harvest Weekend. Features a husking bee and barn dance, plus a variety of 19th century harvest activities and programs for the entire family. Hot-spiced cider and homemade doughnuts will be on hand for all! 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.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8

BRANDON. Swing Dancing Classes with David Allan. Bringing a partner recommended but not required. Cost: four-week series \$45, couple \$75. Pre-registration requested. Beginner class 6:30-7:30 pm, intermediate class 8-9 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. info@brandon-music.net. brandon-music.net. Mondays, October 8, 15, 22, & 29.

LUDLOW. Ninth Annual Big Buzz Chainsaw Carving Competition. 10 am - 6 pm. Jackson Gore Resort Ice House, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. (508) 965-3211. barre.pinske@gmail.com.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9

GREENSBORO. Madelaine Kunin Reading. Former three-term governor of Vermont comes to the Highland Center for the Arts to read from her newest book, a memoir entitled *Coming of Age: My Journey to the Eighties*. Free. 7 pm. Performance Studio, Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St. (802) 533-2000. highlandartsvt.org.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10

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.

STOWE. Concert: Arlo Guthrie—Alice's Restaurant—Back by Popular Demand Tour. Arlo and his son Abe with longtime collaborators Terry Hall (drums), Steve Ide (guitar, vocals) and Carol Ide (vocals, percussion). Arlo's daughter, Sarah Lee Guthrie, opens the show. Tickets: \$45-\$95. 7 pm. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center. (802) 760-4634. sprucepeakarts.org.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

RANDOLPH. Concert: Guitarist Jorma Kaukonen and bassist Jack Cassidy—the fearsome, longtime duo known as Hot Tuna. Tickets: \$85 VIP, \$55, \$47, \$40. 7:30 pm. Main Hall, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12

BURLINGTON. Lane Series Concert: Haitian-American cellist Leyla McCalla, accompanied by her roots-influenced band, singing in French, Haitian Creole, and English. Tickets: adult \$25. 7:30 pm; pre-show talk with artists at 6:30 pm. UVM Recital Hall, 392 South Prospect St. (802) 656-3131. uvm.edu/laneseries.

HANOVER, NH. Lea Delaria Live in Concert: Orange Is the New Black's Big Boo. Adored actress, comedian, singer and gay icon delivers side-splitting comedy and bravura jazz vocals. Tickets: \$27-\$60. 8 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

TINMOUTH. Concert: Cosy Sheridan, singer-songwriter. Love songs for adults, backed by her distinctive, percussive bluesy-gospel guitar 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. tinmouthvt.org/events.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

BARRE. Fur Fest Auction. to benefit Central Vermont Humane Society. Inspiring stories, hearty hors d'oeuvres, delicious desserts and live & silent auctions. Tickets: \$35. 5-8 pm. Vermont Granite Museum. (802) 476-3811 x 110. linnea@centralvermonthumane.org. centralvermonthumane.org.

BURLINGTON. Concert: David Bowie's Blackstar, performed by The Ambient Orchestra featuring Maya Beiser, cello. Tickets: \$15-\$58. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (802) 863-5966. flynncenter.org.

A Vagabond Song

There is something in the autumn that is native to my blood—
Touch of manner, hint of mood;
And my heart is like a rhyme,
With the yellow and the purple and the crimson keeping time.

The scarlet of the maples can shake me like a cry
Of bugles going by.
And my lonely spirit thrills
To see the frosty asters like a smoke upon the hills.
There is something in October sets the gypsy blood astir;
We must rise and follow her,
When from every hill of flame
She calls each vagabond by name.

—BLISS CARMAN
New Canaan, CT 1861-1929

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, October 13, continued)

RANDOLPH. Concert: Myra Flynn. Randolph-born R&B and soul chanteuse with her hot, emotionally charged, full band FLYNN. Tickets: adults \$27, students \$15. 7:30 pm. Main Hall, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

RUPERT. Felting Workshop. Basic felting for teens and adults. Wool-wrapped castile soap scrubbies will be the project. Fee: \$30, includes materials for up to three scrubbies. Please call to register. 1-3 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (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.

SHELBURNE. Annual Terrific Tractors Day. Big tractors, little tractors, trucks, and many other farm machines. Antique farm machines, Town of Shelburne's big trucks. All for kids to climb. Free with admission to the Farm: adults \$8, seniors \$6, kids \$5, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. (802) 985-8686. shelburnefarms.org.

SPRINGFIELD. Open Studio Weekend in Springfield. Information Center at Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St., exhibiting the work of 165 artists, 10 am - 5 pm. Photographer Jeffrey Spring will talk about photography and his work, 1-3 pm. Exhibit: Healing, The Transformative Imagery of Art, at the Great Hall, 100 River St., 10 am - 5 pm. Beer tasting at Trout River Brewery and food truck, 12 noon - 5 pm by the Great Hall. vermontcrafts.com. galleryvault.org.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Fall Open Studio Weekend. Bright yellow signs compete with oranges and reds of October along Vermont's roads enticing visitors to the studios of craftspeople and fine artists across Vermont. The Fall Open Studio Map is available throughout the state at Tourist Information Centers, galleries and studios. It will also be available on the VCC website. 8 am - 5 pm. www.vermontcrafts.com. Also October 14.

TOWNSHEND. Townshend Pumpkin Festival. Over 60 vendors offering crafts, art, food, and lots of pumpkin pie. Locally grown apples and fresh pressed apple cider. Pumpkin decorating contest, Halloween costume parade, scarecrow decorating contest, free pony rides for children. 9 am - 4 pm. On the Common at the intersection of Route 30 and 35. facebook.com/townshendpumpkinfestival.

WINDHAM. Six Seasons of Gardening - A Master Gardener Conference. Sponsored by UVM Extension. Fees \$35-\$50 including lunch. Fourth Corner Foundation, 578 Hitchcock Hill Rd. (802) 656-9562. mastergardener@uvm.edu.

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Weekend. Narrated horse-drawn wagon rides around the Billings' fields during the height of fall foliage; farm programs and activities. Included with admission: 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. Also October 14.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

CABOT. Apple Pie Festival. Apple pie baking contests, crafts, silent auction, apple pies, and chili. Luncheon. Sponsored by Cabot Historical Society. 9 am - 3 pm. Cabot School Gym. (802) 563-3396. cabothistory.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. (802) 254-6868. ScottFarmVermont.com.

JAY. Eighth Annual Bean and Brew Festival. Coffee and beer sampling, live music, lawn games. Music includes Roughhead Blenny & Hoopla. Tickets: \$20, includes pint glass and twelve tickets for sampling. 12 noon - 6 pm. Stateside Base Lodge, Jay Peak. (802) 327-2596. lsussdorff@jaypeakresort.com. jaypeakresort.com.

SHOREHAM. Horse & Wagon Rides through the orchard. 12 noon - 3 pm. Champlain Orchards, 3597 Route 74 West. (802) 897-2777. champlainorchards.com.

SPRINGFIELD. Open Studio Weekend in Springfield. Information center at Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St., exhibiting the work of 165 artists, 10 am - 5 pm. Photographer Jeffrey Spring will talk about photography and his work, 1-3 pm. vermontcrafts.com. galleryvault.org.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 15

BURLINGTON. Performance: Here's The Thing. Alec Baldwin, with special guests Ben Cohen & Jerry Greenfield, gives the listener unique entrée into the lives of artists, policy makers and performers. Tickets: VIP \$137, remaining seats \$53. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-5966. flynncenter.org.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16

BURLINGTON. Concert: Rumours of Fleetwood Mac - 40 years of Rumours. The ultimate tribute to one of rock and roll's most remarkable groups. Tickets: VIP \$153, \$49.25/\$38.75/\$28.25. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (802) 863-5966. flynncenter.org.

FAIR HAVEN. Charter Day. Presentation: "Ethan's (Allen) Black Sheep Brother" by Vincent Feeney of the Vermont Humanities Council. Free. Refreshments served. 7 pm. Fair Haven Library, 107 North Main St. (802) 265-3010 x 8. lorfrabr@icloud.com.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

BURLINGTON. Performance: Rock of Ages. It's the end of the '80s on the Sunset Strip and resident rock god Stacey Jaxx is taking the Bourbon Room's stage one last time. Tickets: \$25-\$75. 8 pm. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (802) 863-5966. flynncenter.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 13th Annual Nightmare and Spookyville Vermont. Live stage combat, theatrical story line, interactive scares and special effects. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 6-10:30 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 355-3107. nightmarevermont.org. Oct. 20 & 25-27.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

BARRE. Celebration Series Concert. Tusk, the number one Tribute band to Fleetwood Mac in the world. 8 pm. Barre Opera House. City Hall, 6 N. Main St. (802) 476-8188. barreoperahouse.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. Author Appearance. Archer Mayor talks about his newest Joe Gunther mystery novel, *Bury The Lead*. Free. 7 pm. Village Square Booksellers, 32 The Square. (802) 463-9404. villagesquarebooks.com.



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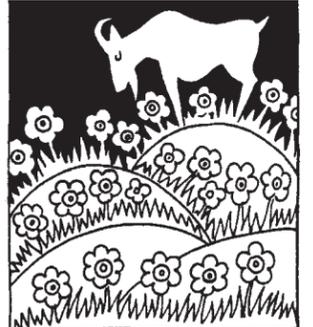
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Vermont Country Calendar

ESSEX JUNCTION. 13th Annual Nightmare and Spookyville Vermont. Live stage combat, an original theatrical story line, interactive scares and special effects. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 6-10:30 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 355-3107. nightmarevermont.org. Also October 20 & 25-27.

PITTSFORD. Halloween Costume Party. To benefit the Maclure Library. Music, cash bar, prizes, 50/50 raffle. Tickets: \$25 per person. 7 pm - 12 midnight. Redfield's bar and grill at the Proctor/Pittsford Country Club. (802) 483-2972. contact@maclurelibrary.org. maclurelibrary.org.

RANDOLPH. Concert: "Turn Turn Turn." The Vanaver Caravan folk music and dance troupe pays homage to Pete Seeger on the 100th anniversary of his birth. Tickets: \$42, \$34, \$27. 3 pm. Main Hall, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

ST. ALBANS. Homecoming Celebration for Capt. George Parker Conger's Ceremonial Sword. Accompanied by a variety of related artifacts. Brief program on the history of this unique sword, light refreshments, exhibits open for tours. Free. 5:30-7:30 pm. Saint Albans Museum, 9 Church St. (802) 527-7933. stamuseum.org.

TINMOUTH. Tinmouth Contra Dance. Hot dance with Guillaume, Ness and Clara, and Ron Blechner calling. Tickets: \$10. 8-11 pm. Tinmouth Community Center. (802) 446-2928. tinmouthcontradance.org.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

DUMMERSTON. Second Annual Kingston Black Hard Cider Festival. Sample six or more Kingston Black hard ciders, with local food pairings. Book signing with Ben Watson, author of *Cider Hard and Sweet*. Admission: \$20 per person aged 21+, includes commemorative tasting glass. 12 noon - 4 pm. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. events@scottfarmvermont.com. scottfarmvermont.com.

EAST POULTNEY. 16th Annual Horace Greeley Writers' Symposium. Fee: \$85, students \$20. 9 am - 5 pm. United Baptist Church, On the Green. www.horacegreeleyfoundation.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 13th Annual Nightmare and Spookyville Vermont. Live stage combat, an original theatrical story line, interactive scares and special effects. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 6-10:30 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 355-3107. nightmarevermont.org. Also October 25-27.

GREENSBORO. Concert: Eileen Ivers. "The Jimi Hendrix of the violin." Tickets \$10-\$40. 7 pm. Main Stage, Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St. (802) 533-2000. highlandartsvt.org.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Jeh Kulu African Drum and Dance Theater. Free, no tickets required. 11 am. Alumni Hall, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

RUPERT. Guided Full Hunter's Moon Hike. Moderate difficulty, weather-permitting. Bring headlamp/flashlight, snacks, and water. Fee: \$5. 6-8 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

WARDSBORO. Concert: Dan Frechette and Laurel Thomsen. Cost: \$10, includes concert & refreshments and benefits Wardsboro Fire and Rescue. Doors open 6:30 pm. Wardsboro Town Hall Café, 71 Main St. www.wardsborocourtaincall.net.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

BRATTLEBORO. Concert: George Winston, piano. Tickets: \$36. 7 pm. Latchis Theatre, 48 Main St. (802) 748-2600.

DUMMERSTON. Workshop: Heirloom Apple Pies, with pastry chef Laurel Roberts Johnson. Learn to make flaky pie dough and bake an apple pie with our heirlooms. Take home your pie, extra dough, and a tote of heirloom baking apples. Fee: \$50; registration required. 10 am - 1 pm. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868.

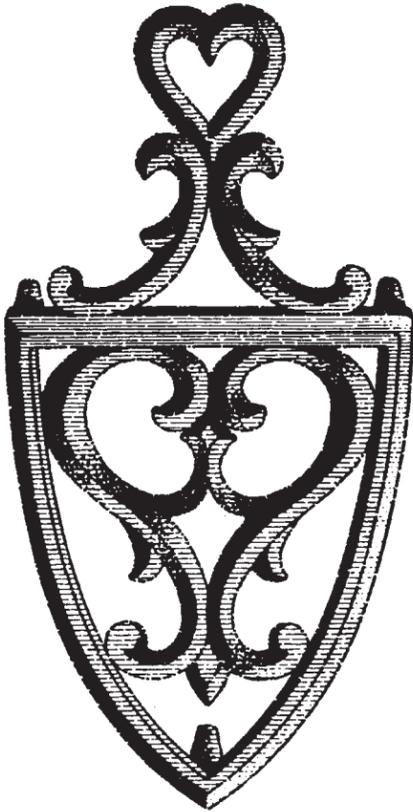
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Youssou Ndour. African superstar singer-songwriter and activist and his innovative band bring rousing musical synthesis. Tickets: \$17-\$50. 7 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

RUTLAND. Musical: *Friends! The Musical Parody*. Hilarious new musical that lovingly lampoons TV's *Friends!* Tickets: \$35 orchestra seating only. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.org.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25

BARRE. Celebration Series Concert: Black Violin. Classically-trained violist Wil B and violinist Key Marcus combine classical backgrounds with hip-hop influences to create a distinctive multi-genre sound that they describe as "classical boom." 7:30 pm; student matinee earlier in the day. Barre Opera House. City Hall, 6 N. Main St. (802) 476-8188. barreoperahouse.org.



ESSEX JUNCTION. 13th Annual Nightmare and Spookyville Vermont. Live stage combat, theatrical story line, interactive scares and special effects. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 6-10:30 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 355-3107. nightmarevermont.org. Thru Oct. 27.

ST. ALBANS. Talk: "The Devil's Cabinet: The Story of the Eddy Family of Spirit Mediums" with Jason Smiley. Free. 7-8:30 pm. Saint Albans Museum, 9 Church St. (802) 527-7933. stamuseum.org.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

ESSEX JUNCTION. 38th Annual Essex Fall Craft Show. Admission: \$8 (\$5 with coupon). 12 noon - 6 pm. Robert E. Miller Expo Centre. vtcrafts.com. Through October 28.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 13th Annual Nightmare and Spookyville Vermont. Live stage combat, theatrical story line, interactive scares and special effects. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 6-10:30 pm. Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. (802) 355-3107. nightmarevermont.org. Also October 27.

TICONDEROGA, NY. Maze by Moonlight. Explore the six-acre corn maze designed in the shape of the Fort, using your flashlight. Search for hidden stations in the Engineer a Fort Maze Quest. Cost: \$10. 7 pm; last ticket sold at 9 pm, maze closes at 10 pm. Fort Ticonderoga, 100 Fort Ti Rd. (518) 585-2821. info@fort-ticonderoga.org. fortticonderoga.org. Through October 27.

TINMOUTH. Concert: Extra Stout. Irish singing, whistling and fiddling. 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. tinmouthvt.org/events.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

BELLOWS FALLS. Fourth Annual Chowder and Chili Cookoff. Sample yummy chowder & chili and vote for your favorite. \$5/person. Serving: 12 noon - 3 pm. Judging: 3-4 pm. Start at the Flat Iron and make your way around downtown shops. (802) 463-4280. bfdda@sover.net.

BENNINGTON. Fallpalooza. Store-to-store trick-or-treating. In-store specials all day. Roaming railroad rides. Gift and food vendors. Children's activities. Live entertainment. Medieval combat demonstrations. Pumpkin carving and decorating. Four Corners North activities. 11 am - 3 pm. betterbennington.org.

BURLINGTON. Halloween Express Party and Train Ride. Pre-boarding party one hour before departure time: games, music, and dancing with popular costumed characters. Take pictures of your children with their favorite characters. Hour-long Halloween Express Train: story time with cookie and juice, popular costumed characters and more. Cost: \$25-\$29; children under 1 year old share a seat with an adult at no extra charge. 9 am - 4 pm. Main Street Station, 1 Main St. (802) 872-9000. info@halloweenexpressvt.com. halloweenexpressvt.com. Also October 28.

DUMMERSTON. 11th Annual On-the-Farm Apple Harvest Dinner. Five-course meal showcases our delicious heirloom apples and cider and other local foods prepared by Chef Tristan Toleno. BYOB. Tickets: \$50, registration required. 6-8 pm. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. events@scottfarmvermont.com. scottfarmvermont.com.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 38th Annual Essex Fall Craft Show. Admission: \$8 (\$5 with coupon). 9 am - 5 pm. Robert E. Miller Expo Centre. vtcrafts.com. Also October 28.

Rutland, VT

9th Annual Chocolate Festival

The Rutland United Methodist Church will be holding its 9th Annual Chocolate Festival and Silent Auction on Friday, October 5, 2018 at the Holiday Inn in Rutland, VT from 6-9 p.m.

Admission is \$5 and may be purchased in advance or at the door. A ticket includes a sampling of numerous decadent chocolate desserts, along with a bidding number to participate in the continuous bidding throughout the evening. Door prizes will also be awarded.

There will be approximately 300 pieces on display to bid on, including many attractive and useful items from local businesses and

artisans, and gift certificates. Stop by and start your holiday shopping!

The fundraiser will help to support local organizations and programs for those in need in our area, including an emergency fund for people directly asking for help from the church.

Thanks to the generosity of businesses and auctioneers, this annual event has contributed over \$90,000 to our neighbors in need.

The Holiday Inn is located at 476 US Route 7 South in Rutland, VT. For more information call (802) 773-2460. rutlandumc@aol.com. www.rutlandumc.com.



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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, October 27, continued)

ESSEX JUNCTION. 13th Annual Nightmare and Spookyville Vermont. Live stage combat, an original theatrical story line, interactive scares and special effects. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 6-10:30 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 355-3107. nightmarevermont.org.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Dartmouth College Gospel Choir—Dartmouth Sings. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 8 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

MIDDLEBURY. Concert: Kittel & Co. American fiddler, violinist, and composer. Tickets: \$22, youth \$10. 7:30 pm. Mahaney Center for the Arts, Robison Hall, 72 Porter Field Rd. (802) 443-3168.

MONTPELIER. The Poe Spooktacular. Costume contest with great prizes, decadent desserts and a great dance party with the 21-piece LC Jazz Big Band. Tickets: \$20-\$25. 8 pm doors open; 8:30 pm A Little Piece of Poe; 9 pm dancing to LC Jazz; 9:45(ish) pm costume contest; 10-11 pm more dancing. Lost Nation Theater, 39 Main St. (802) 229-0492. lostnationtheater.org.

RANDOLPH. Performance. Vitaly: An Evening of Wonders. This master illusionist has mystified fans the world over. Tickets: adult \$38, student/child \$15. 7:30 pm. Main Hall, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. 59th Annual Halloween Parade. Lineup at 5:30 pm, parade at 6:30 pm. Parade Route: Madison St. & Strongs Ave. to Wales St., left to West St., left onto Merchants Row ending at the plaza. (802) 773-1822. www.rutlandrec.com.

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

SO. POMFRET. Hallow-Grange. Pumpkin carving outside at the Grange Theatre, 2 pm free. Warm cider, doughnuts and halloween candies. Movie: "Hocus Pocus" 4 pm, \$5. Movie: "The Shining", 7 pm, \$5. 2-9 pm. The Grange Theatre, 65 Stage Rd. (802) 457-3500. artistreevt.org.

ST. ALBANS. Fourth Annual "Haunted Museum" Trick-or-Treat. Costumes encouraged. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Free, bring a non-perishable donation for our food shelf. 12 noon - 2 pm. Saint Albans Museum, 9 Church St. (802) 527-7933. stamuseum.org.

WARDSBORO. 16th Annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival and Gilfeather Turnip Contest. Gilfeather turnip soup and turnip recipe tastings at the Turnip Café, outdoor soup kiosk, farmer's market, craft vendors, turnip seeds. Gilfeather Turnip Cookbook. Tee shirts, turnip-theme gifts, live music and entertainment. Free admission. Rain or shine. 10 am - 3 pm. At Town Hall and The Big Tent, all on Main St. (802) 896-9490. friendsofwardsborolib.org.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

BURLINGTON. Halloween Express Party and Train Ride. Pre-boarding party one hour before departure time: games, music, and dancing with popular costumed characters. Train ride an hour in duration: story time with cookie and juice, popular costumed characters and more. Cost: \$25-\$29; children under one year old share a seat with an adult at no extra charge. 9 am - 4 pm. Main Street Station, 1 Main St. (802) 872-9000. info@halloweenexpressvt.com. halloweenexpressvt.com. Also October 28.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 38th Annual Essex Fall Craft Show. Admission: \$8. 10 am - 4 pm. Robert E. Miller Expo Centre. vtcrafts.com.

NORWICH. English Country Dance. Dances taught by David Millstone. Music by Thal Aylward (violin and viola), Carol Compton (piano and recorders). All dances taught 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 November 11, December 9.

SHELburne. Haunted Happenings. Dress up in your most playful costumes to trick-or-treat on the grounds of Shelburne Museum. Spooktacular games, food, music, and more. 10 am - 1 pm. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. shelburnemuseum.org.

WATERBURY. Haunted Horns: Vermont Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet Family Halloween Concert. Come in costume. Enjoy wacky, scary, mysterious, and fun favorites in this 50-minute performance. Parade of costumes; everyone gets a treat. 2 pm. Waterbury Congregational Church. (802) 864-5741. vso.org.

WOODSTOCK. A Family Halloween. Doughnuts-on-a-string, pumpkin carving, Halloween tales, wagon rides, and lots more. Costume parades at 12 pm and 2 pm. Children in costume admitted free when accompanied by an adult. 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.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEST HARTFORD. Heublein Tower Pre-Halloween Hike. 5-6 miles. Wear orange if you have it. Fall-themed snacks are always a hit. Dogs on leashes welcome. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club. 9:30 am - 2:30 pm. Meet at parking lot to northeast of Reservoir Number 6 off Rt. 44 in W. Hartford near water pumping station at 9:30 am. Leader: Jim Robertson, (860) 633-7279, (860) 519-8310. jrobert685@aol.com. greenmountainclub.org.

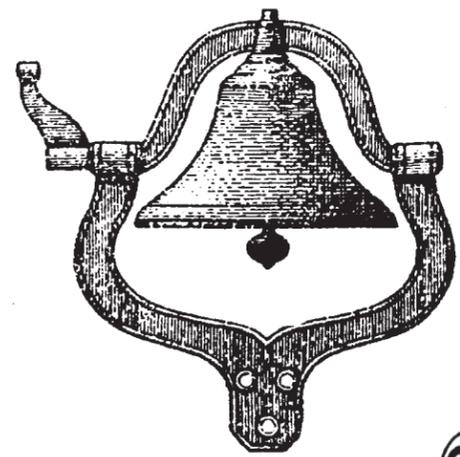
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31

BURLINGTON. Spooky Campfire Stories for Kids. Kids ages 6-12 and their parents are invited to gather around their campfire for some of our favorite outdoor spooky stories. Free. 5-6 pm. 101 Cherry St. (888) 615-9973.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2018

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Admission: adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open Wednesday-Sunday and Monday holidays, 10 am - 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 Rt.17W. (802) 759-2412. historicites.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.



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Long Ago and Far Away

Between Your Heart and Your Memory

by Elisabeth Doren O'Kane

The last time I drove by the old farmhouse where I grew up, there was a swimming pool in the front yard and a new porch, and a wide driveway reaching over to the narrow strip of land where we used to plant wildflowers, along with many other signs of progress.

But my mind's eye is blind and still sees the old porch and the wildflower garden across the road. Yes, even the orchard reaching up to the old family graveyard where we played as children, being careful not to step on the ground where the bodies lay, but still studying the names on the stones enclosed within that sturdy fence. There rested our great grandmother and great grandfather, and a son who died at 19 and a boy of 10, who was our father's brother. These dead were, for us children, a great mystery. In another century they had lived and worked this same farm, and were closely related to us, yet we never knew them. That little family cemetery looms large in my early memories.

I have written about the events of my childhood, the farm where I grew up, my father and mother, my ponies, my pigs, my chickens, all those little personal things that meant so much to me.

Apparently they meant something to a few other people, too. When my older daughter came east to visit me from California, she wanted to see these scenes from my childhood. She had a great curiosity about them. So we took a trip together and visited many places—the old farm, the church, the site of the one-room school—every tangible evidence of my early memories. She craned her neck and squinted and peered at all the landmarks of my journey through childhood.

But what she found in those forgotten homesteads was only the empty chrysalis of a butterfly that took wing for its journey through life. Small wonder my daughter yearned for more! She even asked me to draw a map, marking the site of every event.

But how do you draw a map of a time and place that exists somewhere between your heart and your memory?

Do you turn right at your father's ambition to become a mathematician, and again right when your mother took her large family of little people on a camping trip, and maybe

left when your little sister, the one you played and romped with the most, was laid to rest?

What is the map of your memory's wanderings? And what earthly papyrus do you

draw it on? I think the paper is made of woven cobwebs, and the ink that invisible kind seen only for a short period of time - just a lifetime, perhaps.

Elisabeth Doren O'Kane (1904-1998) wrote when she was in her eighties about her north country childhood of nearly 100 years earlier.



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Vermont Country Calendar

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. Exhibits and dioramas inside the Monument tell the story of the Revolutionary War Battle on August 16, 1777. \$5 adult admission, 6-14 \$1, children 5 and under 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. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Open Through October 31.*

BURLINGTON. Saturday Story Time. Enjoy timeless tales and new adventures with your little ones. Each week, we'll choose a new picture book, a classic or a staff favorite to read aloud together. Free and open to all ages. 11 am. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. phoenixbooks.biz. *Through November 17.*

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! 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. vermontcornmaze.com. *Thru Oct. 14.*

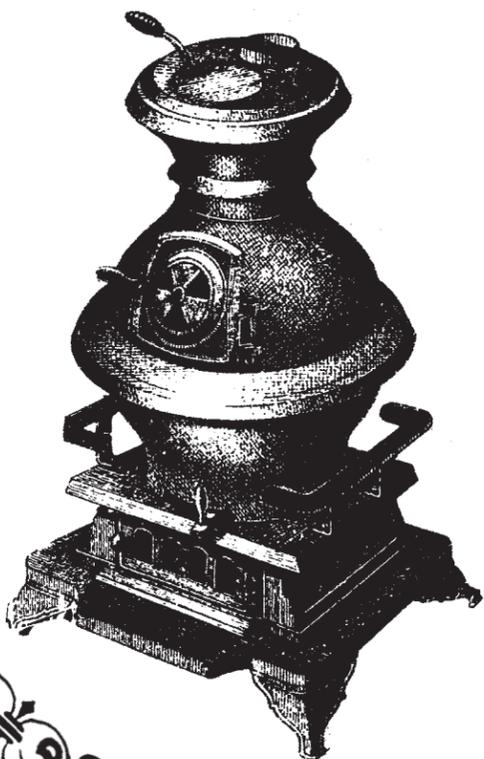
DUMMERSTON. The Scott Farm. 125 heirloom apple varieties & other fine fruits. CSA fruit shares, vegetables, pies, Vermont products, pick-your-own apples, heirloom cider, Thanksgiving pies. Farm market. Baking, preserving & hard cider workshops. Hard cider festival October 20. Harvest dinner October 27. Weddings, vacation rentals. Open daily 9 am – 5 pm. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. ScottFarmVermont.com. *Through November 21.*

ESSEX. Wednesday Story Time. Enjoy timeless tales and new adventures with your little ones. Free and open to all ages. 10 am. Phoenix Books Essex, 2 Carmichael St. (802) 872-7111. phoenixbooks.biz. *Through November 14.*

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.*

ORLEANS. Vermont Reindeer Farm. Come see the only live reindeer in the whole state of Vermont! Many other farm animals to pet & feed. Nature trail, Reindeer games & gift shop. Vermont Reindeer Farm, 3108 Chilafoux Rd (in West Charleston). (802) 754-9583. On Facebook.



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. *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. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 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. Poultnery Public Library, 205 Main St. (518) 282-9089 or (802) 287-5556. poultnerypubliclibrary.com. *Ongoing every Thursday.*

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

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

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Wildlife exhibits, workshops, and special events. Wildlife rehabilitation. 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. 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. Open daily 9 am – 5:30 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. shelburnefarms.org. *Through mid-October.*

ST. ALBANS. Book Cellar—Library Used Book Sale by Friends of the St. Albans Free Library. Tuesdays 10 am - 8 pm. Held in the library basement. St. Albans Free Library, 11 Maiden Lane. (802) 524-1507. stalbanfreeibrary.org.

STRAFFORD. Justin Morrill State Historic Site. Victorian gardens, interpretive exhibits, fairy village and walking trails. 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. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 14.*

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

Orchards

"Orchards are even more personal in their charms than gardens, as they are more nearly human creations. Ornaments of the homestead, they subordinate other features of it; and such is their sway over the landscape that house and owner appear accidents without them. So men delight to build in an ancient orchard, when so fortunate to possess one, that they may live in the beauty of its surrounding. Orchards are among the most coveted possessions; trees of ancient standing, and vines, being firm friends and royal neighbors forever. The profits, too, are as wonderful as their longevity. And if antiquity can add any worth to a thing, what possession has a man more noble than these, so unlike most others which are best at first, and grow worse till worth nothing; while fruit trees and vines increase in worth and goodness for ages."

—Amos Bronson Alcott (1799–1888)

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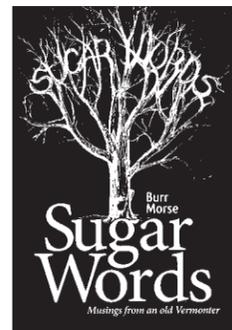
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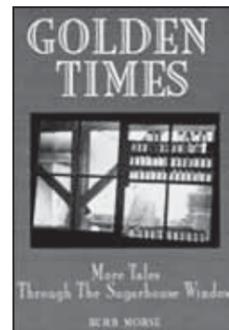
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Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities 2018, continued)

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

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.garymilk.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. historicssites.vermont.gov. *Through October 21.*

WOODSTOCK. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. Vermont's only national park. Tours of historical buildings and grounds hourly from 10 am to 4 pm. Guided tours \$4/\$8, under 15 free. 20 miles of trails and carriage roads open year-round. Walk the grounds free. Park at Billings Farm & Museum. Begin your visit across the street at the Billings Visitor Center, where park rangers are also stationed. Fee: adults age 16-61 \$8, seniors 62 and over \$4, children 15 and under free. Combination ticket with Billings Farm & Museum: adults 16-61 \$20, seniors 62 and over \$16. Reservations for Mansion tours. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368 x 222. nps.gov/mabi. *Through October 31.*

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

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

BARRE. Vermont History Center and Leahy Library. Adults: \$5; families: \$12; students, children, seniors: \$3; members and children under 6: free. Monday through Friday, 9 am – 4 pm. Vermont Historical Society, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500. vermonthistory.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. River Artisans Cooperative. Really Handmade... Really Vermont. River Artisans is the longest continually operating craft cooperative in the state of Vermont. 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. Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students over 18 \$9. 10 am – 5 pm daily 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 off Rt. 7. (802) 247-4295. cmaacvt.org.

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

CENTER RUTLAND. The Rutland Railroad Museum. Housed in the Rutland Depot, built in 1917. See railroad artifacts and historical exhibits including HO & N scale model railroad layouts and a children's layout. Open Saturdays from 11 am – 1 pm. Rutland Railway Association, 79 Depot Lane. For information call John Schaub at (802) 768-8427. info@rutlandrailroadmuseum.org. 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 and open daily during good weather, 8 am – 5 pm. The Hearse House, on Main Street opposite the Town Green. *Open 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. 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. By appointment off-season. Bread and Puppet Farm, 753 Heights Rd., Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. breadandpuppet.org. *Through November 1.*

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Bird walks, special events and exhibits, children's programs, gift shop, video, restrooms and trails. Exhibit: "Common Grounds"—Art in Recognition of 100 Years of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and its conservation consequences. Adults \$7, seniors \$6, children 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.*

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Vermont Country Calendar

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

MANCHESTER. Hildene House Tours of Robert and Mary Lincoln's home. Tours daily at 2 pm with a prior reservation, not recommended for children under 10. \$20 adults; children 6 to 14, \$5; under 6, free. \$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. (802) 362-1788. hildene.org.

MARLBORO. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. Perched on an overlook—on a clear day the horizon is 100 miles away! See mounted specimens of over 600 native New England birds and mammals, a Raptor Center with live hawks and owls, amphibian and reptile exhibit and fall wildflower exhibit. 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. 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. Exhibits through November 11: "Waterfowl Wonders and Amusing Animals, by Three Self-Taught Carvers", Chuck Herrmann, Bill Holway, and Gary Starr. "Doughboys and Flyboys: WWI Stories from the Home and Battlefield". New Outdoor Sculptures: "Big Fish" by Martin McGowan, and "Anyman aka The Head" by John Matuszt. 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 the Ilsley Library. (802) 388-2117. henrysheldonmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Vermont Folklife Center. Gallery, archives & research center, programs, and Heritage Shop. Exhibit through December 31: "Growing Food, Growing Farmers". Researchers Greg Sharrow and Andy Kolovos explore the grass-roots food movement at Boardman Hill Farm, where Greg and Gay Cox have lived and farmed for more than three decades. 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. Vermont Arts Exchange, Train Station, Post Office, Welling Townhouse and 66 Main St. (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. historicssites.vermont.gov. Through October 14.

PLYMOUTH. Tuesday Tales of The Notch. Join site administrator Bill Jenney for a guided tour of Calvin Coolidge's Plymouth Notch. This behind-the-scenes program offers special perspectives about life in an early Vermont hill town. Reservations suggested. 2-3:30 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicssites.vermont.gov. First Tuesday of each month.

READING. Exhibit: *The Solace of Amnesia*. Curated by Alexis Rockman and Katherine Gass Stowe. Approximately twenty-five artists are represented. Admission \$10. Open by appointment Saturday and Sunday for tours at 11 am and 2 pm. Free unguided tours first Fridays from 5-8 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 544 VT Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. vermont@hallartfoundation.org. www.hallartfoundation.org. Through November 25.

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. American folk art and quilts. Home to holdings of decorative arts, design, decoys, and carriages. The paintings collection includes French Impressionists and over 400 18th-20th century American works. Over 20 gardens. Historic houses and community buildings. Adults \$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.

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" 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. 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. www.lcmm.org. Through October 14.

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

WOODSTOCK. ArtisTree Community Art Center. Exhibits, classes, music, special events. Tues 11 am – 8 pm, Wed-Sat 11 am – 4 pm. Mount Tom Building, 1206 Rt. 12. (802) 457-3500. artistreevt.org.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Visit the Jersey herd, draft horses, oxen, and sheep and tour the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House. Admission: adults \$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.



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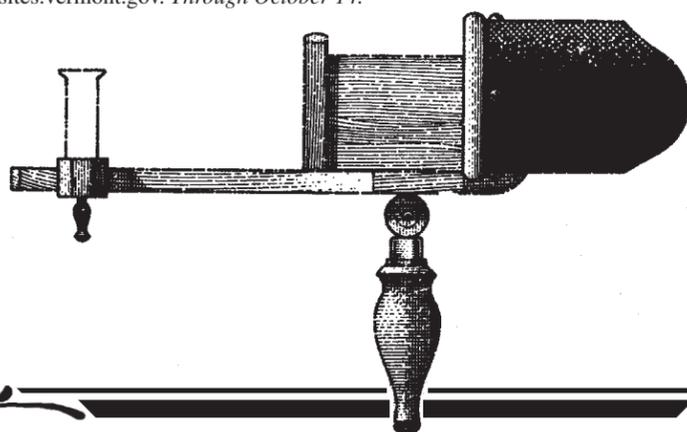
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Historical Perspective—Why Vermont Became a Dairy State

by Roger Allbee

According to historical documents, it was inevitable that Vermont would become a dairy state. It had the soil, climate, and topography that grew grass well. Livestock have the ability to convert this energy to meat or milk. This had already been demonstrated with the livestock that the first group of settlers brought with them after the French and Indian War in 1763.

As towns grew, the demand for products like cheese and butter increased. Farmers used milk produced on the farm to make cheese and butter for their farm families and sold the excess. With the Erie and Champlain Canals, and eventually the railroads, crops and livestock grown on cheaper western lands reached the East and many other products from the land were no longer competitive. They then turned to butter and cheese as a way to increase their income and wealth.

A boom in Vermont butter and cheese

By 1850, St Albans had established itself as the butter capital of the state and region, with many buyers showing up on market day, Tuesday during spring, summer and fall. As many as 300 teams (horse-pulled wagons) laden with butter and cheese would come in from all directions. According to the records, this change happened quickly as very little of dairy produced in Franklin County found its way to Boston or New York prior to 1840. Prior to 1850, dairy was incidental to other things grown on the farm. In 1854, the Vermont Central Railroad commenced running its butter cars, supplied with ice, once a week during summer months, between St. Albans and Boston

Vermont was well suited for butter production, as well as cheese. As noted by a farmer then, "Vermont farms have a substantial hold on their future. The soil, climate, abundance of pure water, the proximity to the markets and growing cities and villages give him facilities for success." Other remarked in 1872 (Vermont Agricultural Report) "that the increased production of grass and hay will necessitate the keeping of more stock, the manufacture of larger quantities of butter and cheese, and what is of equal importance, of a greater amount of manure, the proper application of which will still further increase the production of our meadows, and we are then at once on the road long sought for, that will lead us onward in the path of progress and improvement."

With this growth in demand for butter and cheese, and the need for quality standards and better animal genetics and husbandry, the Vermont Dairymen's Association was formed in 1870. It is said to be one of the oldest in the U.S. There was a recognized need to move away from the common cow. In order to improve their herds, many turned their eyes to Scotland, to Holland, and to the Isles of Jersey and Guernsey, the homes of known dairy breeds. The growth in demand and product production continued, and by 1900 there were 186 creameries and 66 cheese factories in the state. An infrastructure of support businesses existed as well like the Farm Machine Company in Bellows Falls that manufactured farm and dairy equipment (butter churns), and in Montgomery Vermont a mill that turned out 295,000 butter tubs each year, of various sizes.

Many sources of an oncoming struggle

Vermont's reputation and position as a renowned butter state did not last. By 1900, Western competition became acute. In addition, the growth from the newly introduced margarine created new economic threats that resulted in state and federal laws against this imitation product (see Vermont's involvement in the butter and margarine wars at www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com).

In 1910, Dr. Rick Washburn, a professor of dairy husband-



Holstein heifers gather in their pasture in southern Vermont. photo by Nancy Cassidy

ry at the University of Vermont, the Land Grant Institution, stated that "due to Vermont's location, the time is in sight when butter and cheese factories in the state will largely be closed down due to the demand for fluid milk from the cities. The first fluid milk train left Bellows Falls in 1890, resulting in new challenges to dairy pricing from city buyers. This led to the enactment of state and federal laws that encouraged the establishment of farmer cooperatives as a way to bargain for better farm prices.

Many were concerned with this marketing change. For example, Vermont Commissioner of Agriculture E.S. Brigham remarked in 1924, "unless stimulation of dairying in other parts of the country is checked, Vermont farmers may expect competition exceeding that which they have earlier experienced with consequently lower prices."

Longterm economic stability threatened

Today the dairy industry is in a prolonged economic slump, brought on primarily by being tied to a national commodity model of pricing where better farmgate pricing relies on strong foreign demand. Milk production continues to shift toward Western states and to larger farm operations that are capable of taking advantage of economies of scale. This is making it difficult for even the most efficient dairy operations to compete on the world stage where being the lowest cost producer is key to economic sustainability. The decision

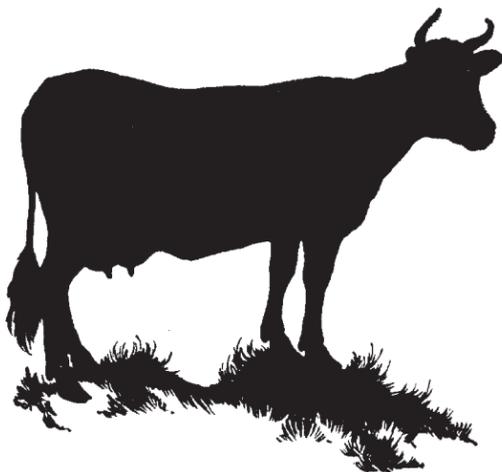
to put tariffs on imported products from Mexico, Asia and other countries key to increased farmgate pricing of dairy only further threatens the longer term economic sustainability of Vermont's iconic dairy sector that is the foundation of agriculture in the state.

Many old timers who had seen the many changes in Vermont agriculture over time stated, in the late 1800's that "only by the use of greater skill and capital by which products shall be cheapened with a quality so superior as to command the highest price in markets can we hope to meet Western competition." Others went on to say, "that the only recourse for New England agriculture to protect her interest in the future, to successfully compete in her best markets with Western neighbors, seems to lie in improving excellence of her products."

The production of products like award-winning cheeses, ice cream, yogurt, organic milk and other specialty items is a recognition of the value of this approach. Also, the continuing emphasis on soil health and clean water relates to the sage advice from those of the past relative to agriculture's hold on its future in Vermont.

Roger Allbee is a former Secretary of Agriculture for the State of Vermont. He does a blog on Vermont's agricultural history and changes since the 1760's at www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com

from The High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire



"Cusha, Cusha, Cusha!" calling,
Ere the early dews were falling,
Farre away I heard her song,
"Cusha! Cusha!" all along;
Where the reedy Lindis floweth,
Floweth, floweth,
From the meads where melick groweth
Faintly came her milking song—
"Cusha! Cusha! Cusha!" calling
"For the dews will soon be falling;
Leave your meadow grasses mellow,
Mellow, mellow;
Quit your cowslips, cowslips yellow;
Come uppe, Whitefoot, come uppe Lightfoot;
Quit the stalks of parsley hollow,
Hollow, hollow;
Come uppe, Jetty, rise and follow,
From the clovers lift your head;
Come uppe, Jetty, rise and follow,
Jetty, to the milking shed."

—JEAN INGELOW
London, England, 1820-1897

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The Barre Opera House Hosts Its 35th Season of Great Concerts

The TD Bank Celebration Series, presented by the Barre Opera House, celebrates its 35th anniversary this year with another great lineup of shows covering a variety of genres.

Saturday, October 19th at 8 p.m. Tusk, the number one Tribute to Fleetwood Mac in the world will perform. No wigs, no backing tracks, no gimmicks, just five musicians recreating the music of Fleetwood Mac to perfection with note for note renditions that no other tribute on the touring scene today can come close to duplicating.

Thursday, October 25th at 7:30 p.m. Classically-trained violist Wil B and violinist Key Marcus perform as Black Violin, combining classical backgrounds with hip-hop influences to create a distinctive multi-genre sound that they describe as “classical boom.”

They’ve performed at three Super Bowls and at President Obama’s inauguration. Black Violin also clinched first prize for Showtime at the Apollo, which was largely responsible for launching their careers. Black Violin will also offer a student matinee earlier in the day on October 25th.

Friday, November 9th at 8 p.m. “The T & T Tour” featuring Tommy Castro and the Painkillers and Tinsley Ellis is a blues lover’s dream. Over the course of his

career, six-time Blues Music Award winner and BB King Entertainer of the Year, Castro, has earned thousands of adoring fans.

Georgia blues/rock legend, Ellis, is one of today’s most electrifying guitarists and vocalists. His most recent release album opened at number one on the Pollstar Blues Charts.

March 16th at 7:30 p.m. Dervish will be performing in Randolph on St. Paddy’s Day weekend. They have brought Irish traditional music to the world for more than 25 years. Called “an icon of Irish music,” by the BBC, the band has played at festivals from Rock in Rio to Glastonbury, toured with the Irish President and struck up tunes on the Great Wall of China. Dervish has a line-up which includes some of Ireland’s finest traditional musicians, fronted by one of the country’s best-known singers, Cathy Jordan.

March 23rd at 7:30 p.m. The Secret Sisters will be performing at the Barre Opera House. They are vocalists Laura Rogers and Lydia Slagle, who developed their enchanting harmonies singing country and church music in their hometown of Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

The Secret Sisters were nominated for a Best Folk Grammy this past year. Brandi Carlile produced their latest CD and they are currently opening her summer

shows. “The sisters’ soaring harmonies sound like a letter found in a closet, nostalgic and classic—yet utterly modern as applied to songs that capture life in our own time.” —*No Depression*.

April 6th at 7:30 p.m. The Barre Opera House 35th season concludes with Bela Fleck and Abigail Washburn. The husband and wife duo’s first album earned the 2016 Grammy for Best Folk Album. They are American treasures—their playing is sweetly paced with melodies interweaving through their intricate, percussive picking, all while Abigail soars above it all with her discerning, yearning voice. “As musicians and as songwriters, Fleck and Washburn are predisposed to embrace the entire world—its sounds and its occupants alike.” —*NPR*

The Barre Opera House also schedules “BOH Presents” shows outside of The Celebration Series. Currently, the following performances are on the schedule:

Friday, October 5th, 8 p.m. Comedian Juston McKinney.

Saturday, October 27th, 7:30 p.m. Session Americana.

Saturday, November 10th, 7:30 p.m. Medium Lauren Rainbow.

Saturday, December 8th, 7 p.m. The Gibson Brothers: A North Country Christmas (bluegrass).

Saturday, February 2,



Black Violin, classically-trained violist Wil B and violinist Key Marcus will perform at Chandler on October 25.

7:30 p.m. Arrival From Sweden (Abba tribute show).

Friday, April 19, 7:30 p.m. The Quebe Sisters (Texas Swing).

Barre Opera House is located at City Hall, 6 N. Main

St. in Barre, VT. For information call (802) 476-8188. www.barreoperahouse.org.

For tickets to all Barre Opera House shows, call the box office at (802) 476-8188 or order online at www.barreoperahouse.org.

barreoperahouse.org. Special discounts are available to students, seniors, people with disabilities and Opera House members. For more info, check our website: www.barreoperahouse.org.



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Eighth generation sugarmaker Doug Bragg tends the fire during sugaring season.

16th Annual Pumpkin Festival at Cedar Circle Farm

The Sunday of Columbus Day Weekend, October 7, marks the ever-popular annual harvest celebration at Cedar Circle Farm & Education Center in East Thetford, VT. Now in its sixteenth year, the Pumpkin Festival offers on-farm entertainment for all ages, with horse-drawn wagon rides, pumpkin picking, live music, storytelling, kids' activities, cider pressing, and organic food concessions.

In addition to ongoing horse-drawn wagon rides to and from the pumpkin patch, kids and families are drawn to the "Circle of Cedars" Enchanted Forest, where master storytellers Tim Jennings and Leanne Ponder of Montpelier, VT present traditional folktales from 10:30 to 11 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. The "one-man troubadour" Stephen Coronella of Putney, VT uses guitar, flute, hammer dulcimer, and hand drums to sing songs and tell stories from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. and 1:45 to 2:30 p.m. Throughout the day kids can also try the hay bale climb, press cider, explore worm colonies, learn about raptors from the Vermont Institute of Natural Science, and have their faces painted!

Stop by the Main Stage to hear the acoustic folk sounds of the Upper Valley's Rose Hip Jam from 10:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. After lunch, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. the high-energy Wyld Nightz Band from southern Vermont hits all the notes with classic rock & roll music that spans many decades.

"The Pumpkin Festival is a beloved annual event in the Upper Valley! Together visitors and community members help us kick off the pumpkin picking season with delicious food, fun and engaging entertainment, and educational activities suitable for kids and adults alike," says CCF Education Manager Eric Tadlock.

Be sure to arrive hungry! The food concessions are open from 11 p.m. to 3 p.m. and feature delicious, farm-fresh organic soups, salads and seasonal desserts prepared by Chef Theo and the Cedar Circle Farm Kitchen crew, along with grilled local meats and veggie burgers. Northeast Organic Farming Assoc. of Vermont returns with their mobile wood-



photo by Rori Kelleher

Kids big and small pick out the perfect pumpkin at Cedar Circle Farm's Annual Pumpkin Festival.

fired oven to offer organic artisan pizzas, as does Griddle and Groovy of East Thetford, serving gourmet grilled cheese and other seasonal eats. The Cedar Circle Farm Farmstand and Hello Café are also open during the festival until 5 p.m.

"The Pumpkin Festival is a great community event. People come out to enjoy the fall splendor, visit with their neighbors, eat good food, and learn about organic farming. It's an ideal time to celebrate the season's bounty," states Cedar Circle Farm's Farm Manager Kate Duesterberg.

The Pumpkin Festival is a "Green Event" with a waste recovery station, which has yielded just two bags of trash for more than 1500 visitors in previous years.

A suggested donation of \$10-15 per car includes parking in designated fields and free admission to all events. Carpooling is encouraged. No pets please. The festival is held rain or shine.

Cedar Circle Farm is a forty-acre certified organic farm, dedicated to "growing for a sustainable future" through the

production of certified organic vegetables and berries, bedding plants, and quality flowers and herbs available in the greenhouses and Farmstand. The farm offers a CSA program, baked goods and Friday Night Dinner Shares from the Farm Kitchen, pick your own berries and pumpkins, educational school programs, summer day camps, and farm tours, as well as cooking classes, and a community harvest festival.

The Farmstand at Cedar Circle Farm is open April 28 through October 31, Monday-Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. From November 1 through December 16 the farm is open Friday: 12 to 6 p.m., Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Special hours: November 19 & 20, 12 to 6 p.m. and November 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Hello Cafe at the Farmstand is open through October 31 then closed till April 26, 2019.

Cedar Circle Farm is located at 225 Pavillion Road along the Connecticut River, just off of Rt. 5 in East Thetford, VT. For details and directions, visit www.cedarcirclefarm.org.

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October In Vermont

The clump of maples on the hill,
And this one near the door,
Seem redder, quite a lot, this year
Than last, or year before;
I wonder if it's jest because
I love the Old State more!

If there was any poppies left,
I guess they'd jest be vexed
To see the hillsides all on fire
Without the least pretext;
Sometimes I think I'm in this world,
And sometimes in the next.

Jest look! the woods are made of trees,
Instead of wholesale green;
Jest see the "wine glass elms" stand out,

With hemlocks in between;
Jest see the birch flags on their staffs
So long and white and clean!

From Killington and Sterling peaks
The flames are pouring down;
The ferns below the pasture woods
Are scorched and dead and brown;
The shoemaker fire-bugs set the blaze
I heard last night in town.

It's kinder more than folks can stand,
This beauty, every year;
The eye that's full can see no more
Until it drops a tear;
It's hard to tell jest where you are,
In paradise or here.

—DANIEL L. CADY, West Windsor, VT 1861-1934



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Not Bad for Some Young Fellas

by Burr Morse

I recently said I was hangin' up the Husky...well I lied! As fate would have it (or more aptly, winter survival), I've spent the summer so far buzzin' up a storm on two trees. Yes, two huge rock maple trees have occupied this ol' guy's spare time for the whole summer of 2018 and will supply our complete heating needs for this coming winter. Here's the story.

Every time we had a wind storm, limbs would fall from those big trees in our yard, a true indication that they were nearing the end of their lives. Luckily neither Betsy nor I ever lost a windshield or worse, our lives, but our luck's been pushed for a few years. The only problem, besides the fact we considered them part of the family, was that our woodshed stood right in the way. I had a tree service come up to look at cutting them from the top down but their quote made my farmer instinct kick in quicker'n a tree falls in the

"Yes, two huge rock maple trees have occupied this 'ol guy's spare time for the whole summer of 2018."

woods. Since the woodshed's getting dilapidated, it made perfect sense to that farmer instinct to simply take it away, and that's just what I did...a quick zipping off of four mostly rotted support posts followed by a ride on our farm bucket loader. Now that woodshed resides safely in another location.

Then I hired my Jack-of-all-trees buddy Paul Cate to come down and fell my old friends because even with the now clear path for both to fall, they both needed to be "persuaded" a bit—falling the wrong way would have wiped out either my house or the power lines. Paul, sixty-eight years old with failing eyesight, is not only tremendous with a chainsaw in his hands but he's also seasoned way up in the treetops. He picked a northward path to fell the first one which necessitated cutting some limbs thirty feet up and fastening a cable. This he did with the dexterity of a monkey, a monkey carrying a chainsaw and wearing a well stocked tool belt. At the other end of the cable would be my brother Tick with his tractor and winch.

When it was finally time to fell the monolith, Paul buzzed on the bottom, stopping occasionally to insert and tap in plastic wedges. These he knew would help, but the real persuasion would come through a signal to Tick for a perfectly-timed pull from his winch. When the time came, Paul made his signal, the winch strained mightily and, like the final labored thrust in an arm wrestling match, down it came. Paul was able to fell the second tree with the aid of just wedges, occasional hammer whacks, and expert strategy.

Once down, the two ancient hulks lay silent, awaiting my summer-long "fitness" sessions of buzzing, bucking, and busting off chunk after chunk. The stacking, though, was my true joy. In this old guy's humble opinion, there's no greater



Road through an autumn woodland in central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

beauty in this world than a well-stacked woodpile. It stands as both a true memorial to long lives departed and an aid to future survival. RIP old friends and thanks for the warmth!

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Wild Swans

I looked in my heart while the wild swans went over.
And what did I see I had not seen before?
Only a question less or a question more;
Nothing to match the flight of wild birds flying.
Tiresome heart, forever living and dying,
House without air, I leave you and lock your door.
Wild swans, come over the town, come over
The town again, trailing your legs and crying!

—EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY
1892-1950, Austerlitz, NY



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North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

Autumn Leaves, Apple Time, and Halloween

Fall is in the air and we are on the cusp of one season ending and another beginning. Part melancholy, part mirth, autumn is a time that stirs excitement but also beckons to us to hunker down for the impending dark time of the year. We need to gather our nuts, get our mittens and scarves ready, and find a few good books to see us through. Here are a few suggestions for this time of transition.

We'll soon be seeing flocks of birds heading south for the winter. But what happens to birds that may be injured or too weak to fly? In this tender animal rescue story, *The Lion and The Bird* by Marianne Dubuc (\$17.95. *Enchanted Lion Books*. www.enchantedlionbooks.com) a kind-hearted lion finds such a bird with an injured wing in his garden. While bandaging the bird's wing, he notices its companions are all flying in a V-formation headed south. "Don't worry!" the lion says. "You won't be cold here. You are welcome to stay with me." And he takes his friend to his tiny round-house dwelling.

The twosome will spend the winter sharing meals and sitting by the fire at night while lion reads a story. After the snows come, they head out for ice fishing and tobogganing. The small bird is always wrapped up warmly, and at night, sleeps in the lion's slipper by his bed.

This becomes a wistful story as the bird rejoins its flock heading north the next spring, leaving the lion alone. "And so it goes. Sometimes life is like that." However, guess who returns the next year to spend the winter again with the lion? Why go elsewhere?

You will be touched by the sensitivity of the drawings and their ability to express the joys or sorrows of being together or apart.

The author and illustrator, Marianne Dubuc received her degree in graphic design from the University of Quebec in Montreal. She is an internationally acclaimed author whose work has been published in fifteen countries. The *Lion and the Bird* was first published in French in 2013.

When a big autumn storm comes one can be sure the wind will blow the leaves around in every direction. This is how we are introduced to *Storm* by Sam Usher (\$16.99. *Candlewick Press*. www.candlewick.com) with the wind whooshing, whistling, gushing and howling in a mass of leaves.

A grandfather tells his grandson that this would be the perfect time to fly a kite. After a long and almost fruitless search they finally find the family kite and head out. Caught by surprise the wind is so strong it lifts them off into the sky into a mass of other kites held onto for dear life by other children. Grandpa exclaims, "There's a storm brewing! Let's head for home." They land safely back home and grandfather

can only say "The best adventure is an adventure shared." The boy agrees and says he hopes a storm will come again tomorrow. This large formatted book is big enough to 'contain' the storm and its sky-bound passengers in lovely drawings of ink and watercolor.

Sam Usher is the author of several other books including three about the boy and his grandfather, entitled *Rain*, *Sun*, and *Snow*. Sam has been shortlisted for the Waterstones Prize and the Red House Children's Book Award. He lives in London and loves to play classical pieces on the piano.

With Halloween almost upon us one might be wondering what the witches are planning to brew up for a stew this year in one of their big, black kettles. In *A Tangle of Brungles* by Shobha Viswanath and illustrated by Culpeo S. Fox (\$15.95. *Karadi Tales Co*. www.karaditales.com) one meets a coven of witches who are creating a terrible broth to capture their heart's desire, the wickedly evil and horribly handsome Brungle. Included in the stew are a Quiver of Cobras, A Mess of Iguanas, A Clew of Worms, Mischief of Mice, and "For a bit of color, A Glint of Goldfish, A Kaleidoscope of Butterflies will complete the dish." Owls, buzzards, crows and bats approvingly watch the cook-off.

Charmingly scary drawings portray the event with a shockingly 12-headed Brungle emerging from the pot! The story told in rhymes includes the finale when "Brungle, declining to be wed, gathers his tails, turned around and fled." A horror story? Yes, but for Halloween, perfect!

The author, Shobha Viswanath, is co-founder and publishing director of Karadi Tales Co. and lives in Chennai, India. The superb illustrations are by Culpeo S. Fox, a Thai-German artist who lives in Germany. Her deep love for wildlife informs her focus on nature and animal art.

Our children will soon be playing in piles of leaves, but what do the 'Little Folk' do this time of year? For a special seasonal treat join *Pippa and Pelle in the Autumn Wind* by Daniela Drescher (\$9.95. *Board Book*. *Floris Books*. www.florisbooks.co.uk). Follow the German artist-author's delightful drawings of two red-capped tiny gnome-like children (even smaller than a mouse) flying kites, collecting berries and mushrooms, and later before bedtime, lighting a large pumpkin lantern outside their grass-roofed dwelling.

Drescher has written and illustrated over 20 children's books, several introducing us to Pippa and Pelle all in natural world settings with friendly animals galore.

When apple-grower Timo Vega, a shy rabbit, agrees to host an Apple Festival so his friend, the hedgehog Hedgewick Stump can cook a meal to please food critic Madame LaPointe, a porcupine, he is terrified of being its host. But in *Timo's Party* by Victoria Allenby and illustrated by Dean Griffiths (\$10.95. *Pajama Press*. www.pajamapress.ca), other animals in the town of Toadstool Corners come to his rescue with planning, invitations and decorations, and with "small talk" at the festival itself.

Hedgewick produces eye-catching and tasty edibles despite a kitchen fire that ruined his apple-nut stuffed squash. But there was plenty of sweet apple bread, sour apple soup, hot apple cider, apple iced tea, plump apple dumplings, glazed apple pastries and lots of delicious apple pie.

To the delight of Hegewick Stump the food critic praised him in her newspaper column as an "up-and-coming-chef." Timo was described as a "charming party planner" whom she looked forward to seeing again next year!

The book concludes with Stump's actual recipe for "Happy Apple-Banana Cake". Enjoy the full-color illustrations of these happy-faced apple-loving animals. The book was originally published in Canada in 2016.



Book News

The Curious Lobster

By Richard W. Hatch

Illustrated by Marion Freeman Wakeman

(The New York Review Children's Collection. www.nyrb.com)

Richard W. Hatch's *The Curious Lobster* is the tale of an old but wise lobster's quest to explore new lands and make new friends.

The charming and learned Mr. Lobster has never been caught by the sneaky local fisherman's many traps, and spends his days in awe of his own cunning. But life as a crafty lobster is beginning to grow old.

In an attempt to expand his horizons, Mr. Lobster goes to a place full of treacherous adventures, a place where badgers, bears, and birds roam: dry land. An old lobster like him must be very careful when venturing into this new territory. But as the clever crustacean meets the many enemies that await

him on land, he somehow always finds a way to make it out unscathed, sometimes even gaining friends in the process.

Adorned with detailed black-and-white illustrations by the celebrated artist Marion Freeman Wakeman, this delightful book combines *The Curious Lobster* and *The Curious Lobster's Island* into a single collection of Hatch's "Lobster stories."

The stories of Mr. Lobster aren't just charming—they show the difficulties of getting along with others, celebrating the possibilities of keeping an open mind, and present the opportunity to join Mr. Lobster in recognizing there are still "several things" he doesn't yet know.

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

Halloween Board Books for Your Beloved Little Monsters

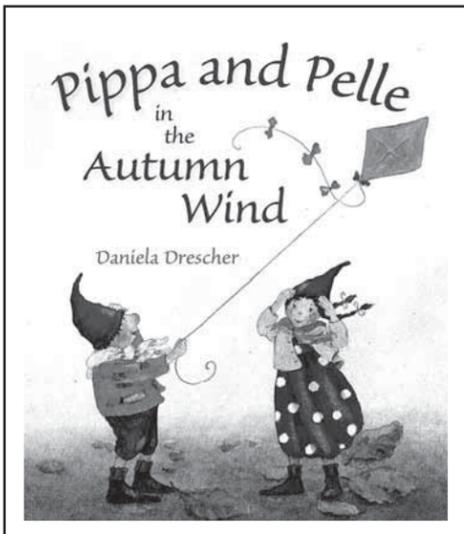
Halloween might be scary for little kids, but not too scary, as they learn to join in the fun. Here is how a few of their favorite characters celebrate Halloween.

Follow the adventures of little mouse Sophie in *Sophie's Halloween Disguise* by Rosemary Wells (\$6.99. *Viking, Penguin Young Readers*. www.penguinrandomhouse.com). Wells' wonderful illustrations enliven the tale of two best friends trading costumes to fool Granny. Sophie, disguised in a scary woolly mammoth costume, and Grover as a huge black spider, swap their disguises. But when they visit Granny she is dressed like a giant squid that fools and spooks them! This Granny-trickster also hands out lots of candy corn to the stunned youngsters. Fun all around!

See what George is doing for Halloween in *Curi-*

ous George—A Halloween Boofest by Alessandra Preziosi and Art Adaption by Artful Doodlers (\$6.99. *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*. www.hmco.com). Our favorite monkey, George, shows how to hide and pop out at the unsuspecting with a loud BOO! The story is told in catchy verses like "If one 'boo' can be fun. Can you imagine two? Grab a friend and jump right out, and do a double...BOO!"

If you were a llama what disguise would you want for Halloween? In *Llama Llama—Trick or Treat* by Anna Dewdney (\$5.99. *Viking, Penguin Young Readers*. www.penguinrandomhouse.com) our little llama considers dressing as an astronaut or maybe even as a bumblebee. But he turns out to be scary just wearing a black cloak and eye cover. His pointy llama feet make his costume complete!



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Fruit

Recipes That Celebrate Nature

by Bernadette Wörndl, photography by Gunda Dittrich

(\$40. *Smith Street Books*, www.smithstreetbooks.com)

Fall is still a good time year for cooks to still use the fresh, seasonal fruit flooding the marketplace. We can thank this Austrian food writer who takes 20 different fruits to new levels in this handsome, beautifully illustrated book of recipes that compliment the upcoming season “of mists and mellow fruitfulness.”

As a young girl Bernadette started helping out in the kitchen at her grandmother’s in an alpine region of Austria where she recalls her granny, among with other fruits, put up 100 jars of apricot preserves each year from the family’s orchard. “We’d be in a state of apricot frenzy, preserving, baking and freezing them like there was no tomorrow,” she recalls, “And so even in winter apricots could enhance raisin pancakes, semolina quark dumplings or pudding.”

Bernadette offers many recipes for apples, pears, plums, quince, grapes, raspberries and blackberries which are especially prevalent now as well as citrus fruits.

You will want to try her version of a baked apple that is scooped out and filled with a mixture of nuts, dates, figs, citrus peel and chopped-up fruit bread or cake. The apple is later coated with a vanilla

Book Review by Charles Sutton

sauce. Other apple recipes include grandma’s Apple strudel. “It is no secret I was rolling out strudel pastry with my grandmother at the age of thee. On the farm we were surrounded by many varieties of apple trees, so apple cakes, apple strudels, apple sauce, stewed apples or baked apple slices were commonplace at home.”

Among the Fall recipes you should try are ginger and pear cake with coffee cream; quince tarts satin; plum upside-down cake; classic raspberry cake; and tagliatelle (long thin cut pasta) with porcini mushrooms and blackberries.

Apples go with pork roasts but her repertoire includes pork cutlets with caramelized pears and sage; pork terrine with pistachios and prunes; and roast pork with apples, apple cider, purple potatoes, shallots and celeriac.

Here are some of her combinations combing fruit with meat or fish: venison with elderberries; chicken with apricots and cashews; beef ragout with dates and pomegranates; duck breast with blackberries and silverbeet (Swiss chard); Arctic char, trout, or Zander (walleye) cooked various ways with blueberries, strawberries or grapes and mackerel with sweet-and-sour gooseberries.

For those pining for a new way to cook Brussel sprouts try one of her fish recipes that combines that vegetable with lentils flavored

with bay leaf, thyme, clove, garlic, parsley, soy sauce, balsamic vinegar, shallots, lemon, capers and bread spices.

Want to break up the routine of your usual cooking by feature dishes of foreign lands? Bernadette offers sample menus using her recipes. Some examples—Memories of Spain: Ajo blanco (a white garlic gazpacho), and apricot and orange almond cake; and Memories of Sweden: the fish Zander tartare with blueberries, confit egg and crisp bread; venison ragout with elderberries and schupfnudeln (a finger-shaped noodle and type of dumpling); and currant cheesecake.

Mindful of her time working as an apprentice chef at Alice Waters’ Chez Panisse in San Francisco the author offers a California Memory: ceviche with grapefruit and lime; blood orange salad with beetroot and avocado; Zander fillet of fish with strawberry and capsicum salsa, and candied citrus peel with espresso coffee.

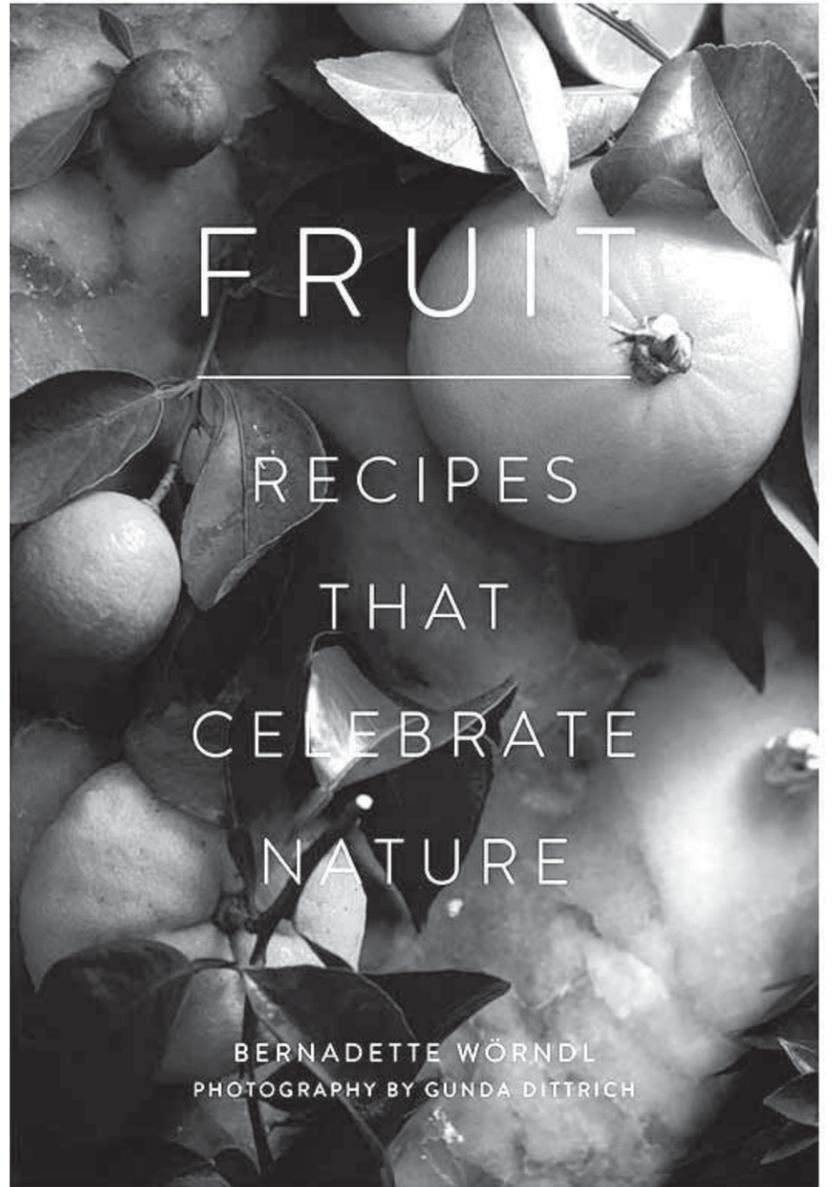
Bernadette shares her love for palatschinken (very thin pancakes). “I like them the classic way with apricot jam (jelly) or grilled cheese.” She also serves them with stewed gooseberries or other fully ripe fruit. In sharing her recipe for blueberry

pancakes, she writes: “As kids we often spent our summers on my grandma’s farm in local alpine pastures. One of my fondest memories was the mountains of small blueberry cakes, slices, dumplings and pancakes. To make them, first we had gather the dark-blue berries, result not only in our hands, but also our lips and tongues turning blue.”

The cookbook also includes recipes for preserving fruit. Included are Damson or plum jam, quince jam and chutney, peach chutney with almonds, fig chutney, elderberry jam and vinegar, currant jam and relish, rhubarb ketchup and raspberry vinegar.

This book is a much larger format than most cookbooks which makes Vienna-based Gunda Dittrich’s spectacular color photographs that more appealing. Particularly impressive is the two-page spread of a frangipane tart with grapes on the vine. It is a rosemary-seasoned flat-bread pastry covered with almond cream and garnished with green, red or mixed grapes. We hope Gunda got to sample this delightful tart and many of the other dishes she photographs so carefully.

Bernadette discovered “food art” while at student at Vienna School Art and since then has cooked in several of Vienna’s best-known restaurants, been a food writer and recipe developer, and also worked at Vienna’s Spice and Books for Cooks shop.



Hermit Hill Books

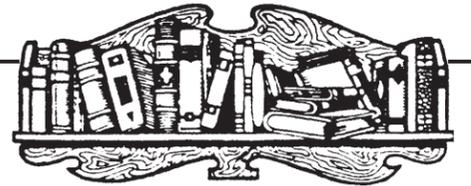


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Book Review

Game—The Chef’s Field to Table Cookbook

by the Editors of Covey Rise Magazine
(\$45. www.rizzoliusa.com)

This hunting season you won’t have to worry about how to prepare that grouse or quail, deer or rabbit, salmon or trout or other wild game to make it taste just right, thanks to this 290-page collection of writings and recipes from Covey Rise, a bimonthly magazine (cir. 15,000) devoted to hunting, particularly wild birds.

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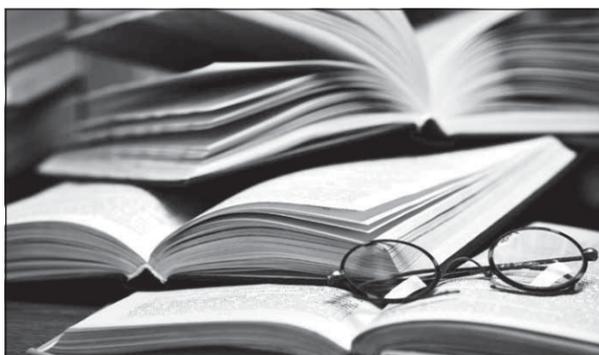
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North Country Reflections

October Pleasures In the Garden

by Judith Irven

By October, many people assume all the flowers in the garden are finished for the year. This is the season for the trees and forests to bask in their colorful glory—and for the leaf peepers take to their cars.

But do not write the garden off too hastily! October has plenty of delights in store for gardeners too.

In my Zone 4 garden I have several kinds of perennials with beautiful flowers that last throughout October, as well as some lovely—and well-behaved—grasses with delicate stems that shimmer in the slanting autumn light.

And these are complemented by other autumnal pleasures such as the leaves on the blueberry bushes that turn a beautiful bronze, rose-hips on the smooth wild rose (*Rosa blanda*) along the hedgerow, as well as seedheads from many summer perennials (such as astilbes and echinacea) that I purposefully leave for the birds to enjoy.

Here are some of my favorite flowers and grasses that grace my autumn garden. Many are well known, others less so. You should be able to find them at quality nurseries around Vermont including Rockydale in Bristol, Mettowee Mill in Dorset, Horsford in Charlotte and E.C. Browns in Thetford.

Fall hydrangeas—denizens of the autumn garden

Fall Hydrangeas (*Hydrangea paniculata*) are the cornerstone of the autumn garden. These are sturdy long-lasting woody plants, grown either as a shrub (lots of stems) or a small tree (a single stem). Their enormous round flower-heads start out white in mid-summer, and then, as the season progresses, gradually turn pink (or in some instances pale green).

As a testament to their longevity, Fall Hydrangeas can be seen in old cemeteries all around Vermont where, unaided by any gardener for a century or more, they still thrive today! When I was studying Landscape Design at Vermont Technical School we called them the ‘cemetery plant’!

Recently plant breeders have developed a vast array of cultivars from the *Hydrangea paniculata* species for our gardening satisfaction. My personal favorite is Pink Diamond, with huge conical flower-heads that gradually become delicate pink in late September. Left unchecked it will eventually grow twelve feet or more high and wide, so plan accordingly. However, if you prune back in late winter to around eight feet high and wide, it will become even more floriferous.

Some hydrangea cultivars even take on their fall coloration as early as July. Quick Fire has dusky pink flower-heads, while Limelight has greenish tints. However, since both eventually grow quite large, their smaller cousins, Little Quick Fire and Little Limelight, are better suited for most gardens.

From mid-summer until frost

Most fall-flowering perennials make me wait until September before they start to flower. But the well-known Black Eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia ‘Goldstrum’*) which began flowering back in August, will keep on blooming until singed by a hard frost.

However the prize for the longest flowering perennial in my garden goes to the amazing Geranium ‘Rozanne’. It begins flowering in late June and continues non-stop until



Frost-tinged Black Eyed Susans in Judith’s garden in late October. photo by Dick Conrad

fell by the frost. It has clear violet-blue flowers and by the end of the season each plant will become a sizable mound.

For a great, long-lasting color contrast plant some Rozanne around your Black-eyed Susans.

Truly hardy chrysanthemums

Everyone is familiar with the colorful chrysanthemums—sold at garden centers and supermarkets. They come in lots of pretty colors and are the perfect touch for around the front door. But sadly if, after they have finished flowering, you plant them in the garden these varieties are unlikely to be hardy enough to make it through our Vermont winters.

So look a little further. There are plenty of varieties of mums that ARE perfectly hardy in our Vermont winters and which will faithfully return to create a lovely patch of color in your fall garden for years to come.

For instance: ‘Autumn Moon’ is a clear yellow, ‘Glowing Ember’ is red and gold, and the taller and vigorous Mammoth Red Daisy’ is scarlet. Plant some of these this fall as an investment in the future.

Native Asters

We are know the tall purple New England asters (*Aster novae angliae*) that brighten our hedgerows at this time of year and they too make lovely garden plants.

Furthermore, plant breeders have developed cultivars in colors other than purple. So, for a stunning effect, try planting some New England asters with unusual colors, such as the salmon pink ‘Alma Potschke’ (which grows about three feet high) near the front of your bed. Back these with a taller variety, such as dark violet ‘Marina Wolkonsky’ which grows 4 feet high or more.

However, if you have a small garden, you might prefer the shorter drought tolerant Aromatic Aster ‘October Skies’ (*Aster oblongifolius*), about 2 feet high, or even the compact ‘Woods Blue’ New York Aster that grows about 18” high.

Cherry sedums

Fall-flowering sedums are wonderful garden plants. Their fleshy water-retentive leaves carry the plants through the dry hot weather of summer without any attention from the gardener. And from September onwards their flowers are abuzz with bees and butterflies enjoying the nectar.

Like many people I have grown the well-known tall Sedum

‘Autumn Joy—with its rosy pink flowers and substantial green leaves—for many years. Over time I divided my original plants to create clumps of three to five plants together for greater emphasis in the garden.

Recently I have also been growing the very pretty cultivar ‘Matrona’ which has grayish leaves in summer and lighter pink flowers in fall—a nice addition to my autumn garden!

A brilliant pink fountain

A few years ago, when browsing the shelves of a favorite local nursery, I came across an unknown plant called ‘Bush Clover (*Lespedeza thunbergii*).

Always one to try a new plant, I brought one home and planted it near our front door. And I could not be more pleased with the result.

Bush Clover begins the season as a mass of slender delicate stems which, to limit the final size of the plant and make it more bushy, I cut down to half height around mid June. Then, in early October, suddenly the plant explodes into a brilliant pink flowery fountain that lasts until the first heavy frost.

Graceful grasses

And finally I suggest you also include some ornamental grasses in your garden mix. With their linear lines they contrast beautifully with the perennials we have been discussing. And, at this time of year, most also take on autumnal hues.

Most people are familiar with Maiden Grass (*Miscanthus sinensis*) and its many cultivars. These are robust grasses, typically six feet or more high, that will stay standing throughout the winter. I am partial to *Miscanthus purpureus* which, towards the end of summer, turns an attractive reddish color.

As a contrast Purple Moor-Grass (*Molinia caerulea ‘Skracer’*), which grows as high as eight feet, has a delicate lacy texture. Nothing gives me more pleasure than watching a song sparrow swinging to and fro on the Purple Moor grass outside my kitchen window, as it feasts on the ripened seeds.

There are several wonderful native grasses including Switchgrass, (*Panicum virgatum*) whose many cultivars all make excellent garden plants.

I am also very partial to the prairie grass called Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), with delicate blue leaves between two and four feet high. For a real standout seek out ‘Blue Heaven’—a taller cultivar of Little Bluestem with slender red-tinged leaves even in the summer.

I hope the ideas offered here will inspire you to create beauty in own your garden that will give you pleasure for many seasons to come. You can see some pictures of our garden in fall at www.northcountryimpressions.com Look for the album called The Autumn Garden.

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

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

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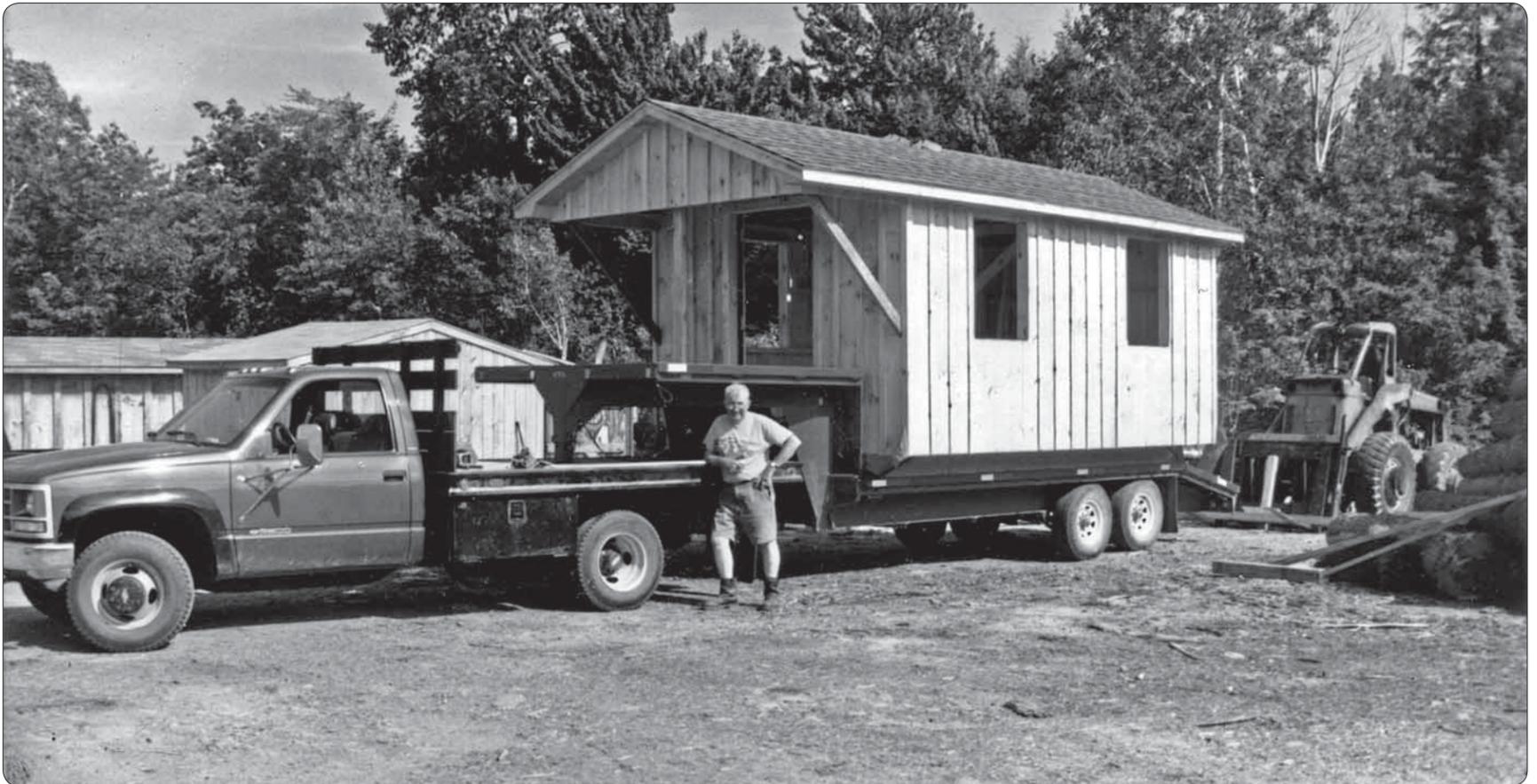
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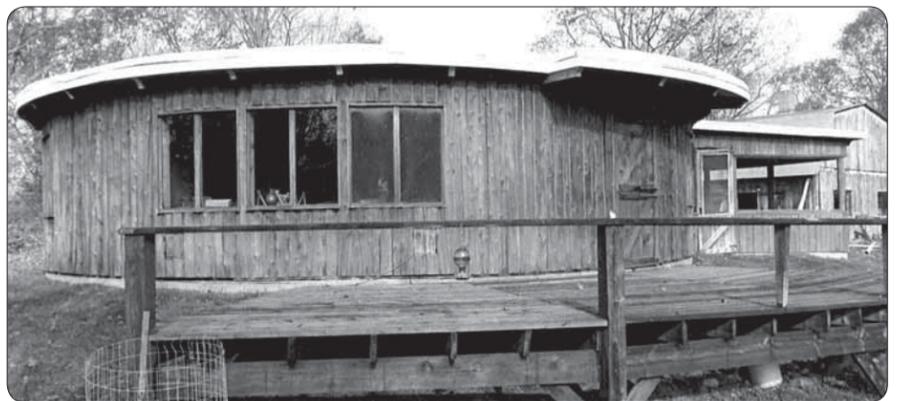
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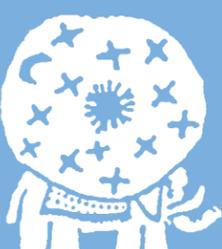


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