

# Vermont Country Sampler



November 2015

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- Inns, B&B's, Dining, Real Estate
- Plenty of Good Reading!

N. Cassidy



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## 10th Annual Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market

Join us as we kick off the 10th season of the Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market—one of the longest running diverse indoor farmers markets in Vermont. Starting Saturday, November 7, come to the market and dazzle your senses at the beautiful River Garden in the heart of downtown Brattleboro. Visitors will find more fresh local produce than ever before!

Each week we transform the space into a warm welcoming indoor marketplace. You'll find up to 30 vendors including favorites from past seasons.

Our regular farm vendors returning this season are Amazing Planet Farm, Big Picture Farm, Circle Mountain Farm, Deep Meadows Farm, Deer Ridge Farm, Dwight Miller Orchards, Hickin's Mountain Mowing, New Leaf CSA, Old Schoolhouse Plantery, Walnut Ridge Farm, and Wild Shepherd Farm.

Favorites from the past bringing back their crafts and great prepared food items include Susan Dunning's Potteryworks, Orchard Hill Breadworks, Wild Flour Bakery, One World Soap, Vermont Quince, Sawyer's Artisanal Cheese, Cai's Dim Sum, Thai Hut, Dosa Kitchen and more.

New products to look for at the market this season include a wonderful array of jars of delicious local fruit juice, chocolates, woodcrafts, handmade bags and tunics, blown glass ornaments and beads.

Along with all your fresh produce and local meats,

you'll also find yummy sweet treats, great lunch offerings, delicious pies, preserves and much, much more. Come for your weekly family grocery shopping, and beautiful handmade holiday gifts. Stay for a tasty lunch and live music. There is something at the market for everyone.

The Winter Farmers' Market welcomes EBT and Debit cards. And each week, EBT customers can turn \$10 into \$20 with Crop Cash Coupons thanks to NOFA-VT and Wholesome Wave. And if those coupons run out, we'll have our own Market Match program supported through grants and fundraising done by Post Oil Solutions and the market organizers. We are committed to making the farmers market the place to go for everyone in our community from November through March to find everyday food for the week for your whole family!

The Winter Farmers' Market is sponsored by Post Oil Solutions, a nonprofit grass-roots group actively working to build a sustainable community. Open every Saturday through March 26, 2016. Market hours are generally 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with extended hours for holiday shopping (open to 3 p.m.) on December 5, 12 and 19.

*The Winter Farmers' Market is located at the Robert H. Gibson River Garden, 153 Main St., Brattleboro, VT. For more information call (802) 869-2141 or e-mail farmersmarket@postoil-solutions.org. Visit www.postoil-solutions.org.*



Elizabeth Wood of New Leaf CSA displays her greens at the Brattleboro Winter Farmers Market.

### November Journal

## The First Garden

by Bill Felker

I was cleaning out my files this summer, and I came upon my garden record for 1973 through 1975. The notes included a list of herbs and the plants with which they companioned best (dill for carrots, nasturtiums to deter squash bugs and the striped pumpkin beetle, garlic for raspberry health, basil to repel flies and mosquitoes, and on and on).

Among the papers and diagrams, I found a 1974 map I had made of the most ambitious project Jeanie and I had undertaken, a huge octagon with a diameter of 100 feet that spread out from a center of strawberries and ended with perimeters of marigolds. The sketch named all the things we were going to plant that first summer in North Carolina, and I had written the dates by all the vegetables and their companions and the sequence in which they were planted.

I had divided up the plantings by use: the greens, the fruits, the meat substitutes, red vegetables, yellow vegetables, starches. And although I actually don't remember, except vaguely, the details of this monumental effort, I have a list of what we actually put in and when we did it (starting on March 1 with onions, continuing on and on through successive spring and summer seedings and then more successions for fall and even winter crops).

I have a list of how many feet of peas, and turnips and broccoli and spinach and a dozen other things we had. I have a list of what we paid for which seeds, a total of \$18.90 for 28 different varieties that summer. I kept track of what we thought would be the value of our harvest: \$304.75.

I don't remember details of the gardens of other years, although I know we kept on planting—even though less methodically. When we moved to town, we put our energy in to new jobs and to remodeling our house, and we abandoned vegetables and their rituals. Instead, Jeanie began a

small flower garden on which she and I worked off and on for over thirty years.

Few details have stayed with me from so many seasons. Instead, as I think back over the forgotten maps and lists, I feel a deep nostalgia for the dream of self-sufficiency, the dream of understanding what it would be like to grow our own food, the excited energy spent on the fantasy, and then the gradual turning away to other practices. Jeanie is gone. Some of her perennials remain to mark our current yard on High Street, but they blend into the weeds and become hard to identify as summer ends. Without a map, I lose their places.

Against such ruminations, a different side of the history appears out of the documents and other remnants of

the years: Certain personal events, I keep finding, are not complete in their happening.

In 1974, I was not aware of the fragility or sanctity of our acts, nor of their place in

what we would do or be in the future. Today in 2015, my harvest of impressions has grown so powerful I can hardly manage it, except to recognize an immensity of emotion, an accumulation of repercussions that has gathered and gathered, unspoken and unformed until now. Unearthed by a garden map, a lifetime of unprocessed feelings surges and overflows, not healing so much as fulfilling, explaining, answering.

My story-teller sister, Maggie, says that the story is never over until you say it is over. I am making a new garden map, but it will not be the same as the old map. I take Maggie at her word: the season of 1974 has born its fruit: the story of the old map is over.

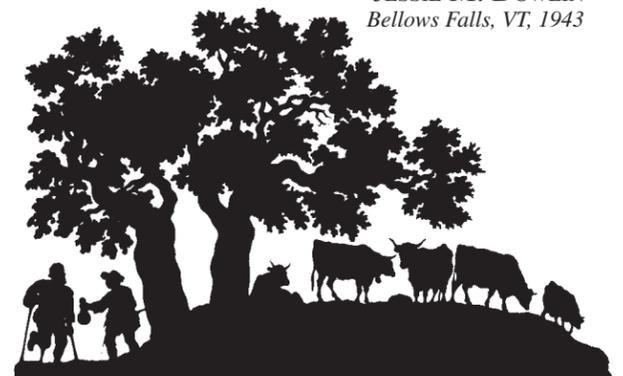
*“As I think back over the forgotten maps and lists, I feel a deep nostalgia for the dream of self-sufficiency...”*

### Harvest Rain

Matted grass and fruited bough  
Find a newborn kinship now—  
Each is burnished by the rain  
With a lovely silver stain;  
Richly hangs the colored fruit,  
Grass blades capture silver loot;  
Wind-caught branches bend and lift,  
And sod receives an apple gift.

Orchard ways are redolent  
With perfuming the rain has blent,  
And when the questing hill-winds pass  
Through trees and windfall-laden grass  
Concordant as a song refrain  
Comes scent of apples in the rain.

— JESSIE M. DOWLIN  
Bellows Falls, VT, 1943



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For two copies of the Cookbook, either the new Third Edition or the Second Edition or one of each (the two editions have completely different recipes) please send \$5. For the cost to purchase larger quantities of either cookbook, please contact Mary Croft.

## Vermont Country Sampler

November 2015, Vol. XXX

The Vermont Country Sampler is distributed free over-the-counter in and out of Vermont. Back issues, \$2 per issue, first class. Subscriptions \$24/year.

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

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

photo by Billings Farm & Museum

## Woodstock, VT

# Celebrate November at Billings Farm & Museum

Billings Farm & Museum, a gateway to Vermont's rural heritage, in Woodstock, VT, is celebrating its 32nd anniversary this year. Over one million visitors—hailing from every state in the U.S. and over 40 foreign countries—have made the farm and museum an important part of their visit to Vermont.

Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 144-year tradition of agricultural excellence and offers farm programs and historical exhibits that explore Vermont's rural heritage and values.

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

### Wagon Ride Weekends in November

Visit Billings Farm & Museum for Wagon Ride Weekends each Saturday and Sunday in November, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., beginning November 1. Board the farm wagon pulled by a team of draft horses for a brisk ride around the farm. Enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall—when the brilliance of foliage has softened and the weather is still pleasant. Take part in our daily programs and activities.

Rides will be offered from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. An "Introduction to Milking" and "Milking the Herd" programs are scheduled for 3:15 p.m.

Wagon Ride Weekends are scheduled for November 1, 7 & 8; 14 & 15; 21 & 22. November 27-29 is Thanksgiving Weekend and horse-drawn wagon rides are included in the festivities.

### A Late 19th Century Thanksgiving

Learn about late 19th century Thanksgiving traditions as Billings Farm & Museum celebrates Thanksgiving Weekend, Friday through Sunday, November 27-29, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Discover how Thanksgiving was observed in the 1890 Farm House at the Billings Farm along with the critical and demanding work of harvesting crops each fall.

The weekend will feature traditional cooking demonstrations in the farmhouse, horse-drawn wagon rides, farm tours, "Introduction to Milking" and "Milking the Herd" programs and hands-on food preparation and preservation activities, and holiday programs. The "History of Thanksgiving" will be presented in the parlor.

You'll be welcomed to Frederick Billings's farmhouse,

where farm manager George Aitken and his family lived and worked from 1890 to 1910. Visit with costumed interpreters as they demonstrate preparing traditional Thanksgiving fare in the kitchen. Relax in the Victorian parlor and learn how our American Thanksgiving traditions have evolved.

In the education room, learn the art of making the perfect piecrust and what to do with the leftover dough. Help peel apples for drying, which can be used later to make dried apple pie. Enjoy a cup of hot cider before boarding the wagon pulled by a team of draft horses for a scenic ride around the farm.

### 6th Annual Woodstock Vermont Film Series

Billings Farm & Museum will host the 6th Annual Woodstock Vermont Film Series, on selected Saturday afternoons at 3 p.m. through March 26, 2016. Fifteen award-winning films and documentaries from around the world have been selected for the big screen in the museum's theater, with high definition digital projection and Dolby™ surround-sound. All films are open to the public and accessible to people with disabilities.

The screenings include: November 7, *Meru*; November 14, *Men at Lunch*; November 28, *The Last Waltz*; December 5, *Best of Enemies*; December 19, *Sunshine Superman*; December 26, *Red Army*; January 9, *Desert Runners*; January 16, *Anita*; January 23, *The Salt of the Earth*; February 6, *Exit Through the Gift Shop*; February 20, *Russian Ark*; March 5, *Tangerines*; March 19, *Antarctica: A Year On Ice*; and March 26, *Keep On Keepin' On*.

Ticket prices: adults 16 & up \$132 for 15-film package or \$11 per film; children ages 3-15 \$6 per film. For complete film descriptions and information call (802) 457-2355. Visit [www.billingsfarm.org/filmfest](http://www.billingsfarm.org/filmfest).

*The operating dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and the restored and furnished farmhouse – plus programs and activities are included in the entrance fee. Admission: adults \$14; 62 & over \$13; children 5-15 \$8; 3-4 \$4; 2 & under, free.*

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

For more information please call (802) 457-2355 or visit [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org).

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**Roots on the Rails**

**Green Mountain Express  
Music & Trains = Magic**

Chocolate and peanut butter go together. So do music and trains. That's what Roots on the Rails has figured out over 40 trips across the US and Canada. On November 6-8, 2015 they are bringing The Green Mountain Express to Southern Vermont—Bellows Falls to Rutland and back. This is their first northeast trip ever!

People love coming to Vermont," says Roots on the Rails founder Charlie Hunter. "We are based here, and the Vermont Rail Systems has a fleet of passenger cars available to charter—it just makes sense to do something."

**A stellar musical lineup**

The musicians assembled to play on board and at two shows on land are a polyglot of the best in country, folk and that catch-all phrase of 'Americana': West Texas legend Jimmie Dale Gilmore (also known to many as the emotionally 'fragile' bowler Smokey in The Big Lebowski), his son Colin Gilmore, vocalist Syd Straw, a Weston, VT native who has recorded with a virtual who's-who of American music—everyone from Wilco to Rickie Lee Jones to REM, the dark chamber-folk duo Winterpills, also with Vermont roots, and the Meadows Brothers, reminiscent of the Everlys, with intertwined harmonies only blood can bring.

"I'm thrilled with the lineup," says Hunter. "All the performers relate in one way or another. Plus they're all wonderful people, and they make world-class music."

**Weekend festivities start in Saxtons River**

Weekend events get underway Friday, November 6 in Saxtons River with a special reception for full package-holders at Pleasant Valley Brewing, followed by an evening show with Jimmie Dale and Colin Gilmore at Main Street Arts.

Saturday sees the all-day train trip from Bellows Falls to Rutland and return with a specially-chartered lineup of performance car, lounge car, coach and a special 1920's-era Deluxe car, complete with staterooms and an open-air observation platform. Standard accommodations are still available, although the Deluxe car has already sold out. Complimentary, freshly-made snacks will be served on board, and cash beverage service is available. Music takes place throughout the day.

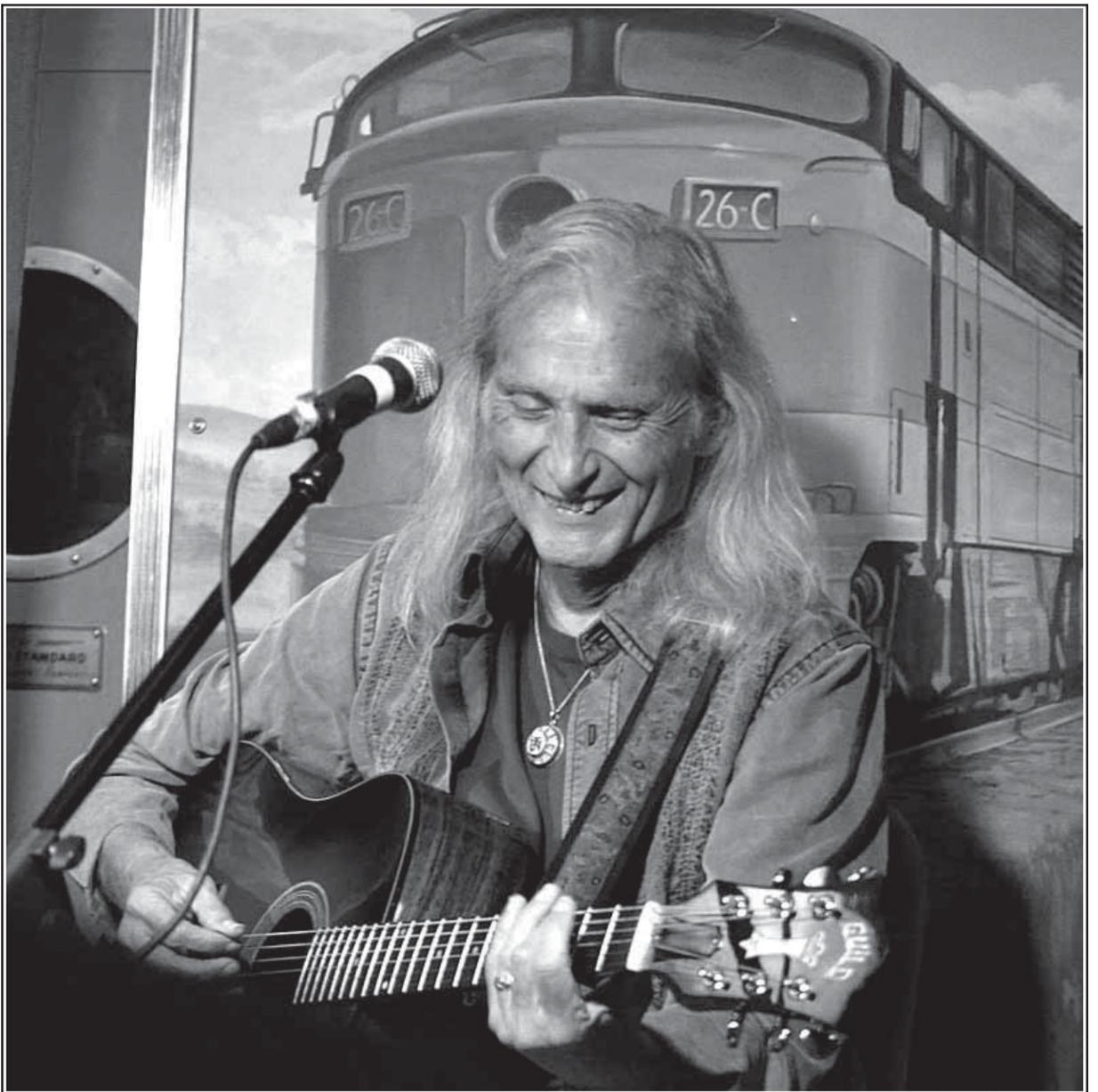
After returning to Bellows Falls, package holders partake of a dinner buffet at Popolo, followed by a concert featuring all the musicians at the adjoining Windham Ballroom.

**Ride the train or just come listen**

"Most of our trips feature true long-distance travel," says Hunter, "such as next year's trip with Dave Alvin from Los Angeles to Glacier Park and return. Patrons sleep on board on those trips. We couldn't do that for a trip here in the northeast, but we're putting folks up at inns in the area, which is pretty great in itself."

Patrons who are fans of Roots on the Rails are flocking to Vermont from as far away as California, New Mexico and Illinois. Full packages are available with or without hotel accommodations, as well as individual show tickets and seats for just the train itself.

A full schedule with links to individual show and train tickets are at [rootsontherails.com](http://rootsontherails.com). For more information, call Roots on the Rails at (866) 484-3669.



Jimmie Dale Gilmore on a Roots on the River rails trip.

photo by Gary Pierce

**Eighth Annual LEGO Contest & Exhibit in Brattleboro, VT**

The time has come for kids of all ages—that means grown-ups, too—to bust out your bricks and crank up your creativity. Design and build an original LEGO structure, and display it at the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center in our Eighth Annual LEGO Contest & Exhibit, November 20-22, 2015.

Design and build an original LEGO structure according to contest guidelines, available online, or drop by and check out the submissions from last year.

Prizes for creativity and craftsmanship will be awarded in seven age groups: preschool, grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, adult, and adult/child collaborations. There will also be overall prizes for Best-in-Show, Best Architectural Design, Best Use of Moving Parts, Best Title, Best Diorama, and Best

Space-themed Creation. All prizes will be announced at an Awards Ceremony on Friday, November 20 at 5 p.m.

Every contestant will receive a personalized certificate of participation and four complimentary admission passes to BMAC, which may be used at any time.

LEGO sculpture submissions should be delivered to the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center on Wednesday, November 18, 4-6 p.m. For information and an entry form go to: [www.brattleboromuseum.org/pdfs/legoform2015.pdf](http://www.brattleboromuseum.org/pdfs/legoform2015.pdf).

Admission to the November 20 Awards Ceremony is \$4 for adults and teens, \$3 for children ages 6-12, and free for children 5 and under.

Admission to the museum on Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22, while LEGO entries are on

display, is \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, \$4 students, free for children 5 and under.

Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St, Brattleboro, VT 05301. Hours: 11-5

daily, closed Tuesdays. Admission: \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$4 for students, free for youth 18 and under.

For more information call (802) 257-0124. [www.brattleboromuseum.org](http://www.brattleboromuseum.org).

**Annual Harvest Bazaar and Quilt Show in Springfield, VT**

Come to Springfield, VT on November 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the Annual Harvest Bazaar and Quilt Show, hosted by the First Congregational Church.

Visit the Craft Corner with handmade craft items; the Quilting Table with items made by the quilting group in our church; Jewelry—Bangles and Beads; a Pantry with baked goods and cookie walk; the Library with books for all ages, puzzles and children's games; and Back Room Bargains. Do some early holiday shopping and

enjoy browsing the goods offered by our friends and neighbors.

There will be a luncheon available from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets will be sold on a quilt raffle to be drawn in early December.

The First Congregational Church is located at 77 Main St. in Springfield, VT. For more information call (802) 885-5022.



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# 37th Annual Putney Craft Tour

## Craft, Food & Stage Weekend

November 27, 28 & 29

The Annual Putney Craft Tour, the oldest continuing craft studio tour in North America, traditionally takes place on the long Thanksgiving weekend November 27, 28 and 29, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and gives shoppers, visitors and collectors a wonderful late fall holiday activity.

The tour has been named a Top Ten Winter Event by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce for the second year in a row.

This year, the Putney Craft Tour, Next Stage Arts Project and Sandglass Theatre have joined to present a special Thanksgiving Weekend of Arts. Participating area restaurants are offering a Putney Craft Tour lunch or dinner "special." Participating restaurants

The Putney Craft Tour is more than a once a year event. Many of the studios are open year round, some by appointment. "Using our art to support our neighbors and young people in need is a way for us to give something back," says Nancy Calicchio, artist on the tour who spearheaded the tour's collaboration with the Putney Food Shelf. Each studio on the Putney Craft Tour will showcase an object for sale with the proceeds going to the Foodshelf.

Ken Pick, one of the founders of the Putney Craft Tour says: "The Craft, Food and Stage weekend will be a great treat for visitors and locals alike. The craft tour is taking place during the day, and Next Stage and Sandglass Theatre will present special performances to tie in with the tour on the weekend. And area restaurants will wine and dine the patrons."

The Putney Craft Tour invites visitors to this craft rich area of Vermont to meet the 23 artisans on this year's tour including blacksmiths, glass blowers, potters, jewelers, weavers, woodworkers—even artisan cheesemakers.

Part of the fun is meandering through the beautiful Vermont countryside, following the map to find the craftspeople and view their works where they are conceived and created.

Visitors to the Putney Craft Tour may start at The Gleanery Restaurant, 133 Main St. in Putney, VT or at the Putney General Store, for information, maps, and a preview exhibition of the artisans' works. For more information visit [www.putneycrafts.com](http://www.putneycrafts.com).



Betsy MacIsaac with a cashmere goat kid at Crooked Fence Farm in Putney, VT.

### Putney, VT

## Visit Crooked Fence Farm for Fine Knitted Goods and More

Betsy MacIsaac of Crooked Fence Farm in Putney, VT is a participant in the 37th Annual Putney Craft Tour that takes place on Thanksgiving Weekend November 27, 28 and 29 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. She invites visitors to come to her farm studio.

A lover of textiles, Betsy learned to knit and sew from her mother. Now, a dream come true, she shepherds a flock of Merino and endangered CVM/Romeldale sheep, a herd of cashmere goats, and numerous finely feathered chickens and guinea hens.

The CVM/Romeldale sheep are the rarest of North America's rare breeds. Their

wool is soft and can be worn "next to the skin".

Merino sheep are regarded as having some of the finest and softest wool of any sheep. Merinos were brought to Vermont about 1809 where they thrived till the mid-1800s when they lost out to competition from the Western states.

Cashmere goats are not a separate breed but rather a wool characteristic. Any goat can produce cashmere. Unlike dairy goats, cashmere goats are usually not dehorned. Both males and females have lovely twisting horns which, when working with them, make great handles! The downy undercoat is

the cashmere and is shed in the spring. The cashmere is harvested either by shearing or combed out by hand.

Betsy knits hats, mittens, and cowls and offers a limited number of wool comforters. She also has crafted a collection of "eco-dyed" and printed silk scarves, small

hand-bound books and photo note cards inspired by the natural beauty of her farm.

Betsy MacIsaac, Crooked Fence Farm, 37 Aplin Way, Putney, VT 05346. (802) 387-5790. [crookedfence@gmail.com](mailto:crookedfence@gmail.com). [www.crookedfencefarm-vt.com](http://www.crookedfencefarm-vt.com).



## Holiday Wreath-Decorating Workshops in Chester

Get ready for the holidays by decorating a pre-made evergreen wreath with specially collected greens, natural materials, bows, and other embellishments.

Open to the public, the workshops will take place November 19-21 in Willard Hall at St. Luke's Church, 313 Main St. (Rt. 11 West) in Chester, VT and will benefit the church and the Chester Conservation Committee's youth environmental camp scholarships.

Space is limited, so participants must pre-register and are encouraged to bring clippers if they have them. Choose from four different workshop sessions: Thursday evening, November 19, 6:30-8 p.m.; Friday, November 20, 9-10:30 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m.; and Saturday, November 21, 9-10:30 a.m. We'll have homemade refreshments, great camaraderie, and all the wire, glue guns, and equipment necessary to make the decorating fun and successful will be supplied.

Men and women are welcome to come alone or register with a friend or group. A \$5 early-bird discount on the fee of \$40 per wreath will apply to those who pre-

register and pay by Monday November 9.

Checks should be made out to St. Luke's Church, designated for the wreath workshop, and mailed to Lillian Willis at PO Box 318, Chester, VT 05143.

For additional information and registration, please contact Lillian Willis at (802) 875-1340. [lbwillisct@comcast.net](mailto:lbwillisct@comcast.net).



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# Cold Weather Cooking from a Century Past

The holidays, baking, and cold weather all seem to go hand-in-hand and indeed we all get out our favorite treasured recipes this time of year. Some are hand-me-downs from grandmas, aunts, and mothers, and some are collected from friends, books, and cookie exchanges.

The recipes or "rules" featured here are from the turn of the previous century and earlier, and are like those your grandma or great grandma might have followed. Measurements and methods are expressed in simpler terms. Oven temperatures and times are "till done." Consider what baking delicate cookies in a wood-fired kitchen stove was like and you can see that regulating the temperature must have been pretty tricky.

## Squash Pies, Very Rich

Stew a medium sized Hubbard (or other equally rich) squash, and rub the soft part through a colander, as for pumpkin; butter, ½ lb.; cream and milk, each 1 pt., or milk with the cream stirred in, 1 qt.; sugar, 2 cups; 1 dozen eggs well beaten; salt, mace, nutmeg and cinnamon, 1 tea-spoonful each, or to taste.

*Remarks.*—Mix and bake these pies the same as for pumpkin pie; and if less pies are needed for the family keep the same proportions and bake what you will use. I think good squash makes a richer pie than pumpkin, while some persons claim the reverse, and call for an egg or two extra. If a poor quality squash is used, this would be so; but Hubbard are much nicer than pumpkin, both in quality and flavor, and I like this pie much the best.

—Dr. A. W. Chase's Receipt Book, 1884

## Mince Meat

|                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 pound suet                    | 3 cups seeded raisins |
| 2 pounds lean beef              | 1 cup currants        |
| 1 quart chopped apples          | ½ cup molasses        |
| ¼ cup candied orange peel       | 1 cup sugar           |
| ¼ cup candied lemon peel        | 1 teaspoon cinnamon   |
| ½ pound citron                  | ½ teaspoon allspice   |
| juice & grated rind of 1 lemon  | ½ teaspoon cloves     |
| juice & grated rind of 1 orange | 1 nutmeg, grated      |
| Few tablespoons brandy          | 2½ cups sweet cider   |

Let the meat simmer slowly in a covered kettle until tender; run through a meat chopper and mix with the suet, which has likewise been put through the chopper. Add the other ingredients in the order named, chopping the citron and orange and lemon peel before mixing. Put in a stone crock; cover and let stand several days to ripen. Bake in pastry crust.

—The Institute Cookbook, 1913

## Mother's Gingerbread

Mix together a half-cupful each of brown sugar and New Orleans molasses, and stir in a tablespoonful of melted butter, a teaspoonful of ground ginger and a teaspoonful of cinnamon. Set the bowl containing these ingredients at the side of the range until the contents are blood-warm; then remove from the range and beat with an egg-beater until the batter is light brown in color. Now stir in a cupful of sour milk and three cupfuls of sifted flour. Beat very hard, adding, last of all, a teaspoonful of baking-soda dissolved in hot water. Beat for two minutes longer and bake in deep muffin tins, or in a shallow baking-pan.

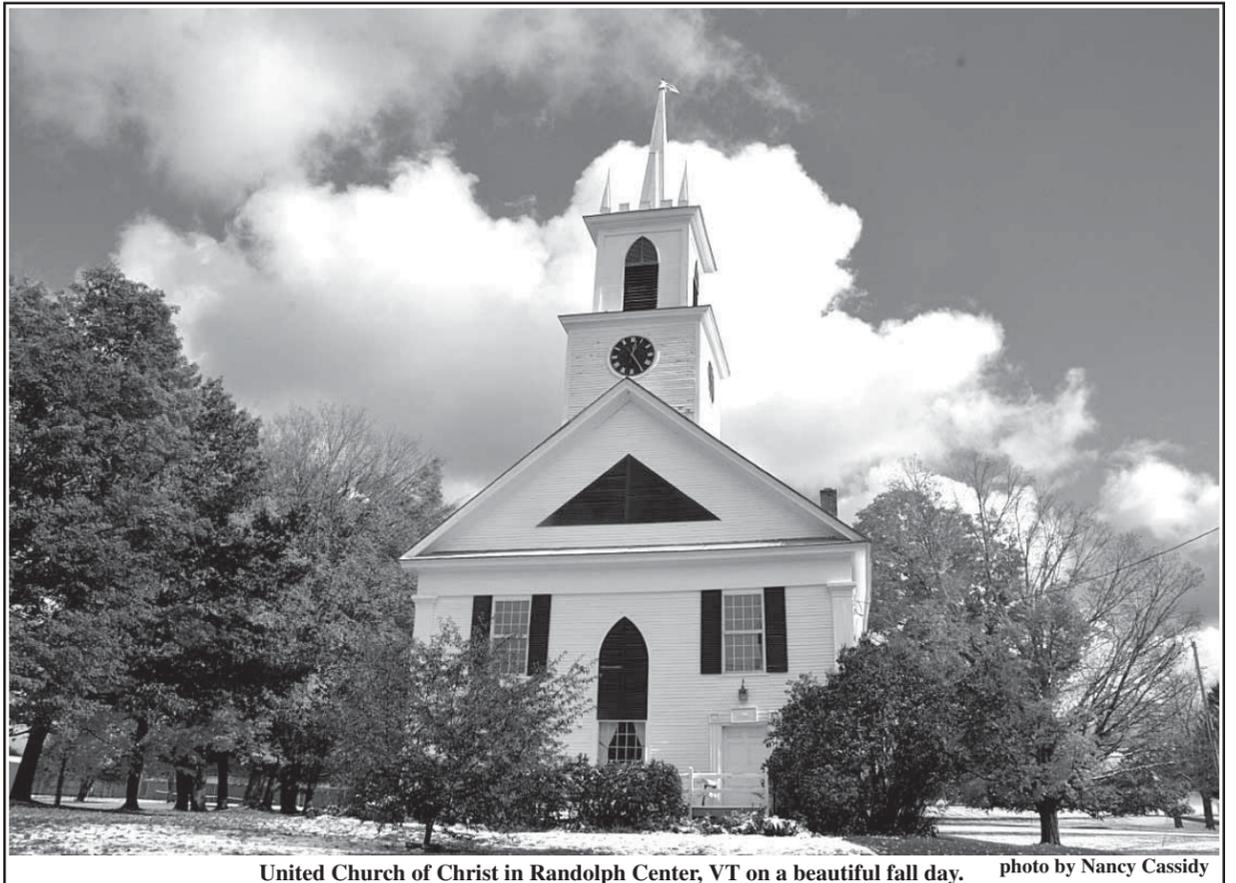
—Marion Harland's Cookbook, 1903

## Spoon Bread

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2½ cups sweet milk         | 2 tablespoons butter     |
| 1 c. stone-ground cornmeal | ½ teaspoon baking powder |
| 4 eggs                     | ½ teaspoon salt          |

Scald milk and stir the corn meal in slowly. Continue stirring until quite thick. Remove from heat and stir in butter. Separate eggs—whip yolks until light stir in baking powder and add to meal mixture. Whip whites until they stand in peaks—fold into mixture. Bake in a greased 1½ quart baking dish or an iron dutch oven at 375° for 45 minutes or until puffed and brown. Serve immediately with lots of butter. Good for breakfast or supper.

—Hodgson Mill



United Church of Christ in Randolph Center, VT on a beautiful fall day. photo by Nancy Cassidy

## Pork Chops Fried with Apples

Put the fresh chops in the frying pan, salt, pepper, and sage, if you like it, or any other sweet herb, to be scattered over, and fried. If not fat enough to make plenty of gravy, add butter or drippings. When the chops are nicely done, having sliced the apples, fry in the same dish, and when nicely browned put them over the chops or in a dish by themselves, as some may not like them, although the author, and probably most others, will be very fond of them. Use nice tart apples only. Chops of fresh pork, fried and seasoned the same way, are splendid, if nicely browned, even without the apples.

—Dr. A. W. Chase, 1890

## Grandmother's Apple Cake

(From an old family recipe.) Three cups of dried apples stewed slowly in two cups of molasses, then set aside to cool. Three cups of flour; two-thirds of a cup of butter; two cups of brown sugar; one-half cup of raisins; currants and grated lemon peel, mixed; eight teaspoonfuls of water, one level teaspoonful of soda dissolved in the water, three eggs, spices to taste. This cake will keep for weeks. It is better when a few days old than when first made. The apples should be carefully washed, first in warm, then in cold water, lying in this last for half an hour. Drain and toss in a towel before adding the molasses. In the "old times" the quantity of cake made by this recipe lasted the children a month.

—Marion Harland, 1906

## Oxbow Indian Pudding

Only a three-hour baking is required for this Indian pudding. It comes from and is named for the section of Vermont where the Connecticut River winds back and forth through the meadows in a great bow.

|                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1 quart milk    | ¼ cup sugar         |
| 1 cup corn meal | 1 tablespoon butter |
| Salt            | Cold milk           |
| ½ cup molasses  |                     |

Heat the quart of milk and stir in slowly the Indian meal. Add salt to taste and the molasses and sugar. Turn into a two-quart baking dish. Add the butter and pour in enough cold milk to fill the dish. Do not stir the milk. Bake slowly about three hours in a very slow oven, 275 to 300 degrees F.

—Secrets of New England Cooking, 1946

## Cranberry Muffins

|                           |                                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2 cups flour              | 1½ cups milk                     |
| 4 teaspoons baking powder | 2 tablespoons melted butter      |
| ½ cup sugar               | 1 cup cranberries, cut in halves |
| 1 teaspoon salt           |                                  |
| 1 egg                     |                                  |

Mix ingredients. Lightly flour the cranberries and add them last. Bake twenty to twenty-five minutes in a hot oven, 400° F. Makes one dozen medium-sized muffins.

—Secrets of New England Cooking, 1946

## Book Review by Charles Sutton

# Old-Fashioned Pies Just in Time for the Holidays

With the holiday season fast approaching one's thoughts turn to what kinds of pie should one have for dessert. To go beyond the traditional, like pumpkin, pecan, apple, or mince, consider the tasty and unique pies that our ancestors made hundreds of years ago, as suggested in *Vintage Pies—Classic American Pies for Today's Home Baker* by Anne Haynie Collins (\$21.96, Countrymen Press, www.countrymenpress.com). The author, who lives in

Cornwall, VT, started collecting heirloom pie recipes as a young girl, starting with her hand-me-down great, great grandmother's pie crust which she says is "very forgiving and produces a light and flaky crust, sturdy enough to stand up to any filling."

She also remembers her grandmother, Nancy Stone, baking up to a dozen pies each week to feed her family and the farmhands.

The simple but delicious vintage recipes described

here make use of the ingredients that a farm or housewife would have on hand in the larder. "These recipes speak to the ingenuity and thrift those women, using sometimes improbable ingredients and letting nothing go to waste." We learn also that the Shakers, during the early part of the 19th century because citrus fruits were so expensive, used the whole lemon (juice, rind, but no seeds) in their lemon pies. They cut the whole lemon into very thin slices and let them macerate and soften with sugar for 24 hours.

The vintage pies are divided into five sections: *transparent pies* whose basic filling is sugar, eggs and butter; *cake pies*, a Pennsylvania Dutch specialty where molasses and lard are used instead of sugar and butter;

*custard pies* created with milk, eggs and sugar; *cream pies* featuring a pudding-like filling (thickened with eggs yolks) and a whipped cream topping (in the old days the cream pie had a meringue topping); and *fruit pies* starting with rhubarb in the spring to apples and grapes in the autumn, solid or lattice crust.

Vintage pies are shown in full-page, colorful, mouth-watering photographs taken by Lisa and Todd Balfour. (We hope they got to sample each one.)

The author concludes: "Pies are not meant to be food art (although on a good day, they can be). Pie crusts shrink or have to be patched, fillings bubble over, meringues weep. But a pie's purpose is not to be beautiful; rather, to be eaten and savored."

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# A Vermont Almanack For Late Fall 2015

by Bill Felker

*There is a seasonal exhaustion in the air. The ground is cool and subdued as the hills turn dusky and purple by late afternoon. I pass cleared fields full of stubble, the lank, dark stalks of corn. Milkweeds, where monarchs deposited their eggs, have opened their pods, and the white silk lies over browning grass like wisps of cotton, or is concentrated in spots like the downy feathers of a chicken caught by a fox.*

—John Hay

## The Phases of The Deer Mating Moon And the Second Spring Moon

The courtship of deer continues throughout the late autumn, depending on the region. At the same time, milder fall weather often promotes a resurgence of spring growth, a "second spring." *November 3:* The Deer Mating Moon enters its final quarter at 7:24 a.m. *November 7:* Lunar Apogee. *November 11:* Second Spring Moon is new at 12:47 p.m. *November 19:* The moon enters second quarter at 1:27 a.m. *November 23:* Lunar Perigee. *November 25:* The moon is full at 5:44 p.m. *December 3:* The Second Spring Moon enters its final quarter at 2:40 a.m.

## The Sun

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 2. Set clocks back one hour at 2:00 a.m. (or whenever you would like).

## The Planets

Venus is the morning star throughout November and December, sharing that role with red Mars. Jupiter rises after midnight and is overhead when Venus and Mars appear.

## The Stars

Directly above you at 10:00 p.m., Perseus stands below the North Star. In front of Perseus, to the west, find Andromeda, and then the Great Square. East of Perseus is Capella, the most prominent star of the Milky Way (except for Sirius in the far southeast). By midnight, the Pleiades and Taurus, winter's prophets, will be almost directly overhead, Orion fully visible behind them. Regulus, the brightest star of spring, will be just starting to rise along the eastern tree line.

## The Shooting Stars

The Leonids, the dependable markers of late fall, hurtle through Leo in the east below the cup of the Big Dipper on the early morning of November 17–18. The thin moon should not interfere with your observations.

## Meteorology

Weather history suggests that cold waves usually approach Vermont on or about the following dates: November 2, 6, 11, 16, 20, 24 and 28. Snow or rain often occurs prior to the passage of each major front. If strong storms occur this month, weather patterns suggest that they will happen during the following periods: November 2–5, 14–16 and November 22–27. It is probable that new moon on November 11, as well as full moon on November 25 will bring stronger-than-average storms to the Northeast.



A Jersey heifer waits in the Vermont autumn.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

## When-Then November Phenology

by Bill Felker

When all the mums are past their best, then major bird migrations will soon be over for the year.

When the yellow witch hazel blooms, gardeners should put in spring bulbs and dormant roses, and mulch perennials. Farmers should plant the final winter grains and complete the harvest of corn of soybeans

When thimbleweed heads are tufted like cotton, then late fall arrives with killing frosts. That's the time to market goat and sheep cheese, Christmas cacti, dried flowers and grasses, poinsettias, mistletoe and ginseng for the holidays.

When Christmas cacti start to bud, then climbing bitter-sweet opens in the woods.

The budding of Christmas cacti is also a marker for planting amaryllis and paperwhite bulbs for mid-December blooms.

When autumn violets end their season beside the woodland paths, then strawberries can be mulched with straw and peonies divided and transplanted.

When the last maple leaves fall, test the field and garden soil, and mow the lawn for the last time. Dig manure into the garden. Plant next year's sweet peas and spinach. Set garlic cloves for spring.

When all the leaves are down, then fertilize trees and shrubs and remove tops from everbearing raspberries.

As mock orange and forsythia foliage thins, it measures the advance of winter. When all their leaves are down, a killing

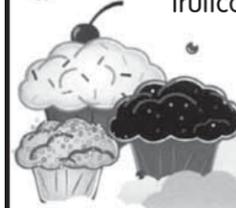
frost has occurred even in the mildest autumns. When deer rutting season reaches its peak, pastures are normally dormant. Only in subtropical Florida do Bermuda and Johnson grass, chenopods and amaranths bloom.

When the poinsettia crop arrives at the market, then the last crickets die in the cold and many farmers are feeding hay to their livestock.

*Bill Felker has been writing nature almanacs since 1984. His website, with a link to his weekly radio notes on NPR station WYSO, is [www.poorwillsalmanack.com](http://www.poorwillsalmanack.com).*

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Belgian draft horse and little sorrel pony together in a fall field in central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

## The Horses

Barely a twelvemonth after  
The seven days war that put the world to sleep,  
Late in the evening the strange horses came.  
By then we had made our covenant with silence,  
But in the first few days it was so still  
We listened to our breathing and were afraid.  
On the second day  
The radios failed; we turned the knobs, no answer.

On the third day a warship passed us,  
Headed north,  
Dead bodies piled on the deck. On the sixth day  
A plane plunged over us into the sea. Thereafter  
Nothing. The radios dumb;  
And still they stand in corners of our kitchens,  
And stand, perhaps, turned on, in a million rooms  
All over the world. But now if they should speak,  
If on a sudden they should speak again,  
If on the stroke of noon a voice should speak,  
We would not listen, we would not let it bring  
That old bad world that  
Swallowed its children quick  
At one great gulp. We would not have it again.  
Sometimes we think of the nations lying asleep,  
Curled blindly in impenetrable sorrow,  
And then the thought confounds us  
With its strangeness.  
The tractors lie about our fields; at evening  
They look like dank sea-monsters  
Crouched and waiting.  
We leave them where they are and let them rust:  
"They'll molder away and be like other loam."  
We make our oxen drag our rusty plows,  
Long laid aside. We have gone back  
Far past our fathers' land.

And then, that evening  
Late in the summer the strange horses came.  
We heard a distant tapping on the road,  
A deepening drumming; it stopped, went on again  
And at the corner changed to hollow thunder.  
We saw the heads  
Like a wild wave charging and were afraid.  
We had sold our horses in our fathers' time  
To buy new tractors. Now they were strange to us  
As fabulous steeds set on an ancient shield  
Or illustrations in a book of knights.  
We did not dare go near them. Yet they waited,  
Stubborn and shy, as if they had been sent  
By an old command to find our whereabouts  
And that long-lost archaic companionship.  
In the first moment we had never a thought  
That they were creatures to be owned and used.  
Among them were some half a dozen colts  
Dropped in some wilderness of the broken world,  
Yet new as if they had come from their own Eden.  
Since then they have pulled our plows  
And borne our loads,  
But that free servitude still can pierce our hearts.  
Our life is changed; their coming our beginning.

—EDWIN MUIR  
(1887–1959)

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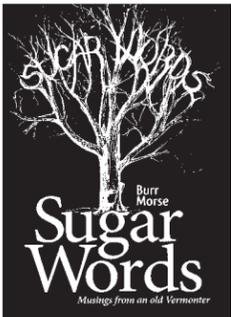
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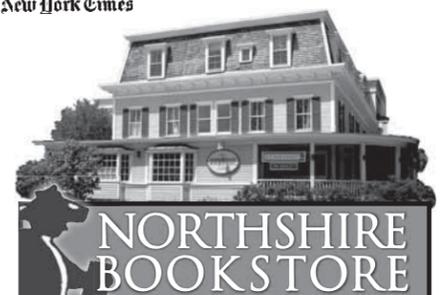
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# Thanksgiving Memories

Circa 1908

by Elisabeth Doren

Over the course of a lifetime, Thanksgiving Days come and go in a long procession that blends into one grand picture of a feast. But in my long parade of days, there is an early memory that stands out, if only for one small detail—a pretty little aqua blue dress with smocking at the yoke. There’s a small child in it, about three years old, standing on tip-toe trying to reach a cut-glass bowl filled with peanuts, on a stand in the parlor. The picture is very clear. It should be, for I’ve taken it out of my sheaf of memories many times and examined it carefully. Yes, the small child was myself, and the dress was real, and the bowl of peanuts. But I have no memory, imagined or otherwise, of the Thanksgiving feast that followed on that particular day. Just when does memory give way to imagination? And if it does, could anyone imagine a feast more luscious than what actually, factually occurred?

I do, however, remember quite clearly a November event from my childhood on the farm. Our family had “gone into” turkeys. They didn’t just decide to hatch a few eggs for the

*“We count our blessings large and small, and honor our lives together, come what may.”*

Thanksgiving market. They went into the enterprise with stars in their eyes, and dreams of making a killing, in the market, that is—not just in the turkey yard.

I don’t know how many they raised, maybe hundreds—more likely dozens. As I recall it the birds were huge, almost as big as I was, and you had to be cautious with them. Sometimes the huge turkey gobbler would chase you, and you had to run for cover if you didn’t want to be mutilated by that vicious beak or the great claw-tipped feet. We children would imitate their strange wild gobbling, but only at a safe distance.

How the folks managed to catch them and perform the eventual coup-de-grace, I don’t know, as they made us youngsters stay strictly inside the house. The horrors we imagined were no doubt far greater than the actuality. Maybe they just wanted us out of the way while they went about their bloody business.

Anyway we kids stayed in the house with Aunt Kate and watched the runners bring in the hapless birds, all plucked and dressed for the final touches, like pulling a few stray



Vermont deer brought down by J. P Wiggins and his son in West Corinth, VT in 1908.

pin-feathers, and wrapping for the market. Since we had no freezers back then, most were ordered ahead of time for delivery in the couple of days before Thanksgiving.

The actual feast was pretty much the same then as now, the main difference with us being that it came from the farm, instead of the store.

The turkeys were home-grown and the table was laden with the fruit of the fields, vegetables from the garden, potatoes—gold coin and Irish cobbler—coleslaw from the great pile of cabbages stored under straw in the carriage house, carrots and turnips from boxes in the cellar, celery carefully wrapped and stored for special occasions, our own jams and jellies and relishes and pickles—you name it, we had it.

There were pies of all sorts to choose from, our own apples stored in barrels in the cellar, and mincemeat from a big stone

crook at the head of the cellar stairs—those same stairs I had bumped my way down as an exploring creeper. My mother picked me up unhurt but yelling lustily, so I’ve been told.

Even the crust for the pies was a home made product. In the fall when the hogs were butchered great qualities of lard were tried—a technical term which included cooking and melting to a pure white usable shortening. If the pies happened to be pumpkin, that too was home-grown and cooked down to a rich deep brown in an iron skillet, or “spider,” as it was called then. If apple, they were baked, four at a time, in the oven of the big wood-burning kitchen stove.

We had ice cream in those days, home-made of rich cream and sugar (no fillers to stretch the cream), hand-cranked, mostly during the winter months when ice was plentiful. But who could eat ice cream on top of all that went before?

And so the Thanksgivings continue year after year, and whether it’s memory or imagination that records them, a picture emerges.

For one day we gather together for a feast celebrating bounty in the face of certain starvation. We count our blessings large and small, and honor our lives together, come what may.

## Bennington, VT

### Music by Leonard Bernstein to be Performed on November 8

Music is alive and well at the Bennington Museum! We are pleased to present the second concert in our new series called “Music at the Museum.” The four-part series covers a range of music as diverse as the museum’s collection, from foot-stomping acoustical to sonatas by Leonard Bernstein and Beethoven. All concerts are free.

The upcoming concert held on Sunday, November 8 at 2 p.m. in the Ada Paresky Education Center of the Bennington Museum in Bennington, VT, celebrates the music of Leonard Bernstein. This performance was created by Bennington College’s Allen Shawn, who recently published a biography of the composer. Pianist Elizabeth

Wright, cellist Maxine Neuman, and violinist Joana Genova perform compositions by Bernstein, including some written while he was a student at Harvard.

A program of little-known instrumental compositions by the famed conductor, teacher, and composer of “West Side Story”, and “Candide” includes “Sonata for Violin and Piano” (1939), “Three Meditations from Mass” for cello and piano, and “Movement from Piano Trio” (1937).

Allen Shawn joined the music faculty of Bennington College in 1985. He remains an active performer as a pianist.

Since 1980, Shawn has written articles on contemporary music in the *Atlantic*

*Monthly* and has written four books: *Arnold Schoenberg’s Journey, Wish I Could Be There, Twin and Leonard Bernstein—An American Musician*.

The concert will be preceded by a talk in which composer and author Allen Shawn (*Leonard Bernstein—An American Musician*) speaks about Bernstein’s life and puts the music of the program in context.

Elizabeth Wright, Artist Associate in Piano at Williams College, has performed extensively throughout the United States, Europe, the USSR and Japan.

Maxine Neuman, is a cellist whose solo and chamber music career spans North America, South America, Europe and Japan.

Joana Genova, is a violinist and Artist Associate at Williams College, and Resident Artist and Education Director of the Manchester Music Festival.

Bennington Museum is located at 75 Main Street (Route 9), Bennington, VT. The museum is open daily but is closed in November and December on Wednesdays. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors and students over 18. (802) 447-1571. [benningtonmuseum.org](http://benningtonmuseum.org).





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# Cleaning Bird Feeders And Other November Gardening Tips

by Leonard Perry, UVM Horticulturist  
and Charlie Nardozi, Garden Consultant

Cleaning bird feeders, spreading mulch, and planting paperwhite narcissus are some of the gardening activities for this month.

Clean bird feeders before winter bird feeding begins. Old or moldy seeds in the bottom of feeders can harbor diseases that may harm birds. Scrub with a brush and rinse thoroughly. Disinfect with a bleach solution as you do for pots (one part bleach to nine parts water). Now is a great month to look for sales on bird seed and stock up for winter.

Spread winter mulch around established plants once the ground has frozen. If you mulch too soon, it will keep the soil warmer longer. This can delay dormancy in plants that you want to go dormant so they aren't caught by surprise when winter arrives.

The exceptions to late mulching are bulb beds, including those for garlic, and newly planted perennials. After you plant bulbs, spread mulch on top to help keep the soil warmer longer to allow for more root growth this fall. Roots will continue to grow until the soil temperature drops below about 40 degrees (F). If you have bulbs, but haven't gotten around to planting yet, do so soon. It is definitely better to plant now rather than wait until spring. Or you can plant in pots to keep cool (around 40 degrees), then force into early bloom in spring.

Paperwhites are those narcissus bulbs with fragrant white flowers often seen during the holidays. You'll find their bulbs for sale now. Choose a container with no drainage holes,



Holsteins on a hill in Central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

fill it with gravel, and set the bulbs so the top third pokes above the gravel. Add water until it's just below the base of the bulbs because the bulbs will send down roots into the water. Make sure bulbs aren't submerged into the water. Or, plant the paperwhite bulbs in a shallow container filled with potting soil. Placing the container in a cool (50 to 60 degrees F.), bright room is best for rooting and sturdier stems. Plants should bloom four to six weeks from the planting date.

Houseplants that summered outdoors may have brought in freeloaders that are now multiplying like crazy in our heated homes. Inspect the undersides of the leaves for webbing of spider mites. Leaf axils (where they attach to the stems) are favorite hiding places of the white, cottony mealybugs. Dark-colored scale insects hug the stems and veins of the leaves and can be invisible unless you look closely. Insecticidal soap is most effective on soft-bodied insects like spider mites, aphids, and mealybugs. Horticultural oil is the best control for scale insects.

Plastic spiral tree wraps and brown paper wraps can protect tree trunks from sunscald and gnawing by rodents. Put them in place before the snow falls so they will extend all the way to the ground, or else the critters can sneak underneath the snow and feed on the exposed lower bark. If you've recently planted a tree this fall, and it is in a site exposed to winds, it will need staking. Or, if you planted and staked a tree a year or two ago, check the ties around the trunk. Be sure the ties aren't tight so the tree can sway in the breeze. Wind stress actually can increase root growth and trunk girth, which results in a stronger mature tree. If ties were put on a couple years ago, the tree may have grown in girth, making the ties too tight.

Other activities for this month include getting mowers ready for winter—covering if outside, and adding stabilizers to the fuel, cleaning garden tools, draining garden hoses, cleaning dead plants from vegetable gardens, and storing clay pots in a dry location.

Leonard Perry is a Horticulture Professor at University of Vermont. Visit [perrysperennials.info](http://perrysperennials.info). Charlie Nardozi is a nationally known horticulturist, author, gardening consultant, and garden coach. Visit [CharlieNardozi.com](http://CharlieNardozi.com).

## 47th Annual Pawlet Wild Game And Chicken & Biscuit Supper

The Pawlet Vol. Fire Department will be holding their 47th Annual Wild Game & Chicken & Biscuit Supper on Saturday November 14, 2015 at the Pawlet Firehouse in Pawlet, VT. Serving begins at 5 p.m.

The menu includes venison roast, bear roast, mooseballs, venison stew chicken & biscuits, veggie salads,

topped off by homemade pie. Beverages are also available. \$12 for adults, \$6 ages 10-6 and 5 & under free. This is a major fundraiser for the department, hope to see you there.

For more information call (802) 325-3222, email [pvfd155@gmail.com](mailto:pvfd155@gmail.com) or visit [pawlet.org](http://pawlet.org).

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Shall we move on?  
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not just because the oxen tire.  
We have dry branches for our fire;  
the forest forms a natural shed.

Look eastward how the morning sun  
spreads first and special sunlight here  
while shadowed mountains tier on tier  
brighten before us one by one.

Beside the swamp's dark virgin loam  
I saw the deer in evening shade  
leap from the cover tall grass made  
to circle land fit for our home.

—WILLIAM MUNDELL  
Newfane, VT, 1952



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# All Soul's Day

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

November second is the Feast of All Souls, a time to remember the departed. All Souls was first celebrated at the Abbey of Cluny in 1048, and it is celebrated still.

I've never had any difficulty understanding the appropriateness of the November observance because November is a dark, cold, drawing-in time, the death of the year, when it's hard for me not to think back to people I knew who are now gone.

Because I've lived in Castleton most of my life, and because my parents and my grandparents lived here, there are a lot of people to remember. The departed leave their stories behind. One of these stories can come back to me so powerfully that I catch a ghostly glimpse of the long-dead raconteur.

When my children were growing up, Julia McCann, a retired teacher, and her niece Mildred Graham, were our next door neighbors. Julia had been my father's teaching supervisor at Castleton Normal School.

My father told me that he never forgot her chiding him for coming to a school 'practicum' with scuffed shoes, and so he got out his polish every night for the rest of his teaching career. I think of that often.

Each morning we saw Julia and Mildred, Mildred at the wheel, shoot backward out of their driveway in Mildred's little car. They went everywhere. I always thought that they felt if they kept moving they could avoid the grim reaper, and for a long time it must have worked because Julia lived to be over a hundred.

But in the end she was bedridden. They had to sell most of their old things to keep going, and we no longer saw the little car careening down the drive.

The neighbors on the other side of us were the Hanley girls, Loretta and her younger sister 'Baby,' also retired teachers who'd gone to the Normal. Their brother, Farmer Hanley, inherited the family home place in Hubbardton, but his antiques-loving sisters, who both lived to be over a hundred, did fine in their Federal style Main Street house.

Helen Brown owned The Maples, a Victorian show-place just beyond the girls. I first visited her dazzling house when I was a teenager, and in the end sometimes drove her to meetings of the Castleton Women's Club.

Helen Hall didn't own a car. She walked downtown to the store and on Sundays to the Federated Church, sent what tiny amount of money she could spare to support Indian tribes, and continued to use her illegal burn barrel right up until her death. She and her mother had a little, bare bones, South Street house with new college buildings and parking lots steadily growing up around them.

I remember Margaret Onion and Martha Towers when they were in their eighties standing in front of the Federated Church, which they had both attended all of their lives, recounting a story about the town old ones that I can no longer remember, with peals of conspiratorial laughter that I'll never forget.

## The National Museum of the Morgan Horse in Middlebury, VT

A lot of us grew up reading *Justin Morgan Had a Horse* by Marguerite Henry and any horse lover is familiar with the legend, true, about the fabled sire of the Morgan breed, a sturdy little stallion named Figure, foaled in 1789 and purchased by Justin Morgan of Randolph, VT. For 32 years Figure worked, and raced around New England, and sired the foundation of the Morgan breed.

If horses, and in particular Morgans interest you, you should pay a visit to The National Museum of the Morgan Horse, located on Main Street in Middlebury, VT.

The museum educates the public about the history of the Morgan horse through

exhibits and programming. They are also currently digitizing their collection of artifacts and archives, most of which are housed in Middlebury College Library's Special Collections, including brochures, broadsides, breeding pamphlets, books, club newsletters, saddles, carriages, and more.

A visit to the The National Museum of the Morgan Horse shares the story of the Morgan horse including its origins as a farm workhorse in New England, its involvement in the Civil War, its history as a racing horse, and how it was bred by the United States Department of Agriculture in Weybridge, VT.

The Museum also hosts

End-of-Main-Street Diamond Hollow was home to centurion Beth Hyman. Very late at night with the aid of a blindingly-bright pole lamp, she read in her front room, close to an uncurtained window. She told me that she remembered my grandfather Claude Gibbs delivering her mail.

Up the hill from Diamond Hollow, in a picturesquely-dilapidated, brick, step-gable house lived Bessie Ransom, an age-ruined beauty in her nineties who was the sole caretaker of her crippled, mentally-compromised and raucous son Barrett.

I knew that Bessie was a Jakeway from West Haven, and one day she came into our store and told me in a cracked, hard-to-understand,

old-age voice that she remembered seeing my teen-aged grandmother, also from West Haven, driving a buckboard with my great-grandmother sitting beside her.

Mary Grady lived with her middle-aged twin sons Jerry and Jeff, confirmed bachelors, in a minute house on Castleton's treeless Elm Street.

Mary was devoted to a West Rutland priest who had moved far away from Vermont. She badgered him with agonizingly-selected greeting cards, and when I was behind the counter running the store, she insisted that I be included in every aspect of her selection process.

I remember the men too. When we met on the street, widowed Earl Martin always called me "Mrs," like a Wessex yeoman in a Thomas Hardy novel.

local artists who specialize in equine art. On display this fall will be Stacey Stanhope Dundon's oil paintings, functional pottery, and full size horse heads. In addition, local artist Gayl Braisted's paintings of barns will be on exhibit.

Morgan horse history is closely entwined with the history of Vermont, New England, and America. A trip to the The National Museum of the Morgan Horse allows visitors a glimpse into the story of "America's First Breed."

The Museum also features a gift shop full of Morgan horse t-shirts, books, and posters. Follow the Museum on Facebook to see images

from the collection and find out the latest information about events and exhibits.

The museum is open Tuesday - Friday, 1-5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and by appointment. Staff are onsite from 9 a.m. - 12 noon Tuesday - Friday but engaged in research and archival work. However, if they're free they'd be happy to give you a tour! Each Saturday from 10 a.m. - 12 noon there will be a kids craft/art project.

*The National Museum of the Morgan Horse is located at 34 Main St. in Middlebury, VT. (802) 388-1639. morgmuseum@gmail.com. morganhorse.com/museum.*

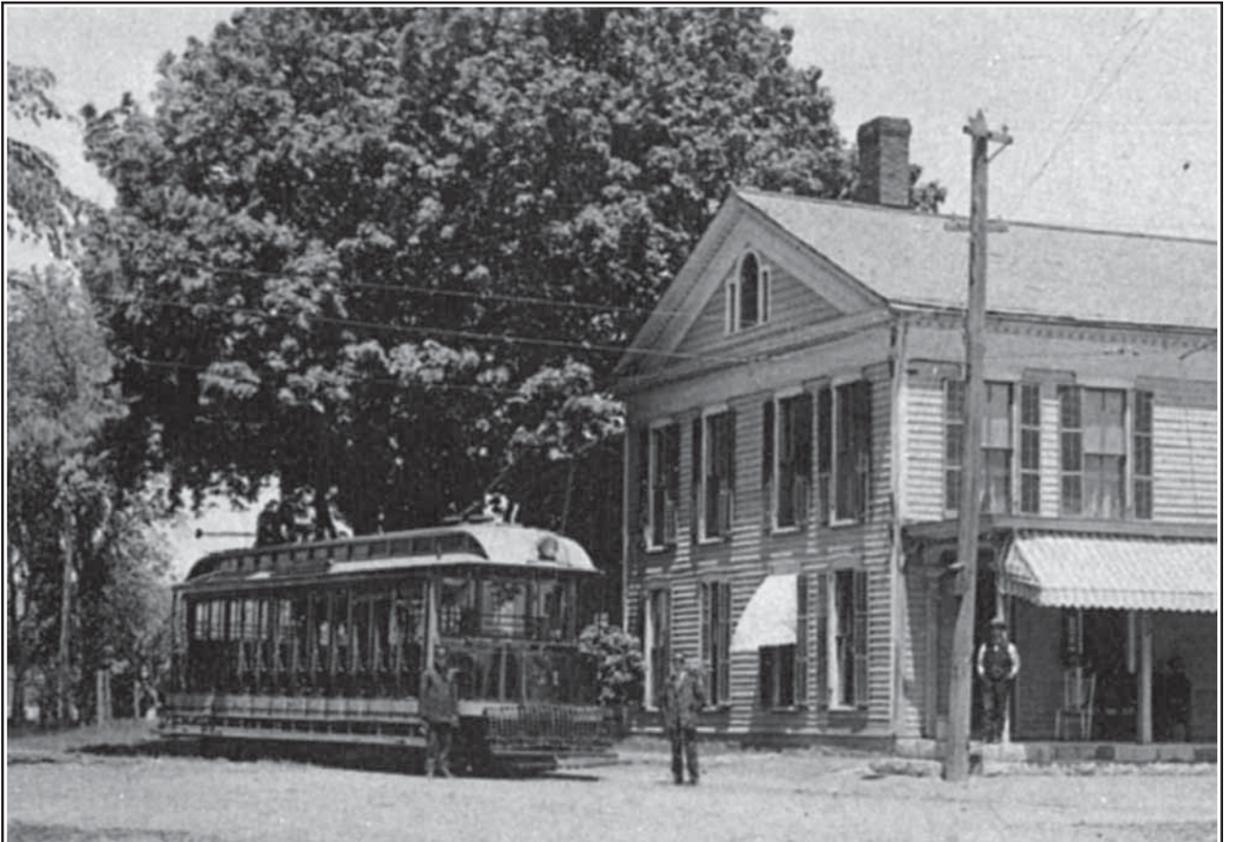


photo courtesy Castleton Historical Society  
**Town with a history. The St. Lawrence, later Westover House at Castleton Corners about 1909. Located at the northeast corner of Main St. and the Lake Road. At that time, the trolley ran from Rutland to Castleton and on into Fair Haven and Poultney.**

Over at the diner, an elderly trio, Joe Minogue—once the high school helper who carried out my grandmother's coal ashes, Joe Jardine, my philosophy teacher at CSC, and retired math professor Chris White, with whom I used to take long walks, met every afternoon to sit in a booth in the back corner.

These people are gone from here. When I kneel in church at this November Feast in honor of the dead, their whispering, gently-jostling spirits fill the pews around me like the cast of *Our Town*. Sometimes, I hear a tiny laugh, a cough, a murmur.

They don't seem very far away, and I miss them all.

*Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written and lived most of her life in Castleton Vermont. She is the author of many 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, VT 05735, and a number of Vermont bookstores. To reach the store, call (802) 468-2213.*

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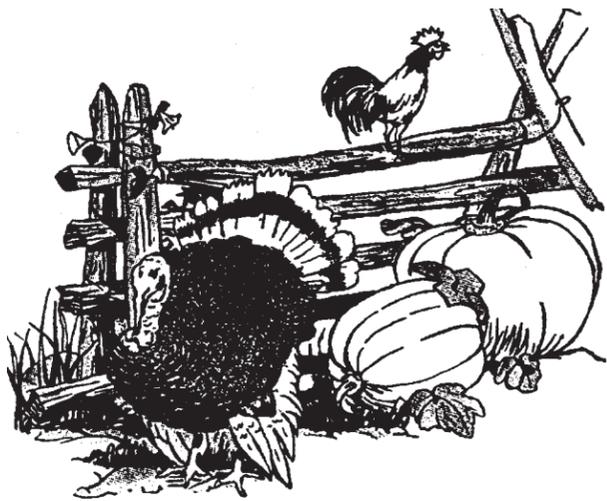
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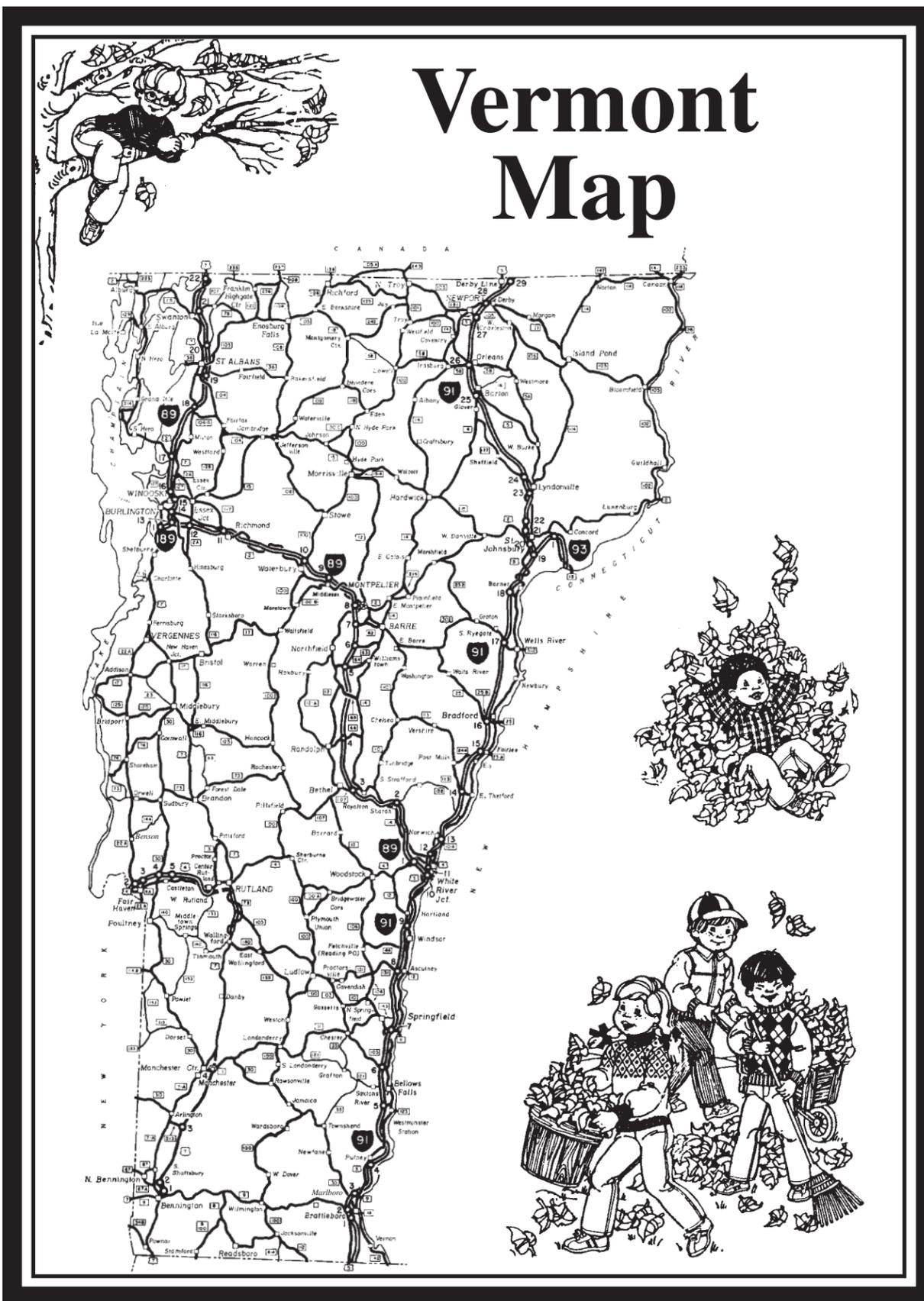
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The night is freezing fast,  
To-morrow comes December;  
And winterfalls of old  
Are with me from the past;  
And chiefly I remember  
How Dick would hate the cold.

Fall, winter, fall; for he,  
Prompt hand and headpiece clever,  
Has woven a winter robe,  
And made of earth and sea  
His overcoat for ever,  
And wears the turning globe.

—A.E. HOUSMAN  
1859-1936

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# Vermont Country Calendar

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

## DAILY EVENTS

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

**LONDONDERRY.** Concert. Nordic Harmoni. 20 singers perform songs in Swedish. 3 pm. Second Congregational Church, 2051 N. Main St. (802) 6453.

**SOUTH BURLINGTON.** UVM Farm Halloween Barn. 5-6:30 pm. A fun-filled evening of Halloween activities and trick-or-treating among the horses. Students and horses are dressed up for the event, so please wear your costumes and bring a bucket for candy! \$3 donation per child. Parking will be at Gutterson (on west side of Spear St. just north of the farm) with a shuttle bringing attendees to and from the farm. Handicap parking will be available at the farm. Any questions, please email [jenny.wilkinson@uvm.edu](mailto:jenny.wilkinson@uvm.edu). At the UVM Horse Barn Coop, 500 Spear St. off Williston Rd.

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

**BRANDON.** Presentation with Musical Demonstration. Distinguished UK violinist Madeleine Mitchell, with pianist Palmyra Catravas. Free. 7:30 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Dr. (802) 247-4295. [info@cmacvt.org](mailto:info@cmacvt.org). [www.cmacvt.org](http://www.cmacvt.org).

**BURLINGTON.** Queen City Ghostwalk: Darkness Falls Tour, Wicked Waterfront Tour, Tombstone Shadows, and Queen City Ghostwalk Bus Tours. For tickets go to [www.flynnntix.org](http://www.flynnntix.org). Call for schedules or visit website. (802) 351-1313. [mail@queencityghostwalk.com](mailto:mail@queencityghostwalk.com). [queencityghostwalk.com](http://queencityghostwalk.com). *Through November 1.*

**FERRISBURGH.** Book & Author Program: Jane Beck shares her new book, *Daisy Turner's Kin*. \$2 program only or free with museum admission. 3 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 US Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. [rokeby@comcast.net](mailto:rokeby@comcast.net). [www.rokeby.org](http://www.rokeby.org).

**TINMOUTH.** Bat Talk. Vermont State Biologist Scott Darling will present an informative talk on bats. Kid-friendly event to share how important bats are to our ecosystem. Refreshments will be served. 6:30 pm at the Old Tinmouth Firehouse, at the intersection of Rt. 140 and Mountain View Rd. in downtown Tinmouth. (802) 446-2498. [www.tinmouthvt.org](http://www.tinmouthvt.org).

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

**BURLINGTON.** Performance: Dorrance Dance. Former STOMP member and Jacob's Pillow Dance Award winner Michelle Dorrance pushes tap in new directions, combining street, club, and experimental dance to the sound of furious rhythms. Tickets: \$15-\$40. 7:30 pm. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (802) 652-4500. [www.flynncenter.org](http://www.flynncenter.org).

**BURLINGTON.** Book & Author Event. Jeffrey H. Beerworth talks about his new book, *Historic Crimes and Justice in Burlington, Vermont*. 7 pm. \$3 per person includes a coupon for \$5 off Beerworth's book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Seating is limited. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. [www.phoenixbooks.biz](http://www.phoenixbooks.biz).

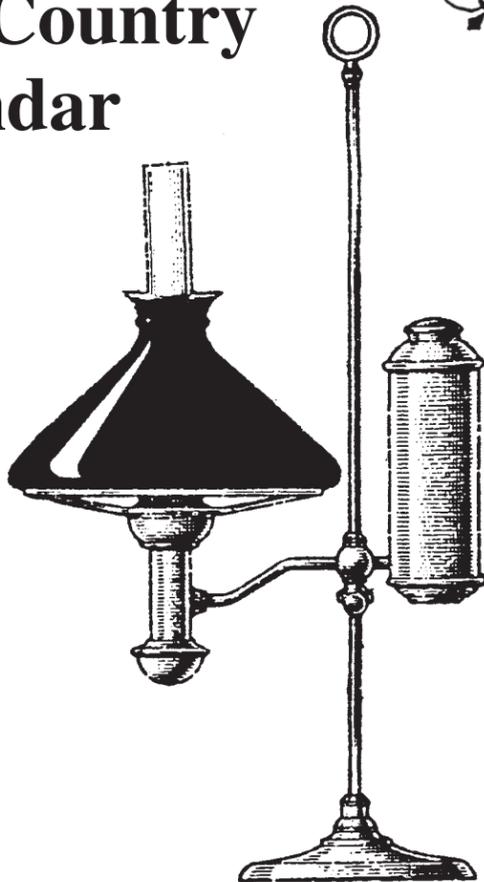
**MIDDLEBURY.** An Evening of Chinese Music. Pipa player Wu Man and the Shanghai String Quartet meld the sounds of China with a western string quartet in a program that includes traditional Chinese folk songs, solo pipa works, Beethoven's Op. 95 "Quartetto Serioso," and a new multimedia work by Chinese composer Zhao Jiping and his son, Zhao Lin, including some of Jiping's famous cinematic scores, *Raise the Red Lantern*, *To Live*, and *Farewell My Concubine*. Pre-concert lecture by faculty from the Greenberg-Starr Dept. of Chinese Language and Literature at 6:30 pm in room 125. Tickets: \$25. 7:30 pm. Mahaney Center for the Arts, 72 Porter Field Rd. (802) 443-3168. [www.middlebury.edu](http://www.middlebury.edu).

**SHELburne.** Slide Presentation: Sue Morse premieres "Nuts About Mast." About how local wildlife uses "mast"—nuts, fruits, seeds and buds from trees and shrubs—to survive while helping to sustain the forests and fields around us. Fee: \$20. Registration required. 6-8 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. (802) 985-8686. [www.shelburnefarms.org](http://www.shelburnefarms.org).

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

**BRATTLEBORO.** Concert: Sofia Rei Quartet. "One of the best Argentine singers ever," with a quartet who share her passion for exploring the deep troughs of Latin rhythms. Tickets: \$20-\$40 sliding scale. 8 pm. Vermont Jazz Center, 74 Cotton Mill Hill. (802) 387-0102. [nextstagearts@gmail.com](mailto:nextstagearts@gmail.com). [www.nextstagearts.org](http://www.nextstagearts.org). [www.vtjazz.org](http://www.vtjazz.org).

**BURLINGTON.** Halloween Express. A Halloween party at Burlington's Main Street Station and a spirited 60-minute train ride to Shelburne and back. Fun activities and costumed characters including Elsa and Olaf from "Frozen," Batman and more. Kid-friendly food and drinks available for purchase. A surprise gift will be given to kids as they exit the train. Costumes encouraged. All ages welcome. Tickets \$23. 12 pm, 2 pm, 4 pm. Main Street Station. [halloweenexpressvt.com](http://halloweenexpressvt.com). *Also Oct. 31.*



**BURLINGTON.** Haunted Express Train Ride. Be prepared to be scared! Locally sourced food and drinks (including Switchback brews for age 21+) are available for purchase. Tickets \$23. Departures at 6 pm, 8 pm, 10 pm. Main Street Station. [halloweenexpressvt.com](http://halloweenexpressvt.com). *Also October 31.*

**BURLINGTON.** Comedy Performance: Kathy Griffin: *Like a Boss*. Two-time Emmy and Grammy-winning comedian Kathy Griffin performs an outrageous evening of unbridled stand-up comedy. Tickets: \$69-\$27. 8 pm. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (802) 652-4500. [www.flynncenter.org](http://www.flynncenter.org).

**BURLINGTON.** Concert: The Shanghai Quartet. With Wu Man playing the pipa. Part of the UVM Lane Series. Tickets \$40, students \$10. Pre-concert talk at 6:30 in the recital hall. Concert 7:30 pm. University of Vermont Recital Hall, Southwick Music Building, 384 Prospect St. (802) 656-4455. [uvm.edu/laneseries](http://uvm.edu/laneseries).

**DORSET.** Graveyard Walk. The Dorset Historical Society and Dorset Library will host an educational walk through the Dorset Cemetery led by Linda McGinnis. Learn about the background of Dorset's historic figures. Refreshments will be served at the Historical Society before the walk. May not be suitable for children under 12. Fee: \$10. 8:45 pm. Dorset Historical Society, Rt. 30 and Kent Hill Rd. (802) 867-0331. [dorsetvhistory.org](http://dorsetvhistory.org).

**GUILFORD.** Gaines Farm Haunted Hayride & Haunted Corn Maze. Baby animal barn, hayrides, horse riding and fun games for kids of all ages. Concession stand and picnic tables. Children attending the haunted events should be over 10. Admission: hayride \$10, maze \$9. Open 6:30-10 pm. Gaines Farm, 6343 Coolidge Hwy. (802) 257-0409. [info@gainesfarm.com](mailto:info@gainesfarm.com). [gainesfarm.com](http://gainesfarm.com). *Also October 31.*

**VERGENNES.** Harborween. With musicians Tim Jennings and Leanne Ponder. 7:30-10 pm. Basin Harbor Club, 4800 Basin Harbor Rd. (802) 475-2311. [www.basinharbor.com](http://www.basinharbor.com).

**WATERFORD.** Harvest Festival. An alternative to trick-or-treating for kids up to 6th grade includes dinner, games, candy, a bouncy-house, maze, prizes and more. 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Union Baptist Church gym. Rt. 5 just south of St. Johnsbury. (802) 748-5639. [ubc@ubestj.com](mailto:ubc@ubestj.com). [ubestj.org](http://ubestj.org).

**WOODSTOCK.** Musical: The Rocky Horror Show. That sweet transvestite and his motley crew do the time warp on Broadway in this 25th anniversary revival. Sponsored by Pentangle Arts Council. Tickets \$25. 7:30 pm. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green. (802) 457-3981. [www.pentanglearts.org](http://www.pentanglearts.org). *Also October 31.*

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

**BENNINGTON.** Program: Second Annual Haunted Monument Tour. Tricks or treats, guided tours on the haunted steps, closing day sale in the gift shop. Admission \$5 adults, \$1 children ages six through 14 years; in costume: adults @, under 14 free. 1-7:30 pm. Bennington Battle Monument. (802) 447-0550.

**BURLINGTON.** Halloween Express. A Halloween party at Burlington's Main Street Station and a spirited 60-minute train ride to Shelburne and back. Kid-friendly food and drinks available for purchase. A surprise gift will be given to kids as they exit the train. Costumes encouraged. All ages welcome. Tickets \$23. 10 am, 12 pm, 2 pm, 4 pm. Main Street Station. [halloweenexpressvt.com](http://halloweenexpressvt.com).

**BURLINGTON.** Halloween at ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. Have your face painted with Hyperfocus Art in the morning, trick-or-treat around the building, make special spooky crafts, and more. Half-priced admission (\$3.50) for kids in costume! 10 am - 5 pm. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center at Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, One College St. (877) 324-6385. [info@echovermont.org](mailto:info@echovermont.org). [www.echovermont.org](http://www.echovermont.org).

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Starting November 4

**THE RUTLAND WINTER  
FARMERS MARKET**  
251 West St., Rutland, VT



# Vermont Country Calendar

(October 31, continued)

**CAMBRIDGE.** Story Barn Storytelling Potluck. Run by Vermont author Mark Laxer. Bring food or drink to share, and your stories and music. Free. 4:30 pm. Storytelling Barn, 480 Hogback Rd. [www.vecotourism.org/storybarn](http://www.vecotourism.org/storybarn).

**GUILFORD.** Gaines Farm Haunted Hayride & Haunted Corn Maze. Baby animal barn, hayrides, horse riding and fun games for kids of all ages. Concession stand and picnic tables. Children attending the haunted events should be over 10. Admission: hayride \$10, maze \$9. 6:30-10 pm. Gaines Farm, 6343 Coolidge Hwy. (802) 257-0409.

**MANCHESTER.** Halloween on the Hill. Performances by magician Tom Joyce at 2:30 & 4 pm. Pumpkin painting, scavenger hunt, games and more. Free and open to all ages. 2-4 pm. Hosted by the Southern Vermont Art Center. (802) 362-1405. [svac.org](http://svac.org).

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Family Halloween Bubble Dance Costume Party and Haunted House. Free and open to the public. Little ghosts and goblins must be accompanied by grownup witches and werewolves. 10:30 am. The Manchester Community Library, 138 Cemetery Ave. (802) 362-2607.

**MONTPELIER.** Ski and Skate Swap. Bring items to sell from 4-6 pm Oct. 22, from 9 am-7 pm Oct. 23 and 9 am-2 pm Oct. 24. Montpelier High School Gym, 5 High School Drive (802) 225-8699 [www.montpelierrec.org](http://www.montpelierrec.org).

**MONTPELIER.** Lost Nation Theater's Poe Spooktacular. Celebrate Halloween for grown-ups with the Wizards of the Weird featuring "The Raven" from artistic director Kim Bent, Mark Roberts, and recent guest artists Ingrid Nielsen, Taryn Noelle & Matthew Grant Winston. Also, a vampire tango, a tune-or-two from Rocky Horror and Wendy the wolf-girl, a 21-piece jazz band. Devilish food delectables, a haunted walk, door prizes and a costume contest. Kids version 4-5:30 pm. Tickets \$25 at the door. 8 pm. Montpelier City Hall Arts Center. (802) 229-0492. [lostnationtheater.org](http://lostnationtheater.org).

**PROCTORSVILLE.** Halloween Celebration. Cavendish Baptist Church is sponsoring a Trunk or Treat in the elementary school parking lot. Trunk or Treating is a version of Trick or Treating, but instead of children going from door to door to collect candy they go from trunk to trunk around the parking lot. Adults should bring their car, decorating the trunk with a theme and handing out candy. Kids come in costume, collect candy and vote for the best decorated trunk. 5-7 pm. At Cavendish Town Elementary School, 573 Main St. For more info call (802) 226-8113.

**RUPERT.** Autumn Hike in Merck Forest. We will hike to Viewpoint Cabin for lunch. The vistas at Viewpoint and Ridge cabins have been opened up further this past spring, so we are looking forward to checking out the new view. Sponsored by the Killington Section of the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Wear a jacket and bring water. Free. Meet at Main Street Park, near the east end of the fire station off Center Street in Rutland City to carpool at 9:30 am. For more information call the leaders: Vivian Bebee and Larry Walter at (802) 775-3855. [www.greenmountainclub.org](http://www.greenmountainclub.org).

**RUTLAND.** 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Parade. Line-up at 5:30 pm on Madison St., parade starts at 6:30 pm. Parade route goes from Madison St. & Strongs Ave. to Wales St., left to West St., and left onto Merchants Row, ending at the plaza. (802) 773-1822. [rutlandrec.com](http://rutlandrec.com).

**SAXTONS RIVER.** Workshop: Painting the Vibrant Colors of Fall in Watercolor. With Robert O'Brien. The instructor will explain his technique for capturing the vibrancy of autumn colors through the layering process. Students will paint for the duration of the class followed by a critique at the end. Hands-on assistance provided by the instructor. Open to all abilities. Cost: \$71. Materials list provided at time of registration. 9:30 am - 4 pm. Main Street Arts, 35 Main St. (802) 869-2960. [info@mainstreetarts.org](http://info@mainstreetarts.org). [www.mainstreetarts.org](http://www.mainstreetarts.org).

**SHELBURNE.** Autumn Walk in the LaPlatte River Marsh Natural Area. Walk the trails around the LaPlatte River Marsh Natural area, the Shelburne Bay Clarke Trail and perhaps some of the Ti-Haul trail. Total distance to be determined by the group depending on the trails we take but will be between four and six miles, mostly flat. Easy hike, 350' elevation, easy pace, good chance to see some fall-birds. Sponsored by the Burlington Section of the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Free. Leader: Ted Albers, [ted@ted-albers.net](mailto:ted@ted-albers.net). [www.greenmountainclub.org](http://www.greenmountainclub.org).

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** Halloween Costume Parade. March from the Fairbanks Museum to the fountain. Museum will be open at 4:30 pm for trick-or-treating. Cookie decorating with the children 5-5:30 pm at Celtic Marketing, 1350 Main St. Parade participants line up on Charles Street next to the museum. Fairbanks Museum, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. [fairbanksmuseum.org](http://fairbanksmuseum.org).

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** Halloween at the Museum. Stop in with your ghosts and goblins for a ghoulish good time this Halloween! Explore the museum during our extended Halloween hours and have a frightfully fun night. Don't forget to grab some goodies from our local business sponsors. Boo! 4-8 pm. Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. [fairbanksmuseum.org](http://fairbanksmuseum.org).

**STOWE.** 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Stowe Lantern Tour. Carry our candle-lit lanterns as you hear stories of the resident ghosts of Stowe. Adults \$10, students 10-18 \$5, under 10 free. 8 pm. One-hour walking tours begin at the Visitor's Center on Main St. Call for reservations. (802) 244-1173. [newflted@aol.com](mailto:newflted@aol.com). [www.stowelanternstours.com](http://www.stowelanternstours.com).

**WATERBURY.** Wicked Waterbury Halloween Costume Ball. Rock 'n roll oldies, silent auction, hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Tickets \$25. 7:30-11:30 pm. Country Club of Vermont. (802) 793-6029. [revitalizingwaterbury.org](http://revitalizingwaterbury.org).

**WOODSTOCK.** Musical: "The Rocky Horror Show". That sweet transvestite and his motley crew do the time warp on Broadway in this 25th anniversary revival. Sponsored by Pentangle Arts Council. Tickets \$25. 7:30 pm and 12 midnight. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green. (802) 457-3981. [www.pentanglearts.org](http://www.pentanglearts.org).

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

**CHESTER.** Vermont Voices. Nancy Marie Brown presents her book, *The Mystery of the most Famous Chessmen in the World and the Woman Who Made Them*. Free admission. Sponsored by Misty Valley Books. Free. 2 pm at the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village. (802) 875-3400. [www.mvbooks.com](http://www.mvbooks.com). Also November 8, 15 & 22.

**HANOVER, NH.** Concert: Monumental Mozart. The 40-member Dartmouth College Glee Club perform excerpts from *The Magic Flute* and the *Requiem Mass in D minor*. With orchestra and student and professional soloists. Tickets: \$10. 2 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 East Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. [hop.dartmouth.edu](http://hop.dartmouth.edu).

**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*.

**WALPOLE, NH.** Our Place Benefit Empty Bowl Dinner and Auction. A variety of soups made by local restaurants and chefs followed by a silent auction and a live auction with David Howell. Take home a handmade bowl. Tickets \$35, pick up at Our Place, 4 Island St. 5 pm. Alyson's Orchard. (802) 463-2217. [www.ourplacevt.org](http://www.ourplacevt.org).

**WOODSTOCK.** Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org). Also November 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22.

## Birding Hot Spots in Rutland County

Rutland County Audubon Society has developed a list of places to bird in our area—places that are special to us and are representative of a variety of habitats.

These birding hotspots are places that are publicly accessible; some large, some small. A few involve hiking and others can be canoed or kayaked.

### Tinmouth Channel Wildlife Management Area

The Tinmouth Channel Wildlife Management Area is Rutland County's birding hidden treasure. The 450-acre wetland, one of only three Class I protected wetlands in Vermont, can sometimes be difficult to negotiate, but it is well worth the effort.

Tinmouth Channel can be

explored on foot or by water. There are two access points for walking in, see directions below.

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

Canoeing or kayaking is best done in the spring through June, as accessibility is dependent on water levels. You can put in just

west of the channel on North End Rd. where a short, fairly concealed path leads to the water. You will soon have the feeling of being in a remote area as the Clarendon River winds slowly south. Virginia Rails and Marsh Wrens are among the birds that nest here. American Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Alder Flycatcher, Yellow Warbler, and Swamp Sparrow are present. Wood Duck, American Black Duck, Mallard, and Hooded Merganser are frequently seen and breed here as well.

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

*Directions:* From the center of Tinmouth go north on Rt. 140, then bear right (straight) on North End Rd.



The western access parking area will be on your right, shortly. Walking access is marked with a sign and information kiosk. There is also northern access parking further up on North End Rd., after it has curved to the right and past the intersection with Hook Rd. but before you get to North East Rd. The walking access is just west of the parking area. You can see a map at [www.vtfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com).

For more information visit [rutlandcountyaudubon.org](http://rutlandcountyaudubon.org).

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**Winter Farmers Market at the Vermont Farmers Food Center, 251 West St.**  
Starting November 4:  
Wednesdays 3-6 and Saturdays 10-2

# Vermont Country Calendar

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

**BURLINGTON.** Book & Author Event. Bobby Hackney talks about his book, *Rock 'n' Roll Victims, The Story of a Band Called Death*. 7 pm. \$3 per person includes a coupon for \$5 off Hackney's book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Seating is limited. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. [www.phoenixbooks.biz](http://www.phoenixbooks.biz).

**GROTON.** Wednesday Hike in Groton State Forest. From the Nature Center to Big Deer Mountain. Moderate. 5.5 miles. Sponsored by the Montpelier Section of the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Free. Contact leader, Steve Lightholder, (802) 479-2304 for meeting time and place. [www.greenmountainclub.org](http://www.greenmountainclub.org).

**HANOVER, NH.** Concert: World Music Percussion Ensemble with Chilean multi-instrumentalist Roberto Blavijo, Venezuelan pianist Abe Sanchez, and Jon Weeks on reeds. A musical trek combining the rhythms and melodies of West Africa with those of South America's great mountain chains. Tickets: \$9-\$10. 7 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 East Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. [hop.dartmouth.edu](http://hop.dartmouth.edu).

**RUTLAND.** Performance: Clifford the Big Red Dog Live! Tickets \$21.50. 7 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. [paramountlive.org](http://paramountlive.org).

**RUTLAND.** Winter Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. EBT and debit cards. Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm and Wednesdays 3-6 pm. Vermont Farmers, Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. (802) 342-4727. [info@vtfarmersmarket.org](mailto:info@vtfarmersmarket.org) [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org) *Wednesdays and Saturdays through May 7.*

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

**BURLINGTON.** Book & Author Event. Arnie Kozak talks about his book, *Mindfulness A to Z*. A field guide to the practice of mindfulness. 7 pm. \$3 per person includes a coupon for \$5 off Kozak's book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Seating is limited. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. [www.phoenixbooks.biz](http://www.phoenixbooks.biz).

**RUTLAND.** Comedy Performance: Bad Jews. Universal truths about family life. Tickets \$20. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theater Brick Box, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. [paramountlive.org](http://paramountlive.org). *Through November 14.*

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Roots on the Rails Music Festival. Friday special reception at Pleasant Valley Brewing, evening show with Jimmie Dale and Colin Gilmore at Main Street Arts in Saxtons River. (866) 484-3669. [www.rootsontherails.com](http://www.rootsontherails.com). *Through November 7.*

**BURLINGTON.** Concert: Jayme Stone's Lomax Project. Banjo player Jayme Stone is joined by a group of stellar musicians exploring the legacy of the folklorist and pioneering field recorder Alan Lomax. Part of the UVM Lane Series. Tickets \$25, students \$10. Pre-concert talk at 6:30 in the recital hall. Concert 7:30 pm. University of Vermont Recital Hall, Southwick Music Building, 384 Prospect St. (802) 656-4455. [uvm.edu/laneseries](http://uvm.edu/laneseries).

**BURLINGTON.** Jazz Concert: Brian McCarthy Nonet. Nine piece chamber jazz ensemble. Tickets \$25 adults, \$21 students. 8 pm. FlynnSpace, 153 Main St. (802) 656-4455. [flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org). *Also November 7.*

**COLCHESTER.** English Country Dance. Callers: Wendy Gilchrist and Val Medve. Admission: \$10. Pot luck finger foods. 7 pm. Elley-Long Music Center at St. Michael's College, 223 Ethan Allen Ave. (802) 899-2378. [val.medve@gmail.com](mailto:val.medve@gmail.com). [burlingtoncountrydancers.org](http://burlingtoncountrydancers.org). *Also December 11.*

**HANOVER, NH.** Dartmouth Theater Department presents *Don Juan Comes Back From the War*. Placing the classic character of Don Juan in post-Great War Central Europe, this darkly comic gem of Brecht-era German theater features 12 actors playing some 35 roles. Tickets: \$10-\$12. 8 pm. The Moore Theater, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 East Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. [hop.dartmouth.edu](http://hop.dartmouth.edu). *Also November 7, 12, 13, 14 at 8 pm and November 8 & 15 at 2 pm.*

**MILTON.** 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale. Photography, collage, jewelry, wood designs, sculpture, monotypes, watercolor, oil and acrylic paintings. Food and live music. Free admission. 4-8 pm. The Milton Artists Guild, Ethan Allen Highway, Rt. 7. (802) 355-6583. [www.miltonartistsguild.org](http://www.miltonartistsguild.org). *Also November 7.*

**PEACHAM.** Christmas Show. Small antiques, unique handcrafted gifts, specialty foods, ornaments and invited artists. Market cafe and catering open. 10 am - 7 pm. Peacham Town Hall. [peachamcornerguild@gmail.com](mailto:peachamcornerguild@gmail.com). *Also November 7.*

**RUTLAND.** Comedy Performance: Bad Jews. Universal truths about family life. Tickets \$20. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theater Brick Box, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. [paramountlive.org](http://paramountlive.org). *Through November 14.*

**RUTLAND.** Concert: Buddy Guy. Grammy award-winner. Tickets \$59.50-\$99.50. 8 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. [paramountlive.org](http://paramountlive.org).

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** Holiday Craft Fair. Something for everyone. Unique gifts, homemade soaps, Yee Yee's specialties, ceramics, knitted hats, scarves and mittens, dolls, quilts, hanging towels, repurposed cloth hats, cement casting, painting on canvas, caned chairs, and more. Free coffee for shoppers. 9 am - 4 pm. Rooms 126 & 127, Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital Business Conference Center, Hospital Dr. (802) 748-8141.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

**ATHENS.** Spruce Swamp Hike. Camilla Roberts will lead this excursion to Spruce Swamp. Dress warmly, wear sturdy shoes, bring water. Meet at parking lot opposite The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Road in Grafton. Contact Camilla Roberts at (802) 869-1388 for information and registration. Sponsored by Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association. [whpa@sover.net](mailto:whpa@sover.net). [windmillhillpinnacle.org](http://windmillhillpinnacle.org).

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Roots on the Rails Music Festival. Saturday all-day train trip from Bellows Falls to Rutland and return with performance car, lounge car, and coach. Freshly-made snacks served on board, and cash beverage service available. Music throughout the day. Dinner buffet at Popolo, followed by a concert featuring all the musicians at the adjoining Windham Ballroom. Musicians include West Texas legend Jimmie Dale Gilmore, his son Colin Gilmore, vocalist Syd Straw, the dark chamber-folk duo Winterpills, and the Meadows Brothers. (866) 484-3669. [www.rootsontherails.com](http://www.rootsontherails.com).

**BRANDON.** Concert: The Last Train to Zinkov. With violin, viola, banjo, and vocals, sparkling folk music that tells of the beauty and peace of home, of American old-time music and gypsy swing. Tickets: \$20. Pre-concert dinner available for \$20. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. [info@brandon-music.net](mailto:info@brandon-music.net). [www.brandon-music.net](http://www.brandon-music.net). [lasttraintozinkov.com](http://lasttraintozinkov.com).

**BRANDON.** Annual Seed Sale and Membership Drive for the Audubon Society. Join us for bird chat and stock up on seed. No purchase necessary. 9 am - 2 pm. At Blue Seal Feeds. Rt. 7. [rutlandcountyaudubon.org](http://rutlandcountyaudubon.org).

**BRATTLEBORO.** Winter Farmers' Market. Fresh produce and local meats, yummy sweet treats, great lunch offerings, delicious pies, preserves and much, much more. Beautiful handmade holiday gifts and live music. 10 am - 2 pm. Robert H. Gibson River Garden, 153 Main St. (802) 869-2141. [farmersmarket@postsoilsolutions.org](mailto:farmersmarket@postsoilsolutions.org). [www.postsoilsolutions.org](http://www.postsoilsolutions.org). *Every Saturday through March 26.*

**BRATTLEBORO.** The Brattleboro Film Festival will showcase dramatic features, documentaries and shorts of all genres from the U.S. and around the world. At the Latchis Theatre. For schedule call (802) 254-8169 or visit [www.brattleborofilmfestival.org](http://www.brattleborofilmfestival.org). *Also November 8.*

**BURLINGTON.** Jazz Concert: Brian McCarthy Nonet. Nine piece chamber jazz ensemble. Tickets \$25 adults, \$21 students. 8 pm. FlynnSpace, 153 Main St. (802) 656-4455. [flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org).

**BURLINGTON.** Saturday Story Time. Enjoy timeless tales and new adventures with your little ones. Free. 11 am. Phoenix Books, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. [www.phoenixbooks.biz](http://www.phoenixbooks.biz). *Saturdays through November 21.*

**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.*

**HANOVER, NH.** Concert: Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra performs Verdi's Nabucco Overture, Mozart's Symphony No. 34 in C major, K 338, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 in F minor, Op. 36. Tickets: \$10-\$15. 8 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 East Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. [hop.dartmouth.edu](http://hop.dartmouth.edu).

**MIDDLEBURY.** 91st Annual Holiday Bazaar. Santa, handmade gifts, knitted items, crafts, food, American Doll outfits, quilts and attic treasures. 9 am - 3 pm. Congregational Church Fellowship Hall, Seymour St. (802) 388-7634. [midducc@comcast.net](mailto:midducc@comcast.net).



## Fresh Vermont Cider & Apples for the Holidays

Fresh cider, apple pies and fresh apples that store well are a good reason to visit an orchard farm store during the winter.

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**The Apple Barn and Country Bake Shop.** Bennington, VT. (802) 447-7780. [www.theapplebarn.com](http://www.theapplebarn.com). (Rt. 7 south, 1.5 mi. from Rt. 9.) Fresh apples, pears, maple syrup, jams. Full country bake shop with pies, pastries, and homemade bread. Cider mill. Open Monday through Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. May through November 30.

**Cold Hollow Cider Mill,** Rt. 100, Waterbury Center, VT. (800) 327-7537. [www.coldhollow.com](http://www.coldhollow.com). (Five miles north of I-89, exit 10; five miles south of Stowe). Apples, cider, cider jelly, donuts, applesauces, apple butters, Vermont foods, crafts, and other products. Open year round, seven days a week from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. except Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**Dutton's Farm Stand,** Rt. 11/30, Manchester, VT, (802) 362-3083. [www.duttonberryfarm.com](http://www.duttonberryfarm.com). (just east of Rt. 7 up the mountain). 2nd location on Rt. 30 in Newfane, VT, (802) 365-4168. And third location in West Brattleboro, VT on Rt. 9, (802) 254-0254. Over 30 varieties of apples! Fresh-pressed cider, fall produce. Apple, raspberry and pumpkin pies. Baked goods. Our own maple syrup and fudge. Christmas wreaths and trees. Year round, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily, except Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**Mendon Mountain Orchard,** #16 US Rt. 4, Mendon, VT. (802) 775-5477. [www.mendonorchards.com](http://www.mendonorchards.com). Ready-picked and PYO apples, fresh-pressed cider, apple pies, baked goods, and motel accommodations. Christmas trees and wreaths. Open daily 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

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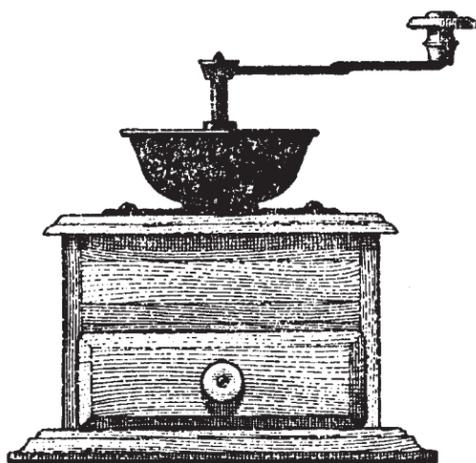


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# Vermont Country Calendar

(November 7, continued)

**MILTON.** 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale. Photography, collage, jewelry, wood designs, sculpture, monotypes, watercolor, oil and acrylic paintings. Food and live music. Free admission. 9 am – 4 pm. The Milton Artists Guild, Ethan Allen Highway, Rt. 7. (802) 355-6583.

**NEW HAVEN.** Full Day Intensive Workshop: Six-figure Farming for Small Plots. With Jean Martin Fortier. Learn how to farm profitably on small acreage using low-tech, high-yields methods of production. Fee: \$75. 9 am – 4 pm. Golden Well Farm & Apiaries, 1089 River Rd. goldenwellapiaries.com. www.themarketgardener.com.

**PEACHAM.** Annual Christmas Show. Small antiques, unique handcrafted gifts, specialty foods, ornaments and invited artists. Market cafe and catering open. 10 am-3 pm. Peacham Town Hall, peachamcornerguild@gmail.com.

**RANDOLPH CENTER.** Community Conservation Summit: "Celebrating 100 years of Vermont Town Forests." Day-long event with speakers, workshops and networking opportunities. Keynote address by Peter Forbes, author, conservationist and co-founder of The Center for Whole Communities. Pre-registration required by November 2. \$15 per person. 8:30 am – 4 pm. Judd Gymnasium at Vermont Technical College. go.uvm.edu/100yearstownforests. vtconservation.com/conservationssummit.

**RUPERT.** Book & Author Events. Ron Krupp presents his new book, *The Woodchuck Returns to Gardening*. Small fee, please call to pre-register at (802) 394-7836. 2 pm. Merck Forest and Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. merckforest.org.

**RUTLAND.** Winter Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. EBT and debit cards. Saturdays 10 am – 2 pm and Wednesdays 3-6 pm. Vermont Farmers, Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. (802) 342-4727. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays and Saturdays through May 7.

**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.*

**RUTLAND.** Comedy Performance: *Bad Jews*. Universal truths about family life. Tickets \$20. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theater Brick Box, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountlive.org. *Through November 14.*

**RUTLAND.** The Really Big Show XX. The finest collection of amateur talent in the Rutland region—singing, dancing, Broadway skits, comedy and more! Tickets \$20. 7 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountlive.org.

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

**RUTLAND.** Annual Harvest Supper. Turkey and all the fixins'. Adults \$14, children 4-12 \$9, under 4 free. Grace Congregational Church, 8 Court St. (802) 775-4301. gracechurchvt.org.

**SHOREHAM.** Annual Lazyman's Lobster or Baked Ham Dinner. Both meals include homemade rolls, tossed salad, potato, squash, and homemade desserts. The cost is only \$20 for the lazyman's lobster dinner, or \$10 for the baked ham dinner. Take-outs available. Seatings at 5 pm and 6:30 pm, but you must have advance reservations. At Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. For reservations call Judy at (802) 349-9957.

**SO. BURLINGTON.** Herbal Stocking Stuffers Workshop. Fee: \$10, materials \$10. 9 am – 12 noon. UVM Horticulture Farm, 65 Green Mountain Dr. off Rt. 7 (802) 864-3073. info@friendsofthehortfarm.org. friendsofthehortfarm.org.

**SPRINGFIELD.** Batik Art Card-Making Workshop. Learn to make beautiful mini-paintings of bright colors and patterns with Frieda Post. You will fold rice paper and dip it into brilliant inks, then wax, iron and paste the resulting art onto attractive deckle-edged stationery. Gallery open 11 to 5 Tues. through Sat., 9:30 am to 4 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault@vermontel.net. www.galleryvault.org.

**SPRINGFIELD.** Annual Harvest Bazaar and Quilt Show. Craft Corner with handmade craft items; Quilting Table with items made by the quilting group in our church; Jewelry—Bangles and Beads; a Pantry with baked goods and cookie walk; the Library with books for all ages, puzzles and children's games; and Back Room Bargains. Luncheon 11:30 am – 1 pm. Tickets sold on a quilt raffle drawn in early December. 9 am – 3 pm. First Congregational Church, 77 Main St. (802) 885-5022.

**WOODSTOCK.** Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Also November 8, 14, 15, 21, 22.*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

**BENNINGTON.** Concert: Music by Leonard Bernstein. Pianist Elizabeth Wright, cellist Maxine Neuman, and violinist Joana Genova perform compositions by Bernstein, including Sonata for Violin and Piano (1939), Three Meditations from Mass for cello and piano, and Movement from Piano Trio (1937). Preceded by a talk about Bernstein's life by Allen Shawn. Free. 2 pm. Ada Paresky Education Center of the Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. www.benningtonmuseum.org.

**BRANDON.** Music Swap. New dealers, collectors, and sellers have musical items for sale and trade. 10 am – 4 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, Park Village, 333 Jones Dr. (802) 247-4295. www.cmacvt.org.

**BRANDON.** Music Swap. Compass Music and Arts Center is hosting its third music swap for musicians, dealers, collectors and sellers to sell or trade their items. Park Village location, 333 Jones Dr. Spaces can be reserved through Nov. 6. (802) 247-4295. www.cmacvt.org.

**BURLINGTON.** Book & Author Event. Catherynne M. Valente talks about her new novel, *Radiance*. 2 pm. \$3 per person includes a coupon for \$5 off Valente's book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Seating is limited. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

**CHESTER.** Vermont Voices. Archer Mayor presents his new detective book, *The Company She Kept*. Free admission. Sponsored by Misty Valley Books. Free. 2 pm at the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village. (802) 875-3400. www.mvbooks.com. *Also November 8, 15 & 22.*

**GREENSBORO.** 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Barter Fair. Swap items that you have grown, preserved, baked, or raised. Bring items with an estimated value of \$5, or \$5 increments. Free. 2-4 pm at the Lakeview Union School, 189 Lauredon Ave. (802) 755-6336. swapsisters@gmail.com.

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

**RUTLAND.** Comedy Performance: *Bad Jews*. Universal truths about family life. Tickets \$20. 2 pm. Paramount Theater Brick Box, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountlive.org. *Through November 14.*

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

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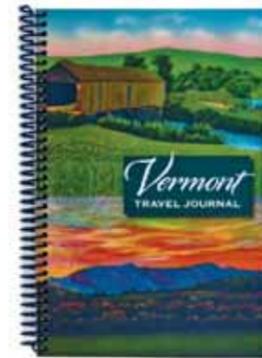


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# Vermont Country Calendar



**UNDERHILL.** Hike Mount Mansfield. With early-morning frost, and crisp leaves on the ground, we will head up the Butler Lodge Trail for a little snack at Butler Lodge. And then it is the Wampahoofus Trail to the Forehead. And then, and then...The Chin with great views under those crystal blue skies! Difficult hike, moderate pace, 10 miles round trip, 3000' elevation gain. Sponsored by the Burlington Section of the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Free. Contact leader for details: Phil Hazen, (802) 355-7181. philhazen@comcast.net. www.greenmountainclub.org.

**WEST PAWLET.** Annual Pancake Breakfast. Menu includes pancakes: regular, chocolate chip, blueberry and cranberry; waffles; world-famous home fries and scrambled eggs; sausage and bacon; coffee, tea, milk and orange juice. \$8 for 12 years and up, \$5 for 5-12 years and free under 5. Sponsored by the West Pawlet Volunteer Fire Dept. 7:30-11 am at West Pawlet Fire House, Rt. 153 (Main St.). For info call Antonio Landon (802) 345-4312. wp5801@yahoo.com. *Second Sundays through April.*

**WOODSTOCK.** Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall. Daily programs and activities. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. *Also November 14, 15, 21, 22.*

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

**BETHEL.** A Taste of Bethel Dinner. A fundraiser by the Bethel Business Association. Local caterers and restaurants and more will present their best to you. 6 pm at the Whitcomb High School cafeteria, 273 Pleasant St. For tickets call (802) 234-9232.

**BURLINGTON.** Book & Author Event. Bill Lipke & Bill Mares discuss their new book, *Grafting Memory*. This collection of essays examines how the American Civil War and the Great War of 1914-1918 together launched new practices for honoring the dead as individuals. 7 pm. \$3 per person includes a coupon for \$5 off a book by one of our featured authors. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Seating is limited. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

**RUTLAND.** Winter Vermont Farmers' Market. Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm and Wednesdays 3-6 pm. Vermont Farmers, Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. (802) 342-4727. info@vtfarmersmarket.org www.vtfarmersmarket.org. *Wed and Sat through May 7.*

**RUTLAND.** Concert: The Indigo Girls. Tickets \$49.75. 8 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountlive.org.

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

**BURLINGTON.** Book & Author Event. Sydney Lea & Green Writers Press present Lea's book of essays, *What's the Story? Reflections on a Life Grown Long*. 7 pm. \$3 per person. Seating is limited. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

**BURLINGTON.** Performance: Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. Presented by Lyric Theatre. Tickets \$38/\$23. 7:30 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 656-4455. flynncenter.org. *Also November 13, 14 & 15.*

**RUTLAND.** Comedy Performance: Bad Jews. Universal truths about family life. Tickets \$20. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountlive.org. *Through November 14.*

**RUTLAND.** Book & Author Event. Stephen P. Kiernan talks about his new novel, *The Hummingbird*. Free and open to all. 6:30 pm. Phoenix Books Rutland, 2 Center St. (802) 855-8078. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

**TUNBRIDGE.** Folk Concert. Mary Gauthier. Tickets \$20. 7:30 pm. Tunbridge Town Hall, Rt. 110. folkbloke@hotmail.com. www.mtnfolk.org.

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

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

**BARRE.** Italian Dance. With Marie DiCocco and Celest DiPietro Paolo. Come learn traditional village dances from many regions of Italy—dances still being done today in small mountain villages. Free, donations accepted. 7-9 pm. Old Labor Hall, 46 Granite St. (802) 229-1490. dance@italianvillagedance.com. *Also December 11.*

**BURLINGTON.** Performance: Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. Presented by Lyric Theatre. Tickets \$38/\$23. 7:30 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 656-4455. flynncenter.org. *Also November 14 & 15.*

**BURLINGTON.** Vermont Humanities Council 42nd Annual Fall Conference: "Why Do Stories Matter?" Friday afternoon sessions explore fairy tales, narratives in visual art, and Ethan Allen's heroic status in Vermont history. Friday evening, William Cronon delivers the opening plenary. Registration: \$129. Registration deadline November 2. Dudley H. Davis Center, University of Vermont. (802) 262-1355.vermonthumanities.org. *Through November 14.*

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Concert: Antje Duvokot & the Stockwell Brothers. Tickets \$20. 8 pm. At The Windham Ballroom, Popolo, 40 The Square. (802) 387-0102. nextstagearts.org.

**BRATTLEBORO.** Concert: Tribute to Jobim with Brazilian vocalist Maucha Adnet. Tickets: \$20-\$40 sliding scale. 8 pm. Vermont Jazz Center, 74 Cotton Mill Hill. (802) 387-0102. nextstagearts@gmail.com. www.nextstagearts.org. www.vtjazz.org.

**BURLINGTON.** Musical. A live performance of Irving Berlin's classic story, *White Christmas*. Presented by Lyric Theatre. Tickets \$38/\$23. 2 & 7:30 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. For tickets call (802) 656-4455. www.flynncenter.org. *Also November 15.*



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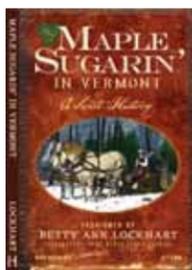
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# Vermont Country Calendar

(November 14, continued)

**BURLINGTON.** Vermont Humanities Council 42nd Annual Fall Conference: "Why Do Stories Matter?" Registration: \$129 (\$79 for students). Registration deadline November 2. Dudley H. Davis Center, University of Vermont. (802) 262-1355. [vermonthumanities.org](http://vermonthumanities.org).

**CASTLETON.** Holiday Craft Fair. 9 am – 3 pm. Castleton Community Center, 2108 Main St. (802) 468-3093.

**DERBY.** The Dailey Memorial Library Annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Fair. Includes local and New England artisans' exhibits. Coffee, donuts and pastries available and homemade soups and finger rolls for lunch. \$1 adult admission. Children free. 10 am – 3 pm. North Country Union Junior High School, 57 Junior High Dr. (802) 766-5063.

**BRANDON.** Concert: The DuPont Brothers. Folk-pop music. Tickets: \$20; pre-concert dinner available for \$20. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. Venue is BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. [info@brandon-music.net](mailto:info@brandon-music.net). [www.brandon-music.net](http://www.brandon-music.net). [www.dupontbrothersmusic.com](http://www.dupontbrothersmusic.com).

**HANOVER, NH.** Concert: Dartmouth College 40-member Gospel Choir performs "Over and Over...He Keeps On Blessing Me!" Tickets: \$15. 2 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 East Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. [hop.dartmouth.edu](http://hop.dartmouth.edu).

**HARDWICK.** Annual Holiday Bazaar. If you're looking for Christmas presents, visit our bazaar. 10 am – 2 pm. United Church of Hardwick, 216 Main St. (802) 472-6112. [kinneylinda1048@gmail.com](mailto:kinneylinda1048@gmail.com).

**LYNDON.** Concert: Kingdom Country Productions presents Sold Soul: Mavis Staples and Joan Osborne. 7 pm. Lyndon Institute alumni auditorium. Tickets: \$54, \$44, \$29, \$15 (Gold Circle \$64, seniors \$3 off, students free with accompanying paying adult). [dreakane@hotmail.com](mailto:dreakane@hotmail.com). [www.kcprepresents.org](http://www.kcprepresents.org).

**LYNDONVILLE.** Holly Daze. Raffles, white elephant, tasting table, luncheon, food, crafts, cutlery, gifts and ornaments. 9 am – 2:30 pm. Lyndonville Congregational Church, 52 Middle St.

**LYNDONVILLE.** Lyndon Outing Club Holiday Bazaar. Many local vendors, plus hot soups and drinks, raffle table. 9 am – 3 pm. Lyndon Outing Club, 1580 Lily Pond Rd. [www.skilyndon.com](http://www.skilyndon.com).

**LYNDONVILLE.** Annual Holiday Bazaar. Crafts, food, white elephant table, coffee and muffins, soup and bread luncheon. 9 am – 2 pm. Lyndonville United Methodist Church, 100 Church St. (802) 626-9548. [drichardson@nwjinsurance.com](mailto:drichardson@nwjinsurance.com).

**LYNDONVILLE.** Christmas Bazaar. Join us for our yearly Christmas bazaar featuring delicious baked goods, candy, cookie walk, mini-affle, children's gift table, gingerbread cookie decorating and soup cafe (pastries, coffee, lunch). 8:30 am – 1 pm. St. Elizabeth Church Parish Hall, Hill St. (802) 626-5889.

**LYNDONVILLE.** Holiday Shopping Extravaganza. Do your Christmas shopping. Vendors, shoe box raffle, bake sale and more. 8:30 am – 2:30 pm. Riverside Life Enrichment Center, 2104 E. Burke Rd. (802) 626-3900.

**MIDDLEBURY.** Cornwall Contradance. Fern Bradley calling to live music by Red Dog Riley. All are welcome. 7-9:30 pm. Cornwall Town Hall, 2629 VT Rt. 30. (802) 462-3722.

**MILTON.** 39th Annual Pre-Christmas Craft Show. Featuring 70 local crafters, kids' room and food vendors. Craft raffle and food drive to benefit Milton food shelf. Free admission. 9 am – 4 pm. Milton High School. [bill@yeolddesignshoppe.net](mailto:bill@yeolddesignshoppe.net).

**NORTH DANVILLE.** Annual Christmas Bazaar. Hot homemade donuts, coffee or cider, crafts, cookie walk, baked goods, raffles of a hand-braided wool rug and a Bentley Farm cookbook, cutlery, jewelry and more. Also visit the North Danville school where crafters will be selling their wares. A raffle will be held in the library for a beautiful quilt. And there will be a special exhibit at the North Danville Historical room. 9 am – 2 pm. North Danville Baptist Church, 226 Main St. (603) 382-7711.

**NORWICH.** The Last Waltz Contradance. This is the final Northern Spy dance. With David Millstone, caller and music by Northern Spy. Beginners and singles always welcome, all dances taught and called. Bring a clean change of shoes for the dance floor. Potluck finger food snacks at the break. Potluck supper 6 pm. Admission \$8, students \$5, seniors by donation, under 16 free. 7:30-11 pm. Tracy Hall. (802) 785-4607. [rbarrows@cs.dartmouth.edu](mailto:rbarrows@cs.dartmouth.edu).

**PAWLET.** 47th Annual Wild Game and Chicken & Biscuit Supper. Menu includes bear roast, venison roast and stew, moose meatballs, chicken & biscuits, mashed potatoes, squash and vegetable salads. Homemade pies for dessert and coffee, milk, water. Adults \$12; children under 10, \$6; under 5, free. 5 pm. Pawlet Firehouse, Rt. 133. (802) 325-3495, (802) 325-3222.

**RUTLAND.** The Vermont Farmer's Market Holiday Fair. Crafts, handmade children's clothes, art, paintings, wood toys, doll clothes, beaded jewelry, pottery, knitted products, leather items, woodenware, pillows, cutting boards, felted tote market bags, quilts & soaps. Wreaths, Christmas decorations. Country bakers (including gluten free), sweet breads, pies, fudge, pastries, cookies and cider donuts. Gourmet specialty foods, maple syrup, sugar and specialties, honey, 100 varieties of jams & jellies, pickles, relishes & herbs. Prepared foods, apples, cider, winter squash, and fall veggies. Free admission. 9 am – 4 pm. Holiday Inn, Rt. 7 South. (518) 282-9781. [info@vtfarmersmarket.org](mailto:info@vtfarmersmarket.org). [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.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.*

**RUTLAND.** Craft Fair & Flea Market. Sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #31 to benefit veteran's projects. Table rental \$15. 10 am – 3 pm. 33 Washington St. For information Sharon Corey (802) 325-3234.

**RUTLAND.** Winter Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. EBT and debit cards. Saturdays 10 am – 2 pm and Wednesdays 3-6 pm. Vermont Farmers, Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. (802) 342-4727. [info@vtfarmersmarket.org](mailto:info@vtfarmersmarket.org) [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org). *Wed and Sat through May 7.*

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** Holly Jolly Christmas Bazaar. Cookie table, baked goods, crafts, vendors, silent auction, white elephant room, raffles, a visit from Santa and luncheon. 9 am – 2 pm. St. Johnsbury Health & Rehabilitation Center, Hospital Dr. (802) 748-8757.

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** 12th Annual Paul Sweeney Memorial Coat Drive. Anyone needing a winter coat may choose one free of charge. Donations accepted of clean coats, hats, gloves, mittens, boots, snow pants and blankets. 9 am-1 pm. Salvation Army Store, 250 Railroad St. (802) 748-5836.

**WAITSFIELD.** 34th Annual Waitsfield PTA Ski & Skate Sale. 9 am – 4 pm. Waitsfield Elementary School, Rt. 100. (802) 496-3643. [info@wesskiskate.com](mailto:info@wesskiskate.com). [www.madriverglen.com](http://www.madriverglen.com). *Also November 15.*

**WOODSTOCK.** Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org). *Also November 15, 21, 22.*

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## Visit the Birds of Vermont Museum Thanksgiving Weekend

The Birds of Vermont Museum will hold two special open days Friday and Saturday, November 27-28, 2015. Visitors can drop in between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Whether you're coming alone, bringing friends, or giving the in-laws a special treat, we welcome you.

Celebrate Thanksgiving by admiring our incredible carving of a Tom Turkey, all fluffed up and ready to impress! After exploring the galleries of nesting birds

and waterfowl, listen to Bob Spear on video explaining the way he carved. View live birds at the feeders.

Stop by our Gift Shop. All non-consignment items are on sale for these two days. Our shop includes cards and carvings by Vermont artists and crafters, puzzles, T-shirts, terrific books for birders and kids, coloring books, children's toys and stories, and more.

There will be something for everyone on your list

and you'll have a chance to select really meaningful gifts for your friends and grandchildren.

Parking is available in our unpaved lot (just past the Museum on Sherman Hollow Road if you're coming from Richmond or Huntington; just before the Museum if

you're coming from Hinesburg).

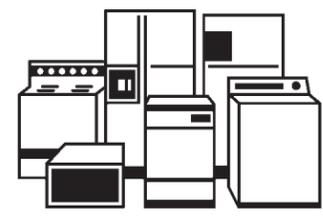
*The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. is in Huntington, VT.*

For information call (802) 434-2167. [museum@birds.ofvermont.org](mailto:museum@birds.ofvermont.org). [www.birds.ofvermont.org](http://www.birds.ofvermont.org).

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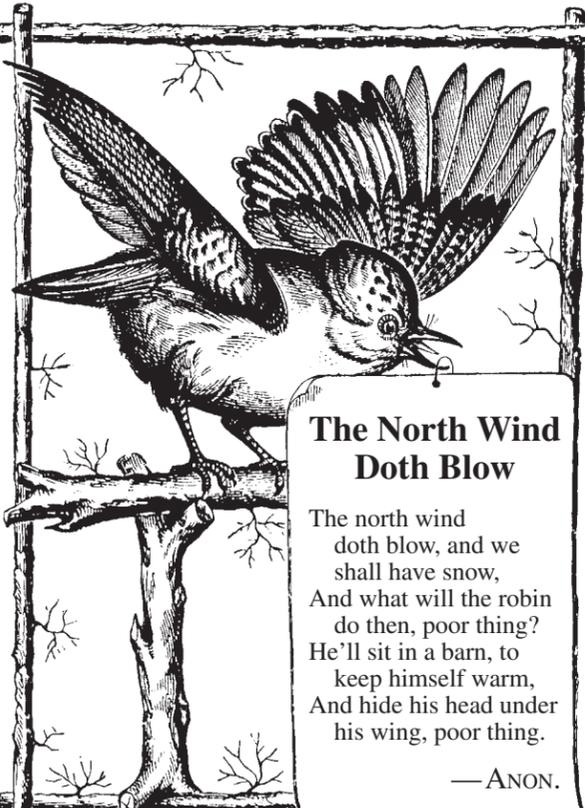
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**The North Wind Doth Blow**

The north wind doth blow, and we shall have snow,  
And what will the robin do then, poor thing?  
He'll sit in a barn, to keep himself warm,  
And hide his head under his wing, poor thing.

—ANON.

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# Vermont Country Calendar

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

**BURLINGTON.** Performance: Irving Berlin's White Christmas. Presented by Lyric Theatre. Tickets \$38/\$23. 2 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 656-4455. flynncenter.org.

**CHESTER.** Vermont Voices. Activist Tim Stevenson presents his book *Resilience and Resistance*. Free admission. Sponsored by Misty Valley Books. Free. 2 pm at the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village. (802) 875-3400. www.mvbooks.com. Also November 22.

**RANDOLPH.** The Chandler Film Society Presents *Mon Oncle*. A Jacque Tati film. Tickets \$9. Light snacks and beverages available. 6:30 pm in the Esther Mesh Room, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 431-0204. chandler-arts.org.

**RUTLAND.** Concert: The Tenors—Under One Sky Tour. Clifton Murray, Victor Micallef, Remigio Pereira and Fraser Walters. Tickets \$54.50. 7 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountlive.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.*

**WOODSTOCK.** Wagon Ride Weekend. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride and enjoy the dairy farm, farmhouse, and farm life exhibits during late fall. Daily programs and activities. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. Also November 21, 22.

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

**RUTLAND.** Winter Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. EBT and debit cards. Saturdays 10 am – 2 pm and Wednesdays 3-6 pm. Vermont Farmers, Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. (802) 342-4727. info@vtfarmersmarket.org www.vtfarmersmarket.org. *Wednesdays and Saturdays through May 7.*

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

**BURLINGTON.** Concert: The Art of Time Ensemble: Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. With singers Steven Page, Andy Maize, Glen Phillips, and Craig Northey. Toronto's acclaimed chamber orchestra reimagines the Beatles' groundbreaking Sgt. Pepper. Part of the UVM Lane Series. Tickets \$45-\$26. Concert 7:30 pm. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 656-4455. uvm.edu/laneseries.

**CHESTER.** Holiday Wreath-Decorating Workshop. Decorate a pre-made evergreen wreath with specially collected greens, natural materials, bows, and other embellishments. All the wire, glue guns, and equipment will be supplied. Open to the public, reservations required. Homemade refreshments. Fee: \$40 per wreath. Checks should be made out to St. Luke's Church, for the wreath workshop, and mailed to Lillian Willis, PO Box 318, Chester, VT 05143. 6:30-8 pm. Willard Hall at St. Luke's Church, 313 Main St. (Rt. 11 West). (802) 875-1340. lbwillisct@comcast.net. Also November 20 & 21.

**DANVILLE.** 95th Annual Old-Fashioned Game Supper. Serving venison, moose, bear, rabbit, chicken and other game as available, with ample side dishes, beverage, and dessert. Tickets \$15, ages 12 and under \$9. Three seatings at 5, 6 & 7 pm. Danville United Methodist Church, Park St. (802) 684-3666.

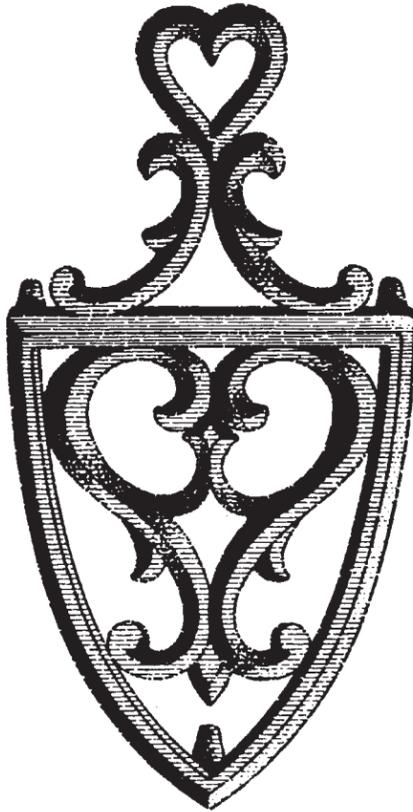
**WEST RUTLAND.** West Rutland Marsh Monitoring Walk. Held in conjunction with the Great Backyard Bird Count. Join us for this 3.7-mile loop around the marsh (or go halfway). Meet at the West Rutland Price Chopper parking lot at 8 am. Leader: Roy Pilcher, (802) 775-3461. rutlandcountyaudubon.org. Also December 12.

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

**BRATTLEBORO.** Eighth Annual LEGO Contest & Exhibit. Design and build an original LEGO structure according to contest guidelines, available online, or just check out the fantastic submissions on display last year. Admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, youth 18 and under free. 11 am – 5 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org. *Through November 22.*

**BURLINGTON.** Performance: "Transitions." 14 women—all facing abrupt shifts in their lives—come together in seven different scenarios. Tickets \$25/\$21. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 656-4455. flynncenter.org. Also November 21 & 22.

**CASTLETON.** Vermont Collegiate Choral Consortium perform Magnificat! Three Magnificat settings for choir, soloists, and orchestra by composers from the Baroque (Jan Dismas Zelenka), Classical (Franz Schubert), and Neo-Romantic (Gerald Finzi). Tickets: adults \$10, students and children \$5. 7 pm. Casella Theater, Fine Arts Center, Castleton University, 45 Alumni Dr. (800) 639-8521. info@castleton.edu. www.castleton.edu.



**CHESTER.** Holiday Wreath-Decorating Workshop. Open to the public, reservations required. Homemade refreshments. Fee: \$40 per wreath. Checks should be made out to St. Luke's Church, for the wreath workshop, and mailed to Lillian Willis, PO Box 318, Chester, VT 05143. 9-10:30 am or 1-2:30 pm. Willard Hall at St. Luke's Church, 313 Main St. (Rt. 11 West). (802) 875-1340. lbwillisct@comcast.net. Also November 21.

**LUDLOW.** Okemo Ski and Swap Sale. Buy skis, snowboards, boots, bindings, helmets, goggles, outerwear, and more! Sell your old gear but nothing older than seven years. Admission \$5. 4-7 pm. Okemo Mountain Main Base Lodge, 77 Okemo Ridge Rd. (802) 228-1513. okemomountainsschool.org. Also November 21 & 22.

**RUTLAND.** Library Book Sale. Sponsored by The Friends of the Rutland Free Library. 10 am – 4 pm. In the basement, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org. Also Nov. 21 and Dec. 14.

**SOUTH BURLINGTON.** Craft Vermont—A Fine Craft and Art Show. This juried show features the handmade work of some 130 Vermont-only artists and artisans. Admission \$7 for a three-day pass, under 12 free. 10 am – 8 pm. Sheraton Burlington Hotel & Conference Center, 870 Williston Rd. (802) 872-8600. vermonthandcrafters.com. *Through November 22.*

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Santa Express. A magical train ride filled with holiday cheer aboard the historic Green Mountain Flyer, Bellows Falls to Chester and back! Meet Santa and other Christmas characters. Enjoy hot cocoa & cookies. Tickets: \$25, children 2-17 \$20, under 2 free online at www.sustainablevalleygroup.org or call (802) 376-9534. Two departures, 9:30 am and 2 pm. Bellows Falls Union Station. www.susval.org/tickets.

**BRADFORD.** 60th Annual Wild Game Supper. All meats served buffet style in a variety of preparations: bear, moose, buffalo, elk, venison, wild boar, rabbit, pheasant with rice. Accompanied by potato, squash, rolls, cabbage salad, gingerbread with real whipped cream and beverages. Donation: adults \$30, children under 10 \$15. For reservations mail your payment and preferred time of seating (2:30, 3:30, 4:30, or 5:30 pm) to: Bradford United Church of Christ, UCC Wild Game Supper, PO Box 861, Bradford, VT 05033. Confirmation will be mailed to you. 2:30 pm on at The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, N. Main St. To reserve by phone call (802) 222-4480. bradforducc.org.

**BRATTLEBORO.** Eighth Annual LEGO Contest & Exhibit. Admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, youth 18 and under free. 11 am – 5 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org. Also November 22.

**CHESTER.** Holiday Wreath-Decorating Workshop. Open to the public, reservations required. Homemade refreshments. Fee: \$40 per wreath. Checks should be made out to St. Luke's Church, for the wreath workshop, and mailed to Lillian Willis, PO Box 318, Chester, VT 05143. 9-10:30 am. Willard Hall at St. Luke's Church, 313 Main St. (Rt. 11 West). (802) 875-1340. lbwillisct@comcast.net.

**DANVILLE.** Annual Christmas Bazaar. Come for your Christmas shopping. We'll have something for everyone. 9 am – 2 pm. Danville Congregational Church, 87 Hill St. (802) 684-1151. dcc@myfairpoint.net.

**DANVILLE.** Winter Wonderland in the Village. Craft show featuring local crafters & artisans. Homemade soup luncheon 11 am – 3 pm. Baked goods, coffee, tea & hot chocolate all day. 9 am – 3 pm. The Danville School. (802) 684-1093.



## Holiday Fairs of Vermont Coming to Rutland!

Once again it's time for the Vermont Farmers Market to bring you their annual gala holiday craft fairs! The Fall Holiday Fair is coming to the Holiday Inn on Rt. 7 in Rutland, VT on Saturday, November 14, 2015 and the Christmas Holiday Show is slated for Saturday, December 12, 2015, again at the Holiday Inn in Rutland. Both are open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

These are the largest holiday shows of their kind in Southern Vermont. Here you will find over sixty vendors presenting every kind of Vermont-made craft you can imagine, and a wide range of Thanksgiving and Christmas décor.

### Specialty foods

Our Country Bakers bring you that exquisite taste of Vermont for your holiday meals and parties. Home baked goods including gluten-free, many varieties of pies, fudge and so much more. If you wish to pick up bakery items just before the holidays, talk to our vendors. Many will take orders, or make it special for you.

Our Gourmet Specialty Food folks have the flavor of Vermont in maple syrup, maple sugar and maple-flavored products such as maple dressings, maple mustard and maple-coated nuts. Have you ever tried maple pepper or cinnamon flavored maple sugar?

There are jams and jellies, the most varieties (over 100) that you can find anywhere. Have you ever tried cranberry/raspberry jam, horseradish jam, garlic jam, ginger marmalade or pear almond jam? We'll have them.

Pick up some delicious prepared foods, fall veggies, apples and fresh-pressed cider!

### Custom crafts and gift packages

Likewise, if you would like a specific, custom-made craft designed to your wishes some of our crafters will do that. Talk to them, have it created!

You may wish to ship specialty foods, certain craft items, and even foods to friends and relatives across the country.

Small items travel best by the U.S. Postal Service in low-fee, flat rate boxes, usually in three days or less in the 48 states. It's time to make these plans now! Folks everywhere love receiving Vermont gifts, something that is really grown or made in America, and from this special place in America—Vermont!

Unlike many high profile craft fairs that charge admission, the Vermont Farmers Market holiday fairs are always admission free.

The Holiday Inn is on Rt. 7 south in Rutland, VT. For more information call (802) 342-4727 or visit www.vtfarmersmarket.org.

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# Vermont Country Calendar

(November 21, continued)

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

**RUTLAND.** Library Book Sale. 10 am – 2 pm. In the basement, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org. Also December 14.

**RUTLAND.** Talk: Ken Burns—Sharing the American Experience. Incorporating The Civil War, Baseball, and Jazz, Burns engages and celebrates what we share in common. Tickets \$35. 7 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountlive.org.

**RUTLAND.** Safe Hunting Season Hike in Pine Hill Park. Easy to moderate, mileage variable. 10 am – 1 pm. Sponsored by the Killington Section of the Green Mountain Club. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Free. Rain date 11/22. Leader: Sue Thomas, (802) 773-2185. www.greenmountainclub.org.

**RUTLAND.** Winter Vermont Farmers' Market. Saturdays 10 am – 2 pm and Wednesdays 3-6 pm. Vermont Farmers, Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. (802) 342-4727. www.vtfarmersmarket.org.

**SHEFFIELD.** 11th Annual Sheffield Christmas Craft Bazaar. Crafts, baked goods, gift raffle, door prizes every half hour. Coffee, donuts and a soup/sandwich lunch. 9 am – 2 pm. Sheffield Town Hall, Rt. 122. (802) 626-9416.

**SOUTH BURLINGTON.** Craft Vermont—A Fine Craft and Art Show. Admission \$7 for a three-day pass, under 12 free. 10 am – 6 pm. Sheraton Burlington Hotel & Conference Center, 870 Williston Rd. (802) 872-8600. vermonthandcrafters.com. Also November 22.

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** Christmas Angel Bazaar. Huge White Elephant sale in four different rooms. Jewelry, crafts, wreaths, sacramental shop. Food table, coffee hour, luncheon featuring famous Fortin soup. Raffles and Santa on the stage. 9 am – 1:30 pm. Father Lively Center, Summer St. (802) 748-8129.

**TINMOUTH.** 46th Annual Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department Game Supper. One of Vermont's longest running game suppers. All-you-can-eat menu includes venison and moose sauerbraten, roasts with secret marinades, cornbread chili, Italian wild meatballs, smoked deer, moose, and bear, chicken pie, and endless mashed potatoes, squash, salads. Over 100 homemade pies to choose from! Beverages include coffee, cider, and milk. Take-outs available. We serve over 500 people and no one has to wait outside. Tickets \$15, children 6-12 \$10, under 6 free. 4 pm. Tinmouth Community Center. (802) 235-2718.

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

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

**BRATTLEBORO.** Eighth Annual LEGO Contest & Exhibit. Admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, youth 18 and under free. 11 am – 5 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

**CHESTER.** Vermont Voices. Howard Frank Mosher, fiction writer living in Northeast Kingdom presents his new book, *God's Kingdom*. Free admission. Sponsored by Misty Valley Books. Free. 2 pm at the First Universalist Church in the Stone Village. (802) 875-3400. www.mvbooks.com.

**LUDLOW.** Okemo Ski and Swap Sale. Admission \$5. 9 am – 1 pm. Okemo Mountain Main Base Lodge, 77 Okemo Ridge Rd. (802) 228-1513. okemomountainschool.org.

**RUTLAND.** Catwalk for a Cause. Community based fashion show features local models, hair and make-up stylists from more than 10 salons and fashions from nearly 12 local retailers. Tickets \$20, seniors and under 16 \$15. 4 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountlive.org.

**SOUTH BURLINGTON.** Craft Vermont—A Fine Craft and Art Show. Admission \$4, under 12 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Sheraton Burlington Hotel & Conference Center, 870 Williston Rd. (802) 872-8600. vermonthandcrafters.com.

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

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

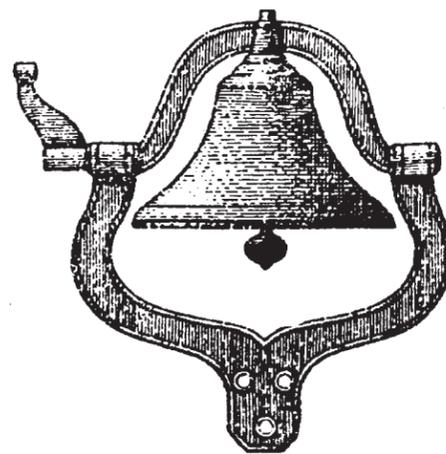
**BURLINGTON.** 26th Annual Free Thanksgiving Community Dinner and Coat Drive. Coat drive starts at 8 am (last year 1000 were given away). Dinner from 10 am – 5 pm. Sweetwaters, 120 Church St. (802) 864-9800. www.sweetwatersvt.com.

**MONTPELIER.** 43rd Annual Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Everyone is welcome. Hosted by Washington County Youth Service Bureau. For delivery to the homebound in the Montpelier area, for more information, to volunteer or to make a donation, call (802) 229-9151. 11 am – 3 pm. Bethany Church, 115 Main St. www.wcysb.org.

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

**BENNINGTON.** "Festival of Trees Reimagined". Work by 21 area artists create a piece using our Memory Ware Tower as inspiration. Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students 18 and over \$9, children and students under 18 are free. Open every day except Wednesday 10 am – 5 pm, closing at 1 pm on December 24 & 31. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org. November 27 through December 29.

**CHESTER.** Thanksgiving Open House at 103 Artisans Marketplace. Instant raffles, door prizes, and tastings of our inhouse chocolates and cafe goodies. Hot mulled cider and cookies, gift wrapping and holiday cheer! 10 am – 5 pm. 103 Artisans Marketplace, Rt. 103 & 7 Pine View Rd. (802) 875-7400. www.103artisansmarketplace.com. Through November 29.



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## The Farmer's Field

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

He eats his supper with a relish keen  
And talks to the family in between...  
"The fall's work is finished, the plowing done,

To-morrow I'll take my dog and gun  
And a whole day off, if the weather is fair,  
To chase the red foxes away to their lair."  
Then he goes to bed for a well earned rest  
And the clouds roll back from a star decked west.

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

—ELLA WARNER FISHER



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# Vermont Country Calendar

**HUNTINGTON.** Thanksgiving Weekend at The Birds of Vermont Museum. Open two days when visitors can drop in between 10 am and 4 pm to admire our incredible carving of Tom Turkey and listen to Bob Spear on video explaining the way he carves. View live birds at the feeders and visit the grounds. Gift shop offers cards and carvings by Vermont artists and crafters, puzzles, T-shirts, books for birders and kids, coloring books, children's toys and stories. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. [museum@birdsofvermont.org](mailto:museum@birdsofvermont.org). [www.birdsofvermont.org](http://www.birdsofvermont.org). *Also November 28.*

**POULTNEY.** Christmas Craft Fair. Beautiful handcrafted items and gifts, quilts, soap, jewelry and paintings, home baked goods and country treats, locally produced specialty foods, local fall apples and fresh cider, fresh balsam wreaths, maple syrup and Christmas decorations. Free admission. Sponsored by the Lakes Region Farmers Market. 10 am - 4 pm. Poultny High School Gym, 153 E. Main St. (Rt. 140) just off Rt. 30. For info call Jamie Condrill at (802) 287-9570. *Also November 28.*

**PUTNEY.** 37th Annual Putney Craft Tour. Meet 23 artisans including blacksmiths, glass blowers, potters, jewelers, weavers, woodworkers, and artisan cheesemakers. 10 am - 5 pm. Start at The Gleanery Restaurant, 133 Main St. and/or at the Putney General Store for info, maps, and a preview exhibition of the artisans' works. [www.putneycrafts.com](http://www.putneycrafts.com). *Through November 29.*

**RUTLAND.** Musical: "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." Tickets \$29.75. 2 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. [paramountlive.org](http://paramountlive.org).

**TINMOUTH.** 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Turkey Trot Contradance. Brendan Taaffe on guitar, George Wilson on fiddle and Amelia Fontein calling. All dances are taught, and you do not need a partner. Refreshments available. 8 pm. Tinmouth Community Center, Rt. 140, center of town. (802) 446-2928. [www.tinmouthvt.org](http://www.tinmouthvt.org). *Third Fridays.*

**WOODSTOCK.** Thanksgiving Weekend at Billings Farm. Discover how Thanksgiving was observed in the 1890 Farm House. Holiday food programs and activities. Horse-drawn wagon rides. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [info@billingsfarm.org](mailto:info@billingsfarm.org). [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org). *Through November 29.*

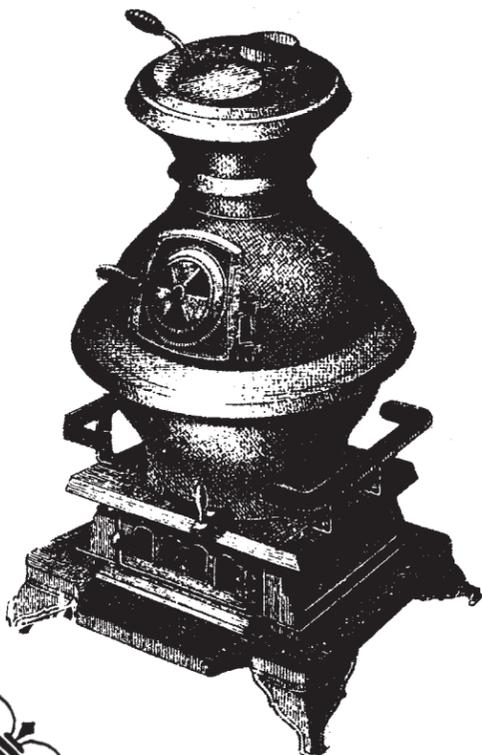
## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

**BRANDON.** Maple View Farm Alpacas Holiday Open House. 11 am - 4 pm. Maple View Farm Alpacas, 185 Adams Rd. off Arnold District Rd north of town. (802) 247-5412. [mapleviewfarmalpacas.com](http://mapleviewfarmalpacas.com). *Also November 29.*

**BURLINGTON.** The 26th Annual Women's Festival of Crafts. Vermont-made jewelry, pottery, greeting cards, clothing, art work, herbal products and more. Free. 10 am - 6 pm. Memorial Auditorium, 150 Main St. (802) 864-7528. [www.womensfestivalofcrafts.com](http://www.womensfestivalofcrafts.com). *Also November 29.*

**CHESTER.** Thanksgiving Open House at 103 Artisans Marketplace. Instant raffles, door prizes, and tastings of our inhouse chocolates and cafe goodies. Hot mulled cider and cookies, gift wrapping and holiday cheer!. 10 am - 5 pm. 103 Artisans Marketplace, Rt. 103 & 7 Pine View Rd. (802) 875-7400. [www.103artisansmarketplace.com](http://www.103artisansmarketplace.com). *Through November 29.*

**DUMMERSTON.** Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Christmas Tree Sales. Free hot cider, hot chocolate & pretzels. Open Saturdays and Sundays 10 am - 4 pm, Mondays through Thursdays 12-4 pm, Fridays 12-7 pm through December 24. Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Tree Farm, 209 Knapp Rd. (802) 254-2051. [elysianhillstreefarm.com](http://elysianhillstreefarm.com). *Through December 24.*



**EAST ST. JOHNSBURY.** Christkindlmarkt in East Village. Come and spend some time shopping for gifts, decorations and "wunderbar" food. 9 am - 2 pm. Third Congregational Church, Rt. 2 East. (802) 748-3778.

**HUNTINGTON.** Thanksgiving Weekend at The Birds of Vermont Museum. Open two days when visitors can drop in between 10 am and 4 pm. View live birds at the feeders and visit the grounds. Gift shop offers cards and carvings by Vermont artists and crafters, puzzles, T-shirts, books for birders and kids, coloring books, children's toys and stories. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. [museum@birdsofvermont.org](mailto:museum@birdsofvermont.org). [www.birdsofvermont.org](http://www.birdsofvermont.org).

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

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**RANDOLPH.** No Strings Marionette Company Presents *The Nick of Time*. A traditional Thanksgiving weekend performance to delight all ages, this is the tale of astronaut Nick Eastman and his hoverbot Glitch as they are sucked into a time-warp. Tickets \$8 adults, \$5 students. Reserve by calling the box office weekdays from 3-6 pm at (802) 728-6464. 11 am. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-9878. [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org).

**RUTLAND.** Winter Vermont Farmers' Market. Local produce, crafts, prepared foods. Live music. EBT and debit cards. Saturdays 10 am - 2 pm and Wednesdays 3-6 pm. Vermont Farmers, Food Center at 251 West St. in downtown Rutland. (802) 342-4727. [info@vtfarmersmarket.org](mailto:info@vtfarmersmarket.org). [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org). *Wednesdays and Saturdays through May 7.*

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** Country Crafters Craft Fair. Featuring over 50 crafters, bake/lunch sale and Christmas auction. Sponsored by St. Johnsbury Area Lions Club. 10 am - 3 pm. St. Johnsbury Academy Field House, Main St. (802) 274-3543

**WEST BURKE.** Giving Thanks Dinner. Kerrigan's is hosting as well as cooking a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Seatings at 11:30 am and 2:30 pm. Reservations requested. By donation. Proceeds go to The Senior Meal site and Area Boot Fund. Burke Community Center, 212 School St. (802) 467-1375.

**WOODSTOCK.** Thanksgiving Weekend at Billings Farm. Holiday food programs and activities. Horse-drawn wagon rides. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [info@billingsfarm.org](mailto:info@billingsfarm.org). [billingsfarm.org](http://billingsfarm.org). *Also November 29.*

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

**BRANDON.** Maple View Farm Alpacas Holiday Open House. 11 am - 4 pm. Maple View Farm Alpacas, 185 Adams Rd. off Arnold District Rd north of town. (802) 247-5412. [mapleviewfarmalpacas.com](http://mapleviewfarmalpacas.com).

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**DUMMERSTON.** Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Christmas Tree Sales. Free hot cider, hot chocolate & pretzels. Open Saturdays and Sundays 10 am - 4 pm, Mondays through Thursdays 12-4 pm, Fridays 12-7 pm through December 24. Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Tree Farm, 209 Knapp Rd. (802) 254-2051. [elysianhillstreefarm.com](http://elysianhillstreefarm.com). *Through December 24.*

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

**WOODSTOCK.** Thanksgiving Weekend at Billings Farm. Holiday food programs and activities. Horse-drawn wagon rides. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org).



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# Vermont Country Calendar

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

**BURLINGTON.** Cider Monday. Ditch your digital shopping cart and join us in person at Phoenix Books to enjoy doughnuts and a free cup of hot cider while you find great gifts for everyone on your shopping list. 10 am – 9 pm. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. [www.phoenixbooks.biz](http://www.phoenixbooks.biz).

**DUMMERSTON.** Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Christmas Tree Sales. Free hot cider, hot chocolate & pretzels. Open Saturdays and Sundays 10 am – 4 pm, Mondays through Thursdays 12-4 pm, Fridays 12-7 pm through December 24. Walker Farm's Elysian Hills Tree Farm, 209 Knapp Rd. (802) 254-2051. [elysianhillstreefarm.com](http://elysianhillstreefarm.com). *Through December 24.*

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2015

**LUDLOW.** Fletcher Farms School for the Arts and Crafts. Vermont's oldest residential arts and crafts school. Register for our arts and crafts classes. Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts, 611 Rt. 103 South. (802) 228-8770. [info@fletcherfarm.org](http://info@fletcherfarm.org). [www.fletcherfarm.org](http://www.fletcherfarm.org).

**NORWICH.** Evening for Adults. The Montshire Museum is open after hours for adults. Pull up a stool at the science discovery lab or simply explore the museum's visiting and permanent exhibits on your own. Jasper Murdock Ale and wine from Norwich Inn for purchase. Admission. 6-9 pm. Montshire Museum of Science, One Montshire Rd. (802) 649-2200. [www.montshire.org](http://www.montshire.org). *November 20, January 15, February 12, March 11, April 8, and May 13.*

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

**WEST RUTLAND.** Vermont Herbal General Store. Owned and operated by a registered pharmacist. Tai' Chi Gung classes, Tuesdays at 5 pm at the store. Free intro classes. 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-Saturday 12-6, Sunday 1-4, closed Friday. Vermont Herbal General Store, 578 Main St. (802) 438-2766. [info@vermonthherbal.com](http://info@vermonthherbal.com). On Facebook and Twitter. [www.vermonthherbal.com](http://www.vermonthherbal.com).

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

**WINDSOR.** Stuffed Animal Repair. Sue Spear, stuffed animal repair specialist, will fix up stuffed friends. She is providing this fabulous service for free! 6:30-7:30 pm. Windsor Public Library, 43 State St. Call to confirm (802) 674-2556. [windsorlibrary.org](http://windsorlibrary.org). Most Wednesdays.

### MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

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

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

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

**BENNINGTON.** Bennington Center for the Arts. Small Works Show May 23-December 20. Permanent collections, theater productions, workshops. Admission: adults \$9, seniors & students \$8, families \$20, under 12 are free. Open Wed-Mon, 10 am – 5 pm. Bennington Center for the Arts, 44 Gypsy Lane. (802) 442-7158. [shirley@thebennington.org](mailto:shirley@thebennington.org). [www.thebennington.org](http://www.thebennington.org).

**BENNINGTON.** Bennington Museum. Exhibit: The Other Working Landscape—Watercolors by Tom Lytham through December 31. Founding documents, fine art, and more. See Bennington Pottery, the 1924 Wasp Touring Car, Vermont furniture, and the Bennington Flag—one of America's oldest flags. Lectures, workshops, concerts, films, and the George Aiken Wildflower Trail. Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students over 18 \$9, children under 18 free. Free admission to the Gift Shop. Open 10 am – 5 pm every day except Wednesdays. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. [www.benningtonmuseum.org](http://www.benningtonmuseum.org).

**BRANDON.** Holiday Show: The Art of Giving—The Giving of Art. A selection of handcrafted, one-of-a-kind artwork, jewelry and other gifts. Compass Music and Arts Center, in Park Village at 333 Jones Dr. (802) 247-4295. [cmactv.org](http://cmactv.org). *November 6 through January 9.*

**BRANDON.** Compass Music and Arts Center. Arts businesses and studios, classes & workshops, 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 daily 10 am – 5 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Drive, Park Village, 1.5 miles north of downtown. (802) 247-4295. [www.cmactv.org](http://www.cmactv.org).

**BRATTLEBORO.** Brattleboro Museum & Art Center. Current exhibit: "Shedding Light on the Working Forest". Experience the richness and beauty of Vermont's working forest economy through the paintings of Kathleen Kolb and poetry of Verandah Porche, through January 3. Open daily 11-5, closed Tues. \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, \$4 students, free for youth 18 and under. 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124.

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

**CHESTER.** 103 Artisans Marketplace. Hand crafted gifts, decorative accessories, small batch Chocolates and Vermont Maple products. Owned by artists Elise & Payne Junker, exclusive showroom of Junker Studio metalwork. Open every day 10 am – 5 pm, closed Tuesday. Located on Rt. 103, south of town—look for the life-size moose! (802) 875-7400. [Gallery103.com](http://Gallery103.com).

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| 19% Broiler Grower Crumbles        | 16% Sheep & Goat Pellet                      |
| 20% Calf Starter                   | 26% Turkey Starter Mash                      |
| Cracked Corn                       | 21% Turkey Grower Pellets                    |
| Whole Corn                         | Whole Barley                                 |
| 16% Dairy Pellet                   | Whole Oats                                   |
| 20% Dairy Pellet                   | Molasses (1/2 lb)                            |
| Natural Advantage 12 - Pellet      | Redmond Salt                                 |
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| 16% Coarse Layer Mash              | Kelpmeal                                     |
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## Apples in the Kitchen

**Applesauce:** Apples suited for pies are usually good for sauce too, as are a few strongly flavorful types that are too watery or not firm enough for pies. MacIntoshes make excellent sauce.

**For Baked Goods:** Pies, pancakes, muffins, and cakes: Look for assertive-tasting fruit that's not too watery. The apples should have some tartness. Examples: Granny Smith, Pippin, Rhode Island Greening, Ida Red, Jonathan, and Jonamac.

**Baked:** Firm fruit that holds its shape makes the best baked apples. This includes Cortland, Northern Spy, and Rome Beauty.

**Out-Of-Hand:** Most apples that are good for pies, apple-sauce, and baked apples are delicious raw too, with the exception of very tart or mealy types. Try Braeburn, Empire, Fuji, Honey Crisp, Gala, and Winter Banana.

—Ron Krupp

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# Vermont Country Calendar

**HUNTINGTON.** Birds of Vermont Museum. Features over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Museum, special events and bird walks, exhibits, children's programs, gift shop, video, restrooms and trails with maps available. Special Gift Shop Sale Days November 27-28, 10 am - 4 pm. Admission: adult \$7, senior \$6, child 3-17 \$3.50. Open by appointment. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. [birdsofvermont.org](http://birdsofvermont.org). *By appointment November 1 through May 1.*

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

**MANCHESTER.** Visit Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home. Summer home of presidential son, Robert Lincoln. House, gardens, Pullman car, working farm and cheese-making facility, floating boardwalk, walking trails, museum store and welcome center. Holiday Open House December 5 & 6. Admission: \$18 adults, \$5 children 6-14, under 6 free. Open daily 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, off Rt. 7A, just south of the village. (802) 362-1788. [www.hildene.org](http://www.hildene.org).

**MARLBORO.** Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. Perched on an overlook—on a clear day the horizon is 100 miles away! See mounted specimens of over 600 native New England birds and mammals, a Raptor Center with live hawks and owls, amphibian and reptile exhibit and fall wildflower exhibit. Hogback Mountain Gift Shop next door. Admission: adults \$5, seniors \$3, children 5-12 \$2, kids 4 and under are free. Open 10 am - 4 pm weekdays, 10 am - 5 pm weekends. Rt. 9, Hogback Mountain. (802) 464-0048. [museum@sover.net](mailto:museum@sover.net). [www.vermontmuseum.org](http://www.vermontmuseum.org).

**MIDDLEBURY.** Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont. The oldest chartered community history museum in the United States, welcoming visitors since 1882. Current Exhibit: Warren Kimble All-American Artist—An Eclectic Retrospective, through October 18. Exhibits, research center, and museum shop. Admission: adults \$5, youth 6-18 \$3, senior \$4.50, family \$12, under 6 free. Open Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, One Park St. (803) 388-2117. [www.henrysheldonmuseum.org](http://www.henrysheldonmuseum.org).

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

**MIDDLEBURY.** The National Museum of the Morgan Horse. Exhibit: Stacey Stanhope Dundon's oil paintings, functional pottery, and full size horse heads, and local artist Gayl Braisted's paintings of barns. Gift shop full of Morgan horse t-shirts, books, and posters. Open Tuesday-Friday 1-5 pm, Saturday 10 am - 5 pm. The National Museum of the Morgan Horse (NMMH), 34 Main St. (802) 388-1639. [www.morganhorse.com/museum](http://www.morganhorse.com/museum).

**MONTPELIER.** Vermont History Museum & Bookstore. Adults: \$5; families: \$12; students, children, seniors: \$3; members and children under 6: free. Open 9 am - 4 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Pavilion Building, 109 State St. (802) 828-2291. [vhs-info@state.vt.us](mailto:vhs-info@state.vt.us). [www.vermonthistory.org](http://www.vermonthistory.org).

**NORWICH.** Montshire Museum of Science. Exhibit: *The Outside Story*—Artwork by Adelaide Tyrol, November 1-29. 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](http://www.montshire.org).

**READING.** Art Exhibits. Outdoor sculpture by Richard Deacon, Olafur Eliasson, and Marc Quinn. Indoor exhibits: Keith Sonnier: Early Neon—sculpture incorporating unconventional and industrial materials; and paintings by Peter Saul. Admission is free. Open weekends and Wednesdays by appointment. Hall Art Foundation, 551 VT Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. [www.hallartfoundation.org](http://www.hallartfoundation.org). *May 9 through November 29.*

**RUTLAND.** Chaffee Downtown Art Center. Open Tuesday-Friday 12-6 pm, and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm. Chaffee Downtown Gallery, 75 Merchants Row. (802) 775-0062. [www.chaffeeartcenter.org](http://www.chaffeeartcenter.org).

**SAXTONS RIVER.** River Artisans Cooperative. Over 50 craftspeople keep the shelves stocked with a wide variety of handcrafted items. Year round, weekdays from 12-5 pm and weekends from 10 am - 3 pm. 26B Main St. (802) 869-2099. [www.riverartisans.com](http://www.riverartisans.com).

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

**SHOREHAM.** Shoreham Bell Museum. See 5-6,000 bells collected from all over the world. Open most afternoons by appointment or chance year round. Free admission, donations accepted. Shoreham Bell Museum, 127 Smith St. off Rt. 74 west. For information call Judy Blake at (802) 897-2780. [vtcat@shorehambellmuseum.com](mailto:vtcat@shorehambellmuseum.com). [www.shorehambellmuseum.com](http://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. Exhibits, classes, workshops. Tuesday - Saturday 11 am - 5 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. [galleryvault.org](http://galleryvault.org).

**SPRINGFIELD.** Art Exhibit Feather & Fur—Portraits of Field, Forest & Farm. Gallery hours are 9 am - 5 pm Mon-Fri. The Great Hall, One Hundred, River St. (802) 258-3992. [www.facebook.com/GreatHallSpringfield](http://www.facebook.com/GreatHallSpringfield). *October 3 through the end of April.*

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

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain and Dog Chapel. Free. Winter hours: Thursday - Monday: 11 am - 4 pm. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (800) 449-2580. [contact@dogmt.com](mailto:contact@dogmt.com). [www.dogmt.com](http://www.dogmt.com). *November 1 through May 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](mailto:info@carvingstudio.org). [carvingstudio.org](http://carvingstudio.org).

**WINDSOR.** Cider Hill Gardens & Art Gallery. Display gardens, plant collections, art gallery, special events. Open through November, Fri-Sun, 10 am - 5 pm. At 1747 Hunt Rd., off State St. (800) 232-4337. [flowers@ciderhillgardens.com](http://flowers@ciderhillgardens.com). [ciderhillgardens.com](http://ciderhillgardens.com). [garymilek.com](mailto:garymilek.com).

**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. [info@artistreevt.org](mailto:info@artistreevt.org). [www.artistreevt.org](http://www.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 \$14, age 62 & up \$13, children ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [info@billingsfarm.org](mailto:info@billingsfarm.org). [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org).

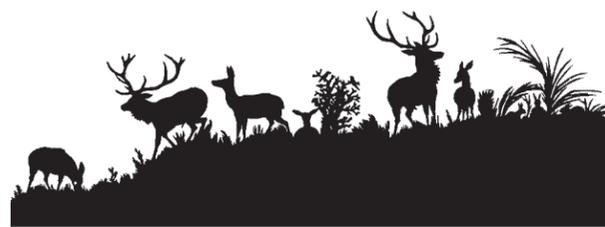
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**EAST BURKE.** Guided, Scenic Horse Trail Rides. For 12 and older, or under 12 w/riding experience. Fees: one hour \$60 per person. D-N-D Stables, 1952 Rt. 114. (802) 626-8237. [dndstables1952@aol.com](mailto:dndstables1952@aol.com). [www.horserentals.com/dndstables.html](http://www.horserentals.com/dndstables.html). *Through November.*

**LONDONDERRY.** Wagon Rides at Taylor Farm. Wagons run 11 am - 6 pm every hour on the hour Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Rides last 45 minutes and include a fireside stop. Come early and pack up a picnic basket of goodies from our farm store. Our wagons each hold up to 10 adults. Prices: \$20 for everyone over age 7, \$10 for ages 7-2, under 2 free; private rides \$150 for 1-5 people, \$200 for 6-10 people. Mid-week private rides available on request with advance notice. Taylor Farm, 825 Rt. 11. By reservation only, call (802) 824-5690. [www.taylorfarmvermont.com](http://www.taylorfarmvermont.com).

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



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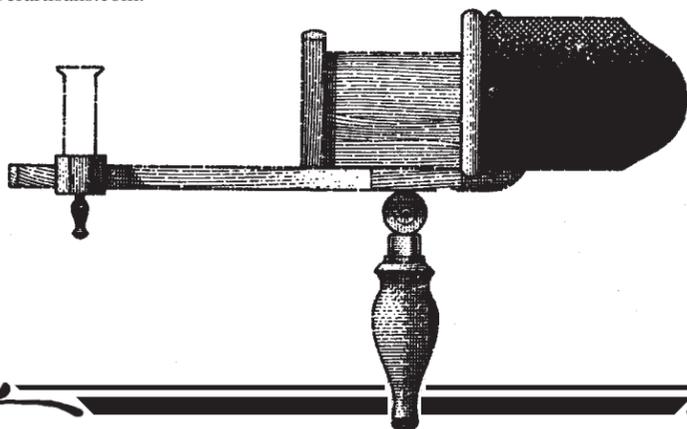
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North Country Reflections

# Tales of a Three-Legged Dog

by Judith Irven

Bruno was an extremely handsome dog who attracted considerable attention from the people he encountered during his long and happy life. Although he looked like a yellow Labrador, he was in fact of decidedly mixed heritage. He was also missing a leg.

Bruno came to live with us when he was just two years old, about eight weeks after an altercation with a FedEx truck had left him without his rear left leg. And, for the next thirteen years, he was a much loved member of our household, a faithful walking companion, and an inspiration to many people he encountered along the way. So, dear reader, should you ever be faced with a decision as to whether to have your dog's leg amputated, or are considering adopting a three-legged dog yourself, as the following stories of Bruno illustrate, please have no concerns.

### Adoption

Bruno was not our first three-legged dog. Before Bruno came to us we had adopted Harry from Middlebury's Homebound animal shelter. Although Harry was only three years old, it would not be long before the vet discovered a lump of his ankle that turned out to be cancerous. So, very reluctantly, we decided his leg should be amputated.

But, within a fortnight of his surgery, Harry was again running through the hills of Goshen. Thus we quickly discovered that missing a leg is no impediment whatsoever for a dog enjoying a full and energetic life. Sadly however, a few months later, the cancer returned and before long had claimed poor Harry.

When we decided to look for another dog, it was the receptionist at the Middlebury Animal Hospital who told us about 'this very special three-legged dog who needs a home'. My response was 'We're cool with that' and invited his owner to bring Bruno over for an visit.

While Bruno explored the house and polished off the cat's food, his owner explained that, because of separation anxiety, Bruno would chew things when he was left alone during the time she and her husband were at work. I asked what he chewed and she answered rather ominously 'THE HOUSE'!!

It turned out that his accident had happened because, when she had tried leaving him in their barn, he chewed his way to freedom, only to be hit by a truck.

### Early days

So, to avoid giving him the chance to chew OUR house, initially we took Bruno with us wherever we went. We soon learned that, even with complete strangers, a three legged dog



photo by Helen Genges

Judith Irven, two of her granddaughters, and Bruno, all up on Hogback Mountain in Goshen, VT.

will elicit compassion. More than once we would overhear people emit a long sad sigh and mutter 'Oh that POOR dog'.

We also discovered that a three-legged dog is extremely easy to describe to perfect strangers. After he had been with us about a month, Dick and I decided to leave Bruno on the grass in the shade, tied to a crab apple tree, while we popped into the museum at Middlebury College. We returned a little while later, only to discover a short length of wet dog lead looped around the tree.

Fearing the worst, I rushed over to a group of soccer players, and then on to some surprised construction workers, frantically asking if they had seen a brown THREE-LEGGED dog. Nothing!

Then a woman stopped her car and shouted 'Have you lost a three-legged dog?' As I nodded sadly she commanded me to 'get in', and drove me back to the museum. From here she led me upstairs to the private area, where I found her officemate gently trying to persuade Bruno to sip water from a very small paper cup.

Apparently, they had seen him sitting at the museum entrance and felt they should take him under their wings!

We concluded that Bruno had watched us walk off without him, carefully chewed his way through his lead, and then gone to the very spot where he had last seen us to await our return!

### Empathy between people and dog

We also discovered that Bruno was a special inspiration to people with disabilities.

One time a third-grade class came to visit our garden. The bus pulled into the driveway and kids piled out, running off to look at birds, bees and flowers.

Finally a small boy on crutches cautiously descended the steps of the bus. Then, as he caught sight of the three-legged dog, he knelt down and gave Bruno a long meaningful hug. After that, for entire visit, the little boy walked alongside his new acquaintance, repeating gently 'Oh Bruno you are just like me—you're my friend'.

A few years later, as we went out to welcome a returning B&B couple, we found the man had recently lost a leg to cancer. As we carried the luggage into the house Pat remained behind to embrace Bruno, using almost the exact same words—'you're my buddy; you're just like me'.

Another memorable experience occurred at Middlebury's Festival on the Green (a great week of outdoor concerts held each July). Just as the music was starting, we spied an empty spot on the grass, maneuvered ourselves past other concertgoers and sat down next to an elderly gentleman. After a few minutes I realized the man was quietly stroking Bruno's ears while our dog leaned himself up against the

man's prosthetic leg. They remained that way until the music stopped, whereupon the man stood up to leave, shot us a mischievous smile, and said 'That makes four between us!!'

### Greetings

We found the only real pitfall to having a three-legged dog was repeatedly having to answer the question 'What happened to his leg?'. And for us, as B&B hosts, for six months of the year this was almost a daily occurrence.

While we compiled a list of witty answers such as 'Dog-gone it, he must have mislaid it again' we never had the nerve to say anything other than 'He lost it in an accident before he came to us'.

Sometimes, people would direct their question to Bruno himself, murmuring 'What happened to your leg?' whereupon Bruno would obligingly wag his tail.

Still others would whisper their question to us in such a way that Bruno would not hear, as if they were afraid of embarrassing him.

Many of our B&B guests bonded with Bruno in special ways and some of them never forgot him. Right to the end of his life, each year at Christmastime Milt, a long-time guest, would send him a doggie present addressed to 'Dear Bruno, with much love from Santa Paws'.

### My twelve-thousand-mile dog

Throughout his long life Bruno was always an excellent walking companion. Each afternoon he attentively watched as I put on my boots, the signal for our daily walk.

Oftentimes we would just go along our country dirt road. As he soon learnt to come to heel at the sound of an approaching car, in this quiet environment I could let him walk off the lead.

But sometimes I liked to roam the National Forest trails near our house, both for mountain hikes in summer and back-country snowshoeing in winter. And, however steep the incline and whatever the weather, Bruno was my constant companion.

Add all this together and I estimate he and I walked a thousand miles or more a year together, and we kept this up for twelve long years.

Bruno had surely earned the honorary title of 'A twelve-thousand-mile dog'.

While Judith usually writes about gardens and gardening, since this month is a 'down season' in the garden, she has chosen to write about a different part of her life.

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](http://www.northcountryreflections.com). Dick Conrad is a landscape and garden photographer; to see his photographs go to [www.northcountryimpressions.com](http://www.northcountryimpressions.com).

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# No Strings Marionette Company Performs at Chandler

Join us on a fun-filled adventure that is truly out of this world! A beloved Thanksgiving weekend tradition, the No Strings Marionette Company ushers in the magic of the holiday season with *The Nick of Time*. A story that is perfect for all ages, the performance takes place at Chandler Center for the Arts in Randolph, VT on Saturday, November 28th at 11 a.m.

On a special mission to explore a mysterious dark object nearing planet Earth, a rocket ship carrying Astronaut Nick Eastman and his hoverbot Glitch is attacked by a deep space alien. Investigating, Nick is sucked into a time-warp and lands millions of years into Earth's dinosaur-riddled past. Snatched as a pterodactyl snack, Nick escapes only to be warped into a bizarre future where creatures have mutated to survive on a barely recognizable Earth.

See if our time travelers decode the gravity of their situation and save the Earth in the Nick of Time!

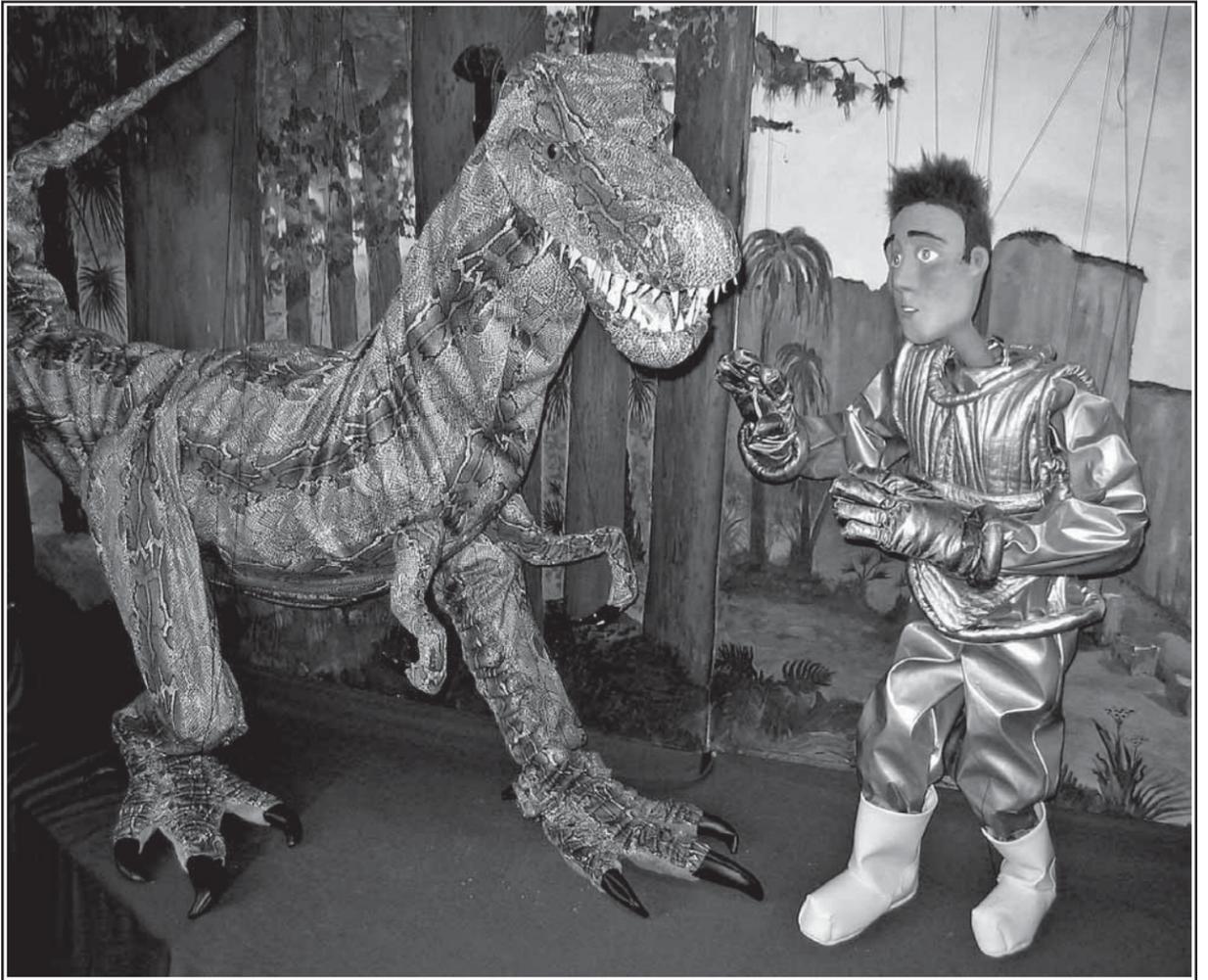
The heart-pounding marionette extravaganza probes many unexplored and intriguing dimensions of puppetry in this rollicking show.

Puppeteers Dan Baginski and Barbara Paulson have performed for over thirteen years, dazzling children and adults with their marionette magic. On the stage of this traveling theater, the performance is a seamless blend of music, movement and masterful marionette manipulation. You can watch how the puppets are brought to life, since the puppeteers do not hide themselves from the audience.

The puppets, built in the No Strings studio in Randolph, range in style from marionettes to body beings to interactive scenic pieces. All honor the tradition of puppets performing great works of history's finest creative artists and writers.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students, and can be reserved online at [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org) or by calling the box office at (802) 728-6464 weekdays from 3-6 p.m.

*Chandler Music Hall is located at 71-73 Main St. in Randolph, VT. It is handicapped accessible and equipped for the hearing impaired. For more information call (802) 728-9878. Visit [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org).*



Nick deals with the pterodactyl in the No Strings Marionette production of *Nick of Time* at Chandler Music Hall in Randolph, VT on Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend.

## Grammy Winner Dom Flemons at Chandler Music Hall

Dom Flemons of the Carolina Chocolate Drops performs at Chandler Music Hall on Saturday November 14th, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.

Dom Flemons is the "American Songster," pulling from traditions of old-time folk music to create new sounds. Having performed music professionally since 2005, he has played live for over one million people just within the past three years. As part of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, which he co-founded with Rhiannon Giddens and Justin Robinson, he has played at a variety of festivals from the Newport Folk Festival to Bonnaroo, and renowned venues such as the Grand Ole Opry.

A multi-instrumentalist, Dom plays banjo, guitar, harmonica, fife, bones, bass drum, snare drum and quills, in addition to singing. He says that he incorporates his background in percussion with his banjo playing. Dom's banjo repertoire includes not only claw-hammer but also tenor and three-finger styles of playing.

Dom started his career as a solo musician, playing at local coffeehouses in Arizona, where he was raised.

With a growing interest in 50s rock 'n' roll, early country, and folk, he settled into pre-WWII music and joined the Carolina Chocolate Drops. The Carolina Chocolate Drops, from Durham, NC, quickly rose to stardom, winning a Grammy for their first album "Genuine Negro Jig". Though the trio of musicians were originally playing traditional music, mostly old-time from the Piedmont region of North Carolina, they

strove to recreate and draw upon popular sounds as well. Rolling Stone Magazine described the Carolina Chocolate Drops' style as "dirt-floor-dance electricity."

In 2011, Dom Flemons left the group and began pursuing his own performance career. He's been featured on NPR's Fresh Air with Terry Gross, and has received praise from The Boston Globe, Paste Magazine, Living Blues Magazine, and more. He has another talent, which surely has benefited his career as a songster—he is a national champion slam poet, winning two national competitions in a row (2002 and 2003).

Dom digs deeply into ragtime, Piedmont blues, spirituals, southern folk music, string band music, jug band music, fife and drum music, and ballads idioms with showmanship and humor, reinterpreting the music to suit 21st century audiences.

Tickets are available by calling the Chandler box office from 3-6 p.m. at (802) 728-6464 or online at [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org). For more information about the Dom Flemons, visit [www.domflemons.com](http://www.domflemons.com).

*Chandler Music Hall is located at 71-73 Main St. in Randolph, VT. It is handicapped accessible and equipped for the hearing impaired. For more information call (802) 728-9878. Visit [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org).*

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The snowflakes fall.  
They are leaving the pools and pebbled fountains;  
Troubled, they bawl.  
They are winding down the mountain's shoulders  
Through the open pines,  
Through wild rose thickets and the granite boulders  
In broken lines.  
Each calf trots close beside its mother  
And so they go,  
Bawling and calling to one another  
About the snow.

—CHARLES E.S. WOOD

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Scottish Highland Dancing in celebration of the Winter Solstice. The Christmas Revels is coming to Hanover, NH on December 17-20. photo courtesy of Revels North

## The Christmas Revels

### A Scottish Highlands Celebration of the Winter Solstice: The Ballad of Tam Lin

There is a story at every crossroads in this land, where even magic seems possible.

Join Revels North as they present this year's Christmas Revels at Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts in Hanover, NH on December 17-20. This is an Upper Valley family holiday tradition since 1974!

Travel to the remote Scottish Highlands, where families will gather for a ceilidh—a celebration with singing, dancing, and all manner of diversion. On this day of longest night, clans from all across the Highland (and you!) will travel to an island in a loch and hear the telling of "The Ballad of Tam Lin".

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and the battle between dark and light...*

Margaret ventures into Carterhays, an ancient wood that once belonged to her father but now is said to be haunted by the mercurial Fair Folk. There she meets Tam Lin, a knight

imprisoned by the Elfin Queen. Will Margaret dare to free Tam Lin from the Queen's control and finally reclaim her family's land? But if she fails... what horrible fate awaits her?

Over 75 local performers of all ages will come together on the Hopkins Center Stage to present The Christmas Revels: A Scottish Highlands Celebration of the Winter Solstice, in an original production written by beloved author Susan Cooper and Revels North Associate Music Director Will Rowan.

With lovely Gaelic melodies and crowd-pleasing carols, traditional Highland and Scottish country dancing, and foot-stomping instrumentals, The Christmas Revels is sure to have audiences singing and dancing along as they are swept away to a fantastic and mystical place.

Featured guest artists include world-class Highland piper Iain MacHarg of the Vermont Institute of Celtic Arts, title-winning Scottish fiddler Katie McNally, renowned Gaelic harper Dominique Dodge, and acclaimed accordionist Jeremiah McLane, performing together as Ceòl nan Gàidheal; and including a special appearance by nationally-celebrated Scottish highland dancer Joshua Haiman.

Performances take place on December 17 at 6 p.m., December 18 at 7 p.m., December 19 at 1 p.m. & 5 p.m., and December 20 at 1 p.m. & 5 p.m. Tickets range from \$20

children, Thursday evening children \$8, \$44 adults.

Revels North continues to provide incomparable year-round experiences to participants and audiences alike. Our major programs—Revels Kids, Revels Teens, Christmas Revels and Summer Revels—introduce thousands of people to musical experiences, traditions and rituals from around the world.

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*For more information about Revels North call (866) 556-3083, e-mail [info@revelsnorth.org](mailto:info@revelsnorth.org) or visit [www.revelsnorth.org](http://www.revelsnorth.org). [www.hop.dartmouth.edu](http://www.hop.dartmouth.edu).*

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## The Paths We Make

by Burr Morse

Today I'm thinking paths. We all make paths, whether we're cows cutting grooves in Vermont side hills or salamanders slithering across a muddy road. And we humans are no exception. Brings to mind a story I once heard about two engineers, the boss and his younger associate:

The two stood facing an almost completed village development project. They complimented each other on the structural integrity of the new buildings and how well they fit in to the general scheme. Trees had been planted and all that was left to do was to pour a cement walkway through the development and put down the turf. The younger engineer reached for his phone to call in the cement crew but the older guy stopped him. "John", he said "we'll just ignore the plans for this sidewalk and put in the turf". John, a bit "huffy" questioned why they would ignore an expensive set of plans. The older engineer responded with two words, "you'll see". The turf

*"As I went west, over through the Horn of the Moon section of East Montpelier, I thought of the times I used to go to Gerald's place to help him with haying."*

was laid down and a month later, the two met back at the same spot. Bill, the older guy, pointed to a well-trodden path out across the new lawn. "Go ahead and call in the cement crew John", he said. "Now you know where the walk should go." The moral of this story, of course, is that we humans, like all animals, follow our natural instincts more than any guidelines or formal set of plans.

The other day I followed a familiar human "path" to Shady Rill and my old friend Gerald Pease' place. Gerald passed away years ago but Sarah Seidman now owns Pease Farm and had some hay which I needed for my goats. To get there, most folks would have gone through Montpelier and followed hard surface roads but this old dog'll always opt for the dirt roads. As I went west, over through the Horn of the Moon section of East Montpelier, I thought of the times I used to go to Gerald's place to help him with haying. Many of those times I was on a tractor, the true way to get a full appreciation for our state's country roads. The route I took brought the full gamut of Vermont's country best...hills, valleys, forest canopies, and stunning mountain views.

The best part of my travels that day, though, was arriving at Pease Farm and seeing the lack of change. Sarah has simply changed "critters" and nothing else. Gerald was a



Gerald Pease at his farm in East Montpelier, VT.

photo by Claude Stone

dairy farmer, Sarah has horses. She still hays the same fields and pastures the same pastures with the same old, but well-maintained equipment. When I drove in with my truck, Sarah knew what I wanted and simply hollered from a distance, "upper shed". I dropped the Freightliner into low and headed up the same lane that Pease Farm cows had claimed as their own for half a century. On both sides, well trimmed pastures and recently hayed meadows stood, reminders of all my time spent over there helping Gerald. I got to the upper shed, put on a small load of square bales, and made my way back down the lane. This time, I stopped, paid for the hay, shook Sarah's hand and thanked her for keeping that place the farm I love.

I followed the same route back home, thinking of the original "footprints". Those long-gone folks would no doubt be glad we're still using their paths. Although transportation modes are different these days, nothing has really changed...

we're all still instinctive humans who know where we want to go and by God, we "git" there.

Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks is located at 1168 County Rd., Montpelier, VT and is open year-round. Country Store with Vermont products and gifts, maple, and pasture-raised local beef and bacon. Tour the Sugarhouse, Woodshed Theater, Outdoor Farmhouse Museum. Order Cabot cheddar cheese, and Maple products, and Holiday Handmade Balsam Wreaths at (800) 242-2740 or www.morsefarm.com.

## 4th Annual Harvest Barter Fair Coming to Greensboro, VT

Do you have apple sauce coming out of your ears? Potatoes didn't do so well this year? Do you long for a chance to try someone else's home-grown handiwork or would like some more variety on your pantry shelf? Come and participate in the 4th Annual Harvest Barter Fair hosted by the Swap Sisters. On Sunday November 8th from 2-4 p.m. we'll be swapping the season's bounty at the Lakeview Union School, at 189 Lauredon Ave. in Greensboro, VT.

Bring items that you have grown, preserved, baked, or raised to swap with neighbors. Items will be swapped on a one for one basis. Bring items with an estimated value of \$5, or \$5 increments. For example: a quart of canned tomatoes, a jar of jelly, a bag of tasty baked goods, a large winter squash, a pound of frozen meat, a bag of tea or other herbal product, tubers or house plants. Please label your items with ingredients. Come and participate whether you have a little or a lot to share, and bring a friend. People of all ages are

encouraged to participate.

Last year's Harvest Barter Fair was well attended. There were fresh vegetables and fruits, a wide variety of canned and fermented preserves, hot sauce, frozen meat, crafts, bread, stock, cheese, maple syrup, and

lots of herbal products. This could also be a good place to find homes for items like extra canning jars. There's something for everyone.

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### The Ended Song



The dusty tents of the bean are taken  
The cornstalk fades in the rain.  
And I who whistled the tune with robins  
Wander a silent lane.  
I who have loved the rose discover  
All of her petals gone.  
But I am in love with final beauty,  
Even the ended song.

— ESTHER WOOD



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# North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

## Storytelling—Time to Come Inside for the Winter

Time seems to slow a little as the winter season fast approaches. It's an opportunity to regroup, plan ahead, and be creative. Children's stories can reflect this time of letting go. When we come inside from the cold we have a chance to retreat into our imaginations.

Children love books and can be avid readers, but they are storytellers, too. *The Whisper* written and illustrated by Pamela Zagarenski (\$17.99, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, www.hmhco.com) revolves around a little girl as she creates her own stories from the pictures in a very special book her teacher has lent her. We meet her companion friends including a fox, who is clever enough to use a net to catch all the words 'spilling out' of her picture book as the girl walks home. Now, with no words left in the book, she must write the stories herself.

Much later the fox gives the rescued words back to her in a little round package, but by then she has created stories using her own words. The fox appears with her on every page, keeping an eye on her progress. Among the many eye-catching drawings (that just take one's breath away) we see the little girl holding up the fox on her shoulders so it can reach a much coveted bunch of purple grapes.

Her other companions include a rabbit, a swarm of bees and a variety of birds. She also has animal subjects to work with as she thinks up and creates her own stories. These include 'blue' bears, an ox, lion, tiger, a 'wind' horse, an owl and a whale. And artist Pamela writes:

"Word by word, hour after hour, the little girl imagined an entire story for each page. And when the moon was full and bright, she grew sleepy and drifted off into dream-world woven out of the threads of the pictures and the stories she had imagined."

The girl returns the picture book to school and tells the teacher "there was a whisper, and I imagined stories for every picture," and the teacher replies with a smile. "I can't wait to hear."

Winner of two Caldecott Honors and other book awards, the artist tells us about her distinctive and deeply layered paintings:

"I paint as a kind of quest, to better see and understand hidden and closed parts of myself, the mysteries of life, our loves and fears....But what I honestly wish for the children and adults looking at my paintings is the chance to imagine the stories and reasons for themselves."

A wonderful panorama of her amazing paintings with her insightful comments can be viewed online by calling up Seven Questions over Breakfast with Pamela Zagarenski.

Most youngsters have a fascination with gadgets, especially mechanical ones. And now we learn this can also true with moles living underground. Moles? Yes, see how mechanically adept moles are, and what they do with their

talents, in the distinctive story, *Moletown* by Torben Kuhlmann (\$17.95, NorthSouth Books, www.northsouth.com).

The story of Moletown begins many years ago with a lone mole setting up home under a lush green meadow. It becomes apparent that this underground is loaded with resources worth mining. Workers gather; mine shafts are built; and ingenious mechanical devices are created for mining and to move people. Our original mole is able to acquire material goods including a TV, sunlamp, telephone, phonograph, even a flush toilet.

With time a congested, over-populated city blooms below ground, but the above-ground green pasture is destroyed and we see only a small patch of grass which once had been a beautiful meadow.

This story is told almost completely with detailed, complex pictures and only few words. It's up to the reader to imagine and ponder on the balance in life between progress and preservation, even in the unseen world of moles.

Kuhlmann's inventiveness and creativity was evident in his first work, *Lindbergh—The Tale of a Flying Mouse*, which quickly became a best seller. The author, who was born in Germany in 1982, studied illustration and design at the University of Applied Sciences in Hamburg. As a little boy he was captivated by airplanes, strange machines and steaming trains which later became subjects of his drawings.

Caring people often rescue animals, but sometimes remarkable rescues also take place in the animal kingdom. *The Mousewife* by Rumor Godden and illustrated by William Pene du Bois, (\$14.95, New York Review of Books, www.nyrb.com), is one such enchanting rescue story involving a mouse and turtle dove. Plan to read this story

with its wonderful drawings in one sitting. It's worth it.

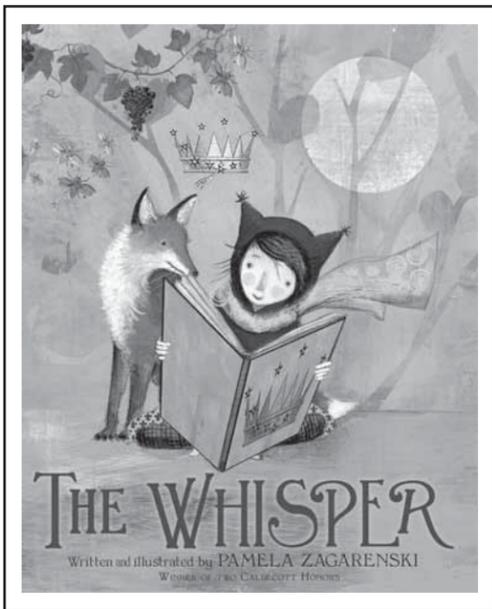
Meet the dutiful mousewife living in the home of a spinster lady, Miss Barbara Wilkinson. The busy mouse still steals time to look out the widow, wondering about that unknown world out there with its gardens, fields and starry skies.

One day a boy captures a dove in the woods and gives the bird to Miss Wilkinson who puts it in a gilded cage with some water and peas to eat. The distraught dove won't eat the peas which become a source of food for mousewife and her hungry family. At first mousewife thinks the dove "large and strange and ugly." However a friendship develops and mousewife brings the caged bird some bread crumbs to eat in exchange for the peas and she questions the dove about the outside world. When he tells her the things a dove would see as it flies, the mousewife, who is used to creeping, feels her head growing dizzy as if she were spinning on her tail, but all she can say is, "tell me more."

Hardly able to move in the cage and eating so little, dove's life force begins to fail. The mousewife senses this and wants to help, coming up with a plan to free the dove. And the time is now because the room window to the outside is open.

The determined mouse jumps at the cage and grabs the catch in her strong little teeth, waking the sleeping dove. Sensing freedom, the dove opens its cramped wings and flies straight out the cage through window, up and up, way across the tree tops. Happy mouse, a happy dove!

Rumor Godden (1907-1998), one of the foremost English language authors of the 20th Century, grew up in India where her husband later left her penniless with two daughter to raise, and so she started writing books (some 60 during her lifetime) to pay off her many debts. The illustrator, William Pene du Bois, a founding editor of *The Paris Review*, wrote some 25 books, many of which he illustrated. We are grateful to *The New York Review of Books* for reprinting this wonderful story in their series of children's classics.



### Book Review

## Over the River and Through the Wood, A Thanksgiving Poem

Thoughts of Thanksgiving conjure up a roasted turkey followed by homemade pumpkin pie. For more than 150 years that tradition has been portrayed in *Over the River and Through the Wood, A Thanksgiving Poem* by Lydia Maria Child and illustrated with woodcuts by Christopher Manson (\$14.95, NorthSouth Books, www.northsouth.com), paying tribute to Thanksgiving in the mid-19th century.

Full page woodcuts in full color takes us back to

the era when travel was by horse and sled. They show old-fashioned ice-skates, all-wood sleds, and of course, grandmother and grandfather serving dinner. And there she is carrying the pumpkin pie!

This famous poem was first published in a three-volume anthology for boys and girls, *Flowers for Children* (1844-1846). John Greenleaf Whittier included it in *Child Life* (1871).

The book includes the poem set to the musical score of the holiday song we all know. Happy Thanksgiving!

### Book Review

## Full Cicada Moon

by Marilyn Hilton

Race in Vermont, girls who love science, and the emotions of being a pre-teen, are all woven together in this lyrical story of a multicultural seventh grader's move to a small town in Vermont from Berkeley, CA, as told in verse in *Full Cicada Moon* by Marilyn Hilton (\$16.99, Dial Books for Young Readers, Penguin Group, www.penguin.com/youngreaders).

Mimi's dad is a black college professor and her mother is Japanese, they having met overseas in the war. But this is Vermont in the late 60's, and there is much to navigate.

*Comments from Cindy Roberts, Fair Haven, VT, upon reading this book:*

"I was born and raised in Vermont and I was 19 years old in 1969. I was attending Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont, and they had just introduced the first black student that I had ever seen in higher education.

One of my brothers had just completed a brief tour in Vietnam, airlifted back to the states with the promise never to walk again. He was always fairly determined, and at 65, still walks to this day, although every limp and pain reminds us of that war...mostly him.

I remember watching Neil Armstrong and crew, his famous words still ring

out to America, and Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. And Kent State. Tough and confusing times.

I also remember Vermont's makeup during this time and how judgmental we were, and to introduce a mix of Japanese and Black was a tough one on us. We were very unforgiving. Both of the parents in this book were lovely and wise, and so patient with us. We didn't know we'd come around, but they did, and they were proud people, which was reflected in their daughter in a very kind way.

I loved this book, even though it was designed for 8-12 year old reading. So many older people would enjoy it. I wonder if an 8-12 year old would get as much out of it because they aren't going to remember the references of the 60s. History, as we know it, isn't taught any more in the schools. How will they know the impact of the era this is written about?

And lastly, I loved Vermont's impact in the book. At the beginning of the book, Mimi hated shoveling snow. And later in the book when the Astronauts commented that walking on the moon was beautiful, her thought was 'Yeah, but have you ever seen Vermont in the winter?' I absolutely loved this book."

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# Pears, Nuts & Pumpkins

## The Fruits of an Autumn Harvest

Pears still may be overshadowed in the marketplace by bushels of colorful and varied apples, but as fruits growers and markets continue to expand globally, watch out for a pear renaissance.

"Pears are potentially the most exciting of all the tree fruits" according to *The Book of Pears—The Definitive History and Guide to Over 500 Varieties* by Joan Morgan with Paintings by Elisabeth Dowle (\$65, *Chelsea Green Publishing*, [www.chelseagreen.com](http://www.chelseagreen.com)).

This one-of-a-kind guide journeys through continents, cultures and histories giving the pear the status it deserves either wild or home grown.

The author begins her 300-page history tempting us to eat some pears: "Their 'buttery' flesh, which melts in your mouth, glistens with juice; it can be sugary yet lemony, and scented with fragrances reminiscent of rosewater, musk, vanilla and other aromatics."

She is equally at home with 'baking' pears, the toughest and sharpest of pears that end up in the kitchen. She also introduces us too 'perry', the pear equivalent of cider which is popular in England and on the Continent.

The author devoted many years researching and compiling *The Book of Pears* resulting in extensive writings on the pear cultures of England, France and Italy where the fruit initially was a status symbol of royalty. Wild pears were gathered millennia ago and even carbonized remains of pears were found in Bronze Age sites across Europe and the Middle East. The author spent some time in Iran and Syria where pears were known to have been cultivated for thousands of years. She wanted to see firsthand of signs of the transition from wild to cultivation.

She writes about her visit to the Gilan Province of Iran where her host drove her around the countryside seeing and eating from pear trees called khodj that were "about ripe—juicy and quite sweet."

In discussing the history of pears in the United States, we learn that pears were brought to the Americans with the colonists, with the largest growth in orchards taking place later in California because of its ideal weather conditions. Pears went westward with the Gold Rush.

There's an interesting anecdote about how pears (as well as other fruits with short shelf life) spurred on the canning industry. And we read about a cannery in Hollister in California's Santa Clara Valley (circa 1887):

"Fruit deliver by horse and cart to the cannery door, was carried by the bucket into the warehouse to be sorted, peeled, cored and packed into cans by groups of women working at long tables, then cooked, and finally sealed by the 'cappers'—the name given to the hand solderers."

Mechanization came on soon afterwards whereby a "sanitary" can could be sealed with the press of a lever. The Del Monte brand began just before World War I with the slogan

"The Modern Genie of the Can." They canned William/Bartlett pears which had ready proved themselves on the East Coast before production there was diminished by blight.

But growers wanting to put fresh pears on the market had the problem that the pears needed ripening to "become melting delicacies."

Technology again came to the rescue once again where ripening could be controlled, almost halted, through refrigeration. Warm ripening rooms were set up in major city mar-

### Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

kets such as New York, Chicago and Boston.

## Love Filberts?—Hybrid Hazelnuts in the U.S.

Woody agriculture is a term one will be encountering these days as woodlands become necessary for producing food in addition to lumber. Instead of just growing wild as some nut trees do now, these future crops will be domesticated and grown for an ever-demanding commercial market.

To find out about a crop that fits this bill read *Growing Hybrid Hazelnuts—The New Resilient Crop for a Changing Climate* by Philip Rutter, Susan Wiegrefe and Brandon Rutter-Daywater (\$39.95, *Chelsea Green Publishing*, [www.chelseagreen.com](http://www.chelseagreen.com).)

This is the story of a 30-year effort by scientist-farmers at the Badgersett Research Farm in Canton,

MN, to develop hybrid hazelnuts (also known as filberts) that can be grown with no plowing or even cultivation, that will survive climate change, and are blight resistant. These new nuts also grow in larger clusters and are larger than those grown abroad.

This well-designed 260-page treatise teaches the would-be nut grower or aficionado everything necessary to grow hybrid hazelnuts including site preparation, growing techniques, disease and pest management, harvesting and marketing. In addition to the nuts themselves, their income-producing by-products include nut shells for fuel, made into particleboard, or into industrial and cosmetic abrasives; husks for livestock

feed; wood for rustic furniture and crafts; charcoal; and wood used for smoking meats.

Turkey is the largest hazelnut (also known as filberts) producer in the world with 400,000 tons per year, followed by Italy with 10% of the world's production; and the United States, third with 30,000 tons a year, mostly produced in Oregon and Washington where the industry is expanding.

What about closer to home? A consortium of farmers in upstate New York have been growing hazelnuts successfully with support from Rutgers University. Z's Nutty Ridge, a nursery and hydroponic farm in McGraw, NY, has been producing hazelnut trees for several years.

## The Season for Pumpkins is Here!

The pumpkin pie is out of the oven...and it looks delicious. But what to do with that extra pumpkin puree? In *Cooking with Pumpkin—Recipes That Go Beyond The Pie* by Averie Sunshine (\$16.95, *The Countrymen Press*, [www.countrymenpress.com](http://www.countrymenpress.com)), the home baker will find 50 simple-to-follow recipes for pumpkin.

The recipes cover breakfast breads and pastries; cookies; cake, pie and chocolate cre-

ations; savory treats including sides, soups and starters; and pumpkin-flavored drinks and dips.

"I enjoy cooking and baking with pumpkin year-round," Averie says. "The scent of it wafting through the house is just so comforting. I crave the hearty flavor, and it's such a versatile ingredient to use in baking." Her recipes call for home-roasted and pureed pumpkin or canned pumpkin puree, not

prepared pumpkin pie filling. If you are an enterprising baker try making pumpkin whoopee pies with maple buttercream; baked cinnamon sugar pumpkin-spice mini-doughnuts; or baked pumpkin mac 'n' cheese. Enjoy!

# THE BOOK OF PEARS

## THE DEFINITIVE HISTORY AND GUIDE TO OVER 500 VARIETIES



JOAN MORGAN  
WITH PAINTINGS BY ELISABETH DOWLE

Today, in addition to the United States, the United Kingdom and European countries producing pears for the international market, the fruit also is being grown for export in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Argentina, Chile, and China.

It's no surprise to learn that China is the world's largest producer of pears, mainly Asian pears. Many centuries ago there was a fruit swap along trade routes between Asia and the Middle East, especially with Iran, and that's how China started growing pears. Today China, Japan and Korea grow pears with such names as Chinese White Pear, Korla's Fragrant Pear and Chinese Sand Pear.

As a work of art, the book offers full-page watercolors of 40 varieties of pears with their branches, leaves and flowers by Elisabeth Dowle, whose paintings are exhibited and collected worldwide. She has been awarded seven Royal Horticultural Society Gold Medals. The drawings include many intriguing names: Green Beurre (Butter); Rogue Red; Giant Seckel; Mrs. Seden; Vicar of Winkfield; Calebasse Bosc; Starkrisom; Onward; Verbelu Korte, and more.

A history is given for each pear variety including its shape, color, flavor, season, and other pertinent information. Among the 500 varieties was one rose-red flush pear grown first in 1885 in Grand Isle, VT, called Vermont Beauty.

Regarding the Seckel pear that many of us may have eaten, the author tells us this pear was founded in the mid-18th century by 'sportsman and cattle dealer' Dutch Jacob near Philadelphia. Later a Mr. Seckel bought the land and introduced the pear under his own name. "It is the best known of old American pears for its bright red color, rich flavor and heavy crops. It is 'juicy, melting, almost buttery, pale cream flesh, very sweet, succulent, aromatic and musky.'"

With all due respect for history, the author

wants readers to treat the pear just right in the kitchen. This is not a cookbook although one chapter is devoted to cooking pears with instructions for poaching them, preparing pears in butter or baking in red wine. Also for making Poire Belle Helene (poaching whole pears standing up) and really fancy pears wrapped in pastry with creme Anglaise.

The book offers 90 amazing historic images related to the pear, including woodcuts, paintings, pears featured at meals, advertisements, drawings or photographs of orchards, gardens and family estates with pear trees grown for fruit and ornament.

Considering the growing popularity of perry (the pear cider), fruit juices and preserve production, the author notes the standard pear tree and traditional orchard have become profitable once again and are textbook examples of sustainability, producing local food, sheltering birds, producing flowers, and making such orchards cultural and economic assets to a community.

The author recalls as a child in England that orchards existed all over the countryside, where trees were grown for fresh fruit and liquor. She said the orchard usually lay alongside the house. Apples were the main fruit tree, but often there would be a few pear trees, plums, and perhaps some cherries. Of all those fruit trees of her childhood, pears became her lifelong favorite.

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# Grandmother Ruth's Turkey

— circa 1863 —

by C.A. Stephens

Wild animals of the same species differ individually one from another almost or quite as much as human beings. They have their moods and whims; and if they have opinions, as is not improbable, they change them with very human suddenness.

Thus an experience of Grandmother Ruth's took place one night, at the old farm in Maine, back in the days of the Civil War, and before we young folks had come back home to live.

Many of the younger men of our little community were then in the army, for three years or more. Numbers of them, too, had fallen in battle or succumbed to wounds and disease. There were destitute families where the women were having hard times caring for themselves and the children. The necessities of life were dear. White cotton cloth was sixty cents a yard, and a soldier's pay for a month scarcely sufficed to purchase a barrel of flour. At that time, too, an epidemic of fatal diphtheria prevailed among children, and resulted in wide-spread anxiety and numerous deaths.

The old Squire and Grandmother Ruth whose own sons were in the Union army did what they could for their distressed neighbors.

They were living alone at the old farm being now between fifty and sixty years of age. Grandmother Ruth, indeed, had long been a kind of godmother and domestic adviser to all the younger housewives of the vicinity. She doctored them through their minor illnesses, and for years had been present and officiated at the birth of most of the infant population within a radius of two or three miles. She picked out names for them, and kept track of them and their ailments throughout childhood and even later. Nearly every boy and girl thereabouts regarded her as a kind of second mother.

## Alone while the old Squire was gone

During what old people call "the dark days of the war," when the result hung in the balance and disheartenment prevailed throughout the North, President Lincoln issued an appeal for troops, and the "quotas" were sent to all the rural towns of New England. On our small town the demand was for seventeen men; but only nine volunteered and after several days of fruitless effort the old Squire who was then one of the selectmen, went up to Canada to hire French Canadian "substitutes."

He was absent for a week or more and had gone, I think, to the parish of Garthby to the northeast of Sherbrooke. Grandmother Ruth was alone at the farm except for an invalid aunt and Eddy, a boy of thirteen, not as bright as some, who helped, indifferently, with the farm chores.

This was about the 20th of November, and a few days before Thanksgiving which bade fair to be a rather joyless one. It was snowing that evening, but by dint of much prompting and some scolding, grandmother had at last succeeded in getting Eddy to water and feed the stock at the barn and go to bed. Aunt Sarah had then to be cared for and, in fact, it was as late as ten or eleven o'clock when a confused thumping at the outer door was heard and a childish voice crying, "Mother wants you to come over to our house just as quick as you can."

It was little Sammy Sylvester from the Sylvester place a mile and a half distant, where young Mrs. Rufus Sylvester was living alone with her three children of which Sammy, about ten, was the eldest. Sylvester had enlisted in February the previous winter, but had not been heard from for several months; he was reported as "missing."

Hastily muffling herself in one of the old Squire's discarded great-coats, Grandmother Ruth put a fresh piece of candle in the tin lantern, took "Mary Jane" on her arm and set off, leading little Sammy with one hand and carrying the lantern in the other.

## Called out on a stormy nighttime mission of mercy

"Mary Jane" was the whimsical name, bestowed by the old Squire on a little glazed valise in which Grandmother Ruth carried her stock of remedies, bandages, rolls of flannel, camphor bottle and so forth. It had come to be the invariable companion on these "errands of mercy."

The old perforated tin lantern was somewhat behind the times and out of date even in 1863. Those ancient tin lanterns were of circular form, made wholly of tin, perforated by hundreds of small holes to let out the light of the candle within. But on a stormy night with driven snow clogging the little holes, those old lanterns emitted about as much light as a white bean!

Grandmother, however, knew that road very well, having traversed it more than once by night, as well as by day. She reached the house without incident, found her services in urgent demand and having first hurried little Sammy off to bed, began her ministrations. These continued, successfully, from midnight till near morning, before it was possible for her to think of packing up "Mary Jane," relighting her lantern and going home.

Quite a good night's work had been accomplished, one



A shy cow moose stops to listen in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. photo by Nancy Cassidy

might say. The population of the place had been increased by a fine baby—a boy who might yet grow up and take his place among his country's defenders as his father was then doing. I have often heard Grandmother Ruth say that always after such a hard night of broken rest and anxiety, she walked home feeling as if she had wings!

And thus she was returning that night, plodding through snow now six or seven inches deep, with the holes of that antique lantern so clogged she could barely keep the road by it. For though now four o'clock, it was as dark as ever, in fact darker, particularly in the shadows where the hemlock forest skirted the road.

## A mysterious companion through the dark

She was, hastening on, thinking she might reach home and catch a nap before it was time to wake witless Eddy and begin the morning struggle with him over the barn chores, when she heard a faint, muffled clumping of the soft snow behind her and became aware that some animal was following. Bears, she knew, were in their dens for the winter. Facing about she held up the lantern in an effort to see what it was, but could discern little. Yet indistinctly, vaguely, she fancied she saw a huge form looming enormously in the obscurity!—and her first odd thought was that it looked like a gigantic turkey

***"Surprised he was, and acknowledged himself at a loss to explain how or why a wild moose came to emerge from the forest and follow Grandmother home."***

seven feet high! Perhaps she had been thinking of Thanksgiving which was coming in a few days, and what could be done for those neighbors.

But that was clearly nonsense and her next thought was that it must be the head and neck of a tall horse. Instantly then she guessed that it was "Old Sib," a forlorn white mare that belonged to the Sylvesters. She knew that the old creature ran loose about the barn and sheds, picking up a living as best it could.

"Poor old beast," Grandmother Ruth thought. "Nearly starved, I suppose, and following me for something to eat. Well, come along, you shall have a foddering of hay if nothing more when I get home." She trudged on, calling, "Co-jack, co-jack," over her shoulder. "Come nobby, come."

And "nobby" came on, close behind her, approaching so near at times that Grandmother Ruth heard its breath. Once or twice its nose touched "Mary Jane" on her arm as if seeking to nibble at it.

## All well fed and tended to

When they reached the yard at the old Squire's, Grandmother Ruth went to the barn and opened the great door, thinking she would let the old horse go inside, the night was so stormy, and she could feed her there. But now the animal veered off as if unwilling to enter, and passed through the open gateway of the barnyard, going round to the south side of the barn. So with a hayfork Grandmother Ruth carried a liberal foddering to the yard fence and tossed it over, supposing the mare would get it there. And to keep her from wandering away in the storm, she shut the gate.

Like many Maine barns of the better sort the one at the old Squire's had a "cellar," or basement, that opened on the barnyard. Grandmother Ruth's kindly thought was that after eating the hay the mare could shelter herself from the storm by going under the barn where the flock of sheep were kept.

After closing the gate, Grandmother Ruth entered the house and retired for an hour or two, till daylight. Then she arose, kindled a fire and after preparations for breakfast, roused the somnolent Eddy and sent him to the barn with

instructions for giving the cows and young stock the first morning foddering of hay. Afterwards he was bidden go to the basement and pump a troughful of water, for watering the cattle.

Following that she proceeded to waken and help dress old Aunt Sally, but while doing so was interrupted by Eddy rushing in from the barn, with his eyes now very wide open.

"There's a great big creeter under the barn!" he cried. "Yes, I know. It's Sylvester's old horse," replied Grandmother Ruth. "She won't hurt you. Go back and pump the water."

"It ain't a hoss!" shrieked Eddy. "It's got horns!"

"No, no," said Grandmother Ruth placidly, for she was accustomed to Eddy's blunders. "You go back and pump the water."

"I dassent," whimpered Eddy. "It's an awful, great, big creeter, and it's got horns!"

Perceiving that he was much frightened, though still supposing that it was merely his foolishness, Grandmother Ruth went out with him, through the barnyard, and proceeded to the gateway under the barn. But she did not go much farther, for there comfortably ruminating near the huddled sheep, stood an animal that looked little enough like a horse!

## Old tame horse turned wild moose

Grandmother Ruth never had been a timid person, but she was considerably startled, when she thought how this huge creature had followed her home in the hours of storm and darkness, for she needed only a second glance to make sure that it was a moose—a large cow moose! Sure enough, as Eddy had declared, it had "horns," small ones, not as large, of course, as the antlers of a bull moose but plainly visible behind her big ears.

It is not surprising that Grandmother Ruth started back a step, rather hastily, and that Eddy who was stealing on behind her, turned with a whimper and ran for the house.

She kept the animal enclosed there under the barn three or four days, till the old Squire came home from his trip to hire "substitutes."

In the meantime Eddy watered the stock with a bucket from the house well, and threw down fodder to the sheep through a scuttle in the barn floor. It was quite characteristic of Grandmother Ruth that she let none of the neighbors know of the captive, but kept it as a surprise for the old Squire.

## Thanksgiving bounty

Surprised he no doubt was, and acknowledged himself wholly at a loss to explain how or why a wild moose came to emerge from the forest and follow Grandmother home. He was wont to refer to it, with a twinkle of his eye, as Grandmother's "turkey," since it had at first reminded her of one.

Perhaps it was the faint light of that old, tin lantern that had attracted it, perhaps mere desire for company. One guess is as good as another.

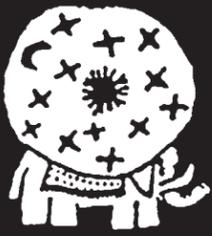
The moose was apparently four or five years of age, and in fine condition. It was slaughtered the day before Thanksgiving, and is said to have dressed off seven hundred pounds. There was sixty or seventy weight of excellent moose beef for each of the most needy families in the neighborhood.

Its capture helped to make that rather dreary Thanksgiving of 1863 a little more joyous!

C.A. Stephens wrote about life in the north country in the 1800's on his farm in Maine. This tale is from "Stories of My Home Folks." It was the first collection of his earliest stories published by the Youth's Companion in Boston. He ended up publishing more than 200 stories from his childhood for that popular magazine and went on to authoring many other volumes of collected stories. You can find his books at used bookstores or online.



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