

## Wildwood Flower

Though in its seedling year, the folks of The Wildwood Flower in Rochester, VT are hopeful. "We're doing what we love to do," says Jake Murrow, "and that makes a difference."

Owner and operator Mary Atwood is excited to be working with a family team to get the store in high spirits and ready for high summer, while the weather outside does its own work to coax people out-of-doors.

The store is home to a mix of antiques, handmade crafts, jewelry, musical instruments, artwork, a full candy-shop display, and a large collection of curiosities. Highlights include Bob Atwood's superbly restored Hoosier cabinets, which were found in any well-kept kitchen at the turn of the century and on into the '40s, Mary and Bonnie Atwood's "made right at the store" craft items, jewelry, and artwork, Jake Murrow's restored vintage musical instruments, as well as a growing selection of other items made by local crafts-people.

"It's a great opportunity for all of us to do what we like to do," says Jake, "being able to repair and restore old banjos, guitars, and mandolins as a full-time job is very much my dream." And it shows. He has a regularly rotating rack of instruments mostly ranging in age from the mid-1800s to the early 1930s. "The craftsmanship and quality of those turn of the century instruments is what makes me want to make them shining and playable again. They're beautiful." Unlike a lot of vintage shops, Jake takes apart each instrument, carefully repairs any damage and restores their parts and finish, and sets them up to play as well as they can. "I hate to see an instrument suffering from lack of care," he says.

Equally beautiful are Bob's Hoosier cabinets. They have self-contained flour sifters, sugar bins, cutting boards, storage for all of your bowls, pots, pans, recipe wheels for every season, and a host of other interesting kitchen innovations which have been lost to the modern bakers and cooks. Each one has either an enamel or zinc work surface, which greatly helps for rolling dough, and they are built to roll and come apart for easy moving. He has been restoring them for twenty years and his skill shows in the work he does. When he restores a Hoosier, his finish matches to a 'T' the tone of original Hoosier finishes, and because he has been in the business so long, he almost entirely uses original parts, which is a boon to collectors.

There are objects of interest in the shop for everyone. Everywhere you turn something will catch your eye, whether you be eighty-five or eight-and-a-half.

*Wildwood Flower is located at 645 Rt. 100 S, in Rochester, VT. You can't miss the long red building south of town. There will be a Grand Opening with free treats, goodies and live music on July 12th & 13th, with an unveiling of the new upstairs rooms at that time. Regular hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

*You can get in touch with the store at: (802) 767-4015, or visit their website at: [www.thewildwoodflower.com](http://www.thewildwoodflower.com). Also of interest is The Hoosier Man website: [www.thehoosierman.com](http://www.thehoosierman.com), and Jake's own personal music page: [www.jakewildwood.com](http://www.jakewildwood.com).*



## Vermont Country Calendar

### FRIDAY, JULY 18

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Workshop: Soapstone—Introduction to Stone Carving. Led by Donald Saaf. Learn the basic approach and philosophy of working with this local stone. Fee. 9 am to 4 pm. At Great River Arts Institute, 33 Bridge St. Call for registration and information. (802) 463-3330. [info@greatriverarts.org](mailto:info@greatriverarts.org). [www.greatriverarts.org](http://www.greatriverarts.org). *Continues through July 20.*

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Richard Shindell in Concert. Singer-songwriter and recording artist extraordinaire, a rare live appearance. Presented by Flying Under Radar. Doors 7 pm, show: 7:30 pm. Dinner available. At Boccelli's on the Canal, 46 Canal St. Tickets \$24 in advance locally and online. [www.flyingunderadar.com](http://www.flyingunderadar.com). [www.richardshindell.com](http://www.richardshindell.com).

**BENNINGTON.** Concert: Summer in the Park. Alison Jacobs – blues singer and song writer. Free. 7-9 pm at Merchants Park, corner of Main St. & North St. (802) 442-5758. [www.betterbennington.com](http://www.betterbennington.com).

**BRATTLEBORO.** Introductory Talk: "Garden Like a Forest: Home-Scale Ecological Food Production" with Dave Jacke. Transform your yard and garden into a self-sustaining, productive paradise. Sponsored by The Manitou Project. 7 pm, Marlboro College Technology Center, 28 Vernon St. \$10 donation. Please call Jeanette at (802) 387-2487 for information.

**BURLINGTON.** Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival Concert. The artist faculty of this summer conservatory will offer a Schubert sonata, a Haydn trio and Mozart clarinet quintet. 7:30 pm. UVM Recital Hall, South Prospect St. For tickets call (802) 310-2079. [www.uvm.org/gmcmf](http://www.uvm.org/gmcmf).

**BRADFORD.** The Connecticut Valley Fair. Horse, pony & ox pulling, stage entertainment, midway, cattle shows, exhibits, Old McDonald Farm, street parade. Family entertainment, fair food, booths, vendors. Admission. Memorial Field. (802) 222-5750. [cvf@charterinternet.com](mailto:cvf@charterinternet.com). *Continues through July 20.*

**BURLINGTON.** Vermont Brewers Festival. Admission. Fri 6-10 pm, Sat noon-4 pm & 5-9 pm. Waterfront Park, Burlington, Lake St. & College St. (802) 244-6828. [www.vermontbrewers.com](http://www.vermontbrewers.com). *Also July 19.*

**GROTON.** Concert. Tim Jennings & Leanne Ponder. Admission: \$3, 14 years and older; \$2, 4-13 years; 3 and under, free. 7 pm. Stillwater State Park, 44 Stillwater Rd., off Rt. 232 and Boulder Beach Rd. (802) 584-3822. [www.vtstateparks.com](http://www.vtstateparks.com).

**KILLINGTON.** 26th Annual Killington Music Festival. Young Artists Series Concert. Free admission. 7 pm at Rams Head Lodge at the Killington Resort. For more information call (802) 773.4003. *Concerts continue Friday evenings through Aug 8.*

**NEWBURY.** Cracker Barrel Bazaar Fiddlers' Contest. An evening of great music, good food & family fun awaits you. Bring your lawn chair. All fiddlers welcome. Admission \$6. 7 pm at the Bandstand on the Newbury Common. (802) 866-5917. [www.crackerbarrelbazaar.org](http://www.crackerbarrelbazaar.org).

**NEWBURY.** Cracker Barrel Bazaar Chicken Pie Supper. Enjoy Chicken pie, mashed potato, peas, coleslaw, gravy, cranberry sauce, homemade pie, milk, coffee, tea. Tickets: adults \$9, children under 10 \$4.50. 4:30 to 7 pm (continuous serving) at the Congregational Church Vestry. For information call: (802) 429-2204. [www.crackerbarrelbazaar.org](http://www.crackerbarrelbazaar.org).

**NORTH TROY.** Ten Days of Arts & Fine Crafts. The Wooden Horse Arts Guild members show and sell their works in a gallery setting. Free. 10 am – 4 pm at the American Legion Hall on Dominion Ave. For more information call (802) 988-4300 or e-mail [camilla@woodenhorsearts.com](mailto:camilla@woodenhorsearts.com). *Continues through July 27.*

**STRATTON MOUNTAIN.** Hemmings Motor News--New England Concours d'Elegance. Come see the largest gathering of collector vintage cars in New England. Cruise-In Spectacular, judging, gourmet dinner. Fri 12-3 pm, Sat 10 am - 7 pm, Sun 10 am - 3 pm. (800) 787-2886. [www.stratton.com](http://www.stratton.com). *Continues through July 20.*

**WOODSTOCK.** Outdoor Summer Band Concert. The South Royalton Town Band performs behind the Woodstock Historical Society. 7 pm. Free admission. Bring your families, blankets, and lawn chairs and enjoy the evening!

**WOODSTOCK.** Program - The Formal Garden and Beyond. More than beautiful scenery, the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller landscape reflects layers of careful design that are linked to the conservation movement in the 19th century. Fee: \$8, call for reservations. 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Meet at the Carriage Barn Visitor Center, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. (802) 457-3368 x 22. [www.nps.gov/mabi/contacts](http://www.nps.gov/mabi/contacts). *Also July 26; Aug 9, 22, 31.*

### SATURDAY, JULY 19

**BENNINGTON.** Concert: David Maxwell. Critics, fans and fellow artists alike praise Maxwell as one of the finest blues pianists alive. 8 pm at Bennington Center for the Arts, Rt. 9. (802) 442-7158. [www.benningtoncenterforthearts.org](http://www.benningtoncenterforthearts.org).