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September Notebook

Forecasting the Winter Ahead

by Bill Felker

I used to know a woodsman by the name of Vern Hogans. One July, we were talking about the weather, and I was wondering what the winter ahead would bring.

He told me right away he'd noticed that the groundhog's fur was getting rich and heavy. "Oh, it's going to be a cold winter!" he predicted.

A few weeks later, he took me out to a woodlot where he often hunted squirrels. "I'll show you the bark on the trees," he said. "They'll tell 'ya somethin' too."

He brought me to a hickory tree. "Now you see how tight that bark is?" he asked, and he put his hand to the trunk and stroked it. "See, it's airtight. You can't pull off one piece."

He told me how the trees "loosen up" and shed in the

spring, "just like a snake sheds his skin. If winter's gonna be cold, they drop the old bark early and the remaining bark is tight. If the winter's gonna be warm, the bark comes loose late, and it stays loose. But you can see how this bark here is."

We went by elms and oaks. Hogans touched them all. He stopped and checked a green ash. "Boy, he's tight, ain't he!"

"And this one's a cottonwood. You see now, he's well sealed. And thick. The trees, they put on deep coats for winter just like animals."

Indeed, the winter that followed our conversation was a bitter one.

Unfortunately, Vern has been gone now for quite a while, and I'm still trying to get the hang of the tree bark thing.



Fall Open Studio Weekends October 1 & 2 and October 8 & 9

Bright yellow signs compete with oranges and reds of October along Vermont's roads enticing visitors to the studios of craftspeople and fine artists across Vermont during the 2016 Fall Open Studio Tour over October 1 & 2, and October 8 & 9, Columbus Day Weekend (10-5).

The Vermont Crafts Council is offering two weekends this year in conjunction with American Craft Week, a national celebration of craftwork, taking place from October 1 through October 16. Different groups of artists will open their studios on the two weekends.

Open Studio Weekend is a statewide celebration of the visual arts and creative process, offering a unique opportunity for visitors to

meet a wide variety of local artists and craftspeople in their studios, and purchase high quality, handmade artwork.

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

The Vermont Crafts Council publishes a free map booklet with directions to participating sites. The Vermont Open Studio Guide is available throughout the state at Tourist Information Centers, galleries and studios. It is also available on the Ver-

mont Crafts Council website at www.vermontcrafts.com or by calling (802) 223-3380.

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

The Vermont Crafts Council is a non-profit organization serving the Vermont visual arts community.

There are four Vermont State Craft Centers: Artisans Hand, 89 Main St. in Montpelier, www.artisanshand.com; Frog Hollow, 85 Church St. in Burlington, www.froghollow.org; Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild, 430 Railroad

St. in St. Johnsbury, www.nekartisansguild.com; and Gallery at the Vault, 68 Main St. in Springfield, www.galleryvault.org.

Stop by any of them to tour the centers, pick up Open Studio information, and see the latest collections of works by Vermont artists and artisans.

The Vermont Crafts Council publishes a free map booklet with directions to participating sites.

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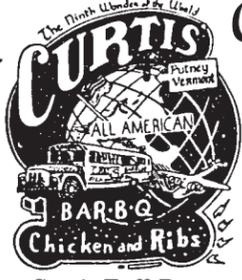
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Vermont Country Sampler

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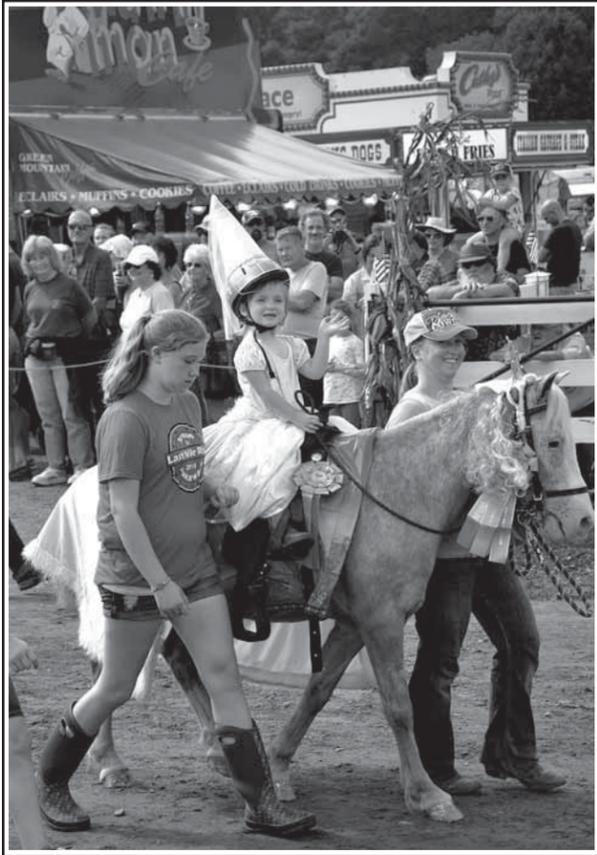
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Tunbridge World's Fair—Farewell to Summer

September 15–18, 2016

Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110, Tunbridge, VT



Photos by Nancy Cassidy



149th Annual Tunbridge World's Fair
Rt. 110, Tunbridge, VT
September 15-18, 2016

The Tunbridge World's Fair is dedicated to family farm traditions and current trends all four days, with livestock shows, harness racing, Antique Hill Museum, midway and entertainment. Located in the beautiful First Branch of the White River farming valley.

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Chester, VT

The 42nd Annual Fall Festival Craft Show on the Green

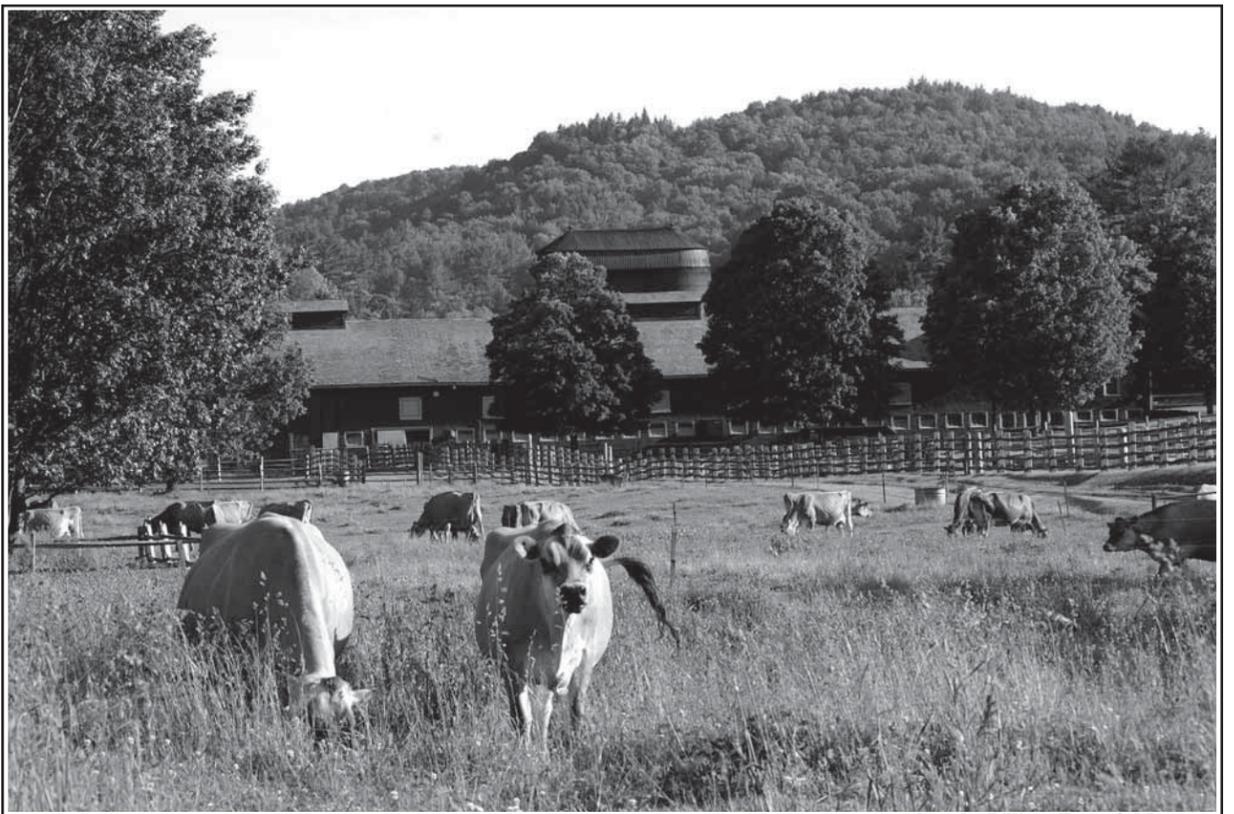
Plan to come to Chester, VT on September 17 and 18 for the 42nd Annual Fall Festival Craft Show on the Chester Vermont Green. The festival takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

One of the "Most Beautiful Villages" in New England will host spinning and quilting demonstrations, New England artists featuring handmade crafts including glass, pottery, fiber art, woodcarvings, turned wooden bowls, watercolor and landscape paintings, paper art, hand crafted soaps, jewelry, photography and more.

Midday music will be provided by Vermont entertainers. Enjoy the Beer Garden behind the Fullerton Inn, stroll through the quaint stone village, and sample a wide variety of food. The event is sponsored by Chester Rotary Club.

Follow signs for general parking off Cobleigh St. behind Newsbank. Handicap drop off is on School St. at the east end of the green.

For more information go to www.chesterfallfestival.org or check out Chester Fall Festival on Facebook.



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

photo by Billings Farm & Museum

Woodstock, VT

Early Autumn Activities at Billings Farm & Museum

Billings Farm & Museum is celebrating its 33rd Anniversary this year. Whether you are a visitor or make Vermont your home, plan a trip to Billings Farm this autumn.

and activities at the Billings Farm & Museum and Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park—partners and hosts of the event. Local wood, Local good!

"Labor & Leisure"

Celebrate Labor & Leisure Day on Sunday, September 3, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lend a hand building a split-rail fence, working in the heirloom garden, playing historic base ball and 19th century games. Experience the latest in 19th century laundry techniques. There's even ice cream making with samples for all—after the cranking is done! Horse-drawn wagon rides will be offered from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Billings Farm & Museum is located one-half mile north of the village green on Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. Admission includes all activities and programs, plus the operating dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House. 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.

11th Annual Traditional Craft Saturdays

Billings Farm & Museum hosts Traditional Craft Saturdays each Saturday in September, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visitors are invited to explore a series of Vermont crafts—their history, process, and uses.

Saturday, September 3 – Quilting with the Billings Farm & Museum Staff. Visitors are invited to try hand quilting, piecing, and designing a quilt.

Saturday, September 10 – Stenciling with Polly Forcier, of Quechee, VT, a paint-decoration historian and practitioner and frequent guest on This Old House.

Saturday, September 17 – Quilling with Marianne Fassett of Enfield, NH. An accredited member of the North American Quilling Guild, Marianne will demonstrate the ancient art of quilling, also known as paper filigree, which is the art of curling and bending paper to make designs. **Saturday, September 24** – The Farm & Museum will host the VT Woodworkers Forest Festival Weekend on Sept. 24 & 25. The event truly showcases the talent of Vermont's wood craftsmen and shares all aspects of the "forest to finished product." Meet the artisans and shop for Made in Vermont wood products; enjoy hands-on, family-friendly programs

Springfield, VT

17th Annual RiverSweep

Be a BRAT! Come get dirty to help get the Black River get cleaner. Join the 17th Annual RiverSweep on Saturday, September 10th between 8 a.m. and 12 noon, with the Black River Action Team.

Work-gloves and trash bags will be available from the Connecticut River Watershed Council, along with snacks and drinking water. Pick a location to work, grab a buddy and head out. Return to Headquarters with your treasures by 11 a.m. to be photographed, clean up, and enjoy a free lunch courtesy of our local sponsors: Young's Furniture and Appliance and Goodman's American Pie in Ludlow. Don't forget to pick up your commemorative tee shirt, the BRAT's way to say 'thank you' for your hard work!

Bring some elbow grease and wear your junk clothes, and get to one of our two Headquarters tables: Springfield volunteers should sign in at the Citizens Bank drive up in the Shopping Plaza; folks closer to Ludlow should sign in at the gazebo in the town green on Main St. near the library.

For more information log onto www.BlackRiverActionTeam.org or leave a message at (802) 738-0456.

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Grafton, VT

The Nature Museum of Grafton Turns into a Magical Fairy World

The 8th Annual Fairy House Festival takes place during the last weekend of September, on Saturday, September 24, and Sunday, September 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Nature Museum of Grafton.

This enchanting family experience is held in the forests of Grafton, one of the 10 most beautiful places in America as named by USA Today. Tour the Fairy Houses, enjoy crafts, face painting, and lots of fun for the whole family.

Visitors will follow a nature path sprinkled with charming fairy houses, then return to The Nature Museum to create their own fairy dwellings in the gardens.

Fairy houses are whimsical homes built from all natural materials so they blend into their natural setting.

More than 40 handcrafted fairy houses will be carefully placed along a nature trail. Knotholes become front doors, seashells transform into bathtubs, acorn caps become dinnerware and twigs are woven into ladders.

Hands-on crafts, face painting and bubbles round out this interactive and magical experience for all. Light refreshments will be available for purchase and picnicking is encouraged.

The Fairy House Festival

benefits the Museum's environmental education programs presented in regional public schools and libraries throughout the year. This event also benefits the Museum's exhibits enabling the museum to continually update and renew its natural history displays.

Advance tickets to the festival can be purchased at The Nature Museum by visiting www.nature-museum.org, or by calling (802) 843-2111. Tickets are also available at the gate. Children age 2 and under attend for free. This is a puckish annual tradition that inspires people of all ages to take a closer look at nature. All ages are welcome. Many are inspired to don fantasy dress for the theme.

Visitors to The Nature Museum find value in its updated educational offerings, hands-on resources, and natural history displays. Research has shown that time in nature offers both physical and mental health benefits. The Fairy House Festival is the perfect opportunity to rekindle curiosity, imagination and learning in a shared celebration of nature.

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



Two little visitors come to the Fairy House Festival in Grafton, VT



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Creating a Woodland Garden

by Judith Irven

Summer maybe almost gone but fall is surely beckoning. Bears are taking on extra calories in preparation for hibernation and hummingbirds are well on their way to warmer climes. The natural world is readying itself for winter.

A time for new beginnings in the garden

And fall is also the perfect time to tackle new garden projects. The days are crisp and refreshing making it a pleasure to work outdoors. And there are at least two full months before the ground freezes, giving plenty of time to complete the task in hand.

Many of us have sunny garden beds with an abundance of flowers—peonies, iris, phlox, Shasta daisies, purple cone flowers and rudbeckias to name just a few. But when it comes to those shady spaces, other than hostas people are less sure what to grow.

As an interesting fall garden project I would suggest we look to Vermont's beautiful forests as inspiration for transforming a difficult shady corner into a beautiful woodland garden.

The forest has so much to teach us about plants that thrive in the shade of tall trees, when they bloom, how they grow and the soil that suits them best.

Spring magic in the forest

Each spring, after months of winter dormancy, the woods suddenly come alive. As the sun streaks through the still bare branches of the taller canopy trees it gradually warms the cold ground.

And then something truly magical happens: a host of spring wildflowers—bloodroot, dog-tooth violets, trillium, spring beauties, Dutchman's breeches, foam-flower and many more—burst forth to light up the ground.

After a few short weeks this amazing spectacle comes to a close. The trees leaf out, the ground becomes shaded, and the spring wildflowers begin to set seed.

Many woodland wildflowers are ephemeral, meaning that, after they have set seed, the entire plant disappears below ground until the following spring.

Some however—most notably bloodroot, Jack-in-the-pulpit, foam-flower and trillium—continue to maintain their leaves during the summer for added photosynthesis.

The right location for a woodland garden

To grow woodland plants successfully in our own gardens we need to replicate the unique growing environment found in the forest.

Start by looking for a location that offers dappled sun in the springtime but shade during the summer months. The shady space beneath a group of smaller garden trees such as crab apples or serviceberries would be ideal.

The area under very large trees, such as mature maples or oaks, is less desirable because big trees tend to have a dense mass of thirsty surface roots that results in very dry soil. Also



Bloodroot growing in Judith Irven's garden.

photo by Dick Conrad

avoid the area beneath dense evergreens, which will likely be both too dark and too dry.

Nobody rakes leaves in the forest!

Every year a mix of leaves, twigs and bark drop to the ground where they gradually decompose and eventually merge into the top layers of soil. The resulting 'forest floor' is a friable nutrient-rich structure that stays moist even in dry periods, creating the perfect growing environment for our woodland flowers and ferns.

For a successful woodland garden the soil should emulate the forest floor which is both moisture retentive and rich in organic matter.

Start at your compost pile! First extract some well-decomposed compost from the bottom of the pile, spread this all across your new bed in a layer about four inches deep and then dig it into the top six inches of soil.

Now see if you can find some of partially decayed leaves from last fall, either towards the top of your compost pile or possibly in the woods. Chop these lightly with a shovel and use the resulting material as a mulch all across the top of the soil in your new garden.

Favoring native plants

We are all familiar with hostas (or plantain lilies)—those workhorse plants for shade gardens. Hostas actually originated in northern Asia, but over the years hybridizers in this country have made innumerable crosses amongst the various species of plantain lily. The result today is a huge assortment of hostas in all sizes and colors for our gardens.

But in a true woodland garden—one that is inspired by the forests of New England—nothing can compare with our beautiful native wildflowers. Although most bloom in the spring, several also have wonderful leaves which, along with different ferns, create a 'textured green carpet' throughout the summer.

Favorite woodland plants for our gardens

Here are some of my favorite native woodlanders which you could plant this fall in your woodland garden. All are available from the Vermont company, American Meadows.

The beautiful bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*) is the very first to appear in my garden each spring. Each flower consists of 8-10 sparkling white pointed petals radiating out from the clear yellow center. On sunny days the pristine white flowers open wide to receive the early pollinating insects. But

each night and on rainy days they close up tightly to protect their precious pollen.

The underground portion of a bloodroot plant is actually a fleshy subterranean stem called a rhizome. Over time this grows outwards horizontally to form a substantial colony, resulting in a dense carpet of spring flowers, followed by lots of wide scalloped leaves that make an attractive groundcover during the summer months.

Virginia Bluebells (*Mertensia virginica*) emerge next. Their flowers, like a cluster of nodding bells, are the clearest sky-blue you can imagine. After they have finished flowering, be sure to let those fat round pods mature and the seeds fall where they may. In a few years you will be rewarded with dozens of new plants to greet the spring.

Now, in quick succession a host of different plants burst into bloom in the woods and all make lovely additions to a woodland garden. Here are a few to consider for your garden:

- We all love the delicate white flowers and fringed leaves of Squirrel Corn (*Dicentra canadensis*) and its close relative Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*).
- Foam-flower (*Tiarella cordifolia*) has feathery white plumes and variegated scalloped leaves. Given space, it will gradually spread outwards into attractive clump.
- The whimsical Jack-in-the-Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), with its unique central spike (or spadix) inside a circular petal and curved green hood, is reminiscent of a voluble preacher in his elaborate pulpit.
- Canada Anemones (*Anemone canadensis*), have charming white flowers and are delightful in a moist spot. However they are best planted by themselves as they can be a little too aggressive among smaller plants.

The various species of Trillium are much-loved flowers for the spring garden. I have acid soil in my garden which is ideal for both Painted Trillium (*Trillium undulatum*) and Wake Robin (*Trillium erectum*). However if you happen to live where the soil is very alkaline, you could grow an unforgettable expanse of White Trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*) that will cause passers-by to stop and exclaim.

And finally, round out your woodland garden with some native ferns such as the Maidenhair fern (*Adiantum pedatum*) and the Lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*). Their lacy foliage will complement the larger leaves of the other plants throughout the season.

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

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

from My Mind To Me a Kingdom Is

Some have too much, yet still do crave,
I little have, and seek no more.
They are but poor, though much they have,
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Steampunk Festival Coming September 23-25

The Springfield Steampunk Festival is slated for September 23, 24, 25, in Springfield, VT. Doors open on the 23rd at 10 a.m. The festival benefits the Springfield Humane Society.

The Steampunk Festival features new musical performers, workshops and vendors while embracing new, intriguing and whimsical ideas from as far away as New Zealand.

All events this year will take place at The Hartness House Inn. Festival-goers can expect three days of Steampunk inspired fun and entertainment, including Victorian Parlor games, telescope observatory tours, photo booth, afternoon tea, absinthe tasting, workshops and panels, many live performances, a Trader's Bazaar, and food vendors.

September 23rd

The Steampunk festival weekend kicks off Friday night, September 23. Doors open at 6 p.m. for those who want to buy tickets for the weekend followed by a social hour from 6:30-7:30 p.m. featuring the ambient sounds of Ghost Signal along with a workshop in the Victorian Ballroom by Citizens of Ashford. Opening night will also feature Parlor Games with John and Laura Peterson in the Victorian Ballroom. Entrance is free with cash bar and cash food.

The band Tritium Well from the hills of Vermont's North-east Kingdom will perform in the wedding tent beginning around 8:30 p.m. Get your dancing feet ready!

September 24th

Springfield's Splendid Teapot Racing will take place in the wedding tent at the Hartness House Inn on Saturday, September 24. Splendid Teapot Racing was conceived by Simone Montgomery in Dunedin, New Zealand and premiered for the first time in 2014 at Steampunk NZ Festival in Oamaru. And now it premieres in Springfield, VT.

The event involves radio-controlled teapots negotiating an obstacle course within a set time. The vehicle is simply a teapot of the entrants' choice attached to a radio-controlled car or truck and embellished to taste. The racing is inclusive, for all ages and skills levels. Festival-goers are encouraged to make their own teapot racer and enter the race! You can sign up on line or at the Festival.

September 25th

On Sunday there will be Telescope and Observatory Tours via the underground tunnel. Enjoy games in the Gaming room, kid's activities, live music, workshops, and many interesting presentations.

The online ticket booth is up and running. The ticket booth at the Hartness House Inn opens on Saturday at 9:30



Splendid Teapot Racing will take place at the Steampunk Festival in Springfield, VT this September 23-25.

a.m. with doors opening at 10 a.m. The Trader's Bazaar is free from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days in the front lawn tent.

There are two events that are not part of the regular ticket price including the Absinthe Tasting and the burlesque show. Tickets for these events can be purchased separately and you do not need a full festival pass to attend.

The festival is still looking for volunteers who will receive a free weekend ticket for a four-hour shift.

The Hartness House is located at 30 Orchard St, Springfield, VT. For additional information call (802) 952-9170 or email steampunksocietyvt@gmail.com. www.springfieldvtsteampunkfest.com.

"Kaleidoscope of Color" VAULT's Open Wall Show

Gallery at the VAULT presents a new Open Wall show, "Kaleidoscope of Color".

This show includes beautiful photographs, paintings, sculpture, pen and ink, linen bowls, jewelry, mixed media and wood art to brighten your day. We also have a great Steampunk table and hair "fascinators". The works will be on display until October 27 along with the wooden toys

for the younger set. Open Wall is a non-juried show for any artists living in a 30 mile radius of Springfield. Its diversity is just wonderful!

Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St., Springfield, VT. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call (802) 885-7111 or e-mail gallervault@vermontel.net. Visit www.gallervault.org.

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- Proportion thy expenses to what thou hast in possession, not to thy expectations.
- He that falls into sin, is a man; that grieves at it, is a saint; that boasteth of it, is a devil.
- Scoff not at the natural defects of any which are not in thier power to amend.
- Oh, it is cruelty to beat a cripple with this own crutches.

—CHRISTIAN ALMANAC, 1833

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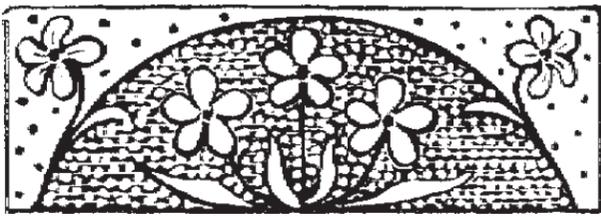
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The Natural Calendar

by Bill Felker

(plants and birds and animals and meteors
and planets and sun and stars)

September 1: The Piscid meteors fall through Pisces, right in the middle of the southern sky, an hour or two after midnight throughout the month.

September 2: Venus is the dominant evening star throughout the autumn. Mars and Saturn not far behind. Jupiter disappears from the evening sky in mid-September. But he isn't gone for long, rising as the morning star on October 10.

September 3: Bees are awkward and stiff in the cool mornings. Sometimes on sunny days, woolly bear caterpillars hurry across the warm blacktop.

September 4: Kingbirds, finches, ruddy ducks, herring gulls and yellow-bellied sapsuckers move south.

September 5: Berries are red on the silver olives, orange on the American mountain ash, purple on the pokeweed. Wild cherries have disappeared from their branches. Squirrels scatter buckeye hulls along the trails; locust pods fall beside them

September 6: The rich scent of late summer pollen is almost gone by end of the week, replaced by the pungent odor of fallen apples and leaves.

September 7: Cobwebs are everywhere in the woods, and the number of butterflies swells in the garden: coppers, blues, monarchs, swallowtails, checkerspots.

September 8: When the days are cool, the cicadas are quiet. On the colder nights, the katydids refuse to chant, and the frogs are silent.



Holstein cow at rest in an autumn meadow in central Vermont. photo by Nancy Cassidy

September 9: You may be feeling a surge of energy as the days grow shorter. Take advantage of it while it lasts. Typically, the autumn surge lasts only six to eight weeks.

September 10: Before dawn, Orion has emerged fully from the east. January's Leo and its brightest star, Regulus, are rising from the Atlantic Ocean, and the Great Square is following Hercules into the far west.

September 11: Doves stop calling in the morning until February.

September 12: In the final two weeks of September, a rapid deterioration of all the wildflowers occurs. Except for the few varieties that open during second spring (late September through November), the final species that grow to maturity within the temporal limits of this year are now in the process of bearing fruit.

September 13: When autumn leafturn starts along the 40th parallel, the deciduous trees are bare in northern Canada. In New England and in the Rocky Mountains, foliage colors are approaching their best.

September 14: More hickory nuts, more acorns come down. Black walnuts are all over the ground.

September 15: The huge pink mallows of the wetlands have died, heads dark, leaves disintegrating. Scattered in the pastures, the milkweed pods are ready to open.

September 16: In the woods, second spring's sedum is growing stronger. Ground ivy, mint and catchweed revive as the canopy thins. Waterleaf has fresh shoots. Snow-on-the-mountain has recovered from its mid-summer slump, and can be as thick and as beautiful as in early spring.

September 17: Touch-me-nots are continuing to pop. Wood nettle seeds are black and brittle. Wingstem, clearweed, and ironweed complete their cycle.

September 18: The calls of the katydids become much less prominent in the cool nights.

September 19: Great crested flycatchers, blue-gray gnatcatchers, ruby-throated hummingbirds, eastern wood peewees and bank swallows move south across the Ohio River.

September 20: The first tier of trees, including the cottonwoods, box elders, hickories, and locusts, starts to turn quickly after equinox. As that first layer of the canopy loses its leaves, the trees of the second tier, especially the maples and oaks, come in for ten to fourteen days.

September 21: Monarch butterflies become more numerous, visit the late zinnias in the afternoon sun; other insects, however, become less common in the field and garden as the number of pollen-bearing flowers dwindles.

September 22: Throughout the northern hemisphere, the sun reaches equinox on today at 10:21 a.m. Within several days of that moment, the night is about 12 hours long in the Northeast, in the Northwest, the Midwest, the Great Plains, the Middle Atlantic States, and the Deep South.

September 23: After equinox, the night continues to lengthen at the rate of about three minutes a day, the day's length losing another hour between the end of September and the third week of October.

September 24: September's fourth week brings the best chances for seeing one of the Piscid Meteors in the southern sky after midnight. This year's waning moon increases the chances for successful meteor watching.

September 25: Asters, beggarticks, and goldenrod start to disappear; their departure parallels the leaf-fall, the end of the insect season, the end of the spider web season, and the acceleration in bird migration, everything seeming to unravel at once.

September 26: Spicebush is yellowing as box elders are shedding. The toothed leaves of beggarticks darken to purple overnight.

September 27: Pods of the eastern burning bush are opening; hawthorn berries redden; wild grapes are purple.

September 28: Milkweed pods burst in the windy, rainy nights.

September 29: Peak leaf color typically occurs in late September along the Canadian border; the best color occurs during early October in most states of the Northeast.

September 30: When the milkweed pods come open, then frost season is on the way, and Canadian geese, great-crested flycatchers, blue-gray gnatcatchers, ruby-throated hummingbirds, eastern wood peewees and bank swallows move down their flyways toward the Gulf of Mexico.



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The rayons of the sun we see
Diminish in their strength,
The shade of every tower and tree
Extended is in length.

—Alexander Hume

The Sun's Progress

From a declination of 8 degrees and 14 minutes on September 1, the sun moves toward fall at a little more than one degree every three days until it enters Libra and reaches equinox at 10:21 a.m. on September 22.

The Planets

Venus is the dominant evening star throughout the autumn. Mars follows behind in Sagittarius, and Saturn is not very far away from those evening lights. Jupiter disappears from the evening sky in mid-September. But he isn't gone for long, rising as the morning star on October 10.

The Stars

The seasons are as simple as day and night. The morning sky is always four months ahead of the evening sky. Eight hours after you see Orion looming up in the evening to foretell breeding and winter, he's gone. In four hundred eighty minutes, the stars rotate one hundred twenty days through the birthing of lambs to the excitement of midsummer fairs and shows.

The Shooting Stars

The Piscid meteors fall through Pisces, right in the middle of the southern sky, an hour or two after midnight throughout the month.

Meteorology

Weather history suggests that cold waves usually reach Vermont about the following dates: September 2, 8, 12, 15, 20, 24 and 29. Fish, game, livestock and people tend to feed more and are more active (and more troublesome) as the barometer falls one to three days before these weather systems.

Full moon on September 16 and new moon on September 30 increase the likelihood of severe weather. Lunar perigee on September 18 adds to the likelihood of mid-month disturbances.



A flock of wild turkeys cross a backyard in the fall in Randolph, VT. photo by Nancy Cassidy

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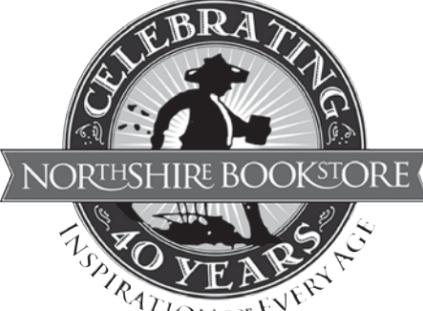
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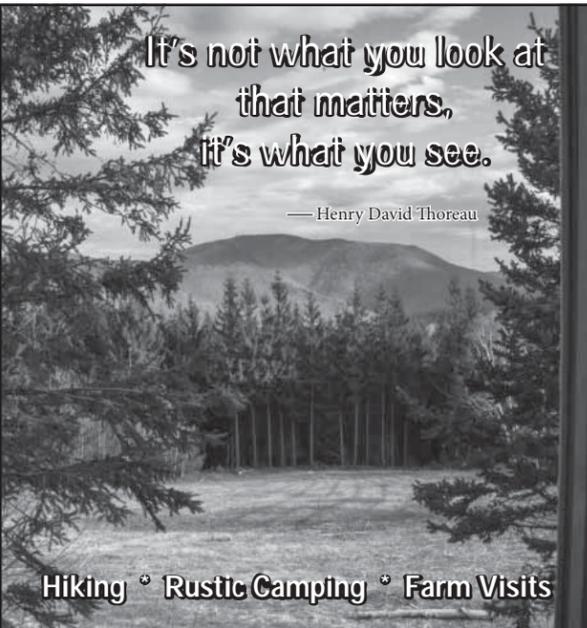
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— Henry David Thoreau



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—William Shakespeare

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

Shaker Apple Pie

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

Apple Custard Pie

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

Indian Pudding With Apples

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

Apple Slump

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



photo by Nancy Cassidy
Vermont-grown apples ripe for the picking at Vermont Technical College orchard in Randolph Center, VT.

Ginger Apples

Pare and core some good apples—Greenings or Pippins. Fill the cavity in the center of each apple with a spoonful of chopped preserved ginger. Stand them in your baking dish (not tin) and pour over them a syrup made either of sugar and water flavored with lemon and with a piece of dried ginger cooked in it, or if there is enough ginger syrup this may be used with the addition of a little water. Bake until soft and transparent but not broken, basting occasionally with the syrup. Serve hot or cold with a little whipped cream garnished with some pieces of ginger.

Coddled Apples

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

Apple Conserve

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

Clarified Apples

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

The Apple Picker

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

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

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

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

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

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

—DORIC A. KNEELAND
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Martha's House: Remembering Martha

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

Martha Langdon Towers's house, an early 1800s place on Castleton's South Street that Martha and her husband Bucky bought in 1955, is empty. The overgrown yew which for years hid the front of the building is chopped away, and the side yard, fenced in to curtail any wanderings of Martha's developmentally-disabled son Chris, is tied, bushes trimmed, lawn mowed.

The place is looking like a handsome old hobo who's been surprised with a bath and a shave, a haircut, and a new wardrobe from Goodwill.

I've been able to walk from room to room in a building that I visited regularly when Martha and Chris—and even back when long-dead Bucky—were living there.

I've learned that all houses can, and will be, emptied of a lifetime's—or many lifetimes—accumulation in just a few days, furniture, dishes, linens, carted away, books and papers hauled

"But once the small rooms were crammed with furniture and town history."

to the dump, and finally the building swept broom-clean. That's what it's like here now.

But once the small rooms were crammed with furniture and town-history—memorabilia and photos and projects, an extensive doll collection, and in the corner of the boldly-red-walled living room, Martha's often-played piano topped by a row of 8 by 10 inch family photos.

Martha Towers lived to be over 100, and my last visit to her was when she was 98. I went to see her because I had a 1930s photo of my Uncle Gerald Gibbs sitting with two other students, a boy and a girl, on the steps of Castleton Normal School's Woodruff Hall. I was curious to know who the young couple was.

I realized that only Martha might recognize them. She was at the Normal with my parents and my aunts and uncles. She'd gone to Fair Haven High School with my father.

I understood when I went that she was more-or-less managing, but that she no

longer got out much. She'd stopped going to the Federated Church and to meetings of the Castleton Women's Club.

Martha's son Chris was born with a number of disabilities and had always lived with her. When I was a child, I remember Chris as a little boy who soothed himself with repetitive behavior. In late middle age he hadn't changed a lot. He crooned and swayed. Taking care of him Martha was a cross between a school teacher (which she was) and a pal.

I visited Martha in the late afternoon, at the shift-change of caregivers. I think back to what her living room was like that day, a lively little burrow with continuous TV-conversation in the background. I sat down, and I showed her the photo I'd brought.

Martha zeroed in on my uncle, whom she always liked. "See how neat he looks,"

she said, warmly approving. "We look like we could be related, like we could be brother and sister. We had

a good time together. We had Kate Kelly, (who taught English Literature.) We had fun."

Martha's chuckle sounded a little ribald to me. Martha was remembering more than she was telling. I steered her toward the two people I wanted her to identify.

"That's Al Manning from Rutland and Winifred Taylor. We called her Winnie. She came from over the mountain. She wasn't one of the Pittsford people.

We didn't have any social life together." Martha went on to explain, "Al was a commuter."

I asked if Al and Winifred later taught. "We all taught," Martha was impatient with me. She told me that she had no idea what happened to Al and Winnie, but I didn't really care about that. She'd been able to identify the two young Normal School students who otherwise would have melted away in the mists of time.

"I'm a typical 98-year-old person," she suddenly crowed, and the joke was that we



Martha Langdon Towers, Castleton, VT, circa 1944.

both knew that she wasn't typical in any way. To put an exclamation point on this, Martha, who for years played for the Federated Church Sunday School, abruptly decided to move to her piano and bang out The Lord is Good to Me.

That visit was a long time ago now, but it comes back to me today as I walk through the shabby, empty, rooms of the broom-clean house. I've been in the diminutive barn, I've toured the shaggy side lawn which was Chris's one-time domain, and now I stand in the doorway of the once-cozy and chaotic living room whose walls are still a bold red. I imagine that I hear again Martha accompanying herself on the long-hauled-away piano. She's banging out The Lord is Good to Me.

She sounds manic and joyful. She had a great time at the Normal. She had a great time

living for over a hundred years in Castleton. She was proud that her family, the Langdons, was the oldest family in town. She and Bucky were the life of every party. She knew everyone. She was part of everything.

She relished her life. The Lord was good to her.

Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written and lived most of her life in Castleton, VT. She is the author of stories, articles, essays, magazine features and of two books: The Blue Cat and the River's Song (\$17 plus shipping and handling) and The Vanished Landmarks Game—Vermont Stories from West of Birdseye (\$20 plus shipping and handling) available at the Castleton Village Store, P.O. Box 275, Castleton, VT 05735, and at a number of Vermont book stores. To reach the store, call (802) 468-2213.

Fringed Gentians

Near where I live there is a lake
As blue as blue can be, winds make
It dance as they go blowing by.
I think it curtseys to the sky.

It's just a lake of lovely flowers,
And my Mamma says they are ours;
But they are not like those we grow
To be our very own, you know.

We have a splendid garden, there
Are lots of flowers everywhere;
Roses, and pinks, and four o'clocks,
And hollyhocks, and evening stocks.

Mamma lets us pick them, but never
Must we pick any gentians — ever!
For if we carried them away
They'd die of homesickness that day.

—AMY LOWELL



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The Storm
 Autumn, but empty vernal pools now fill.
 Down every swale the tumbling water tears
 Its way. The wash of grit and gravel wears
 The forest floor and wants no more the hill.
 Gravity doesn't like our rough landscape,
 The plain, only a plane, its favored shape.

So it is, I think, with all sorts of weather,
 From the sharp frost that splits the hardest cliff
 To whipping wind that blows the dust, as if
 With drying sun they plotted together.
 I'd fear for all things high, did I not know
 That some grand force was pushing from below.

—CHARLES FISH, DUMMERSTON, VT

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Vermont Country Calendar

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

BROOKFIELD. Farm-to-Table Dinner beside Sunset Lake. Pasture-raised and heritage meats paired with heirloom tomatoes, the season's best vegetables and our trio of local sweets. Cash bar with local beers, Vermont wines and a special house cocktail. Rain or shine. 5-9 pm. Ariel's Restaurant, 29 Stone Rd. (802) 276-3939. www.floatingbridgefoodandfarms.com.

BONDVILLE. 220th Annual Bondville Fair. 30 Vermont Rt. 30. www.bondvillefair.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Curator Tour with Mara Williams. BMAC's chief curator shares insights into the exhibits. Museum admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, youth 18 and under free. 2 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

BROOKFIELD. Farm-to-Table Dinner by Sunset Lake. Pasture-raised and heritage meats paired with heirloom tomatoes, the season's best vegetables and our trio of local sweets (maple, honey and Fat Toad Caramel). Cash bar with local beers, Vermont wines and a special house cocktail. Rain or shine. 5-9 pm. Ariel's Restaurant, 29 Stone Road. (802)276-3939. www.floatingbridgefoodandfarms.com.

CORNISH, NH. Concert at Historic Site. Brass Connection performing Blue Skies, Broadway and Beyond. \$7. 2-4 pm. Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, 139 Saint-Gardens Rd. (603) 675-2175. www.nps.gov/saga.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. Through September 4.

LYME, NH. Summer Buffet Music Series on Post Pond. Music by Carlos Ocasio. Buffet dinner served at 6 pm. Adults \$22, kids 5-12 \$8, 4 and under free. Reservations required. Loch Lyme Lodge, Rt. 10 just north of town. (603) 795-2141. lochlymelodge.com. Sundays through September 4.

LYNDONVILLE. 161st Annual Caledonia County Fair. Mountain View Park. (802) 626-8101. www.caledoniacountyfair.com.

MIDDLEBURY. Second Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival. The work of over 80 first and second time directors from all over the globe. Features and short films of all genres at Town Hall Theater, Marquis Theater, and Middlebury College's Dana Auditorium. Q&As with the filmmakers and special guest panelists. (802) 349-8059. cw@midfilmfest.org. www.midfilmfest.org.

RANDOLPH. Sixth Annual Breakfast with Bach. Enjoy Bach's Brandenburg Concerto #5 with breakfast. \$8 per person. 11 am. Esther Mesh room, upper gallery, Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 431-0204. outreach@chandler-arts.org. www.centralvtchambermusicfest.org.

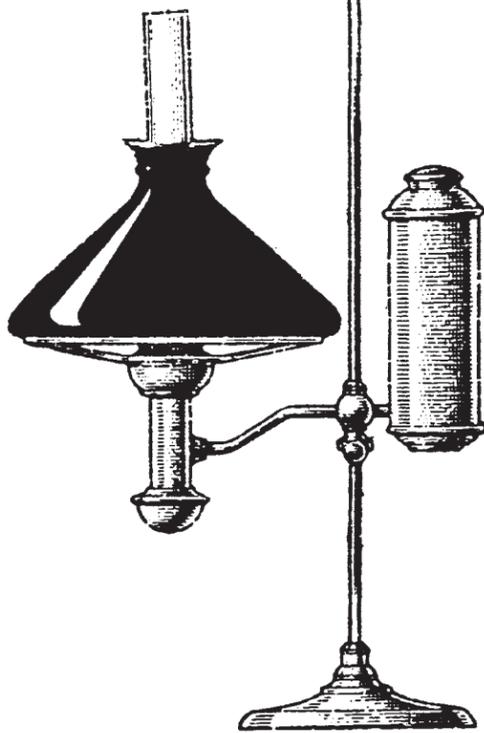
RANDOLPH. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival—Breakfast with Bach. The sixth annual breakfast with Bach's Brandenburg Concerto #5 and something extra. \$8 per person. 11 am. Esther Mesh room, upper gallery, Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 431-0204. www.centralvtchambermusicfest.org.

ROCHESTER. Storm Irene Remembered. Town events will mark the 5th anniversary of the devastating storm named Irene. New town park dedication and unveiling of sculpture 'The Turbulence of Irene' by Jeffrey Breslow, remarks by Anni Mackay, 11:30 am - 1 pm. Old time pot-luck picnic at Town Park, 1-3 pm. Library programs including local photographer Jerry Leblond's images from Irene and Tracy Winn reading Irene stories, 4-6 pm. www.rochestervermont.org.

SHARON. Rug Hooking and Fiber Crafts. Bring rug hooking or fiber craft projects to share with others or ask for advice. Beginners welcome. Free. 2-4 pm. Baxter Memorial Library, Rt. 14. (802) 282-5814. bondore132@yahoo.com. Meets the third Sunday of each month.

SHELBURNE. 75th Anniversary Tree Farm Celebration/Picnic. Catered picnic and cash bar. Access to historic barns and first floor of the Inn, petting zoo, woodworking shop and cheese making operation. Walking and hiking, making bird houses, forestry tour, swimming, kayaking or canoeing (BYO), fishing (VT state fishing license required). Bring your own lawn chairs and recliners, blankets, etc. Raffle for a Tree Farm painting. Cost: \$25/person or \$40/couple; under 12 & Certified Tree Farm Inspectors free. 10 am - 4 pm. Shelburne Farm. (802) 747-7900. www.vermonttreefarm.org.

WOODSTOCK. Annual Mozart Festival Concert. Led by violist Scott Woolweaver highlighting Mozart masterpieces and closing with the mysterious and powerful Ave Verum Corpus. The ensemble also features John Lindsey, violin and Karen Kaderavek, cello. Suggested \$10 donation. 4-6 pm. Our Lady of the Snows Roman Catholic Church, 7 South St. (802) 457-3981. www.pentanglearts.org.



MONDAY, AUGUST 29

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. Through September 4.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 30

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. Through September 4.

SHAFTSBURY. Workshop: Producing Healthy Brassicas with Biocontrols and Rotation. Andrew Knafel of Clearbrook Farm, certified organic fruit and vegetable farm, discusses their strategy for growing brassicas spring through fall. Fee: \$30. 5-7 pm. Clear Brook Farm, 123 Dexter Rd. rachel@nofavt.org. www.clearbrookfarm.co.nofavt.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

BURLINGTON. Comedy Performance: Summer of 69—No Apostrophe. By award-winning comedians Nick Offerman and Megan Mullally. Tickets: \$62.75/\$42.25. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.

CORNISH, NH. Summer Hike at St. Gaudens. Wooded trails. An easy 2-3 miles, with a few hundred feet elevation gain. Park fee. Newcomers and non-members welcome. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club. For meeting time and place contact leader Peter Hope at (603) 863-6456. www.greenmountainclub.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. Through September 4.

RUTLAND. Vermont Summer Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm. Downtown in Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 26.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

BRATTLEBORO. Talk—Off-Target: What Hollywood, Journalists, and Shooters Get Wrong About Guns. Dr. Mark Timney presents an apolitical examination of the mythology surrounding firearms. Free. 7 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

BURLINGTON. Summervale. A food festival that celebrates farms, local food, family and friends. Proceeds benefit community food systems. Mal Maiz band, indigenous foods tastings, make-corn-tortillas, food vendors, farm visits, workshops. 5:30-8 pm. The Intervale Center, 108 Intervale Rd. (802) 660-0440 x 113. www.intervale.org.

CAMBRIDGE. Celebrate Your Farmer Social. Dinner baked in NOFA-VT's wood-fired pizza oven, followed by a tour of a certified organic farm growing vegetables, flowers, and offering a Community Supported Agriculture share. RSVP & suggested \$10 donation requested. 5:30-7:30 pm. Valley Dream Farm, 5901 Pleasant Valley Rd. rachel@nofavt.org. www.valleydreamfarm.com.nofavt.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. Through September 4.

SOUTH HERO. Snow Farm Vineyard Summer Concert. Music by Jenni Johnson. Picnicking begins at 5 pm, music from 6:30-8:30 pm. Bring your own chairs and blankets. Food for purchase at the Sausage Shack, flatbread pizza, Rookies Root Beer, Homemade Island Ice Cream, and wine and beer and more available. Free admission. Snow Farm Vineyard, 190 West Shore Rd. (802) 372-9463. www.snowfarm.com. Continues every Thurs. thru Sept. 1.



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Vermont Country Calendar

STARSBORO. Hopyard Workshop. Kelly and Kathleen Norris, owners of Homestead Hops will share their experiences with starting a hopyard at a University of Vermont (UVM) Extension-sponsored field day. Growers will have an opportunity to view their irrigation pond along with a recently purchased harvester, air blast sprayer and other equipment. Heather Darby, an agronomist with the UVM Extension Northwest Crops and Soils Program, will update farmers on UVM hops research. Light refreshments. Free. 3-6 pm. 2951 Rt. 17. Registration requested. (802) 524-6501 x 432, or (800) 639-2130. homesteadhops.eventbrite.com.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

BENNINGTON. Famous Artist Celebrated. Join us to celebrate the birthday of Anna Mary Robertson 'Grandma' Moses with guided tour of Moses gallery. Talk by Deana Mallory. 5:30 pm. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. www.benningtonmuseum.org.

BRANDON. Local Artists' Exhibition Opening Reception. The Brandon Artists Guild opens their exhibit 'Colors of Fall', an all-member show. (Exhibit at Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Dr.). Reception 5-7 pm at Brandon Artists Guild, 7 Center St. (802) 247-4295, cmaoctv.org. Through October 31.

BRANDON. Unique Art Exhibit—The Creative World of Stephanie Stouffer. See many of the Belmont, VT artist's internationally known images that appear on greeting cards, mugs, tapestries, pillows and rugs. More than 1,500 of her original paintings have never been exhibited or offered for sale. Stouffer is known for her vivid imagination, precision, and exceptional use of color which creates work sometimes described as 'folk art with a contemporary flair'. Viewers can see her masterful use of whimsy and the patience and love she puts into each piece. Opening reception 4-7 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Dr. (802) 247-4295. www.cmaoctv.org. Through October 29.

BRATTLEBORO. Circus at the Museum. Students and faculty from the New England Center for Circus Arts will perform in the galleries and outside the museum. Free. 5:30 pm; performances begin at 6 pm and 6:45 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. brattleboromuseum.org.

SHARON. Horse Farm Tours. Visit the farm and get information on volunteering and learn about their programs as well as meeting and greeting the horses. Refreshments offered each day of the open house. Free. 5-8 pm. High Horses, 138 Horse Farm Rd. (830) 356-3386. highhorses.org. Also September 3 & 4.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Performance by comedian Jim Gaffigan. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. Through September 4.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

ASCUTNEY. Romaine Tenney: A Celebration of a Farmer's Life. Ascutney honors the life of Romaine Tenney who lost his life in a tragic event brought about by the construction of Interstate 91 in 1964. Sky Blue Boys will perform their song which tells the story recounted on the musician's CD, along with other music, from 11 am - 12:30 pm. Historian Howard Coffin will participate in the event. Refreshments will be served. Free. Hosted by Wethersfield Historical Society. 11 am - 1 pm. At the Wethersfield-Proctor Library, 5181 Rt. 5. (802) 674-2626.

BENNINGTON. 21st Annual Southern Vermont Garlic and Herb Festival. Over 200 vendors; garlic-inspired booths, from garlic popcorn, to garlic wreaths, to garlic chocolate. Food vendors. Music by Aviva (10 am), Hill Hollow (11:30 am), Julie Shea Band (1 pm), and The Legato Blues Band (3 pm). Beer and wine garden. Demonstrations on planting, growing, braiding, and cooking garlic. Kids' tent. Garlicfest merchandise. One-day pass \$8 at the gate for adults, 12 and under \$2. Two-day pass \$10. 10 am - 5 pm. Camelot Village, on Rt. 9. (802) 447-3311. www.lovegarlic.com. Also September 4.

HANOVER, NH. Community Yard Sale. 130 locations filled with furniture, household goods, tools, sports equipment, games, toys, books and seasonal clothing. 10 am - 2 pm. Dewey Field parking lot, Dartmouth College. (603) 643-5648. susanedwards67@gmail.com.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Concert with Rascal Flatts. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. champlainvalleyfair.org. Also September 4.

GUILFORD. Friends of Music at Guilford 50th Anniversary. Weekend begins with organ concert with Susan Summerfield playing works by Baroque masters J.S. Bach, Pierre Landrieu, Louis Couperin, C.E.P. and 20th century composers Darius Milhaud and Lou Harrison. A cake and champagne reception follows. 7:30 pm. Free. Donations appreciated. The Barn, 37 Bee Barn Rd. (802) 254-3600. www.formag.org. Also September 4.

GROTON. Concert: Banjo Dan salutes the Anniversary of the "Sleeping Sentinel" of Groton. Trivia Contest with prizes, cider press demonstration by Artesano Meadowy, and delicious refreshments. Free. 5:30 pm. Veterans Memorial Park. (802) 584-3426. grotonvhistory@gmail.com.

GUILFORD. 74th Annual Guilford Fair. Horse draw, cattle and horse shows and sheep shearing demonstrations. Live music, beautiful homegrown produce, flowers, handiwork and hobbies. 163 Fairgrounds Rd. www.guilfordfairvermont.com. Through September 5.

ISLAND POND. Market Day. Crafters, antiques, yard sales, flea market vendors and a Farmer's Market. 9 am - 3 pm. At Lakeside Park. (802) 723-0470. islandpondchamber.org/events.html.

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Celebration. Food, crafts and game booths 10 am - 10 pm. Flying pig foot race, No String Marionette Puppet show, Field of Faeries at the fountain 3:30-4:30 pm. Rock band Mirage 7-10 pm. (802) 485-9201. www.northfieldlaboraday.org. Also September 4 & 5.

PAWLET. Roast Pork Dinner. Menu includes roast pork baked with topping, stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy, hot vegetables, cabbage, salad, applesauce, fruited Jello, rolls with butter, Rosalie's famous dessert, and hot and cold beverages. \$12 adults. Takeout orders can be made the day of the dinner by calling (802) 325-3022. 5-7 pm. Pawlet Community Church, Rt. 133. Also October 1.

PLAINFIELD. Apple Days. Apple picking, apple pressing, pie making, bonfire. We'll provide the peck bags, and you bring anything else you need—jars, pie pans, crates for carrying apples, etc. Tickets: \$15 individual, \$35 family (includes a free peck of apples that you pick and cider). 11 am - 3 pm. Onion River Campground, 61 Onion River Rd. (802) 426-3233. Also September 10 & 11.

ROCHESTER. Bread & Puppet Whatforward Circus. A group of stone age technology puppeteers, brass players and percussionists check out the forward moving passions and politics of our capitalist culture and make real and unreal against-the-grain proposals to identify and fight the anonymous monster, the Big Fat Wrong. 3 pm. Tickets \$8. BigTown Gallery, 99 North Main St. (802) 767-9670. info@bigtowngallery.com. www.bigtowngallery.com.

SHARON. Horse Farm Tours. Visit the farm and get information on volunteering and learn about their programs as well as meeting and greeting the horses. Refreshments. Free. 11 am - 2 pm. High Horses, 138 Horse Farm Rd. (830) 356-3386. highhorses.org. Also September 4.

WAITSFIELD. Annual Craft Fair. 100 juried artists, four bands, door prizes, food court, bounce house & face painting, handmade items. Man cave: cocktails & ping-pong (all adults welcome), snack stand, playground. Adults \$5, children under 12 free. 10 am-5 pm. Kenyon's Field, 3337 Main St. madrivercraftfair.com.

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Green Mountain Gardener

Using Tomatoes and Other September Gardening Tips

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

Making the most of ripe tomatoes, preparing for frost, and planting shrubs are some of the gardening activities for this month.

Don't let excess tomatoes go to waste. Plum tomatoes and cherry and grape minis dry fairly easily in the oven. Slice them in half lengthwise, set them on parchment paper on a baking sheet, and drizzle with olive oil and sea salt. Roast them in a 250-degree oven until they are no longer juicy. When cool, pack them in freezer bags.

If you are fortunate to have way too many tomatoes to eat, harvest them all before they spoil or the frost gets them, and make sauce. This is done most easily with a food strainer. Cut the tomatoes into large chunks, put them in the top funnel, turn the crank, and sauce comes out one end and the skins out the other. You then can heat the sauce to thicken it, adding

garlic, onions, and herbs such as basil or oregano. Freeze it, and then you'll have an Italian sauce ready to go this fall for pasta dishes. Short on time now? Then just freeze the sauce, and cook with it later.

With frost likely this month, prepare to cover plants at the last minute. Make sure the cover extends all the way to the ground to hold in the heat, and try to prop it above the foliage so the leaves don't freeze. Old shower curtains and sheets are handy for this as are light fabrics sold for frost protection, available at complete garden stores.

The sales are on. There's still plenty of time to plant trees and shrubs. Root growth will continue into late fall or early winter, and plants won't have the heat of spring or summer to dry them out. Be sure to water well at planting time, and every week until they go dormant.

If you don't have a spot ready for your new shrub or tree additions, or don't get to them this fall, sink the pots in empty garden space (such as the vegetable garden)—pot and all, and mulch with soil or compost (straw works if you don't have rodents). The roots will benefit from ground warmth, just as if they were planted.

If you haven't ordered spring-flowering bulbs for fall planting, such as daffodils and tulips, you can find these this month in many garden stores. If you have deer and other wildlife, think daffodils, as these won't be eaten by them. Daffodils require almost no further care, and will make up large clumps, rewarding you with years of welcoming spring blooms.

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Wednesday 3-6 pm, May 11 through October 26
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Vermont Country Calendar

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

BENNINGTON. 21st Annual Southern Vermont Garlic and Herb Festival. Over 200 vendors; garlic-inspired booths, from garlic popcorn, to garlic wreaths, to garlic chocolate. Food vendors. Music by Ray Gifford (10 am), Carma (11:30 am), Roadhouse (1 pm), and FunkintheTrunk (3 pm). Beer and wine garden. Demonstrations on planting, growing, braiding, and cooking garlic. Kids' tent. Garlicfest merchandise. One-day pass \$8 at the gate for adults, 12 and under \$2. Two-day pass \$10. 10 am – 5 pm. Camelot Village, on Rt. 9. (802) 447-3311. www.lovegarlic.com.

BRATTLEBORO. Dawn Dance. Each dance features contra dancing with three bands and three callers. Clean sneakers or soft-soled shoes only, please. No alcohol or alcohol bottles allowed in the building. 8 pm Sunday evening to 7 am Monday morning, as well as English country dancing on Sunday afternoon from 2:30–5:30 pm. Gibson-Aiken Center, 207 Main Street; English Country Dances at the Stone Church, 210 Main St. (802) 451-0822. info@dawndance.org. www.dawndance.org. *Through early morning September 5.*

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Concert: I Love the 90's Tour. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org.

GUILFORD. Friends of Music at Guilford 50th Anniversary Concert. The 50-piece Guilford Festival Orchestra performs a lawn concert entitled 'Celebrations' with music of Don McLean, Mozart, Gouvy, Barber and Humez. Finale is sing-in of Randall Thompson's Alleluia. Grounds open at noon for picnicking and gourmet lunch for \$10. Concert free. Donations appreciated. The Barn, 37 Bee Barn Rd. Rd. (802) 254-3600. www.formag.org.

GUILFORD. 74th Annual Guilford Fair. 163 Fairgrounds Rd. www.guilfordfairvermont.com. *Through September 5.*

LYME, NH. Summer Buffet Music Series on Post Pond. Music by Family & Friends. Adults \$22, kids 5-12 \$8, 4 and under free. Reservations required. 6 pm. Loch Lyme Lodge, Rt. 10 just north of town. (603) 795-2141. lochlymelodge.com. *Sundays through September 4.*

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Celebration. Food, crafts and game booths 10 am – 10 pm. Northfield auto parts show and parade, 12:30-3 pm. Wunderle's Big Top Adventure, noon-1 pm. Scavenger hunt, 1-4 pm. Scared by Dolls rock band, 2:30-3:30 pm. Killin' Time rock band, 7-10 pm. (802) 485-9201. www.northfieldlaborday.org. *Also September 5.*

RANDOLPH. New World Festival. Celebrate Vermont's Celtic and French Canadian heritage with traditional – and sometimes not so traditional – music and dance. More than 70 musicians from New England, Canada and the British Isles. Concerts, music and dance workshop sessions, children's activities, and open dancing on five continuous stages from noon until 11 pm. Food and drink provided by the area's chefs and breweries. Events at Chandler Music Hall and Gallery, all-weather tents on both sides of Main St., and in Bethany Church. Main Street is closed to traffic. (802) 276-3808. nwfvolunteer@chandler-arts.org. chandler-arts.org.

SHARON. Horse Farm Tours. Visit the farm, learn about volunteering and our programs. Meet and greet the horses. Refreshments. Free. 1-4 pm. High Horses, 138 Horse Farm Rd. (830) 356-3386. highhorses.org.

SOUTH LONDONDERRY. Stratton Mountain Summer Music Series Concert. The soulful groove and hip-hop-inspired sound of Lettuce will have you on your feet. Special guest Kung Fu will open at 3 pm. Lettuce at 5 pm. Tickets \$25. Stratton Mountain Base Area, 5 Village Lodge Rd. (802) 297-4000. www.stratton.com.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

GUILFORD. 74th Annual Guilford Fair. 163 Fairgrounds Rd. www.guilfordfairvermont.com. *Through September 5.*

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Celebration. Parade on Main St. 10-noon. No String Marionette Puppet show, Field of Faeries at the fountain 10 am. Tractor show at 10 am. Chicken BBQ at American Legion noon. (802) 485-9201. www.northfieldlaborday.org.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

BERLIN. Bike Ride. Berlin Pond to the Brookfield Floating Bridge. Meet at the Berlin Pond public parking area at 10 am. Moderate difficulty, 24 miles. Free, newcomers and non-members welcome. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club, Montpelier Section. Bring lunch, water, and helmet. 10 am – 2 pm. For details, contact leader George Plumb at (802) 883-2313. www.greenmountainclub.org.

BURLINGTON. Book & Author Event. Join Dr. Malcolm Severance for a discussion of his book, *A Pursuit of Excellence: A History of the University of Vermont School of Business Administration*, which chronicles the 120-year story that culminates with UVM's Grossman School of Business, one of the most innovative business schools in the nation that has earned its place among Bloomberg Business's "Best Undergraduate Business Schools 2016." Free and open to all. 7 pm. Phoenix Books, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

SHELBURNE. Free Fishing Clinic: "Basics of Fishing." The clinic will focus on general fishing techniques and equipment, for those who have little to no fishing experience. Fishing equipment will be available for use, or bring your own. Space limited, pre-registration required. Free. 4:30–7 pm. Shelburne Bay Fishing Access Area. (802) 505-5562. letsgefishing@vermont.gov.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

BURLINGTON. Authors in Joint Talk. Join authors John Elder, Sheila Post, and Sara Dillon as they explore the spirit of place from the Green Mountains to the Emerald Isle in their most recent titles from Green Writers Press. Tickets: \$3. 7:30 pm. Phoenix Books, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

TINMOUTH. Fall Concert Series Opener. The Plum Bobs will perform Irish, Hispanic, roots Americana, and gentle rock music. 7:30 pm. The Old Firehouse, Mountain View Road just south of Rt.140. Suggested donation \$10. (802) 446-2498. www.tinmouthvt.org.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

HUNTINGTON. Museum Work Party. Bring yourself, a friend, a family to help with outdoor and indoor tasks from window netting, cleaning, trail work, prepping for open studio, and more. Lunch for those who pre-register. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. birdsofvermont.org.

HUNTINGTON. Reception: Artists and Their Eggs. Meet and celebrate the art and artists of "In Layers: the Art of the Egg". Light refreshments. Donations welcome. 3-6 pm. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. birdsofvermont.org.

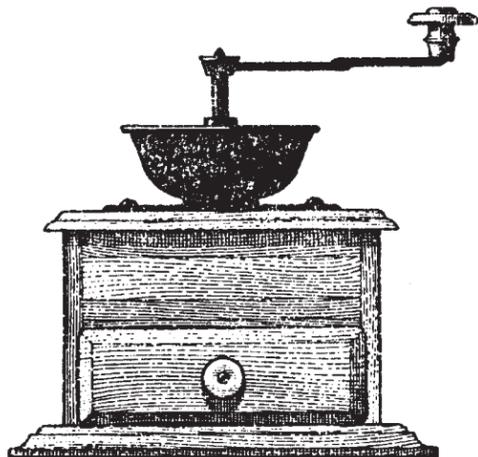
LUNENBURG. Community Potluck Meal. Everyone invited to the Top of the Common Committee's annual potluck luncheon. 12-2 pm on The Green. Paper goods, drinks, and picnic tables provided. At 10 am the Lunenburg Polar Bears will celebrate their 50th anniversary with antique antique equipment and displays. Auction follows meal to benefit restoration projects. Free. (802) 892-6654. www.topofthecommon.org.

NORWICH. Antique Show. 12th annual features regional dealers and the Historical Society's own booth of antiques and collectibles. Bill Smith of William A. Smith auctioneers and appraisers of Plainfield, NH, will offer informal appraisals of your antique items from 2-4 pm. (\$5 per item, limit of 3 items). Food by Bakewell. Raffle items. Show 10 am-4 pm. Admission \$5. Children under 12 free. Norwich Historical Society, 227 Main St. (802) 649-0124. norwichhistory@gmail.com.

ORWELL. Annual Soldiers Atop the Mount. Step back to 1776 as reenactors take over the Mount, honoring the 240th anniversary of the construction of this major defense and the military road. Revolutionary War camp life, military tactics, colonial crafts and skills, and firing artillery will be demonstrated. 5K walk, interactive "walkabout" on trails and grounds, and cooking demonstration and tasting. Activities for children. Admission: \$6 for adults, free for children under 15. 9:30 am-2 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 272-2509. historicsites.vermont.gov/vthistory/archaeology. *Also September 11.*

PLYMOUTH. "The Great Outdoors"—A Dining Field Trip to Coolidge State Park. Music by Arc Iris. Tickets: \$68 which includes five courses and musical performance. Wine pairing for an additional \$40. Camping is free of charge. Full cash bar serving traditional and event-specific signature cocktails. Reservations required, seating limited. (802) 460-7676. popolomeanspeople.com.

SHELBURNE. Free Fishing Clinic: "Intro to Trout Fishing." Introductory level course, emphasizing basic live bait techniques as well as strategies for using artificial lures. Fishing equipment will be available for use, or bring your own. Space limited, pre-registration required. Free. 9:30 am – 1 pm. Waterbury Public Library as well as on the Winooski River. (802) 505-5562. letsgefishing@vermont.gov.



To Sum Up

Well may the aging poet yearn
To sum up all he's lived to learn
In a large work classical and great.



He may do better, though, to turn
Back to his small songs sharp and straight,
Loving what he loved early, late.

—JAMES HAYFORD
Orleans, VT, 1950



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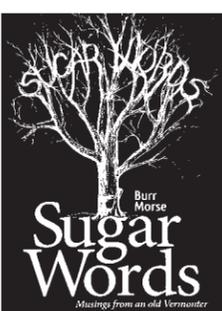
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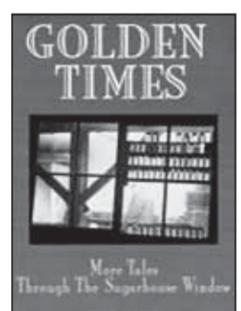


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Every Saturday, 9 am – 2 pm
— Through October 29 —

Every Wednesday, 3–6 pm
— Through October 26 —

Fair Haven Market: Fridays, 3–6 pm
— Through October 28 —



vtfarmersmarket.org 

Vermont Country Calendar

SHELburnE. Polo Game. Watch a fast-paced and exciting polo game to support the Sugarbush Polo Club. All ages are welcome. After the game, you'll have a chance to meet the players and the horses. BYOB and food, tailgating encouraged. Fee \$5, children under 5 free. 1-5 pm. Polo Field, 929 Shelburne-Hinesburg Rd. sugarbushpoloclub@gmail.com. www.sugarbushpoloclub.com.

SPRINGFIELD. 17th Annual RiverSweep. Join the Black River Action Team to help clean up the Black River. Volunteers can sign up at the Citizens Bank drive-up in the Shopping Plaza and at the town green gazebo on Main St. near the library. Work-gloves and trash bags available from the Connecticut River Watershed Council, along with snacks and drinking water. Event lasts from 8 am – 12 noon. Return to Headquarters with your treasures by 11 am to be photographed, clean up and enjoy a free lunch courtesy Young's Furniture and Appliance and Goodman's American Pie in Ludlow. Pick up a commemorative tee shirt. (802) 738-0456. www.blackriveractionteam.org.

WEST RUTLAND. SculptFest Opens. A gifted group of artists will present sculptural installations and performances for SculptFest 2016. Opening reception features live music by "Swing Noir" and refreshments. 5-8 pm. (802) 438-2097. info@carvingstudio.org. www.carvingstudio.org. Through October 23.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. 24th Annual Glory Days Festival. A family oriented, fun-filled, two day festival of railroading and transportation of the past, present & future. Evening photo shoot, dinner train, excursion train rides, LEGO train show, model train show, children entertainment, main stage, music, food, engine displays, vintage cars and tractors, and carnival rides. Saturday excursions are 45 minute rides beginning at 10 am along the scenic Connecticut River, tickets \$10. WRJ RR station. (802) 295-5036. www.vtglorydaysfestival.com. Also September 11.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

HUBBARDTON. Day of Remembrance. The site is open without charge on Patriot Day for those who wish to contemplate or to honor past heroes. 9:30 am – 5:30 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/Hubbardton.

LYME, NH. Late Summer Hike in Hartman Park. Moderate difficulty. Free, newcomers welcome. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club. 9 am – 12 pm. For meeting place contact leader Sarah O'Hare at seohare7@yahoo.com. www.greenmountainclub.org.

MANCHESTER. Workshop: Preserving the Harvest. A pressure canning workshop on how to make a simple tomato sauce by Jane and Ken Moriarty who have been canning for years. Starting with how to prepare vegetables through to the finished Mason jar, participants will learn about supplies and techniques that make canning fun and easy. Beyond the two-hour basics class there will be a jar-cooling waiting period for any who wishes to stay for a "do-it-yourself" guided round two. All participants will go home with a jar of tomato sauce. Fee \$20. 1-3 pm. Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home, Rt. 7A. (802) 367-7960. stephanie@hildene.org. www.hildene.org.

ORWELL. Annual Soldiers Atop the Mount. Step back to 1776 as reenactors take over the Mount, honoring the 240th anniversary of the construction of this major defense and the military road. Revolutionary War camp life, military tactics, colonial crafts and skills, and firing artillery demonstrated. Annual reading of the Declaration of Independence and unveiling of a new military road sign. \$6 for adults, free for children under 15. 9:30 am – 2 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Road. (802) 272-2509. historicsites.vermont.gov/vthistory/archaeology.

WATERBURY CENTER. Children's Annual Barn Dance. Refreshments, live music, hayrides, tug-of-war and other old fashion games, crafts, face painting, a silent auction, pie contest, dancing and raffle. Tickets: \$15 for single or \$20 for family. 2-5 pm. Beard's Barn, 1601 Barnes Hill Rd. Look for signs along Rt. 100 directing you to the barn. (802) 244-5605. childrensroom@wvsu.org. www.childrensroomonline.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. 24th Annual Glory Days Festival. A family oriented, fun-filled, two-day festival of railroading and transportation of the past, present & future. Evening photo shoot, dinner train, excursion train rides, LEGO train show, model railroad show, children entertainment, main stage, food, games, engine displays, vintage cars and tractors, and carnival rides. Music by Gerry Grimo, the North Country Chordsmen, Oxford & Clark, The Last Duo, and The Flames. Train excursions at 10 am and 2 pm, tickets \$10. Murder Mystery Train. Sponsored by Hartford Parks & Recreation. 10 am – 2 pm. At the White River Junction Railroad Station, downtown. (802) 295-5036. www.vtglorydaysfestival.com.

WINDSOR. Mac and Cheese Challenge. Sample gourmet mac and cheese entries from 20 local chefs and restaurants as they compete for top prizes. Live music, calf petting zoo, Harpoon beer and the King Arthur flour cookie truck. Admission \$15-20, kids under 6 free. 11 am – 3 pm. Vermont Farmstead Cheese Co., 71 Artisans Way. (802) 457-9992. sharon@vermontfarmstead.com. www.vtmacandcheese.com.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

MONTPELIER. The Opening of Fall Music Classes. An introduction to old-time banjo and fiddle is the first of 11 consecutive evening classes offered this fall. Cost \$150-\$200. The Summit School of Traditional Music and Culture, 43 Barre St. (802) 917-1186. director@summit-school.org. www.summit-school.org.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

HANOVER, NH. Learn Dancing Flex. Learn flex from the inventors of this improvisational street dance style, combining Jamaican bruk-up, pausing, popping and locking, gliding and hat tricks from dance halls and reggae clubs in Brooklyn. Ages 14+. All experience levels welcome. \$10. 5 pm. Hop Garage, Room 131, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

HUNTINGTON. Pre-Schooler's Program—Bird Seasons. Discover birds through stories and investigative play with books, crafts, music and nature walks designed for pre-schoolers but all ages welcome. 10:30-11:30 am. Free. Donations welcome. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. www.birdsofvermont.org.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

HANOVER, NH. Dancing Flex Performance. Gifted dancers to perform the electrifying street dance form flex and celebrating the African American communities that created it. Directed by flex pioneer Reggie (Regg Roc) Gray and visionary American theater artist Peter Sellars, the dancers quake, pretzel and glide as if unconstrained by gravity, using their strange and beautiful movement to transcend the limits of today's turbulent social justice issues. Tickets: adults \$25-\$50, 18 and under \$17-\$19, students \$10. 7 pm. The Moore Theater, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu. Also September 15.

READING. Plein Air Painting Workshop. Taking inspiration from the current exhibition 'Landscapes After Ruskin; Redefining the Sublime', artist Daniel Gottsegen will offer beginner and experience painters traditional and non-traditional approaches to interpreting the landscape. Free of charge but pre-registration required. Students must bring their own materials. 1-6 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 551 Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. vermont@hallartfoundation.org. www.hallartfoundation.org.

SO. BURLINGTON. Workshop: Design Your Garden with Native Plants. Beginning gardeners encouraged to attend. Fee: \$15. 6-8 pm. UVM Horticulture Farm, 65 Green Mountain Dr. (802) 864-3073. friendsofthehortfarm.org.

All Aboard!

FALL FOLIAGE Scenic Train Rides

Experience the majesty of Vermont's fall foliage season on the Green Mountain Flyer! Bring the family and leave the crowded roads behind as you travel our historic route. Along the way you'll view scenery and wildlife that can't be seen from the roadway. Two hour rides depart from Chester and travel to either Ludlow or Rockingham.

2016 DATES	Tuesday	Thursday	Saturday	Sunday
Sept 20	Sept 22	Sept 24	Sept 17	Sept 18
Sept 27	Sept 29	Oct 1	Sept 24	Sept 25
Oct 4	Oct 6	Oct 8	Oct 1	Oct 2
Oct 11	Oct 13	Oct 15	Oct 8	Oct 9
			Oct 15	Oct 16

Trains 1&3: Chester to Ludlow • Train 2: Chester to Rockingham

SCHEDULE	Train 1				Train 2		Train 3	
	Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive
	Chester	Ludlow	Chester	Rockingham	Ludlow	Chester	Rockingham	Chester
	10:00 AM	10:55 AM	11:15 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	1:35 PM	1:40 PM	2:15 PM
	3:00 PM	3:55 PM	4:15 PM	5:00 PM	–	–	–	–

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Tracy Hall, Norwich, VT
Potluck at the break

Beginners & singles welcome. All dances taught. Admission \$9, students \$6, seniors by donation, under 16 free! Bring a separate pair of clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing.

More info at www.uvdm.org

VERMONT ART GUIDE

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STEIFF PARTY INVITATION

Saturday, September 24, 2016
11:30 am - Refreshments
1 pm - Presentation

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- ◆ Door Prizes
- ◆ Refreshments
- ◆ 2016 Steiff

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Nelly Elephant

Arctic Hare

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RSVP/INFO 802 875-2412

Vermont Country Calendar

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

BELLOWS FALLS. Book Discussion: *The Hobbit*. Icebreaking games and riddles. All ages invited. Free. 6 pm. Rockingham Library, 65 Westminster St. (802) 463-4270. rockinghamlibrary.org.

HANOVER, NH. Dancing Flex Performance. Gifted dancers to perform the electrifying street dance form flex. Directed by flex pioneer Reggie (Regg Roc) Gray and visionary American theater artist Peter Sellars, the dancers quake, pretzel and glide as if unconstrained by gravity, using their strange and beautiful movement to transcend the limits of today's turbulent social justice issues. Adults \$25-\$50, 18 and under \$17-\$19, students \$10. 7 pm. The Moore Theater, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

MONTPELIER. Performance: The Syringa Tree. Enjoy a full production with Courtney Wood in a tour-de-force with one actor playing all 24 characters. A true-life story of an abiding love between two families, one black, one white, and the two children born into their shared household in early 1960's South Africa, told through the eyes of six-year-old Elizabeth. Tickets: tonight's preview \$15; Friday and Saturday evenings \$30; Thursdays and Sundays \$25. 7:30 pm. Lost National Theater, 39 Main St. (802) 229-0492. www.lostnationtheater.org. *Through September 25.*

TUNBRIDGE. 149th Annual Tunbridge World's Fair. Old-fashioned agricultural fair in a rural setting. 4-H exhibits, midway rides, food. Livestock, agricultural exhibits, crafts, entertainment, ox and pony pulling, gymkhana, harness racing. Sheep dog trials, Civil War reenactors, Log Cabin Museum, Ed Larkin Contra Dancing, Antique Hill. Rt. 110, Tunbridge, VT. (802) 889-5555. tunbridgeworldsfair.com. *Through September 18.*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

CANAAN. Fall Doe Camp—A Three-Day Women's Adventure Retreat. Classes in the woods, lodge, on the lake and the sandy beach at Lake Wallace. Classes taught by all volunteer, experienced and professional instructors include: archery, mountain & road biking, firearms (muzzleloader, handgun, rifle and clay shooting), marksmanship & safety, outdoor cooking, healing capacity of trees, log rolling, fly and boat fishing, cheese making at home, kayaking, deer hunting, ax skills, fire making, wildlife photography, and panning for gold as well many new classes. Moose BBQ Saturday evening. Sponsored by Vermont Outdoors Women. Fee for weekend program \$390 with discounts available. Jackson's Lodge & Log Cabins. (802) 425-6211. www.outdoorswoman.org.

TUNBRIDGE. 149th Annual Tunbridge World's Fair. Old-fashioned agricultural fair in a rural setting. 4-H exhibits, midway rides, food booths, free shows in the grandstand. Livestock cavalcade, agricultural exhibits, antique tractor pulls, kiddie rides, crafts, live entertainment, ox and pony pulling, gymkhana, harness racing. Sheep dog trials, Civil War reenactors, Ed Larkin Museum, Ed Larkin Contra Dancing, Antique Hill. Rt. 110, Tunbridge, VT. (802) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com. *Through September 18.*

WESTMINSTER WEST. Preview: Doggie Hamlet by Ann Carlson. Presented by Vermont Performance Lab in association with Vermont Shepherd Farm. Choreographer Ann Carlson and her collaborators of dancers, border collies, sheep, and local musicians weave instinct, mystery, and movement into the performance spectacle, "Doggie Hamlet." Please wear comfortable shoes and dress for the outdoors! In addition, due to the sensitive nature of this performance, no dogs are allowed (not even to stay in cars)! \$15, \$10 students. 5 pm. Vermont Shepherd Farm, 281 Patch Farm Rd. (802) 257-3360 or email: info@vermontperformancelab.org. Visit www.vermontperformancelab.org. *Also September 17.*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

BRADFORD. Army Band Concert. Vermont's own 40th Army Band will perform a concert of patriotic American tunes and contemporary favorites, sponsored by the Vermont National Guard and the Office of the Adjutant General. Free. 7 pm. Bradford Academy Auditorium, 172 N. Main St. (802) 338-3480. www.40tharmyband.com.

BRANDON. Baroque Concert. Recorderist and flutist Anna Laufenberg and pianist Stefan Rimrock playing works from the late Renaissance and Baroque eras. Rimrock will also perform solo piano works by Scarlatti and Beethoven. Tickets \$20. 7:30 pm. Pre-concert dinner \$25. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. BYOB. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. www.brandon-music.net.

BRATTLEBORO. Vermont Jazz Series Concert. With The Kurt Rosenwinkel Trio, who has been consistently voted one of the top guitarists of the under-50 generation. 8 pm. Vermont Jazz Center, 72 Cotton Mill Hill Rd. For tickets call (802) 254-9088. www.vtjazz.org.

CHESTER. 42nd Annual Fall Festival Craft Show. New England artists demonstrating handmade crafts including spinning, quilting, glass, pottery, fiber art, woodcarvings, turned wooden bowls, watercolor and landscape paintings, paper art, handcrafted soaps, jewelry, photography and more. Midday music provided by Vermont entertainers. Beer garden behind Fullerton Inn. 10 am – 4 pm. Sponsored by Chester Rotary Club. www.chesterfallfestival.org. *Also September 18.*



MOSCOW. Canoe or Kayak Excursion. Launch at Cotton Brook access point, Waterbury Reservoir. PFD and canoe or kayak required. Bring lunch. Free, newcomers and non-members welcome. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club, Montpelier Section. For meeting time and place contact leaders Steve and Heather Bailey at stevebailey@gmail.com or (609) 424-9238. www.greenmountainclub.org.

NEW HAVEN. Wildcrafting with the Seasons: Workshop Series with Emily French of Sweetgrass Herbs. Gather and prepare safe and locally abundant plant medicines from roots, flowers, leaves, fruits, and more. Come with harvesting bag, knife, an offering for the plants, glass jars, notebook, perhaps a camera, and water. Wear hiking boots. 9 am – 12 noon. Golden Well Farm & Apiaries, 1089 River Rd. Fee \$50. Pre-registration required at www.sweetgrassherbs.com. (802) 870-0361. goldenwellapiaries.com.

SO. BURLINGTON. Talk: Exploring the Gardens at Hildene. Andrea Luchini, Garden Horticulturist at the Lincoln Family Home, will talk about the gardens and their famous peonies, the grounds, walking trails, their work to attract pollinators, and their new greenhouses. Fee: \$15. 10 am – 12 noon. UVM Horticulture Farm, 65 Green Mountain Drive. (802) 864-3073. info@friendsofthehortfarm.org. www.friendsofthehortfarm.org.

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Vermont Country Calendar

TUNBRIDGE. 149th Annual Tunbridge World's Fair. Old-fashioned agricultural fair in a rural setting. 4-H exhibits, midway rides, food booths, free shows in the grandstand. Livestock cavalcade, agricultural exhibits, antique tractor pulls, kiddie rides, crafts, live entertainment, ox and pony pulling, gymkhana, harness racing. Sheep dog trials, Civil War reenactors, Log Cabin Museum, Ed Larkin Contra Dancing, Antique Hill. Rt. 110, Tunbridge, VT. (802) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com. *Also September 18.*

WEST PAWLET. Concert. Bringing Nashville to West Pawlet—Courtney Shayne as Patsy Kline. Light refreshments and 50/50 raffle. Sponsored by Ladies Auxiliary of W. Pawlet Fire Department. (802) 353-1089.

WESTMINSTER WEST. Preview: "Doggie Hamlet" by Ann Carlson. Presented by Vermont Performance Lab in association with Vermont Shepherd Farm. \$15, \$10 students. 5 pm. Vermont Shepherd Farm, 281 Patch Farm Rd. (802) 257-3360. www.vermontperformancelab.org.

WINDSOR. Wild Game Supper. Sponsored by The Windsor Coon Hunter's Association. The menu includes: bear roast, moose/venison spicy barbecue, Swedish meatballs, lasagna, moose burritos, game stew, smoked trout, turkey pot pies, mashed potatoes, corn chowder and pie for dessert. Iced tea and water provided, or bring your own beverage. Tickets \$7-\$15. Supper at 5 pm. Sporting equipment raffle, 7 pm. Windsor Coon Hunter's Association, 2126 Hunt Hill Rd. (802) 484-9286. barbour.sherry@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

CHESTER. 42nd Annual Fall Festival Craft Show. New England artists demonstrating handmade crafts including spinning, quilting, glass, pottery, fiber art, woodcarvings, turned wooden bowls, watercolor and landscape paintings, paper art, handcrafted soaps, jewelry, photography and more. Midday music provided by Vermont entertainers. Beer garden behind Fullerton Inn. 10 am - 4 pm. Sponsored by Chester Rotary Club. www.chesterfallfestival.org.

COLCHESTER. The 9th Annual Vermont Sings For Peace. With Counterpoint, the Winooski Community Chorus, Solaris Vocal Ensemble, Caledonia Children's Chorus, and Robert De Cormier and Friends. This year's donations will benefit the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program (www.refugees.org/vermont). Admission free, donations appreciated. Concert at 2:30 pm. Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel, Saint Michael's College, One Winooski Park. (802) 540-1784. contact@counterpointchorus.org. www.counterpointchorus.org.

DUMMERSTON. Orchard Stroll. Join orchardist Zeke Goodband to learn the history of heirloom fruits, orchard ecology, how grafting was used to create the orchard, scout for pests and discuss how they are managed. Orchard-related items available in the farm market. No charge for tour. 10 am. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. www.scottfarmvermont.com. *Also September 25 and October 2.*

HUBBARDTON. Battlefield Third Sunday—Military Road Hike. Meet at the battlefield visitor center. Site interpreter Carl Fuller leads a vigorous guided hike on the Hubbardton section of the 1776-77 military road to Mount Independence. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Vermont Archaeology Month program. 2-5 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/Hubbardton.

TUNBRIDGE. 149th Annual Tunbridge World's Fair. Old-fashioned agricultural fair in a rural setting. 4-H exhibits, midway rides, food booths, free shows in the grandstand. Livestock cavalcade, agricultural exhibits, antique tractor pulls, kiddie rides, crafts, live entertainment, ox and pony pulling, gymkhana, harness racing. Sheep dog trials, Civil War reenactors, Log Cabin Museum, Ed Larkin Contra Dancing, Antique Hill. Rt. 110, Tunbridge, VT. (802) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com.

WESTMINSTER WEST. Ride or Hike—Accessibility Day. Once-a-year opportunity for a ride or hike to remote Paul's Ledges for lunch. Free. Open to the public. The program's popularity and the need for four-wheel-drive vehicles make advance registrations a must for riders. Hikers do not need to pre-register. Bring water, lunch, and a sweater for chilly weather. Meet at Westminster West Church at 10:45 am or at the Athens Dome trailhead on Route 35, opposite Sleepy Valley Road at 11:00 a.m. For information contact leader Bev Major at (802) 387-5737. windmillhillpinnacle.org.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

HUNTINGTON. Wood Carving Workshop. Carve and paint a bittern with David Tuttle of the Green Mountain Woodcarvers. Wood blank, snacks, and coffee provided. Bring your lunch and tools and gloves if you have them. 9 am - 3 pm. Fee \$40. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. www.birdsofvermont.org.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

JOHNSON. Vermont Symphony Orchestra "Made in Vermont" Annual Statewide Tour. Program includes Mozart Copland, Zach Sheets, Borodin. Tickets \$25, children 6-17 \$10, under 5 free. 7:30 pm. Dibden Center, Johnson State College, 337 College Hill Rd. (800) 876-9293. www.vsc.org.

SPRINGFIELD. Steampunk Festival. New musical performers, workshops, vendors, radio-controlled teapot racing, Victorian Parlor games, telescope observatory tours, photo booth, afternoon tea, absinthe tasting, trader's bazaar, and much more. Hartness House Inn, 30 Orchard St. (802) 952-9170. www.springfieldvtsteampunkfest.com. *Also September 24 & 25.*

TINMOUTH. Celtic Band in Concert. Gypsy Reel to play original, tradition and some occasional modern surprises. 7:30 pm. The Old Firehouse, Mountain View Road just south of Rt. 140. Refreshment for sale. Suggested donation \$10. (802) 446-2498. www.tinmouthvt.org.

WOODSTOCK. Pentangle Light Garden. The village green has turned into an illuminated light garden with a series of sculptural garden plots designed by local artists and features creative uses of light. Plots lit 6:30-10:30 pm. Free. 21 The Green. (802) 457-3981. info@pentanglearts.org. www.pentanglearts.org. *Also September 24.*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

GRAFTON. 8th Annual Fairy House Festival—A Magical Fairy World. Follow a nature path sprinkled with charming fairy houses. Then return to The Nature Museum to create your own fairy dwelling out of natural materials. More than 40 handcrafted fairy houses will line the trail. Knotholes become front doors, seashells transform into bathtubs, acorn caps become dinnerware and twigs are woven into ladders. Hands-on crafts, face painting and other fun activities. 10 am - 4 pm. Benefits the museum's environmental education programs and natural history displays. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$5 children, and free for children 2 and under. The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org. *Also September 25.*

HUNTINGTON. Bird Monitoring Walk. Join fellow birders and would-be birders on the monthly monitoring walk the last Saturday of every month. Please bring binoculars. Free. 8-9 am. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. www.birdsofvermont.org.

MONTGOMERY CENTER. Early Autumn Hike. Forester Trail to the fire tower on Mt. Belvidere, then to Tillotson Camp on the Long Trail and descend by the Frank Post Trail to parking area. 8 am - 2 pm. 5-6 hours of moderate/intermediate hiking. Meet at Sylvester's Store in Montgomery Center at 8 am. Free, newcomers and non-members welcome. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club, Northern Frontier Section. For more details contact leader Ferdinand Lauffer at (802) 933-4252 or fluffier@gmail.com. greenmountainclub.org.

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Way Back Then

Sometimes when parents insist something must get done, children learn that this time there is no way out or any delay. In our family this applied to 'thank-you' letters that had to be written right after Christmas, birthdays or other special occasions when gifts are received—appreciated or not.

During such times mother

Thank-You's Written and Said

by Charles Sutton

would make my brother Fred and I sit down under her watchful eye, having given us high-quality note paper and fountain pens that worked. We had to say something nice about each gift, how we really wanted just that, and if it were money, how it would be spent on something badly needed or wanted. The letter would end with family news

or anecdotes, our choice. Mother would check what we wrote and usually these thank-you's passed her tests. We certainly never wanted to rewrite any one of them again.

Back then penmanship was taught in the schools so our writing all looked pretty good and legible—something that can't be said about my writing today—sometimes I can't even decipher what I write, myself.

Mother was a thoughtful gift-giver and in later years when her age and health made shopping in stores difficult she switched to sending checks of \$5 or \$10 to grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Thank-you notes from them were not always forthcoming, especially as the children grew older.

Perhaps \$5 or \$10 didn't mean much in their economy whereas my mother and father appreciated money, any amount, having been through the Great Depression.

I know mother was hurt and disappointed when a

thank-you letter never came, but she never stopped her generosity.

She was amused one day when a syndicated Ann Landers advice column had a solution to this problem. Ann said just don't sign your name to the check, and when it can't be cashed, you'll get a 'dear grandmother' letter back for sure.

Today thank-you notes are e-mailed to save time, postage, and the nuisance of having to hand-write something. Have you noticed also that today one hears the words 'thank-you' spoken less and less.

Perhaps it's part of the 'me-first' society where one doesn't have to bother with being polite.

One wonders when the words 'thank you' will be obsolete in our daily language and join the likes of the typewriter, penny-candy, and steam engine.

Even though I write fewer thank-you notes than when I was a child, I still enjoy giving and receiving the occasional heartfelt thank-you.



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September 25 DERBY LINE

September 29 LYNDONVILLE

September 24 VERGENNES

September 28 CASTLETON

September 30 BRATTLEBORO

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Vermont Country Calendar

NEW HAVEN. Forest Ecology Workshop. Woodlot rewilding and cropping will be presented by forest conservation experts to benefit private landowners with 25 or fewer acres. The workshop continues at Little Hogback Community Forest in Monkton with demonstrations and hands-on training. Learn about tools and techniques to enhance and conserve wildlife habitat, forest health, flood resilience and water quality. Basic forest ecology; crop tree release; sustainable maple sap production; forest crops; safe, eco-friendly tree felling and bucking; and optimal conservation practices for harvesting and removing timber. Preregistration requested. 8:30 am. New Haven Town Hall, 78 North St. (802) 899-9926. www.familyforests.org/public-education/events.

NEWBURY. 36th Annual Fall Festival. Music by Brian and the Rangers Band. Bake sale, cookie walk, fudge and candy table. Plant table, white elephant sale, raffle (an afghan), cracker barrel cookbooks, Rada knives. Hay rides, craft vendors, food stand, demonstrations, exhibits. Library book sale. A la carte BBQ, silent auction, and much more! 9 am – 3 pm. At the First Congregational Church of Newbury, 4915 Main St. South (Rt. 5). (802) 757-2261.

PERU. Annual Peru Fair. Pig roast, music and cloggers, Vermont artisans and crafts, clowns and magicians, wagon and pony rides, a delectable array of foods and scarecrow contest. 9 am – 4 pm. Parade at 9:45. Admission \$6, children under 6 free. Parking at Bromley Mountain with free shuttle service to fair. Proceeds benefit Peru scholarship fund. www.perufair.org.

SPRINGFIELD. Annual Steampunk Festival. New musical performers, workshops, vendors, radio-controlled teapot racing, Victorian Parlor games, telescope observatory tours, photo booth, afternoon tea, absinthe tasting, trader's bazaar, and much more. Hartness House Inn, 30 Orchard St. (802) 952-9170. www.springfieldvtsteampunkfest.com. Also September 25.

STOWE. Early Autumn Hike to Mount Mansfield. We'll head up the Butler Lodge Trail for a snack at Butler Lodge, then on to the Wampahoofus Trail to the Forehead and Chin with great views! Free, newcomers and non-members welcome. Sponsored by the Green Mountain Club, Burlington section. Difficult hike, moderate pace, 10 miles, 3000' elevation gain. For meeting time and place contact leader Phil Hazen at (802) 355-7181 or e-mail philhazen@comcast.net. www.greenmountainclub.org.

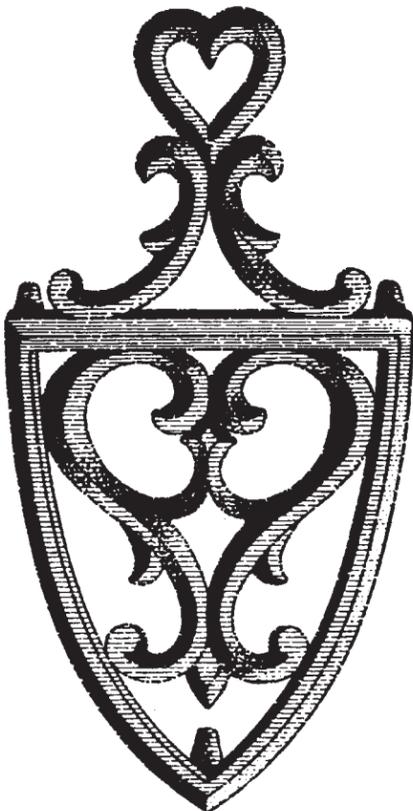
VERGENNES. Vermont Symphony Orchestra "Made in Vermont" Annual Statewide Tour. Program includes a Mozart piece he wrote for his sister, American composer Aaron Copland's brooding Quiet City, and works by Norwich-born composer Zach Sheets, and guest conductor Anthony Princiotti's own arrangement of Alexander Borodin's String Quartet No. 2, which provided much of the music for the Broadway musical *Kismet*. Tickets \$25, children 6-17 \$10, under 5 free. 7:30 p.m. Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. (800) 876-9293. www.vsc.org.

WEATHERSFIELD. Fall Festival. Includes town wide yard sales, farmers' market with silent auction to benefit 1879 Perkinsville schoolhouse, West Weathersfield Volunteer Fire Department's craft fair plus cooking hamburgers and hot dogs, and a book sale at Proctor Library. Bow Baptist Church will give tours of their historic building and the Dan Foster House will be open 9 am – 2 pm. Antique children's toys, farm tools, a hearse, antique sugaring tools and equipment, antique clothing and historic documents will be on display. Chicken BBQ at 10 am at Martin Memorial Hall. Live music compliments of EXIT 9 band and dinner at Weathersfield School off Route 5. Festival runs from 9 am – 8:30 pm at various town locations. Free admission, some things are charged for. (802) 674-2626. townmanager@weathersfield.org.

WINDSOR. Autumn Moon Festival. Nighttime street festival includes children's activities, Christa McAuliffe Shepard Discovery Center, Montshire Museum, VINS, fire dancers, American Precision Museum, touch-a-truck, magic and face painting. Vendors and live music from the Sayon Camara Drummers, Walter Gomex, About Gladys and the Road Trash Band. Fireworks at dusk. 4-9 pm downtown. (802) 674-5910. jenn1e2dan3@aol.com.

WOODSTOCK. Pentangle Light Garden. The village green has turned into an illuminated light garden with a series of sculptural garden plots designed by local artists and features creative uses of light. Plots lit 6:30-10:30 pm. Free. 21 The Green. (802) 457-3981. info@pentanglearts.org.

WOODSTOCK. Woodworking Festival. Vermont woodworking crafters will show their carvings, home accessories, jewelry, bedroom or dining furniture and toys and games. Their work is sponsored by Vermont Wood Manufacturers Association. In the barns, see farm work first-hand, including care of the Jersey herd, draft horses, sheep, oxen, and chickens. Explore the horse barn, calf nursery, milk room, and dairy barn. Enjoy outdoor activities at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park at their annual Forest Festival weekend. Activities include wagon rides, horse logging, hands-on wood crafting, sawmill demos, forest walks, and many educational programs. 10 am. Tickets \$0-\$14. Billings Farm and Museum, 5302 Old River Rd. (802) 747-7900. erin@gwriters.com. www.vermontwoodfestival.org. Also September 25.



WOODSTOCK. Old Time Fair. Old-fashioned games, hands-on crafts, live music, old-time photo booth (with vintage-style clothes) and a silent auction, all at old-time prices. Refreshments. Prices 25 cents to \$1. 1-4 pm at the Woodstock History Center, 26 Elm St. (802) 457-1822. education@woodstockhistorical.org. www.woodstockhistorical.org.

WOODSTOCK. 12th Annual National Museum Day Live. Billings Farm and Museum will participate in Smithsonian Magazine's program where over 1,400 museums across the United States open their doors free-of-charge to Smithsonian magazine readers and visitors to Smithsonian. The day reflects the spirit of the magazine and its free-admission policy at Smithsonian's Washington, DC-based properties. Admission to Billings Farm & Museum is free to all who download a Museum Day Live ticket available at Smithsonian.com/museumday. It will provide free admission for two. One ticket per household, per email address. For information and a list of participating cultural institutions, visit Smithsonian.com/museumday. Billings Farm and Museum is located one-half mile north of the village green on Rt 12. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

ADDISON. Lake Champlain Bridge Guided Walk. This Vermont Archaeology monthly event is about the history surrounding you as you walk across the Lake Champlain Bridge. Chimney Point site administrator Elsa Gilbertson and Crown Point site manager Michael Roets lead this guided roundtrip walk. Rain or shine, dress for the weather. Fee \$6. 1-3 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 Rt. 17W. (802) 272-2509. historicsites.vermont.gov/vt_history/archaeology

DERBY LINE. Vermont Symphony Orchestra "Made in Vermont" Annual Statewide Tour. Program includes a Mozart piece he wrote for his sister, American composer Aaron Copland's brooding Quiet City, and works by Norwich-born composer Zach Sheets, and guest conductor Anthony Princiotti's own arrangement of Alexander Borodin's String Quartet No. 2, which provided much of the music for the Broadway musical *Kismet*. Tickets \$25, children 6-17 \$10, under 5 free. Haskell Opera House, 93 Caswell Ave. (800) 876-9293. www.vsc.org.

DUMMERSTON. Orchard Stroll. Join orchardist Zeke Goodband to learn the history of heirloom fruits, orchard ecology, how grafting was used to create the orchard, scout for pests and discuss how they are managed. Orchard-related items available in the farm market. No charge for tour. 10 am. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. www.scottfrmvermont.com. Also October 2.

GRAFTON. 8th Annual Fairy House Festival—A Magical Fairy World. Follow a nature path sprinkled with charming fairy houses. Then return to The Nature Museum to create your own fairy dwelling out of natural materials. More than 40 handcrafted fairy houses will line the trail. Knotholes become front doors, seashells transform into bathtubs, acorn caps become dinnerware and twigs are woven into ladders. Hands-on crafts, face painting and other fun activities. 10 am – 4 pm. Benefits the museum's environmental education programs and natural history displays. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$5 children, and free for children 2 and under. The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. www.nature-museum.org.

MONTPELIER. Live Caterpillar Day. View hundreds of native New England caterpillars. Educators from The Caterpillar Lab, including founder Sam Jaffe, will tell you all about dozens of species you never knew might be in your own backyards. 11 am – 3 pm. North Branch Nature Center, 713 Elm St. (802) 229-6206. www.northbranchnaturecenter.org.

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—JAMES HAYFORD

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Vermont Country Calendar

ROCKINGHAM. Acoustic Concert: The Ghost of Paul Revere. Bluegrass, folk, and gospel for the Millennial Generation. General admission tickets: \$20. 6 pm. Rockingham Meeting House. (802) 463-4270. programming@rockinghamlibrary.org. rockinghamlibrary.org. www.ghostofpaulrevere.com.

SPRINGFIELD. Annual Steampunk Festival. New musical performers, workshops, vendors, radio-controlled teapot racing, Victorian Parlor games, telescope observatory tours, photo booth, afternoon tea, absinthe tasting, trader's bazaar, and much more. Hartness House Inn, 30 Orchard St. (802) 952-9170. www.springfieldvtsteampunkfest.com.

STRAFFORD. 19th Century Apple and Cheese Harvest Festival. Come celebrate Johnny Appleseed's birthday and bring the whole family. Meet live farm animals and make cider in an antique press. Taste heirloom apples, fine artisan Vermont Cheeses, ice cream and homemade apple pie. Play period games, hike the lookout trail and play Valley Quest. Face-painting, live music by Out on a Limb, and an apple pie contest with prizes. Admission \$5-\$10 includes gardens, exhibits, an icehouse, ice pond and tour of a historic home decorated with gingerbread designs. 11 am - 3 pm. Rain or shine. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Morrill Memorial Highway. (802) 765-4288. www.morrillhomestead.org.

WOODSTOCK. Woodworking Festival. Vermont woodworking crafters will show their carvings, home accessories, jewelry, bedroom or dining furniture and toys and games. Their work is sponsored by Vermont Wood Manufacturers Association. In the barns, see farm work first-hand, including care of the Jersey herd, draft horses, sheep, oxen, and chickens. Explore the horse barn, calf nursery, milk room, and dairy barn. Enjoy outdoor activities at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park across the road from Billings Farm at their annual Forest Festival weekend. Activities include wagon rides, horse logging, hands-on wood crafting, sawmill demos, forest walks, and many educational programs. 10 am. Tickets \$0-\$14. Billings Farm and Museum, 5302 Old River Rd. (802) 747-7900. erin@gwriters.com. www.vermontwoodfestival.org.

WOODSTOCK. Vermont Bach Ensemble Debut Concert. Lisa Willems directs the Vermont Bach Ensemble featuring soloists Lubbert Gnodde, organ, and Hai-Ting Chinn, alto with a period instrument music ensemble. Featuring works of Bach, Telemann and Vivaldi. Donation at the door accepted. 4-6 pm. Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church, 7 South St. Free admission. (802) 299-5148. lisawillems@gmail.com.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

CASTLETON. Vermont Symphony Orchestra "Made in Vermont" Annual Statewide Tour. Program includes Mozart Copland, Zach Sheets, Borodin. Tickets \$25, children 6-17 \$10, under 5 free. 7:30 pm. Castleton State College Fine Arts Center, 62 Alumni Drive. (800) 876-9293. www.vsc.org.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

LYNDONVILLE. Vermont Symphony Orchestra "Made in Vermont" Annual Statewide Tour. Program includes Mozart Copland, Zach Sheets, Borodin. Tickets \$25, children 6-17 \$10, under 5 free. 7:30 pm. Alexander Twilight Theater, 1001 College Rd. (800) 876-9293. www.vsc.org.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

BRATTLEBORO. Vermont Symphony Orchestra "Made in Vermont" Annual Statewide Tour. Program includes Mozart Copland, Zach Sheets, Borodin. Tickets \$25, children 6-17 \$10, under 5 free. 7:30 pm. Latches Theater, 50 Main St. (800) 876-9293. www.vsc.org.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2016

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Exhibits of Native American, French Colonial, and early American history of the area incorporate archaeological findings from the Lake Champlain Bridge project. Learn how to use the atlatl (ancient spear thrower). Children's French Colonial dress-up basket. Admission \$5, children 14 and under free. Open Wednesday through Sunday and Monday holidays, 9:30 am - 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 Rt. 17W. through October 10.

BENNINGTON. The Bennington Battle Monument. A brand new elevator takes visitors to the observation floor for a spectacular view of three states. \$5 adult admission, \$1 for youth, five and under free. The Monument and gift shop are open seven days a week from 9 am - 5 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, 15 Monument Circle. (802) 447-0550. marylou.chicote@vermont.gov. historicites.vermont.gov.

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. At Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, One College St. (877) 324-6385. info@echovermont.org. www.echovermont.org.

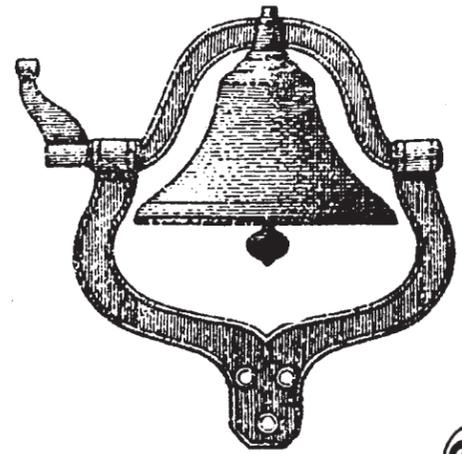
CORNISH, NH. Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. Open daily 9 am - 4:30 pm. Admission \$7, children 16 free. Federal Golden Age Passports are honored. Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, 139 Saint-Gaudens Rd. www.nps.gov/saga. Through October 31.

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

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Children's colonial dress-up basket. Bring your flag to be raised over the Hubbardton Battlefield and receive a certificate. Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under are free. Open 9:30 am - 5 pm Thurs through Sun, and Monday holidays. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/Hubbardton. Thru October 10.

HUNTINGTON. Sundays for Fledglings. Kids discover birds from feathers to flying, from art to zoology and develop skills in observation, research, and just goofing around. Theme for September: Changes for the Birds. Earn a Junior Birder Badge! Sundays 2-3 pm. Free, donations welcome. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. www.birdsofvermont.org. September 4, 11, 18 & 25.

LUDLOW. Fletcher Farms School for the Arts and Crafts. Vermont's oldest residential arts and crafts school. Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts, 611 Rt. 103 South. (802) 228-8770. info@fletcherfarm.org. fletcherfarm.org.



Vermont Symphony Orchestra Annual Made in Vermont Statewide Tour

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra is hitting the road on September 23rd continuing through September 30th for its Annual Made in Vermont statewide tour. The tour begins just in time for Vermont's famous foliage to blanket the state in a stunning sea of reds, oranges, and yellows.

This year, we are visiting Vermont's state colleges, the opera houses in Vergennes and Derby Line, and we are thrilled to announce that we have added a new stop on our tour for the vibrant arts community in Brattleboro at the Latchis Theatre! This year's program opens with a piece Mozart wrote for his sister, then turns to American composer Aaron Copland's brooding Quiet City, featuring two of our own soloists in the unusual pairing of solo trumpet and solo English horn. This year's commission, in clarion fields, comes from Norwich-born composer Zach Sheets. We are excited to bring his piece to life and share it with Vermonters for the first time! The program concludes with principal guest conductor Anthony Princiotti's own arrangement of Alexander Borodin's String Quartet No. 2, which provided much of the music for the Broadway musical Kismet. The tour features Anthony Princiotti, conductor; Mark Emery, trumpet; and Ann Greenawalt, English horn.

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra received grant funding in support of the Made in Vermont statewide tour from the Vermont Arts Council and is co-sponsored by Vermont Public Radio, Vermont PBS, and Trapp Lager. Individual concert support is provided by Passumpsic Financial Advisors, Community National Bank, Heritage Family Credit Union, Lyndon Institute, Trust Company of Vermont, and Hubbardton Forge.

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra is the only statewide orchestra providing live musical experiences for listeners in Vermont. It is a state-assisted non-profit institution founded in 1935.

Made in Vermont Statewide Tour Schedule

Friday, September 23, 7:30 p.m. Dibden Center, Johnson State College, Johnson, VT.

Saturday, September 24, 7:30 p.m. Vergennes Opera House, Vergennes, VT.

Sunday, September 25, 4 p.m. Haskell Opera House, Derby Line, VT.

Monday, September 26, 7 p.m. Castleton State College Fine Arts Center, Castleton, VT.

Thursday, September 29, 7:30 p.m. Alexander Twilight Theater, Lyndon State College, Lyndonville, VT.

Friday, September 30, 7:30 p.m. Latchis Theatre, Brattleboro, VT.

Tickets are available at the Flynn Regional Box Office, flynnbox.org; adults \$25; children 6-17 \$10; students 5 and under free. Go to vso.org for ticket outlet information. or call the VSO at (800) 876-9293 x 10.

For more information call the Vermont Symphony Orchestra at (802) 864-5741. Or visit www.vso.org.

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Vermont Country Calendar



MONTPELIER. Performance: *The Syringa Tree*. Enjoy a full production with Courtney Wood in a tour-de-force with one actor playing all 24 characters. A true-life story of an abiding love between two families, one black, one white, and the two children born into their shared household in early 1960's South Africa, told through the eyes of six-year-old Elizabeth. Tickets: September 15 preview \$15; Friday and Saturday evenings \$30; Thursdays and Sundays \$25. 7:30 pm. Lost National Theater, City Hall Arts Center, 39 Main St. (802) 229-0492. www.lostnationtheater.org. *September 15-25.*

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

ORWELL. Mount Independence State Historic Site. Celebrating "Strong Ground," the 240th anniversary of the start of American construction of the Revolutionary War's Mount Independence and the military road to Hubbardton and Rutland, the 50th anniversary of the trail system, and the 25th anniversary of the Mount Independence Coalition. Special Exhibit: "Independence Must Be Won: The Art of Ellen Viereck." Admission \$5 for adults, free for children under 15. Open daily, 9:30 - 5:30. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 10.*

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

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

PLYMOUTH NOTCH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Adults \$9, children 6 to 14 \$2, under 6 free. Family pass \$25. 9:30 am - 5 pm daily. 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 16.*

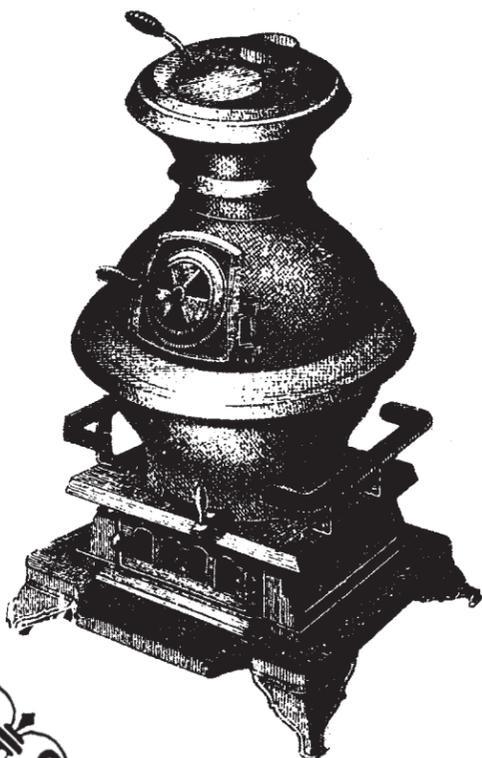
QUECHEE. Raptors Up Close. Explore the fascinating lives of raptors including how hundreds of birds are rehabilitated each year, how they are trained, and the specialties of raptor groups like falcons and owls. 11 am - 1:30 pm daily. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 6565 Woodstock Rd. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. www.vinsweb.org.

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

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

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. Vermont Backroad Tours. Fee. Book in advance. (802) 446-3131. vtbackroadtours.com. www.vtbackroadtours.com.



SHELBURNE. Historic Barn Tour. Explore two magnificent barns (Breeding Barn & Old Dairy Barn) — their past, present, and future. 1 1/4 hours. Admission plus \$3 fee: \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, \$5 children 3-17, free to children ages 2 and under. 2:30-4:15 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. www.shelburnefarms.org. *Every Monday through October 10.*

SHELBURNE. House & Formal Gardens Tour at the Inn at Shelburne Farms. Join our knowledgeable guide for an in-depth tour of the Inn and its formal gardens followed by self-service afternoon tea featuring sweets and savories made by the inn's pastry chef. Fee \$18, pre-registration required. 2:30-4 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8442. www.shelburnefarms.org. *Every Tuesday and Thursday through October 13.*

SPRINGFIELD. Eureka Schoolhouse. Open weekends 10 am - 4 pm. Free admission, donations appreciated. Eureka Schoolhouse State Historic Site, 470 Charlestown Rd. (802) 828-3051. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 10.*

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

STRAFFORD. Senator Justin Morrill Homestead and Education Center. Adults \$6, children 14 and under free. Open Wednesday-Sunday and Monday holidays 11 am - 5 pm. Justin Morrill Homestead, 214 Morrill Memorial Hwy. (802) 765-4484. director@morrillhomestead.org. www.morrillhomestead.org. *Through October 10.*

VERGENNES. Underwater Historic Preserves. Five shipwrecks in Lake Champlain are marked and open for scuba divers. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. off Rt. 22A. (802) 475-2022. info@lcm.org. www.lcm.org. *Through late October.*

VERGENNES. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Step aboard replica 1776 gunboat Philadelphia II. Explore some of the lake's 300+ historic shipwrecks in our Nautical Archaeology Center. Key to Liberty exhibit. See the replica 1862 schooner Lois McClure and our collection of canoes, kayaks, and wooden boats on display in the new Hazelett Watercraft Center. Take a boat cruise on Lake Champlain. Adults \$12, seniors \$11, youth 6-17 \$8, children 5 & under free. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. off Rt. 22A. (802) 475-2022. lcm.org. *Through late October.*

WEYBRIDGE. UVM Morgan Horse Farm. The UVM "government" line of Morgan Horse is considered one of the best in the world. Visit the grounds, see the horses. The farm's gift shop offers many UVM Morgan and horse related gift items. Small admission fee. 9 am - 4 pm. UVM Morgan Horse Farm, 74 Battell Dr., two miles from Middlebury. (802) 388-2011. uvm.morgans@uvm.edu. www.uvm.edu/morgan. *Through October 31.*

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@vermontherbal.com. On Facebook and Twitter. www.vermontherbal.com.

WINDSOR. Old Constitution House. Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under free. Open weekends and Monday holidays 11 am - 5 pm. The Old Constitution House is located on Main Street at the northern end of the village on Rt. 5, between exits 8 and 9 on I-91. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 N. Main St. (802) 672-3773. William.jenny@vermont.gov. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 10.*

WINDSOR. Come and explore our gardens. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.ciderhillgardens.com. www.garymilek.com.

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

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

BARRE. 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. www.studioplacarts.com.

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

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. dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Museums, Exhibits, and Galleries, continued)

BENNINGTON. Bennington Center for the Arts. Permanent collections, theater productions, workshops. 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. www.thebennington.org.

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

BRANDON. Compass Music and Arts Center. Arts businesses and studios, workshops & classes, exhibits, concerts, and community events. A gift shop features art and music related books, collectibles, and the music of the classical recording company, Divine Art Records. Onsite café. Open 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.cmacvt.org.

BRANDON. Unique Art Exhibit—The Creative World of Stephanie Stouffer. See many of the Belmont, VT artist's internationally known images that appear on greeting cards, mugs, tapestries, pillows and rugs. Stouffer is known for her vivid imagination, precision, and exceptional use of color which creates work sometimes described as 'folk art with a contemporary flair'. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Dr. (802) 247-4295. cmacvt.org. *September 2 – October 29.*

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center. Open daily 11-5, closed Tues. Admission \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, \$4 students, free for youth 18 and under. 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

BURLINGTON. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. Exhibits, workshops, programs, café, gift shop, story hour. Adults \$9.50, \$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. echovermont.org.

BURLINGTON. Fleming Museum of Art. More than 20,000 objects that span the history of civilization, from early Mesopotamia through contemporary America. Admission: adults \$5, family \$10, students and seniors \$3, children 6 and under free. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 am – 4 pm, Wednesday 10 am – 7 pm, Saturday-Sunday noon – 4 pm. Fleming Museum of Art, 61 Colchester Ave. (802) 656-0750. fleming@uvm.edu. www.flemingmuseum.org.

CHESTER. 103 Artisans Marketplace. Hand crafted gifts, decorative accessories, small batch Chocolates and Vermont Maple products. Greenleaf Café now open. Owned by artists Elise & Payne Junker. Exclusive showroom of Junker Studio metalwork. Open every day 10 am – 5 pm, closed Tuesday. Located at 7 Pineview Dr. and Rt. 103, south of town—look for the life-size moose! (802) 875-7400. www.103artisansmarketplace.com.

CORNISH, NH. Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. Discover the home, studios and gardens of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, one of America's greatest sculptors. Open daily 9 am – 4:30 pm. Admission \$7, children 16 free. Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, 139 Saint-Gardens Rd. www.nps.gov/saga. *Through October 31.*

FERRISBURGH. Rokeby. From 1793 to 1961, Rokeby was home to four generations of Robinsons — a remarkable family of Quakers, farmers, abolitionists, artists, and authors. Today, the Robinson family's home is a National Historic Landmark, designated for its exceptional Underground Railroad history. Enjoy house tours, outbuildings and hiking trails. Open daily however the house may be seen by guided tour only, with tours at 11 am and 2 pm on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Admission \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$8 students, children younger than 5 are free. Admission is free on Tuesday afternoons from 1 to 5 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. rokeby@comcast.net. www.rokeby.org. *Through late October.*

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Theater & Museum. One of the oldest, nonprofit, self-supporting theatrical companies in the country. The Bread and Puppet Museum is a massive accumulation of the puppets, masks, paintings and graphics of the Bread and Puppet Theater, housed in a 150-year-old barn in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, 25 miles south of the Canadian border. It is one of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets and masks in the world. Performances and tours available. Bread & Puppet Theater & Museum, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadpup@together.net. www.breadandpuppet.org.

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. Admission: adult \$7, senior \$6, child 3-17 \$3.50. Open daily 10 am – 4 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. birdsofvermont.org. *May 1 through October 31.*

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

MANCHESTER. 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. 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.

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. www.vermontmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Middlebury College Museum of Art. Free. Tuesday through Friday 10 am–5 pm, Saturday and Sunday 12–5 pm, closed Mondays. 72 Porter Field Rd. (802) 443-3168. museum.middlebury.edu.

MIDDLEBURY. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont. Exhibit: Pedaling Through History—150 Years of the Bicycle. The Glenn Eames Collection marks the 150th anniversary of the first pedal bicycle patent in the United States, *through October 16.* The oldest chartered community history museum in the United States, welcoming visitors since 1882. Exhibits, research center, and museum shop. Adults \$5, youth 6-18 \$3, senior \$4.50, family \$12, under 6 free. Open Tues-Sat 10 am to 5 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, One Park St. (802) 388-2117. henrysheldonmuseum.org.

Free Calendar Listings

Send us your community or church events & we'll list them free of charge in our calendar.

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Vermont Country Calendar

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. www.vermontfolklifecenter.org.

MIDDLEBURY. The National Museum of the Morgan Horse. New Exhibit featuring Jeanne Mellin Herrick's original paintings, drawings, works of art and artifacts relating to the history of the Morgan horse breed, *through December*. 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. Free admission, donations accepted. Open Thursday & Friday 1-5 pm, Saturday 10 am – 5 pm. The National Museum of the Morgan Horse, 34 Main St. (802) 388-1639. www.morganhorse.com/museum.

MONTPELIER. Vermont History Museum & Bookstore. One admission fee gives access to both the Vermont History Museum and the Vermont Heritage Galleries. 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. www.vermonthistory.org.

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

PROCTOR. Vermont Marble Museum and Marble Gift Shop. Admission. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. Vermont Marble Museum, 52 Main St. (800) 427-1396. www.vermontmarblemuseum.org. *May 21 – October 31, 2016.*

QUECHEE. Exhibit: Birds are Dinosaurs. Discover the Evolution of Dinosaurs to Birds Through Time. Through skeletons, life-sized replicas and hands-on activities, you will discover the adaptations acquired through 250 million years to make birds what they are. 10 am – 4 pm daily. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 6565 Woodstock Rd. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. www.vinsweb.org.

READING. Art Exhibit. "Landscapes after Ruskin: Redefining the Sublime" which includes paintings, photographs and sculptures selected by Joel Sternfeld from the Hall Collection. Admission is free. Open weekends and Wednesdays by appointment. Also open August 26 and September 30 from 5-8 pm for a tour at your own pace and without a guide. Hall Art Foundation, 551 VT Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. www.hallartfoundation.org. *Through November 27.*

ROCHESTER. BigTown Gallery. Exhibits, readings, events. Gallery hours: Wed-Fri 10-5, Sat 12-5, Sun-Tues by appointment. 99 N. Main St. (802) 767-9670. info@bigtowngallery.com. bigtowngallery.com.

RUTLAND. Chaffee Downtown Art Center. Exhibits, workshops, classes. Open Tuesday-Friday 12-6 pm, and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm. Chaffee Downtown Gallery, 75 Merchants Row. (802) 775-0062. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. 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. The River Artisans Cooperative, in the center of Saxtons River on Main Street, across from the Saxtons River Inn, 26B Main St. (802) 869-2099. 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.

SHELburne. Shelburne Museum. Renowned for its collection of American folk art and quilts. Decorative arts, design, decoys, and carriages. French Impressionist paintings as well as over 400 18th-20th century American works. Over 20 gardens. Historic houses and community buildings. Adults \$24, ages 5-17 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 5 pm daily. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. shelburnemuseum.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. www.shorehambellmuseum.com.

SPRINGFIELD. Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center featuring fine art and hand-crafted gifts. Exhibits, classes, workshops. Tues-Sat 11 am – 5 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org.

SPRINGFIELD. Open Wall Show: "Kaleidoscope of Color." Beautiful photographs, paintings, sculpture, pen and ink, linen bowls, jewelry, mixed media and wood art. A non-juried show for artists living in a 30 mile radius of Springfield. The works are on display along with wooden toys for the younger set. Open 11 am – 5 pm, Tuesday-Saturday. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org. *Through October 27.*

STOWE. 25th Annual "Exposed"—2015 Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition. 21 monumental sculptures and installations from a mix of emerging local to internationally recognized artists. Self-guided cellphone audio tours; an extensive website; walkabout tours; a full color catalogue with images and descriptions; and a comprehensive map. Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St. (802) 253-8358. helenday.com. *Through October 15.*

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

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

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

WINDSOR. American Precision Museum. The Museum preserves the heritage of the mechanical arts, celebrates the ingenuity of our mechanical forebears, and explores the effects of their work on our everyday lives. The American Precision Museum, housed in the original Robbins & Lawrence Armory, now holds the largest collection of historically significant machine tools in the nation. Admission: adults \$8.50, students \$5, children under 6 free, families \$20. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. American Precision Museum, 196 Main St. (802) 674-5781. www.americamprecision.org.

WOODSTOCK. ArtisTree Community Art Center. Exhibits, classes, music, special events. Tues 11 am – 8 pm, Wed-Sat 11 am – 4 pm. Mount Tom Building, 1206 Rt. 12. (802) 457-3500. 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. Adults \$14, age 62 & up \$13, children ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm thru Oct. 31. Open weekends Nov. through Feb. and Christmas and vacation weeks, 10 am – 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. billingsfarm.org.

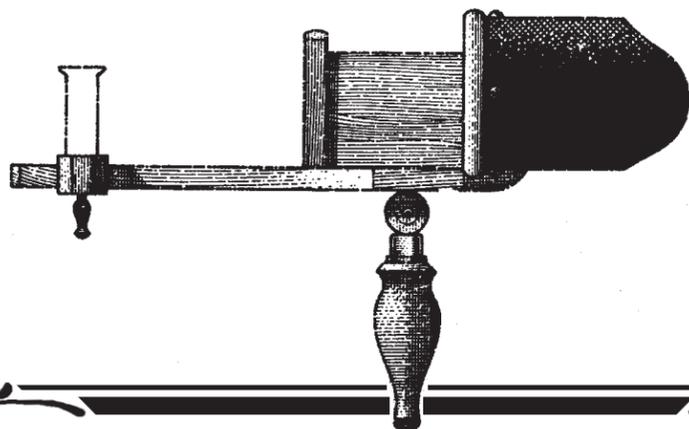
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BRATTLEBORO. Fair Winds Farm Wagon Rides. Half-hour reserved horse-drawn rides through fields and woods. Adults \$12, kids 3-12 \$8, minimum \$75, additional after 5 pm. Visit our farm store. Fair Winds Farm is a "Diversified, Horse Powered, Vermont Family Farm" at 511 Upper Dummerston Rd., off Rt. 30. (802) 254-9067. fairwinds@fairwindsfarm.org. www.fairwindsfarm.org.

LONDONDERRY. Wagon Rides at Taylor Farm. On the hour on the weekends. Rides last 45 minutes. Come early and pack up a picnic basket of goodies from our farm store. Our wagons each hold up to 10 adults. \$20 for everyone over age 7, \$10 for ages 7-3, under 2 free; private rides \$150 for 1-5 people, \$200 for 6-10 people. Mid-week private rides on request with advance notice. Taylor Farm, 825 Rt. 11. By reservation only, call (802) 824-5690. www.taylorfarmvermont.com.

PUTNEY. Green Mountain Orchards. Horse-drawn wagon rides year-round by reservation. Look for signs in Putney Village. 130 West Hill Rd. (802) 387-5851. www.greenmtorchards.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.



The Bethel Community Forward Festival October 1st

The Town of Bethel, Vermont is gearing up for a fabulous Community Forward Festival this Fall Saturday October 1st, 2016.

The Festival will be on the Common again this year next to the White Church. It's worth the trip to Bethel to see the World's Slowest Parade of Pumpkin People along the sidewalks and lawns. Business owners, vendors on the Common, the town crew, home-owners, church and civic groups create Pumpkin People to represent their business or interests.

There will be entertainment and vendors including the Arts bus with children's crafts, musical entertainment, art and a real live Magic show featuring Magic by George. The Fire Department will feature its chicken BBQ and there will be other food. Civic organizations will be on hand including Bethel Historical Society, Bethel Revitalization Initiative, the Conservation Commission, C plus and the Red Cross Shelter.

The Conservation Commission made up of citizens

who have an interest in preserving and protecting our local natural resources, will be sharing information about creating walking trails in the Branliere Forest, one of Bethel's three town forests.

This year's Community Forward Festival and the Town of Bethel have another reason to celebrate its great community. The Bethel Revitalization Initiative has received a grant through the AARP Vermont Project and Team Better block. This event will be taking place the same weekend as the Forward Festival.

In the evening on Saturday there will be a Soup-a-thon at the White Church and a Penny Sale at the High School.

Bethel was the first town created by the Independent Republic of Vermont in 1779. The White River flows through the Town of Bethel and the Third Branch enters near the center of town. The town is also known for its Bethel White Granite that has been used in a wide range of Historical Buildings and National Landmarks in the US and around the world.

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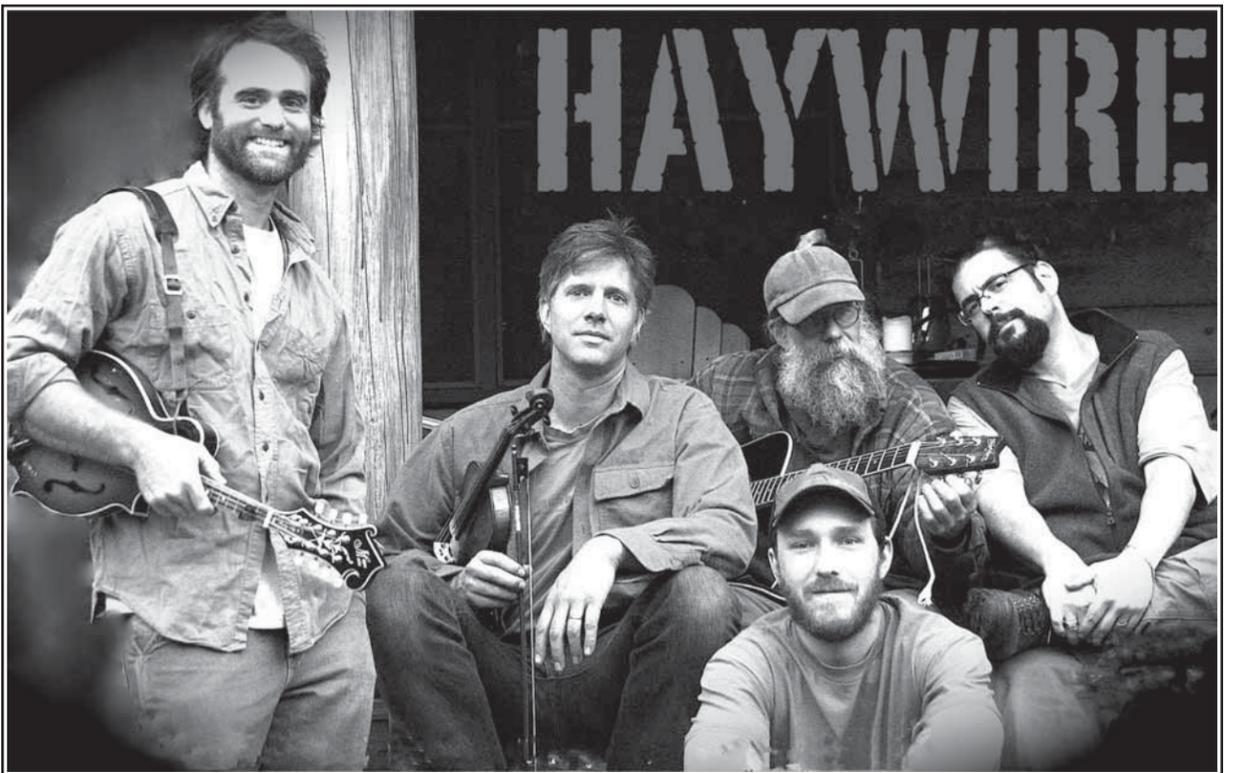
The Upper Gallery At Chandler Center for the Arts

The Chandler Center for the Arts in Randolph, VT is excited to announce a new interactive music and entertainment series in its Upper Gallery beginning in September, 2016.

The series, billed as the 'Live and Upstairs' Series 2016-2017, will present affordable interactive performances, workshops and community events featuring regional musicians, poets, storytellers, comedians and more. The Upper Gallery at Chandler—also known as the Esther Mesh Room—has undergone extensive renovations in recent years and become home to performers requiring a more intimate venue. The series begins in September 2016 and will run through May 2017.

The first event, to be held on September 24th, brings local favorite Haywire to the Upper Gallery, with an interactive jam session to follow. Audience members are encouraged to bring instruments and join in the fun!

Haywire, a high-energy five-piece string band formed in 2008, is known in the area for providing a rollicking good time. They will be playing a set of well-known standards and more obscure covers from the American songbook, as well as original songs and instrumental numbers. Eric Graham (electric bass), Rudi Ruddell (guitar, harmonica, percussion), Peter O'Connor (mandolin), Andy Mueller (fiddle, mandolin), and Adam Smith (guitar) compose the backbone for lyrical improvisations, catchy hooks, tight vocal harmonies, and an infectious groove. After their set, Haywire will



Haywire will be performing at Chandler Music Hall in Randolph, VT on September 24th.

be offering a rare opportunity to jam with band members, so interested audience members are encouraged to bring an instrument if they'd like to participate. The evening begins at 7 p.m., and tickets are \$12.

"The Haywire event is emblematic of the whole 'Live and Upstairs Series' for Chandler in 2016-17", said Trautz. "Showcasing great local talent and fostering collaboration among the many arts-oriented people in the area has been a key goal of Chandler for many years. We are very much looking forward to kicking things off on September 24th with Haywire."

Other events in the 'Live and Upstairs' Series include the Northeast Heritage Music Camp Soiree, 'Kamikaze Comedy' Improv Theater, Cajun Night, Extempo Storytelling, the DuPont Brothers, and more. These events round out a stellar

calendar on the Main Stage boasting such nationally-known acts such as Iris Dement, Bela Fleck & Abigail Washburn, Greg Brown, Anais Mitchell, Bill McKibben & Amy Goodman, and many others.

Chandler Center for the Arts is located at 71-73 Main St., Randolph, VT. Chandler's Main Hall and galleries are handicapped accessible. Box office hours: 12-5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1.5 hours before the show on the day of a performance. For tickets call (802) 728-6464. For information call (802) 728-9878. chandler-arts.org.



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Brandon, VT

Leading International Violinist to Play in Brandon

Peter Sheppard Skærved is the only living violinist to have performed on the violins of Niccolò Paganini, Joseph Joachim and G B Viotti. He is the dedicatee of over 400 works for violin, by composers including Hans Werner Henze, Poul Ruders, David Matthews, Judith Weir and George Rochberg. In a rare not-to-be-missed appearance, the highly acclaimed violinist will be performing at the Compass Music and Arts Center in Brandon. The concert is to benefit the arts center and will be held on Sunday, September 11 at 3:00 p.m.

This concert will blend Sheppard Skærved's disparate interests of modern compositions with his love of historic violins and early music. He explains, "As an artist my work constantly celebrates the continuum between past and present. This concert celebrates the connections, flows, counterpoints, consonances and dissonances which vibrate, when an ancient violin is played, between the illusions of 'now' and 'then'."

Some of the works to be performed include Biagio Marini's 'Capriccio', which Sheppard Skærved says creates a dialogue with 'Nikosia Caprices', written by Evis Sammouris. The philosopher/composer Jean-Jacques Rousseau's celebrated hymn to Nature, 'Air on Three Notes', Heinrich Biber's 'Mystery Sonata 16', which is an epochal walking piece, depicting fragile humanity strolling hand in hand with an angel, and 'Slivers', a piece made from the 'slivers' of a Mozart violin sonata by Paul Pellay, are also included, along with several others.

Sheppard Skærved is in the midst of creating a series of albums featuring baroque works played on many of the world's most valuable, historic and revered instruments. The series, which may reach as high as ten volumes, is being produced by the Divine Art Recordings Group, headquartered in the Compass Music and Arts Center. Sheppard Skærved is a prolific recording artist, having released over 60 other critically acclaimed recordings—both as soloist and with the Kreuzer Quartet and the ensemble Longbow – many of them for labels of the Divine Art Recordings Group. These include cycles of sonatas by Tartini, Telemann and Beethoven, and many of the works which have been written for him, resulting in a Grammy nomination and awards from BBC Music Magazine.

He is the only musician to have curated an exhibition at



Violinist Peter Sheppard Skærved is coming to Brandon, VT.

the National Portrait Gallery, London and has made projects for the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, London and galleries worldwide. Later this year, he will be launching a new series of concerts and talks at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. He is married to the Danish writer and poet, Malene Skærved, and is the Viotti Lecturer at the Royal Academy of Music, London, where he was elected Fellow in 2013. For recordings, films, writing and more info, go to www.peter-sheppard-skaerved.com.

Tickets are \$30 and can be reserved by calling (802) 247-4295 or emailing info@cmacvt.org.

The Compass Music and Arts Center is located in Park Village at 333 Jones Dr. Brandon VT, 05733 (Park Village used to be the Brandon Training School, located 1.5 miles north of downtown Brandon off of Arnold District Rd.). www.cmacvt.org.

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Iris DeMent.

Randolph, VT

Iris DeMent Comes to Chandler Music Hall September 10th

Iris DeMent will be in concert at Chandler Center for the Arts in Randolph, VT in a concert on September 10th at 7:30 p.m.

Singing with beautiful strength and conviction, DeMent was inspired to write her first song "Our Town" by a drive through a boarded-up Midwest town, at the age of 25. The song lyrics came to her "exactly as it is now", without need for re-writing, and she realized that songwriting was her calling.

DeMent was born in Arkansas, the youngest of fourteen children. She grew up singing country and gospel music with her family. Moving to Los Angeles as a child, she pursued music and songwriting through her early twenties.

DeMent's musical style straddles country and folk music genres, and she accompanies herself on piano and guitar. She comes to Chandler with her trio at this rare Vermont appearance.

Her first album, "Infamous Angel", was released in 1992 on the Rounder-Philo label. Her music has been featured in well-known movies and she has sung duets with Steve

Earle, John Prine, Merle Haggard and Emmylou Harris. She has made frequent appearances on A Prairie Home Companion.

Her most recent album, "The Trackless Woods", is of most interest—a record based on the poetry of Anna Akhmatova. "I think if you listen to her poems, you can hear all that sorrow and that burden in them," says DeMent, "but there's always a lightness, a transcendence somehow, a sense of victory over all that inhumanity that she was living with every day of her life." This is her sixth studio album.

DeMent is married to singer-songwriter Greg Brown, who will be on Chandler's Main Stage October 28th.

Tickets are \$24 advance, \$26 day of, \$35 front two rows, \$10 students, kids 5 and under free. Call the Chandler box office from noon and 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, at (802) 728-6464 or buy online at www.chandler-arts.org. Chandler Center for the Arts is at 71-73 Main St., Randolph VT.

For more about Iris DeMent visit irisdement.com.



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A Man and His Doodlebug

by Burr Morse

As I get older, material things that used to seem important suddenly disappear from my list of wants—things like that antique John Deere B tractor or a '66 Mustang convertible. Nope, in my dotage, those items would only be barn-fillers or even worse, out rusting in nature's great warehouse. The one thing, though, that I've never given up wanting is a doodlebug, a humble home-made tractor birthed from a junk yard and an arc welder. Last summer on a routine trip to my bank, I suddenly became proud owner of one.

My friend Chuck Haines was at the bank and we struck up a conversation. Chuck, a Ford man, happened to let it out that he would be selling his doodlebug. He wasn't pushing but the more he described it, "Model A engine, four wheel drive, power steering, built by Milford Leonard", I suddenly knew I had to have it. Milford Leonard lived alone over in

"I've never given up wanting a doodlebug, a humble home-made tractor birthed from a junkyard..."

Bear Swamp, just him and a handful of farm critters. He had no electricity but managed with a good uphill spring and a gas-powered arc welder that also served as a generator. The most important thing I can say about Milford, who passed away over twenty years ago, is that he was a mechanical genius and I knew that owning his doodlebug would fulfill more than my narrowing wish list...it would preserve part of history.

I had bought the machine sight unseen and the day I went over to claim my prize, second thoughts rose as high as black smoke from a spent engine. I drove into Chuck's yard and



Burr Morse on his doodlebug in the woods in Montpelier, VT.

there under the shade of some conifer trees, the thing sat looking like a cross between a poor attempt at metal sculpture and an accumulation of clutter. It certainly did not resemble anything that I would be driving home! Chuck came out of his house with the receipt for the check I had sent in the mail. As I scanned it, the words "as is" glared at me. "I'll get it out of this place and onto the driveway" he said. He reached for a pair of new-looking vise grips that served as a handle for the gas shut off. "I guess I'll throw in the vise grips" he said with a wink as he opened the shut off valve. He climbed up onto it settling into an ancient cast iron tractor seat, pulled the choke lever, and pushed a starter button. Amazingly it sprang to life, sputtering raggedly like a healthy Model A does. He scrunched it into "grandpa gear" and it crept uphill from where it had sat for God knows how long.

Once up onto the solid driveway, Chuck and I traded

places. I reached for the rusted shift lever, put it into a higher road gear and, with a wave, headed toward home. All the folks back at Morse Farm were surprised and excited for me when I drove into the yard.

Last winter I bought a small off-road trailer for my doodlebug, figuring this old man can have some fun with an ancient machine hauling and workin' up a woodpile. I often think back to that chance meeting with Chuck Haines, the 'Ford' fluent friend who helped make a routine trip to the bank profitable in ways that really matter.

Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks is located at 1168 County Rd., Montpelier, VT. It is open year-round with Vermont products, gifts, maple, and pasture-raised local beef and bacon. Order Cabot cheddar cheese and Maple products and much more at (800) 242-2740 or www.morsefarm.com.

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Newbury, VT

First Congregational Church Hosts Annual Fall Festival

The First Congregational Church of Newbury, Vermont will be the setting for the 36th Annual Fall Festival. We will have a day full of festivities planned for Saturday, September 24th, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This year we will have Brian and the Rangers Band, a bake sale, cookie walk, fudge and candy table, plant table, white elephant sale, raffle (an afghan), cracker barrel cookbooks, Rada knives, hay rides, craft vendors, food stand, demonstrations, exhibits, library books, and

much more! The ever popular Silent Auction will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with pick-up at 3 p.m.

An a la-carte luncheon will be served at the Sugar House featuring Craig Cookman and his delicious BBQ country-style pork ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, baked beans, chili, beverages, dessert, and free Ben & Jerry's ice cream!

The Women's Fellowship will display a queen-size afghan. Tickets will be on sale.

The First Congregational Church of Newbury is

the second oldest church in Vermont. The original church building was built in 1856. Across the street, in the former parsonage, is the Mustard Seed Thrift Shop where used clothing, household items, books, and toys are sold year-around to help support the church and local charities. The Mustard Seed is open on Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Some of this year's Silent Auction offerings are: chess game puzzle, tote bag, hand crocheted lap robe, John Deere toys, new twin bedspread, welcome slate, Bradford Academr plate 1820-1971, Baldwin Library t-shirt, magazine basket, antique mirror, cookbooks, marble cheese bowl, DVD player, antique flyer sled,

country stand, padded sport chair, child's hand knitted sweater, gift certificates to local stores and much more.

We will be using some of the proceeds from the Fall Festival for the Steeple Restoration Fund as well as other projects that need attention.

Please plan to join us at the First Congregational Church on September 24th.

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The Old-Fashioned Garden

by John Russell Hayes, 1866-1945

Among the meadows of the countryside,
From city noise and tumult far away,
Where clover-blossoms spread their fragrance wide
And birds are warbling all the sunny day,
There is a spot which lovingly I prize,
Where a fair and sweet old-fashioned country garden lies.

The gray old mansion down beside the lane
Stands knee-deep in the fields that lie around
And scent the air with hay and ripening grain.
Behind the manse box-hedges mark the bound
And close the garden in, or nearly close,
For on beyond the hollyhocks an olden orchard grows.

So bright and lovely is the dear old place,
It seems as though the country's very heart
Were centered here, and that its antique grace
Must ever hold it from the world apart.
Immured it lies among the meadows deep,
Its flowery stillness beautiful and calm as softest sleep.

The morning-glories ripple o'er the hedge
And fleck its greenness with their tinted foam;
Sweet wilding things up to the garden's edge
They love to wander from their meadow home,
To take what little pleasure here they may
Ere all their silken trumpets close before the warm midday.

The larkspur lifts on high its azure spires,
And up the arbor's lattices are rolled
The quaint nasturtium's many-colored fires;
The tall carnation's breast of faded gold
Is striped with many a faintly-flushing streak,
Pale as the tender tints that blush upon a baby's cheek.

The old sweet-rocket sheds its fine perfumes,
With golden stars the coreopsis flames,
And here are scores of sweet old-fashioned blooms,
Dear for the very fragrance of their names, —
Poppies and gilly flowers and four-o'clocks,

Cowslips and candytuft and heliotrope and hollyhocks,
Harebells and peonies and dragon-head,
Petunias, scarlet sage and bergamot,
Verbenas, ragged-robins, soft gold-thread,
The bright primrose and pale forget-me-not,
Wall-flowers and crocuses and columbines,
Narcissus, asters, hyacinths, and honeysuckle vines.

A sweet seclusion this of sun and shade,
A calm asylum from the busy world,
Where greed and restless care do ne'er invade,
Nor news of 'change and mart each morning hurled
Round half the globe; no noise of party feud
Disturbs this peaceful spot nor mars its perfect quietude.

But summer after summer comes and goes
And leaves the garden ever fresh and fair;
May brings the tulip, golden June the rose,
And summer winds shake down the mellow pear.
Man blooms and blossoms, fades and disappears, —
But scarce a tribute pays the garden to the passing years.

Sweet is the odor of the warm, soft rain
In violet-days when spring opes her green heart;
And sweet the apple trees along the lane
Whose lovely blossoms all too soon depart;
And sweet the brimming dew that overfills
The golden chalices of all the trembling daffodils.
But, sweeter far, in this old garden-close

To loiter 'mid the lovely old-time flowers,
To breathe the scent of lavender and rose,

And with old poets pass the peaceful hours.
Old gardens and old poets, — happy he
Whose quiet summer days are spent in such sweet
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North Country Book News

Children's Book Review by Charles Sutton

Armstrong The Adventurous Journey of a Mouse to the Moon

By Torben Kuhlmann
(Published by NorthSouth Books)

Mice have always figured the moon was made of cheese as it was so full of holes and appeared in different colors just like cheeses.

However, the mouse of this story had been examining the moon for some time through a telescope and he surmised the moon was actually made of stone. But when he tried to tell his mouse friends about this when they met secretly at a cheese store, they weren't interested in his findings, as they thought they knew better.

Our scientist-to-be mouse remained discouraged about this reception until he got letter from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, inviting him to come there. "You are right! Come and see me," the letter said.

After hopping a train to Washington he meets an old gray mouse at the museum who introduces him to the history of mouse aviation where mouse-flying machines including hang gliders and "weird and wonderful apparatus" are on display. Our fascinated mouse-visitor decides if mice could learn to fly back then, maybe it was possible now for a mouse to fly to the moon, and he exclaims "I shall be the first mouse on the moon."

The mouse's journey to becoming as astronaut is illustrated in the most amazing and captivating two-page spreads throughout this large-format book.

The mouse visits libraries and universities to find out what 'clever' humans might know about space travel. But he has to be on his own, and we see our ingenious mouse designing his own space suit out of aluminum foil with an ink well for a helmet. This is tested successfully in a goldfish bowl.

Watch him make his first space capsule out of an alarm clock which he test flies over the city catapulted into space by rubber bands! Although he lands safely on high-strung cable wires, he realizes that a catapult would never get him into space.

It is then that the mouse sees a display of fireworks which triggers the idea that he must make a rocket. His mechanical genius leads him first to build a rocket on a roller skate. But the rocket accidentally fires, hurtling across the room, spitting smoke and flames. It crashes into a pile of books and junk and sets fire to the building. Our terrified mouse safely flees the scene rescuing only one of his space-flight designs.

He talks on the phone (the landline of that era) to his el-

derly advisor at the Smithsonian who warns him to be more careful: "Be on the alert. The humans have got their eyes on you now." Sure enough, police aided by mouse-scenting dogs are after a mouse arsonist—the Rodent Saboteur.

Our mouse finds another work area where he builds a rocket out of odds and ends including the cone-shaped mountings from automobile headlights.

Finally his new rocket is fueled. Cheese, bread and water are safely stored on board. But suddenly the police and their vicious dogs have found his hideaway. He miraculously escapes aboard his rocket which is fired up the chimney and out over New York City. Follow him safely rocketing into space with earth like "a beautiful blue-green jewel" behind him.

The journey to the moon takes three days and he safely lands the space capsule: "With unexpected ease, the little space mouse bounced over the dusty surface of the moon. Tiny hops into giant leaps up here." He collects moon rocks during many hours of research and leaves behind countless paw prints and one special flag portraying a little winged mouse. This is a duplicate of the sign pointing to the mouse-flying exhibit at the Smithsonian.

Wonderful drawings of this momentous flight to and from the moon will hold the reader spellbound. See him parachute back into the city to be greeted by hundreds of his mice friends who once doubted he could accomplish such a mission. The year was 1955.

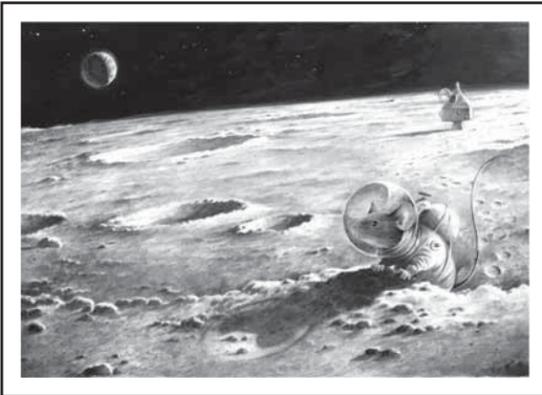
Mice all over the country now knew the moon wasn't made of cheese, but what did humans know? They, too, would explore the moon, with Neil Armstrong landing there many years later on July 21, 1969. Had he looked carefully he would have seen the mouse flag and tiny paw marks.

The mouse community later named their mouse Armstrong. That way he could have the same name as the first man to step on the moon and no one would give away the mouse-world secret by accident—when anyone asks who was first on the moon, the answer would be simply Armstrong, correct in both cases!

This is one of those books you will be compelled to read and enjoy from start to finish. Readers also are treated to brief biographies of key people and events in space travel beginning with Galileo Galilei, the Russian space flights stated with Sputnik, and Alan Shepard, the first American to enter space on May 5, 1961.

The author was born in Germany in 1982. As a small boy he was a gifted draftsman who was captivated by small airplanes, strange engines and steaming trains. He studied illustration and design at Hamburg University for Applied Sciences. His preferred media are pen and watercolor, but he also works with acrylics, oil paints and digital programs. This is his third children's picture book. Others that became instant best sellers were *Lindburgh—The Tale of a Flying Mouse* and *Moletown*.

Armstrong—The Adventurous Journey of a Mouse to the Moon is available from your book seller or can be ordered for \$19.95 from the publisher at www.northsouth.com.



Book Review

Waterfalls of Vermont

When driving around Vermont one can't help but notice that there are quite a number of waterfalls, even near the highways.

For a relatively small state, Vermont still has 4,800 miles of streams and rivers, whose flow of water once upended produces "waterfalls that thunder and dazzle and sparkle like gems."

So writes Russell Dunn in his definitive 340-page guide, *Vermont Waterfalls* (\$19.95 Countrymen Press. www.countrymanpress.com). More than 200 of the most breathtaking waterfalls with cataracts and cascades are listed with many photographs, historical background, directions, and safety tips for hiking in the wilderness where many of the falls are best seen.

The state is broken up in six physiographic regions with major waterfalls noted that are the best to see because of their size and majestic display, historic surroundings, or are ideal photographic subjects. Some have entrances that are "magically sculpted, contoured bedrock and potholes—a veritable moonscape!" says the author.

Here are Dunn's favorite falls by different regions:

Taconic Range (Massachusetts border to Sudbury, 80 miles along the west side of the state)—Bash Bish Falls, Bear Rock Falls and Race Brook Falls.

Valley of Vermont (southwest corridor 85 miles from

Bennington to Brandon)—Lye Brook Falls, Meade's Falls, Sutherland Falls and Clarendon Gorge.

Vermont Lowland (midwest-northwest corridor from north of Brandon to Highgate Center and from Lake Champlain to base of Green Mountains)—Vergenne Falls, Middlebury Falls, Falls of Lana and Fairfax Falls. The valley is known as the Land of Milk and Honey for its productive agriculture.

Green Mountains (158 miles long)—a wide range of waterfalls, the most well known being Hamilton Falls.

Vermont Piedmont (east corridor from Brattleboro to North Troy, defined on east side by Connecticut River up to Barnet and by the Green Mountains to the west)—Mount Ascutney alone has four notable waterfalls. Others are Black River Falls and Brockway Mills Falls.

Northeast Highland (the Northeast Kingdom)—a plethora of lakes, swamps and bogs with few falls because of its flat land and small hills.

The guide gives each falls' location and directions plus GPS, views, aesthetics, characteristics, history, accessibility and degree of difficulty. This is an ideal book to keep in your car.

Russell Dunn, a licensed hiking guide, is the author of *Connecticut Waterfalls* as well as guides to the Adironnacks, Catskills and Hudson Valley regions.

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Apples of Uncommon Character

123 Heirlooms, Modern Classics & Little-Known Wonders

by Rowan Jacobsen
(Bloomsbury Publishing)

Every fall author Rowan Jacobsen drives the backroads of Vermont to pick up drops from wild apple trees on or along the roadside.

"I am no apple expert," he writes in this fascinating apple book. "I'm more of an apple stalker, with a fixation bordering on the unhealthy." Initially his son Eric, now 17, avoided the autumnal apple treasure hunt, but now enjoys collecting apples with his father to make cider on their own apple press.

The author's fascination with apples started in 2003 when he and his wife purchased an 1840s farmhouse needing restoration in Calais, VT. The property came with an orchard of 15 neglected heirloom apple trees. Restoring the orchard eventually led to this masterpiece apple book which includes full page descriptions of 123 apples, some familiar, but mostly heirlooms, and a few oddballs. The information includes their origin, appearance, flavor, texture, growing season, uses and regions where they are grown best.

Perfect examples of each apple are shown in beautiful full-page color photographs. Most of the illustrations were done in natural light with minimum infrastructure by a Seattle, WA photographer Clare Barbosa, who has now moved to Vermont because of the state's beauty and, as Jacobsen says, "She and the apple were a perfect match."

The author spent a year compiling and writing the book which included traveling around the country collecting apples (for appearance and taste tests) and storing them for timely photo shoots. He said in an interview that he personally tasted hundreds of apples to pick the best ones for his book.

Favorite Apples

Among the author's favorites are Cox's Orange Pippin which he first encountered at a farmstand in upstate New York: "I grabbed an apple, bit into it, and my world changed. A kaleidoscope of fruity esters burst across my sinuses. Visions of colorful fruits spun in my eyes like a slot machine." But he warns this "finicky apple's greatness must be coddled."

Another favorite is Chestnut Crab which he describes as "one of those little doughnut peaches, a flattened swirl of orange, red and yellow, covered with a fine, papery russeting."

A favorite in his own orchard is the Roxbury Russet. "Someone planted one at my house about 50 years ago. In late fall, after my other apples have gone the way of all flesh, it still proudly displays a full canopy of russet nuggets, which make wonderfully nutty Thanksgiving fare." Its flavor is "yummy and strange."

He also has Macoun apple trees which he describes as a cult favorite of the Northeast. "Eat it standing under the tree. Swoon. It is very tart, very sweet with a lemon zing."

From the mountains of Kazakhstan

The book begins with an intriguing history of the apple—from its origins in the wild Tian Shan or Celestial Mountain forests of Kazakhstan, Russia, to the fields of Europe and America initially hitchhiking a ride on the Silk Road from China to Rome.

The primitive forest apples of Kazakhstan have been duplicated at the USDA's Plant Genetic Resources Unit at Geneva, NY whose pomologists brought back thousands of seeds from the forest and planted them 25 years

ago. Jacobsen said he wandered through this "most astonishing collection in the world, picking and sampling, a prelapsarian dream." There, twenty-foot trees are festooned with multicolored fruit some of which are featured in this book.

The Age of the Apple Arrives

Jacobsen's recounting of the history of the apple continues with America's colonists planting millions of apple seeds launching The Age of the Apple in the early 1700s when grafting techniques also were perfected. We learn that Thomas Jefferson planted hundreds of apple trees including two for eating (Esopus Spitzenberg and Newtown Pippin) and two for cider (Hewes Crab and Taliaferro.) Except for the latter which has been lost, the others are still grown today and they are featured here.

The Age of the Apple lasted through the 18th and 19th centuries when farmsteads regularly grew apples as a source of fruit and drink. However with the decline of the self-sufficient family farm in the 20th century coupled with the rise of industrial-scale orchards, America's apple diversity crashed, and Jacobsen writes "as the small family orchard became unprofitable, and Prohibition made cider apples taboo, people stopped propagating the old varieties."

He notes that of the thousands of 19th century varieties a mere six—Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Gala, Fuji, Granny Smith and McIntosh came to dominate the late twentieth century market. These 'supermarket' apples also are given ample space in his book, but they are not his favorites. China, which produces half of the world's apples, has 70 percent of its crop in Fujis.

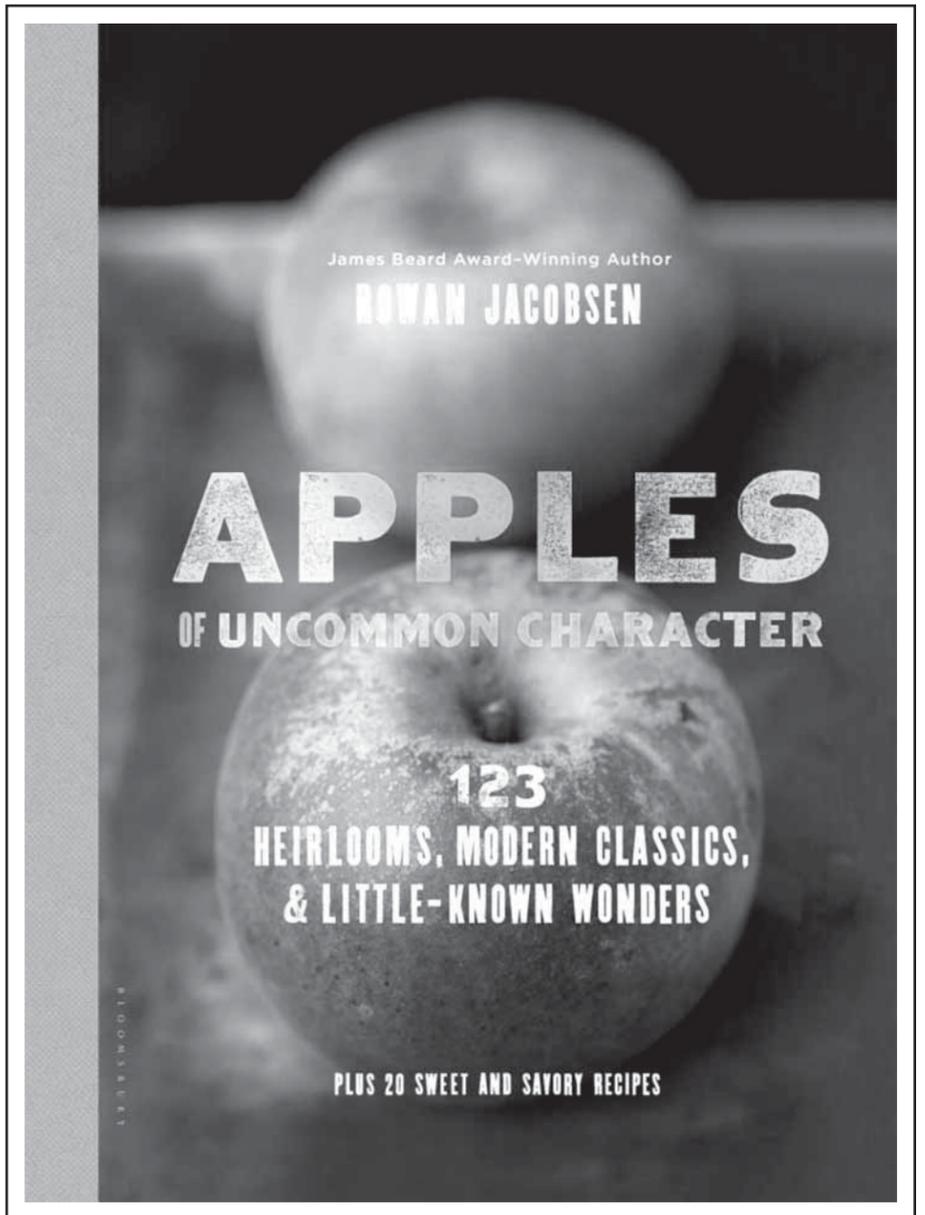
The author says a new Golden Age for apples has started with the sight and taste of iconoclastic apples hitting us like "a jolt of tart cider."

Leaders of the Second Age of the Apple

Jacobsen introduces us to three northern New England growers who are leaders in this revival of the Second Age of the Apple and who contributed heirloom apples and knowledge to this book:

- Poverty Lane Orchards, Lebanon, NH, home of the famous Farnham Hill ciders, was founded by Steve Wood who, in the 1970's, brought back scion wood from Europe "that has been the fire that kindled the creative flames of the new generation of cider makers." The scion is a new shoot from a parent tree that can be grafted onto separate rootstock to produce an exact clone of the parent. (www.povertylaneorchards.com)

- Fedco Trees, Waterville, ME, which sells 50 varieties of heirloom and modern masterpieces, was started by John Bunker on a hardscrabble plot of land in Palermo, ME, after he graduated from Colby College. In the past 30 years he has saved 80 varieties of rare heirloom trees. When he finds a particularly delightful one, he grafts it onto rootstocks at his nursery and begins selling the trees a few years later. He came up with the clever idea of putting up 'lost and found' type posters. An example in the book is one looking for the Narragansett Apple last seen in York County, ME. One of his best finds was the Fletcher Sweet which originated in the Lincolnville, ME area. Bunker was tipped about this one by a 79-year-old man who took Bunker to an



ancient half-dead gnarled tree where he was able to get shoots (18 feet up) and graft them onto rootstock at his farm. Twigs for grafting (scion wood) are now available from Fedco Trees. (www.fedcoseeds.com)

- Scott Farm, Dummerston, VT, is where pomologist Zeke Goodband has transformed southern Vermont farmland into what is now considered one of the country's great working heirloom orchards producing 120 varieties of apples. Jacobsen writes this is "as fine a collection of artistic masterpieces as you'd find in any museum, just as moving and thought-provoking." Scott Farm hosts Heirloom Apple Day, this October 9th, where they introduce the flavors, textures, and history of heirloom apples to their guests. They also raise other uncommon fruits including quinces, medlars, and elderberries. The farm incidentally was once the home of Rudyard Kipling. (www.scottfarmvermont.com)

The author also attributes his path to apple enlightenment to neighbor Terry Bradshaw who tends the University of Vermont's apple orchards and has made hard cider for many years. He lent him his copy of the *Apples of New York* (1905) by S. A. Beach, an antiquarian book valued up to \$400! The author says this remains the best book he knows for identifying heirlooms.

Oddball Apples

Jacobsen's writing about oddball apples will interest apple collectors or anyone who is intrigued by food that is weird, but edible. Among these are Winter Banana (like little exotic bananas that can taste powerfully green and tannic); Sheepnose (eccentric, elongated and pointedly nosed, of burgundy

color, mealy, like sinking your teeth into an old baked potato); Knobbed Russet (covered with raised welts that resemble scars—still a sweet, funky, tasty beast).

The book guides readers to the best apple for its intended use. Examples (note the interesting names) for each category: summer apples: Chenango Strawberry, Gravenstein, Summer Rambo and Yellow Transparent. Dessert apples: Ambrosia, Blenheim Orange, Blue Pearmain and Claygate Pearmain. Bakers and Sauces: Belle de Boskoop, Glockenapfel, Grimes Golden and Granny Smith. Keepers: Ananas Reinette, Bethel, Black Oxford, D'Arcy Spice and Keepsake. Cider Fruit: Ellis Bitter, Harry Masters Jersey, Hewes Crab, Medaille d'Or, Redfield, and Kingston Black.

The book concludes with 20 gourmet apple recipes which the author says are quite easy to make. His favorite is Duck and Apple Risotto with Bacon, Sage, and Forest Mushrooms.

Rowan Jacobsen, a James Beard prize-winner, says his next book is about the unique teas that are grown worldwide. He has just published his second book on oysters, *The Essential Oyster*. His other books include *Geography of Oysters*, *Fruitless Fall*, *The Living Shore*, *American Terroir* and *Shadows of the Gulf*. He lives with his wife, a kid, a dog and a scruffy set of apple trees in Vermont. www.rowanjacobsen.com.

Apples of Uncommon Character by Rowan Jacobsen is published by Bloomsbury Publishing and is available for \$35 from your bookseller or from the publisher, www.bloomsbury.com.

Book Review by Charles Sutton

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Vermont Outdoors Woman's Adventure Retreat Returns

Vermont Outdoors Woman is sponsoring an outdoor education retreat for adventurous women 18 years and older in Canaan, VT on September 16-18, 2016. Fall Doe Camp will offer three days of classes to be held in the woods, in the lodge, on the lake and on the sandy beach as foliage season begins in the Northeast Kingdom of VT.

We will be returning to Jackson's Lodge & Log Cabins, a 57 year family tradition providing heated lakefront cabins on beautiful Lake Wallace. Located in Vermont's moose country, Jackson's Cafe is a local favorite for homemade breakfast and baked goods (including gluten free). Proprietor, Gloria Jackson and her staff are once again planning to make this the best Fall Doe Camp ever. Don't miss our moose BBQ on Saturday evening.

The lakeside log cabins at Jackson's Lodge combine a rustic and relaxing family-friendly atmosphere with all the modern necessities you'll need during your weekend retreat. Campers can bring sleeping bags or rent linens. For the more hardy campers, bring your tent and save money by camping out.

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Rolling, Fly Fishing, Boat Fishing, Cheese Making at Home, Kayaking, Deer Hunting, Ax Skills, Fire Making, Wildlife Photography, and Panning for Gold.

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Moose in a bog in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

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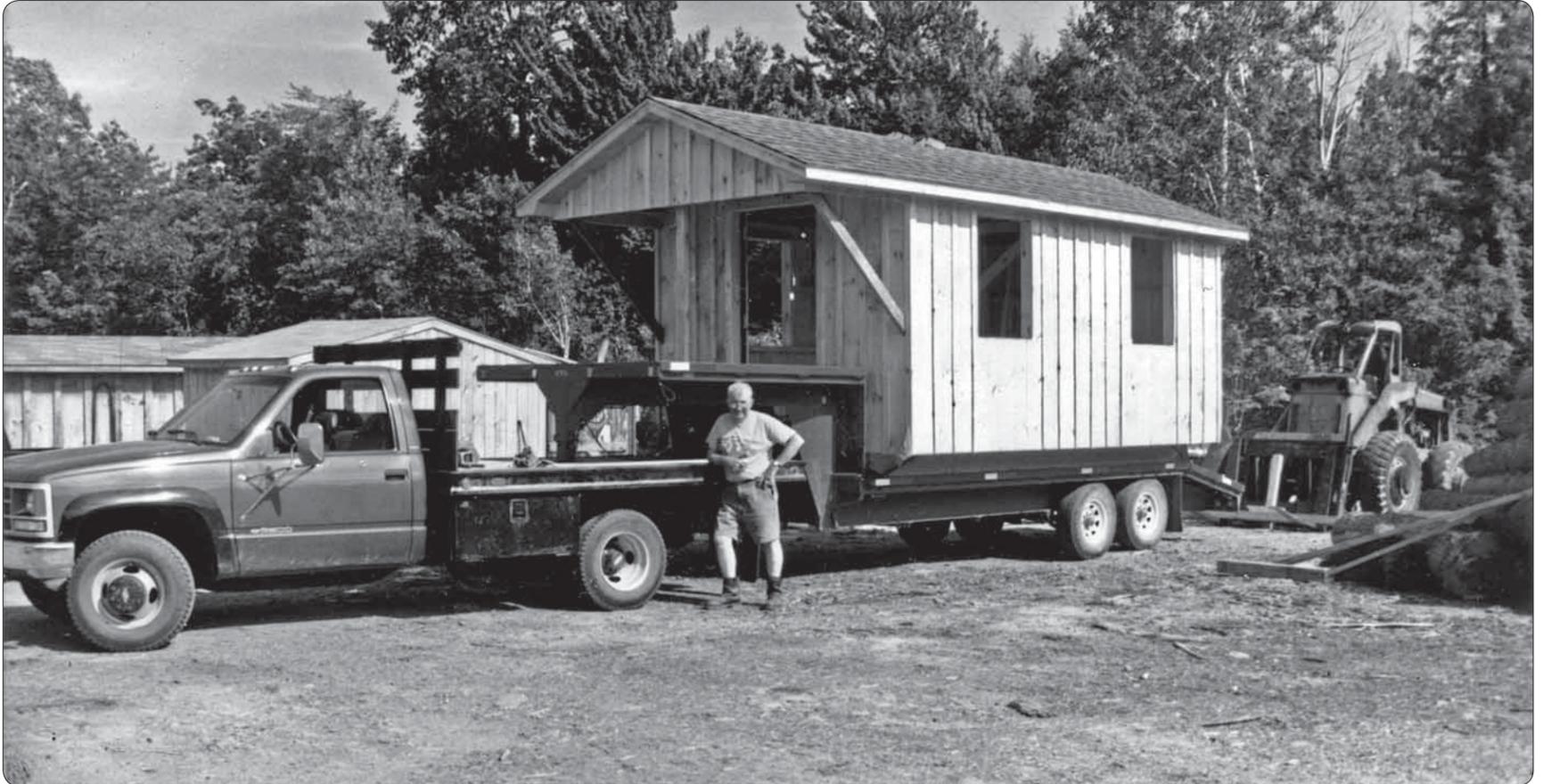
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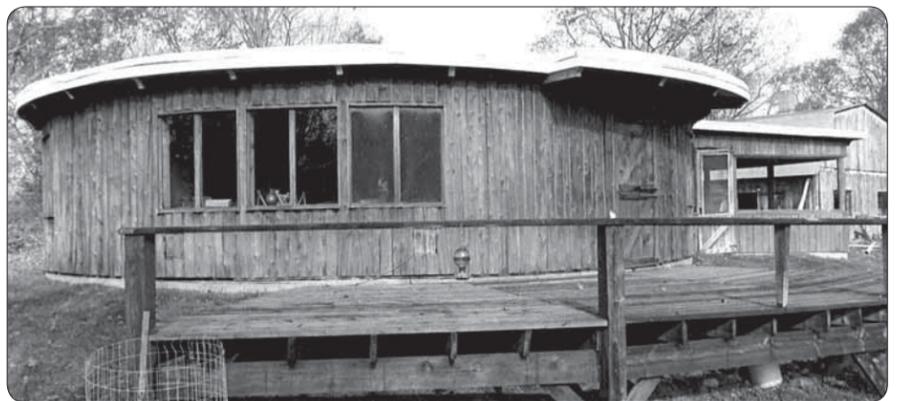
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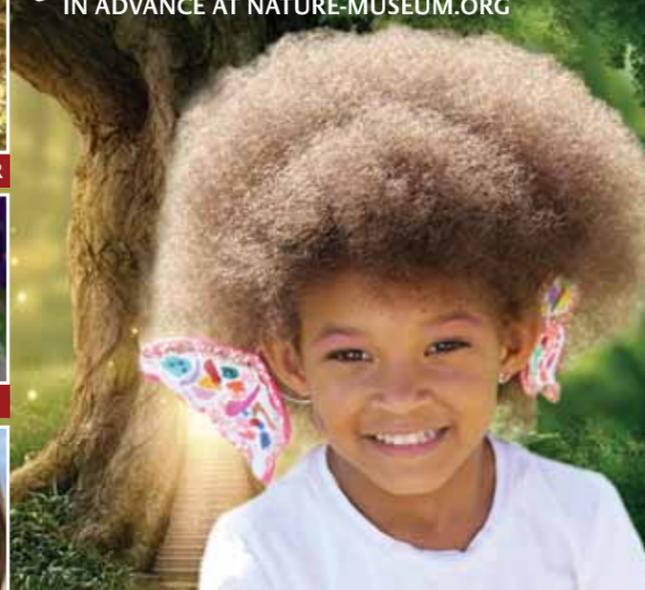
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