

Summer Guide

2025

A stylized illustration of a summer scene. In the foreground, a person wearing a large white straw hat with a blue band and a red tank top is seen from the back, looking out over a body of water. The water is a vibrant blue, and a large yellow sun is setting or rising in the background. Several sailboats are visible on the water, and two small blue birds are flying in the sky. The overall color palette is bright and cheerful, with yellow, blue, and red being the primary colors.

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FROM THE Editor

After a spring that saw rain after rain after rain, and guess what, more rain, summer is a welcome sight for sore eyes and legs. It's time to get outside and explore! Lucky for us, Vermont is built for that. It's a paradise for exploration! It's got swimming by river, lake, and quarry! Bike, run, kayak, canoe, stand-up-paddle, sail, waterski, fish, hike, climb, garden, eat fresh foods, outdoor concerts, camping, roasting marshmallows over an open fire, travel... the list goes on and on — all while spending quality time with friends and family.

Yes, most of us have to find time to work as well... Disclaimer: This guide will not make an ambitious "to-do" list for the summer any shorter. In fact, its goal is the opposite: to tempt you to add a handful of events or activities to that list — ones you didn't know you wanted to do! Because there are numerous great options in our area and only a few short months to accomplish them, this guide aims to enhance the quality and, consequently, the enjoyment of the activities and events you choose by highlighting some of the best places to pursue them.

Just because June didn't start out on the warm side, don't let the cool temperatures fool you. We all know how hot Vermont can get — even in the mountains! Luckily, the area is home to a vast array of rivers, ponds, lakes, and reservoirs. We've highlighted a few on- and off-the-beaten-path destinations to explore; see page 8. Boating is another great way to spend a summer day. Nothing beats being on the water. A variety of boat rentals are available at state parks and marinas — choose a speed that's right for you, page 11. For those seeking a higher vantage point, consider one of the 21 hikes we've featured on page 16. And for those looking for an overnight experience, camping is a great option! And there's a campsite for everyone, depending on what type of adventure you seek, page 31.

And yes, with all that adventure, you may need some downtime. We have you covered with some summer reading recommendations, page 35.

Summer is also a time of abundance, and no one knows that more than our local farms. Head to a farmers' market to select the bounty of the season: veggies and fruit, as well as meats and dairy products, are available. Or explore Okemo's Tasty Treat Trail, page 49.

And when you're out and about on whatever summer adventure you're on, there's always an excuse to grab yourself a Vermont creemee — there are over 400 purveyors to choose from. We've selected several spots for you to check out on your next road trip through the region on page 26. While that creemee will likely satisfy your kids for a few minutes, we know you'll need many more options to keep the kids entertained. On page 30, we've outlined 11 things that are sure to put a smile on any kid's face — rain or shine. Don't miss the Adventure Center at Killington Resort — a kid favorite.

The heart of this magazine, however, is an extensive calendar of events (183 listed) for all ages and interests. Find food festivals, dance performances, historical tours, children's activities, parades, carnivals, car races, athletic events, races and challenges, and plenty more, page 39. Music is also a big deal across the state — so big we've created a separate calendar for summer music series playing at (mostly) outdoor venues across the state, page 37. There's simply a plethora of fun to be had this summer; it's tough to choose! We sympathize completely. Summer is also an abundant time for birding. Get local tips on where to go, what to look for, and what to listen for, page 52. The area is home to (11) area golf courses, some of which have been ranked top in the Northeast. Enjoy the stunning vistas while you tee up, page 54.

The best for last? Well, yes? Mountain biking has quickly become one of the most popular summer sports in the region. In fact, we published a 64-page magazine that focuses solely on the 250+ singletrack trails in 18 local areas. It's called GRIP; pick one up or see it online, page 15.

When we think of summer, we mostly think of being outside, but sometimes it's just too hot or rainy to venture out for long. On those days, consider visiting galleries or art museums, page 58. And when the dog days of summer approach, don't forget to make memories at a country fair. The annual Vermont State Fair in Rutland happens Aug. 12-16, and for a wholly unique Vermont experience, don't miss the Farm & Wilderness Fair in Plymouth on Aug. 9, page 57. So, get out there and enjoy summer while it lasts, try something new, and discover the joys awaiting you here in our backyard.

James Kent
Arts Editor,
The Mountain Times



MOUNTAIN TIMES

This Summer Guide is produced by the Mountain Times, Killington, Vt.
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The kids love to be on the water, usually with a rod in hand. Chittenden Reservoir is our go-to local watering hole and it offers enough adventures to last all summer, every summer!



Editor & Co-Publisher
Polly Lynn Mikula

I love summer concerts outside and there are so many summer series to choose from. The musical talent and diverse genres make each event unique. Pack a picnic and a blanket or chair and enjoy!



Graphic Design
Pat Wise

On hot Vermont afternoons, there's nothing better than jumping into the local swim spots to cool off. Swinging from rope swings into these watering holes adds a little thrill and makes the day way more memorable.



Ad Manager & Co-Publisher
Jason Mikula

I enjoy the summer best on two wheels! The options for mountain biking — singletrack trails are plentiful and expanding throughout the region! (Tip: pick up a GRIP mountain bike magazine and discover the 18 local areas or visit online: mountaintimes.info/e-edition/grip-2025)



Arts Editor & Publisher's Assistant
James Kent

I've lived in Vermont for the past 10 years, and there's always a discovery to make. I recently visited the Hall Arts Foundation in Reading, and what a treat that was. So, when I'm not out this summer trying to find the next great creemee destination, I'll probably be seeking the next hidden area gem to share with people.

Windsor County by the numbers

57,753

people make up Windsor County, according to the 2020 County Census, making it the fourth most populous county in Vermont.

969

square miles make up the county geographically (making it the largest county in Vermont by area).

3,144

feet is the elevation at the top of Mount Ascutney, the highest peak in Windsor County. This monadnock offers panoramic views and is a popular destination for hikers and campers.

22

miles of the Appalachian Trail traverse Windsor County, passing through towns such as Norwich and Pomfret and offering hikers scenic routes along the Connecticut River and through the Green Mountains.

5,404

acres of Green Mountain National Forest extends into Windsor County, providing residents and visitors access to diverse recreational activities across its expansive acreage.

17

covered bridges can be found throughout Windsor County's many towns.

1

train station, at Windsor-Mt. Ascutney connects the county to major cities via the Vermonter Line.

1777

is the year Vermont's constitution was adopted in the town of Windsor, also known as the "Birthplace of Vermont."

Rutland County by the numbers

60,572

people make up Rutland County, according to the 2020 County census, making it the second-most populous county in Vermont.

945

square miles make up the county geographically (making it the second-largest county in Vermont by area).

56,000

acres of National Forest, bisected by US-4, lie within.

4,280

is the elevation at the top of Killington Peak (it's the second highest peak in the state and the largest ski area in the East).

365

days open for year-round Rutland Farmer's Market. It is one of the largest and most diverse farmers' markets in the state.

273

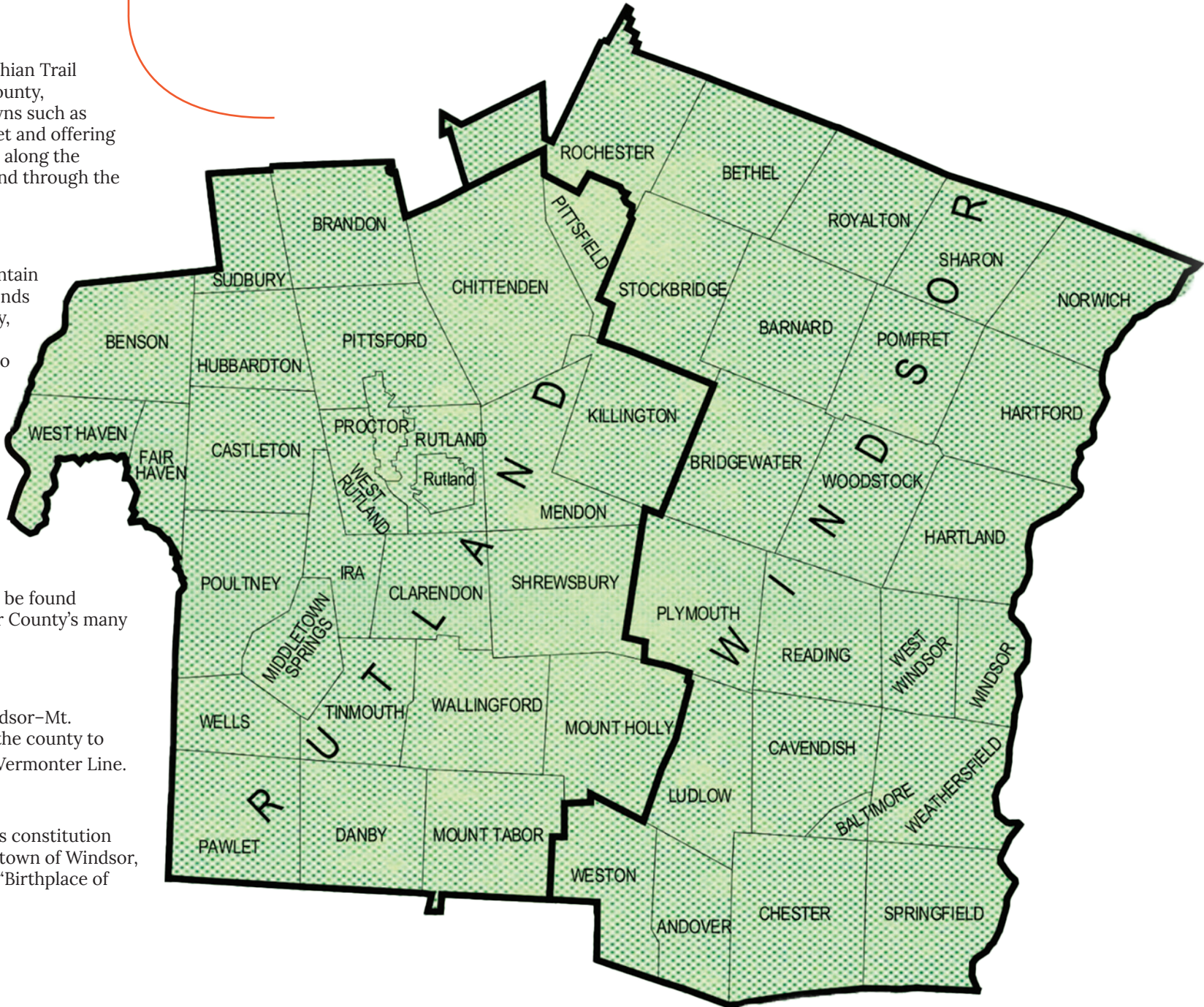
miles is the length of the Long Trail (the oldest long-distance trail in the East.) It runs along the spine of the Green Mountains. The Appalachian Trail travels along it for the southern portion, splitting off and heading east just north of Sherburne Pass in Killington.

3

flights daily from the Rutland-Southern Vermont Regional Airport in Clarendon to Boston.

2

train stations at Castleton and Rutland link passenger service south to Albany and New York City, north to Burlington via Middlebury and Vergennes on Amtrak's Ethan Allen Express, and into the continental U.S. via Schenectady on the Lakeshore Limited.



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6 must-do activities for your summer bucket list

Eat local:

Prepare breakfast, lunch and dinner using only ingredients grown or raised within 30 miles. Shop at a farmers' market for ingredients.



Pick your own berries:

Strawberries start off the season followed by raspberries and blackberries, then blueberries.



Jam at an outdoor concert

Picnic at an outdoor concert or music festival. Spread a blanket on the lawn, fall asleep under the afternoon sun and pack a picnic dinner to enjoy as the sounds of summer resonate across the valley.



Reach the top

Enjoy the fresh air and cool breeze from the summit of a peak!

Killington Peak is the second highest in Vermont (Mt. Mansfield is only 158 feet higher.)



Chill Out

Explore one of the cool streams, lakes and quarries in the area!



Camp Out

Pack up your family and as many toys as you can fit in (or on) your car and find a quiet campsite by a lake. Don't forget the marshmallows!



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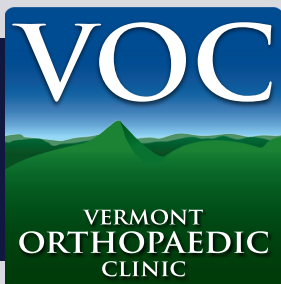
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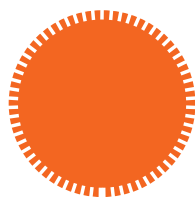
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When it's hot,

Refreshing is perhaps the best way to describe the experience of cooling off on a hot summer day in one of Vermont's pristine lakes or rivers. Ease into a deep pool and resurface completely cleansed of the grime of sweat.



Even if it's temporary, the reprieve is well worth the minimal effort it takes to find cool waters. Rutland County has rivers in almost every one of its valleys and nearly all boast swimming holes to discover. **Here are 12 great choices:**

Bomoseen

CASTLETON—Lake Bomoseen is the most prominent lake in Vermont's Lake Region, located in the west-central part of the state. Stretching almost 9 miles long and 1 mile wide and covering an expansive 2,370 acres, Lake Bomoseen is the largest lake contained entirely within Vermont's state borders. The lake has a maximum depth of 65 feet. There are three public beaches here. Bomoseen State Park also offers many other water activities, rentals and camping.

DIRECTIONS: To Bomoseen SP, take US-4 west from US-7 south of Rutland, to the Scotch Hill exit, drive north to the SP. To Crystal Beach, take Exit 4 at Route 30, drive north to Crystal Beach.

Buttermilk Falls

LUDLOW— This swimming hole features three waterfalls, with chutes and pools to explore and cool off in. It's an easy walk from the parking area also between the falls. Warning: there is some nude swimming in the area. Stick to the pools if that's not your thing.

DIRECTIONS: Just west of the intersection of US-100 and Route 103 in Ludlow turn onto Buttermilk Falls Road. Go to the end of the road and park. Take paths on the right to access all three falls and pools.

Cold River

SHREWSBURY—If you just want a cool sitz-bath or to let the kids and the dog wade, the Cold River at the Brown Covered Bridge is a good choice. The Cold River is shallow at this point and tumbles over boulders and small basins with an energizing, bubbling sound. If you love river stones, this is the place! Add the song of forest birds and your peace is complete.

DIRECTIONS: Drive out Cold River Road about 4 miles from the intersection with US-7, south of Rutland. After many curves, look for the sign for Upper Cold River Road to the left. This will be a new gravel road that takes you down to the bridge. An interpretive sign and a close-up look at the dramatic damage done by Tropical Storm Irene in 2011 add to the experience.

Elfin Lake

WALLINGFORD—A town-owned little gem of clear water surrounded by fragrant wooded shores. The beach features a sandy beach, float, kayak-canoe launch and covered picnic tables. The beach is open daily until 7 p.m. Gates close at 7 p.m. There is a modest day use fee that supports maintenance and staffing. The surrounding Stone Meadow Park and Conservation Area offers easy walking trails with map and brochure. Swimmers assume all risk as there will be NO LIFE-GUARDS on duty this summer.

DIRECTIONS: From downtown Rutland drive south on US-7 approx. 10 miles into Wallingford center. Turn right at the full stoplight onto Rte. 140 west and continue ½ mile to the marked access road on the left.

Half Moon Pond

HUBBARDTON—A small, secluded pond within the Half Moon State Park. One or two seasonal cabins, no motorboats, deep green water shimmering under a wooded hillside. Several spots to get into the water; kayak put-in spot.

DIRECTIONS: From downtown Rutland drive south on US-7 to the full stoplight that marks US-4, a divided highway. Continue west on US-4 to exit 4, then north on Route 30N, continue 7 miles to Hortonia Road in Hubbardton, then left 1.6 miles onto Black Pond Road, a narrow gravel road. Half Moon Pond is at 1.2 miles; parking on the shoulder at 1.4 miles.

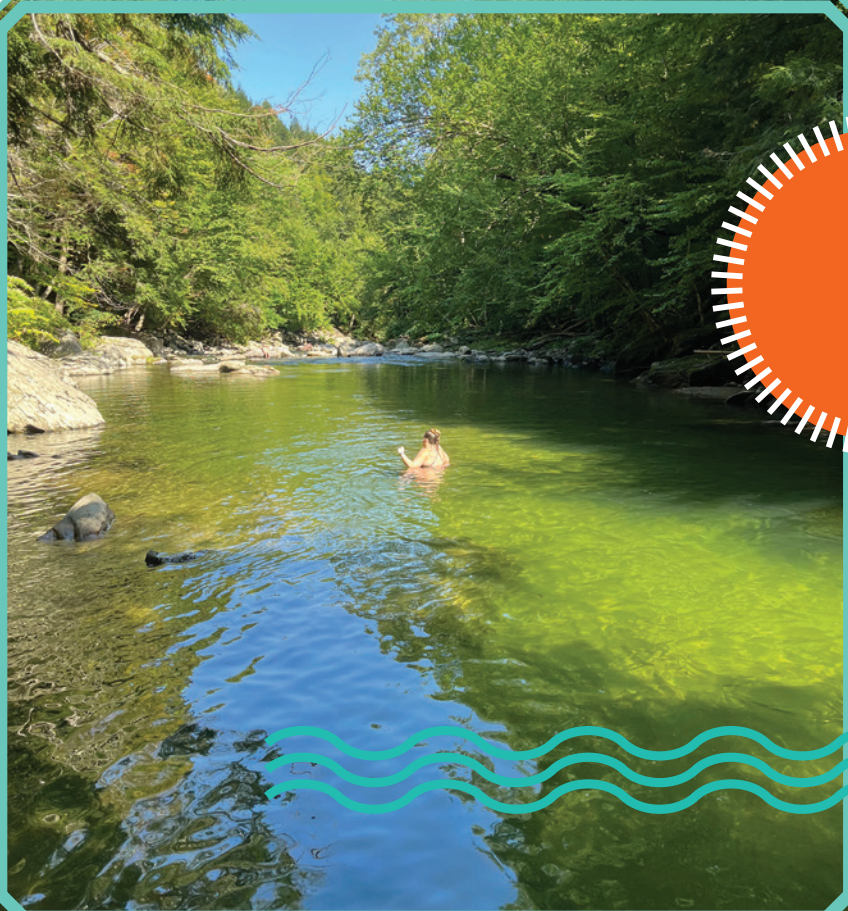
DIVE IN



Horses' Heaven

POULTNEY—The Poultny River is spring-fed and people used to bathe in it for healing purposes. Horses' Heaven offers large rocks to walk/picnic along, plus some to jump off into deep crystal clear waters. There are small cascades above the pool, too. A gorgeous find!

DIRECTIONS: From Rutland, take US-4 west to Route 30 south to Poultny. From Poultny take Route 140 east. Horses' Heaven is accessed from Route 140. At the East Poultny Green, look for the Eagle Tavern on your right. About 500 feet farther up the road is a small dirt pull-off just before a little house that hangs over the river. A gap in the guardrail allows access to the river.



Kennedy Pond (Mill Pond)

WINDSOR—A pond with a beach. There is open public swimming, weather permitting, during the summer.

DIRECTIONS: It is located off VT 44 on Ascutney St. in Windsor.

Twenty Foot Hole

READING—Twenty Foot Hole offers some of the finest waterfall swimming holes in all of Vermont. Throughout 0.2 miles of the river, you'll find three swimming holes and many small cascades. The first swimming hole—the one furthest upstream—is where you will find the most substantial waterfall.

DIRECTIONS: Take VT 131 west to VT 106 north. Follow VT 106 north for 4.1 miles and take a left onto Tyson Road when you reach the section of Reading known as Felchville. Follow Tyson Road for 1.0 miles, and you will begin to find various places to park on both sides of the road. The first parking pull-off on the left is closest to the middle falls. The first parking pull-off on the right has room for 12-15 vehicles and is conveniently located near the upper falls.

White River Tubing

STOCKBRIDGE—From June through Labor Day, friends and family can experience the ultimate lazy river by tubing the White River in Stockbridge. Vermont River Tubing offers tubing rentals Monday through Sunday by reservation only. Located off of VT 100. vermontrivertubing.co.

Silver Lake State Park

BARNARD—A summertime favorite spot for water lovers, Silver Lake State Park offers a wide sandy beach ideal for swimming and lakeside lounging. With 84 acres of calm, warm-water shoreline, the lake is perfect for paddling in kayaks, canoes, or small boats—rentals are available onsite. The grassy picnic area and play space near the beach round out a full day of lakeside fun.

DIRECTIONS:

To access Silver Lake State Park at 20 State Park Beach Road in Barnard, note that North Road is currently closed through the end of July for improvements. Visitors should use Route 12 to reach the park. The entrance is just past the Barnard General Store and clearly marked. The park operates from 10 a.m. to sunset, with parking and day-use fees in effect.

Swinging Bridge

CLARENDON—The 30-foot long Suspension bridge above the Mill River is an impressive feature that makes this spot truly unique. This water-carved gorge is a popular swimming hole with 8-foot cascades and deep golden pools. Currently closed for maintenance and upkeep.

DIRECTIONS: From Rutland, take US-7 south then a left onto Route 103 and follow for approximately 2.5 miles. You will come to a marked parking area on the right just before you cross the railroad tracks. This is used as an access point to the Long Trail. Follow the well-worn path to the suspension bridge. After crossing the bridge, take the path to the left, leading down to a stony beach and wading pools. Follow the river under the bridge to the swimming areas downstream.

STILL WATERS AND SECRET SONGS

PADDLING INTO THE HEART OF VERMONT

By Merisa Sherman

It's a few hours before sunset, and the boat launch is busy. Fishermen are loading up their boats to make the last few casts while most paddlers are making their way back to the car after a beautiful day on the water. The Sunday Night Ladies, however, are just arriving. It's myriad watercraft: canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards of all different colors are dragged and portaged to the water for the weekly excursion onto Chittenden Reservoir. As the sky changes from a bright blue to stunning shades of pink and purple, these ladies of all ages will paddle and chat, surrounded by the beauty of the Green Mountains that encircle the lake. A family of loons will float past as their familiar call echoes across the lake. This peaceful moment is topped off only by a small, 4-year-old voice quietly singing a song to herself as her mom paddles her across the lake on their paddle board. The Sunday Night Ladies cannot help themselves, and soon their voices join into the simple song as they paddle along under the setting sun.

While the 750-acre Chittenden Reservoir always seems to get the most attention, there are so many more places to paddle! Thanks to the topography of the Green Mountains themselves, water flows into several lakes and ponds throughout the Killington area. From the local hotspot of Kent Pond to the hidden Lake Nineveh in Plymouth to the mysterious section of the Ottaquechee River that flows behind the Mountain Times, there is no shortage of paddling to be had in the region. In fact, you could be here for a week and never paddle the same body of water twice! Each lake and stream has its own unique characteristics and its own story to tell, but they all share the same peaceful experience that Vermont is known for.

Kent Pond is the most easily accessible and is a convenient stop for locals to sneak in an hour or two on the lake before heading to work. Mark Bragg, the Kayak King who rents kayaks to the public, reminded me that the lack of houses right on the lake, surrounded by the Green Mountains, makes you feel like you are part of the wilderness. "Let's not forget about the nesting loons and beautiful bald eagles, which both love the fishing here," he said.

In fact, Kent Pond is filled with largemouth bass and stocked with trout in the spring, making the fishing great for everyone (even in winter!). You will even see some wild-life construction, as the beavers have built several homes along the shoreline.

For something completely different, take a drive down Route 100 toward Ludlow and hit up the Big Four: Woodard Reservoir, Lake Amherst, Echo Lake, and Lake Rescue, each with its own story to tell. Woodard Reservoir, home to Farm & Wilderness Camps, is a long 110-acre lake with beautiful clear water and several coves with minimal wind, making it the perfect place for stand-up paddle boards, SUP Yoga, and the annual Make A Wave Paddle Race, a family-friendly charity race hosted by First Stop Ski & Bike Shop where 100% of the proceeds go to the construction of a multi-purpose bike path for the community. When you look back toward the boat launch from the far end of the

lake, it seems like the Green Mountains just go on forever. The lake is quiet when camp is not in session, but during the summer, you can hear the laughter of children coming from the cabins in the woods or multiple swimming areas at all times of the day.

Keep driving down Route 100 until you arrive at Lake Amherst. On a perfect day, the boat launch is like walking through a butterfly preserve, and a huge rock tucked away on the far end has several different spots where the entire family can jump into the cool water. It's a favorite for humans and dogs alike—in fact, our dog once found a spot to rest on the rock so perfect he wouldn't let us leave! From the rock cove, one can also just peak right through the trees toward Echo Lake, where the State of Vermont has a park and the only public beach in the area accessible for a small fee. However, you will also find lots of

summer camps, motorboats, and jet skis on this lake, so those looking for a quiet paddle might want to arrive here in the early morning or evening hours. Finally, Lake Rescue is one of the larger lakes in the area at 180 acres. There are many properties on this lake, which provide for great sightseeing on the manmade kind.

If you're looking to escape the crowds and are here in the springtime when the water is high, you can try exploring the Ottaquechee Kayak Trail, which starts West of the Mountain Times and ends at Mission Farm. An extremely different experience than the flat water paddling, this close-to-home adventure

will have you feeling like you've traveled to another world. Nicknamed "The Little Amazon" by The Kayak King, the waterway is a winding adventure over beaver dams and through marshes where you might have to duck low across your hull or get out and pull your kayak across. This kayak trail seems more like a fairy tale than a real adventure, so you might want to talk to a local guide before trying to find the secret boat launch for yourself.

No matter where you choose to paddle in the Killington Region, be sure to be aware of the increased loon activity in the area. The first loon pair in central Vermont was actually spotted in 1995 on the hidden Lake

Nineveh near Mount Holly, and you can still see loons nesting there every spring. Thanks to the efforts of Eric Hanson, conservation biologist for the Vermont Center for EcoStudies and the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, the Vermont Loon Conservation Project has seen a massive recolonization of lakes in Central Vermont over the past 25 years. Respect for loons and their nests has been a community effort, as the VLCP requests that all users of lakes avoid nesting areas, refrain from using lead in fishing lures, and maintain a distance from the skittish loons. The entire program has been a great success as loon pairs across Vermont have gone from seven to 101!

As you paddle central Vermont, whether alone or with friends, take some time to relax and enjoy. When the sun's rays hit the water, the whole world seems to light up and sparkle, the beavers and loons begin their morning routines, and the bald eagle swoops overhead. From all around, you hear the chirping of birds as they start their day, and a beaver tail slaps the water.

You see a white canoe floating gracefully across the water, and you wonder— If there was ever heaven on earth, surely it is an early morning paddle on flat water with the sun rising slowly in the sky.

For something completely different, take a drive down Route 100 toward Ludlow and hit up the Big Four: Woodard Reservoir, Lake Amherst, Echo Lake, and Lake Rescue, each with its own story to tell.



PADDLE, PADDLE, PADDLE YOUR KAYAK!

SUMMER SOLACE IS BEST EXPERIENCED ON THE WATER

By Sarah Calvin

This summer, cool off and explore new rivers, lakes, and reservoirs from the seat of a kayak or canoe. If you prefer to stand or sunbathe, try a paddleboard! Non-motorized boats are smaller and quieter than motor boats, and provide a great workout. Additionally, being so close to the water allows you the chance to see fish and aquatic plants up close. If you want to try out a boat but don't have one on hand, there are rental services available in the area, as well as at state parks. Here are a few great spots to start:

BRANDON

- Lake Dunmore

BARNARD

- Silver Lake

BENSON

- Sunset Lake

BOMOSEEN

- Lake Bomoseen
- Glen Lake

CHITTENDEN

- Chittenden Reservoir
- Lefferts Pond

HUBBARDTON

- Lake Beebe

LUDLOW

- Lake Pauline
- Lake Rescue

KILLINGTON

- Colton Pond
- Kent Pond

PLYMOUTH

- Black Pond
- Echo Lake
- Lake Amherst
- Woodward Reservoir

POULTNEY

- Lake Saint Catherine

QUECHEE

- Queechee River

SUDBURY

- Burr Pond
- Lake Hortonia
- Otter Creek Access on Willowbrook Road



Submitted

Adam and Tobi Calvin paddled kayaks enjoying the cool waters on a warm sunny day.

WATERFALLS

Neshobe Falls

Brandon village center

Sucker Brook Cascade

Castleton

Otter Creek Falls

Center Rutland

Saint Mary's Falls

Clarendon

Fall Brook Falls

Danby

The Falls

Fair Haven

Pico Falls

Alpine Dr. at Pico Mountain, Killington

Thundering Brook Falls

River Road, Killington

Flower Brook Cascade

Pawlet

Furnace Brook Falls

Pittsford

Patch Pond Falls
North

Grove St., Rutland across from the golf course

Sutherland Falls

off Patch St., Proctor

Button Falls

1007 Button Falls Rd., West Pawlet

Mill Brook Falls

Wells

BOAT RENTALS

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Blue Ridge Outfitters

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5 Sugar House Lane, Chittenden

802-345-6934

Woodard Marine

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53 E Creek Drive Castleton

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First Stop

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8474 US-4, Killington

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VERMONT OFFERS GUIDANCE TO HELP PROPERTY OWNERS PROTECT SHORELANDS

HEALTHY LAKESHORES PROVIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT, REDUCE EROSION, AND PROTECT WATER QUALITY

As folks head to their lakefront properties for the summer, the Vermont Lakes and Ponds Program is offering guidance to help property owners protect and restore their lakeside properties.

The Shoreland Best Management Practices guidance highlights different ways owners can improve lake water quality and the health of lakeshore habitat. Owners can use this guidance to plant native trees and shrubs, install rain gardens to absorb runoff, improve driveways and pathways, create no-mow zones, and more.

“Healthy lakes offer us many benefits from clean water and wildlife habitat to great places to fish, swim, boat, and relax,” said Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Jason Batchelder. “In 2014, Vermont passed the Shoreland Protection Act. It allows reasonable shoreland development while protecting these key benefits.”

The Shoreland Protection Act regulates new activities in protected shoreland areas that are within 250 feet of the shoreline of lakes and ponds 10 acres in size or greater.

Property owners need a Shoreland Protection Permit for activities in protected shoreland areas that create cleared areas (removing vegetation like trees or shrubs or disturbing the natural ground cover) or impervious surfaces (any hard or solid surfaces like roofs, roads, and parking lots where water runs off instead of soaks in).

Shoreland property owners can use the Sharing the Edge booklet to learn more about regulations to be aware of near the shoreline. The booklet also details what a healthy shoreland looks like and how Vermont manages its public waters.

To ask questions about proposed projects, property owners are encouraged to reach out to their regional Lake and Shoreland permit analyst. They can also visit the online Permit Navigator to find out what other state environmental permits might be needed.

For owners who want to go above and beyond Vermont’s shoreland regulations, the Lake Wise Program can offer technical assistance. The Vermont Lakes and Ponds Program oversees this voluntary initiative. It awards shoreland property owners who develop and manage their property in a lake-friendly manner.

“Since 2013, the Lake Wise Program has worked with lakeshore owners to reduce runoff and erosion into the lake while maintaining healthy lakeshore ecosystems,” said Alison Marchione, DEC lake shoreland coordinator. “So far, 298 lakeshore owners have earned a Lake Wise Award, making a positive impact on our state’s shorelines.”

The Department of Environmental Conservation is responsible for protecting Vermont’s natural resources and safeguarding human health for the benefit of this and future generations.

For more information, visit dec.vermont.gov.



“Healthy lakes offer us many benefits,” said Batchelder



GET OUT ON THE WATER!

BOATING ON BOMOSEEN EPITOMIZES SUMMER BUT SAFETY REQUIRED

By Victoria Gaither

Nothing says summer like boating season. Whether you are new to boating or an experienced boater, learning to be a responsible boating steward on waterways benefits everyone.

“As soon as it gets hot, I am ready to go boating,” said Louise Thompson, a recreational boater in Vermont.

Thompson has several years of boating under her belt but is always concerned about safety on the water.

“Accidents on the water can happen at any time. I took a boating course many years ago,” said Thompson, but at the start of every season, I brush up on my boating knowledge.”

Vermont law requires all motorized boat and PWC operators born after Jan. 1, 1974, to pass a boater safety course and to carry a boater education card.

At Woodard Marine on Lake Bomoseen, boating safety courses started in April and will run each month throughout the summer.

Greg Woodard, sales and finance operations manager at Woodard Marine, at Lake Bomoseen, says the boating safety course at Woodard is different. “There aren’t a lot of boater education centers in Vermont where the instructor can be right here talking about the stern or the bow and the boat is sitting here in the classroom.”

For Greg Woodard, boating season isn’t just in the classroom; it’s on Lake Bomoseen. “We survey

the lake and set out buoys, and they change yearly because of Mother Nature. We try to guide boaters on the safest path while navigating ‘the Channel’ of Lake Bomoseen,” said Woodard.

Lake Bomoseen is Vermont’s largest lake entirely within the state’s boundaries. It has a surface area of approximately 2,400 acres.

It’s also one of the busiest lakes serving Rutland County and surrounding areas.

To that end, Thompson and Woodard hope boaters practice good boating etiquette on the water.

Some of that etiquette could include:

- When launching and transporting your boat, keep the launch or travel lanes open
- Maximize parking at all times
- Operate watercraft in a careful and responsible manner
- Use caution when in populated areas and stay right when meeting other boats
- Always respect private property
- Regularly maintain your boat for your safety and to prevent gas and oil spills
- Clean, drain, and dry your boat before entering and after exiting the water

A third-generation family business, Greg Woodard has been around boats his life. He explains, “Our grandfather and grandmother had a boat-building company in Chester, Vermont, and before that, my

grandfather grew up learning how to build boats from his uncle Frank in Quebec, Canada.”

When asked his No. 1 tip for safety, he said, “There are a lot of very simple things like just taking a 360-degree view around you before you make any changes because you don’t have mirrors; there is no requirement for them to have them on boats.”

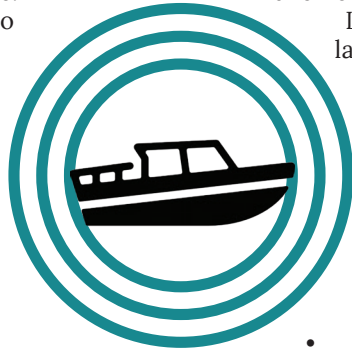
Also, make sure all passengers have a well-fitting life jacket and wear your safety lanyard kill switch while underway.

Getting ready for boating also means Woodard Marine has have over 1,000 boats to prep between customers who drop them off on trailers and boats to de-winterize.

“We prepare each boat, engine, and battery for on-water use and do a safety check to make sure the horn works, the lights work, the bilge can pump water, and many other things that unplanned fixes at the start of each season. Our main goal is any boat going out, we ask if I would put my family on this boat,” explained Woodard.

It’s never too early for young people to learn good boating skills. In April, they had a class for 15 and up, some with experience riding on a boat and others with no experience. Being able to touch the equipment made all the difference for the students.

One of the joys of leaving winter behind is summer on the lake, a place that never gets old to Greg. “I still enjoy being on the water. There is not a bad day on the water. Even if it is sprinkling rain, I am out on the boat.”



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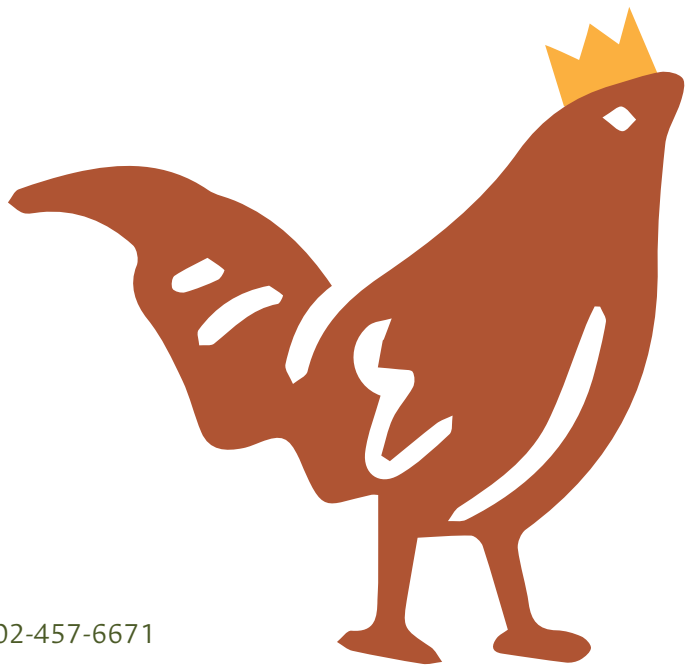
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Mountain Biking redefines summer in Vermont

Mountain biking has transformed the summer landscape in Vermont. Once considered a fringe sport, it now fuels tourism, energizes local economies, and anchors community recreation. Over the past decade, the number of riders has surged, spurring the expansion of lodging, restaurants, bike shops, and events. More than 2,500 bike trails now crisscross the state, the most per capita in the nation, and a growing number of these trails are accessible to beginners and intermediate riders—not just experts.

The sport's evolution has been driven by advances in bike technology, trail design, and sustained efforts from organizations like the Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA), which now includes over 9,100 members across 28 chapters. Their work with private landowners (who host nearly 75% of trails), public agencies, and local volunteers has created a thriving and cooperative

network that balances access with stewardship. In areas like Killington, where lift-served riding began in 1991, trail systems have been redesigned to offer routes for all skill levels, thanks to strategic investments and trail-building partnerships.

This focus on accessibility has helped turn Vermont into a mountain biking destination. Central Vermont alone boasts 35 lift-served trails at Killington Resort and more than 280 cross-country trails within a half-hour's drive. Trail apps like Trailforks and Strava tracked over 580,000 logged rides in 2022, and VMBA has observed a significant uptick in out-of-state riders flocking to Vermont. Some, like long-time rider Diane Pizzano, even consider relocating to be closer to the trails.

Still, with increased use comes pressure on the system. "Many sensitive trail systems were never intended to see such levels of use," VMBA noted. To meet demand and preserve the experience,

the organization has unveiled a long-term plan centered on sustainability, diversity of trail experiences, and enhanced support for trail maintenance. Nick Bennette, executive director of VMBA, emphasized their core goal: "We envision a future where mountain biking is at the center of healthy, economically vibrant, and environmentally sustainable communities."

Vermont's model is now seen as a national example of community-supported stewardship. By pairing access with responsibility, Vermont has not only grown the sport but also enriched the communities that host it. "The quality of Vermont's trails is now widely known," VMBA states—and increasingly, the state is being called the "Moab of the East."

To explore mountain biking in Vermont's 18 top riding zones, pick up the latest issue of GRIP magazine or view it online at: mountaintimes.info/e-edition/grip-2025.



Take a Hike

Leave no trace!

Please remember to pack out what you pack in leaving no trace behind on or off the trails. Please do stay on the trails as they've been designed to handle traffic and runoff — keep nature wild!

BRANDON

Mt. Horrid and the Great Cliff

Location: Brandon

Level: Moderate-Difficult

Trailhead: From US-7 in Brandon, head east on Route 73 to the top of Brandon Gap. Parking area is on the right before the top. Enter the Long Trail across the highway, follow it north for 0.7 miles to a spur trail (blue blazed) that leads out to the Great Cliff, a group of towering rocks that overlooks an active beaver area and moose habitat. A national forest signboard marks the start of the trail.

Distance: 0.7 miles

Elevation change: 620 feet

Moosalamoo Trails

Minnie Baker Trail, Leicester Hollow Trail, Chandler Ridge Trail, Silver Lake Trail

Location: Brandon

Level: Moderate

Trailheads: Take Route 73 east from Brandon, then turn left onto Route 53. Minnie Baker trailhead is 1.6 miles on the right.

Distance: 8.8 miles on all trails

Elevation change: 720 feet maximum

BROWNSVILLE

Ascutney Trails (Mount Ascutney State Park)

Location: Brownsville

Level: Moderate to Difficult

Trailheads: Access from Brownsville Trailhead, Weathersfield Trail, or Windsor Trail. Trail maps available at park office or online.

Distance: Varies by trail; 2.7 to 3.2 miles one-way to summit

Elevation change: 2,300 feet (summit gain)

CASTLETON/POULTNEY

Delaware & Hudson Rail Trail

Location: Castleton/Poultney

Level: Easy, wheelchair accessible

Trailheads: To start in Castleton: take Route 4 west to exit 5, then 0.5 miles west on US-4, then turn left into Castleton State College entrance on Seminary Street. Visitor parking area is to the right, designated trail parking spaces are at the end of the lot. To start in Poultney take US-7 south towards Wallingford, then turn west onto Route 140 in Poultney. Then turn left onto Grove Street, then right onto Bentley Street. Trailhead is on the left.

Distance: 7 miles between Castleton and Poultney

Elevation change: 50 feet

CHITTENDEN

Leffert's Pond Loop

Location: Chittenden

Level: Easy

Trailhead: From US-7 north of Rutland bear right onto the East Pittsford Road at the tall water tower. Continue straight through the village onto Dam Road and continue onto Wildcat Road on the right (marked). Access is via FR 412 at 1 mile on the left. Trail begins at the parking area, crosses two small dams, then bears to the right on a clockwise loop around Leffert's Pond, connecting back with Wildcat Road.

Distance: 2.3 miles

Elevation change: 200 feet

New Boston Trail

Location: Chittenden

Level: Moderate

Trailheads: From US-7 north of Rutland bear right onto the East Pittsford Road at the old water tower. Continue straight into the village, turn left over the small bridge and bear right onto Mountain Top Road

Distance: 2.4 miles

Elevation change: 740 feet

HARTLAND

Quechee Gorge Trail

Location: Hartland/Quechee

Level: Easy-Moderate

Trailheads: Start behind the Quechee Gorge Visitor Center on Route 4.

Distance: 1.3 miles round trip

Elevation change: ~165 feet

HUBBARDTON

Taconic Ramble State Park

Location: Hubbardton

Level: Moderate-Difficult

Trailheads: From Route 4 west of Rutland, take Exit 5 toward Hubbardton Battlefield. Travel about 6 miles to St. John Road, on your left. If you come to the Hubbardton Battlefield, you've gone too far! Turn left on St. John Road. The park access driveway will be 0.2 miles farther on your left. Continue down the driveway to the parking area just above the house. Maps are available.

Distance: 1.8 miles, network

Elevation change: 450 feet

KILLINGTON

Appalachian/Long Trail loop

Location: Sherburne Pass (Killington)

Level: Moderate-difficult

Trailhead: Find the AT/LT parking area on US-4 just west of Pico ski area. The loop runs counterclockwise. Follow the AT/LT 3.8 miles south to Sherburne Pass Trail. The Pico Link Trail (0.4 mi.) reaches the summit of Pico. Cross US-4 with extreme caution. Pick up the trail at the east side of the Inn at Long Trail. (Side excursion to the Deer Leap is possible). Complete the loop back to US-4 opposite the parking area.

Distance: 9.1-mile loop

Elevation change: 1,700 feet

Deer Leap

Location: Killington

Level: Moderate-Difficult

Trailhead: Take US-4 to the top of Sherburne Pass in Killington. Park across from The Inn at Long Trail and exercise extreme caution crossing US-4. The trail is to the right of the Inn. Trail is well marked with blue blazes.

Distance: 3.1 miles

Elevation change: 600 feet

Kent Brook

Location: Killington

Level: Easy

Trailheads: Take Route 100 north from US-4 in Killington. The Gifford Woods State Park parking area is ahead on the left. The Kent Brook Trail is marked. (Or hike south on the Appalachian Trail up to Deer Leap.) Yellow blazes.

Distance: 1.1 miles

Elevation change: None

Kent Pond

Location: Killington

Level: Easy

Trailheads: On Route 100 N from US-4, in Killington, the parking area is on the right. The trailhead is on the right side of the parking area near the road. White blazes. State boat launch.

Distance: 1.3 miles

Elevation change: None

Killington Peak

Location: Killington

Level: Easy-Difficult

Trailheads: From US-4 in Killington follow the detour signs to upper Killington Road and the resort. Park at the K-1 Base area at Killington Resort. Hiking trails are marked by letters A through K.

Distance: 0.2-2.2 miles

Elevation change: 20-1,640 feet



Take a Hike

Continued from page 16

Pico Peak

Location: Killington

Level: Difficult

Trailheads: On the west-facing slope of Sherburne Pass approaching the pass's summit. Long/Appalachian Trail crossing parking area is on the south side of US-4. The trailhead is at the southwest corner of the lot. White and blue blazes.

Distance: 8.5 miles

Elevation change: 2,000 feet

Thundering Falls Trail

Location: Killington

Level: Easy, wheelchair accessible raised boardwalk to the foot of the cascade

Trailheads: From Killington take US-4 east, then turn left onto River Road for 1.5 miles, past Sherburne Library and playing fields, parking area is on the left. Follow the boardwalk and Forest Service signpost.

Distance: 1 mile, 1,000 feet to the falls

Elevation change: 30 feet

MENDON

Bald Mountain

Location: Mendon

Level: Moderate-Difficult

Trailhead: Take US-4 east from Rutland to Town Line Road, proceed south on to a 'Y' with Notch Road and Killington Avenue. Bear left onto Notch Road and continue to a large sign, "Road Closed 1000 feet." Drive straight ahead to the parking area and kiosk. The trail begins at the kiosk and heads gently downhill to a fork, marked "Bald Mountain." From there it climbs uphill to an exposed cliff with a panoramic view of the Otter Creek valley and the Taconic Ridge.

A second trail leads in the opposite direction through the old Tamarack Notch Girl Scout camp, where the remains of firepits are still visible. The area is all part of Aitken State Forest.

Distance: 3.1 miles loop (Bald Mountain trail)

Elevation change: 1,130 feet

Blue Ridge via the Canty Trail

Location: Mendon

Level: Difficult

Trailhead: Take US-4 east from Rutland and continue on US-4 2.3 miles to the Y with Old Turnpike Road on the left. The trailhead is 1 mile ahead on the left, marked by blue blazes and a Forest Service signpost. Parking for 2-3 cars is available on a narrow gravel strip. The trail climbs steeply in places 2.4 miles to the summit, passing a cascade. 180-degree views from the 3,278-foot summit of the major mountain ranges.

Distance: 6 miles

Elevation change: 1,700 feet

Bucklin' Trail to Killington Peak

Location: Killington/Mendon

Level: Difficult

Trailhead: Take US-4 east from Rutland to Wheelerville Road on the right, follow for 4.1 miles to sharp bend ("Brewers Corner"), parking area on left with large kiosk. with parking area and trailhead on the left. Blue, white, then blue blazes. Very popular trail, trailhead parking fills up early in the day.

Distance: 7.2 miles

Elevation change: 2,500 feet

PERKINSVILLE

The Pinnacle

Location: Perkinsville

Level: Moderate

Trailheads: Access off Route 106; trailhead is located on Barre Hill Road, with small parking area.

Distance: 1.8 miles round trip

Elevation change: ~700 feet

PITTSFORD

Cantwell Trail, west section

Location: Pittsford

Level: Easy-moderate, wheelchair accessible along a creek.

Trailhead: Turn onto Elm St. from Route 7 at Kamuda's market in Pittsford Village and park at the Cooley Covered Bridge. The trail traverses a small floodplain and cornfields on Furnace Brook to the confluence with Otter Creek, then north along the tree-lined creek, then into old upland meadows. Active habitat for birds, otter, raccoon, beaver, turtles, waterfowl, amphibians.

Distance: 1.5 mile-loop

Elevation change: 200 ft.



Continued on page 18

Take a Hike

Continued from page 17

RUTLAND

Carriage Road

Location: Rutland, Pine Hill Park

Level: Easy-moderate

Trailheads: The Carriage Road is accessed directly from Evergreen Avenue and connects with the “Crusher Road” that leads to an abandoned quarry. The Carriage Road continues up to Rocky Pond, once a popular picnic spot and swimming beach operated by the city. Watkins Avenue accesses an old woods road that connects with the Carriage Road farther up. Roads are open but unpaved with uneven surfaces and loose rocks. Several old road-beds offer moderately strenuous hiking on steady inclines.

Distance: 0.85 miles (Carriage Road to Rocky Pond)

Elevation change: 273 feet

Carriage Trail (Currently closed)

Location: Proctor/Rutland

Level: Moderate/Difficult

Trailheads: From Rutland, take Preville Ave. off Crescent St. From Proctor, park on Olympus Road by the high school and hike up the old road through the woods towards Rutland.

Distance: 5.1-miles one way

Elevation change: 702 feet

SPRINGFIELD

Muckcross State Park Trails

Location: Springfield

Level: Easy to Moderate

Trailheads: Located off Muckcross Road; signage leads to parking area and trail access

Distance: Various loop options

Elevation change: Varies



WALLINGFORD

White Rocks Cliffs & Trail

Location: Wallingford

Level: Moderate-Difficult

Trailheads: From US-7 in Wallingford follow Route 140 east 2.1 miles to Sugar Hill Road on the right. Follow Sugar Hill Road for about 200 feet to the sign for the Green Mountain National Forest-White Rocks Picnic Area and turn right onto Forest Road 52. Follow FR 52 for 0.5 miles to the end. *To the cliffs:* follow the blue Keewaydin Trail, which leaves from the SE corner of the parking area and connects with the Appalachian Trail in 0.4 miles. Turn right after 1 mile onto a white trail to a stone cairn that marks the spur trail on the right leading to the cliffs. For the trail route, follow the blue blazes to the right from the SW corner of the parking area. Trail climbs to the top of a knoll at 0.2 miles where a spur trail to the left leads 0.1 miles to vista points, then descends to an old woods road and stream. The ice beds are at the base of a slope of tumbled boulders, named because winter ice lingers into the summer. The rocks here are Cheshire quartz, used by indigenous craftsmen for making tools.

Distance: 1.6 miles

Elevation change: 180–1,250 feet

WEST RUTLAND

West Rutland Marsh Trail

Location: West Rutland

Level: Easy, wheelchair accessible

Trailheads: From Business Route 4 in West Rutland, bear right onto Marble Street at flashing light intersection. Look for small parking area on the left. Signage for West Rutland Marsh Boardwalk. It's a great birding area!

Distance: 200 yards

Elevation change: None

WINDSOR

Paradise Park

Location: Windsor

Level: Easy to Moderate

Trailheads: Park at Windsor High School or access via Ascutney Street entrance; trails surround Lake Runnemede.

Distance: Network of short trails; loops up to 3 miles possible

Elevation change: Minimal

WOODSTOCK

Mount Tom (Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park)

Location: Woodstock

Level: Moderate

Trailheads: Park at the Billings Farm & Museum or the main visitor center. Follow signs for the Faulkner Trail or access carriage roads from Prosper Road or Mountain Road.

Distance: 4.2 miles loop

Elevation change: 500+ feet

Mount Peg Park

Location: Woodstock

Level: Moderate

Trailheads: Access from Golf Avenue or Mountain Avenue. Street parking available near trail entrances.

Distance: 2.5 miles (various loop options)

Elevation change: ~400 feet





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TICK CHECKS: AN UNFORTUNATE, BUT WISE, SUMMER ROUTINE

By Merisa Sherman

We pulled up our bright white socks, the old school mid-shin kind that in my dad's day might have had two red or blue stripes at the top. We pulled them up high, over our jeans and then sat down to put our sneakers on. Well, not too high, but just enough that no cracks showed in between the two fabrics, creating a fortress against the elements.

I couldn't remember the last time I had worn sneakers in the summertime; where I grew up, wearing foot protection of any kind was a sign of weakness. A demonstrative claim that your soles were too soft because you hadn't spent enough time in the woods or the beach running about barefoot. We might have worn a fancy pair of jellies to dinner, but we never wore shoes to run around in the woods and play.

Heck, we barely wore pants. Instead, we chose to run around in bathing suits and towels, traipsing through woods and streams hunting for crayfish in streams by feeling the rocks between our toes. It was easier and simpler, and what 8-year-old cares about anything when she can just go exploring in the forest.

But here we were now, with long pants, socks and sneakers. Our skin was covered from the waist down. Our parents gave up at trying to make us wear long sleeves in the height of the summer heat. But our beloved carefree lives were about to take a drastic turn.

Because the world had changed. I was 8 years old in 1986, when the first case of Lyme disease was reported in the Hudson Valley of New York. I don't think we really knew what they were, except that posters and information was being sent out from the health de-

partment *en masse*. In fact, I think the first time I even saw a tick was on a poster outside the candy commissary in our neighborhood.

It looked super cute, just a spidery looking thing that would be compared to the head of a pin. Unbeknownst to our parents, in the early years, we would pick them off our bodies and play with them. Watching them swim in a cup of water or seeing what would happen when we picked their legs off. We were unsupervised children, running through the woods and discovering things. Sometimes, we were nice and others times ... not so much.

Over the next few years, one random tick turned into white socks covered with the little guys. A run through the tall grass used to be fun, but now ... now we weren't really sure what was happening. At first it was funny, being covered with bugs. But the posters kept coming and the nightly tick checks took longer and longer as the word "Lyme" entered our vocabularies.

Yes, even with long pants with socks over them, those little buggers still crawled through and got into our most private places. We went from not showering for days (the lake always seemed to suffice), to nightly hot showers. Flashlights, hydrogen peroxide, lighters (to burn the ticks) and tweezers became essentials. I remember the excitement when one of my mom's friends found a tweezer with an attached magnifying glass. Every family quickly had at least one.

We were pros at tick checks, even the super embarrassing part. Because we didn't have a choice. No one

really knew what Lyme disease was, except that it was awful, your whole body would hurt and there was no cure. But man, we got good at removing those little buggers.

Pluck, pluck, pluck. As we counted how many ticks we picked off each other each night, our adventures started to change. The ballfield, where we had spent so much of our childhood, now stood empty most days. We stopped exploring in the tall grass, and weed whacking became the favorite pastime of our dads. We stopped exploring areas where we saw deer walking through or anything that had vegetation taller than our ankles.

If you wanted a shorter tick check, you stayed out of the grass. Our world got smaller that summer — drastically smaller.

And then I moved to Vermont and never saw a tick again. I stopped wearing socks and started running barefoot in the woods and tall grass once again. I purposefully took trails with vegetation tickling my armpits. I stopped running my hands over my body at the slightest tickle of grass. It was a dream come true, to be free in the forest once again.

And now, now that dream seems to be coming to an end. Please, please everyone, make nightly tick checks part of your daily routine. You won't regret it.

Merisa J. Sherman is a long-time Killington resident, global real estate advisor, municipal official, and Coach PomPom. She can be found on social @femaleskibum or at Merisa.Sherman@SothebysRealty.com.



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Grandma drink hits the spot on a summer night

By James Kent

During the summers of my youth, I looked forward to many things, but one of my favorites was going to my grandma's house on a hot summer's night, sitting on a porch rocker, looking out at the stars, and sipping Grandma drink through a bendy straw.

"Grandma drink" is what we called it, because as far as we knew, it was invented by my grandma. It's a simple drink with only a few ingredients, but it's oh-so-tasty, and every time I drink it, I think of my grandma sitting in her porch rocker, telling stories.

To start, begin with some fresh-brewed tea and chill it in the refrigerator. I'm not a tea drinker, and the only time I ever drink it is when I'm making Grandma drink. If you don't feel like brewing tea, you can get a jug of Lipton's or Arizona lemon Iced tea, and that should do the trick.

Fill a tall glass with ice, then add the tea to about 1/4 of the glass. Next, add ginger ale to the remaining glass. Cut a slice of fresh lemon, squeeze a bit of juice into the glass, and then garnish the rim with lemon. Stir the drink, grab a straw, and you're ready to make some summertime memories.

Grandma drink for the grownups

In my later years, I did an experiment with Grandma drink that turned out to be quite tasty. For a drink that is decidedly 21+, add a shot of whiskey to the glass before pouring in the other ingredients. Any bourbon will do, but I'm partial to Walter White's favorite, Vermont's own Whistle Pig.

Cheers!



A fantasy of flavors comes together in this tasty and healthy summer salad

Many moons ago, I lived in Scottsdale, Arizona, with my wife and then firstborn. One of our favorite restaurants to frequent was a place called Pita Jungle. Besides serving the most incredible hummus I've ever tasted, they had this delicious salad they called the Fruit Fantasia. The salad was aptly named because when those flavors hit your palate, you felt transported into a fantasy world.

When we moved back East and our family settled in Vermont, I planned a BBQ for my family from Massachusetts. I thought of the Fruit Fantasia and sought to recreate the experience. I am certain there are differences between my creation and the original from Pita Jungle, but it's pretty darn close. And here is the best part—it's interchangeable. If there is a fruit you love, add it. If there are particular fruits you don't like, leave them out. Have a specific cheese that's your go-to? Great—use it. The Fruit Fantasia isn't picky, and it accepts substitutions. Below are the basic ingredients; you can experiment to discover which combination works best. I make only one guarantee—if done right, everyone will love it and come back for more.

Fruit Fantasia salad

- 1 bunch of grapes (any flavor)
- 2 red apples
- 2 bananas
- 2 oranges or tangerines
- 1 pear
- 1 pint of strawberries
- 1 pint of blueberries
- 1 melon (cubed or balled)
- Watermelon chunks
- 1/2 pint raspberries
- 1 pineapple (cubed)
- 1/2 block cheddar cheese (cubed)
- 1/2 block jack cheese (cubed)

Note: These ingredients are interchangeable. Add or subtract as many or as few as you want, in whatever quantities suit the number of people you are serving.

Dressing

Any salad dressing will pair well with the Fruit Fantasia, or it stands up fine on its own. I use Brianna's Home Style Blush Wine Vinaigrette or Brianna's Home Style Raspberry Poppy Seed dressing. You may add it directly to the salad or keep it on the side.

Do yourself a favor: get a tub of strawberry yogurt and serve it as a side. Get some toothpicks for the salad, and the yogurt makes an excellent dip.





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A DREAMY CREEMEE ROAD TRIP THROUGH VERMONT

By James Kent



If you live in Rutland or Windsor County, you’ve learned one undeniable truth: You may live near some things, but you are only one hour in any direction from most other things. And that mantra makes our area the perfect environment for a road trip. When taking on a weekend road trip throughout Vermont, whether it’s an exploration into the state’s farther reaches or the far reaches of your county, I find it helps to add a side quest or two to round out the experience. And when summer hits, I can’t think of a better side quest than finding a good creemee. I’m originally from Massachusetts, and where I come from, a creemee is called a soft-serve. Upon moving to the Green Mountain State 10 years ago, I quickly learned the new nomenclature. You want to sound like a local? Get with the lingo, bub. It’s creemee! “Heard Chef.”

So, I am a mammoth fan of soft-serve...uhm, I mean, creemees. Love ’em. And what I enjoy most is setting out to find a new spot. Aren’t all creemees the same? No. No, they are not. And I’m a creemee junky, so sometimes all I need is your basic vanilla or chocolate in a cake cone without any frills. And thank goodness there are many places in the area to satisfy my itch. Still, there are some places, if you are willing to go the extra mile, that offer creemees with a unique spin. The following is a list of places I’ve been to or want to visit that might be worth your time if you’re road-tripping around the state this summer.

BARNARD

Silver Lake Syrups
5613 Stage Road

Silver Lake Syrups is a producer of pure Vermont maple syrup. So, is it any wonder why those in the know flock there to get a maple creemee made with that all-natural nectar?

BURLINGTON

Little Gordo Creemee Stand
71 S. Union St.

Show up at Little Gordo’s tiny stand in Downtown Burlington about 20 minutes before it opens, and you’ll find a line forming. They get their creemee mix from Vermont’s Kingdom Creamery, which supplies many establishments throughout the state. Kingdom Creamery specializes in a blend with a higher fat content, making these bad boys super delish. Little Gordo’s elevates the base with unique flavor offerings, and where else can you get cornflake toppings for your creemee?

CASTLETON

Robo’s Creemee’s & General Store
33 Creek Road

Creemees are what Robo’s is known for. In addition to their classic maple, Robo offers custom flavors every week and toppings such as Reese’s pieces. They also do creemee pies, and their specialty is their creemee ice cream sandwiches.

FAIR HAVEN

M&B Snack Bar
76 S Main St.

As the name implies, M&B Snack Bar offers a full assortment of summer eats, including burgers, hot dogs, chicken, sandwiches, seafood, and sides. And for dessert? You guessed it—creemees.

FERRISBURGH

Vermont Cookie Love
6915 US-7

Another devotee of Kingdom Creamery. Vermont Cookie Love also offers crushed cookie toppings. Seriously. If you are heading north on US-7, make sure to stop by.

KILLINGTON

Mad Hatter’s Scoops
40 Summit Road

Pour one out for the Mountain faithful. Mad Hatter’s also uses Kingdom Creamery. Mad Hatter’s also offers hard ice cream and sundaes with Rice Crispy Treats. Seriously. My wife had one recently. It’s a thing—a good thing.

LUDLOW

Green Mountain Sugar House
820 Route 100 N near Rte 103 junction.

The Green Mountain Sugar House is another Vermont pure Maple syrup producer, but if you visit their physical location, you can also get your hands on their legendary maple creemee. You won’t see it listed on their website—it’s for those in the know. Consider yourself known. Get there.

MIDDLESEX

Red Hen Baking Co
Crossroads of US I-89, VT-2, and VT-100B

If you’re looking for amazing baked goods and fantastic creemees, then you’ll want to get in your car and take a trip to Middlesex and the Red Hen Baking Co. Added bonus: You can get your creemee topped with Maple dust. That is not a typo.

MORRISTOWN

Gondolas Snack Bar
3107 VT-15

I haven’t been here yet, but I hear things. And those things make me want to take a road trip. They serve creemee flavors as diverse as pumpkin and espresso. That could be a cone worth driving to.

PITTSFORD

Joe’s 19th Hole
3066 US-7

Joe’s serves vanilla, chocolate, maple, and black raspberry. Enjoy your creemee on a cone, or have it sandwiched in between two homemade cookies. Yes, please!

RUTLAND

Prouty’s Parlor
62 Merchant’s Row

Prouty’s is an old-fashioned ice cream parlor that leans heavily on the fun side. A must-stop in Downtown Rutland, and in addition to Wilcox ice cream, they also serve maple creemees.

WEST RUTLAND

Village Snack Bar
389 West St.

On a hot summer evening, the line for creemees is long. But after grabbing some dinner at the Village Snack Bar, a creemee makes the perfect evening ender.

WALLINGFORD

Kelly’s Snack Shack
723 US-7 S.

Come for the lobster roll. Stay for maple creemee with maple crumble on top.

WOODSTOCK

White Cottage Snack Bar
823 West Woodstock Road

A Woodstock institution since 1957. This classic clam shack serves fresh seafood at a fraction of Massachusetts prices, and they have a variety of hard ice cream flavors and creemees. This place screams New England summer.

Woodstock Scoops
20 Central St.

It’s the farm-to-cone approach that makes this maple creemee special. Woodstock Scoops uses 100% local ingredients. Take a stroll through downtown Woodstock with a cone in hand, and you’re rolling.

(Over-the-Border)

QUEENSBURY, NEW YORK

Martha’s Dandee Creme
1133 Route 9

Think of Martha’s as the Disney World of creemees. For nearly 80 years, Martha’s has been serving ice cream in the Lake George region, and it’s a mecca for creemees that every fan of the treat must visit at least once. I visit there at least half a dozen times a season. Martha’s serves up a different assortment of 12 flavored creme’s on any given day, with 32 flavors in all, not counting the classics, chocolate and vanilla. Throw in a full range of dips and toppings, and Martha’s stands out as a dairy lover’s dream. No creemee road trip Bingo card is complete without a trip to Martha’s.



PYO, FRESH TASTES BETTER

A sure sign of summer is the sudden proliferation of pick-your-own (PYO) signs at farms and orchards and along roadsides. And PYO means fresh – that highly sought after fresh-off-the-vine strawberry, or blueberries or raspberries or blackberries or apples straight off the tree.

Here's a guide to places in Rutland County to PYO produce. See the calendar of when to expect what will be ripe for harvesting.

Whether you're after some fresh fruit filler for a summer pie, looking to stock your freezer for the long winter ahead, or simply out for a fun excursion with the family.



LOCAL PICK-YOUR-OWN

BLUEBERRY HILL FARM

401 Gates Road, Andover
Offerings: Blueberries and raspberries.
Open from July 15 to October 5; located off Rte. 11, 8 miles west of Chester Village.
Contact: 802-875-2239.

SUNRISE FARM

1759 North Hartland Road, White River Junction. Offerings: Flowers and herbs (as part of CSA membership.) Sunrise is a CSA farm offering a market-style share with pick-your-own flowers and herbs; also sells pasture-raised chicken, grass-fed lamb, honey, maple syrup, and products from neighboring producers. sunrisefarmvt.com.

SUNSHINE VALLEY BERRY FARM

Located on Rte. 100 north of Rochester at Ranger Road. PYO organic raspberries and blueberries in season. Sales shed offers pre-picked berries as well. 802-767-3989. Open daily 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Wood's Market Garden

Located at Rte. 7 and Wood Road south of Brandon. Farm stand hours: 10-5 Monday-Saturday, 10-4 Sunday. Fresh PYO fruits, veggies, cider, baked goods, sweet corn, and a vast array of potted perennials. Cash or check, please. 802-247-6630.

SUGAR HILL BERRY FARM

3237 Sugar Hill Road, East Wallingford. PYO blueberries, raspberries still in season. 802-259-2155. Open: beginning mid-July. Days, hours are subject to crop availability and weather conditions, so call ahead. Directions: Turn off Rte. 103 onto Rte. 140 in East Wallingford, cross the RR tracks in the village, then make a quick left onto Sugar Hill Road. Cash or check, please.

WELLWOOD ORCHARDS

529 Wellwood Orchards Road, Springfield. PYO strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, cherries, plums, peaches, apples, nectarines, squash, and pumpkins while in season. 802-263-5200. Open daily 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

WINSLOW FARMS

Located on US-7 south of Pittsford village.

HARVEST CALENDAR



Greens:
10 weeks, June-October



Herbs:
10 weeks, June-October



Tomatoes:
5 weeks, July-September



Raspberries:
2.5 weeks, August-September



Apples:
5 weeks, September-October



Pumpkins:
4 weeks, September-October



Sweet Corn:
5 weeks, July-September

LOCAL FARMERS' MARKETS

Farmers' markets run weekly throughout the summer.

BRANDON

Brandon Farmers' Market
Central Park, Brandon
Friday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

CASTLETON

Castleton Village Farmers' Market
Main Street, Castleton
Thursday, 3:30-6 p.m.

FAIR HAVEN

Fair Haven Farmers' Market
On the Park, Fair Haven
Friday, 3-6 p.m.

HARTLAND

Hartland Farmers Market
153 US-5, Hartland
Friday, 4-6:30 p.m.

KILLINGTON

Killington Farmers' Market
Killington Sports on US-4, Killington
Fridays, 3-6 p.m.

POULTNEY

Lakes Region Farmers' Market
Main Street, Poultney
Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

PROCTORSVILLE

Market on the Green
Village Green, 7 Depot St.
Friday, 4-7 p.m.

RUTLAND

Rutland Farmers' Market
Depot Park, Rutland
Saturday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Wednesday, 3-6 p.m.

SOUTH POMFRET

Mount Tom Farmers Market
Saskadena Six parking lot, 247 Stage Road, South Pomfret
Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

WOODSTOCK

The Market on the Green
The Green, 1 The Green, US-4, Woodstock
Wednesday, 3-6 p.m.



Dates are approximate time periods. Moisture levels, temperature and weather can affect growing seasons year-to-year.





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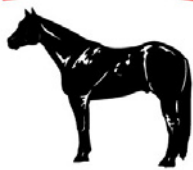
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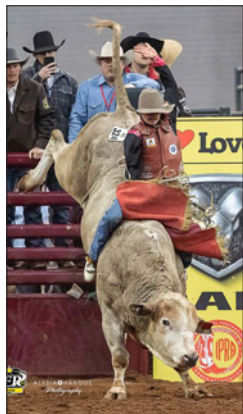
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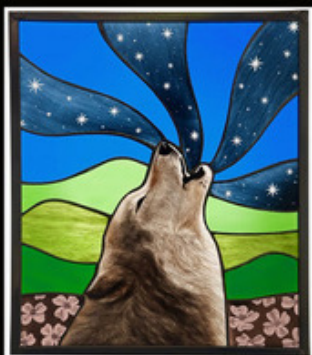
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VERMONT

Play MINI GOLF

18 holes at Mendon Mini Golf on US-4 will take up a nice afternoon, and it's fun for all ages — toddler to adult.

Swim, slide or SPLASH

White's Pool in Rutland opened a brand new facility in 2018, offering a competition pool with a diving board for older kids, and a family pool for all ages that has a slide and an area for splashing and spraying.

Try MOUNTAIN BIKING

For the adventure-seeking family, mountain biking is becoming increasingly popular! Killington offers lift-serviced trails or ride Pine Hill Park in Rutland, the Slate Valley Trails in Poultney, or the Pittsford Town Trails to power your own trip.

Visit A LIBRARY

A retreat with a book can be a much welcomed break from the sun — or a great rainy day option. And libraries are so much more than books! Check out their programs, rentals, seed catalogs, DVD collection and internet access.

Take A HIKE

Kids of all ages can enjoy this free, multi-level activity, with trails for any family, whether you're looking for a "sidewalk in the woods" or a full day hike.

Go CAMPING

Whether it's primitive camping in the Green Mountain National Forest, or in an RV at a Vermont State Park, the s'mores around the campfire will taste just as good.

Taste test VERMONT CREEMEEES

Whether you fancy a twist with rainbow sprinkles on a sugar cone, a hard-serve bubble gum in a dish, or a good ol' Vermont maple creemee, ice cream is not hard to find in the Green Mountain State. Find your favorite spot!

Visit A SUGAR SHACK

Many small maple producers offer their own certified pure maple syrup for sale in roadside stands. Watch for posted signs "Maple Syrup For Sale Here." Cash only, honor system.

Visit A STATE PARK

Vermont's State Parks are a day full of fun in the sun, with many featuring lake access with beaches, playgrounds, barbecue pits, water vessel rentals, and ample space for outdoor games.

Visit THE RESORT ADVENTURE CENTERS

Killington Adventure Center and Okemo Adventure Zone both have features for all ages, from roller coasters to bungee trampolines to scenic chairlift rides. It's a bit pricey but worth it for the fun.

Go HORSEBACK RIDING

Is your child into "everything horses?" Mountain Top Inn in Chittenden is one of few places around to take a guided trail ride. Plus, the scenery is pristine.



A campsite for everyone

100 years of Vermont State Parks

By Merisa Sherman

The Green Mountains are a gorgeous place to spend some time during the summer months. Surrounded by the lush greens of our forests, there are so many adventures to be had. But sometimes, you don't want to head inside at the end of the day. Instead, you would rather bask by the light of a crackling campfire, s'mores at the ready while you listen to the owls in their natural habitat of darkness.

When I travel, I choose campgrounds over the indoors. The smell of the fire, the rustic taste of your morning oatmeal with just a hint of pine needles for spice. Maybe you can hear the water lapping at the shoreline as you look out at the forest from underneath your tent flap. It's the perfect way to enjoy Vermont and we have the campground for everyone! Here are a few of the easiest/most accessible:

Vale parking lot

If you're here to ride the downhill trails at Killington Resort, head over to Vale parking lot for tier after tier of campers and tent pads. This camping lot is free, first-come first-serve and you will find bikers pedaling between campsites as they gather with friends they've met on the trails over the years. There is a real community here and the friends you make will become buddies for life. It also makes it easy to ride on back for a quick lunch and lube, since all your tools are undoubtedly in your car already. No need to pack your bike up every night and head to some hotel that will get cranky when your rubber messes up the paint.

Gifford Woods State Campground

Located in one of the oldest hardwood groves in Vermont, Gifford Woods is a traditional campground with some of the thickest trees you will see in New England. It was established in 1931 due to a land grant and has served the community so well that even Killington residents will rent one of the cabins or lean-tos for a night just to get away from it all — although you're still right in it. The Appalachian Trail passes right through the campground and you can either head up to Deer Leap or around the 100 acre Kent Pond with the boat launch right across the road. If pedaling is more your thing, you can jump right on the Pesky Cairn trail and access almost 30 miles of single track. If you're looking to explore all the variety that Killington has to offer, this is your campground.



Ricker Pond State Park

Looking for the perfect combination of everything, complete with swimming? Head over to the 26,000 acre Groton State Forest and stay on the shore of Ricker Pond! You have access to an easy gravel pedal on the Cross Vermont Trail as well as 17 miles of hiking trails and a shaded stream to explore! The Ricker Pond campground is more traditional, with over 20 RV sites, although still no hookups. This is a great place to take the kids, the family, or just spend some time away. I recommend the Violet or Lilac lean-tos for proximity to the boat launch and the shoreline.

Green River Reservoir State Park

If you are looking for true backcountry adventure but still prefer the safety of a campground, then my favorite place to stay is Green River Reservoir (653-acres) in Hyde Park. It's, admittedly, out of the central Vermont region. The Chittenden Reservoir (721-acres) is a comparable choice nearby and easier to access (but it is technically day-use only, though few know or obey that categorization from the Forest Service, as the sites are well defined and packed on weekends). The campsites are not accessible by car in either location. At the Chittenden Reservoir some are just a short walk away, while the more remote ones require a short 20-40 minute paddle. At Green River you must paddle 1 to 2 miles to reach your destination; choose between 27 remote campsites along the 19 miles of shoreline and is designated a "quiet lake" where only canoes, kayaks and electric motors under 5 mph are allowed. The park had pledged to remain a wilderness area to provide an escape from all the busyness of a traditional campground. And I couldn't be happier.

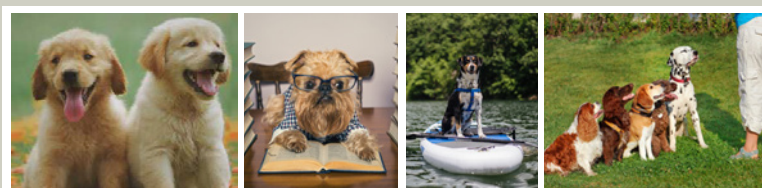


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JULY 23: ROSE HIP JAM	SEPT. 10: SCOTT FORREST
JULY 30: LAST TRAIN TO ZINKOV	SEPT. 17: BEECHARMER
AUGUST 6: PANHANDLERS	SEPT. 24: BEN CLARK & THE LONG SHADOWS

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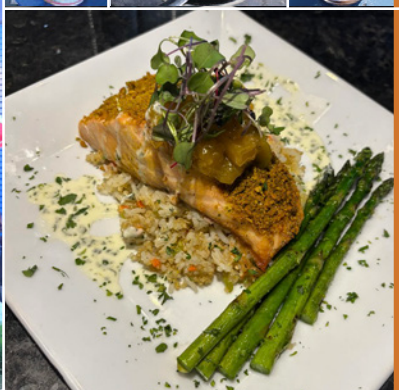

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Sherburne Memorial Library



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September 20, 2025

June 25: Bounce House, Art, Hot Dogs
July 2: Stencil Art
July 9: Squeegee Art
July 16: Weaving
July 23: Foil Art
July 30: Friendship Bracelets
Aug. 6: Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Mon-Fri 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
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2025 River Road Concert Series

Thursdays 6-7:30 p.m. starting July 3

At the Sherburne Memorial Library,
2998 River Road, Killington

Join us for FREE live music!

Bring a picnic, lawn chairs, friends and family!

- July 10: TwangTown Paramours
- July 17: Ener Jazz Big Band
- July 24: John Lackard Blues Band
- July 31: Ray Foley
- Aug. 7: Rick Redington and Tuff Luv
 - *Chili Cook-Off; Performance at K1 Base Lodge
- Aug. 14: Moose and Friends
- Aug. 21: Reese Fulmer and the Carriage House Band



Killington Chili Cook-Off 2025

Thursday, Aug. 7 from 5-8 p.m.

At K-1 Base Lodge, Killington Resort

Live music by Rick Redington and Tuff Love



Additional Programs & Events

- June 1st: Finding our Strides 5k Run/Walk benefits Killington Elementary School
- Johnson Recreation Pool opens June 16th with daily adult swim from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Junior Golf League for ages 9-14 will be held in collaboration with GMNGC June 23-Aug. 26
- Pickleball Club registration is now open.

For more info on Killington Rec programs and events visit: killingtonvt.myrec.com

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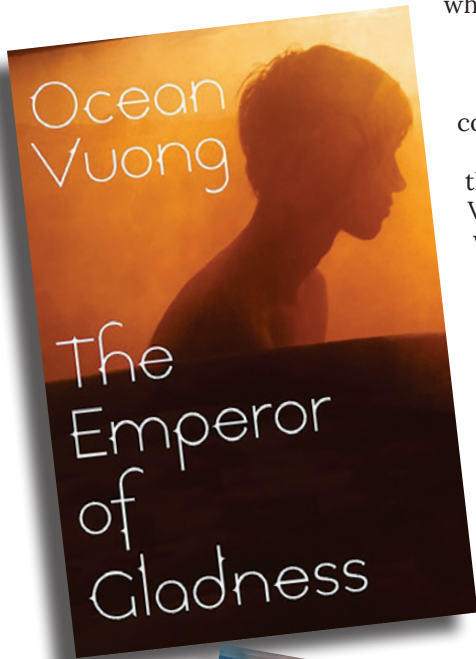


**1ST PUB IN VERMONT
TO SERVE GUINNESS**

What to read this summer

By Pearl Bellomo

Summer is the perfect time to dive into a good book. Whether you are an avid or aspiring reader, these five fiction picks from local bookstore staff and librarians may be exactly what you're looking for.



**“The Emperor of Gladness”
by Ocean Vuong**

Recommended by Tricia Huebner, co-owner of Phoenix Books Rutland
“The Emperor of Gladness” tells the story of Hai, a 19-year-old from Vietnam rescued by an elderly woman when he was about to take his life. Soon becoming her caregiver, they develop a close bond and help each other navigate the hardships of life.

“It was some of the most beautiful writing I’ve ever seen in my life. I’ve since heard the author interviewed a lot, and he’s an amazing human being,” said Huebner.

**“My Friends”
by Fredrik Backman**

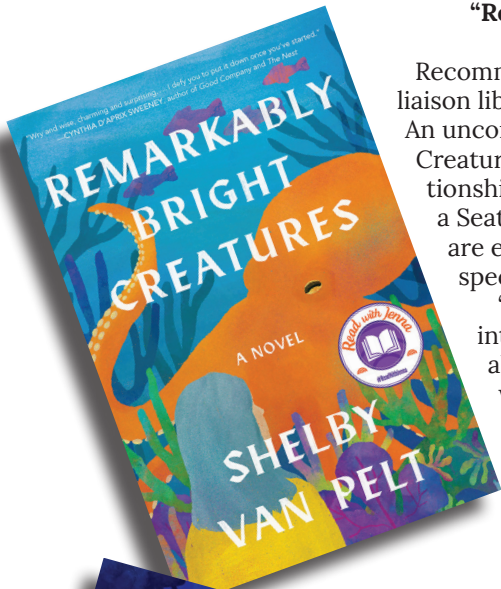
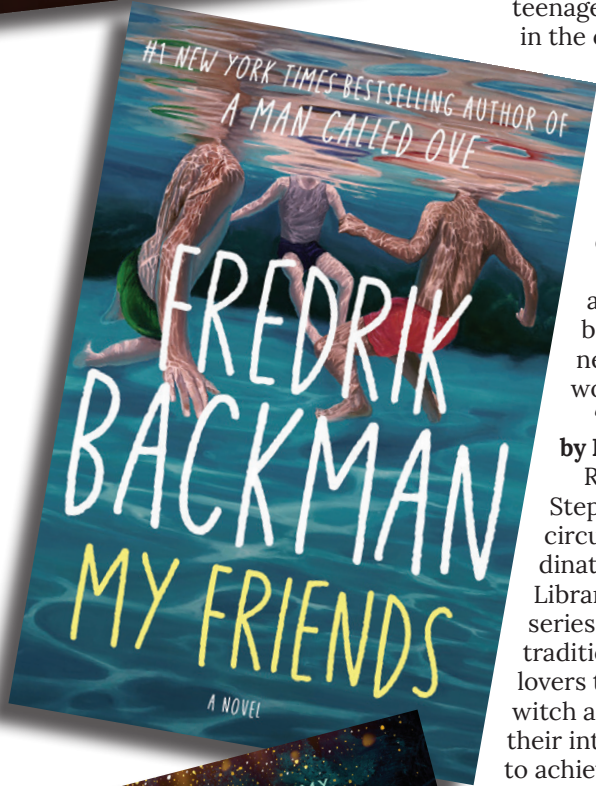
Recommended by Tricia Huebner. My Friends” is about four teenage friends depicted in the corner of a famous sea-side painting, which inspires aspiring artist Lousia is determined to uncover the story of.

“I’ve read almost all of his other books,” said Huebner. “He’s always worth reading.”

**“Heartless Hunter”
by Kristen Ciccarelli**

Recommended by Stephanie Traverse, circulation and ILL coordinator at Calvin Coolidge Library. This two-part series puts a twist on the traditional enemies-to-lovers trope. An undercover witch and witch hunter fake their interest in one another to achieve their own ambitions...until their feelings become real.

“[Enemies to lovers] has kind of been a theme for me recently,” said Traverse. “It was one of those where each chapter switches characters. Sometimes that can be a little confusing, but in this case, it was done really well.”



**“Remarkably Bright Creatures”
by Shelby Van Pelt**

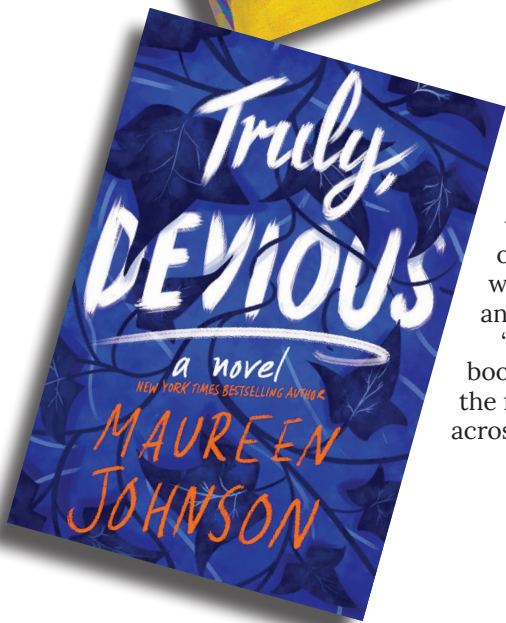
Recommended by Charlotte Gerstein, liaison librarian at Calvin Coolidge Library. An unconventional read, “Remarkably Bright Creatures” features a janitor’s unique relationship with an octopus while working at a Seattle aquarium. Some of the chapters are even told from the octopus’ perspective.

“It’s really fun to imagine a really intelligent animal like that, and it’s also kind of a heartwarming story with a bit of a mystery element to it. It’s a fast read, well written, and [has] compelling characters,” said Gerstein.

**“Truly, Devious”
by Maureen Johnson**

Recommended by Tiaunna Leddick, teen librarian at Rutland Free Library. This young adult mystery novel is set at a fictional school in Burlington, Vermont, where genius high schoolers can decide their own course of study. Stevie Bell decides that hers will be solving the cold case of the founder’s wife and child that went missing, all while new disappearances are happening around her.

“She’s funny, she’s sassy, her other books, they all grab you,” said Leddick. “It’s the first book I have legitimately thrown across the room in an excited way.”



Rockin' the Region Summer Music Events

By DJ Dave Hoffenberg

The Feast & Field Concert Series at Fable Farm in Barnard runs every Thursday from May 29 – Sept. 25. This outdoor food and music series features a diverse lineup of awesome bands. While all are great, you don't want to miss Lakou Mizik on July 3, Beecharmer on Aug. 21, and Bow Thayer's Choirs of Aether on Aug. 28.

Still on the Mountain in Killington is the place to be on the weekends with great live music every Friday and Saturday at 6 p.m. Don't miss Sundays and Mondays because every Sunday at 6 p.m. is Whiskey & Blues with Marc Edwards, and Monday is Mandatory MonDaves for Name That Tune Bingo with (yours truly) DJ Dave and Dave Parnell from 6 – 9 p.m.

The Public House in Quechee features live music every Tuesday (5:30 p.m. with Jim Yeager), Thursday (6 p.m. with Trivia and Bingo), and Friday and Saturday (5:30 p.m.). Some acts not to be missed are Jacob Green (July 5 and Aug. 2) and Kind Bud (July 11 and Aug. 29). Jacob is a one-man band that you have to see to believe. He's a blues and roots musician and a multi-string player who performs and rotates between cigar box guitars, resonator slide guitars, banjo, mandolin, ukulele, acoustic and electric guitar while simultaneously playing a stomp box and foot tambourine, plus harmonica for lead. Kind Bud is Bud Johnson, formerly of The Kind Buds. He is a singer-songwriter with a repertoire of over 1,000 covers and more than 50 original songs. He puts on a great show.

The Music on the Hill Summer Concert Series on the Field at Artistree is every Wednesday, June 18 – Sept. 24, at 6:30 p.m. Every week is an unforgettable evening of live music and community.

Don't miss this vibrant celebration of summer soundscapes at Artistree. Pack a picnic, bring a blanket, and unwind to the tunes under the open sky. Whether you're a fan of jazz, folk, or classical, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Some highlighted acts include Rose Hip Jam on July 23, Panhandlers on August 6, and Scott Forrest on September 10.

The Tunesday Concert Series at Pittsford Village Farm runs June 17 – Aug. 12 from 6–8 p.m. Every week, there's an incredible band, but I have to highlight one as a do not miss: The Mojo Birds on July 1. Many of them hail from Colorado. I saw them last summer, and they put on a banger of a show. People are still talking about it. An eclectic flock of songwriters. This is some funky modern roots music.

Think The Band, a touch of Al Green, and a healthy dose of Afro-Peruvian mojo.

BarnArts presents "The Sound of Music" at King Farm in Woodstock at their outdoor theater. It finishes its run the weekend of June 27 – 29.

The Seven to Sunset Concert Series is a cherished summertime tradition in Rutland City, and this year is extra special. The series kicks off on June 25, with concerts held every Wednesday evening from 7–8:30 p.m. at Main Street Park (5 South Main Street, Rutland, VT). The 2025 series will mark the grand reopening of the Main Street Park gazebo, making it a highlight of the summer season. Every week is great, but the ones I won't be missing are the kick-off show with Satin and Steel, Aaron Audet Band on July 16, and one I've never missed is July 23, Rick Redington and Tuff Luv.

The Jackson Gore Summer Concert Series at Okemo runs June 27–Aug. 29 at 5:30 p.m. It will start with a bang because it's The Gully Boys. The following Friday is Woody Guthrie's great-grandson and Arlo Guthrie's Grandson, Krishna Guthrie and his awesome band. If you love The Beatles, you'll love Studio Two on July 25. I saw them a few years ago, and they are spot on. Their music and showmanship are incredible. The What Knots featuring Sammy B play on Aug. 1. The series closes on Aug. 29 with a new band, Jenny & The Bets, which features great Vermont musicians Jenny Porter, Aaron Normand, and Justin Burgess.

Every Wednesday night in July and Aug. from 6–8 p.m., the beautiful grounds behind the Brandon Inn is the site of free concerts for the community. They always have an eclectic lineup of bands on tap. There are so many great shows it was hard to narrow it down, but for me, July 16 with Bloodroot Gap is bluegrass not to be missed. I first saw them at the festival I mention below. Other cool shows are July 30, Blues without Borders, and Aug. 27, Ten Rod Road. This classic Brandon band is reuniting for this one show.

The best and most affordable festival around is the Basin Bluegrass Festival in Brandon, taking place from July 10–13. It's been going strong for 29 years, marking the 30th anniversary. I've attended twice in the past and was blown away by all it had to offer. The music is exceptional.

It may be a little out of the region, but The Dead of Summer Music Festival in Manchester July 11 – 13 is a good time. It's held at Hunter Park, featuring music from over 20 performers, with Melvin Seals & JGB headlining. Also performing are reggae legends The Wailers and local favorites Bow Thayer & Krishna Guthrie.

Okemo's Annual Taps and Taste Festival will be held Saturday, Aug. 2, from noon–5 p.m. Join them for your opportunity to sample some of Vermont's favorite local brews and ciders while enjoying live music, fantastic food offerings, and over 50 craft beers from the region. Connecticut is featured in this year's stellar lineup. DJ Dave (yup, that's me), formerly of Connecticut and also Okemo's resident DJ, will kick off the show with a wide variety of music. Kenny Mehler (Glastonbury, Connecticut) will perform from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Kenny

The 2025 series will mark the grand reopening of the Main Street Park gazebo.

is an American singer-songwriter best known for his songs "Moses Brown" and "Pasadena". Mehler is a country and rock artist with several studio albums and live recordings to his credit. Kenny is known for his high-energy live shows and catchy songwriting. Chris Karr (owner of Pickle Barrel) once said, "Kenny is the best live performer I've seen." Soul Tsunami is bringing the whole soul to you. More than just a "Super Band," Soul Tsunami is a collective of rare talent whose roots span across acclaimed bands and artists. Their bond goes beyond the stage, forged through a deep musical history and tradition in Hartford County, Connecticut. For over two decades, Soul Tsunami has delivered inspiring music to its audience. Effortlessly weaving through styles and sounds, every performance tells a unique and unforgettable story. The band and its members have performed alongside and shared the stage with acclaimed artists such as Tower of Power, The O'Jays, The Roots, The Stray Cats, and numerous others. At its heart, Soul Tsunami is a network of passionate musicians who've been creating magic together—and with others—for decades. When they unite or welcome fresh talent to ride the sonic Tsunami, it's always something uncommonly memorable.

Do yourself a favor: get out this summer and take in some of these fantastic bands.



Courtesy Pittsford Village Farm

2025 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

CASTLETON SUMMER CONCERTS

AT THE PAVILION

Tuesdays, 7 p.m. State University Castleton

July 8 – Blue Jay Way

July 15 – TS Ensemble

July 29 – Phil Henry & The Newsfeed

Aug. 5 – Satin & Steel

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Thursdays, 7 p.m. at the Fair Haven Town Park, Fair Haven.

June 26 – Extra Stout

July 3 – The Army Band and Iron Sights

July 10 – Wailon

July 17 – Mellow Yellow

July 24 – The Hitmen

July 31 – Enerjazz Big Band

Aug. 7 – Blue Jay Way

Aug. 14 – Aaron Audet Band

COOLER IN THE MOUNTAINS

Saturdays, 3 p.m. at the K-1 Base Area, Killington Resort, Killington

July 5 – The Crowded Table

July 12 – Big Something

July 19 – Phillip-Michael Scales

July 26 – Wheeland Brothers

Aug. 2 – Zach Nugent's Dead Set

Aug. 9 – Stephanie Anne Johnson

Aug. 16 – Bermuda Search Party

Aug. 23 – Griffin William Sherry

Aug. 30 – Haley Jane

Sept. 6 – Jamie's Junk Show

TUNESDAYS ON THE FARM

Tuesdays, 6 p.m. at Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford

June 25 – Silas Hamilton and Friends

July 1 – Mojo Birds

July 8 – Gypsy Reel

July 15 – Mean Waltons

July 22 – Hayburners

July 29 – Aaron Audet Band

Aug. 5 – Red Clover Trio

Aug. 12 – Krishna Guthrie

MUSIC AT THE RIVERBEND

Wednesdays, 6 p.m. behind the Brandon Inn, Brandon

July 2 – Jenni Johnson

July 9 – TinyusSmallus

July 16 – BloodRoot Gap

July 23 – Twangtown Paramours

July 30 – Blues Without Borders

Aug. 6 – Breanna & the Boys

Aug. 13 – Cold Chocolate

Aug. 20 – Enerjazz

Aug. 27 – Ten Rod Road

SEVEN TO SUNSET CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Wednesdays and Sundays, 7 p.m. at Main Street Park, Rutland

June 25 – Satin and Steel

July 2 – Honey

July 9 – West Rutland Rock Lab

July 16 – Aaron Audet Band

July 23 – Rick Redington & Tuff Luv

July 30 – The Scott Hopkins Trio

SHREWSBURY MEETING HOUSE CONCERT SERIES

Fridays, 6 p.m. at the Shrewsbury Meeting House, 88 Lottery Road, Shrewsbury (unless noted otherwise)

June 27 – Mojo Birds

July 11 – Gaslight Tinkers

July 18 – Rod MacDonald

July 25 – Trio of Aether: Bow Thayer, Krishna Guthrie, and Steve Ferraris

Aug. 8 – Yankee Chank

CAVENDISH SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at the Svec Memorial Green, Proctorsville.

July 3 – Gypsy Reel

July 16 – East Bay Jazz Ensemble

July 23 – Wayne Canney & Friends

July 30 – Bow Thayer & Krishna Guthrie

Aug. 6 – Bear Mountain Boys

COUNTRY GIRL DINER SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Saturdays 5 p.m. at the Country Girl Diner, Chester

July 12 – Rustie Bus

Aug. 9 – The Blue Collar Band

Sept. 6 – Rustie Bus

MUSIC BY THE RIVER

Fridays, 6 p.m. at East End Park, Woodstock

July 11 – The Cash Box Kings

July 18 – Rubarth

July 25 – Lakou Mizik

Aug. 1 – Tuck & Patti

Aug. 8 – The Clements Brothers

Aug. 15 – Jay Nash

Aug. 22 – Locals Open Mic

ARTISTREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. at Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret

June 25 – Grey Cats Quartet

July 2 – Evan Panzer

July 9 – Martin Decato and the Prickly Heat Tantalizers

July 16 – Sandiland & Vincent

July 23 – Rose Hip Jam

July 30 – Last Train to Zinkov

Aug. 6 – Panhandlers

Aug. 13 – The Laurie Goldsmith Project

Aug. 20 – The Sidewinders

Aug. 27 – TBD

Sept. 3 – Sensible Shoes

Sept. 10 – Scott Forrest

Sept. 17 – Beecharmer

Sept. 24 – Ben Clark & The Long Shadows

SUNDAYS ON THE HILL CONCERT SERIES

Sundays, 4 p.m., \$10

Old Parish Church, Route 100, Weston

June 29 – Mowitz-Hong Duo – Piano & Cello

July 13 – Duo Mundo – Guitar & Cello

July 20 – Counterpoint Chorus – Gilded Age Songbook

Aug. 3 – Equinox Wind Quintet

Aug. 10 – Liana Paniyeva – Piano Recital

RIVER ROAD CONCERT SERIES,

Thursdays, 6 p.m.

Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington

July 3 – The Loonz

July 10 – Twangtown Paramours

July 17 – Ener Jazz Band

July 24 – John Lackland Blues Band

July 31 – Ray Foley

Aug. 7 – Chili Cook-off with Rick Reddington and Tuff Luv

Aug. 14 – Moose and Friends

Aug. 21 – Reese Fulmer and the Carriage House Band

JACKSON GORE SUMMIT MUSIC SERIES,

Fridays, 5:30 pm.

Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow

July 4 – Krishna Guthrie Band

July 11 – Sly Richard

July 18 – Adam McMahon Band

July 25 – Studio Two

Aug. 1 – The What Knots

Aug. 8 – Cold Chocolate

Aug. 15 – Jester Jigs

Aug. 22 – Total Strangers

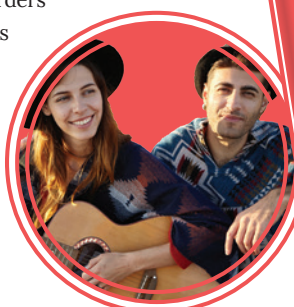
Aug. 29 – Jenny & the Bets

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE,

5 p.m., Center St., Downtown Rutland

July 11 – Howie Day

Aug. 1 – David Cook





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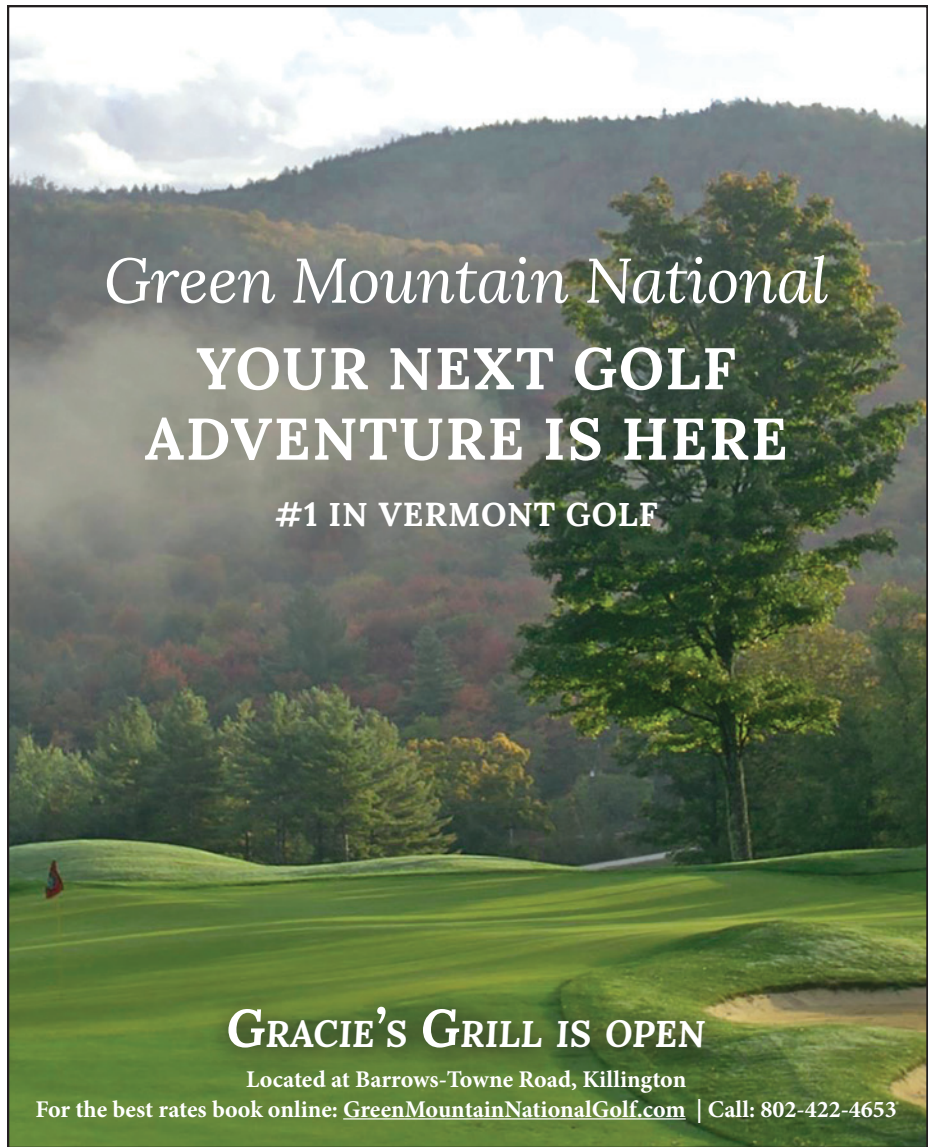
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 25

Killington Bike Bum Race Series

2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary.

Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Grey Cats Quartet

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Seven to Sunset Concert Series: Satin and Steel

7 p.m. Main Street Park in Rutland. Free.

Join us for the Rutland Recreation and Parks Dept. 2025 Summer Concert Series, Rutland City's summertime tradition. A new band will play from the gazebo at Main Street Park every Wednesday throughout the summer. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic dinner to Main Street Park on Wednesday evenings. rutlandrec.com/7tosunset.

June 26

Killington Golf Course League Nights

5 p.m. Killington Golf Course.

Michelob ULTRA and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. For more info visit killington.com. To register call: 802-422-6700.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park: Extra Stout

7 p.m. Fair Haven Town Park. Free.

Hot dogs, chips, and soda each night, plus a 50/50 drawing each night. Picnic tables in the park. poultneyareachamber.com.

June 27-29

West Windsor Music Festival

Times vary. Historic Town Hall, West Windsor. \$12-\$15.

This 4th annual festival brings together new musical friends with creativity and intrigue. All ages. Free for children 12 and under. Guest artists include Nick Sanders (jazz piano), Amadi Azikiwe (viola), and Joanna Maurer (violin). westwindsorvtmusicfestival.com.

June 27

Food & Art Fridays: Content Clown

5:30 p.m. Sable Arts Projects, 588 North Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. \$5-\$20.

Food & art come together, featuring Fat Drag-on Farm's wood-fired pizza, and work-in-progress showings by Sable Artists in Residence and live performances by featured headlining artists. directory.vermontdance.org/events/food-art-fridays-sable-project.

Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series: Mojo Birds

6 p.m. Shrewsbury Meeting House at 88 Lottery Road in Shrewsbury. Free.

There is lots of room to spread out, dance, and enjoy the company of others. For more info visit Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series on Facebook.

June 28

Cirque Series

9 a.m. Killington Resort.

Cirque Series trail running event comes to Killington for the first time. 7+ mile course, vendor village, live music, and a large raffle. killington.com.

Independence Day Spectacular & Fireworks

6 p.m. Devil's Bowl Speedway in West Haven. \$20 adults, 12 and under Free.

Devil's Bowl presents its Independence Day fireworks spectacular—the biggest fireworks display in Central Vermont. Fireworks after racing. Sportsman Modifieds 44 laps. devils-bowl Speedwayvt.com.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

June 29

Sundays on the Hill Concert Series: Mowitz-Hong Duo – Piano & Cello

4 p.m. Old Parish Church, Route 100, Weston. \$10.

Pianist Sahun Sam Hong and cellist Zachary Mowitz present a program featuring works by Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann, Leos Janáček and Johannes Brahms. sundaysonthehill.org.



Celebrating Independence

BRANDON, KILLINGTON, RUTLAND, WEST HAVEN

July 1

VSO Summer Festival Tour: 'Summer of Love' – Castleton

7:30 p.m. Vermont State University Castleton Pavilion, 360 South St., Castleton. \$33-\$40.

Come feel the love with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra's 2025 Summer Festival Tour: Summer of Love. This year's program blends global and genre-spanning favorites, including selections from "Romeo and Juliet," "West Side Story," the "Star Wars" theme, and pop classics like "I Put A Spell On You" and "Nature Boy." Mezzo-soprano Nikola Printz joins as guest vocalist. A Vermont summer tradition, each concert includes access to the Musical Petting Zoo, where attendees can explore orchestral instruments before the show.

Tuesdays on the Farm: Mojo Birds

6 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Hosted by Pittsford Village Farm, Tuesdays series presents nine outdoor concerts throughout the summer season. These events are free and open to the public. Food truck will be on site. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

July 2

Killington Bike Bum Race Series

2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary.

Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.

Music at the Riverbend: Jenni Johnson

6 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free.

Old & new school; jazzy & swinging & funky. brandon.org.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Evan Panzer

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Slate Valley Trail Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides

6 p.m. Fairgrounds Trailhead, Poultney. Free.

Join Slate Valley each Wednesday night for our weekly Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides. Ride with an amazing group of women on our beautiful SVT trail network. We will incorporate skills and optional bike wrenching as well. This is a no drop ride and all are welcome. We will honor an inclusive and supportive environment for any person who identifies as a woman. slatevalleytrails.com.

VSO Summer Festival Tour: "Summer of Love" – South Pomfret

6:30 p.m. Saksadena Six Ski Area, 247 Stage Road, South Pomfret. \$33.

Come feel the love with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra's 2025 Summer Festival Tour: Summer of Love. This year's program blends global and genre-spanning favorites, including selections from "Romeo and Juliet," "West Side Story," the "Star Wars" theme, and pop classics like "I Put A Spell On You" and "Nature Boy." Mezzo-soprano Nikola Printz joins as guest vocalist. A Vermont summer tradition, each concert includes access to the Musical Petting Zoo, where attendees can explore orchestral instruments before the show.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued from page 39

Seven to Sunset Concert Series: Honey
7 p.m. Main Street Park in Rutland. Free.
Join us for the Rutland Recreation and Parks Dept. 2025 Summer Concert Series, Rutland City's summertime tradition. A new band will play from the gazebo at Main Street Park every Wednesday throughout the summer. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic dinner to Main Street Park on Wednesday evenings. rutlandrec.com/7tosunset.

July 3

Killington Golf Course League Nights

5 p.m. Killington Golf Course.
Michelob **ULTRA** and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com.
To register call: 802-422-6700.

River Road Concert Series: The Loonz

6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington. Free.
The concerts are held on Thursday evenings, behind the library. Bands set up near the building and patrons can bring picnic suppers, lawn chairs, blankets, etc to enjoy the show. The concerts are scheduled rain or shine. sherburnelibrary.org.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park: The Army Band and Iron Sights
7 p.m. Fair Haven Town Park. Free.
Hot dogs, chips, and soda each night, plus a 50/50 drawing each night. Picnic tables in the park. poultneyareachamber.com.

July 4

Killington 4th of July Celebration
9 a.m - 9 p.m. River Road in Killington. Free.
Calling all Killington residents, visitors, and businesses. Our Independence Day celebration is back! There will be a parade, firemen's BBQ, games, fireworks and more. This event is sponsored by the Killington Fire Dept., Killington Parks and Recreation, and the Killington Transfer Station. Please check the Killington Rec. website for any updates regarding this event. killingtonvt.myrec.com.

4th on the Farm
10 a.m - 5 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Standard admission.
Celebrate 4th of July with wagon rides, live music, ice cream-making, and a historic 1860s-style "base ball" game at 2 p.m. Explore Farmstead Gardens and enjoy Vermont-made treats. billingsfarm.org.

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: Krishna Guthrie Band
5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.
Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

Summer Smash
6:30 p.m. State Fairgrounds, Rutland. \$12.
The Vermont State Fair will host the Summer Smash & Fireworks on Friday July 4. Gates open at 4 p.m. dnamotorsportsvt.com.

July 5

Brandon Independence Day Celebration
All Day. Downtown Brandon. Free.
With its newly revitalized streetscape, several downtown pocket parks and waterfalls, gorgeous historic architecture, quaint shops, and multiple lodging options and restaurants, Brandon is a top choice for visitors from all over and for all ages. This year, besides the procession there will be bands in the parks, the Heritage Train giving rides up Park Street and two auction sites. Additionally, there will be a beer garden, our world-famous Little Debbie Swiss Cake Roll Eating Contest, an evening street dance and fireworks at dusk that can be seen from up to a mile away. brandon.org.

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: The Crowded Table
3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.
Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 - 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 - Sept. 6. killington.com.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo
7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).
Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

July 8

Summer Concerts at the Pavilion: Blue Jay Way
7 p.m. Castleton Pavilion. Free.
These Tuesday concerts are free and open to the public and will be held rain or shine. Dugout Dogs will provide concessions, while Vermont State University Castleton will collect non-perishable food items at each concert to support the Castleton food shelf. Bring your chairs by anytime after 5 p.m. on the concert night. Meet the artist's reception following the performance. For more info: Castleton Conferences & Events @ 802-468-6039.

Tuesdays on the Farm: Gypsy Reel
6 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.
Hosted by Pittsford Village Farm, Tuesdays series presents nine outdoor concerts throughout the summer season. These events are free and open to the public. Food truck will be on site. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

July 9

Killington Bike Bum Race Series
2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary.
Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.

Cavendish Concert Series: Gypsy Reel
6 p.m. SVEC Memorial Green, Proctorsville. Free.
cavendishconnects.com.

Music at the Riverbend: TinyusSmallus
6 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free.
A high energy 90s nostalgia band with tight grooves. fbrandon.org.

Slate Valley Trail Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides
6 p.m. Fairgrounds Trailhead, Poultney.
Join Slate Valley Wednesday nights for our weekly women's mountain bike group rides. Ride with an amazing group of women on our beautiful SVT trail network. We will incorporate skills and optional bike wrenching as well. This is a no drop ride and all are welcome. We will honor an inclusive and supportive environment for any person who identifies as a woman. slatevalleytrails.com.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Martin Decato and the Prickly Heat Tantalizers
6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.
Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Seven to Sunset Concert Series: West Rutland Rock Lab
7 p.m. Main Street Park in Rutland. Free.
Join us for the Rutland Recreation and Parks Dept. 2025 Summer Concert Series, Rutland City's summertime tradition. A new band will play from the gazebo at Main Street Park every Wednesday throughout the summer. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic dinner to Main Street Park on Wednesday evenings. rutlandrec.com/7tosunset.

July 10

Killington Golf Course League Nights
5 p.m. Killington Golf Course.
Michelob **ULTRA** and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com.
To register call: 802-422-6700.

River Road Concert Series: Twangtown Paramours
6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington. Free.
The concerts are held on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. behind the library. Bands set up near the building and patrons can bring picnic suppers, lawn chairs, blankets, etc to enjoy the show. The concerts are scheduled rain or shine. sherburnelibrary.org.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park: Wailon
7 p.m. Fair Haven Town Park. Free.
Hot dogs, chips, and soda each night, plus a 50/50 drawing each night. Picnic tables in the park for your family to enjoy supper before the concert. poultneyareachamber.com.

July 11

Friday Night Live: Howie Day
5 p.m. Center Street in Downtown Rutland. Free.
Rutland's favorite concert series returns this summer with free performances downtown! Folks can enjoy activities, giveaways, shopping, visiting vendors, food trucks, and more.

Food & Art Fridays: Big Teeth
5:30 p.m. Sable Arts Projects, 588 North Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. \$5-\$20.
Food & art come together, featuring Fat Dragon Farm's wood-fired pizza, and work-in-progress showings by Sable Artists in Residence and live performances by featured headlining artists. directory.vermontdance.org/events/food-art-fridays-sable-project.

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: Sly Richard
5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.
Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued from page 40

Music by the River: The Cash Box Kings

6 p.m. East End Park, Woodstock. Free. Pentangle Arts presents its annual Music by the River concert series of free outdoor concerts featuring seven Friday evenings of regionally and nationally renowned artists. pentanglearts.org.

Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series: Gaslight Tinkers

6 p.m. Shrewsbury Meeting House at 88 Lottery Road in Shrewsbury. Free. There is lots of room to spread out, dance, and enjoy the company of others. For more info visit Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series on Facebook.

July 10-13

Basin Bluegrass Festival

All Day. End of Basin Road in Brandon. \$15-\$75/person.

The 30th Basin Bluegrass festival is held at the end of Basin Road and will be well signed. Gates open July 7 at 8 a.m. for early bird camping. For advance tickets (prices vary), and more visit: basinbluegrassfestival.com.

July 12-13

45th Annual Rave Car Show

9 a.m. Vermont State Fair Grounds in Rutland. \$5/spectator and \$15-\$20 to register a car.

Car show open to all makes and models, large trucks, motorcycles, vintage campers/boats welcome as well. Gates open at 7 a.m. both days for exhibitors, 9 a.m. for spectators. 5 awards given out on Saturday, top 30 and specialty awards on Sunday. Large handcrafted area, auto related flea market vendors, and more. Music, food, door prizes, silent auction. ravecclub.com/ravecarshow.

July 12

Incredible Insect Festival

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. VINS Nature Center in Quechee. Included with admission.

Welcome to the fascinating world of insects at VINS' Incredible Insect Festival. A showcase of a multitude of live caterpillars at The Caterpillar Lab. Through demonstrations, exhibits, games and crafts, visitors to the VINS Nature Center will have a fun day discovering the insects we share our planet with. Learn how important insects are for scientists trying to protect the environment with Vermont Center for Ecostudies researcher Desirée Narango. vinsweb.org.

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Big Something

3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 - 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 - Sept. 6. killington.com.

47th Annual Goshen Gallop

4 p.m. start time. Blueberry Hill Inn at Goshen. Fees vary.

Hosted by the iconic Blueberry Hill Inn, in the heart of the spectacular Green Mountain National Forest. Participants can tackle either the famous 10.2K— or the equally awesome, but more merciful 5K run. Since 1978 the Goshen Gallop has invited runners from across Vermont and around the world, seeking to take the road less traveled. For more info and to register visit goshengallop.com.

Country Girl Diner Summer Concert Series: Rustie Bus

5 p.m. Country Girl Diner, Rt. 103, Chester. Free.

Family friendly outdoor venue. BYOB chairs, coolers, blankets encouraged. Snack bar will be open. Additional free parking across the street at Rockingham Vet Clinic.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

July 13

Sundays on the Hill Concert Series: Duo Mundo – Guitar & Cello

4 p.m. Old Parish Church, Route 100, Weston. \$10.

Cellist Rebecca Hartka and Grammy-nominated guitarist/composer José Manuel Lezcano perform an expressive program of classical and Latin-inspired works. sundaysonthehill.org.

July 15

Summer Concerts at the Pavilion: TS Ensemble

7 p.m. Castleton Pavilion. Free.

These Tuesday concerts are free and open to the public and will be held rain or shine. Dugout Dogs will provide concessions, while Vermont State University Castleton will collect non-perishable food items at each concert to support the Castleton food shelf. Bring your chairs by anytime after 5 p.m. on the concert night. Meet the artist's reception following the performance. For more info: Castleton Conferences & Events @ 802-468-6039.

Tuesdays on the Farm: Mean Waltons

6 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Hosted by Pittsford Village Farm, Tuesdays series presents nine outdoor concerts throughout the summer season. These events are free and open to the public. Food truck will be on site. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.



Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo
SATURDAYS, POND HILL RANCH, CASTLETON

July 16

Killington Bike Bum Race Series

2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary.

Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.

Cavendish Concert Series: East Bay Jazz Ensemble

6 p.m. SVEC Memorial Green, Proctorsville. Free.

cavendishconnects.com.

Music at the Riverbend: Blood-Root Gap

6 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free.

Locally sourced free-range bluegrass. brandon.org.

Slate Valley Trail Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides

6 p.m. Fairgrounds Trailhead, Poultney.

Join Slate Valley each Wednesday night for our weekly women's mountain bike group rides. Ride with an amazing group of women on our beautiful SVT trail network. We will incorporate skills and optional bike wrenching as well. This is a no drop ride and all are welcome. We will honor an inclusive and supportive environment for any person who identifies as a woman. slatevalleytrails.com.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Sandiland & Vincent

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Live music on the hillside. Weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Seven to Sunset Concert Series: Aaron Audet Band

DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PICK UP A COPY OF THE MOUNTAIN TIMES NEWSPAPER OR MOUNTAINTIMES.INFO FOR UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULES.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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7 p.m. Main Street Park in Rutland. Free. Join us for the Rutland Recreation and Parks Dept. 2025 Summer Concert Series, Rutland City's summertime tradition. A new band will play from the gazebo at Main Street Park every Wednesday throughout the summer. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic dinner to Main Street Park on Wednesday evenings. For more info: rutlandrec.com/7tosunset.

July 17

Killington Golf Course League Nights

5 p.m. Killington Golf Course. Michelob ULTRA and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com. To register call: 802-422-6700.

River Road Concert Series: Ener Jazz Band

6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington. Free. The concerts are held on Thursday evenings behind the library. Bands set up near the building and patrons can bring picnic suppers, lawn chairs, blankets, etc to enjoy the show. The concerts are scheduled rain or shine. sherburnelibrary.org.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park: Mellow Yellow

7 p.m. Fair Haven Town Park. Free. Hot dogs, chips, and soda each night, plus a 50/50 drawing each night. Picnic tables in the park for your family to enjoy supper before the concert. poultneyareachamber.com.

July 18-19

Killington Wine Festival

6 p.m. Various locations in Killington. \$10-\$225.

Sip, Sip, Hooray — The Killington Wine Fest returns for its 24th year. Hosted by the Killington Pico Area Association, wine lovers and aficionados are invited to enjoy new wines amidst stunning views of the Green Mountains of Vermont. New for 2025: Expanded offerings of premium spirits and refreshing non-alcoholic beverages. For more information and to register visit killington.com.

July 18

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: Adam McMahon Band
5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.

Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

Music by the River: Amber Rubarth

6 p.m. East End Park, Woodstock. Free. Pentangle Arts presents its annual Music by the River concert series of free outdoor concerts featuring seven Friday evenings of regionally and nationally renowned artists. pentanglearts.org.

Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series: Rod MacDonald

6 p.m. Shrewsbury Meeting House at 88 Lottery Road in Shrewsbury. Free. There is lots of room to spread out, dance, and enjoy the company of others. For more info visit Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series on Facebook.

July 19

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Phillip-Michael Scales
3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 – 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 – Sept. 6. killington.com.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

July 20

Sundays on the Hill Concert Series: Counterpoint Chorus – Gilded Age Songbook

4 p.m. Old Parish Church, Route 100, Weston. \$10.

Vermont's professional choral ensemble sings a program of American popular songs from the Gilded Age with sophistication and charm. sundaysonthehill.org.

July 22

Tuesdays on the Farm: Hayburners

6 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Hosted by Pittsford Village Farm, Tunes-days series presents nine outdoor concerts throughout the summer season. These events are free and open to the public. Food truck will be on site. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

July 23

Killington Bike Bum Race Series

2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary. Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org

Cavendish Concert Series: Wayne Canney & Friends

6 p.m. SVEC Memorial Green, Proctorsville. Free. cavendishconnects.com.

Music at the Riverbend: Twangtown Paramours

7 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free. Soulful Americana duo and retro blues band. Come out and enjoy some quality music and free popcorn. brandon.org.

Slate Valley Trail Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides

6 p.m. Fairgrounds Trailhead, Poultney. Join Slate Valley each Wednesday night for our weekly women's mountain bike group rides. Ride with an amazing group of women on our beautiful SVT trail network. We will incorporate skills and optional bike wrenching as well. This is a no drop ride and all are welcome. We will honor an inclusive and supportive environment for any person who identifies as a woman. slatevalleytrails.com.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Rose Hip Jam

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free. Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. For more info visit artistreevt.org.

Seven to Sunset Concert Series: Rick Redington & Tuff Luv

7 p.m. Main Street Park in Rutland. Free. Join us for the Rutland Recreation and Parks Dept. 2025 Summer Concert Series, Rutland City's summertime tradition. A new band will play from the gazebo at Main Street Park every Wednesday throughout the summer. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic dinner to Main Street Park on Wednesday evenings. For more info: rutlandrec.com/7tosunset.

July 24

Killington Golf Course League Nights

5 p.m. Killington Golf Course. Michelob ULTRA and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com. To register call: 802-422-6700.

River Road Concert Series: John Lackland Blues Band

6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington. Free. The concerts are held on Thursday evenings behind the library. Bands set up near the building and patrons can bring picnic suppers, lawn chairs, blankets, etc to enjoy the show. The concerts are scheduled rain or shine. sherburnelibrary.org.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park: The Hitmen

7 p.m. Fair Haven Town Park. Free. Hot dogs, chips, and soda each night, plus a 50/50 drawing each night. Picnic tables in the park for your family to enjoy supper before the concert. poultneyareachamber.com.



Artistree Summer Concert Series

WEDNESDAY AT 6:30 PM, SOUTH POMFRET

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued from page 42

Paul Reiser at the Paramount 7:30 p.m. Paramount Theatre, Rutland. \$46-\$57.

An evening of comedy and live performance by noted actor and comedian Paul Reiser. For more info visit paramountvt.org.

July 25

Food & Art Fridays: Scrolling Stories

5:30 p.m. Sable Arts Projects, 588 North Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. \$5-\$20. Food & art come together, featuring Fat Dragon Farm's wood-fired pizza, and work-in-progress showings by Sable Artists in Residence and live performances by featured headlining artists. directory.vermontdance.org/events/food-art-fridays-sable-project.

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: Studio Two

5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.

Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

Music by the River: Lakou Mizik

6 p.m. East End Park, Woodstock. Free. Pentangle Arts presents its annual Music by the River concert series of free outdoor concerts featuring seven Friday evenings of regionally and nationally renowned artists. pentanglearts.org.

Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series: Trio of Aether: Bow Thayer, Krishna Guthrie, and Steve Ferraris

6 p.m. Shrewsbury Meeting House at 88 Lottery Road in Shrewsbury. Free.

There is lots of room to spread out, dance, and enjoy the company of others. For more info visit Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series on Facebook.

July 26

Moosalamoo Ultra

8 a.m. start time. Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center in Goshen. \$75 - \$120.

Starting and ending at the Blueberry Hill Inn, the Moosalamoo Ultra and Heavy Half has become a favorite among VT trail runners. Long challenging climbs, black bear sightings, stinging nettles are (for better or worse) hallmarks of this race. Each race is loaded with tough, yet beautiful mountain single track taking you to the top of Mount Moosalamoo with a spectacular view of Lake Dunmore. With most trails in the Green Mountain National Forest the 14 miler has about 2,400 feet of elevation gain and the 36 miler has more than 5,000 feet of gain. Family friendly and dog friendly, this race brings together a great community and great mountain trails. ironwoodadventureworks.com/moosalamoo-ultra.

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Wheeland Brothers

3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 - 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 - Sept. 6. killington.com.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

July 29

Summer Concerts at the Pavilion: Phil Henry & The Newsfeed

7 p.m. Castleton Pavilion. Free.

These Tuesday concerts are free and open to the public and will be held rain or shine. Dugout Dogs will provide concessions, while Vermont State University Castleton will collect non-perishable food items at each concert to support the Castleton food shelf. Bring your chairs by anytime after 5 p.m. on the concert night. Meet the artist's reception following the performance. For more info: Castleton Conferences & Events @ 802-468-6039.

Tunesdays on the Farm: Aaron Audet Band

6 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Hosted by Pittsford Village Farm, Tunesdays series presents nine outdoor concerts throughout the summer season. These events are free and open to the public. Food truck will be on site. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

July 30

Killington Bike Bum Race Series

2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary.

Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.

Cavendish Concert Series: Bow Thayer & Krishna Guthrie

6 p.m. SVEC Memorial Green, Proctorsville. Free.

cavendishconnects.com.

Music at the Riverbend: Blues Without Borders

6 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free.

Champlain Valley's premier blues band. brandon.org.



Courtesy Killington Resort

Cooler in the mountains

SATURDAYS AT 3 PM, KILLINGTON RESORT

Slate Valley Trail Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides

6 p.m. Fairgrounds Trailhead, Poultney.

Join Slate Valley each Wednesday night for our weekly women's mountain bike group rides. Ride with an amazing group of women on our beautiful SVT trail network. We will incorporate skills and optional bike wrenching as well. This is a no drop ride and all are welcome. We will honor an inclusive and supportive environment for any person who identifies as a woman. slatevalleytrails.com.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Last Train to Zinkov

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Seven to Sunset Concert Series: The Scott Hopkins Trio

7 p.m. Main Street Park in Rutland. Free.

Join us for the Rutland Recreation and Parks Dept. 2025 Summer Concert Series, Rutland City's summertime tradition. A new band will play from the gazebo at Main Street Park every Wednesday throughout the summer. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnic dinner to Main Street Park on Wednesday evenings. rutlandrec.com/7tosunset.

July 31

Killington Golf Course League Nights

5 p.m. Killington Golf Course.

Michelob ULTRA and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com. To register call: 802-422-6700.

River Road Concert Series: Ray Foley

6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington. Free.

The concerts are held on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. behind the library. Bands set up near the building and patrons can bring picnic suppers, lawn chairs, blankets, etc to enjoy the show. The concerts are scheduled rain or shine. sherburnelibrary.org.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park: Enerjazz Big Band

7 p.m. Fair Haven Town Park. Free.

Hot dogs, chips, and soda each night, plus a 50/50 drawing each night. Picnic tables in the park for your family to enjoy supper before the concert. poultneyareachamber.com.

Aug. 1

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: The What Knots

5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.

Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

Music by the River: Tuck & Patti

6 p.m. East End Park, Woodstock. Free.

Pentangle Arts presents its annual Music by the River concert series of free outdoor concerts featuring seven Friday evenings of regionally and nationally renowned artists. pentanglearts.org.

Friday Night Live: David Cook

5 p.m. Center Street in Downtown Rutland. Free.

Rutland's favorite concert series returns this summer with free performances downtown! Folks can enjoy activities, giveaways, shopping, visiting vendors, food trucks, and more.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued from page 43



Tour De Slate

ALL DAY, START TIMES VARY. MIDDLETOWN

Aug. 2

Brandon's annual yard sale day

All day. Visitor Center in Brandon. Free.

Every year, the first Saturday in Aug., Brandon is packed with scores of yard sales all around town. Although most sales will not start until 9 a.m., some start earlier and the official listings will be available starting at 7 a.m. at the Visitor Center at the historic Stephen A. Douglas Birthplace & Brandon Museum, located next to the Baptist Church at the corner of Routes 7 and 73 West. brandon.org.

Tour de Slate

All day, start times vary. Middletown Springs. \$65-\$100.

The Tour de Slate is made up of five different routes designed to provide an enjoyable ride no matter what your level of experience. The most challenging rides, for avid road cyclists, are the 100 mile and the metric century (100km, 63.4 mi) rides. The additional choices of a 36 mile route, a 25 mile route or a family ride (off road on a trail) will ensure that there is a ride suitable for everyone. The beneficiary of the ride is Teen Challenge, VT. For more info and to register visit: tourdeslate.org.

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Zach Nugent's Dead Set

3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 – 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 – Sept. 6. killington.com.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

Aug. 3

Sundays on the Hill Concert Series: Equinox Wind Quintet

4 p.m. Old Parish Church, Route 100, Weston. \$10.

Horn, oboe, bassoon, flute, and clarinet ensemble performs a diverse program by Klughardt, Milhaud, Arnold, Persichetti and Ligeti, showcasing the full expressive range of the wind quintet. sundaysonthehill.org.

Aug. 5

Summer Concerts at the Pavilion: Satin & Steel

7 p.m. Castleton Pavilion. Free.

These Tuesday concerts are free and open to the public and will be held rain or shine. Dugout Dogs will provide concessions, while Vermont State University Castleton will collect non-perishable food items at each concert to support the Castleton food shelf. Let's make a difference together! Bring your chairs by anytime after 5 p.m. on the concert night. Meet the artist's reception following the performance. For more info: Castleton Conferences & Events @ 802-468-6039.

Tuesdays on the Farm: Red Clover Trio

6 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Hosted by Pittsford Village Farm, Tuesdays series presents nine outdoor concerts throughout the summer season. These events are free and open to the public. Food truck will be on site.. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

Aug. 6

Killington Bike Bum Race Series

2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary.

Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.

Cavendish Concert Series:

Bear Mountain Boys

6 p.m. SVEC Memorial Green, Proctorsville. Free.

cavendishconnects.com.

Music at the Riverbend: Breanna & the Boys

6 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free.

Local folk rock power quartet. brandon.org.

Slate Valley Trail Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides

6 p.m. Fairgrounds Trailhead, Poultney.

Join Slate Valley each Wednesday night for our weekly Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides. Ride with an amazing group of women on our beautiful SVT trail network. We will incorporate skills and optional bike wrenching as well. This is a no drop ride and all are welcome. We will honor an inclusive and supportive environment for any person who identifies as a woman. slatevalleytrails.com.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Panhandlers

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Aug. 7

Killington Golf Course League Nights

5 p.m. Killington Golf Course. Michelob

ULTRA and the Killington golf course are tee-ing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com. To register call: 802-422-6700.

River Road Concert Series: Chili Cook-off with Rick Reddington and Tuff Luv

5 p.m. K-1 Base Lodge in Killington. Free. The concerts are held on Thursday evenings behind the library. Bands set up near the building and patrons can bring picnic suppers, lawn chairs, blankets, etc. The concerts are scheduled rain or shine. sherburnelibrary.org.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park: Blue Jay Way

7 p.m. Fair Haven Town Park. Free.

Bring your chairs by anytime after 5 p.m. on concert night. Hot dogs, chips, and soda each night, plus a 50/50 drawing each night. poultneyareachamber.com.

Aug. 8

Food & Art Fridays: Kids & Family Night

5:30 p.m. Sable Arts Projects, 588 North Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. \$5-\$20.

Food & art come together, featuring Fat Drag-on Farm's wood-fired pizza, and work-in-progress showings by Sable Artists in Residence and live performances by featured headlining artists. directory.vermontdance.org/events/food-art-fridays-sable-project.

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: Cold Chocolate

5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.

Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

Music by the River: The Clements Brothers

6 p.m. East End Park, Woodstock. Free.

Pentangle Arts presents its annual Music by the River concert series of free outdoor concerts featuring seven Friday evenings of regionally and nationally renowned artists. pentanglearts.org.

Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series: Yankee Chank

6 p.m. Shrewsbury Meeting House at 88 Lottery Road in Shrewsbury. Free.

There is lots of room to spread out, dance, and enjoy the company of others. For more info visit Shrewsbury Meeting House Concert Series on Facebook.

Farm Flicks: 'Cars'

8 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Park in the parking field facing the screen for a drive-in experience or bring a blanket or chairs and sit a little closer to enjoy the movie. Snacks and drinks for sale to benefit PVF and free popcorn provided. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued from page 44

Aug. 9-10

64th Annual Art in the Park Summer Festival

All day. Main Street Park in Rutland. Free. The Chaffee Art Center invites you to the 64th annual Summer Art in the Park Festival featuring fine art and crafts, specialty foods, kids' activities, food concession, and musical entertainment. chaffeeartcenter.org.

Aug. 9

Slate Valley Scramble

8:30 a.m. Slate Valley Trails' Fairgrounds in Poultney. Prices vary based on event.

The Slate Valley Scramble is a trail running race that features an 8K, half marathon, and kid's fun run. The race takes place on some of VT's newest and best single & double-track trails on Slate Valley Trails' network in Poultney, Vermont. For more info and to register visit slatevalleytrails.org.

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Stephanie Anne Johnson

3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 – 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 – Sept. 6. killington.com.

Country Girl Diner Summer Concert Series: The Blue Collar Band

5 p.m. Country Girl Diner, Rt. 103, Chester. Free. Family friendly outdoor venue. BYOB chairs, coolers, blankets encouraged. Snack bar will be open. Additional free parking across the street at Rockingham Vet Clinic.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

Aug. 10

Sundays on the Hill Concert Series: Liana Paniyeva – Piano Recital

4-5 p.m. Old Parish Church, Route 100, Weston. \$10.

International award-winning pianist Liana Paniyeva brings her expressive style and global acclaim to Weston for a solo recital. sundaysonthehill.org.

Aug. 12

Tuesdays on the Farm: Krishna Guthrie

6 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Hosted by Pittsford Village Farm, Tuesdays series presents nine outdoor concerts throughout the summer season. These events are free and open to the public. Food truck will be on site. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

Aug. 13

Killington Bike Bum Race Series

2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary. Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.

Music at the Riverbend: Cold Chocolate

6 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free.

Genre-bending Americana band fusing folk, funk, & bluegrass creating a unique sound all their own. brandon.org.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: The Laurie Goldsmith Project

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free. Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. For more info visit artistreevt.org.

Aug. 12 - 16

179th Vermont State Fair

All Day. Vermont State Fairgrounds. Prices vary.

One of the oldest state fairs in the United States, the Vermont State Fair features amusement rides, performances, a demolition derby, races, fireworks, and more every Aug. For more info visit vermontstatefair.org.

Aug. 14

Killington Golf Course League Nights

5 p.m. Killington Golf Course.

Michelob ULTRA and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com. To register call: 802-422-6700.

River Road Concert Series: Moose and Friends

6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington. Free.

The concerts are held on Thursday evenings behind the library. Bands set up near the building and patrons can bring picnic suppers, lawn chairs, blankets, etc to enjoy the show. The concerts are scheduled rain or shine. sherburnelibrary.org.

DNA Motorsports Demolition Derby

6:30 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. \$12. dnamotorsportsvt.com.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park: Aaron Audet Band

7 p.m. Fair Haven Town Park. Free. Concerts in the Park presents: Aaron Audet. Bring your chairs by anytime after 5 p.m. on concert night. Hot dogs, chips, and soda each night, plus a 50/50 drawing each night. Picnic tables in the park for your family to enjoy supper before the concert. poultneyareachamber.com.

Aug. 15

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: Jester Jigs

5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.

Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

Music by the River: Jay Nash

6 p.m. East End Park, Woodstock. Free. Pentangle Arts presents its annual Music by the River concert series of free outdoor concerts featuring seven Friday evenings of regionally and nationally renowned artists. pentanglearts.org.

Farm Flicks: 'Honey I shrunk the Kids'

8 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Park in the parking field facing the screen for a drive-in experience or bring a blanket or chairs and sit a little closer to enjoy the movie. Snacks and drinks for sale to benefit PVF and free popcorn provided. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

Aug. 16

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Bermuda Search Party

3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 – 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 – Sept. 6. killington.com.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

Oliver Anthony at the Vermont State Fair

8-10 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. \$45-55.

Breakout artist Oliver Anthony, known for "Rich Men North of Richmond," performs live at the Diamonds and More Grandstand. Tickets purchased before Aug. 12 include fair admission. paramountvt.org/event/oliver-anthony-music-the-vermont-state-fair.

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179th Vermont State Fair

AUG. 12-16, RUTLAND

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued from page 45

Aug. 20

Killington Bike Bum Race Series

2 p.m. Killington Resort. Costs vary.
Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition! The 10-week race series is held Wednesday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.

Music at the Riverbend: Enerjazz

6 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free.

Vermont's high-energy big band. brandon.org.

Slate Valley Trail Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides

6 p.m. Fairgrounds Trailhead, Poultney.
Join Slate Valley each Wednesday night for our weekly women's mountain bike group rides. Ride with an amazing group of women on our beautiful SVT trail network. We will incorporate skills and optional bike wrenching as well. This is a no drop ride and all are welcome. We will honor an inclusive and supportive environment for any person who identifies as a woman. slatevalleytrails.com.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: The Sidewinders

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Killington Golf Course League-Nights

4:30 p.m. Killington Golf Course.
Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. For more information visit killington.com. To register call the Golf Pro Shop at: 802-422-6700.

Aug. 21

River Road Concert Series: Reese Fulmer and the Carriage House Band

6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in Killington. Free.
The concerts are held on Thursday evenings at 6 p.m. behind the library. Bands set up near the building and patrons can bring picnic suppers, lawn chairs, blankets, etc to enjoy the show. The concerts are scheduled rain or shine. sherburnelibrary.org.

Aug. 22

Food & Art Fridays: Water in the Wood

5:30 p.m. Sable Arts Projects, 588 North Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. \$5-\$20.
Food & art come together, featuring Fat Dragon Farm's wood-fired pizza, and work-in-progress showings by Sable Artists in Residence and live performances by featured headlining artists. directory.vermontdance.org/events/food-art-fridays-sable-project.

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: Total Strangers

5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.

Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

Music by the River: Locals Open Mic

6 p.m. East End Park, Woodstock. Free.
Pentangle Arts presents its annual Music by the River concert series of free outdoor concerts featuring seven Friday evenings of regionally and nationally renowned artists. pentanglearts.org.

Farm Flicks: 'Hook'

8 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Park in the parking field facing the screen for a drive-in experience or bring a blanket or chairs and sit a little closer to enjoy the movie. Snacks and drinks for sale to benefit PVF and free popcorn provided. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

Aug. 23

Downtown Rutland Street Party & Sidewalk Sale

All Day. Downtown Rutland.
Full day celebration of the Rutland community, with music, food, and shopping.

Best of Vermont Summer Festival

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Okemo Field, 77 Okemo Ridge Road, Ludlow. Free.

Enjoy specialty foods, tastings, artisan goods, kids' activities, and live music including Bear Mountain Boys (11 a.m.), Weston Theater Co. (1 p.m.), and The Rustie Bus Band (3 p.m.). Presented by Mary W. Davis Realtor & Associates. okemovalley.com.

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Griffin William Sherry

3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 - 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 - Sept. 6. killington.com.

Food & Art Fridays (Special Saturday event): Water in the Wood

5:30 p.m. Sable Arts Projects, 588 North Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. \$5-\$20.
Food & art come together, featuring Fat Dragon Farm's wood-fired pizza, and work-in-progress showings by Sable Artists in Residence and live performances by featured headlining artists. directory.vermontdance.org/events/food-art-fridays-sable-project.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

Aug. 24

Best of Vermont Summer Festival

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Okemo Field, 77 Okemo Ridge Road, Ludlow. Free

Celebrate day two with live music by Ida Mae Specker (11 a.m.), Rick Redington & Tuff Luv (1 p.m.), and line dancing with Brit Compton (3 p.m.), plus artisan vendors, food, drinks, and family fun. okemovalley.com.

Aug. 27

Music at the Riverbend: Ten Rod Road

6 p.m. Behind the Brandon Inn in Brandon. Free.

This classic Brandon band reunites for one show. brandon.org.

Slate Valley Trail Women's Mountain Bike Group Rides

6 p.m. Fairgrounds Trailhead, Poultney.
Join Slate Valley each Wednesday night for our weekly women's mountain bike group rides. Ride with an amazing group of women on our beautiful SVT trail network. We will incorporate skills and optional bike wrenching as well. This is a no drop ride and all are welcome. We will honor an inclusive and supportive environment for any person who identifies as a woman. slatevalleytrails.com.

Artistree Summer Concert Series: TBD

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Aug. 28

Killington Golf Course League Nights

4:30 p.m. Killington Golf Course.
Michelob ULTRA and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com. To register call: 802-422-6700.

Aug. 29

Jackson Gore Summit Music Series: Jenny & the Bets

5:30 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Ludlow. Free.

Okemo presents the weekly Friday night Jackson Gore Summer Music Series. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Grab a bite from the Okemo BBQ, and check out the activities at the Adventure Zone. okemo.com.

Farm Flicks: 'Ghostbusters'

8 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free.

Park in the parking field facing the screen for a drive-in experience or bring a blanket or chairs and sit a little closer to enjoy the movie. Snacks and drinks for sale to benefit PVF and free popcorn provided. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

Aug. 30

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Haley Jane

3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 - 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 - Sept. 6. killington.com.

Pond Hill Ranch Rodeo

7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15 adults, \$10 kids (6-11).

Pond Hill Pro Rodeo Company events include bareback bronc riding, calf roping, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, girls' barrel racing, girls' break away roping, and bull riding. For outstanding family fun plan to join Pond Hill Ranch Saturday nights at 7:30 pm rain or shine. pondhillranch.com.

Sept. 3

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Sensible Shoes

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Continued from page 46

Sept. 5

Killington Golf Course League Nights

4:30 p.m. Killington Golf Course. Michelob ULTRA and the Killington golf course are teeing it up on League Night every Thursday, with exciting contests and great prizes for top team gross scores and flag event winners. The format is a 9-hole scramble tournament, rotating between the front and back nine each week. Sign-up as a team or as an individual. Call the golf pro shop any day before 3 p.m. Wednesday to sign-up as an individual or team and find out what's on the menu. If you try to sign-up on Thursday, you could be turned away. killington.com. To register call: 802-422-6700.

Sept. 6

Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series: Jamie's Junk Show

3 p.m. K-1 base area of Killington Resort. Free.

Join Killington Resort in the K-1 base area on Saturday afternoons this summer from 3 – 5:30 p.m. for a free outdoor concert series. Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family and head to Killington for this all-ages event. The concert series will take place every Saturday from July 5 – Sept. 6. killington.com.

Country Girl Diner Summer Concert Series: Rustie Bus

5 p.m. Country Girl Diner, Rt. 103, Chester. Free.

Family friendly outdoor venue. BYOB chairs, coolers, blankets encouraged. Snack bar will be open. Additional free parking across the street at Rockingham Vet Clinic.

Sept. 10

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Scott Forrest

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Sept. 12

Food & Art Fridays: Kids & Family Night

5:30 p.m. Sable Arts Projects, 588 North Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. \$5-\$20.

Food & art come together, featuring Fat Dragon Farm's wood-fired pizza, and work-in-progress showings by Sable Artists in Residence and live performances by featured headlining artists. directory.vermontdance.org/events/food-art-fridays-sable-project.

Sept. 13

Whoopie Pie Festival

Noon. Center Street & Merchant's Row, Rutland. Sample tickets \$1 Each.

Vendor tables with Whoopie Pie samples and other baked goods for purchase. Live performances, food trucks, and other fun activities. rutlandwhoopiepiefest.com.

Welcome Back My Friends—An Evening with Emerson, Lake, and Palmer

7 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$49-\$69.

Through technological innovations, Carl Palmer is reunited with his two late band-mates. Palmer's live performance is synced with taped performances of Emerson and Lake from a 1992 Royal Albert Hall ELP concert. paramountvt.org.

Sept. 17

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Beecharmer

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

George Thorogood & The Destroyers: The 'Baddest Show On Earth' Tour

7 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$69-\$99.

George Thorogood brings his signature blues-rock sound to Rutland with the "Baddest Show On Earth Tour." paramountvt.org.

Sept. 24

Artistree Summer Concert Series: Ben Clark & The Long Shadows

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Free.

Bring a chair and pack a picnic and enjoy live music on the hillside. This concert is weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service animals specifically trained to aid a person with a disability are welcome. artistreevt.org.

Sept. 25-28

Fox US Open of Mountain Biking Killington Resort, Top of Ramshead Peak, Killington. Spectating is free. Access up the Ramshead chairlift will be available for purchase.

Professional and amateur athletes from around the world will compete in the Open Class Downhill for one of the largest cash purses in racing. Amateur facing classes in Downhill and Dual Slalom. Up-and-coming racers get the opportunity to compete against pros. Racers 14 & under can compete in the Next Gen Youth Downhill. killington.com.

DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PICK UP A COPY OF THE MOUNTAIN TIMES NEWSPAPER OR MOUNTAINTIMES.INFO FOR UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULES.

Remembering the fair from yesteryear

By Mary Ellen Shaw

Back in yesteryear, a kid got pretty excited when it was time for "the fair."

During the 1950s, the Vermont State Fair was held around Labor Day, and Children's Day was observed on the Tuesday after that holiday. That meant school was already in session, and you went to the fair-grounds after the school day ended.

Until I was old enough to attend with friends, my parents brought me. My father loved the fair. My mother...not so much! They were fortunate in that I was not a kid who liked the rides. Spinning around made me dizzy, and I hated heights. I'm sure they were thankful that I didn't beg them to go on the Ferris wheel or the Tilt-a-Whirl.

Some kids I knew liked to sneak into the fair on a day that wasn't free by finding an appropriate spot on the west side of the grounds. Since the "statute of limitation" is up by now, I guess they won't be asked to pay what was due at the time!

I loved games where you could win a stuffed animal. One year, my father won a good-sized teddy bear by throwing darts. Unfortunately, he won it at the beginning of our time there, so he ended up carrying it around for a couple of hours!

The Bingo tent provided a place to sit and win a prize at the same time—no complaints from me as I kept my eyes glued to the card.

The agricultural building was a fun place to explore. There were farm animals, cats, dogs, and fish in a pond, as well as food and crafts that had been judged and displayed with blue ribbons for first prize and other colors for second, third, and fourth place.

President Eisenhower visited the fair in 1953. I couldn't wait to see him, but a case of chicken pox put a halt to that. My father came home and told me all about it.

What was the entertainment back in 1953? A publication for that year lists Jack Kochman's Hollywood Hell Drivers, Smith's Great Danes and Chimps, The Flying Hartzells, and circus clown Alfredo Landon and his midgets. It sounds like there was something for everyone!

There were two nights of fireworks and harness racing.

Over the years, there were some top musical performers, including Loretta Lynn, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Conway Twitty, and Charlie Pride.

I recall when some members of the Lawrence Welk Show performed at the fairgrounds in the late 1960s or early 1970s. That TV show was my mother's favorite. My father had passed away by then, so my mother, who had never shown any interest in attending the fair, asked me if I would like to go to the performance. We had great seats, and my mother

enjoyed every minute of the show!

Eating at the fair was just as much fun as playing the games and watching the entertainment. The Mount St. Joseph stand was always a busy place. I couldn't leave without finding a place that sold cotton candy. Roxie's fries were also a "must have."

During my adult years, going to the fair with friends and seeing people I hadn't seen in years was something I looked forward to.

Two of our friends enjoy betting on horses. They would go down onto the track, where you were allowed to study the horses before placing your bet. Doing that was of no help to me, so I chose a horse based on a name I liked. I was the one who won some money. Beginner's luck, I guess!

Using the restrooms at the fair meant seeing attendants with containers for money donations as you left.

And, of course, there were the "girlie shows" where there was dancing on a stage and invitations for people to go inside. As teenagers, we wondered exactly what you got to see when you were in there. I think it was best that we never found out!

It's wonderful that the fair is still held annually. It affords people the opportunity to form new memories and enjoy looking back at them someday—just like I do now.



Killington Snowshed Adventure Center

From big thrills to easy fun, the Snowshed Adventure Center has something for everyone. Zip through tight corkscrew turns on the Beast Mountain Coaster, test your balance and mental strength in the Skye Ropes Course, or meander your way through the Amaze'n Maze, the Adventure Center will keep kids, parents, and grandparents entertained for hours.

Skye Ropes Course

The Skye Ropes Course stands four stories high with 42 obstacles to maneuver. Closed heel shoes are required.



Trampoline Jump

The Trampoline Jump is a trampoline and bungee jump system in one.

Amaze'n Maze

5,000 square feet of feet-on-the-ground exploration



Downpour Derby

Get wet at this free attraction. Four participants race to fill their opponents' buckets with water using a hand pump. The first person whose bucket is filled gets soaked!



Roaring Brook Mining

Pan for gold and other gems and take home a great keepsake of your adventure. This kid-friendly activity will transport miners of all ages to the past.

Beast Mountain Coaster

A thrilling 4,800-foot-long alpine coaster that twists and turns through the woods with 360-degree corkscrews and all-age excitement.



Zip Line Racer

Dual zip lines carry riders from Snowshed Slope across the Snowshed Pond with stunning mountain views.



The Soaring Eagle

The Soaring Eagle is 600 feet long, 100 feet high, and glides at 30 miles per hour, transporting dual passengers through the Killington mountain scenery.

Savor the flavors of summer on Okemo Valley's Tasty Treat Trail

Tucked into the heart of Vermont's Green Mountains, the Okemo Valley region is inviting food lovers to experience the best of its culinary culture with the launch of the Tasty Treat Trail, a curated series of flavor-focused adventures designed to highlight the region's farm-to-table heritage and community-driven food scene.

Organized by the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Tasty Treat Trail offers eight themed paths to explore—from sugarhouses to creemee stands, cheese cellars to cider taps—all anchored by the area's dedication to locally sourced ingredients and authentic Vermont charm.

"We've crafted the ultimate foodie adventure," said Carol Lighthall, executive director of the Chamber. "The Tasty Treat Trail isn't just dining—it's a journey through our landscape, our heritage, and our passion for authentic food experiences."

Each trail is color-coded and mapped for easy self-guided exploration, encouraging extended stays in the region. Visitors can browse local markets, indulge in gourmet ice cream, sample artisan cheeses, and sip handcrafted cocktails. Whether planning a long weekend or a whole week, guests can book a stay at one of Okemo Valley's cozy inns, charming B&Bs, or resort-style hotels, all close to the trail's destinations.

Fun themes along the Tasty Treat Trail

Farm Fresh Trail

Celebrate Vermont's bounty at spots like Stemwinder with its farm-to-table wine dinners, or pick your own strawberries at Wellwood Orchards. Farmers' markets in Ludlow and West River round out this path with

seasonal produce and handcrafted goods.

Creemees & Ice Cream Trail

From Green Mountain Sugar House's classic maple creemees to the small-batch flavors of ocreemo and the family-friendly Villagers Ice Cream Restaurant, this trail delivers the sweetest taste of summer.

Finding the Cheese Trail

Explore Vermont's legacy of cheesemaking at renowned spots like Crowley Cheese—the nation's oldest continually operating cheese factory—and Plymouth Artisan Cheese, housed on President Calvin Coolidge's historic homestead.

Savoring Maple Trail

Indulge in maple tastings, sauces, and sweets at Smith Maple Crest Farm, Stewart Maple, Sugarbush Farm, and more. Maple lovers can visit working sugarhouses to see how Vermont's most iconic export is made.

Burgers & Brews Trail

From the rustic Big Pops Sandwich Shop to the upscale Coleman Brook Tavern, and craft beer hubs like Off the Rails, this trail satisfies every craving with local beef, Vermont brews, and cozy pub atmospheres.

Sweet Bites Trail

Satisfy your sweet tooth with cinnamon buns at The Hatchery, cider donuts at Grandma Miller's, and hand-pies at Southern Pie Café. Classic fudge, cookies, and candy can also be found at the Vermont Country Store.

Craft Cocktails Trail

Raise a glass at Main + Mountain's stylish bar or try a maple-infused cocktail at The Hub at Weston. Whether you're into wine bars or Irish pubs, this trail offers both spirited and non-alcoholic options in charming surroundings.

The Pizza Trail

Perfect for casual evenings, the Pizza Trail showcases spots like Goodman's American Pie and Leyla's Place for wood-fired creations, with bonus stops at music venues like Off the Rails, where dinner and entertainment go hand in hand.

Plan your trip

The Tasty Treat Trail is designed for locals and visitors alike looking to

experience Vermont's culinary roots and innovative food scene. Okemo Valley's central location makes it an easy getaway, while its mix of family-friendly fun and elevated dining ensures something for every traveler.

Whether you're sipping cider under the stars, hunting for the perfect maple creemee, or enjoying a candlelit dinner after a mountain hike, the Tasty Treat Trail offers a memorable, mouthwatering tour of all things Vermont.

Guests are encouraged to book accommodations early, especially during the peak summer season.

For more information and full trail details, visit: yourplaceinvermont.com.

"The Tasty Treat Trail isn't just dining—it's a journey through our landscape, our heritage, and our passion for authentic food experiences," said Lighthall.



ADDING COMPANIONS TO YOUR GARDEN

By Mary Ellen Shaw

For most of us, there are “flower gardens” and “vegetable gardens”. They are separate entities. However, planting flowers among your vegetables and vegetables among your flowers is called “companion gardening,” and it serves a couple of purposes. Both gardens look prettier, and there is also a beneficial reason for blending the two types.

In my veggie garden, the space is limited. My flower gardens are more spacious, and there is plenty of room to tuck some veggies in among the flowers.

My favorite choices are lettuce and beets. If you plant seeds in the front part of the flower garden, you won't have to step over flowering plants to pick your veggies. You can cut back the lettuce a couple of times as you like it and will be rewarded with more lettuce in just a few days. Eventually, it will stop producing, and you can pull it up and plant more seeds to extend your enjoyment.

Between May and September, I typically plant lettuce three or four times, depending on the weather conditions.

You can also cut off some of the leaves from the beets and steam them for use in a meal. I leave the beets in the ground until late in the season. An added bonus with beets is that they can be cooked and frozen to enjoy during the winter.

Kale, with its numerous varieties, can also be incorporated among flowers. Ornamental is the prettiest, and while edible, it isn't very pleasant and is best used in soups and stews, where it is cooked longer to become tender and more flavorful. Either curly-leaf kale or red Russian kale is a better choice for cooking, and both varieties

can easily be worked into a flower garden.

So, what flowers are the best options for becoming part of your vegetable garden? There are several that serve a purpose in addition to looking pretty! The main role of the flowers is to attract beneficial insects and repel garden pests. Let's take a look at some of your choices.

Colorful snapdragons stand out next to leafy green vegetables, and bees like to get inside the snapdragon blossoms as they take

a break from their “pollinator duties.” Because the seeds are slow-growing, it's best to choose snapdragon plants from a garden center.

Calendulas can be planted from seed as they grow quite quickly. They help keep aphids off the leaves of your green vegetables, such as broccoli, kale, or cabbage. The calendula flower blossoms are not affected by aphids the way green leaf veggies are. So they are a win-win.

Marigolds are great for attracting squash bugs, thus keeping roundworms from tomatoes, potatoes, eggplants, and beans. They make a colorful border around your veggie garden.

Nasturtiums play a dual role when placed in a veggie garden. If you use organic seeds when planting them, you can eat the petals. They add a spicy, peppery flavor to salads and culinary dishes. Their bright colors stand out against the green leaves of lettuce. Nasturtiums also lure squash bugs and aphids away from not only squash but also tomatoes and kale. Due to the spreading nature of nasturtiums as they mature, they also help keep weeds at bay.

Zinnias are attractive to Japanese beetles, which helps keep them off eggplants and tomatoes.

Flowers play another vital role besides deterring pests in the vegetable garden. They attract pollinators such as bees and butterflies, which are essential to the growth of many vegetable crops.

Pollinators are attracted to the colors of the flowers. Bees gravitate to white, blue, purple, and yellow. Butterflies prefer red, yellow, purple, pink, and orange—hummingbirds like red tubular-shaped flowers. The cardinal flower or scarlet bee balm are two red perennials that do well in Vermont and can have a permanent place on the borders of your veggie garden.

Why not give it a try and add some veggies to your flower garden and some flowers to your veggie garden? It's the best of both worlds!



GROWING WATERMELON IN VERMONT

By Deborah J. Benoit, Extension Master Gardener, University of Vermont

There are few things as refreshing on a hot summer day as a slice of watermelon (*Citrullus lanatus*). At over 90 % water, watermelons are a tasty way to stay hydrated, offering an added bonus of vitamins and minerals.

If you'd like to try your hand at growing watermelon, you'll need a location with rich, well-draining soil that receives at least six hours of direct sun daily. A soil test can provide recommendations for fertilizing. For more information on obtaining a soil test, please visit go.uvm.edu/soiltest.

Be sure to have sufficient space for the variety you choose. Smaller watermelons could be grown vertically, training the vines to climb a sturdy trellis with support such as slings for the fruit.

Your biggest decision will be choosing which

variety to grow. Do you prefer an heirloom or a hybrid variety? Full-size melons or one just big enough for a person or two? There are seeded and seedless varieties. Choices include the familiar, red-fleshed watermelon as well as orange, pink, yellow, or white varieties.

Before you make a final decision, check the days to harvest for the variety you're considering. Be sure there are enough days in your growing season for the watermelon to mature and be ready to harvest.

To do so, determine your anticipated last and first frost dates. The number of days between those dates is the length of your growing season. You can find the average last and first frost dates for your location by visiting: garden.org/apps/frost-dates.

Since watermelons require warm temperatures, you may be sowing seeds or transplanting seedlings two weeks after the last frost date. The variety you choose should be ready to harvest within that number of days, or you may be disappointed in the fall when a killing frost puts an end to your plants before you've had a chance to harvest.

Prepare the watermelon bed by removing weeds and adding any needed soil amendments. A layer of mulch can help prevent weeds and maintain more consistent moisture levels in the soil.

To direct-sow watermelon seeds, plant several seeds, each an inch deep, in groups 4 to 5 feet apart. Once seedlings have emerged, choose the strongest, healthiest plant and thin seedlings to one per group. Refer to the seed packet for variety-specific details.

If you started seeds indoors or plan to purchase starter plants, be sure to harden them off before transplanting. Once the soil temperature is above 60 degrees F., you can safely move plants to the garden. For best results, try to disturb the roots as little as possible. For more information on preparing plants for transplanting, visit: go.uvm.edu/

starter-plants.

The soil should receive a deep soaking of water, approximately 1 to 2 inches per week, either from rainfall or supplemental watering. When watering, avoid getting the foliage wet, as this could lead to disease issues. Overwatering close to harvest could result in the fruit splitting.

There are several ways to determine when a watermelon is ready to harvest. The skin color becomes dull. Tendrils near the watermelon dry out and become brown—the area on the bottom of the watermelon, where it touches the soil, yellows.

Watermelons are related to cucumbers, pumpkins, and squash, so be on the lookout for pests such as cucumber beetles and squash vine borers.

If you would like more information about growing watermelons or have questions about home gardening, the University of Vermont Extension Master Gardener Helpline is available to help at go.uvm.edu/gardeninghelp.

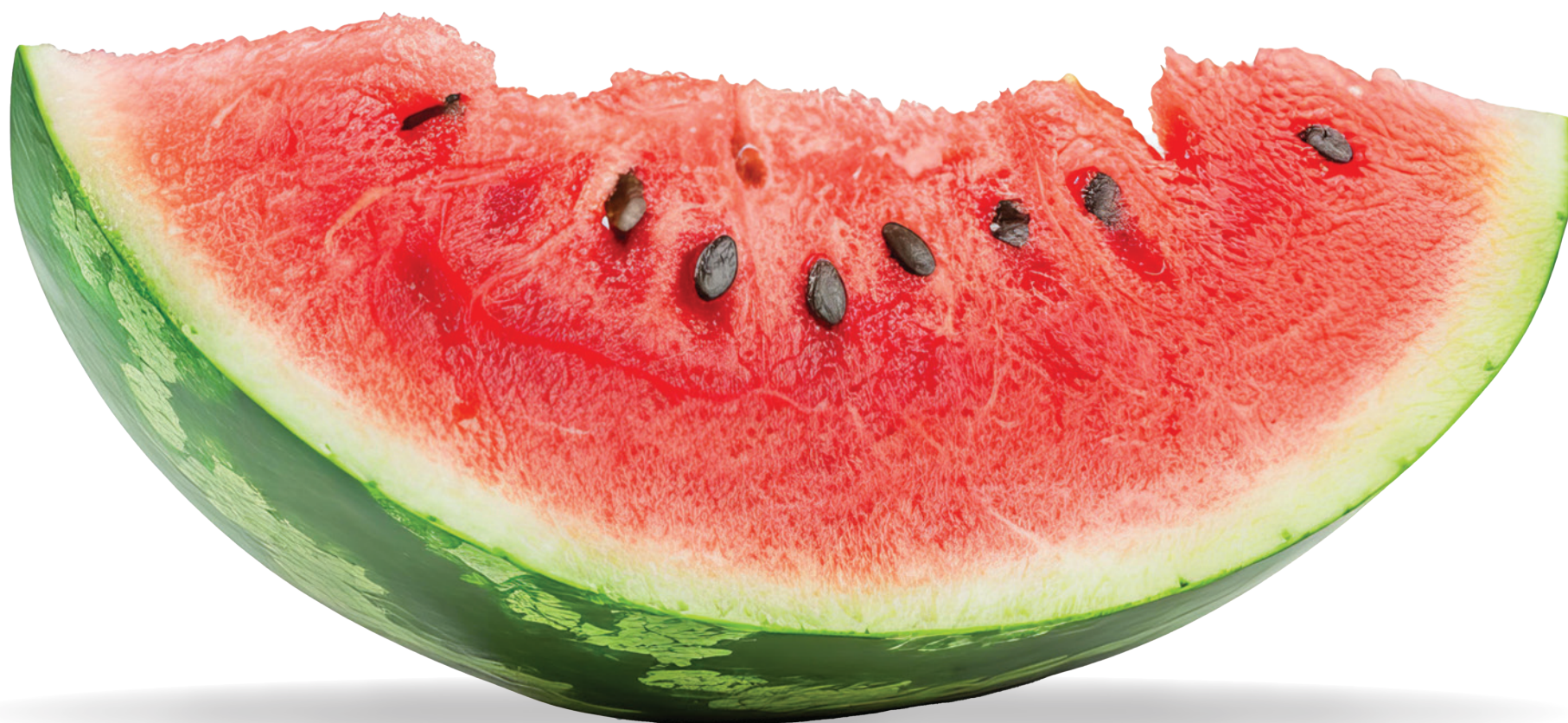




Photo by Gordon Ellmers

Common Goldeneye male flying over a Vermont marsh.

Watch the **BIRDS**

Birding in Central VT offers lots of variety

By Brooke Geery

Whether you're new to birding or a seasoned pro, Central Vermont has a plenty of avian life to offer bird watchers. Most of the bird species that can be found throughout the state live in Rutland County. The Hermit Thrush, Vermont's state bird, can be found throughout the county. Its relative, the Bicknell's Thrush, can be found at higher elevations such as Killington Peak and Okemo Peak. Rutland County is also great for warblers, especially at the peak of spring migration in late May and early June.

"Because the county runs between the Green Mountains and the Taconics with lowlands and wetlands around the Otter Creek, we have a good variety of habitats," Sue Elliot of the Rutland County Audubon society said. "Good variety of habitats equals a good variety of birds!"

Places with shrubby edges and places with water are good for spotting birds. Weedy fields can also be good. "But you can look for birds anywhere!" Elliot added. "There is frequently a Peregrine Falcon on the steeple of Grace Congregational Church (I won't make a joke about a bird of pray/prey)."

Certain places, which the Audubon Society calls hotspots, are especially great for birding. For example, Lefferts Pond in Chittenden is an excellent spot and it is especially suited for easy walking and families.

Important Bird Areas (IBAs), such as West Rutland Marsh and the north end of Lake Bomoseen (north of the Float Bridge) are so noted because the type of habitat supports specific species. "In the case of West Rutland Marsh, it is one of the largest cattail marshes in the state and supports Least Bittern and American Bittern, Sora and Virginia Rail along with other habitat-specific species such as Marsh Wren (it needs cattails for its nest) and Swamp Sparrow," Elliot said. "Least Bittern is a sought-after species in the state. The north end of

Bomoseen is a nursery for ducks, especially Wood Duck."

Birding is best done at dawn and at dusk. In winter, cold and snow cover will drive more birds to the feeder, and they can be active at any time of day. If you'd like the birds to come to you, a feeder is great, "unless you have bears," Elliot warned. "A fed bear is a dead bear — always follow VT Fish & Wildlife recommendations."

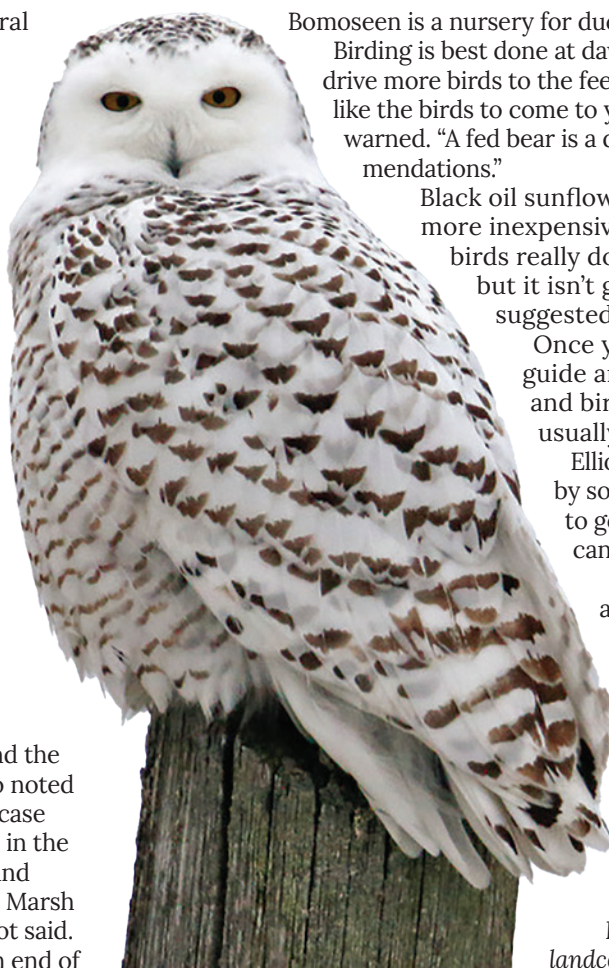
Black oil sunflower seed is a good choice for feeders. "Some of the more inexpensive mixes contain filler such as red millet that many birds really don't eat," Elliot said. "People often feed ducks bread, but it isn't good for them and may actually cause harm." Elliot suggested using lettuce and frozen peas instead.

Once you've settled on a spot, binoculars and a bird guide are all that is really needed. More advanced birders and birders who like to scan lake edges in the distance usually invest in a spotting scope.

Elliot said another good thing to learn is to identify birds by sound, especially song. "It takes practice and it helps to go with someone or a group that you can learn from. I can't recommend learning to bird by ear enough."

If you're looking for the opportunity to mingle with and learn from other birders, Rutland County Audubon has a monthly walk at West Rutland Marsh year round. Not only is birding a great hobby, it can also help birds. By contributing sightings, people can help ornithologists and conservationists understand the distribution, migration, changes, etc. pertaining to birds. Cornell Lab of Ornithology has among the world's largest biodiversity-related catalogue, with more than 100 million bird sightings contributed annually. There is also a Vermont portal at ebird.org/vt/home.

For more information on hotspots and events visit rutlandcountyaudubon.org.



BIRDING AREAS

VINS BRAGDON PRESERVE
VT Institute of Natural Science (VINS), 149 Natures Way, Quechee
Upland forest, fields and meadows (80 acres)
Location of VINS bird banding station which has been operated since 1981. More than 40,000 birds banded, approx. 120 different species.

DEAD CREEK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
966 Rte. 17W, Addison
State managed wetlands and associated forests and agricultural fields (3,000 acres). Breeding location for state endangered species, migratory stopover. Important species include: the endangered Osprey and Upland Sandpiper, the threatened Black Tern, Snow and Canada Goose, Grasshopper Sparrow and numerous shorebirds.

POULTNEY RIVER/ EAST BAY WEST HAVEN
Riparian and bottomland forest and associated wetlands adjacent to mountains (2,600 acres). Breeding location for state endangered species, site of long-term research. Important species include: Peregrine Falcon, Golden-winged Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Whip-poor-will.

LAKE BOMOSEEN/HUBBARD-TON MARSH
Hubbardton
Lake and associated wetlands (470 acres). Breeding location for rare marshbirds and high density of breeding waterfowl. Important species include: Least Bittern, Sora, Wood Duck and Pied-billed Grebe.

WEST RUTLAND MARSH
Water St., West Rutland
Extensive cattail marsh (2,100 acres). Breeding location for rare and priority species. Important species include: Least and American Bittern, Virginia Rail, Pied-billed Grebe and Blue-winged Warbler.

PEREGRINE FALCON EYRIE
Statewide
Breeding locations for recently recovered species. Important species include the endangered Peregrine Falcon.

COMMON LOON LAKES
IBA Complex, Statewide
Breeding lakes statewide. Breeding locations for recently recovered species. Important species include the endangered Common Loon.

PINE HILL PARK
2 Oak St., Rutland
Pine Hill Park offers 17 miles of trails in just 325 acres, plus the Carriage Trail and Red-field Trails add another 9 miles. Rocky Pond offers particularly great bird watching.

BICKNELL'S THRUSH
Statewide
Breeding location for priority species. Important species include Bicknell's Thrush and Blackpoll Warbler.



Photo by Steve Costello
Hermit Thrush, the Vermont state bird, rests on a branch at Pine Hill Park in Rutland.



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Golfing the Greens

**EXPECT
VARIED
TERRAIN
WITH
STUNNING
VIEWS**



From the most challenging to the simplest, Rutland County offers many good choices for all levels of skill. The Green Mountains offer a scenic backdrop but also create golf greens that will challenge even the most veteran golfer. Each outdoor course is nestled within the rolling terrain of Central Vermont — and, of course, stupendous sunsets above the emerald fairways.

Crown Point Country Club**155 Golf Course Road, Springfield
802-885-1010**

This 18-hole course offers a par 72 layout with over 6,500 yards of play. Open to the public, it's praised for its well-maintained fairways and friendly community atmosphere.

Neshobe Golf Club**227 Town Farm Rd., Brandon
802-247-3611**

As a test of golf, Neshobe requires patience and attention to surroundings in order to score well. You may note the original 9-hole layout merged together with nine newer holes. Be careful: They don't necessarily play the same, particularly on the greens.

Green Mountain National Golf Course**476 Barrows Towne Road,
Killington • 802-422-GOLF**

Don't be lulled by the magnificent views at Green Mountain National. The course is challenging but with five sets of tee boxes, playable for all abilities. You may not shoot the best score of your life at Green Mountain National, but you will walk away knowing your game's strengths and weaknesses. Shot selection and course management works best here. Like the mountains, Green Mountain National should be treated with respect.

**Proctor-Pittsford Country Club****311 Corn Hill Road, Pittsford
802-483-9379**

Proctor-Pittsford Golf Course is no "piece of cake," despite its innocent look. Perched on the crest of Corn Hill in Pittsford, the course offers many pretty vistas that can fool you into ignoring the challenges that you'll face in trying to make a decent score. The spectacular setting, friendly staff, and affordable rates make it a necessary and regular place to go. The course is semi-private, but tee times are generally available to the public.

John P. Larkin Country Club**North Main St. (US-5), Windsor
802-674-6491**

This 9-hole course offers a relaxed atmosphere with a par of 34 and a length of 2,739 yards. Established in 1921, it's known for its friendly staff and well-maintained greens.

Prospect Bay Country Club**111 Prospect Point Rd., Bomoseen
802-468-5581**

This scenic 9-hole course overlooks beautiful Lake Bomoseen. Prospect's short layout will reward good shots and provide a fun golf outing for everyone.

Killington Golf Course**227 East Mountain Rd., Killington
802-422-6700**

Regardless of skill level or handicap, the breathtaking panoramas and gentle mountain breezes of the Killington resort golf course combine to offer a refreshing round for any golfer. The mountainous terrain of the par-72 course challenges even the most polished of players, while allowing novices to enjoy a unique course in a beautiful alpine setting. Indeed, the cool summer breezes at 2,000-foot altitude produce optimal playing temperatures and ensure a spectacular round that demands a return.

Rutland Country Club**275 Grove St., Rutland • 802-773-3254**

Ranked among the best golf courses in the state, Rutland Country Club is a stop that no serious golfer should miss. Rutland has one of the older layouts in the region, and superior care and attention to the course has brought it to a mature and stately condition. To score well at Rutland, you'd better bring patience and your full "bag of tricks."

Stonehedge Indoor Golf**172 So. Main St. in Rutland, by the
railroad crossing • 802-779-9595**

Featuring six widescreen golf simulators, Stonehedge has virtual golf technology officially endorsed by both the PGA TOUR and the Golf Channel. The 3D-like graphics are visually stunning and accurate. The play technology will make you feel as though you're actually hitting onto the Island Green at TPC Sawgrass or overlooking the Pacific Ocean from one of the many signature holes at Pebble Beach! Experience playing 40+ world-famous golf courses without leaving Rutland! Stonehedge also offers a training package that will allow individual golfers or area golf pros/instructors to capture, evaluate and refine golf swings year round.

Lake St. Catherine Country Club**2395 Vt Route 30 S, Poultney 802-287-9341**

A short ride out to the Lakes Region, you'll discover a pretty little golf course that will please your senses but challenge your abilities to post a low score. Shot selection is crucial at Lake St. Catherine — you should recognize this fact from the first hole onward. Don't automatically pull out the driver, and be very careful selecting the right club for several radical uphill and downhill approach shots.

**Stonehedge Golf & Footgolf****216 Squier Road, North Clarendon
802-773-2666**

Just south of Rutland, Stonehedge Public Par 3 is a well maintained course that offers a renewed emphasis on quality play. A single pond judges faith in your swing.



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f i t y

DISC GOLF

BASE CAMP OUTFITTERS

2363 US-4, Killington • 802-775-0166

Established in 2010 this course is arguably the hardest par 3 course in the state. Retail shop, beer, refreshments, and restrooms on premises. There's a mix of tight and open holes at this course through the woods. The course is now free and open anytime. Rentals: \$6 for two discs.

NORTHWOOD PARK DISC GOLF

195 Northwood Park Road, Rutland • 802-558-7558

Established in 2020, this 9 hole course is part of a mixed use, public park maintained by Rutland Rec. It is open from dawn to dusk all year round. It's also dog friendly.

PITTSFORD DISC GOLF

223 Recreation Area Road, Pittsford • 802-483-6688

Established in 2009, this course at the Pittsford Recreation Area offers technical shots in the wooded course.

CASTLETON DISC GOLF COURSE

190 University Dr, Castleton

Established in 2018, this heavily wooded course is good for beginners and intermediate disc golfers. 14-18 holes available to play. Maintained by the Castleton University Student Union.

LAKE ST. CATHERINE STATE PARK

3034 Rte. 30 S, Poultney

Grand opening July 4, 2021. This course has three distinct areas: Section 1 (holes 1-6) are in an old apple orchard. They are fun, short holes with significant obstacles and ace opportunities. Section 2 (holes 7-12) requires a stronger arm. They go through the woods and a field that is full of great Vermont views and holes that ask you to rip long drives. Sections 3 (holes 13-18) are woods holes. They include a 645' par 5. Accurate drives are needed in this section to make par. In summer, when the park is open, the course starts and ends in the day use parking lot. The course is free to use but there is a park fee.

Rules of Disc Golf

DISC GOLF, SIMILAR TO TRADITIONAL GOLF, IS PLAYED BY THROWING A DISC FROM A TEE AREA TO A TARGET, TYPICALLY A METAL BASKET. THE GOAL IS TO COMPLETE EACH HOLE IN THE FEWEST NUMBER OF THROWS. BELOW ARE THE BASIC RULES OF DISC GOLF.

GENERAL RULES

Objective: Complete each hole in the fewest throws. The player with the lowest total score for the entire course wins.

Starting the Game: The player with the lowest score on the previous hole tees off first. For the first hole, the order is determined randomly.

Tee Throws: Each hole begins with a tee throw. Tee throws must be completed within or behind the designated tee area.

Lie: The spot where the previous throw landed. Subsequent throws must be made from directly behind the lie.

Throwing Order: After teeing off, the player farthest from the hole throws next.

Fairway Throws: Must be made from directly behind the lie. A run-up and follow-through are allowed, unless within 10 meters of the target (in which case, the player must demonstrate balance and control).

Completion of the Hole: A hole is completed when the disc comes to rest in the basket or chains.

Out of Bounds (OB): A throw that lands out of bounds must be played from the point where the disc went OB, with a one-throw penalty. Common OB areas include water hazards, roads, and designated OB lines.

SPECIFIC RULES

Mandatory (Mandos): Some holes may have mandatory routes indicated by markers. If a player misses a mando, a penalty throw is added, and the next throw is made from a designated drop zone.

Lost Discs: If a disc is lost, the player must return to the previous lie and add a one-throw penalty.

Casual Relief: Players can seek relief from casual obstacles (such as water puddles or fallen branches) by moving to the nearest playable lie without penalty.

10-Meter Rule: Within 10 meters of the basket, players cannot step past the lie until establishing balance.

ETIQUETTE

Respect: Always respect the course, other players, and nature. Avoid unnecessary noise and movement.

Safety: Ensure the fairway is clear before throwing.

Pace of Play: Maintain a steady pace to avoid slowing down other groups.

SCORING

Par: Each hole has a par, representing the expected number of throws needed to complete the hole.

Score: Record the number of throws for each hole. Compare totals at the end of the round.

These rules provide a basic framework for disc golf. Players are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the specific rules and regulations of their local courses, as variations may exist.

Hand-Powered Fun and Old-Fashioned Spirit at Farm & Wilderness Fair

By Alec Strum

Hidden in the Plymouth Valley of Windsor County lie the Farm & Wilderness camps, a group of Quaker-based wilderness residential summer camps on the Woodward Reservoir, just a few miles from Killington. Farm & Wilderness, a nonprofit camping organization, is hosting its annual fair on August 9, which is open to the public at no cost except parking.

The fair features various attractions, all powered by the staff and campers at the Farm & Wilderness camps, as their campuses are minimally powered by electricity. These attractions include a water slide where campers pull wooden carts into the reservoir, a zipline pulled by campers, and a human-powered Ferris wheel.

The fair also features experiential learning for guests, where campers showcase their fire-making skills and assist with milking farm animals, such as goats. Staffed lifeguards are on hand for a free swim in the reservoir.

"It's a chance to get together to find out something happening in your own backyard," said Tulio Browning, Farm and Wilderness' Marketing Director.

Farm & Wilderness was founded in 1939 with its first camp, Timberlake, for boys. In its 86-year history, it has added camps for girls and non-binary campers, a day camp, a teenager program, and an all-gender camp on Lake Nineveh.

The organization was founded on Quaker principles by Kenneth and Susan Webb, the latter of whom served in the Vermont State Legislature from 1973 to 1980. The camp's mission and values reflect the Quaker values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, and sustainability in one phrase: "purposeful work, joyful play, rugged outdoor living."

Browning believes that these values are on display during the fair: "There's joyful play on display at the fair. And there's also that rugged outdoor living, you know, if it rains, there's one tent, but generally out there just doing it, like starting fires, showing off skills, and getting wet on the Aqua shoot. And then there's the purposeful work with kids that build and maintain these rides."

After a few hours of enjoying rides, food stands — providing food cooked by the camps and local vendors — and other attractions, the nearly 1,000 attendees gather for a square dance in a big field. After the square dance, the group gathers for a large bonfire, where campers show off their work of the past months as the flames rise over 20 feet tall in the air.

Parking is at the Killington Skyship, and Farm & Wilderness will run shuttles regularly throughout the day from the site of the fair on their property to the lot.

The camps take pride in their sustainable living and hard work. Campers live in wooden cabins with three walls, do their own chores, and have no access to technology — they can only contact their parents through letter-writing!

"[It] gives kids a sense of authentic, purposeful work, which is really more and more rare these days, in the era of AI, and the era of working with your hands diminishing. Farm & Wilderness is a place where people learn to the value of washing their own dishes and taking care of the animals that they have on-site and building cabins," said Browning.

In the early days of the Farm & Wilderness camps, Kenneth Webb would bring campers to the local Rutland Fair at the end of the summer. However, one summer in the early 1940s, the fair was canceled due to wartime rationing and general scarcity. In turn, the camps decided to hold their own fair and invited the local community, and the tradition has continued.

In recent years, the fair has seen its share of difficulties. The fair was held for the first time in five summers in 2024. Camp did not run in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic and operated with Covid-19 protocols in the summers of 2021 and 2022 that made hosting the fair impossible. In 2023, the organization reckoned with the extreme flooding in Vermont and an outbreak of norovirus at their camps. This hiatus was longer than expected for the organization, but the event's return last summer proved successful.

As Browning sees it, the event is the quintessential Vermont experience of DIY fun in the outdoors.

"It's a chance to see this old-fashioned, make-your-own-fun at work because that really is what Vermont is, in many ways, about. People are attracted to Vermont because it is a green, rolling, and pleasant place, and it also has a cultural character of 'let's get it done ourselves.' Let's, you know, roll up our sleeves and make some fun. And that's what they would see with these kids and with these rides, a community coming together to entertain, to delight."

Editor's note: Alec Strum is a journalism student at Syracuse University and a camp counselor at Farm & Wilderness Camps.



MUST-SEE MUSEUMS

By Sarah Calvin

From cows to Coolidge and revolutions to railroads, the rural tapestry of Rutland and Windsor counties belies a rich history waiting to be discovered. The museums sprinkled across these hills and valleys can all be visited for under \$20 and paint a picture of a people who understood grit and determination can open doors to a new, better life. This summer, allow yourself and your loved ones a day, or even a few hours, to take a short trip to a neighboring town and learn more about Vermont and its history, and take pride in your contribution to preserving our little museums for the next generation.

Brandon Museum

US-7 at Rte. 73W, Brandon Village. Birthplace of Steven A. Douglas, one of two Democratic nominees in the 1860 presidential election won by Abraham Lincoln. Includes exhibits on local history such as the impact of the Civil War on Brandon, the town's part in aiding the abolition of slavery, and the lives of the earliest settlers. Open Thursdays & Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays 1:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. Memorial Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. Free; donations welcome. 802-247-6401.

Hubbardton Battlefield

5696 Monument Hill Road, Hubbardton, 7 miles north of exit 4 on US-4 west of Rutland. Site of the only Revolutionary War battle fought completely on Vermont soil. The museum visually illustrates the story of the successful rear-guard action by Col. Seth Warner and Col. Ebenezer Francis' continental regiments, which allowed the main army under Maj. Gen. Arthur St. Clair to escape southward to Saratoga. The Continental Army's victory at Saratoga would prove to be a turning point in the war. The battlefield is walkable via a mowed path and features interpretive signage. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$1 for kids 6-14 and free for children under 6. The museum is open Wednesday to Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Memorial Day to Indigenous Peoples Day. 802-273-2282

Black River Academy Museum

14 High St., Ludlow. Black River Academy Museum tells the story of the school and people that shaped the town of Ludlow. The Academy was active as a boarding school for over a century and educated illustrious alumni such as Calvin Coolidge, the 30th president of the U.S. In its present-day form, the museum features exhibits on downtown Ludlow in the Victorian era, a re-creation of a Victorian home, a look into the Finnish heritage of local settlers, and an example of a 19th Century classroom. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for seniors and students. It's open Thursday to Saturday from 12-4 p.m. from June 7 through mid-Oct. 802-228-5050.

Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site

3780 VT-100A, Plymouth. Birthplace of Calvin Coolidge, the 30th president of the United States. The rural hamlet of Plymouth Notch has been preserved exactly how it appeared when Vice President Coolidge was sworn into office on Aug. 3, 1923 at 2:47 a.m. after the sudden death of President Warren Harding. Visitors can tour the president's birthplace and family residence, marvel at the 19th Century machinery in the Wilder barns, and visit the general store and cheese factory once run by Calvin's father John. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$4 for children 6-14, and free for children under six. The museum is open Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. from May 23 - Oct. 26. 802-672-1195.

East Poultney Museums

Rte. 140 east of Poultney village. The Poultney Historical Society opens three historic buildings—the East Poultney Schoolhouse, the Melodeon Factory, and the Union Academy—to visitors free of charge on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. from July to Sept.

The 1896 Queen Anne-style East Poultney Schoolhouse once taught students in eight grades and now educates visitors on the history of Poultney. Its older companion, the 1791 Union Academy, is one of the oldest surviving schoolhouses in Vermont, aptly named in commemoration of the year Vermont achieved statehood. The Melodeon Factory, originally constructed to house a blacksmith shop, began to produce parts for the accordion-adjacent melodeon in 1849 and functioned as a factory until 1875. All three buildings feature local artifacts and exhibits. A guided audio tour of the town of Poultney is also available. 802-287-5252.

Wilson Castle

Lavishly decorated and supposedly haunted, Wilson Castle was constructed in 1885 as a home for Vermont doctor John Johnson and his English aristocrat wife. After Lady Johnson's passing, the castle was bought by radio engineer Herbert Wilson in 1939. A guided tour of the castle rewinds the clock to the 20th Century and pulls back the veil on the triumphs and shortcomings of the prominent families that have called Wilson Castle home. Admission is \$19 for adults, \$18 for seniors, \$7.50 for children 6 - 12, and free for children under 6. The castle is open from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday to Monday from Memorial Day to Halloween. 802-773-3284.

Continued on page 59

Wonderfeet Kids' Museum

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Courtesy Wilson Castle

MUSEUM:

from page 58

Hall Art Foundation

544 Rte.106, Reading. The Hall Art Foundation is a stunning venue showcasing rotating exhibits of postwar and contemporary artwork. The foundation, established in 2007 by collectors Andrew and Christine Hall, is housed in a beautifully renovated former dairy farm—complete with stone barns and pastoral landscapes that provide a unique setting for its internationally recognized collection. Open seasonally (May through Nov.), the gallery offers free monthly public hours and weekend visits by appointment with guided tours available for a nominal fee. It's a cultural treasure for art lovers exploring museums in Rutland and Windsor counties. hallartfoundation.org.

Rutland Railway Museum

Depot Lane off Bus. 4 (West Street). Located right on the railroad tracks, the Rutland Railway Museum brings to life the bustling Rutland station through an expansive model train layout. The museum features paper documents, photographs, and artifacts from centuries past when rail travel was more prevalent than it is today. Admission is free and the museum is open Saturdays from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.



American Precision Museum

196 Main St., Windsor. In the midst of the Industrial Revolution, three local businessmen won a contract to supply the federal government with 10,000 rifles. In order to achieve this incredible undertaking, the trio constructed a four-story building that would house a booming factory, manufacturing rifles and machinery that was shipped to customers around the world. Today, the American Precision Museum, occupying the same factory building, educates visitors on Windsor's industrial history as well as the impact of manufacturing on the area. The current exhibit, *Shaping America*, demonstrates how the interconnectedness of industrialization, war, and machinery has led to present-day consumer culture. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$5 for children 6-18. Children under six are free. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. from May to Oct. and weekdays 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. during the winter. 802-674-5781.

Billings Farm & Museum

69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Located by the village of Woodstock, Billings Farm & Museum offers visitors the chance to see a working farm while also learning about the history of the area. Permanent exhibits tell the story of the families who founded and ran Billings Farm and seasonal "farm activities" allow visitors to participate in early 20th Century life on a typical Vermont farm. Rotating exhibits like the September apple exhibition, the summer "Vermont Quilt Sampler" showcase, and the summer upcycled clothing exhibit, demonstrate the grit and talent of farmers and their village neighbors. The farmstead gardens, 1890 farm manager's house, and farm animals are available to visit as well. Admission is \$19 for adults 16-61, \$16 for seniors over 61, \$12 for students 16 and up with a valid ID, \$12 for children 3-15, and free for children under 3. Billings Farm and Museum is open daily from May 24-Oct. 31 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Nov.-Feb. from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on weekends and select holidays. 802-457-2355.

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park

53 Elm St. (Rte. 12), Woodstock. Gifted to the people of the United States by Laurance S. and Mary F. Rockefeller and managed by the National Park Service, this historic estate was home to three conservation-minded families whose stewardship of the rich, dense forest on Mt. Tom has provided modern visitors with acres of nature to explore and enjoy. The grounds are expansive, including the 1805 mansion built by Charles Marsh Sr., the beautiful gardens, the Belvedere Complex (which houses a bowling alley, air raid shelter, greenhouse, and outdoor swimming pool), and the forestry centers. Admission to the park is free, but some of programs may charge a modest fee. Reservations are highly encouraged to secure a Mansion Tour. The park grounds are open year round in daylight hours, but the building tours occur from May to Oct. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Monday. 802-457-3368.

Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS)

149 Natures Way, Quechee – VINS is a dynamic environmental education, research, and avian rehabilitation center nestled along the Ottauquechee River. Visitors can explore forested trails, view live raptor enclosures, and engage with hands-on exhibits about birds, reptiles, and Vermont's natural ecosystems. A treetop canopy walk and daily raptor feedings are highlights for all ages. Admission is \$19.50 for adults, \$17.50 for seniors, \$16.50 for youth (ages 4-17), and free for children 3 and under. 802-359-5000.

COVERED BRIDGES

SANDERSON BRIDGE

Brandon. Built in 1838, it spans Otter Creek on Pearl Street.

HAMMOND BRIDGE

Pittsford. Built in 1843, it spans Otter Creek on Kendall Hill Road, west of Route 7. Not in use.

DEPOT BRIDGE

Pittsford. Built in 1840, it spans Otter Creek on Depot Hill Road west of Route 7.

COOLEY BRIDGE

Pittsford. Built in 1849, it spans Furnace Brook on Elm Street.

GORHAM OR GOODNOUGH BRIDGE

Pittsford. Built in 1841, it spans Otter Creek on Old Pittsford-Proctor Road.

TWIN BRIDGE COVERED BRIDGE

Rutland Town. Built in 1850, only one bridge remains and it no longer spans any body of water. Both bridges spanned the East Creek until dislodged by a catastrophic flood in 1947.

KINGSLEY BRIDGE

Clarendon. Built in 1838, it spans the Mill River gorge on Gorge Road, accessed from Route 7B in Clarendon.

BROWN BRIDGE

Shrewsbury. Built in 1880, it spans the Cold River on Upper Cold River Road.





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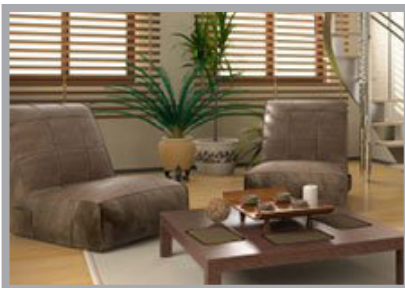
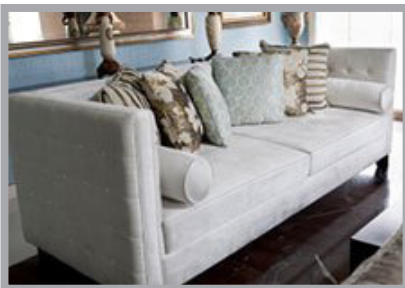






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