

FRIDAY

The St. Joseph's Variety Show will be held at 7 p.m. in the Stratos G. Dukakis Performing Arts Center, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, Route 2A, **Fitchburg**. Tickets are \$10; \$8 for senior citizens and children. Tickets can be bought at the door, at Crystal Cleaners at Park Hill, or by contacting any cast member.



SATURDAY

An American Red Cross blood drive will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Townsend Congregational Church, 5 Brookline St., **Townsend**.

The Ashburnham Conservation Trust will hold its Annual Meeting at 10 a.m. in Overlook Middle School, Oakmont Drive, **Ashburnham**. The meeting will feature updates on current projects, membership voting for Board members, and a free showing of Al Gore's film, "An Inconvenient Truth," followed by a discussion about global warming and its impact upon our environment led by Chris Picone. Childcare will be provided and the film "Happy Feet" will be shown for the youngsters. Light refreshments served. For information, call (978) 827-6427.

Join Cathy and Emily as they explore vernal pools, searching for egg masses, fairy shrimp and tadpoles from 10 a.m. to noon. Help them gather the evidence to certify and protect these wetlands. Some waders will be available, but bring your own if you have them. Meet at Memorial Hall parking lot in **Townsend** center and carpool to the vernal pool sites from there. For more information, call Emily Norton at (978) 597-3553.

Following their Annual Business meeting at 10 a.m. the Ashby Land Trust will host the VINS (Vermont Institute of Natural Science) Nature Center's Live animal program "Raptor Encounter" at 11 a.m. at the First Parish Unitarian Church, Main Street, **Ashby**. This first hand encounter with live falcons, hawks, and owls focuses on the natural history, ecology and adaptations of these efficient predators. Touchable artifacts and hands on materials round out this special experience. Free. For information, call (978) 386-5591.

The **Fitchburg** Public Library presents Karen and Friends at 10 a.m. at the Fitchburg Youth Library, 610 Main St. Karen Bellefeuille brings stories and conversations to children with the help of her puppet friends. After the program, the children are invited to stay and meet the puppets. For children ages 6 and up. Free. For information, call (978) 345-9637.

The Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society will hold a Genealogical Workshop from 1 to 3 p.m. in Room 205 and 209 at Mount Wachusett Community College, **Gardner**. For information, contact Mary Hasselman at (978) 297-4484.

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The Ryan C. Joubert Memorial Skateboard Park presents "Park Nite" from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus, Electric Avenue, **Fitchburg**. Music with Johnny Girouard and the Darlins and Ben & Brad will be featured, along with raffles and prizes. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the Fitchburg City Hall, Parks Department, Eastern Boarder in Leominster, or by calling (978) 342-1256.

LEOMINSTER

CHOICE



Enjoy an evening of music at ACT 3rd Friday coffeehouse
ASHBURNHAM — An exciting evening of music is planned for the ACT 3rd Friday coffeehouse on Friday, April 20. The event will be held at the Stevens Memorial Library, 20 Memorial Drive, starting at 7:30 p.m. Open mike performers this month will feature Elizabeth Farnsworth, Keith Penniman and others. This will be followed by "Late Bloomers," an exciting guitar duo from Maine.

Randy Browning and Brett Kinney are the guitar duo "Late Bloomers." As they play a fun, original mix of folk, blues, jazz, and ragtime you will hear exquisite guitar picking and incredibly wonderful arrangements. Their skill and charm will make you laugh and make you cry, and will definitely entertain you.

There will be a delicious assortment of baked goods as well as coffee and herbal teas; suggested donation is \$5. For information, call Lois Somers at (978) 827-4301.



SUNDAY

The Townsend Rod and Gun Club will hold its Spring Fishing Derby today. Registration begins at 7 a.m., followed by the derby from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. held at the club pond on Emery Road off Route 13, **Townsend**. Entry fee is \$15 per person with a four-fish limit; re-registration is \$10 after the four-fish limit. There will be cash prizes for the five biggest fish. Raffle tickets for a Stihl Farm Boss Chain Saw will be sold and the winning ticket will be drawn at noon, winner need not be present. The derby is open to all area adults and children. The club kitchen will be open for breakfast and lunch from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. A Townsend Rod and Gun Club membership is not required and a fishing license is not needed. For information, call (978) 433-9404.

A pancake breakfast will be held from 8 to 11 a.m. at the V.F.W. Hall on Eaton Street, **Westminster**. Proceeds to benefit the Westminster Little League. Pancakes (with as many second helpings as desired), ham, orange juice, coffee and milk will be served. Tickets are \$3 each; children under 6 years old eat free. Sponsored by the Westminster Lions Club.

An Open House will be held from noon to 4 p.m. at the 4-H Camp Middlesex, located on Willard Brook, 1031 Erickson Road, **Ashby**. For information, call (978) 386-7704 or e-mail office@campmiddlesex.com.

A special celebration of Earth Day will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. at the **Fitchburg** Art Museum, Merriam Parkway. Design and paint a biodegradable container and go home with a native tree seedling to plant in your yard or neighborhood. For information, prices, or reservations, call (978) 345-4207.

The St. Joseph's Variety Show will be held at 2 p.m. in the Stratos G. Dukakis Performing Arts Center, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, Route 2A, **Fitchburg**. Tickets are \$10; \$8 for senior citizens and children. Tickets can be bought at the door, at Crystal Cleaners at Park Hill, or by contacting any cast member.

First Church of Templeton, located on **Templeton** Common, will hold a Contemporary

Music Service at 5 p.m. The service will feature "AWAKEN," a local Christian music band. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service. For information, call (978) 939-8688.

Dance2Swing Studios presents The Jump City Band at 7 p.m. at the **Leominster** Lodge of Elks, 134 North Main St. A group swing dance lesson will be held at 6 p.m. For information, visit their web site at www.dance2swing.com.

TUESDAY

A Preschool story and craft time will be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Ashby Free Library, 812 Main St., **Ashby**. For children ages 3- 4-, and 5-years-old and a caregiver. For information, call (978) 386-5377.

The **Ashburnham** Council On Aging will host their monthly Pizza and Bingo For a Buck at noon at the COA, 1 Memorial Drive. One dollar buys your lunch, dessert, and bingo card. All seniors welcome. Rides available. For more information, or to make reservations, call (978) 827-5000.

"The Skinny on Fad Diets" will be presented at 5:30 p.m. in the Guild Conference Room, HealthAlliance Hospital, **Leominster** Campus. This is a free program, however pre-registration is required. For information, or to register, call (978) 466-2191.

Twin City Toastmasters will meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Ronald M. Ansin Foundation Community Conference Room, 1 Main St., third floor (above the Bank of America), **Leominster**. For information, visit www.twincitytoastmasters.com or call (978) 343-7259.



WEDNESDAY

A Celebration of Rogers and Hammerstein will be performed at 1 p.m. at the Fitchburg Senior Center, 14 Wallace Ave., **Fitchburg**. Ruth Harcovitz will perform various songs of Rogers and Hammerstein. Free and open to the public; sponsored by the Fitchburg Cultural Council. For information, or to make reservations, call (978) 345-9598.

A McDonald's Night fundraiser will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at the McDonalds located on

Main Street, **Townsend**. Twenty percent of the drive up or inside sales will be donated to the Hawthorne Brook Middle School PTO. A few staff will be the guest employees of the night.

A workshop, "Solving Income & Financial Independence" for people ages 50 and over, will be held at 6 p.m. at the **Fitchburg** Senior Center, 14 Wallace Ave. A catered dinner will be provided. This will be a fun and informative workshop in a no pressure atmosphere, nothing will be sold. Free and open to the public. For information, or to make reservations, call (978) 345-9598. Reservations needed by April 18.

In celebration of Earth Day, the public is invited to a free concert, "Songs of the Earth", at 7 p.m. at the Nashua River Watershed Association's River Resource Center, 592 Main St. (Route 119), in **Groton**. A unique blend of folk and inspirational music will be presented by Keith Penniman on guitar and vocals, Elaine Bomford on vocals and percussion, and John Rosenfelder on bass. This concert is appropriate for all ages. For more information, call (978) 448-0299.

A Writers' Group will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the **Townsend** Public Library, Room 1, Memorial Hall. Open to adults. For more information, call (978) 597-1714.

THURSDAY

Story time with Jerry Johnson will be held at 11 a.m. at the **Fitchburg** Art Museum, Merriam Parkway. For children ages 3 to 5 with a parent/guardian. Free. For information, call (978) 345-4207.

The **Ashburnham** Council on Aging, 1 Memorial Drive, will host a Pot Luck Dinner at noon. The cost will be a favorite dish made by each senior. The entertainment will be songs and magic by "Dick and Dawn." Van transportation available. For more information, call (978) 827-5000.

The film "No Rest for the Brave" will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Ellis White Lecture Hall, **Fitchburg** State College. The film follows the adventures of Basile, an angst-ridden French teenager who is convinced that he will die if he falls asleep. This leads him on a road trip that becomes a hallucinatory odyssey as he encounters murder, sex and intrigue.

The Montachusett Area Rotary Club will host an Art Auction at 7 p.m. at the **Leominster** Lodge of Elks, 134 North Main St. Proceeds to benefit the Multi-Service Center.

FRIDAY

The Friends of the Fitchburg Public Library will hold an art sale from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the lobby of the library, 610 Main St. Proceeds benefit the Friends of the **Fitchburg** Public Library. For information, call (978) 345-9639.

The 9th annual Art In Bloom will be on display from noon to 4 p.m. at the **Fitchburg** Art Museum, Merriam Parkway. Throughout all the Museum's galleries, talented individuals "share their flair" for floral designs. For more information, call (978) 345-4207 or visit www.fitchburgartmuseum.org.

The Leominster Art Association, Inc. will celebrate its 42nd Annual Art/Craft/Photography Exhibit from 1 to 5 p.m. at St. Leo's School auditorium, 108 Main St., **Leominster**. For information, call (978) 537-3898.

The fifth annual Taste Of Spring will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. at the **Fitchburg** Art Museum, Merriam Parkway. View the floral interpretations of Art in Bloom and enjoy a tantalizing buffet hosted by your favorite local caterers and restaurants. Donation is \$35 and helps support museum activities. For information, or to make reservations, call (978) 345-4207, Ext. 306.

A Pajama Party scrapbooking workshop will be held from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Wachusett Village Inn, **Westminster**. For information on prices and registration, contact Kristin Tegg at (978) 877-0569.

An Extravaganza Variety Show will be performed at 7 p.m. at North Middlesex Regional High School, 19 Main St., **Townsend**. For more information, call the school at (978) 597-8721.