

The Country Register®

September - October 2026

Available across the U.S.A. & Canada

The Northern Rockies & Great Plain's Guide to Specialty Shopping & Events • Volume 16 • Issue 5

Montana - Wyoming - North Dakota - South Dakota - Idaho

*Sew Many Pumpkins,
So Little Time!*

Gather. Create. Give Thanks.



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*Publisher of this
Country Register!*

Editor's Notes

Gather. Create. Give Thanks.

Fall is just a beloved time of the year. We love the mesmerizing leaves, the cozy evenings around the fire, smells of apple crisp and pumpkin spice, crisp air as the season beckons change, the vibrant colors that fall lets us relish in before winter sets in.

It is a magical time I adore, as do many of us. It is a season of change. It helps us reflect on the bounty of the year, and prepare for the quiet reflection season ahead.

But, I think one of my favorite aspects of autumn is gathering. We often gather frequently in this season for all kinds of fun reasons. In the Midwest and upper Northwest we surge in gatherings during the fall season before winter weather makes it hard to travel.

Football games, soccer games, craft fairs, fall festivals, pumpkin patches, backyard BBQs, chili cook-offs, fall leaf roadtrips, harvest markets and more. There are so many reasons to gather and enjoy all the bounty the season has to offer.

Those of us who create, fall is such an inspired time is it not? So many amazing craft ideas for your table, mantel, or porch. The fun of actually carving pumpkins, creating wreaths out of fall foliage, putting together a great centerpiece with dried florals, gourds and acorns, or creating a pumpkin out of anything but an actual pumpkin. Maybe starting a new quilt or finishing one just in time for cold weather. It is a season for the makers that is for sure.

For all of those treasures we find in the season, may we give thanks. Thanks for the bounty the year has bestowed, the lessons, the laughs, the tears and all the in between. Thanks for the fabric we found at that one cute store that was just right, or the old vase at that cute antique store that just finished the set on my mantel, or that endless memories we made with loved ones at the fall festival. For it all we give thanks.

May the season find you gathering, creating and giving thanks.
-Kelsey

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Kelsey Ruzicka

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Travel Guide
on your next adventure!

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The Country Register of the Northern
Rockies & Great Plains including North Dakota,
South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana & Idaho

Kelsey (Snyder) Ruzicka, Publisher
Produced by Moxie Marketing of the Midwest, LLC
PO BOX 2015 • Belle Fourche, SD 57717
605-568-0181 Office
www.countryregister.com/nrgp
www.moxiemarketingmw.com

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**The Country Register of the Northern Rockies & Great Plains
September/October • Volume 16 Issue 5**

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Subscription price: 1 year, 6 issues, \$24.00. Single copies: \$4.00. This paper is furnished free at each advertiser, highway welcome centers, tourism centers, shows, events, and other selected locations throughout North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, and Northern Idaho.

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Next Deadline: Ads and articles for the
November/December 2026 issue is October 7, 2026.

Any Day Is Grandparents Day!

By Lydia E. Harris

Fall usually means back to school, back to work, and back to scheduled routines. It's also back to Grandparents Day—which is celebrated on the second Sunday of September each year. This year it falls on September 13. But my husband and I don't need an official holiday to celebrate with our grandkids. We enjoy time with them as often as we can.

When our grandkids arrive at our home, I often ask them, "What day is it today?"

Their usual reply is, "Funday!" Any day with them is fun for all of us.

Recently, when they arrived, they answered, "Workday!" That's because Anna, 12, and Owen, 16, along with their mom, had offered to help us with housecleaning and yardwork.

"We can still have fun," I said, as I began to sing Whistle while you work.

Work they did—and with a good attitude! After they vacuumed and washed the floors, cleaned the bathrooms and dusted furniture, our home almost shone "like the top of the Chrysler building," as Miss Hannigan says in Annie. The yard looked better, too.

Of course, it wasn't all work. We took time for tea and treats, enjoying the sunshine on our deck while sipping their favorite peach herbal tea.

"These cookies taste good," Anna said when she took a bite of the chocolate chip cookies I'd baked the previous day.

I also served oatmeal cake, gluten-free chips and fresh strawberries, which they love eating dipped into sour cream and brown sugar. They think it almost tastes like dipping them into caramel sauce.

Their help that day was a win-win situation. They were planning to attend an out-of-state church camp in a month so I wrote out a check to help cover some of the cost.

"That's a lot of money," Anna said when they started to leave.

"Thanks for helping us," I said and smiled. "Do you know what else you were doing?" They waited for my reply. "You were laying up treasures in heaven" (Matthew 6:20).

They drove away smiling and I smiled as well when I stepped inside our clean home and I knew God was smiling, too.

Any day is Grandparents Day. And any occasion can turn into a tea party with fun memories that linger and bless others and ourselves.



Lydia E. Harris enjoys serving tea to family and friends. Her books for grandparents are: Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting, In the Kitchen with Grandma, and GRAND Moments: Devotions Inspired by Grandkids. All are available at amazon.com or can be ordered through local bookstores.



FROM LYDIA'S COOKBOOK

-In the Kitchen with Grandma:

Popcorn Cake

(Fun to make with grandkids)

Gather with Grandma

3 1/2 quarts (14 cups) popped popcorn
1/2 cup butter (one stick), melted
1 10-oz package miniature marshmallows
20 unwrapped caramels, cut in half
2 cups favorite small candies, such as candy corn, M&M'S®, gumdrops, or a mixture of candy
1 cup lightly salted or honey roasted peanuts or mixed nuts (optional)

Make with Grandma

1. Lightly grease an angel food cake pan with butter or nonstick cooking spray.
2. Measure the popcorn into a large container that holds at least five quarts. Mix in nuts and candy, except the chocolate candy. Measure the chocolate candy into a separate bowl to add later, otherwise the chocolate will melt and turn the cake brown.
3. In a large saucepan or microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter and caramels together until the caramels are soft, stirring with a wooden spoon. Add the marshmallows and melt them completely.
4. When melted, pour the marshmallow mixture over the popcorn mixture. Mix the cake with a wooden spoon.
5. After the mixture cools slightly, stir in M&M'S or other chocolate candy.
6. Press the popcorn mixture into the cake pan using wax paper or fingers greased with butter. Press down until the cake is compact.
7. Refrigerate the cake for an hour or until firm.
8. Remove the cake from the pan and place it on a plate. Serve at room temperature. Slice with a serrated knife.
9. To keep the cake fresh, wrap it tightly with plastic wrap or foil or place it in an airtight container. This cake is best eaten in a few days. Wrap and refrigerate the uneaten cake to prevent it from becoming sticky.

Serves 12 to 16

Tip: For popcorn—use plain popcorn, kettle corn or lightly salted and buttered popcorn. You can buy it already popped if you prefer. (A package of 5.5 ounces of popped popcorn will give you 14 cups.)
See cookbook for variations.

Golden Autumn's Gifts

By Barbara Kalkis

Autumn. At last! I will miss you Summer, but there's such relief with Autumn's arrival. Finally, I can accept the fact that the five pounds I promised to shed in May will spend the holidays stuck to my hips. That thought frees me to shred my stack of sure-fire weight-loss tips. Also out: the food journal logging diet victories and confessions of eating ice cream swimming in chocolate sauce, walnuts and whipped cream.

It's also time to say goodbye to every summer salad and chilled soup under the sun which looks scrumptious in magazines and easy-breezy to prepare. One famous chef claimed that she just served salads to guests. Easy-Peasy and everyone loved them. Really? Only if I buy ingredients in a bag and dump them all in a salad bowl. Otherwise, I must cook and chill the pasta, corn, rice or potatoes, and spend hours slicing, dicing and adding all the other ingredients to make the dinner look effortless, healthy, and – bonus! - slimming. I tried that advice, but two hours later I was still hungry and needed a snack – like ice cream. I enjoyed the forbidden snack by reassuring myself that ice cream provides bone-strengthening healthy calcium, which I noted in my food journal.

In Autumn you can stow your trendy charcuterie boards. Like chilled salads and soups, they, too, are wearisome. You can pile them high with cheeses, meats and veggies that require hours of slicing; add condiments spooned out of jars and placed into cuter containers, deli sausages, salamis and cheeses that must be decorated with olives (black AND green), cherry tomatoes, pickled onions and, oh, don't forget the cracker and bread assortment. By the time I finished with my one-time only charcuterie board, I had loaded three boards and a dozen bowls and was wondering why I just hadn't popped a chicken in the oven with vegetables and called the meal "done."

Now at last, it's Autumn. My favorite season. Wait. I said that about Spring when I shook off my winter doldrums; Summer when the fresh market vegetables were really fresh and flower bouquets were from the garden. Days stretched from early sunrises to late sunsets sparkling with firefly dances and starry skies. Now, before the chill of Winter, Autumn arrives in brilliant color. Out of the closet come the comfy clothes that fit like the summer shorts didn't. In the kitchen, the microwave goes silent. Heavy pans for cooking "serious food" are pulled out of their summer storage in the oven. It's the season to cook. Best of all, it's time for comfort foods like cookies, pies, and cakes.

Autumn is the perfect time for everything from meat to vegetables to cookies and every kind of dessert. We can practice old recipes and try new ones before the holiday season. Magazines, organizations, and even companies enthusiastically support cooking. Wisconsin Energy's Cookie Book has been published continuously since 1928. Pennsylvania cookbooks feature apple crisp, snickerdoodles and Gobs (or whoopie pies). Some states have an official state cookie, pie or desert, while provinces promote iconic foods associated with a region. Think about the popular foods where you live. The foods routinely featured and ordered in a café or restaurant are part of a region's cultural signature. For me, there's nothing better than sitting down with a glass of ice-cold milk, a cookie – or 6! – fresh from the oven and watching the sunset. The warmth of something baked in an oven touches the heart in a way that a tossed salad or cold salami never can.

©Barbara Kalkis, 2026. Barbara divides her time between writing, teaching and consulting. She is a terrible cook but appreciates those home chefs who have perfected the art. Reach her at BarbaraKalkis01@gmail.com.



Perfect Savory Fall Charcuterie Board



- Cow's milk cheeses:** 1 or 2 of aged cheddar, Gouda, Brie, most blue cheeses (such as Gorgonzola), Gruyère
- Goat's milk cheeses:** 1 or 2 of fresh chèvre, Bucheron, Humboldt Fog
- Sheep's milk cheeses:** 1 or 2 of Manchego, Pecorino, Parmigiano-Reggiano, Roquefort
- Assorted charcuterie meats:** 1 to 3 of prosciutto di Parma, salami, andouille, bresaola, Coppa, spicy Soppressata, and so on
- Fresh seasonal fruits:** 1 to 3 of crisp apples, grapes, ripe pears, dried apricots, dried cranberries
- Assorted nuts:** 1 generous handful pecans, walnuts, or almonds
- Sweet condiments:** 1 or 2 of small bowls of honey, chutney, fig jam, apple butter, pumpkin butter, fruit preserves.
- Decorative garnishes:** 1 to 3 mini pumpkins (washed), a few generous springs of very fresh rosemary, sage, or thyme.
- Assorted crackers, crisps, hard pretzels, or slices of fresh bread.**



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Ten ways to make Pumpkin Decorations without Pumpkins

1. Yarn pumpkins
2. Wood block pumpkins
3. Fabric pumpkins
4. Pinecone pumpkins
5. Paper honeycomb pumpkins
6. Mason jar ring pumpkins
7. Wine cork pumpkins
8. Book page pumpkins
9. Floral foam pumpkins
10. Felt pumpkins



What does Fall smell like to you?

1. Leaves and Turkey - Boy Age 7
2. Pumpkins and Candy - Girl Age 4
3. Football - Girl Age 5
4. Honey - Boy Age 4
5. Smells like it is about to snow - Girl Age 5
6. Fresh because there is no pollen - Girl Age 7
7. Trees and leaves and stuff like that - Girl Age 6





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ON PAGE 14

*Find the Right Machine and the Support to
Use It National Sewing Machine Month*

National Sewing Month is a good time to discover what the right machine can make possible and to find a local team that will help you enjoy it long after you bring it home.

Shopping for a sewing, embroidery or longarm machine can feel overwhelming. There are many brands, features and price points to compare. It can be difficult to know which features will support the projects you want to make and which ones you may never use.

At Fabric Bash, the conversation begins with you! Sit down and sew on the machines, compare options and ask questions without pressure. The team takes time to learn what you enjoy making, where you would like to grow and what fits your budget. The goal is not simply to sell you a machine. It is to help you choose one that feels right for the way you sew.

As a family-owned quilt shop, Fabric Bash understands that personal support matters. Buying a machine should not leave you searching for answers on your own. After you take it home, the team remains available with machine guidance, hands-on education and classes that help you build confidence with the features you purchased. Whether you are threading your first machine, learning embroidery or preparing to finish your own quilts on a longarm, you have a local resource ready to help. Fabric Bash also provides maintenance and repair services to keep your machine working properly.

September is National Sewing Month and is a chance to begin something new, return to a hobby you have missed or find a machine that makes your time at the sewing table more enjoyable. Learn more at fabricbash.com.





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Harvesting More Than Crops: The Traditions That Bring Us Together

By Anna Engen, Staff Writer

Every season has its own rhythm, but autumn seems to invite us to pause. As the rush of summer begins to settle, the air turns crisp, and the trees trade their green leaves for shades of gold and crimson. It’s a season that encourages us to gather with family, reconnect with friends, and appreciate the simple moments that often become our most treasured memories.

Long before smartphones and packed schedules, families marked the changing seasons by working side by side. Harvest required many hands, whether it meant bringing in corn, digging potatoes, picking apples, or preserving vegetables for winter. Children learned by helping, neighbors pitched in when extra hands were needed, and meals around the table became celebrations of shared effort.

While our traditions may look different than they did decades ago, the heart behind them remains the same. Instead of gathering in the fields, we gather at pumpkin patches, craft fairs, farmers markets, church festivals, school fundraisers, and family reunions. We decorate our porches with flowers and pumpkins, fill our kitchens with the scent of homemade goods, and eagerly anticipate those favorite comfort foods that somehow taste even better once the weather cools. .

For many, autumn is when treasured traditions quietly return. Maybe it’s making apple



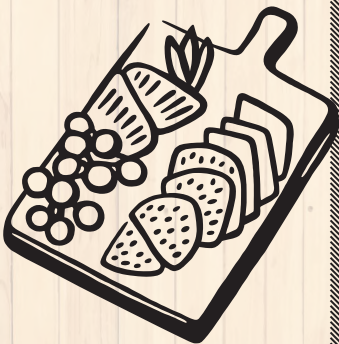
butter every October, carving pumpkins with grandchildren, hosting an annual chili supper, or spending an afternoon walking through crunchy leaves with loved ones. These moments may seem small, but over time they become the stories that define our families.

Traditions have a remarkable way of connecting generations. A quilt stitched by a grandmother becomes an heirloom. A handwritten pie recipe becomes a family treasure. A child’s first experience helping can vegetables may one day become a memory they pass on to their own children. Not every tradition has to be elaborate or decades old to leave a lasting impression. Sometimes the simplest moments become the ones we treasure the most, like the favorite family recipe made together each fall, an afternoon spent decorating the porch, or an evening gathered around the table sharing stories and laughter. These traditions remind us to slow down, savor the season, and enjoy the people we love most.

As another autumn arrives, take time to embrace the traditions that make this season special, whether you're continuing a cherished family custom or starting a brand-new one. The pumpkins will eventually be packed away, the leaves will fall, and the season will change once again. But the memories created while baking, gathering, laughing, and simply being together will remain long after autumn has passed. Those are the moments that become family traditions, passed from one generation to the next.

Sweet Charcuterie Board for Fall

- **Apple Pie Salted Caramels**
- **Peach Twists**
- **Pumpkin Spice Brownie Bites**
- **Pumpkin Spice Yogurt Pretzels**
- **Mallowcream Mix**
- **Orange Vanilla Natural Taffy**
- **Mini Peanut Butter Cups**
- **Pistachios in the shell**
- **Peanut Butter Pretzel Nuggets**
- **Sprouts Chocolate Rolled Wafers**
- **Sprouts Pumpkin Snaps**
- **2-3 fresh mini pumpkins (as garnish)**



Forgotten Fall Traditions

1. Corn Husking
2. Cider pressing
3. Community Supper
4. Turnip and Beet Lanterns
5. Making Apple Butter Outdoors
6. Community Cider Pressing
7. Neighborhood Hayrides
8. Harvest Homecomings
9. Raking Giant Leaf Piles
10. Bobbing for Apples



FALL FESTIVAL GUIDE



South Dakota

Homesteader Day Harvest Festival, Valley Springs	Sept 6
Kuchen Festival & Twin Rivers Old Iron Harvest Fest., Delmont SD	Sept 11-13
Mobridge Fall Festival Weekend, Mobridge SD	Sept 11-13
Autumn Fest, Spearfish, SD	Sept 12
Hill City Quilt and Fiber Arts Show, Hill City SD	Sept 12-13
Great Downtown Pumpkin Festival, Rapid City SD	Sept 19
Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup & Arts Festival, Custer SD	Sept 25
1880 Train Oktoberfest Express, Hill City SD	Sept 26
Chamberlain/Oacoma Harvest Festival, Oacoma SD	Sept 26
Edgemont Fall Festival Car & Quilt Show, Edgemont SD	Sept 26
Historic Deadwoods Oktoberfest, Deadwood SD	Oct 2-3
Webster Area Pumpkin Patch, Webster SD	Oct 2-3
Harvest Fest, Huron SD	Oct 3
Festifall/candlelight Walk, Canton SD	Oct 3
Hobo Marlin's Pumpkin Train, Madison SD	Oct 3
Harvest Moon Festival, Custer SD	Oct 3
Great Scarecrow Festival, Huron SD	Oct 8-12
Sturgis Fall Potato Festival, Sturgis SD	Oct 10
Harvest Halloween, Yankton SD	Oct 31
Huron Ringneck Festival & Bird Dog Challenge, Huron SD	Nov 5-7
Autumn Festival, an Arts & Crafts Affair, Sioux Falls SD	Nov 20-22

North Dakota

Jamestown Oktoberfest, Jamestown ND	Sept 12
Festival on Main 2026, Minot ND	Sept 12
Harvest Festival, Dickinson ND	Sept 12
Fall Festival and Art Fest, Devils Lake ND	Sept 19
Goosefest, Kenmare ND	Oct 24-31

Montana

Montana Brewers Fall Rendezvous, Missoula MT	Sept 11
Fritz Corn Maze, Kalispell MT (Open Fri-Sun)	Sept 21- Oct 31
Fall Gathering at Moon-Randolph Homestead, Missoula MT	Sept 26
Great Northwest Oktoberfest, Whitefish MT	Oct 1-2, Oct 8-10
Stevensville Scarecrow Festival, Stevensville MT	Oct 2-17
Townsend Fall Fest, Townsend MT	Oct 2-4
McIntosh Apple Days, Hamilton MT	Oct 3
Lazy D C Bar Ranch Pumpkin Patch, St. Ignatius MT	Oct 4-5, 11-12
Fall Harvest Festival at Historical Museum, Fort Missoula MT	Oct 5
Tamarack Time!, Bigfork MT	Oct 10
Kalispell Harvest and Farmers Marker, Kalispell MT	Oct 17

Wyoming

Wyoming Yarn Crawl, Buffalo WY	May 25- Sept 7
Don King Days, Sheridan WY	Sept 6-7
Wyoming Fall Festival, Jackson Hole WY	Sept 9-20
HomeSteador Days, Powell WY	Sept 12
Apple Fest, Riverton WY	Sept 19
Windy Creek Farm Autumn Fest, Cheyenne WY	Sept 26-27 & Oct Sat & Sun
Oktoberfest, Teton Village WY	Sept 26-27

Idaho

Wagon Days, Ketchum ID	Sept 4-6
Eastern Idaho State Fair, Blackfoot ID	Sept 4-12
Boise Fall Festival, Boise ID	Sept 12
Sawtooth Brewery's Oktoberfest, Ketchum ID	Sept 18-19
Boise Basin QG Quilt Show, Boise ID	Sept 25-26
The Harvest Festival Street Fair, Emmett ID	Sept 25
Old Boise Oktoberfest, Boise ID	Sept 26
Thousand Springs Festival of the Arts, Wendell ID	Sept 26-27
Meridian Oktoberfest, Meridian ID	Oct 3
Trailing of the Sheep, Ketchum ID	Oct 7-11
Harvest Fest, Eagle ID	Oct 10
Sun Valley Jazz and Music Festival, Sun Valley ID	Oct 15-18
Big Canyon Acres Fall Fest, Boise ID	Oct 17-18
Festival of the Trees, Idaho Falls ID	Nov 17-21
Festival of the Trees, Boise ID	Nov 25-29



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Autumn Tea Saturday, Sept. 26 at 2 p.m. - Theme is Fairy Tales, Nursery Rhymes. \$20 per person. Reservations required, call 605-723-1200.

OCTOBER:

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Family Fun Day Sunday, Oct 18 - at 2 p.m. - History of Monster Movies. \$2 person or free with membership.

10 th Annual Pumpkinfest. Saturday, Oct. 24 10-4 Crafts, games, food and décor vendors, play, costume contest, goodie bags for kids.

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Robin's Nest DIY Blog

Owl Pumpkin

Well here comes Fall. I have to say that pumpkins are one of my favorite things!
Here is a very fun project that would be great for kids!

YOU WILL NEED:

You will need a foam pumpkin, (white works best for this project) mine is about 8-10 inches, some floral pieces (you will need to be specific on what you pick). Leaves for feet and wings, feathery pieces for the top, cone-shaped pieces for the horns, sunflowers for the eyes and small pinecone for the nose. You will also need wire cutters, scissors (not pictured), hot glue gun and glue.



STEP ONE

Place the sunflowers as eyes on the pumpkin. I put them close together and they were wire stems so I could just push them into the pumpkin.



STEP TWO

I cut off some of the leaves on the sunflower to put around the eyes. Hot glue them on.



STEP THREE

Then place the feathery pieces above the eyes on each side. Also place the cone-shaped stems to the inside of the feathery ones. These were wired stems also so you can just push them in.



STEP FOUR

Glue leaves on the side of the pumpkin for "Wings". One on each side at about the same height.



STEP FIVE

Glue on the pinecone "beak" right between and under the sunflower eyes. My pinecone is artificial but you can use a real one if you have it.



STEP SIX

Glue on two leaves to the bottom of the pumpkin as feet. I used longer, narrower leaves.



I think this might win a pumpkin decorating contest! Maybe!!
So many Pumpkins....So little time!

FINISHED!

Become Inspired

By Annice Bradley Rockwell

Bringing in the Harvest

As the daylight hours slowly begin to shorten, we begin to shift our thinking toward preparing for the season to come. Our vegetable gardens are likely producing plenty at this point in the year, so taking our gathering baskets out to the raised beds is a country task that brings great reward. Our beans can be harvested to accompany a wonderful homemade meal, or they can be strung by hand and hung over the hearth to dry as a handmade garland to be enjoyed all year. Our heirloom tomatoes can be harvested right off the vine to make a perfect summer sandwich with some toasted homemade bread, creamy mayonnaise and salt and pepper. The abundance of our yield can also be canned to line our buttery shelves with the blessings of our harvest to be enjoyed all year long.



Our herb gardens can also be a huge source of happiness as we plan a morning out in the sun clipping and binding bundles of fragrant herbs to be hung inside to dry. They can be used for enhancing our fall meals or to brighten one of our country displays. Even an afternoon spent clipping wild blooms such as the bright mustard tansy, yellow goldenrod or the purple Joe Pye weed can provide us with plenty of natural elements to enjoy in the beautiful season of fall.

The Warmth of Home

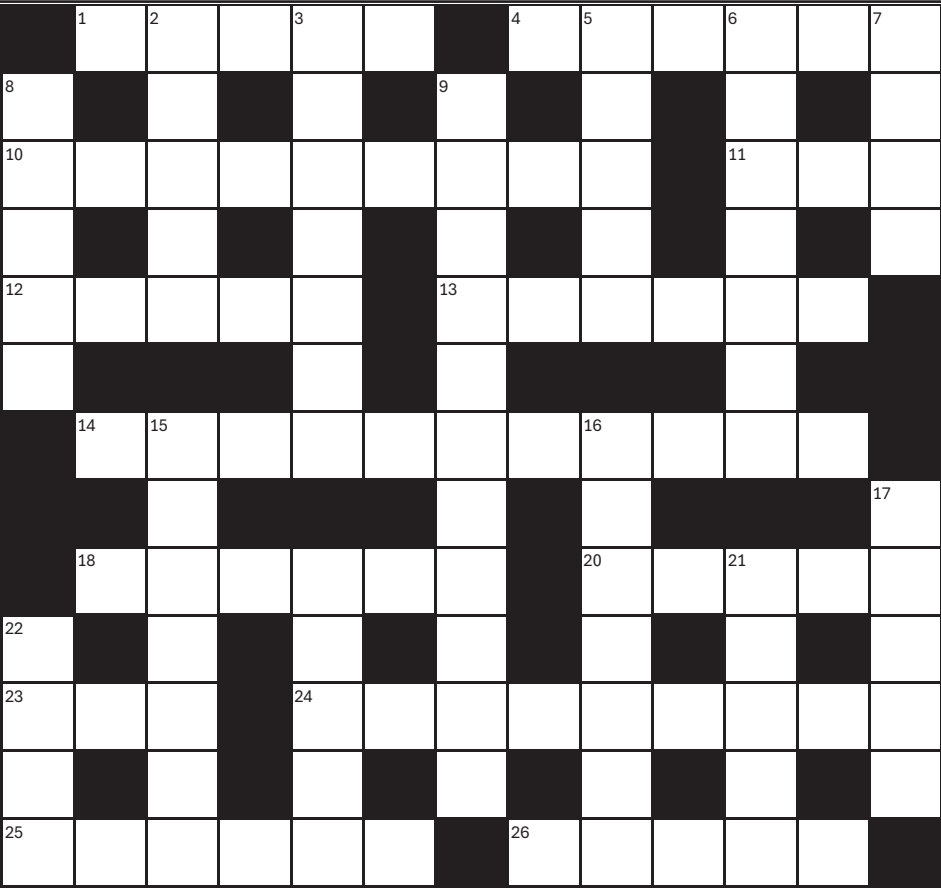
The spectacular sunlight of September is truly a special gift. Although more fleeting than the sultry sun of summer, the beautiful days of early fall are to be enjoyed. Paired with the daytime beauty are evenings characterized by a crisp coolness. Nights come more quickly now, so our home's ambiance stands out as being even more welcoming and warm. Taking time to create warmth in our decorating is time well-spent. Early lighting such as a punched tin hanging lantern or a mirrored sconce casts an inviting glow to warm the corner of a colonial keeping room. An antique floor lamp with a deep red-checked shade can enliven a favorite reading spot for a cool fall evening. And candles such as Pumpkin Butter or Colonial Apple Butter can be used as part of a harvest centerpiece where both its subtle flicker and captivating scent enhance the mood of the room. Gorgeous large wooden trays or boxes in early surface like red or mustard can be enjoyed as a focal point for fall. Filled with part of our abundant harvest, it becomes a striking natural element that takes center stage.

Simple Country Joys

Planning a day to surround yourself with the full blessings of fall is a way to connect with friends and make memories to cherish. Wrapping a schedule around a festive fall event can be rewarding and fun. Fall festivals that include local farms and creative artisans can be enjoyed alongside a trip to our favorite antiques shops that might be hosting an outdoor show filled with great antiques, unique food trucks and decorative elements fresh-from-market to enhance our home displays.

This fall, savor the transition to those cooler, spectacular autumn days. Harvest the bounty of your gardening efforts and delight in the simple country joy of creating an ambiance that truly welcomes you home.

--Annice Bradley Rockwell is an educator and owner of Pomfret Antiques. She is currently working on her book, New England Girl. NewEnglandGirl2012@hotmail.com



- Answers on page 15
- ACROSS

1

Follow, as in advice (3,2)

4

Text format settings (6)

10

Certain subatomic particles

11

Gunk (3)

12

Frenzy (5)

13

Carnival (6)

14

Combining (11)

18

Act as a substitute (4,2)

20

Summoned via a PA system (5)

23

Beverly, to her friends (3)

24

Forces (9)

25

Ridiculous (6)

26

Secret supply (5)

DOWN

2

Unsoiled (5)

3

Appalling act (7)

5

Experience (5)

6

Become less dark (7)

7

'Scram!'(4)

8

Appears (5)

9

Formal meetings (11)

15

Indigenous inhabitants (7)

16

Laid out, as a book (7)

17

One who composes elaborate poetry

19

Daily news journal (5)

21

Young women (5)

22

Swedish pop phenomenon (4)

Free Pattern

For more fun and creative inspiration visit:
www.JacquelynnSteves.com

Jacquelynn Steves
THE OWL OF HOME

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Free Embroidery Pattern – May not be sold or used for commercial purposes. Use this pattern for embroidery, wool applique, punch needle or rug hooking, painted projects or whatever your imagination can dream up! Reduce or enlarge pattern as desired.






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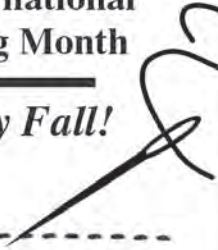


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September is International Sewing Month

Happy Fall!





Hosting a Cozy Gathering ~ Easy ideas for backyard bonfires, chili suppers, and football parties.

By Anna Engen, Staff Writer

As the weather cools and the days grow shorter, there's no better excuse to gather the people you love. Hosting a fall get-together doesn't have to mean weeks of planning or a picture-perfect setup. Sometimes the coziest gatherings are the simplest ones.

A backyard bonfire is a classic way to welcome the season. Arrange a few chairs around the fire, set out soft blankets for chilly evenings, and let guests roast marshmallows while sharing stories under the stars. Add a table with warm drinks, simple snacks, and all the fixings for s'mores, and you've created a cozy atmosphere everyone will enjoy. While you wait for the fire to produce the perfect s'more-roasting coals, set up a game of cornhole or giant Jenga to keep the fun going.

A pumpkin decorating party is another fun way to celebrate the season. Set out pumpkins of all shapes and sizes along with paint, ribbon, twine, stencils, and other craft supplies. People of all ages can let their creativity shine while enjoying warm cider and homemade treats. Unlike carving, decorated pumpkins last longer, making them a festive keepsake throughout the fall season.

Nothing brings people together quite like a pot of homemade chili. Invite family and friends to bring their favorite toppings:shredded cheese, sour cream, green onions, crackers, or cornbread, and turn dinner into a fun, build-your-own meal. A simple dessert like cookies, brownies, or pumpkin bars is all you need to finish the evening on a sweet note.

The best part about hosting a fall gathering isn't having the fanciest decorations or an elaborate menu. It's creating a welcoming space where laughter comes easily, stories are shared, and everyone feels at home. Whether you're gathered around a crackling bonfire or decorating pumpkins at the kitchen table, it's the time spent together that makes the season memorable. So light the fire, pour a mug of cider, and enjoy the simple moments. because those are often the ones we remember long after autumn has passed.

Fall Foods You're Guaranteed to Flock Towards

By: Laura Taylor

As we start to move into Fall and cooler weather, it's the perfect time to get outside into fresh air. One of the best ways to explore the outdoors while staying out of the hot sun is finding a nice spot in the shade of a tall tree. But honestly, what good is sitting outside for hours if you don't have a sandwich, a drink and something beautiful to look at.

Now what if I told you that the "beautiful" something isn't a typical scenic view or your tablet screen, but rather something rare and exciting and that the snack and drink you bring along could be prepared in less than 30 minutes?

Birds will have their most fiery and colorful backdrop this season, highlighting their feathers and even making them easier to spot. Bird watching can be done from the comfort of a lawn chair in the cool Fall foliage or even from your own backyard if you're lucky, leaving only a relaxing breeze and sounds of nature to enjoy.

As for something to keep you from having to go back and forth for lunch, here are four recipes I promise you'll flock towards this Fall. They feature some of my favorite sandwich and drink classics that are always best when enjoying outdoors.

Visit www.spiceworldinc.com for more recipes and tips!



Chicken Salad Sandwich

- Rotisserie chicken
- Dried cranberries
- Chopped pecans
- Mayo
- 1 tsp Spice World Minced Garlic
- ½ tsp Spice World Minced Ginger
- Mix everything together and chill.
- Serve on croissants or brioche buns.

Turkey-Apple with a garlic mayo

- Sourdough or multigrain bread
- Sliced turkey
- Sharp cheddar
- Thin apple slices
- 1 tbsp Spice World Minced Garlic
- 2 tbsp mayo
- Handful of arugula
- Mix minced garlic into mayo.

Transfusion

- 1.5 oz vodka
- 2 oz white grape juice
- 1 oz cranberry juice
- ½ oz fresh lemon juice
- 2 oz ginger beer
- ¼ tsp Spice World Minced Ginger
- Method
- Shake vodka, juices, lemon, and ginger with ice.
- Strain into a tall glass over fresh ice.
- Top with ginger beer.

Cranberry Ginger Mule

- 2 oz vodka
- 1 oz cranberry juice
- ½ oz lime juice
- ¼ tsp Spice World Minced Ginger
- Ginger beer

KISSED QUILTS

Design Ideas Sometimes Need to Percolate for...20 Years? by Marlene Oddie

When presented with the new fabric collection from Frond Studios - Bells of Ireland distributed by Northcott, I immediately remembered a block design that I developed over 20 years ago. I fortunately found it in an old file cabinet and worked on creating it in Electric Quilt 8 to start playing with it on a larger scale - an entire quilt.

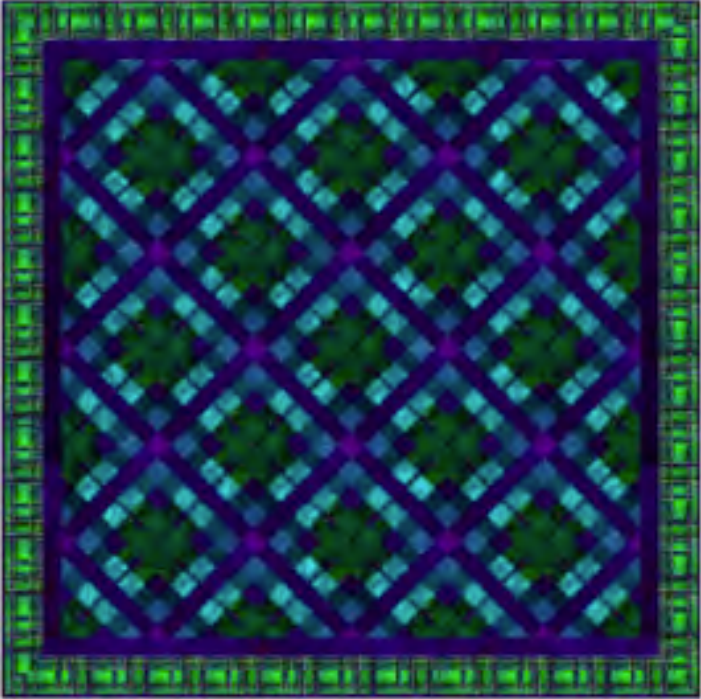
This collection has a beautiful canvas panel for bag making and a couple of different large print running yardage SKUs, but I chose to focus on the more color saturated SKUs combined in a way to make this beautiful Tartan-fussy cutting the printed tartan for the border.

This On Point Plaid pattern and the Bells of Ireland collection of fabrics are shipping to your local quilt shop now. If you need patterns, templates, fabrics and/or kits-please ask!

The possibilities for this pattern are endless. Find your favorite plaid color combination, a family tartan, one that works with your personal aesthetic or dream up your own.

I've written the pattern in such a way that you are making strata sets and then cutting and reassembling the entire block and the pieced setting triangles. The key is to get your color placement of the block correct so that with the sashings, cornerstones and the blocks it makes a continuous plaid.

Marlene Oddie, of Grand Coulee, WA, is an engineer by training, a project manager by profession, and a quilter by passion. At her quilt shop, KISSed Quilts, she quilts for hire on a Gammill Optimum Plus and especially enjoys designing quilts and helping create meaningful keepsakes. Fabrics, patterns, kits, and templates are available at kissedquilts.com. Follow Marlene's adventures on Facebook and Instagram.



South Dakota

- 1. Spearfish Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch - Spearfish
- 2. Canton Riverview Christmas Tree Farm - Canton
- 3. Big Stone Pumpkin Patch - Big Stone City
- 4. Dry Creek Farm and Ranch - Caputa
- 5. Country Apple Orchard - Harrisburg
- 6. That Pick Patch - Parker
- 7. Lil' Harvester's Pumpkin Patch - Rapid City
- 8. Mazing Acres Pumpkin Patch - Yankton
- 9. Cherry Rock Farms - Brandon
- 10. Hwy 1804 Pumpkin Patch - Pierre

North Dakota

- 1. Berry Acres - Minot
- 2. Lil' Bitz Pumpkin Patch - Fargo
- 3. Papa's Pumpkin Patch - Bismarck
- 4. Nelson's Pumpkin Patch Corn Maze - Emerado
- 5. Cottonwood Forest - Williston
- 6. A-Maze-N Clown Pumpkin Patch - Jamestown
- 7. Grafton Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch - Grafton
- 8. The Great Maze - Fargo
- 9. Lost in the Valley Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch - West Fargo
- 10. Angelic Gardens Fall Kick Off - Minot

Idaho

- 1. Pumpkin Palooza Treasure Valley - Meridan
- 2. Lowe Family Farmstead - Kuna
- 3. Shindig Farms - Nampa
- 4. U Pick RedBarm - Idaho Falls
- 5. Cherry Hills farms - Caldwell
- 6. Burley Straw Maze & Pumpkin Patch - Burley
- 7. The Berry Ranch - Nampa
- 8. BlueRock Farm Market - Twin Falls
- 9. Swore Farms - Pocatello
- 10. Tubbs Berry Farms - Twin Falls

Wyoming

- 1. Gallagher's Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch - Clark
- 2. Sunny Spur Corn Maze - Casper
- 3. George Farms - Cody
- 4. Shumway Farms - Afton
- 5. Sheila Bird Farms - Laramie
- 6. The Family Farm WY - Carpenter
- 7. Adams Family Pumpkin Patch - Scottsbluff
- 8. Miller's Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch - Cowley
- 9. Shoshone River Farm - Cody
- 10. Anderson Patchwork Pumpkin Patch - Ault

Montana

- 1. Sweet Pickins' Pumpkin Patch - Kalispel
- 2. Applestem Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch - Craig
- 3. T&C Farms-Pumpkin Patch - Laurel
- 4. Meadowlark Farms - Hamilton
- 5. Gallatin Valley Botanical at Rocky Creek Farm - Bozeman
- 6. Turner Farms - Missoula
- 7. Beaverhead Maze and Pumpkin Patch - Dillon
- 8. West Mont Farm & Gardens - Helena
- 9. Red Hen farm and Orchard - Missoula
- 10. Montana Corn Maze - Manhattan





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Answers from puzzle on page 11

	A	C	T	O	N		S	T	Y	L	E	S
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“My Country ‘Tis of Thee”

Boise Basin Quilters Guild's (BBQ) annual Quilt Show on Sep 25th-26th showcases hundreds of quilts and exhibits. Come see the professionally judged quilts, shop for gifts & quilting supplies, collect your free door prize, and enter for a chance to win their beautiful raffle quilt!

This annual quilt show is the largest professionally judged quilt show in Idaho with traditional, modern, and art quilts. The Gift Garden is a marketplace for all quilters (quilt guild members and non-members) to offer quality pieces of work for sale at reasonable prices. In addition to quilts, you can find many hand-made items just in time for holiday shopping!

Find all your essential quilting supplies, sewing machines, patterns, fabric, and notions at the Merchant Mall. Some vendors include local quilt shops and others who make their merchandise available only at shows. Check back as this page will be periodically updated.

BBQ Guild member Jennifer Perry-Price, a prolific quilter, is this year's Featured Quilt Artist. As the featured quilt artist, Jennifer's quilts will be displayed in a special exhibit at the quilt show, and her quilting journey is the featured presentation of the September 17 program.

Admission tickets are now available now and can be purchased at the guild's website. They are offering both one-day and two-day admissions for \$10 and \$15, respectively. Online ticket purchasers will also receive upon admission a number of discount coupons provided by a small number of vendors at the show.

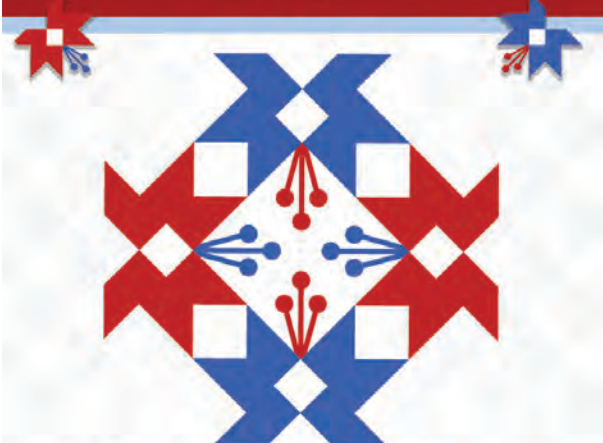
The Quilt Show promotes awareness, education, and preservation of the quilting arts, supports the Boise Basin Quilters Guild's community outreach projects, and supports our local quilt shops and vendors.

For more information visit the guild's website: www.boisebasinquilters.org/quilt-show/2026-quilt-show.

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September is National Sewing Month!

There are only two seasons:
Autumn - & waiting for Autumn.

In the village store someone says, "I heard
the geese go over," & there is a moment of
silence. Why this is so moving, I do not know.
But all of us feel it. Gladys Taber

Shhhhh went the wind around me, shhh went
the leaves. And the church clock rang the hour.
With LOVE from the Heart of the Home & me... Susan Branch