

Indian Museum Hosts Harvest Moon Festival

The Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum, Education, and Cultural Center (MKIM) will host its 18th Annual Harvest Moon Festival on Sunday, September 27, from 10 AM to 4 PM at the Museum in Warner.

This popular festival benefits MKIM programs while it celebrates the seasonal harvest that is so important to the Native American culture.

The day is packed with food, games, and fun for everyone. Children and adults are invited to come learn about Eastern Woodland crafts and survival skills. A variety of activities and entertainment are planned and a Museum tour is included in the admission price.

Many craftspeople will be on hand to demonstrate and teach participants different skills. Rhonda Besaw will demonstrate traditional and contemporary Eastern Woodland Beadwork; Chris Bullock and Bob Crowley will demonstrate brain tanning of leather; and Rose Hartwell will demonstrate porcupine quillwork.

Visitors can also make their own corn husk doll. Gary Krofta will build a wigwam/wikiup, and the White Mountain Primitives will provide hands-on survival skills demonstrations.

Gerry Biron will be on hand to sign his book and talk about an item from his collection "Made of Thunder, Made of Glass: American Indian Beadwork of the Northeast."

Lunch is available for purchase again this year at Grace's Kitchen, featuring popular traditional Native foods.

Join us for this day of celebration, learning, and fun! Admission for adults is \$7; \$4 for children ages six to 12; and \$20 for a family. Children under 6 are

free. Admission for Museum members is \$5/\$3/\$18.

Contact the Museum at 456-2600 or IndianMuseum.org for more information.

Benefit Concert

Legendary accordion artist Gary "Creekman" Sredzienski will perform at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, September 15, at the Warner Town Hall to benefit the Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum. A Pre-Concert Supper and Dessert Sale starts at 5:30 PM and features Native American-style desserts.

Gary Sredzienski demonstrates the diversity of the piano accordion with a wide variety of styles encompassing several continents. Gary began his professional career at age 9. At age 10, he traveled around New England performing with a vaudeville act called The Hog Hollow Hooters. His solo recordings on his own Bellows Music label have landed him national performances with various cultural organizations.

Gary performs 1960s surf rock, traditional ethnic, and his accordion compositions. Gary is a New Hampshire Artist-in-Residence and presents educational programs in New Hampshire's schools on a regular basis. To learn more about Gary and listen to a sample of his music, visit GarySred.com.

Concert admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages six through 12, and under six are free. Supper tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for children under 6, and include entree, side, dessert, and beverage. Desserts alone will be \$2 to \$3.

Reservations for the concert and supper are recommended. Advance purchase tickets for the concert and the supper are available at the Museum or by phone at 456-2600.



Jerry Hersey (in overalls) and his brothers, Jim and Paul, get the hay in from a field on their cousin Roger's farm. Photo: Beth McGuinn

\$40,000 To Be Raised This Year For The Roger Hersey Farm

By Beth McGuinn

Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust

The haying season has been late this year, with many farmers making their first cut in August. So it was on the farm owned by Roger Hersey and operated by his cousin Jerry. This is the farm recently granted funding for a conservation easement by the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP) for the purchase of a conservation easement on the property.

I stopped by to get some photographs of the fields on Route 11 while they were being hayed. With the cattle on the pasture behind the hayfield, tedding (turning of the cut hay) at the back of the field, baling in the middle, and loading trucks with hay bales hefted high and carted off from the front of the field, it was a busy day.

The tractors, driven by Jerry's brothers Jim and Paul, are easy to

see from the road, but Jerry was doing the hand work, using a wooden hay rake to keep the hay lined up for the bailer. Many of the steps to making a successful farming operation were visible with one sweeping view of hay-covered fields and green hillsides in the background.

The conservation easement proposed for these fields will allow farming to continue, but it will not allow subdivision of the property or the construction of structures and improvements other than those related to farming and resource management. The property will remain

in private hands and on the tax rolls and will continue to be an important historic landscape, providing often-photographed views; feed for livestock or other agricultural products; and habitat for wildlife.

The Andover Conservation Commission, the Andover Historical Society, and the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust have come together again to form the Hersey Family Farm Alliance to raise the additional \$40,000 needed by December 31 to complete the \$165,000 project. The balance has already been raised with the FRPP grant, funds from the Conservation Commission, and private donations.

Be on the lookout for Alliance activities in the near future and opportunities to help conserve this important property. To learn more about the property or to offer your help, go to AusbonSargent.org and click on New Projects, or call 526-6555.





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