CUISCENE

Get your plate out of the past and back to the future. **How?** Ditch the stuffy 1980s "foodie" label and get ready for some lip-smacking fun right here in Maine.

Gastrod nome's*

Afails Guide to Planet Maine rolls out

BY JUDITH GAINES

January 23, 2011 PIES ON PARADE

Participants walk or hop a trolley to sample 45 different sweet or savory pies at Rockland inns, restaurants, and businesses. Proceeds support the Area Interfaith Outreach Food Pantry. 877-762-4667, historicinnsofrockland.com

February 19-20 MAINE HOME, REMODELING, AND GARDEN SHOW

Includes "Meet the Chef" series: chefs from Maine and New Hampshire show how to prepare their most famous dishes. 935-2845, homegardenflowershow.com

March 8 FAT TUESDAY PARTY & CAJUN COOK-OFF

WMPG radio invites the public to join in a live broadcast and Cajun Cook-off for Fat Tuesday. Sample jambalaya, gumbo, and crawfish etoufée made by some of Greater Portland's best chefs-and vote for your favorite dishes. Individual entries welcome. 780-4151, wmpg.org

March 16 MAINE RESTAURANT AND LODGING EXPO

Trade show for restaurant/lodging professionals features exhibits from over 120 companies. Cumberland County Civic Center, Portland. 623-2177, mainerestaurant.com

March 18 FREE ICE CREAM

Gifford's offers free ice cream cones to welcome Spring. Skowhegan, Bangor, Farmington, Auburn, and Waterville locations. giffordsicecream.com

March 25-26 FLAVORS OF FREEPORT

Tastings and demonstrations by Freeport chefs and food purveyors. 865-9099, flavorsoffreeport.com



DINING ON THE PEAK

Ride the chondola up the mountain at Sunday River ski resort in Bethel for dinner on the mountaintop. Saturdays only. 824-5076, sundayriver.com

DINNER WITH ROMANN

Three- (\$38), four- (\$46), or five- (\$55) course dinner special. January-April, Grissini Italian Bistro, Kennebunkport. Reservations required. 967-2211, restaurantgrissini.com





his won't have a 'big-tourbus' feel," says Midge Vreeland of the upcoming Italian Life Expo, a three-day celebration of Italy's boisterous culture and bold cuisine. Co-sponsored by the Spannocchia Foundation—a Portland- and Siena, Italy-based group dedicated to "encouraging global dialogue about sustaining cultural landscapes

for future generations," of which Vreeland is president—the event will provide a 'small-town-Italy' experience for much less than a plane ticket.

For roughly \$30, attendees will enjoy sipping a deep, velvety Barolo from the family-owned Salvano vineyard nestled in the Piedmont region; tucking into an egg lasagna "au gratin" with beef, fennel seed, and Tuscan sausage ragu by Chef Pino di Cicco of Antica Osteria Da Divo in Siena; speaking with Tuscan artist Ferro Battuto Biagiotti about his handcrafted iron wares; and imagining themselves on an "agriturismo" vacation, exploring a romantic, centuries-old organic farm under a brilliant Tuscan sun.

For Vreeland, the eponymous co-owner of a Yarmouth marketing firm, the journey is a sentimental one. "My husband, Stew, and I fell in love with Italy and eventually



bought a house in the Umbrian hilltown of Panicale.

When we are there, we are always thinking of the season and eating accordingly. When our friends, Peter and Gail Cinelli (the Cinelli family has owned Castello di Spannocchia in Siena since 1925, when author Delfino Cinelli acquired the property to use as a place to write) offered me a spot on Spannocchia's board, I didn't hesitate." The organization boasts 700 Mainers on their mailing list (spannocchia.org), and the event is expected to draw about 1,500 attendees.

"We chose to host this event in Portland rather than someplace larger, like Boston, because we wanted an intimate, personable feel. It's been our experience that the smaller regions and organizations get overwhelmed at the bigger shows by Milan fashion shows and huge auto companies, et cetera. This is about real people."

Sponsors include Auto Europe and the Institute for International Studies.

>>> For more information, visit italianlifeexpo.com.



March 27 MAINE MAPLE SUNDAY

Sugarhouses throughout the state invite the public to join in making maple syrup. 287-3491, getrealmaine.com

April 1-3 PARROT HEAD FESTIVAL

Featuring a margarita mix-off and Key Lime pie-eating contest. Sunday River. 824-3000, sundayriver.com

April 22-24 FISHERMEN'S FESTIVAL

A fish fry, lobster trap hauling, and dory bailing. Boothbay Harbor. 633-6280, boothbayharbor.com

April 29 AN EVENING WITH FRIENDS

Fine dining with paired wines to support scholarships for Southern Maine Community College and other rotary-club charities. SMCC. 799-2314, breakwater-rotary.org





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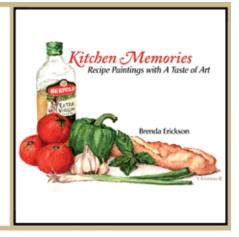
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CUISCENE

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MAINE RESTAURANT WEEK

March 1-12 & November

Restaurants throughout the state offer special, three-course meals at \$20.11, \$30.11, or \$40.11 for dinner, or \$15.11 for lunch. Proceeds help hungry and homeless Mainers. Past participants have included Hugo's, Eve's at the Garden, Back Bay Grill, Five Fifty-Five, The Front Room, Cinque Terre, Bar Lola, and Bresca. This is a great way to sample a restaurant you've been wanting to try and also help those in need. Some hotels and inns offer special stay-and-dine packages. Reservations advised. 775-2126, mainerestaurantweek.com

May 2 TASTE OF OOB

Participating Old Orchard Beach businesses offer samples of their wares-edible or otherwise. 281-2114, oob365.com

May 21-22 SEED TO SOIL

Enjoy a vegetarian feast. Rippling Waters Farm, Steep Falls. 642-5161, ripplingwaters.org

June 1-5 FINE LIVING FESTIVAL

Fine food, cooking demonstrations, and wine tastings to celebrate Food Independence Day. Kennebunkport. 423-9387, fineliving festival.com

June 3-4 FESTIVAL FRANCO FUN Franco-American food favorites. 783-1585, francoamericanheritage.org

June 4 FAMILY FISHING FESTIVAL

Catch your own fish for an outdoor BBQ! Learn to spin and fly cast with complimentary rods and reels. 824-3694, upperandro.com

June 12 OLD PORT FESTIVAL

Featuring local ethnic food. 772-6828, portlandmaine.com

June 17-19 MIDSOMMAR CELEBRATION

Swedish communities in New Sweden, Stockholm, Woodland, and Caribou celebrate Maine Swedish Colony's 141st anniversary with traditional food at various venues. 896-5240, maineswedishcolony.info

June 18 DAIRY DAY AT MORRIS FARM Sample cheese, milk, and yogurt from several Maine dairies. Butter churning and milking demonstrations. Wiscassett. 882-4080, morrisfarm.org

June 23-25 GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL Greek food prepared in the tradi-



PORTLAND SYMPHONY WINE DINNER

Enjoy wines expertly paired with culinary creations in a multi-course meal prepared by Maine's most distinguished chefs. Proceeds benefit the PSO. portlandsymphony.org

FIDDLEFEST

Celebrate spring with its tasty harbingers: fiddleheads, peas, ramps, and asparagus, fixed imaginatively. March 11, University of Southern Maine. maineasta.org

MAINE FOODIE TOURS

Explore why Portland is a culinary destination with daily walking tours stopping to sample locally-made food and drink. This year the tour focuses on Portland's "West Side Story" and its ethnic flare. Tours begin in the spring and continue through December. 233-7485, mainefoodietours.com



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INTERFACE

Art and food come together in a creative collage.

ART AT THE GRILL

Monthly receptions for local artists, featuring different works each month. Includes free appetizers, wines, and cocktails by Chef Rick Hirsch. Year round, Damariscotta River Grill. 563-2992, damariscottarivergrill.com

SLOW FOOD PORTLAND WRITERS' NIGHT

Authors who write about food read from their works, with tasty food offerings from Maine's most talented Slow Food cooks. Past participants have included Ed Behr, Anne Mendelson, Max Watman, Sandy Oliver, Nancy Harmon Jenkins, and Kathy Gunst. March 10. slowfoodportland.org

POP THE CORK
Three toasts to the arts with food, wine, music, and dance and proceeds to benefit a local arts NPO. June 23, MidCoastal area; July 28, Ogunquit; August 18, Portland. 763-4478, mainewine.com

KENNEBUNKPORT FESTIVAL

Paintings and sculptures grace inns and restaurants in Kennebunkport, and chefs create special meals inspired by the art. Includes a Grand Tasting of global wines and Maine food at The Colony restaurant, a casual BBQ and microbrew fest, plus dinners with winemakers and artists in private homes. June 1-5. 772-3373, kennebunkportfestival.com

WRITERS' NIGHT

WRIERS' NIGHI
Regional food writers join local culinary
talents to present a January evening of readings and a taste of Maine's winter bounty.
Past readers have included Ed Behr, Nancy
Harmon Jenkins, Sandy Oliver, James
Peterson, Anne Mendelson, and Margaret
Hathaway. slowfoodportland.org

tional way using authentic ingredients. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Portland. holytrinityportland.org

June 24-26 SPIRIT IN AMERICA Featuring a "night glow," tethered balloon rides, lobster bake, and BBQ contest. Old Orchard Beach. 934-0860, oob365.com

July 4 FOOD INDEPENDENCE DAY Savor your independence with locally sourced ingredients or food you've raised yourself. foodindependenceday.org

July 8-10 GREEK HERITAGE FESTIVAL

A three-day homage to Greek culture, with traditional food and entertainment. St. Demetrios Orthodox Greek Church, Saco. 284-5651, stdemetriosmaine.org

July 9-17 MAINE POTATO BLOSSOM FESTIVAL Nine days to enjoy miles of fields with lovely lavender and white blossoms, farmer olympics, and mashed potato wrestling. Fort Fairfield. 472-3802, potatoblossom.org

July 15-17 MAINE'S CELTIC CELEBRATION Features the U.S. National Cheese Rolling Championship.

BOOKMARK

REVEL WITH THE RABBLE
French writer Francois Rabelais's last words reportedly were: "I go to seek The Great Perhaps." This could be the motto for this Portland bookstore of the same name, purveyors of fine books on food, wine, farming, and gardening. Bon Appetit calls it "the clubhouse" for Maine food-lovers who gather for receptions, signings, exhibits, book club meetings, and discussions throughout the year. rabelaisbooks.com

| | | | | | | | | BETA VERSION | | | | | | | | | |

MAINE FOOD LAB (at the former Roma Cafe) 769 Congress Street Watch for delicious developments at Maine Food Lab, Quimby Colony's "culinary

incubator" featuring lectures, workshops, and tastings for the general public. To track up to 12 events per month here, visit mainefoodlab.com.

Participants race downhill to catch wheels of cheddar cheese by State of Maine Cheese Company. Winner gets the whole hunk. Also a contest to pick the "Celtic Iron Chef." Belfast waterfront. 338-2692, mainecelticcelebration.com

July 15-17 YARMOUTH CLAM FESTIVAL

Three days of fried whole clams in batter, fried whole clams in crumbs, clam cakes, steamed clams, clam chowder, clam pizza, fried clam strips, and clam-shucking. 846-3984, clamfestival.com

July 15-17 WATERFORD WORLD'S FAIR

Traditional agricultural fair in a small community. 583-4993 or 514-0333, waterfordworldsfair.org

July 18 WEED AND FEED

Help pick weeds in return for a locally raised lunch, and go on a wild food treasure hunt in the forest. Rippling Waters

BITS & BYTES Late October HARVEST ON THE HARBOR Seminars, tastings of Maine-made products, and meals crafted by the state's best chefs. Greater Portland Convention and Visitors Bureau. harvestontheharbor.com

As You Like It

Chef Sebastian Carosi orchestrates meals in farm fields, barns, creameries, and other romantic spots using organic, locally grown ingredients. eatmainefoods.org

MOON MEALS

Once a month all year round, on the eve of the full moon, Salt Water Farm in Lincolnville offers a special fourcourse meal for \$65, BYOB. 230-0966, saltwaterfarm.com

FARMERS' MARKETS

Locals sell freshly harvested produce, meat, cheese, bread, flowers, and assorted speciality products directly to their neighbors. Maine has nearly 100 of these markets throughout the state, including during the winter months. 287-3491, getrealmaine.com

MEAL DEAL

Solo Bistro in Bath offers a special three-course dinner for \$15.99 every Wednesday. 443-3373, solobistro.com

CHEF ENCOUNTERS

Watch Executive Chef Jeffrey Hodgdon prepare your feast right in front of you at the Chef's Table. Reservations required. The Salt Exchange, Portland. 347-5687, the salt exchange net

BUDGET GOURMET

Chefs-in-training from Southern Maine Community College's Culinary Arts program prepare four-course dinners Wednesday and Thursday, buffet lunch on Friday. \$12. SMCC Dining Room, South Portland. 741-5612, smccme.edu

CROSTINI BAR

Family-style platters of your favorite crostini. Every Wednesday, 5-8:30 p.m. Grotta at Grissini Italian Bistro, Kennebunkport. 967-2211, restaurantgrissini.com

TUTORIAL

APPLETON CREAMERY

Two-day workshops for cheeses you can make at home, including jack, mozzarella, and ricotta, as well as butter, using grocery store cow's milk. Appleton Creamery, Appleton. appletoncreamery.com

BAYLEAF BISTRO

Cooking classes June through September on Wednesdays featuring different international cuisines. Lincolnville. 505-0458, bayleafcottages.com

BLACK TIE BISTRO

Classes throughout the year. Topics include truffles and brittle, tempeh, risotto, Cajun and Creole, and mixology. 761-6665, blacktieco.com

CAFÉ MIRANDA

Chef Kerry Altiero offers Saturday cooking classes throughout the year. 594-2034, cafemiranda.com

CELLARDOOR WINERY

Cooking classes throughout the year including "Lobster Lovers" and "Cooking with a Maine Farmer." Lincolnville. 763-4478, mainewine.com

HARTSTONE INN

Chef Michael Salmon offers weekend cooking classes, including Tuscan dishes and gourmet meals on a budget. Camden. 236-4259, hartstoneinn.com

MAINE CULINARY VACATIONS

Join chef and cookbook author Anne Mahle on a several-day windjammer cruise during August, with cooking demonstrations on the ship's wood-burning stove. 800-869-0604, mainewindjammer.com

ON THE MARSH BISTRO

Join Executive Chef Jeffrey Savage, a Wine Spectator Award of Excellence winner and James Beard presenter, for "An Insider's Culinary Class." May-June, Kennebunk. 967-2299, onthemarsh.com

SALTWATER FARM

Classes held throughout the year. Topics include home brewing, cassoulet, Catalan cuisine, and cheesemaking. Lincolnville, saltwaterfarm.com

STONE TURTLE BAKING AND COOKING SCHOOL Classes held throughout the year, with topics that include breads, pies, tarts, and cake decorating. 324-7558, stoneturtlebaking.com

TEN APPLE FARM

Homesteading workshops offered throughout the year. Topics include cheesemaking, breadbaking, and cleaning and cooking your own duck. Gray. tenapplefarm.com

THE WHITE BARN INN

Classes held the first and third Thursday of every month from November to April. Kennebunkport. 967-2211, restaurantgrissini.com

Farm, Steep Falls. 642-5161, ripplingwaters.org

July 19-23 CENTRAL MAINE EGG FESTIVAL Early bird breakfast, chicken BBQ, "egglympics" for kids, quiche contest, and one of the world's largest frying pans! Pittsfield. 680-0646, eggfest.craftah.com

July 24 OPEN FARM DAY

Farms throughout Maine offer demonstrations, hay rides, and pick-your-own possibilities. Also free tours by Sabbathday Lake Shaker community in New Gloucester. 287-3491, getrealmaine.com. 926-4597, shaker.lib.me.us

August 3 A TASTE OF GREATER WATERVILLE Dine under the stars in historic downtown Waterville. Features a beer garden. 873-3315, midmainechamber.com

(Continued on page 82)

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SHARING

Feast your eyes and feed your belly during First Friday Art Walks!

9 HANDS GALLERY Appetizers and sparkling water. 615a Congress St., Portland. 865-1300, ninehandsgallery.com

FRASER ART STUDIO Appetizers, vegan options. 81 Congress St., Portland. 650-3437, paintsquared.com

THE GALLERY AT HARMON'S

AND BARTON'S Wine and appetizers. 584 Congress St., Portland. 775-2303, harmonsbartons.com

MIKE'S ROCK AND ROLL SANDWICH SHOP

Food platters. 437 Congress St., Portland. 809-5113 mikesrockdeli com

MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Appetizers and drinks. 489 Congress St., Portland. 774-1822, mainehistory.org

SPACE Appetizers. 538 Congress St., Portland. 828-5600, space538.org

Eat 3.0 (continued from page 58)

August 3-4 MERRYSPRING'S ANNUAL KITCHEN TOUR Tour interesting kitchens in the Camden, Rockport, and Lincolnville areas, with refreshments provided by local chefs. 236-2239, merryspring.org

August 3-7 MAINE LOBSTER FESTIVAL Savor a succulent lobster as you look out over Penobscot Bay. Last year, more than 20,000 pounds of lobster were steamed here in "the world's largest lobster cooker," a show in itself. Book signings and cooking contests. Rockland. 596-0376, mainelobsterfest.com

August 11-15 ACADIAN FESTIVAL Sample traditional Acadian dishes. Madawaska. 728-7000, acadianfestival.com

August 12-14 PLOYE FESTIVAL & MUSKIE FISHING DERBY

Sample this Franco-American favorite, see "the world's largest ploye," and try muskie fishing on the St. John River. Fort Kent. 834-5354

August 13 BACKYARD LOCAVORE TOUR

Educational garden tour in Cumberland County, provided by University of Maine's Cooperative Extension Service, showcases ways to increase self-sufficiency. 780-4213

August 13-14 CELEBRATE MAINE

Sample bean-hole beans, local cheeses, fruit juices, beer, Moxie, and mussels. Raitt Homestead Farm Museum, Eliot. 748-3303, celebratemainefestival.com

August 19-21 MACHIAS WILD BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL Enjoy blueberry pancakes, muffins, and pies and pie-eating contests. 255-6665, machiasblueberry.com

August 25-28 PISCATAQUIS VALLEY FAIR Features a milking parlor and ice cream. Dover-Foxcroft. 943-2650, piscataquisvalleyfair.com

August 27 MEAL BY A MAZE

Four local chefs prepare a difference course for a dinner in the fields by a maze on Sherman Farms on the Fryeburg/

Elizabeth offers evening dinners in its orchard, starring food grown on the farm. July-September. 761-4769, cultivating community.org

Summer Seductions

This nine-day celebration includes wine tastings

and dinners featuring local ingredients. 800-328-

5033, theharborsidehotel.com

BAR HARBOR FOOD & WINE CLASSIC

LA KERMESSE FRANCO-AMERICAN FESTIVAL

Franco-American block party with traditional foods. St.

Louis Field, Biddeford. 282-2894, lakermessefestival.com

STRAWBERRY FESTIVALS

Maine's succulent strawberry is honored with short-

pies, and assorted activities in communities around the

state, including South Berwick (June 25, southberwick-

strawberryfestival.com), Wells, Oquossoc, Sangerville,

Boothbay Harbor, Wiscasset, and Locke Mills. Contact

local chambers of commerce for additional information.

TWILIGHT DINNERS

On alternating Thursdays Turkey Hill Farm in Cape

Lincolnville, New Gloucester, Washington, Bangor,

cakes, berries and cream, chocolate-covered berries,

East Conway border. Dinner preceded by a trolley ride to several farms in the Mt. Washington Valley. 800-367-3364 for tickets, fieldsonthesaco.com

August 27 WELLS CHILI-FEST

Annual chili and salsa cookoff, sanctioned by the International Chili Society. Winners advance to the World Chili Championship. 646-2451, wellschilifest.com

August 28 KITCHEN GARDEN DAY

An international time for celebrating home harvests. Participants recognize the day in different ways-from

FOR ARMCHAIR TRAVEL AT ITS BEST!

LATIN NIGHT South American and Spanish tapas and wines. March 11, Blue Sky on York Beach. 363-0050 for reservations, blueskyonyorkbeach.com

DINE AROUND THE WORLD

Over 25 Greater Portland restaurants and caterers offer samples of international hors d'oeuvres, entrées, and desserts. Proceeds benefit Gary's House. March 23. 400-7169, mercyhospital.com

ARGENTINEAN WINE DINNER Featuring cuisine from Chef Mitchell Kaldrovich's native Argentina during its harvest time. February 24, Sea Glass Restaurant,

Inn by the Sea, Cape Elizabeth.

799-3134, innbythesea.com





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VALENTINE'S FOUR-COURSE DINNER

February 12. Sea Glass Restaurant, Inn by the Sea, Cape Elizabeth. 799-3134, innbythesea.com

VALENTINE'S DAY GOURMET

February 14 presents plenty of dining opportunities for grubnik couples: Aphrodisiac Tasting Menu at Hugo's, Portland, 7748538, hugos.net; a special five-course meal at Five Fifty-five, Portland, 761-0555, fivefifty-five.com; a special four-course meal at Blue Sky, York Beach, 363-0050, blueskyonyorkbeach.com

CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL

Choose a dozen samples from 30 decadent chocolate desserts at this family festival, sponsored by Moosehead Lake's Chamber of Commerce. February 20, Greenville's Masonic Hall. 695-2702, mooseheadlake.org

CHOCOLATE-LOVERS' FLING

An afternoon of chocolate delights created by chefs and chocolatiers in York and Cumberland Counties. Proceeds support Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine. April 3, Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland. 828-1035, chocolateloversfling.org

CAVIAR DINNER

Champagne and caviar followed by a four-course meal with wine and caviar pairings Caviar expert Rod Mitchell of Browne Trading Company will be on hand to add to the flavor. October. 775-9090, portlandharborhotel.com

organizing garden tours to hosting home-grown potluck dinners. 956-0606, kitchengardeners.org

September 4 TOMATO TASTING AND LUNCHEON Join the Morris Farm's master gardeners on the porch for an heirloom tomato tasting followed by a tomato-filled lunch. 882-4080, morrisfarm.org

September 8-10 LEWISTON-AUBURN GREEK FESTIVAL Greek pastries, a taverna, and Greek lunch and dinner. 783-6795, holytrinitymaine.org

September 11 MAINE APPLE SUNDAY

Visit apple orchards around the state. Check out apple festivals in Alfred, Cornish, Monmouth, Livermore Falls, Manchester, and Farmington. maineapples.org

ACADIA'S OKTOBERFEST Cheese and wine pairings and a brewfest. October 7-8. 244-9264, acadiaoktoberfest.co

REWFEST Maine brewers provide a traditional German brewfest. October. York. 363-4422, gatewaytomaine.org

BUZZ

BREWERS' FESTIVAL
Meet Maine's award-winning brewmasters and sample
their creations. Includes the popular "Dinner with
the Brewers," a multi-course meal with beer pairings.
November 5, Portland Expo Center. learnyourbeer.cor

SPIRIT TASTINGS
Spirit tastings the last Wednesday of every month. The
Salt Exchange, Portland. 347-5687, thesaltexchange.net

September 16 SOIL TO SUPPER

Held at Rippling Waters, a CSA in Standish, the event brings food-lovers right to the source for a late-summer potluck that includes music and agricultural education 2-6:30 p.m. slowfoodportland.org

September 17 MT. DESERT ISLAND GARLIC FESTIVAL Chefs, brewers, and garlic growers celebrate the pungent little bulb at Smugglers' Den Campground. 288-0269

September 23-25 COMMON GROUND COUNTRY FAIR Participate in discussions of hot topics in farming, gardening, and food preparation, sponsored by MOFGA. Unity. 568-4142, mofga.org

September 25 PEMAQUID OYSTER FESTIVAL Slurp only the best oysters at this annual festival. Schooner's Landing Restaurant, Damariscotta. 380-9912

October 1-10 DAMARISCOTTA PUMPKINFEST & REGATTA

A ten-day homage to all things pumpkin: a sanctioned

pumpkin weigh-off (last year's winner totaled an amazing 1,471 pounds), pumpkin catapulting, pumpkin boat races, pumpkin pie-eating, and a cooking-with-pumpkin contest. 592-6184, damariscottapumpkinfest.com

October 2 SLOW FOOD MID-COAST MAINE AMERICAN HARVEST PICNIC

Celebrate rare foods grown by local farmers and prepared by area chefs. Apple pie contest, and cider pressing. Morris Farm, Wiscasset. 882-4080, morrisfarm.org

October 9 OPEN CREAMERY DAY

Award-winning Maine cheesemakers offer samples, and cheesemakers around the state invite you to visit their operations. mainecheeseguild.org

October 15-16 YORK HARVESTFEST

A roasted ox and bean-hole beans-who can refuse? 363-4422, gatewaytomaine.org

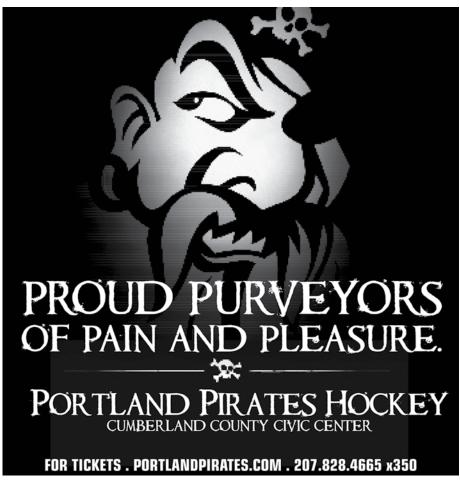
October 29 or 30 GREAT MAINE APPLE DAY

Workshops on cider and wine making, cooking with oldtime recipes, apple art, and tasting of heirloom varieties. Common Ground Educational Center, Unity. 568-4142, mofga.org









CUISCENE



MAINE FARE

A three-day, September celebration of Maine's culinary harvest with panels, tastings, classes, films, dinners, and a marketplace featuring an array of local artisanal products, Camden, mainefare.com

ANNUAL GRAND VIEW FARM DINNER Staffs of Cinque Terre and Vignola jointly create this meal in September. Grand View Farm, Greene. 347-6154, cinqueterremaine.com

MAINE SALMON FESTIVAL

Eastport heats up in September with a community potluck "pie party" featuring savory and sweet pies, a chowder lunch, and a grilled salmon dinner. Other events include a salmon cooking demonstration and juried vendor competition selling smoked salmon and other treats. 853-2300, eastport.net

TWENTY-MILE MEAL

Local culinary superstars craft tastings from ingredients grown, raised, or landed at the Turkey Hill Farm in Cape Elizabeth or within a 20-mile radius. October. 761-4769, cultivating community.org

FOLIAGE, FOOD, AND WINE FESTIVAL

Chefs and food producers invite you to sample their best treats on scenic Blue Hill peninsula in mid-October. 374-3242, bluehillpeninsula.org

November 12 SAVOR THE FLAVOR

This progressive dinner in Old Orchard Beach goes from restaurant to restaurant for a six-course meal and then in reverse for drinks. 281-2114, oob365.com

November 19 GREEK HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Greek food is the main attraction at this gathering, where you can get a hot meal or holiday gifts for food-loving friends. St. Demetrios, Saco. stdemetriosmaine.org

November 26-December 24 TASTE OF BETHEL Sample specialties of local chefs. bethelmaine.com

December 2-11 CHRISTMAS PRELUDE

A week of festive fare, including champagne receptions, roasted chestnuts at the monastery, and holiday tablesetting tips. Kennebunkport. christmasprelude.com

December 3 CHESTER GREENWOOD DAY

The Farmington fellow who invented the earmuff is remembered with chili and gingerbread house contests. 778-4215, franklincountymaine.org

December 3 SHAKER CHRISTMAS FAIR

Homemade, Shaker baked goods, including Brother Arnold's famous biscuits, cheese, pickles, wreaths, and the famous Shaker oval boxes. New Gloucester. 926-4597

December 24 FEAST OF THE SEVEN FISHES

Traditional holiday Italian feast with four courses and seven fishes. Cinque Terre, Portland. 347-6154 for reservations.

>> FRIEND ME

Bakers "from around the country" share their versions of whoopie pie. June 25, Center Theatre, Dover-Foxcroft. 564-8943, centertheatre.org

MOXIE FESTIVA

Created by Maine's own Dr. Augustin Thompson,
Moxie is our official soft drink and a cult object for
followers who gather for this annual tribute. Includes
a contest for the best recipe incorporating Moxie,
which was described on its original label like this:
"Contains not a drop of Medicine, Poison, Stimulant or
Alcohol..." July 8-10, Lisbon Falls. moxiefestival.com

Prestigious French wines expertly paired with a five-course gourmet dinner. February 10, Double Diamond Steakhouse, Sugarloaf. 237-4220

Enjoy the best of Italy at this premier event. Fourcourse dinner with wines pairings, along with expert wine commentary to benefit Cathedral School. February 11, 7 p.m. Maria's Restaurant, Portland. 772-9232 or 775-1491, cathedral portland.com

CELLARDOOR WINERY

Learn to identify and evaluate wine flavors and aromas at a "Demystifying the Wine Experience" class, April 13. Also wine-making classes May 28, June 18, and July 9. Lincolnville. 763-4478, mainewine.com

Grape-stomping, homemade wine competition, wine tastings, cellar tours, dinner, and dancing in the vineyard fields. September 30-October 1. Cellardoor Winery, Lincolnville. 763-4478, mainewine.com

Learning vacation features hands-on wine-making education at Cellardoor Winery in Lincolnville, a cooking class with Lawrence Klang, chef de cuisine at Camden Harbour Inn, a four-day stay at the inn, and a take-home wine-making kit. Mid-October. 800-236-4266, camdenharbourinn.com, mainewine.com



BLACK CHERRY PROVISIONS

Every second Saturday, 2-5 p.m. Falmouth. 781-5656, blackcherrymaine.com

BROWNE TRADING COMPANY

Every third Thursday, 5-7 p.m. Portland. 775-7560, brownetrading.com

HAVANA SOUTH

"\$10 for 10" wine tastings every third Wednesday, 5:30-8 p.m. Portland. 772-9988, havanamaine.com

OLD PORT WINE MERCHANTS

Every third Wednesday, 4-7:30 p.m. Portland. 772-9463, oldportwine.com

Every second Wednesday, 4-7 p.m. Portland. 773-8808

WEST END DELI & CATERING

Every first Friday, 6-8 p.m. Portland. 874-6426, thewestenddeli.com

WINE WISE TASTINGS

Organized tastings at different venues throughout the year. 619-4630, winewiseevents.com

Ogunquit's holiday merriment features chowder and

chocolate fests. 649-2939, ogunquit.org

Join the fun! >> To submit entries and for event updates, visit portlandmonthly.com/portmag/2010/12/eat-30.



Reservations at www.solobistro.com



