

EDIBLE EVENTS CALENDAR

JUNE

Marin Civic Center Farmers' Market Chef Demonstrations and Market Tours

1st Sunday of the Month, San Rafael. Each Sunday highlights a local chef and one of our local producers, who come together to share a fresh, taste-tempting, seasonal recipe. Meet our featured culinary expert of the day at 9 AM at the Eat Local 101 Booth for a farmers' market walking tour. The chef will share a recipe, highlighting what's in season, and then take the group to visit a handful of the farmers that are growing the necessary ingredients. Then, at 10 AM (and again at 11AM), a cooking demonstration featuring both chef and producer will be staged. Both the tours and demonstrations are free and open to the public. www.marinfarmersmarkets.org.

World Famous Auction Napa Valley

Thursday-Sunday, June 4-7, 2009. The Napa Valley Vintners invite you to join them for four days of the best Napa Valley has to offer. Auction 2009 chairs John, Janet, Loren and Hailey Trefethen of Trefethen Family Vineyards and hundreds of other vintners will be your hosts for this weekend of exclusive parties, incredible auction lots and the ultimate in wine and food, with the incomparable Napa Valley as the setting. If you love wine this is THE event to attend. Rub elbows with some of the most famous wine makers and vintners in the area. It is always great food, wonderful people watching, amazing wines and great fun. For tickets contact the Napa Valley Vintners. For details, call 707.963.3388 or visit the web site www.napavintners.com.

Little Black Mountain Stewardship Outing

Friday June 5, 2009, 10AM-3PM, Near Cazadero in West Sonoma County. Join Sonoma Land Trust staff for a volunteer workday at the Little Black Mountain Nature Preserve. Volunteers are needed to help remove plant protection hardware and help track success rates of native seedlings planted along a tributary of Pole Mountain Creek. A hike to a scenic lookout and picnic lunch will follow workday activities. For more information or to sign up, please call 707.544.5614, Ext. 2 or email volunteer@sonomalandtrust.org. This is just an example of the many fun hikes offered by the Sonoma Land Trust. Visit sonomalandtrust.org for more information about hikes and events this summer.

Taste Alexander Valley

Friday-Sunday, June 5-7, 2009. Alexander Valley celebrates its 12th Annual Taste Alexander Valley event with over 20 wineries opening their doors to visitors. Taste exclusive Alexander Valley wines, enjoy gracious hospitality, tantalizing food and entertainment. The weekend kicks off with dinner and a special reception with local Winemakers pouring their current releases. Guests enjoy dinner catered by renowned Park Avenue Catering served with Alexander Valley Wines. Winemakers and growers will be on hand to share their stories of the Valley. For tickets and more information, call Toll Free 1.888.AWWINES.

Book Signing by Deborah Madison

Saturday, June 6, 2009, 7PM, Point Reyes Books, 11315 Hwy 1, Point Reyes Station. Author of *Renewing America's Food Traditions: Saving and Savoring the Continent's Most Endangered Foods*, Deborah was the founding chef of Greens in San Francisco and Cafe Escalera in Santa Fe, NM. She is the author of four cookbooks, including *Vegetarian Cooking for Everyone*, which was named the IACP Cookbook of the Year, and most recently, *Local Flavors*, which was named the James Beard Book of the Year. For more information, call 415.663.1542 or visit www.ptreyesbooks.com.

Garden Tour and Seasonal Lunch at McEvoy Ranch

Thursday, June 11, 2009, 10AM-1:30PM, McEvoy Ranch, 5935 Red Hill Road, Petaluma. Garden tours with a gourmet catered lunch featuring fresh, local, organic ingredients. After the garden tour you sample McEvoy's award-winning olive oil and then sit down to a seasonally-inspired al fresco lunch, while enjoying a magnificent view of the olive groves. \$85 per person. For reservations, visit www.mcevoyranch.com.

Pinot Noir Wine Tasting at Historic Escalle Winery

Saturday, June 13, 2009, 3-7 PM, Historic Escalle Winery, 771 Magnolia Ave, Larkspur. The 5th annual Marin County Pinot Noir tasting is an inspired effort to preserve agricultural land in Marin County. The limited-production Marin County Pinot Noirs include some marquee names as well as some of California's most promising new faces. A tasting of locally-produced foods will also be offered. A benefit for MALT sponsored by the Marin Winegrowers Association. Cost: \$50/valet parking and wine glass included. On-line registration only for this event at www.malt.org.

Family Farm Day at Connolly Ranch

Saturday, June 13, 2009 (this is a rescheduled date), 11AM-2PM, Connolly Ranch, 3141 Browns Valley Road, Napa. Located just a short drive from downtown, Connolly Ranch is a rich reminder of Napa's agricultural past. These 12 acres, once the home of Margaret "Peggy" Connolly, now serve as the agricultural and environmental education center of the Land Trust of Napa County, providing dynamic, hands-on programs in an outdoor setting for children and the community. This is a free event for the whole family. Activities will include: Meeting our farm animals including goats, sheep, miniature donkeys, geese, ducks, chickens, Olivia the Pig, our miniature horse and cow plus an assortment of new baby animals. Live music. Food and ice cream available. For more information, visit www.napalandtrust.org.

Slow Food Russian River's Slow Food Film Series

June 18, 2009, doors open at 6PM, film starts at 7PM, VIVA at 7160 Keating Avenue, Sebastopol. Film to be announced; light supper and wine available for purchase. \$5 donation. RSVP a must to info@slowfoodrr.org.

Solarbration Saturday, June 20, 2009, Bardessono, Yountville. Celebrate the summer solstice with ten wineries and one hotel that all use solar power.

Join us in Yountville at Bardessono, Napa's hottest new "green" hotel, for great wine, food and music. Visit www.napalandtrust.org to learn more about this event.

Father's Day Weekend Hike at McEvoy Ranch

Saturday, June 20, 2009, 10AM-12:30PM, McEvoy Ranch, 5935 Red Hill Road, Petaluma. Bring Dad for a trek through the olive orchards and up the hillside to enjoy the panoramic views from McEvoy Ranch. After the one-hour walk, it's on to the milling room, where our experts will explain the olive oil pressing process. The experience concludes with a rustic post-hike snack and a sampling of McEvoy's award-winning oil. Price: \$50. Pre-registration required at the Ranch's website www.mcevoyranch.com or call 707.778.2307.

Get Smoked by Bruce Aidells

June 27, 2009, 11:30AM-3PM, Lambert Bridge Winery, 4085 West Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg. Cookbook author, teacher, and star of his own cooking segment on San Francisco's Evening Magazine, Bruce Aidells has partnered with Lambert Bridge to create a special BBQ rub just for the Winery. At this special Wine Country BBQ you will get to taste the results with some Lambert wines over lunch. Advance Sales \$125; Wine Club members \$75. Price includes a signed book and a jar of rub to take home. www.lambertbridge.com.

JULY

Green Marin County Fair

Wednesday-Sunday, July 1-5, 2009, 11AM-11PM, Marin County Fairgrounds, San Rafael. This year's theme will be Cool Green Fun. The 64th edition of the Fair is a spectacular five-day party. The summer's biggest community celebration will showcase the many ways Marin's County Fair is leading the way in green and environmental efforts. There will be exciting events, plenty of food and green exhibits. Look for all those crazy rides and attractions and, of course, fireworks will be displayed each night. For more information visit www.marinfair.org.

Garden Tour and Seasonal Lunch at McEvoy Ranch

Thursday, July 9, 2009, 10AM-1:30PM, McEvoy Ranch, 5935 Red Hill Road, Petaluma. Garden tours with a gourmet catered lunch featuring fresh, local, organic ingredients. After the garden tour you sample McEvoy's award-winning olive oil and then sit down to a seasonally-inspired al fresco lunch, while enjoying a magnificent view of the olive groves. \$85 per person. For reservations, visit www.mcevoyranch.com.

Book Signing by Nicolette Hahn Niman

Saturday, July 11, 2009, 7PM, Point Reyes Books, 11315 Highway 1, Point Reyes Station. Mill Valley writer Nicolette Hahn Niman, the Author of *Righteous Porkchop: Finding a Life and Good Food Beyond Factory Farms*, is rancher, attorney, and writer. Much of her time is spent speaking and writing about the problems of industrialized livestock production. Previously, she was the Senior Attorney for the

environmental organization Waterkeeper Alliance where she was in charge of the organization's campaign to reform the concentrated livestock and poultry industry, and, before that, an attorney for National Wildlife Federation. For more information, call 415.663.1542 or visit www.ptreyes-books.com.

Tour of Hog Island Oyster Company and Straus Organic Dairy Thursday, July 16, 2009, 11AM-3PM, 20215 Highway 1, Marshall. Meet the shellfish experts at Hog Island Oyster Company for a very special tour. Taste oysters fresh from Tomales Bay while enjoying great views from the shoreline picnic area where you also can enjoy the lunch you brought along. Afterwards, we'll carpool to the Straus Dairy and learn about the organic operation, the methane digester, and other energy-producing and -conserving techniques used at the ranch. We'll also watch the cows being milked! The dairy, which was converted to organic in 1993, today milks 270 cows. Pre-registration required. What to bring: Water, lunch, and shoes that can get dirty. This event organized by and benefits the Marin Agricultural Land Trust. Cost: \$35 / \$40 non-members. Pre-registration required at www.malt.org.

Book Signing by Lisa Hamilton

Saturday, July 25, 2009, 7PM, Point Reyes Books, 11315 Highway 1, Point Reyes Station. Lisa Hamilton is a writer and photographer who focuses on food and agriculture, particularly the stories of farmers. Her most recent book is *Deeply Rooted: Unconventional Farmers in the Age of Agribusiness* (Counterpoint). Her work has also been published in the *Nation*, *Harper's*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Orion*, and *Gastronomica*. For more information, call 415.663.1542 or visit www.ptreyesbooks.com.

Family Day at Toluma Farms Goat Dairy

Saturday, July 25, 2009, 11 AM-2PM, 5488 Middle Road, Tomales. Toluma Farms currently raises 200 goats on 160 organically certified acres in Tomales. Owners David Jablons and Tamara Hicks (along with their girls Josy and Emmy) bought the land in 2003. The goat dairy, launched in 2007, supplies Grade-A milk to Redwood Hill Creamery. You'll get to taste yummy yogurt, learn how goats are milked, take a goat on a hike to the top of the property, have a fun tractor ride, and meet the farm's predator control bird—a peacock. Where to Meet: Toluma Farms. From Tomales, go west on Dillion Beach Rd. for 1 mile. Turn right on Middle Rd. What to Bring: Water, hiking boots and lunch. This event organized by and benefits the Marin Agricultural Land Trust. Cost: \$12 / \$15 non-members, \$8/\$10 for children (under 2 years old free). Pre-registration required at www.malt.org.

Chef Hubert Keller at Left Bank Restaurant

Larkspur, Thursday, July 30, 2009, 6:30PM, Left Bank Restaurant, 507 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur. The look and taste of the ideal burger vary according to the diner," writes Chef Hubert Keller in his new cookbook, *Burger Bar: Recipes and Ideas for Making the Best Burger*, "but we all agree that burgers must satisfy the soul." Chef Keller takes the burger to new heights, offering perfectly paired flavor combinations. Hubert Keller is the Executive Chef and owner of Fleur de Lys restaurant in San Francisco. He is a James Beard award-winner, as well the host of the TV series *Secrets of a Chef*. This event will be held at Left Bank in Larkspur. \$100 per

person, \$185 per couple, and includes one book. For reservations, visit www.leftbank.com or call 415.927.3331.

AUGUST

Tomato Tasting at Forni Brown Gardens Wednesday, August 12, 2009, 1214 Pine Street, Calistoga. Every serious gardener in Napa Valley knows Forni Brown Gardens, tucked just outside the Calistoga city limits. Rarely open to the public, they provide vegetables to some of the country's finest restaurants and raise an amazing variety of tomatoes. So it's a special treat to be able to join Dan Forni for a private tasting of his best tomatoes. This event benefits the Napa Trust of Napa County. For reservations, times and more information call Janet at 707.252.1135.

Garden Tour and Seasonal Lunch at McEvoy Ranch Thursday August 13, 2009, 10AM-1:30PM, McEvoy Ranch, 5935 Red Hill Road, Petaluma. Garden tours with a gourmet catered lunch featuring fresh, local, organic ingredients. After the garden tour you sample McEvoy's award-winning olive oil and then sit down to a seasonally-inspired al fresco lunch, while enjoying a magnificent view of the olive groves. \$85 per person. For reservations, visit www.mcevoyranch.com.

The Land Trust of Napa County BBQ at Scully Ranch

Saturday, August 15, 2009—Nestled in the hills above Napa Valley, Scully Ranch is a gorgeous 22-acre estate with two-acres of farms and orchards, and miles of hiking trails. Join winemakers, vintners, chefs and Napa Valley folks for a hoe down in the Barn at Scully Ranch. The evening will feature a fabulous BBQ by a noted Napa Valley chef, amazing wines from some of the stars in the business and dancing! An auction rounds out the festivities. To buy tickets and for additional information, visit www.napalandtrust.org or call Janet at 707.252.1135.

Gravenstein Apple Festival

Friday and Saturday, August 15 and 16, 10AM-6PM, Rangle Ranch Park, Sebastopol. Every August Rangle Ranch Park in Sebastopol, California, provides the beautiful location for an annual celebration of Sonoma County agriculture, the Gravenstein Apple Fair. Warm, dry days, cool nights and Northern California's mellow loamy soil provide ideal growing conditions for Sonoma County's historic Gravenstein apple trees. Brimming with tradition, this country fair showcases Sebastopol's Gravenstein apple and the experience of an old time country get-together. At the fair, Sonoma County farmers sell everything from apples, food, wine, and crafts. There is music and—of course—a pie contest. www.gravensteinapplefair.com.

California-Only Olive Oil Competition and Fair at the Yolo County Fairground

Wednesday-Sunday, August 19-23, 2009, 125 East Street, Woodland. The Yolo County California Olive Oil Competition is a not-to-be-missed event if you love olive oil and dream of sampling over 100 olive



oils from all over California. This is the fifth year of the competition, which gets larger every year. The oils will be displayed in the Ag Business Building during the Fair. Come taste these exceptional products, many from Northern California. www.yolocountyfair.net.

Tour of Tomales Bay Oyster Company and Straus Organic Dairy

Thursday, August 20, 2009, 11AM -3PM Tomales Bay Oyster Company, 15479 Hwy 1, Point Reyes Station. Meet the shellfish experts at Tomales Bay Oyster Company for a very special tour. Taste oysters fresh from Tomales Bay while enjoying great views from the shoreline picnic area where you also can enjoy the lunch you brought along. Afterwards, we'll carpool to the Straus Dairy and learn about the organic operation, the methane digester, and other energy-producing and -conserving techniques used at the ranch. We'll also watch the cows being milked! The dairy, which was converted to organic in 1993, today milks 270 cows. Pre-registration required. What to bring: Water, lunch, and shoes that can get dirty. This event organized by and benefits the Marin Agricultural Land Trust. Cost: \$35 / \$40 non-members. Pre-registration required at www.malt.org.

Book Signing by Marion Nestle

Saturday, August 22, 2009, Toby's Feed Barn, 11250 Highway 1, Point Reyes Station. A meal and conversation with Marion Nestle, author of *What to Eat: An Aisle-by-Aisle Guide to Savvy Food Choices and Good Eating*, is the most respected nutritionist in America today. Her book *Food Politics* was given the James Beard Award, the top award for food writing. For more information, call 415.663.1542 or visit www.ptreyesbooks.com.