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## NORTHERN FOREST HERITAGE PARK

*A Logging history museum & Visitor Center in the Heart of the North Country*

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For immediate release:

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Dick Merrill and his crew, Butch Eafrazi, Jean Boucher, Bill (Bear) Britton and Doug Baker have the grounds and buildings at Northern Forest Heritage Park in terrific shape! If you haven't taken a stroll on the grounds at the Park lately you owe it to yourself to come take a look see! Gorgeous! That's one word that Jim Wagner, chair of the NFHP Advisory Board says over and over again.

A perfect opportunity for you to view the grounds and buildings is presenting itself soon. The NFHP's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cultural/Heritage Festival is scheduled for June 5. The Cultural/Heritage Festival is the Park's first major event of the year. The Advisory Board and Cultural/Heritage committee have been hard at work preparing this event. This opening event for 2010 promises to please! There will be something for everyone. Entertainers this year include Patrick Ross, the Maine Kanteles, John Loper and Nancy Kaminski.

Patrick Ross is a native of Canaan, Vermont and a fifth-generation fiddler. He has toured across the United States and traveled in Ireland, Italy, Hungary and Nicaragua, and now makes his home in Groveton, NH. His father taught him many French Canadian fiddle tunes, reflecting his fiddling heritage that originated in Scotland and included migration to Quebec, New Hampshire and then Vermont. "Patrick is accomplished, innovative, imaginative and supremely musical; he has captured the adrenalin of a thousand hearts." (Stephen Pedersen, Arts Reporter)

The *Maine Kanteles* is a kantele ensemble whose members come from many communities in western and southern Maine. While some members of the *Maine Kanteles* are of Finnish heritage, many are not. All, however, are drawn to the music of the instrument and share interest in its cultural significance. The kantele is a traditional Finnish lap-harp with a 2000-year history rooted in the folklore of the "Kalevala," the national epic of Finland. It exists today as an authentic instrument played in Finland's schools, universities and concert halls. Not only is it a beautiful sounding instrument, but the Finns consider it one of the most important symbols of their culture.

John Loper is considered by many to be one of the premier players of Native American Flutes in the country. His unique style and ability has earned him the respect of kindred spirits everywhere. Performing both traditional songs as well as his own compositions, John shares his exceptional talent for blending contemporary and primitive sounds with audiences from around the world. (Fiddleheads, Colebrook NH)

Nancy Kaminsky, Strolling Minstrel, has graced the Park with her soothing and pleasant-sounding tunes on many different occasions. The soothing sounds of the Strolling Minstrel will entertain everyone as she strolls through the Park drawing melodies on her violin offering bright and delicate Swedish and Scandinavian folk tunes.

There will be many vendors and artisans at this year's Cultural/Heritage Festival. One of the vendors is the Maine Nordmenn, Sons of Norway. Dressed in the period, they will bring their special skills such as Rosemaling, Viking wood carving and knitting. Demonstrations will be given

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and some of these items will be on sale! The Son's of Norway will also bake and sell Krumkake on the spot!

Other vendors include Sara Glines; she will display and sell her Handcrafted Wooden Figures based on seven generations of family history. Carol Varney, a representative of Usborne Books and More offers over 1500 wonderful titles for kids of all ages. Karen Patry, will display and sell her Carved Moose Antlers and necklaces meticulously carved from Moose Antlers. Rhonda Besaw, Scampers with Squirrels, preserves the art of Wabanaki beadwork. She specializes in the intricately beaded hand bags that were made during the 1800s and early 1900s and sold in the Niagara Falls area and in Montreal, Quebec. Sandy Hofstead will demonstrate and display Russian Iconography and Ukrainian Pysanky. The Berlin/Coos Historical Society will be on hand with very interesting and historically significant displays. Paul "Poof" Tardiff will also be on site with his books "Once Upon a Berlin Time" Volumes I, II & III. If you already purchased one of Poof's books bring it in for him to autograph it. If you don't own one of his books you can buy one on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Cultural/Heritage Festival

There will be fun activities for the kids all day long! Berlin Head Start Family Service Coordinator Gigi Snow and teacher Shannon Katz, along with a local Girl Scout Troop of Green and White Mountains ~ Junior Troop 20715 have volunteered to coordinate all of the children's activities such as Log Burling, presented by Eileen Kelley. Log Burling is the art of maintaining balance on a floating log. The Burling Pool is also where the metal Fishing Derby will take place. There will be face painting, arts & crafts, coloring contest and more, more, more! NFHP would like to thank Gigi, Shannon, Girl Scout Junior Troop 20715 and Troop Leaders Crystal Fortier and Louise Morneau for volunteering to take on this very busy and important part of the day! The NFHP River Boats will be leaving on the hour beginning at 11:00 AM at the customary reduced rate during NFHP events. Berlin's own historian, Paul "Poof" Tardiff will be on the 1:00 and 3:00 PM tours to tell his tale of the river's rich history.

The food has been mentioned in earlier articles but Dick Huot, director of NFHP, would like to mention the absolutely scrumptious foods that are waiting for those who drop by on June 5 at the Northern Forest Heritage Park for the Cultural/Heritage Festival. The menu includes: Norwegian Meat Cakes, Lapskaus Soup, Beet Salad, Lefsa Bread and Rice Pudding for dessert; German Bratwurst & Sauerkraut, Green Bean Soup, Warm Potato Salad, Dark Rye Bread and Strawberry Tart for dessert; Canadian Meat Pies, Pea Soup, Canadian Ragu, Croutons and Home Made donuts; Native American Cherokee Brunswick Stew, Algonquin Pumpkin Soup, Shawnee Cake and Algonquin Fluffy Cranberry Pudding for dessert; Irish Venison Meatballs, Potato Leek Soup and Soda Bread; Italian Lasagna, Italian Wedding Soup, Italian Bread and Pizzelle for dessert. There will be Russian Cabbage Rolls as well as hamburgers, hot dogs and French fries and last but certainly not least, the center of attention at the Cultural/Heritage Festival is the Bean Hole Beans!

Huot and Wagner would like to extend a very sincere thank you to the dining areas that have made the heart of the Cultural/Heritage Festival what it is and that is the food! Deep appreciation goes out to Liz Jackson, Libby's Bistro; Paul Santos, Appalachian Mountain Club Visitor Center; Joanne Roy, Northland Restaurant & Dairy Bar; Jerry Riendeau, Berlin Senior Meals Center; Rachel Couture, Berlin Head Start, Dona Larsen, Berlin's "Cook" of Norway and to Richard Tremaine of Tremaine's Opticians and his crew for the delicious Bean Hole Beans!

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Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. proudly supports Northern Forest Heritage Park. Larry Kelly, Executive Director of TCCAP would like to remind you that NFHP is a community park. The Park is a replica of a late 1800 - early 1900 Logging Camp where men lived and worked for months at a time without going home. It is a place that preserves and celebrates the history of the various cultures that settled this area. The Park is a place where busy neighbors and long lost friends can renew their acquaintances and catch up on old times. It is a place where young and old can gather and feel a sense of home, a sense of belonging. You are encouraged to shop the tables of your local artisans, sample excellent cuisine and be entertained by outstanding musicians!

Everyone is invited to this special day of celebration and admission is free! Northern Forest Heritage Park is located across the street from the Brown Company House at 942 Main Street in Berlin, NH. For more information please call 752-7202 or visit the Park's website at [www.northernforestheritage.org](http://www.northernforestheritage.org)

