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# Newport

# 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays

**October 5**

## **Fishing with the Presidents**

Author of the definitive volume on presidential fishing from George Washington to George H. W. Bush, Bill Mares recounts stories of presidential piscatorial pastimes using photos, cartoons, and drawings.

**November 2**

## **Words, Creativity, and Spirituality**

Drawing from Emily Dickinson and Annie Dillard, Dartmouth professor Nancy Jay Crumbine examines the interconnection between creativity and spirituality.

**December 7**

## **Calvin Coolidge: More Than Two Words**

The thirtieth president of the United States lives again when Jim Cooke takes us back to the Roaring Twenties — days of flappers, Fords, and Prohibition. From Coolidge's letters, speeches, press conferences, and autobiography, Cooke helps us understand why Will Rogers said, "Mr. Coolidge has more subtle humor than almost any public man I ever met."

**January 4**

## **From the Northeast Kingdom to Baton Rouge: Vermonters, the Civil War, and the Road to Emancipation**

National park superintendent and writer Rolf Diamant discusses how profoundly the Civil War transformed Vermont and why public memory of the war still matters. A Vermont Reads 2012 event.

**February 1**

## **Patchwork: Piecing Together Family History**

Author Natalie Kinsey-Warnock discusses the family stories that inspire her books and the importance of finding and saving family stories, and she shows several of her grandmother's quilts that formed the basis for her first book, *The Canada Geese Quilt*.

**March 7**

## **Finding Higher Ground: Adaptation in the Age of Warming**

Scientist and author Amy Seidl explains why the long-term nature of climate change forces us to redesign how we structure our societies and considers our ethical role as planetary stewards.

**April 4**

## **Asphalt, Culture, and Community: The Impact of the Interstate Highway on Vermont**

UVM professor and lifelong Vermonter Frank Bryan considers the cultural and historical impact of the Interstate Highway System on Vermont.

**May 2**

## **The History of Magic**

Magic is a metaphor for the mysteries of the human mind, upending our assumptions about how the world works. Circus Smirkus founder Rob Mermin traces the history of magic as performing art using colorful illustrations and amazing demonstrations.