

Whiting Mills is now an artist community of shops and studios. Most shops are open every weekend. Studios are open on the third weekend of each month.



Tina Puckett, Basket Weaver

PAUL ENEA BRIGHTON

Whiting Mills Update

By Paul Brighton

In Winsted, just about 2 miles from Lakeridge, an old hosiery factory is brimming with life again after half a century. Whiting Mills is home to about

50 artists, artisans, craftspeople and retail shops. The newly renovated studios feature beautiful turn-of-the-century hardwood floors — replete with dings, scratches and gouges — that add a wonderful and almost magical character which brings history to life with every step. Large windows are perfect for the artists who want great light throughout the day and who love the industrial environment that exposed brick and ceiling beams bring.

With over 135,000 square feet in the entire complex, the building is a labyrinth of creative artistry, bristling with energy and inspiration.

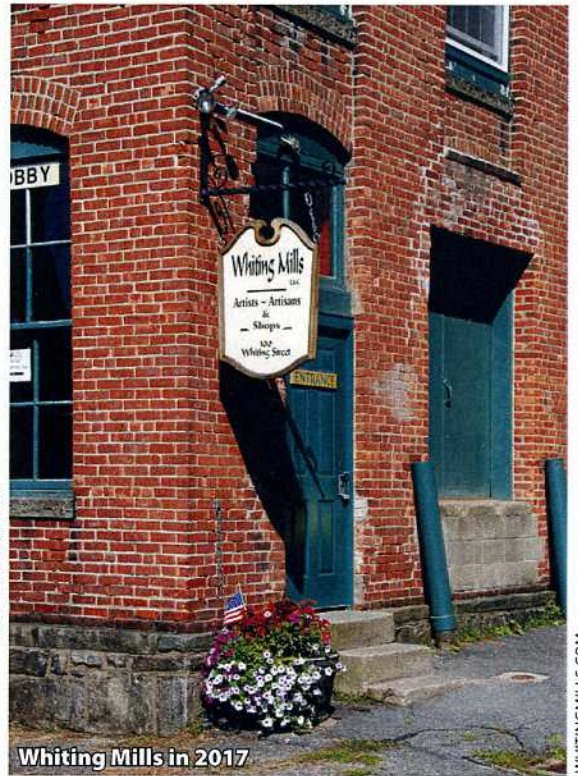
In the summer of 2016, Whiting Mills was honored with *Yankee Magazine's* "Best Artist Community in New England," a recognition bestowed upon communities that nurture the arts and bring a collective feeling of creativity to a city or town.

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Rosemari Roast, Herbalist

PAUL ENEA BRIGHTON



Whiting Mills in 2017

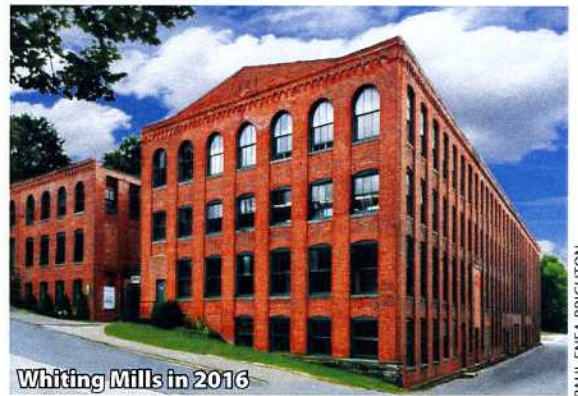
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With construction underway on an adjacent building — the future home of The American Mural Project Whiting Mills and Winsted will soon be bringing artists from all over the country to their doorstep and our local area.

Many of them are already here. At Whiting Mills you can find a dizzying variety of crafts, artisans and shops such as: expert upholsterers like Teresa Cannavo; herbalist and healer Rosemari Roast of Walk In The Woods; Yoga At The Mill; RR Model and Hobby Supply; Tony Indino Master Carpenter; MUSEings — mixed media artists creating memory boxes, jewelry and stationary; basket weaver Tina Puckett; Raven's Edge natural bath and body products; and Black Sheep Farm, featuring unique dolls, bird houses, honey, soaps and seasonal produce.

Whiting Mills is also home to photographers like Bill Manocchio and David Archambault, along with resident artists like Judith Kruger, Don Wass, Heather Neilson, Gay Schempp, Debbie Hennes, Jim Koplak and Lakeridge residents Timothy Forry and Robert Jessel.

Most shops are open every weekend. Artist studios are open every third



Whiting Mills in 2016

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Timothy Forry, Artist, Lakeridge Resident

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weekend, and there are two open studio events per year that bring in hundreds of people throughout New England. The Holiday Open Studio event has gained popularity and now brings over a thousand people during the two-day event in December. Decorations, food, crafts, massages, games, entertainment, tarot card readers and more fill up the large Laurel Room, aside from all the aforementioned shops and open studios.

Lakeridge residents are welcome to visit the website at www.whitingmills.com and please note, the studios are open 11-4 every third Saturday and Sunday of each month. Be sure to support our local artist community and bring your guests when you visit!