

THE ROYALSTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

July/August 2011



Volume XIV, Issue VI

A Publication of the Friends of the Phineas S. Newton Library, Royalston, Massachusetts

Calendar of Events



July 1 Friday **New Buck Moon**

7 pm A **workshop performance of a *Mid-summer Night's Dream* by the Royalston Shakespeare Company**, a local kids' theater group now in its 7th season, at town hall. Free, funny and right up the street.

July 4 Monday **Independence Day!** Post office, town offices all closed

The Earth reaches aphelion, its farthest point from the sun for 2011.

July 5 Tuesday

7 p.m. **Board of Selectmen meet** at Town Hall

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Nature Arts & Play, weekly summer programs** stressing art and science at the Village School on the Common begin; they continue through July 22nd.

July 6 Wednesday

11:30 a.m. **Royalston Luncheon Club**, continues every Wednesday. Call Betty Woodbury 978-249-9656 by the Monday prior to reserve a seat for the next Wednesday's meal. Cheap food and good company.
7 p.m. **Monty Tech SchoolCom meeting**

July 7 Thursday

1:30 p.m. **Bubbles! Library Summer Reading Program** begins for school-aged children. Snacks.

3:45 **Friends of the Library Meeting:** Wrap up 100th celebration, Shakespeare, and lithograph raffle. Plan newsletter, upcoming events and library support .

4 p.m. **Pete & Henry's Re-Opens** from their Independence week-end break. Hours until December are Thu 4-9 p.m.; Fri 3-10 p.m.; Sat 3-10 p.m.; Sun 1-8 p.m.

5:45 p.m. **TOPS meeting** at Second Congregational Church, continue each Thursday. see p. 8

July 9 Saturday

7:30 - 3:00 pm Congregational Church Fair

Pancake breakfast, art, crafts, music, and attic treasures. Lunch concessions including home-made root beer.

July 11 Monday

10 am July 11 – **Storytelling and Native American Flute**; preschool summer reading program begins.

July 14 Thursday

1:30 **Creature Teachers** - Live animals from around the world as part of library summer reading program. Go to town hall if it rains.

July 15 Friday **Full Buck Moon**

July 17 Sunday

Noon – 5 p.m. **MusicFest in Bullock Park** , featuring headliners *Free Range*; includes Fire & EMS Association food concessions, Ladies' Benevolent Society basket raffles and giant hula hoops.

July 18 Monday

10 am **Make Stepping Stones** with the preschool summer reading program at the library.

July 19 Tuesday

7 p.m. **Board of Selectmen** meets at Town Hall

July 21 Thursday

1:30 pm **Tree Masks** with Kerry Stone. Library Summer Reading Program for school aged children. Snacks.

July 22 Friday

7:30 pm A **program on arthritis and Lyme disease in dogs** with Sue Ellen Mowcomber, DVM and Royalston resident. Refreshments. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

July 25 Monday

10 am **Music and Movement** with Jenny Nano for preschoolers at the library.

July 28 Thursday

1:30 pm **Ice Cream Cranking** summer reading program at library.

July 30 Saturday

New Sturgeon Moon

August 1 Monday

First Day of Ramadan

August 11 Thursday

Perseid Meteor Shower – The best light show of the summer; continues through Sunday. Best viewing: pre-dawn towards the northeast.

August 20 Saturday

Chili Cook off and Giant Town-wide Yard Sale to benefit the Royalston 250th anniversary celebration. Call 978-249-4422 for info.

August 26 Friday

Women's Equality Day

August 27 Saturday

5 p.m. **Season's End F&G Chicken Barbecue**

August 28 Sunday

11:04 a.m. **New Harvest Moon**

August 31 Wednesday

First day of school in the ARRS

What Happened at the Reconvened Town Meeting?

Friday June 24, found twenty-six registered voters at the Royalston Community School for the reconvened Annual Town Meeting and a Special Town Meeting. Three items in Article 37 were changed by unanimous vote: 38A - \$3,000.00 was added for the Fire Chief Salary as it was omitted in the original warrant; Insurance (NORWORCO) was increased by \$74.00 to \$1,974.00 as the bill had already arrived and had increased; and, the Reserve Fund was increased by \$775.00 to \$20,775.00.

The special town meeting voted to transfer \$42,445.00 from the Stabilization Fund to the Snow and Ice Account for a total of \$184,000.00 for that account. A total of \$47,300 of unexpended funds was transferred to the Stabilization Account, and the town voted to accept the Union Contract. Article 4 establishing an Agricultural Commission was amended to five members: two members who earn income from farming and three members who have an interest in farming and approved by a vote of 20-3. The last article: the Right to Farm By-law generated much discussion and with a vote of 15-10 failed to pass by the required 2/3 majority.

Memorial Day Committee

Thanks to all who contributed to a meaningful Memorial Day commemoration. Special thanks to Parade Marshal Jason Z. Butler of River Road in South Royalston, guest speaker James L. Draper, members of the Edward H. Philips American Legion Post 102 and auxiliary and the many veterans who turned out for the event.



Board of Health News

Phil Leger, chair

New vehicle stickers are due on all vehicles by June 30th. See attendant to purchase stickers. They are \$15 for first vehicle and \$5 for 2nd and subsequent vehicles. Stickers are to be placed on driver's side lower windshield. They are a new shape this year and are green.

Starting in July and continuing through December, the transfer station will be open on the last Friday's of the month 1pm-4pm. This is in response to user request and will be assessed at the end of this year. If popular, the BOH may continue these hours for the rest of the fiscal year. Stay tuned. The first Friday opening date is July 29th. Have a safe and fun summer.

CPC - Community Preservation Committee

Marsha Charest, chairperson

The committee held a public hearing on June 13th and wants to thank all who attended. The committee reviewed the existing forms for eligibility and applications. New ones are now being revised with minor changes; but until then everyone is encouraged to submit any requests for applications for CPC funds. If you have a question, please drop a note to the committee at its town hall mailbox or email at cpa.royalston-ma.gov. *If anyone has any ideas/projects or suggestions for Community Housing, Open Space or Historic Resources, please feel free to send them on to the committee.*

MusicFest 2011 is Coming

Once again it is time for the Cultural Council's ever-popular annual MusicFest, to be held on Sunday, July 17th from 12-5 pm at Bullock Park (behind the Post Office building). In case of rain, this event will be held in the Town Hall. This event is free and open to all.

Headlining the event this year is Free Range, backed up by the usual stellar variety of local acts. The lovable and talented Phil Leger will return as Master of Ceremonies. The Cultural Council will have t-shirts for sale, along with sliced watermelon, while the Fire Dept. will be serving delicious hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream, drinks, etc.

Activities for kids may include hula hoops, face painting, giant bubbles, and balloons. Several canopies will be set up around the field to provide shade. Bring your lawn chairs and feel free to bring your own canopy.

The cultural council invites any town organizations and boards to set up information tables if desired, and space is available for others, with a \$15.00 fee, to sell whatever. You will need to provide your own table. Please contact Deb Nunes (249-4000) if interested.

Thanks in advance to all those whose efforts make this wonderful event possible each year, including the Highway Dept. and the Vaccari family for the flatbed trailers; the Historical Society for electricity; the Fire Dept; Jim Bennett for organizing the acts and he and his helpers for setting up the sound system; Lorraine Casinghino and Gordon Morrison for designing and procuring the t-shirts; anyone else who lends a hand behind the scene; and all the Cultural Council members who work tirelessly all year round to bring you the MusicFest, the Open Mics, the Royalston Follies, Blues Nights, and other events.

For a small town, Royalston continually offers amazing and wonderful community activities! See you there!!!

Royalston Cultural Council: Jim Bennett, Patience Bundschuh, Deb Nunes, Patty Carrier, Carla Rabinowitz, Gordon Morrison, Lorraine Casinghino, Elizabeth Farnsworth, Andrea Lively, Elizabeth Leonard, and Rene Lake.

Royalston Emergency Management Agency

Jim Barclay, EMD 978-249-2904 ema@royalston-ma.gov
Rene Lake Gagliardi of Gulf Road is Royalston's newest Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member. She completed classroom and didactic training, then tried out her new skills during a mock disaster. The regional training was presented by EMD Rich Curtis and others from the Templeton Emergency Management Agency.



Royalston is currently organizing a Traffic Control and Directing Traffic training module for area CERTs. A Royalston police sergeant will provide classroom instruction, practical application sessions and students will conclude with a "live practice." Interested CERTs or those interested in future CERT training should contact EMD Jim Barclay at ema@royalston-ma.gov

Library's 100th Anniversary Celebration a Happy Success

Just like the original dedication of the Phinehas S. Newton Library, the weather threatened rain but held off and provided a respite from the wet weather for one glorious day. The celebration began with a wonderful parade from Bullock Park to the library led by Brenda, Amy and Amanda Putney on horseback and comprised of librarians, trustees, becostumed kids and adults, floats, bikes, the Athol-Royalston elementary school bands, the Police Department Search and Rescue Canines and their handlers, and a large contingent of apparatus and fire department firefighters. At the library waited beloved former librarian, Mildred (Millie) Clement Poor as well as Malcolm Hill, direct descendent of William Hill, who gave the land for the library. Winners of the parade prizes included Divoll Farm, The Ladies B float and the ARRSD elementary bands, whose tunefulness was appreciated by the crowd.

The formal program began on the library steps with Director Kathy Morris providing the welcome and introducing Trustee chairwoman Polly Longworth, who acted as Master of Ceremonies. Judi Francis and Elizabeth Farnsworth sang and local businessman David Putney, long time teacher and former Royalston poet laureate Mary Carnie, selectboard chairwoman Linda Alger, Massachusetts State Senator Stephen Brewer, and former summer resident Henry Cole all spoke of their experiences with the library. Molly Divoll, soon to be 5th grader, was crowned new poet laureate and sweetly read her winning poem.

After the speeches, groups of people enjoyed moving through the library to view the living history reenactment, "100 Years Overdue" written and directed by Norah Dooley. Tea in china cups and delicious refreshments, baked by the members of the Ladies Benevolent Society, along with a cake decorated by Kristen West to deliciously recreate the library out of butter and sugar, were served in an elegant setting in the library garden while Carl Kamp played classical guitar. A display of historic records and the 100 year old herbarium graced the north side of the library where Elizabeth Farnsworth and Gordon Morrison, botanical illustrators and authors, displayed their work. Gordon provided a discussion of the process of botanical illustration and Elizabeth led a fern and wildflower walk. Games kept children occupied; especially the bubble machines of Jon Hardie and Becky Krause-Hardie and the giant hula hoops loaned by Elizabeth Leonard. Jeff Newton kept warm attendees happy with ice cream, whose sale went towards the town's 250th Town Anniversary celebration.

The day was wrapped up with the Literary Ball at the Town Hall, which has never looked so fantastic thanks to the decorations of Malissa Younger. Attendees enthusiastically danced the night away to the rollicking music of Melanie and the Blue Shots. The winners of the costume contest were Alyce Mayo as Zelda Fitzgerald/ Daisy Buchanan, Werner Bundschuh as Ernest Hemingway and Larry Siegel as Larry Siegel the *Garden Notes* author, who relinquished his award to Gordon Morrison as a dapper Oscar Wilde. In the children's category, Laura Bartkus won "shiniest costume", Kayla Gerry won "dearest pal", Samantha West won "Most like a storybook princess" and Hannah Bartkus won "best dancer," which indeed she was.

All in all, it was a near-perfect celebration on a near-perfect day. And even if we haven't found the time capsules in the glass jars placed in the foundation during construction in 1910, we'll keep on looking.... maybe for the next hundred years.



Phinehas S. Newton Library News

Kathy Morris, Library Director

Trustees: Polly Longworth, Lisa Freden, Barbara Guiney

Mondays: 10:00 am- 8:30 pm. Thursdays 1:00pm - 5:00pm and 6:30 - 8:30pm

Saturdays: 9:00am - 12:noon

978-249-3572 www.royalstonlibrary.org

Thank you

Donations to the Friends:

Pat and Vyto Andreliunas

RaeAnn and Roger LeBlanc

Fair Alice McCormick

and to all those who donated plants and books for the sales, including our loyal and much appreciated resident donors and commercial plant growers: Shepardson's, Noel's Nursery, Down to Earth Perennials, Perennial Patch, and McMannus Florist.

Lithograph Raffle to Benefit the Friends



Gordon Morrison, acclaimed illustrator of Newcomb's Wildflower Guide and many other books and articles, has donated two extraordinary prints for a raffle to benefit the friends. "Winter Shelter" is an 11x12" matted stone lithograph, hand colored by Gordon from an edition of 180, numbering in the 100s. The second is "March Hunt" a beautiful 4 color offset lithograph of a red fox from an edition of 900 numbering in the 70s and measuring 9"x24". Stone lithography was devised in 1798 and is unique, each print considered an original work of art, not a reproduction. Tickets for each print are available at the library; \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Phinehas Has Returned

Work was completed by the conservators at the Worcester Art Museum in early June on the portrait of Phinehas S. Newton. The wall was cleaned and sealed before the portrait was re-hung in its original setting. The colors are vibrant and the details exquisite. Please stop by the library and see the remarkable change that the cleaning and restoration made. Donations to offset the cost of the preservation may still be made to the Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library, where there are plans to have a program by the Worcester Art Museum conservation team this fall to discuss this painting and the process of cleaning and restoring paintings.

Shakespeare performed at Town Hall 7/1, 7 pm



The Royalston Shakespeare Co., a free summer theater workshop in its 7th season for kids, presents A Midsummer Night's Dream at 7 pm on July 1st at Town Hall. Come see the visions wrought by mixing a superlative script, dozens of dedicated players, and kind community support. The play is fun, funny, and free. It's impressive and a little touching that these kids seem to love to spend their vacations doing Shakespeare. Donations accepted.

State Park Passes

Available at the Library

Once again the library will have a State Parks Pass from the Department of Conservation and Recreation to borrow. The Parks Pass entitles the bearer to free parking at over 50 facilities in the Massachusetts State Parks System that charge a day-use parking fee. In addition, it also has two passes to the USS Constitution Museum. Each pass offers families or groups of up to 9 people admission to the Museum's galleries, where they can explore USS Constitution's 200+ year history through engaging, interactive, family-friendly exhibits. The Museum is located in the Charlestown Navy Yard, just steps away from USS Constitution. For more information or to sign up for the passes contact the library.

Art Exhibit at the Library

For the 100th anniversary we are displaying artwork by Royalston residents. On display are sculptures by Jeff Bronnes, Gene Caughen, and Tom Kellner; wood carvings by Hugh Blake, Helen Divoll, and Laurie Truehart; pen and ink drawings by Patience Bundschuh and Phil Mickey; and paintings by Caleb Chase, Kate Collins, Gordon Morrison, Clarence Rabideau, Donald Shambroom, Ruth Suyenaga, Sonja Vaccari, and Arthur Yeban. Other artists are invited to submit a smallish work for display during July and August. Stop by and see the depth and diversity of talented artists residing in Royalston.

Program on Arthritis in Dogs

On Friday, July 22, Royalston veterinarian, Dr. Sue Ellen Mowcomber, will present a program on arthritis in dogs. This problem often confused with or combined with lyme disease is one of the most prevalent disorders in dogs. Its treatment and options will be discussed as will Lyme Disease in dogs. Dr. Macomber received her DVM from Ohio State University and has lived in Royalston for years. She operates Family Pet Mobile Veterinary Services, caring for pets in the comfort of their homes and also works in a clinic in Keene, NH. Delicious refreshments served.

Summer Reading Programs

Massachusetts along with 48 other states, Washington, D.C., American Samoa, and the Mariana islands are members of the Collaborative Summer Library Program where all public libraries share the same Summer Reading Theme. This year that theme is 'One World Many Stories' for children, 'You Are Here' for teens, and 'Novel Destinations' for adults. Our library has some exciting programs planned and invite all to attend. These programs are funded by a generous grant from the Royalston Academy and the Friends of the Library.

All programs for older kids are on Thursdays at 1:30 at the library and will be followed by snacks. If it rains the Creature Teachers program will be at the Town Hall.

July 7 - **Bubbles** – Giant, Weird and Cool. Learn the science to create sheets of bubbles, make wands and have a wet soapy fun time with Becky Krause-Hardie and Jon Hardie. Dress to get wet.

July 14 - **Creature Teachers** - Different live animals from around the world will provide the basis for this educational and fun program

July 21 - **Tree Masks** – Create a clay mask from bark imprinted clay. Join Kerry Stone for this great workshop.

July 28 - **Ice Cream Social** – Our traditional summer end program includes games and a great time cranking ice cream.

Preschool Summer Program

These programs are for children six and under and are held at 10:00 a.m. on Mondays at the library. Older siblings can come to watch or help out. The library is not open during this time and thus not staffed and we ask that people not try to use the library during this time. Snacks are served at each program.

July 11 – **Storytelling and Native American Flute** - Listen while Michael Young weaves stories and music in an engaging, delightful morning.

July 18 – **Stepping Stones** – create and decorate a personalized stepping stone to put in your yard or garden

July 25 – **Music and Movement** – Join Jenny Nano for a hopping fun program dancing away the morning.

Reading with the Boston Bruins

The Boston Bruins are teaming up with this library and other libraries in Massachusetts by sponsoring its summer reading program, "When You Read, You Score!" in conjunction with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. Nine prizes in three age categories will be awarded to readers who sign up on the Bruin's website: <http://bruins.nhl.com/club/page.htm?id=41423>. Stop by the library to see the reading recommendations of several of the Bruins players and to borrow the books to read.

Thank you:

Beth Gospodarek, Maureen Blasco, and Patti Stanko for their help and support above and beyond the call of 'Friend.'

Norah Dooley for writing and directing '100 Years Overdue, creating a lasting memory for the library.

Stephen Chase for so carefully and professionally transporting and hanging the Phineas S. Newton portrait, for help with the 100th anniversary program, and for the research resulting in the poster on libraries designed by H.M. Francis & Sons.

Richard Chaisson for making his collection of historical newspaper clippings available that allowed us to discover there is a time capsule in the foundation of the library.

The Ladies Benevolent Society for an elegant tea party and wonderful refreshments in the library garden and for parade participation

The Royalston Fire Department for the great Chicken Barbeque and major parade participation.

The Royalston Police Department for capably managing the traffic during the parade and for having the Search and Rescue Crew in the parade.

Linda Alger, Senator Stephen Brewer, Mary Carnie, Henry Cole, Molly Divoll, Elizabeth Farnsworth, Judi Francis, Polly Longworth, and David Putney for speaking at the 100th Anniversary Celebration

The Cast of '100 Years Overdue': **Hannah Bartkus, Patience Bundschuh, Stephen Chase, Tobey Rose Chase, Deb D'Amico, Robert Fairchild, Beth Gospodarek, Ashley Hadmack, Marie-Claire Humblet, Alyce Mayo, Geoffrey Newton, George Northrop, Barb Richardson, Sonja Vaccari, Elizabeth West, Ben West, and Mae Williams.**

Brenda, Amy, and Amanda Putney for leading the parade and being the color guard.

Werner Bundschuh, Phil Jacobs and Joseph P. Bulger for driving their cool cars in the parade

Randy Divoll and family and the Royalston Shakespeare Company for floats in the parade

Jon Hardie and Becky Krause-Hardie for the great giant bubbles and **Elizabeth Leonard** for the giant hula hoops to keep the kids having fun.

The Athol-Royalston Elementary School Bands, under the direction of Josh Wolfe, for participating tunefully in the parade.

The Royalston Historical Society and John McClure for opening the Historical Society Museum.

Malissa Younger for dazzling town hall decorations.

Sonja Vaccari for all her work making the garden look spectacular

And to **everyone** who attended and helped make it a great day!



Weekly Summer Programs for Children on Royalston Common

It's Not Too Late to Sign Up for Summer Programs for Children at the Village School July 5-22.

The Village School Summer Programs are open to all area children. They are designed to enrich and expand knowledge of the natural world through hands-on exploration in art and science, while providing opportunities for plenty of physical activity, and making new friends. Local scientists, artists and teachers lead the programs, with assistance from Village School alumni. The programs are fun and engaging. The mornings fly!

All programs are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

July 5-8	ages 4-9	Nature Arts and Play
July 11-15	ages 4-9	Nature Arts and Play
July 11-15	ages 7 and up	The Science and Art Experience
July 18-22	3rd graders and up	The Young Artist's Workshop with artist Renee Malowitz

Mondays in July and August: flute, recorder or guitar lessons with Jocelyn Langer.

For more information, go to www.villageschoolma.org to download the brochure and registration form. Royalston children receive a discount, courtesy of Royalston Academy.

Ladies' B.

The Ladies' Benevolent Society will again conduct multiple Basket Raffles at this year's MusicFest, Sunday, July 17 from noon – 5 p.m. at Bullock Park. Winners for two of the baskets – one for kids and one for the over-21 set – will be drawn that day, with proceeds going towards Royalston's 250th Celebration Fund. The Society's annual "Taste of Royalston" basket will be on display with tickets available; the drawing is planned for the Saturday before Thanksgiving at the conclusion of the "Drive By Pies" sale, with all profits from both of those activities going towards Society scholarships and academic grants.



Joseph P. Bulger, Jr. and the 1924 Model T Ford he restored chauffeured Marguerite (Clark) Langlois, the LBS's oldest member, and Geoff Newton bedecked as his great-great uncle Phinehas in the recent library centennial parade.

Congregational Churches Fair July 19

Pastor Jeff Francis

Our annual summer church fair is just around the corner! Come out and join us on July 9th from 7:30 am till 3:00 pm. This year we will be expanding our food selections under the "BIG" tent with the likes of Italian sausage, baked stuffed potatoes, nachos, among many other yummy things including burgers and hotdogs. FCCR will be hosting 15-20 vendor booths with crafts, candles, and homemade jewelry on the Common. Our pancake breakfast will kick things off at 7:30 am and go until 10:00 am. You will enjoy live musical selections from different genres including a young Nashville recording artist. She is only 10 yrs old and has already been selling albums and will have them available at the concert for sale. Many other groups will be in attendance as well including, our very gifted FCCR Worship Band...

As always there will be the well-attended "Attic Treasures" among many other events and activities for children and all ages. A big thank you to those who have made donations to the Attic Treasures with so many household goods and valuables. For those wanting to contribute please drop them off at the church on Sunday service after 12:30 pm. In addition, Prospecting America will be on the Common to buy any old, broken, or mismatched gold jewelry; 20% of proceeds will be going to FCCR. To learn more visit the website prospectingamerica@gmail.com.

Come and have a fun family day in your community on the Common with your neighbors. Hope to see you there!

In the months of July and August we will be gearing up with summer activities and events including coffee house concerts, and guest speakers from Mexico and Orlando, Florida...all at FCCR. If you know of anyone that needs food, please contact the church office at 978.249.9155 as we have been blessed with boxed foods at our food pantry for those in need. As always our service times are 9:00 am at the South Church in South Royalston and 11:00 am at the Center Church located at 15 on the Common.

Royalston Fish and Game BBQ Chicken Supper

\$10/plate. The next chicken barbecue will be Saturday, August 27 – mark your calendar now! Contact the Clubhouse at 978-249-3004 during open hours (Tue. & Fri. nights; Weekends) or call Marie at 978-249-2836 for reservations.

The Royalston F&G is open every Tuesday and Friday night. Memberships are available at the bar or at the Royalston General Store. If you are interested in more information, contact Marie at 978-249-2836 or the Clubhouse at 978-249-3004.

Stay-cation destinations: fun in all directions

To the northeast: Winchendon

Toy Town Farmers' Market has opened for its fourth season, at the American Legion Park in Winchendon (Across from the Police Station, just off of Routes 12/202) on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and Thursdays from 4 – 7 p.m. Farmers, gardeners and craftspeople welcomed. For details contact Audrey LaBrie at 978-297-3453 or via toytownfarmersmarket@gmail.com .

The Murdock Whitney House Museum is open for tours through the end of October. Tours begin at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The suggested donation is \$5/person.

Winchendon's Parks and Recreations Department sponsors Free Concerts at the Smith Community Pavilion (at the GAR Park off of Grove Street) each Friday in July from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Attendees are invited to bring blankets or lawn chairs, and enjoy an evening of free family fun.

Winchendon's Annual Chili Cook Off takes place Saturday, August 6 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Bentley Field on Grove Street. Live music, carnival-style entertainment for kids, a variety of crafters and other vendors. \$8/adults; \$1/kids – always lots of fun .

To the southwest:

July shows at the 1794 Meetinghouse in New Salem. Go to www.1794meetinghouse.org for additional information.

Thursday, July 7th: The Jolly Beggars - rich, traditional Celtic music

Saturday, July 9th: Christine Ohlman and Rebel Montez with guest performer Mitch Chakour - the Queen of blue-eyed rock and soul. Incendiary and eclectic.

Sunday, July 10th: Les Inegales - Internationally renowned flautist - classical baroque ensemble

Thursday, July 14th: Digney Fignus - Sophisticated Blend of Blues, Folk, Cajun, and Old-time Music with a Rock-and-Roll Heart - Boston favorites!

Saturday, July 16th: Old Home Day - "New Salem's Wild Kingdom" featuring music by Royalston musicians Elizabeth Farnsworth and Linq.



To the east:

Melanie and the Blue Shots will be at the Gardner Ale House on Monday, August 8 from 7 pm to 10 pm.

To the southeast: Phillipston

The Historical Commission is having an all day picnic for Phillipston's 225th Anniversary on the common on Saturday, August 13, 2011. Its celebration will begin with a Meridian Gymnastic demonstration at 9:30 a.m. From 10 a.m. to noon, Richard Hamelin, The Pied Potter of Hamelin will talk about the history of pottery in and around Phillipston while demonstrating his craft. Blacksmith Joe Lambert will be on hand making "Iron Artistry". The farmer's market will have fresh produce for sale. The "Town Pound" will have local live farm animals and children may take a pony ride. Make a tin lantern in "The Kids' Corner" or try your hand at hoop rolling.

Senator Steve Brewer will recite "The Gettysburg Address" at noon. Visit the Civil War Encampment and watch their training drills. From noon to 2 p.m. children can try playing games that were popular around 1860. From 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. John Porcino will entertain us with stories and music. Everyone can enjoy an ice cream soda for only 25 cents, and Selectman Dave Bramhall has promised to present an antique car parade around the common.

Dignitaries from the past such as Anne and Charles Lindbergh, President Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, Isachar Bates, Silhouette artist Ruth Bascom and John Phillip Sousa will be on hand throughout the day to tell us what Phillipston was like when they were alive.

Bring your lunch or buy a bag lunch on the common. Buy a commemorative 225th hat, T-shirt, and historical photograph postcard to take home as a memory of the day. The church will provide a chicken barbeque supper while diners listen to some old time bluegrass and folk music. Make sure to catch all of the entertainment.

Thousand Acre Hike July 9th: Bill Rose will lead an informative hike down to Thousand Acre Swamp from the Red Apple Farm on Saturday, July 9, 2011. Our entertaining guide will point out natural highlights and let us in on some interesting stories of the past that pertain to this special place. With Bill's help, Thousand Acre Swamp is being protected with a series of conservation restrictions. A series of hikes commemorating Phillipston's 225th Celebration are planned in the fall. .

To the south:

Athol's Tool Town Live concert series

Aug 6. Exit 18 at Uptown Common (rock and roll music)

Aug 13. Mark Fischer Trio at Uptown Common (folk music)

Aug. 20 Captain/Salls Orchestra at Uptown Common (pop/rock/acoustic and alternative rock music)

Aug 27, 2011 Ottomatic Slim at Fish Park (blues music)

Sept. 3, Rob Labelle Band at Fish Park (original pop/rock music)

Visit www.tooltownlive.com for more info!

Recipe from Irene Lawrence

Irene and her husband Ivers have lived in South Royalston for 10 years moving here from Ashburnham. They have two children, Ivers and Natalie, who made a cute and clever puppet head to wear in the recent library 100th anniversary parade.

Lake Monomonac Baked Beans

1# yellow-eyed beans
1/4# salt pork
1 onion sliced
1/8 c. parsley
1/4 t. dried thyme
1 1/4 t. mustard powder
1/4 c. brown sugar (or to taste)
1/2 t. ginger
1/2 t. baking soda
3/4 t. salt
Pepper to taste
1/4 c. molasses
1 c. boiling water

Cover beans with water and soak overnight. Cover and bring to a boil in same water and simmer gently until tender about 1 1/2 hours. Drain and reserve liquid. Cut salt pork into half inch slices. Combine the remaining ingredients except boiling water. In a bean pot, make layers of beans, then salt pork, and the mixture of other ingredients. Add the boiling water, cover tightly with the lid and bake 6-8 hours at 250°. Remove the lid for the last two hours of cooking. Check the level of liquid during cooking and add reserved bean cooking water if needed.

T.O.P.S.

Less is more...more healthy, more fun, and Royalston's T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) group has also gained a few new members! Anyone wanting a little support in his/her efforts to adopt a healthier lifestyle is welcome to drop by any Thursday from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Second Congregational Church parlor. The group is not affiliated with the Church and wants to express their thanks for the use of the warm and comfortable space. Questions? Call Luann at 978-249-8746. TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) Drop by or contact Joyce at 978-249-8966 or Luann at 978-249-8746 for more details.

Pan Mass Challenge: Closer By The Mile

On August 6th and 7th, Roger O'Donnell will be riding his bicycle 200 miles, participating in the Pan Mass Challenge to benefit the Jimmy Fund. For the past 11 years, O'Donnell, a Royalston resident, has volunteered as a road crew member, repairing riders' bicycles along the route.

100% of donated funds go directly to the Jimmy Fund, which supports cancer research and care. You may support Roger by forwarding a check payable to PMC to Roger O'Donnell, PO Box 51, Royalston, MA 01368 or online at www.pmc.org/egifts – Roger's eGift user ID is: ro0020 (letters R and O followed by zero zero two zero).

Royalston's new poet laureate: Molly Divoll



As part of the library's 100th anniversary celebration, a new poet laureate was appointed. Poetry submissions were requested last April from residents and quite a few adults and children participated. The winning poem was selected by library trustee and Emily Dickinson scholar, Polly Longworth. Molly was proudly crowned by her poetry club advisor and former Royalston poet laureate, Mary Carnie.

Royalston, Royalston

Royalston, Royalston, is a wonderful town.
The rolling hills go up and down.
The waterfalls are very nice,
even when winter turns them into ice.
Friendly neighbors every which way,
you will want to come back another day.
Friends, family, and schools galore,
tons of woods for you to explore.
You will find many treasures with all your friends,
the fun in this town never ends.

Royalston, Royalston, a wonderful town,
as rain and snow are falling down.
Spring, Summer, Winter, or Fall
everyone will have a ball
running, playing, and having fun,
ther's something to do for everyone.
Royalston, Royalston, a wonderful place,
as rolling hills stretch place to place.



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD NEWS



Got something to crow about? Send it along to the RCN. Zap to chasegos@gis.net or drop at library.

Athol High School 2011 graduates: Matthew A. Bodoni, Kourtney T. Frazier, Dylan C. Hall*, Samantha Kay Hutchins*, Joseph James Riddell, Ashley Rose Sawyer

Dylan Hall received scholarships from Massachusetts Elks, Athol Boosters, Brian Wallwork Memorial Award, Ladies Benevolent Society of Royalston, Royalston Community School PTO, AHS Scholarship Association, AHS Meg Shatos, Royalston Academy Judy Jenkins Musco Award, and the Athol Lions Club. He will attend UMass Amherst in the fall.



Ron and Carrie Hutchins would like to announce that their daughter, **Samantha Kay Hutchins**, graduated June 5th, 2011 from Athol High School. She was a member of the National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta and played soccer and volleyball for 2 years. She was also a member of S.A.D.D. She will be attending Mount Wachusett Community College in the fall, where she will be taking liberal arts courses while deciding on her future plans. Scholarships received: Ladies Benevolent Society of Royalston, 202 Street Hockey Association, Kirk Van Os Memorial Scholarship, Athol-Orange Lodge of Elks, AHS Scholarship Association, Royalston Academy Katherine Seymour Bullock Cole Award

Ashley Sawyer received these scholarships: Royalston Academy Katherine Seymour Bullock Cole Award, Athol Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship, Ladies Benevolent Society of Royalston, AHS Scholarship Association.

Narragansett High School:

Cady Boucher, daughter of Ed and Cindy Boucher of Jolly Rd recently graduated from Narragansett High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society and Opus Bono Historae Society, served as class secretary and student council vice president as well as played varsity field hockey and skated at the Clark for 10 years. She received a letter and pin for academic excellence all 4 years. She will attend Penn State in the fall to study forensic science.



Dana Nicholas also graduated from Narragansett and plans to join the military.

Monty Tech: ***Derek Wheeler** graduated from Monty Tech with a specialty in information technology. He will attend Mt. Wachusett Community College in the fall.

Cushing Academy:

Nicholas Krasowski graduated from Cushing and will pursue coursework in business at Miami University of Ohio.

Asher Thomas Chase also graduated from Cushing, receiving the prize for growth in dramatic performance; he plans to attend the University of Edinburgh, Scotland and study history, politics, and philosophy.

Mt. Wachusett Community College Associates Degrees awarded:

Ashley R. Couture and Lynn C. Nystrom, Business Administration; **Ashley C. Persson**, Early Childhood Education

Milestones

Royalston-based singer/songwriter **Linq (Diane Lincoln)** was named OUTstanding OUTmusician at the 7th Annual OutMusic Awards Show held at Irving Plaza in New York City on May 23rd. One of five nominees in the category, which combines music and activism as criteria, Linq's work on bullying prevention through her song "Oh Bully" and related outreach in her own community resulted in the award.

This was Linq's second nomination for an OutMusic Award; the first nomination was in 2009 for Change the Picture, which deals with racism and homophobia. Additional information and photos of the event are available at www.linqmusic.com

Paul Montero has met all the requirements to become a Registered Professional Land Surveyor (RPLS) in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Paul plans to offer his services in private practice as a land surveyor from a home office in Royalston.

Happy wishes to **Merlin Tollefsen and Jamie Main** of Old Saybrook, Conn., who were married on the summer solstice – June 21, 2011 – by their dear friends (Reverend) Michael Young and Patricia Worth at Greenfyre Farm on Gulf Road. Approximately 20 friends and family members witnessed the ceremony, which blended traditions from many cultures and included vows written by Jamie and Merlin. A reception was held at Pete & Henry's (the first wedding reception held there since it was owned by Pete & Henry Dufault from 1946-1971!) Following a Niagara Falls honeymoon, the couple will return to Connecticut where Jamie is employed in accounting and Merlin restores wooden boats.

July 1, 2011 marks the first anniversary of Ad Astra, a Silver Spring, Maryland-based linguistics support solutions company providing interpretation, translation and document localization services as well as multi-lingual subject matter experts in government, healthcare and private industry. Former Royalston resident **Heather D. Barclay**, 27, is a co-owner, serving as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

Classifieds

Assorted Vegetables for sale over the course of the summer. Get freshly-picked produce and see the garden whence deriveth the Garden Notes. Currently available: spinach, lettuce, sugar snap peas. Call Larry at 978-249-4260.

Grass-fed Beef: Most cuts available. Call Kathy at 978-249-4260.

Music lessons with Jocelyn Langer. Flute, recorder and guitar. Private lessons at \$18 each and group lessons at \$12 each. Mondays at the Village School in July and August by appointment. Email: jocelyn.langer@gmail.com

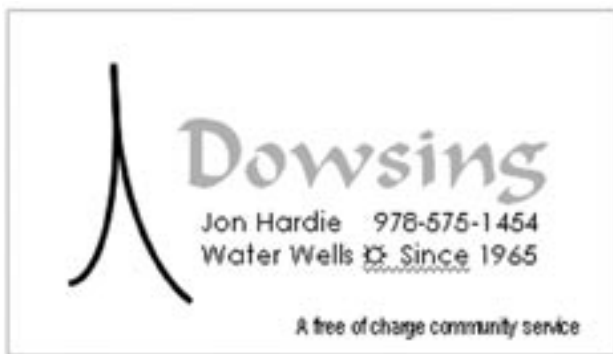
Firewood – Green, cut, split and delivered in Royalston for \$165/185 cubic feet (loose cord). Call Tom Ramsdell at 978-249-2586.

Firewood - \$180/170 cubic feet for green, cut, split and delivered locally. Bagged sawdust available. Leave message for Jim at Putney's Mill, 978-249-3379. Email: jamesmput@yahoo.com

Custom Sawmilling Service - Our portable mill can turn your logs or ours into boards, planks, or beams. Log capacity is 36" diameter 21' long. Call for pricing: Josh Doub at (978) 724-4382 or Tom Musco @ Royalston Oak Timber Frames at (978) 249-9633. Currently have over 2000bf of nice air dried 4/4 pine and hemlock mostly 6"-12" wide - \$.65/bf.

Birch Hill Computers - Sales, Repairs and Parts. 978-790-7876. birchhillcomputers.com.

Justice of the Peace and Notary Public. Mariah Mallet 249-9410.



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Garden Notes

June 22, 2011

You would think with all the garden activities occupying my time, I would take a break from wandering notions. You would think incorrectly. No small stuff, I am referring to big issue items. Like, what does it all mean? Why are we here? If there is some great cosmic plan in play, why have I been assigned the role of thinning carrots and crushing potato beetles? I'm not complaining, mind you, just trying to put it all in perspective. I just don't get it; then again, maybe I'm not supposed to.

The first of my carrot beds has been thinned, the second is newly emerged, and the third recently planted, so the task will continue for some time. So, too, potato beetle (and larva and egg case) crushing. On a weekly basis I devote an hour or so to rid the plants of an extraordinarily voracious insect. If I were not to devote that hour, the horde of larvae is perfectly capable of de-foliating every plant, bringing the potato season to an untimely end.

The weather continues to be cooperative, with generally cool temperatures and timely rains prevailing. I will be harvesting sugar snap peas in a matter of days.. Bumper crops of spinach and lettuce assure a mixed salad most every evening. I have not been free of setbacks. (What would gardening be without setbacks?) A varmint, thus far unidentified, visits the garden from time to time and a number of plants, primarily peppers and tomatoes, have disappeared. There has been an invasion of cutworms; they're damage is unmistakable: the seedling is severed at ground level. Why the cutworm does this is beyond me since the plant remains uneaten. Dig around the base and you will discover the culprit. Do what you will with it. (A good scolding will not suffice.)

I've been spending an inordinate amount of time hand-raking and hauling hay. Back when people were offering me mulch hay for free, it was a silly undertaking. Now, with mulch hay fetching \$3 a bale (and beyond) it is a bit less silly.

With the newsletter on summer vacation in August, I am left with the impossible task of summarizing the next couple of months in a couple hundred words. Planting and transplanting will occur throughout the period and I will garner my reward by harvesting through November. Beds open up in July as the spinach, lettuce, peas, garlic, and some of the potatoes are pulled. With a minimum of effort I prepare them for the next crop, primarily brassicas. Cabbages, broccolis, and cauliflowers are growing out in flats and a nursery bed, biding their time. Kale, assorted Oriental greens, and fall radishes are direct seeded. Working under the premise that nature abhors a vacuum, I see an empty space and I fill it.

August is the turn-around month. A bit of planting, a bit of weeding, a bit of tidying up, but, overwhelmingly, my time is spent harvesting (a poor choice of words, perhaps; I never feel overwhelmed when harvesting). Under the best of circumstances, I will be awash in foodstuffs; even under the worst of circumstances, I will not go hungry.

Larry Siegel



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Wildlife Sightings

Nancy Griffin and her son Scott spotted a large female moose about 50 feet off the road munching on the fruit trees in the front yard of Fairweather Farm, 240 Athol-Richmond Road about 10:15 the morning of June 2nd. She appeared to pose for several photos looking directly at the camera and was apparently undisturbed as several other onlookers also stopped to snap her picture.

Last Sunday these two intruders raided the bird feeder that they had damaged on previous visits to Bob Cromwell's place on Falls Rd. "They stayed feeding, first one, then the other, for about 20 minutes. They saw us but were no more concerned than if we were a couple of Larry Siegel's cabbages. I have been led to believe that they can smell bird seed from 3 miles away. Wow."



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Newsletter Staff

Editor: Beth Gospodarek
Layout and Sponsorships: Stephen Chase
Circulation: Becky Divoll, Maureen Blasco
Treasurer: Maureen Blasco
Staff: Theresa Quinn, Mary Barclay, Larry Siegel

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Please Contact Us

To submit news, articles, ads, calendar notices, classifieds:

E-mail: chasegos@gis.net
Mail: PO Box 133, Royalston MA 01386
Fax: 978-249-3572 (library)
Phone: 978-249-0358

In person: Drop off at library

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