

# THE ROYALSTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

November 2011



Volume XIV, Issue IX

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

## Calendar of Events

November 3 Thursday

3:45 **Friends of the Library Meeting.** All welcome.

November 4 Friday

5 pm **Village School Lantern Walk;** meet at school for songs, stories, and procession to the Town Hall. All welcome. Bring a lantern. A community pot luck Italian supper at the Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. will be followed by a family contra dance with caller Tim Van Egmond and the No Name Band, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Donations are suggested of \$5 per adult, \$2 per child, or \$10 per family.

7 p.m. **Green Living Quarterly publisher and author, Stephen Morris, will discuss his work,** including his latest book *The New Village Green: Living Light, Living Local, Living Large*, at the library. There will be books available for purchase. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Phineas S. Newton Library.



November 5 Saturday

6 pm **250th Anniversary of Royalston Committee fundraiser- spaghetti supper** at town hall. Tickets for the dinner (\$12) or 120 club available from any board member or by calling Geoff Newton, 978-249-3726.

6:30 p.m. **Royalston Fish & Game Roast Beef Supper**

November 6 Sunday

2 am **Daylight savings time ends.** Set clocks back one hour. Also, it's the time recommended to install fresh batteries in smoke, carbon monoxide and radon detectors.



November 7 Monday

6 - 7 pm **Drop-in Zumba** with Kristin Killay returns to Town Hall for all ages and levels. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Donations at the door to defray costs appreciated. Continues every Monday.

November 9 Wednesday

11:30 am - lunch **Drew Paton will present a program on America's Greatest Generation,** with cultural tid-bits from the swing era (mid 1930s - 1940s) at the Senior Lunch. This program is sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council, with funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and is open to the public. To have lunch, call Betty Woodbury at 978-249-9656 by Monday, November 7th. The cost is \$2.00 for Seniors; \$2.50 for others. For information, please call Deb Nunes at 978-249-4000.

November 10 Thursday

3:16 p.m. **Full Beaver Moon**

5:30 - 6:30 **The Royalston TOPS Chapter (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) open house** at the Second Congregational Church. A representative will be available to answer questions.

November 11 Friday

**Veterans' Day**

**11/11/11** schools, library, post office and town offices closed

7 pm **Royalston Fire Department Turkey Raffle**

November 12 Saturday

**Indian Summer Begins**

November 13 Sunday

11 a.m. **Beginning Basketmaking Class** with Sandy Hopkins and Janice Anton at Town Hall. \$25 material fee. Bring a snack. Funded by the Cultural Council. Contact the library to register 978-249-3572.

November 14 Monday

1 - 2 pm **Community Reading Day** at the Royalston Community School. Anyone interested in reading to the classes should call the Phineas Newton Library 978-249-3572 .

November 19 Saturday

9 a.m. - noon (or sell out) **2nd Annual Drive-by-Pies** , benefits LBS scholarship fund.

November 20 Sunday

2 pm **Create a large fresh balsam wreath** at Town Hall with Brenda Putney. Frames and greens provided. Bring decorations or purchase them there.

November 24 Thanksgiving Day

November 25 Friday

**Andromeda Meteor Shower** is a late evening event, featuring a shooting star every ten minutes or so. These Biela Comet leftovers may appear quite brilliant in light of (or more aptly, in the absence of light) from the new Cold Moon.

1:10 a.m. **New Cold Moon**

December 4 Sunday

2 pm **Make one of a kind gift bags** with rubber stamps and clever ideas from Janet Bettey. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Workshop cost: \$5 members/ \$8 non-members) Register by calling the library 978-249-3572.



## Selectboard Notes

*Linda Alger, chairperson*

The Selectboard has been continuing its work on a number of projects and have added some. The grant work continues on the Wastewater Treatment Facility. While awaiting approval of this funding, the board has initiated a survey of Blossom Street and Park Street residents to begin the process of applying for a CBDG grant to upgrade the present infrastructure. The Public Hearing for CBDG grant funding will be held on November 1st, during the regular Selectboard meeting at 7:30pm.

The Town Hall Septic System will be completed before the snow flies, the BOS would like to extend its gratitude to Patience Bundschuh for agreeing to the easement. It would also like to extend our appreciation to Keith Newton and Ed Boucher for the countless hours of work to see this project come to fruition.

The Selectboard has invited all Department Heads to meet on November 8th at 7pm in the Town Hall dining room for a discussion forum so that we may begin to tighten our policies and procedures regarding revenue and expenses. We see this as a crucial step in the preliminary FY13 budget process.

Christine Long is beginning work on a Standard Operating Procedure Manual for the Selectboard. She is also working on follow up for the Historic Records Preservation Grant of several years ago. Keith Newton, Fire Chief with the assistance of Rebecca Krause Hardie has applied for the Fire Fighter Grant to replace the 1980 engine truck. The grant itself is over \$300,000. (The Town's portion will be \$17,000.)

The entire Royalston BOS attended the All Boards meeting on October 19th. The news from the school district regarding the FY13 budget was more economic gloom and doom and though the "OVER RIDE" word was not used it seems inevitable, so stay tuned.

There will be a Special Town Meeting, tentatively scheduled for Dec 9th as we have received a 100% match for our Community Preservation Funds. The warrant will open and close on November 15th.

## Royalston Emergency Management Agency

*Jim Barclay, EMD ema@royalston-ma.gov or call 978-249-2904*

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members from Athol, Orange and Gardner responded to a REMA request to assist the Royalston Police Department with rerouting traffic during the Army Corps of Engineer's annual "Tully Triathlon." There were nearly 100 registered teams with many more people participating in the event as support members and enjoying the race as part of the audience. All of the CERTs had participated in the August traffic control and direction training program conducted by Royalston Police Sergeant Roland G. Hamel and were invaluable in helping participants stay on track while running 4.5 miles and biking 7.5 miles; they also helped visitors find their way around Royalston, and drivers find ways around Doane Hill during the four hour race.

## Royalston in new State Senate and House Districts Due to State Redistricting

*Melanie Mangum, town clerk*

Due to population shifts evidenced by the last census, Massachusetts is adjusting its legislative districts. The proposed state redistricting maps came out in late October and will take effect for the 2012 election season. Royalston is now being placed in different State House and Senatorial districts. Royalston is losing Senator Brewer and instead its Senate member will be from the Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester district represented by Stan Rosenberg. The House district Royalston will join is the 2nd Franklin, which is represented by Denise Andrews. Royalston will no longer be in Rich Bastien's district.

There's a website to look at the old and proposed new district maps: <http://www.malegislature.gov/District/ProposedDistrictMaps>



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
Proposed House Legislative Districts  
2011



## Fire Department News

*Keith R. Newton - Fire Chief*

We have been very busy with training and operations. The staff has given a tremendous amount of time learning new procedures for fire fighting and has been involved with other departments drilling all the combined aspects of mutual aid.

The Rescue boat has made several calls recently, including a mutual aid call to Greenfield, Mass when flood waters threatened the city, a combined drill at Tully Lake with K- Nine units from all over the region, and a work detail on the Millers River in Orange Mass. for their annual Fall Canoe race for all age groups.

Heating season is upon us and we will soon be in cold weather, That means wood, pellet, coal and any other heating device should be checked for clean and safe operation. Smoke and CO detectors should have fresh sets of batteries and should be checked for readiness. It is a good time to go over your Fire Escape Plan and review with all inhabitants of your home. Don't forget to include a meeting destination outside in a safe location where you account for all. A good place is at your mailbox. Remember a Clean Chimney is a SAFE ONE! Enjoy the winter season and be safe.

The Fire Dept. turkey raffle is Nov.11, 2011, ( 11/11/11 ). The location is the Fire Station #1 on Athol Road. The time is 7:00 P.M. SHARP! Be there or be square! This is the annual and very helpful Fire Department event that funds many of its equipment purchases. It is also a good opportunity for securing a bird for a Thanksgiving holiday dinner. See you there. Bring your dollar bills. Also, tickets for an additional Thanksgiving basket raffle are currently available from any Royalston firefighter.

## D.P.W. Update

Paving has been completed on North Fitzwilliam, New Boston, and Warwick Roads. The ride has improved tremendously on each section. The next paving season should be able to connect and finish each road. Please drive safely.

The mowing of grass has slowed down a fraction, but still will need to be done again before winter. Any pots or planters should be removed to assist with mowing and trimming. Thank you for your help.

Fall grading of gravel roads is scheduled to begin and the D.P.W. asks for your help keeping all safe as we travel along these roadways. Remember the grader is quite large and fills most of the road. Please drive carefully and slow down when approaching this equipment. The process creates a windrow of gravel material and is sometimes tough to drive over. Please use extreme caution when driving in these areas.

The fall is an excellent time to make any necessary repairs and or replacement of your mailbox. Please keep in mind high snow banks lead to hidden mail boxes, which big plows can't always see in the night with blowing snow. Make sure your box is set back enough so plows can go by without knocking them off their mount. The right distance would be 3 feet back from the edge of gravel or pavement. Thank you all for your help making it safe.

## Board of Health News

*Phil Leger, chairperson*

The bottle return box is now relocated outside to the right of the recycling building. Please do not leave returnables inside the building. We are reorganizing our space inside.

We are still open the last Friday's of the month until January. At this point, very few people are taking advantage of this day. If this continues, we probably will not continue past December to be open on the last Friday of the month. Stay tuned.

## Commemorative Books of the Phinehas Newton Library's 100th Anniversary Celebration Available: Taking Orders Now

Last June's observance of the library's centennial generated lots of lovely photos of a particularly picturesque and sweet community event. The parade, speeches, games, tea party, living history and town hall ball all provided fine fodder for a camera shoot.

The images were captured digitally, but therein lies the rub. With changing and crashing technology, digital photos are easily lost. Photos printed out on inferior paper with ordinary inks fade fast. Thus, the idea of creating a high quality scrapbook of the day's events emerged. The layout is still being finalized but it will probably contain 24 8 x 11" pages filled with over a 100 excellent photos of your friends and neighbors having fun on a beautiful summer's day. With time, it will look like history.

The cost of the book is \$20, which is a price subsidized by the Friends of the Library. To order, call or visit the library.

## Council on Aging/Cultural Council News

On Wednesday, November 9th at the Council On Aging Senior Lunch, area resident Drew Paton will present a program on America's Greatest Generation, combining music, stories, commercials, news spots and a rolling slideshow of the Swing Era, the mid 1930's to the late 1940's. This program is sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council, with funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and is open to the public. The program will begin about 11:30 am and continue while lunch is served. If you wish to have lunch, please call Betty Woodbury at 978-249-9656 by Monday, November 7th. The cost is \$2.00 for Seniors; \$2.50 for others. For more information, please call Deb Nunes at 978-249-4000.

## Open Mic Series Returning

The Royalston Cultural Council's 9th annual open mic series will begin on the first Friday in December from 7 to 10 PM. It continues the first Friday of every month through April at the Royalston Town Hall. This award-winning series is sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council. Donations and sale of goodies provide extra income. Come and participate.

## Royalston's 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee

There are lots of ways to support the 250th Committee this November at the public supper at Town Hall on Saturday, November 5th at 6 pm. Call Geoff Newton for tickets or information about any of these items. 978-249-3726

1. Eat: Come enjoy **spaghetti** (sauce for either herbivores and carnivores), salad, bread and dessert. (\$12/adults or \$6/kids)
2. Gamble: **120 club tickets** available. Good odds to win real dough (and for those who don't win, the sting is lessened knowing money goes to a good place).
3. Shop for 2 commemorative items: a **T-shirt** depicting Royalston's three waterfalls or a silver glass **tree ornament** featuring Doane's Falls as drawn by local illustrator Elizabeth Farnsworth. Both items are on sale now and make good gifts for Royalstonophiles.



*The first in a series of tree ornaments featuring Royalston landmarks will be unveiled and sold at the upcoming 250th Committee Spaghetti Supper.*

# 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](http://www.royalstonlibrary.org)

## Thank you

To: **Deane Marchbein** for the informative and inspiring talk about her experiences with Doctors Without Borders; **Sonja Vaccari** for procuring the lovely memorial birdbath and situating it perfectly in the library garden; **Carl Kamp** for warm and melodious music during the Barbara Willhite memorial at the library, **Sharon Hood** for her thoughtful presentation at the memorial, and **Maureen Blasco, Beth Gospodarek, and Patti Stanko** for baking refreshments whenever the need pops up..

## Donations to the Friends in memory of Werner Bundschuh

*Theresa Quinn and George Krasowski*

*Diana and Geoffrey Newton*

*Ruth Suyenaga and Mark Shoul*

*Stephen McCorkle*

*Rick and Diane Stauder*

*Lee and Mary Ann Lizotte*

*Gerry Chaisson*

## Upcoming Events:

### Basket Making Class

There are still a few spaces in the Basket Making Class with Sandy Hopkins and Janice Anton on Sunday, November 13 at 11:00 a.m. at the Town Hall. There is a materials fee of \$25. Sandy and Janice have been doing crafts most of their lives and each designs original baskets using a wide variety of natural materials. They will be teaching techniques that will provide participants with a basic knowledge of basket making, helpful hints to overcome some of the problems that one can encounter, and ideas for types of materials and styles of baskets. The class is starting early so that there will be adequate time to complete the entire project. Participants should bring a lunch; snacks and drinks will be provided as well. For more information, sign up, or receive the list of things you should bring to the class, contact the library or check out the website. You can also see Sandy and Janice's work at <http://www.basketswheatandmore.com/about-us.html>. Funding for this workshop is provided by a grant from the Royalston Cultural Council.

### Artist Exhibit

Caleb Chase, a junior at Cushing Academy and life-long resident on Northeast Fitzwilliam Road, will have his paintings and fused glass pieces on exhibit at the library for the month of November. Caleb has been painting for years and has created several of the posters used for library and Royalston Shakespeare Co. programs.

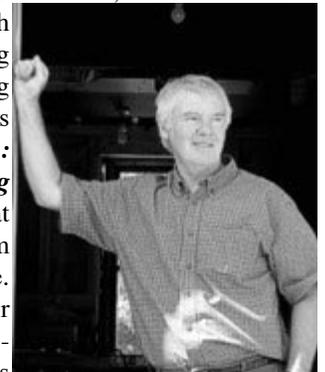
**Tai Chi with Rebecca Krause-Hardie** continues this fall Tuesdays from 6-7 pm. Everyone is welcome at this free program sponsored by the Friends of the Library. For more info, contact Becky at 978-575-1454.

**Zumba with Kristin Killay will resume** November 7 at 6 pm and continue on Mondays throughout the winter at Town Hall.

## Green Living Journal Editor and Author

### Stephen Morris to Speak at the Library

On Friday, November 4, at 7:00 p.m. at the library, Stephen Morris will discuss his work as a publisher, author, and innovator in the "Green" movement. Stephen is the editor and publisher of the quarterly *Green Living*, the author of six books, co-founder of The Public Press, and has worked with companies and non-profits defining missions and developing marketing strategies. He will also discuss his latest book *The New Village Green: Living Light, Living Local, Living Large*, which thoughtfully looks at the green and local movement from its beginnings to its present state. There will be books available for purchase. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library.



## D.I.Y. Holiday Workshops:

In the spirit of going green for the holidays, there will be three workshops where participants can make items for themselves or as gifts. All workshops will be on Sundays at 2:00 p.m. at the Royalston Town Hall. On November 20, Brenda Putney will bring the scent of the season to the Town Hall with a room full of balsam fir and help participants create a large fresh balsam wreath. You may bring your own decorations or purchase them from Brenda. On December 4, Janet Bettey's creative touch will be on display while she helps participants use a huge variety of rubber stamps to decorate gift bags which may be more beautiful and unusual than the gifts they hold. On December 11, Kathy Morris will get participant's hands wet as they manipulate straw into gold, making holiday stars for gifts, ornaments, or keepsakes. This is a different technique than prior years and should be fun to learn. For each of these workshops, there is a \$5 fee for members of the Friends and \$8 for non-members and you must register by calling the library or e-mailing the library at [royalstonlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:royalstonlibrary@gmail.com) prior to the workshop as participant numbers are limited. These workshops are sponsored by the Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library.

## Book Discussion Group Forming

Attention Readers: the Friends of the Library is gauging interest for a new book discussion group in town. Interested? Sign up at the library and/or come to an exploratory meeting to share input on genre, format and meeting times on Saturday, December 3rd at 11 a.m. The group will borrow multiple copies of books through inter-library loan. It plans to get started reading, thinking, chatting and digesting ideas and refreshments in the New Year. All welcome. Free.

## Some of the New Materials at Your Library

### Fiction

Banks, Russell *Lost Memory of Skin*  
 Beaton, M.C. *As the Pig Turns*  
 Bohjalian, Chris *The Night Strangers*  
 Bowen, Rhys *Naughty and Nice*  
 Buchan, Elizabeth *Separate Beds*  
 Burke, James Lee *Feast Day of Fools*  
 Child, Lee *The Affair*  
 Coelho, Paulo *Aleph*  
 Crummey, Michael *Galore*  
 Cussler, Clive *The Race*  
 Dreyer, Eileen *Always a Temptress*  
 Enright, Anne *The Forgotten Waltz*  
 Eugenides, Jeffrey *The Marriage Plot*  
 Frazier, Charles *Nightwoods*  
 Gregory, Philippa *The Lady of the Rivers*  
 Guterson, David *Ed King*  
 Harbach, Chad *The Art of Fielding*  
 Harper, Karen *Fall from Pride*  
 Harris, Charlaaine *A Secret Rage*  
 Hoffman, Alice *The Dovekeepers*  
 Hollinhurst, Alan *The Stranger's Child*  
 Jin, Ha *Nanjing Requiem*  
 Johansen, Iris *Bonnie*  
 Jordan, Hillary *When She Woke*  
 Lindsay, Jeffrey *Double Dexter*  
 Mayor, Archer *Tag Man*  
 Mina, Denise *The End of the Wasp Season*  
 Moustakis, Melinda *Bear Down, Bear North*  
 Muller, Marcia *City of Whispers*  
 Nesbo, Jo *Headhunters*  
 Ondaatje, Michael *The Cat's Table*  
 Pratchett, Terry *Snuff*  
 Riordan, Rick *The Devil Went Down to Austin*  
 Rozan, S.J. *Ghost Hero*  
 Sandford, John *Shock Wave*  
 Saramago, Jose *Cain*  
 Sparks, Nicholas *The Best of Me (Large Print)*  
 Stirling, S.M. *The Tears of the Sun*  
 Tobar, Hector *The Barbarian Nurseries*  
 Todd, Charles *A Bitter Truth*  
 Weber, David *How Firm a Foundation*  
 Zentner, Alexi *Touch*

### Non-Fiction

Castle, Richard *Richard Castle's Deadly Storm*  
 DeGeneres, Ellen *Seriously—I'm Kidding*  
 Dovev, Joel *Crap at my Parent's House*  
 Ebert, Roger *Life Itself*  
 Hendrickson, Paul *Hemingway's Boat*  
 Hessel, Stephane *Time for Outrage!*  
 King, David *Death in the City of Light*  
 Matthews, J.L. *Social Security, Medicare & Gov't Pensions*  
 Moore, Michael *Here Comes Trouble*  
 Nelson, Kadir *Heart and Soul*  
 Onassis, Jacqueline *Jacqueline Kennedy*  
 Orlean, Susan *Rin Tin Tin*  
 Orwich, John *Absolute Monarchs*  
 Sankovitch, Nina *Tolstoy and the Purple Chair*  
 Smith, Nick *Waterfowl Hunting*  
 Stout, Glenn *Fenway 1912*  
 Vernoff, Krista *The Game on! Diet*  
 Weir, Alison *Mary Boleyn*

### Audiobooks

Child, Lee *The Affair*  
 Eugenides, Jeffrey *The Marriage Plot*  
 Lewis, Michael *Boomerang*

### Young Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction

Christopher, Lucy *Flyaway*  
 Haddix, Margaret *Torn*  
 King, A.S. *Everybody sees the Ants*  
 Perera, Anna *Guantanamo Boy*  
 Riordan, Rick *The Son of Neptune*  
 Stiefvater, Maggie *Linger*  
 Stiefvater, Maggie *The Scorpio Races*  
 Venkatraman, Padma *Island's End*  
 Weber, David *A Beautiful Friendship*

### Young Adult Audiobooks

Collins, Suzanne *Mockingjay*  
 Stiefvater, Maggie *The Scorpio Races*

### Juvenile Fiction

Almond, David *My Name is Mina*  
 Cousins, Lucy *Maisy's Amazing Book of Learn*  
 Cooper, Ilene *Little Lucy*  
 Grogan, John *Christmas is Coming, Marley*  
 Grogan, John *Marley: Thanksgiving*  
 Grogan, John *Trick or Treat, Marley!*  
 Jenkins, Emily *Toys Come Home*  
 Kirby, Matthew *The Clockwork Three*  
 Klein, Abby *Tooth Trouble*  
 Maass, Robert *A if for Autumn*  
 Martin, Bill *Ten Little Caterpillars*  
 Miles, Ellen *Goldie*  
 Miles, Ellen *Patches*  
 Miles, Ellen *Pugsley*  
 Osborne, Mary Pope *Dogs in the Dead of Night*  
 Pilkey, Dav *Super Diaper Baby 2*  
 Rinker, Sherri *Goodnight, Good-night, Construction Site*  
 Rylant, Cynthia *Brownie & Pearl Grab a Bite*  
 Tarshis, Lauren *I Survived the Bombing of Pearl Harbor, 1941*  
 Uhlberg, Myron *A Storm called Katrina*  
 Witte, Anna *Lola's Fandango*  
 Willems, Mo *Happy Pig Day!*  
 Wright, Johanna *Bandits*

### Juvenile Non-Fiction

Aaronson, Marco *Trapped*  
 Cressy, Judith *What Can you do with a Paper Bag?*  
 Harris, Robie *Who has What?*  
 Holm, Jennifer *Babymouse*  
 Macy, Sue *Basketball Belles*  
 Scarborough, Kate *Nuclear Waste*  
 Sidman, Joyce *Swirl by Swirl*  
 Silverstein, Shel *Everything on it*  
 Young, Ed *The House Baba Built*

### Juvenile Audiobooks

Burton, Virginia *Katy and the Big Snow*  
 Kirby, Matthew *The Clockwork Three*

**DVDs:** *Bridesmaids, Buck, Fast Five, Glee Season 2, Green Lantern, Hanna, Horrible Bosses, Monsters Vs. Aliens, Scared Shrekless, The Dog who Saved Halloween, Thor, Transformers, Dark of the Moon and Zookeeper*

**Music:** Colbie Caillat - *All of You*, Demi Lovato - *Unbroken*, Gavin DeGraw - *Sweet, Lady Antebellum* - *Own the Night*  
 Wynton Marsalis - *Wynton Marsalis & Eric Clapton play the Blues*

## Congregational Churches News

This October, the First Congregational Church of Royalston hosted its third annual Missions Conference. American and International students from Faith School of Theology and Zion Bible College attended and served the conference. They used their gifts to bless the congregation in music, teaching and service. Pastor Lenny Hernandez, originally from Columbia and now residing in Connecticut, preached a powerful message on Friday night concerning the importance of prayer. On Sunday morning, the service included a flag procession, prayers in other languages, a power-packed time of worship and a wonderful sermon by Pastor Adams Leswea from Malalwi, Africa. Afterwards the entire church body sat down for a time of fellowship over a delicious international meal featuring dishes from various countries represented.

This summer was a very exciting time of growth in the Children's Ministry leadership team here at FCCR. At its leadership meeting in the beginning of the season, Michaela Gunn shared her heart and vision with the team and was met with an overwhelming response of excitement and commitment on the parts of all who attended. Susan Veilleux, our BGMC Coordinator and Rita Harris both committed to another season of Children's Ministry service. Welcomed for the first time to the team are Charlie and Mary Scribner, Debbie Williams, Lisa Hood, Steve Tucker, and Marie Plourde. This October the Children's Ministry team has launched their new curriculum called *High Point!* Focusing on important values and Bible stories in every lesson, each new theme takes place in a different country of the world. As the Children's Church room is transformed into different countries to match each theme, the children will learn that no matter where they are in this world, God's word remains the same and His power is limitless.

## Royalston Fish and Game

Just in time for Christmas, the Royalston F&G Club is planning a "Catalog Flea Market" with representatives from companies such as Tupperware, The Pampered Chef, Avon, etc. A December event is planned, and more information will be in next month's RCN. If you are a product demonstrator and interested in participating, contact Marie at 978-249-2836.

The first of the season's Roast Beef Suppers is Saturday, November 5 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are likely sold out, but you can try for a last minute ticket by calling the Club or Marie. Tickets are \$12 Each and buy a family-style dinner of tossed salad, bread and real butter, mashed potatoes with perfectly cooked roast beef, savory brown gravy, green beans, coffee and a light dessert.

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.



"Rooted" Women's Ministry has been an impactful resource for the ladies of FCCR. From April to July, the ladies spent time together each week, digging into the Word of God and spending time in prayer and fellowship, learning how to become more rooted in the Word of God. The ministry's theme verse, Psalm 1:3, says this: "They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do." Rooted has started back up again this October and is now hosted at Debbie Conrad's house in Gardner. Irene Pervier, a wonderful mentor and friend to many in the community, has become the main teacher of the group and has greatly blessed the women with her incredible insight and wisdom.

Revival Town Youth Ministry, led by Russell Gunn, attended Six Flags Fall Quest in September where the students had the opportunity to enjoy the theme park as well as listen to great Christian music playing throughout. The group also recently attended a youth rally in Springfield where they experienced the presence of God in worship, a powerful sermon and time at the altar afterwards. The youth group looks forward to the Christmas season where it will be hosting a Christmas youth event at Winchendon Church of God.

Although so much is happening at First Congregational Church of Royalston, our purpose and drive remain the same. We strive to be a beacon of light in our community and be a source of help and hope to those in need. Our desire is for all newcomers to immediately feel welcome and at home among God's people here. Through various ministries and life groups, we strive to provide a place for everyone to come and experience the love of Jesus in a powerfully personal way.

## TOPS

The Royalston TOPS Chapter (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) group has an open house planned for Thursday, November 10 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. in the parlor at the Second Congregational Church. A representative will be available to answer questions. TOPS formed in 1948 to promote affordable weight management. The international group is the original, non-profit program of its type whose philosophy includes healthy eating, regular exercise, wellness information, awards and recognition and peer support at weekly chapter meetings. The Milwaukee, Wisconsin-based group is open to men, woman and children age 7 and older, and has a membership of about 170,000 among its 10,000 North American chapters. Drop by or contact Joyce at 978-249-8966 or Luann at 978-249-8746 for more details.

*TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) Drop by or contact Joyce at 978-249-8966 or Luann at 978-249-8746 for more details.*

## Great American Smokeout

The third Thursday of November provides a public opportunity each year to the 45.8 million smokers in the US to try to kick the habit by not smoking for just 24 hours as part of the Great American Smokeout. Family members and fellow smokers support efforts by providing diversions throughout the day like visits, calls or little goodies to enjoy at a time a smoker would normally head out for a butt break. If you're a smoker and would like to quit, maybe this is the year? Enlist the help of some friends to support you in quitting for the 24 hours beginning and ending November 17.

# Drive By Pie!



**Saturday, November 19**

**9:00 am - Noon**

**Across from PO, Royalston Common**

**Pies available freshly baked or frozen and ready to bake in your oven!**

Apple	\$10
Pumpkin	\$10
Mince	\$12
Blueberry	\$12
Pecan	\$14

You may Drive-By and purchase that day, or to ensure your favorite is available you may Pre-Order by calling:

**Maureen at 209-5138**

**(Please leave your name, order and a call-back number)**

**Deadline to order: Nov 18th 11**

**All proceeds benefit the Scholarship Fund Loyal Benevolent Society of Royalston**

**Pies available freshly baked or frozen and ready to bake in your oven!**

## Ladies' B.

The second Ladies' B. "Drive-By-Pies" Sale will be Saturday, November 19, 9 a.m. - sell out. Last year, close to 70 pies were sold, including those made after the sale to mollify disappointed customers who had arrived after the first 50 pies sold out in less than 90 minutes. Pre-ordering (Call or e-mail Maureen Blasco at 978-249-5138 or maureenblasco@gmail.com) assures availability and preference, but it will also be possible to just show up and drive by the sale to buy some pies for Thanksgiving without even getting out of a vehicle. Of course all are welcome to park and peruse the array of fresh pumpkin and pecan pies as well as fresh and frozen apple, blueberry and mincemeat pies. Enjoy some mulled cider and a chat. Your purchase supports academic scholarships to publicly, privately and home-schooled students in pursuit of higher education as well as mature adults returning to college.

While at the pie sale, buy some last minute tickets to the Society's "Taste of Royalston" Basket Raffle. Home-canned goods, a home-crocheted afghan, gift certificates to Pete & Henry's and Royalston's General Store, one-of-a-kind artwork, local pure maple syrup and honey and more- the lucky winner can enjoy it all or use the items for holiday gift-giving. Tickets are now on sale. See any LBS member, stop by the Post Office, General Store, Kimball-Cooke Insurance, and watch for sales at various locations until drawing on November 19. Contact Mary C. Barclay at mbarclay@juno.com or 978-249-2598. Ticket sales will support scholarships and other good works by the Ladies' Society. Contact LBS President Laurie M. Deveneau at lmdeveneau@msn.com or 978-249-5807 for more information.

Many Ladies' Benevolent Society members are excellent bakers, but they're always looking to improve. Just in time for their November "Drive-By-Pies" sale, sister member Kristen A. West shared some tips that make her crusts so worthy of note. Among them: don't overwork the dough and go for obvious marbling in an uncooked crust. Refrigerate fats and water should be icy-cold. Refrigerate a single crust's worth of dough as a disc, wrapped closely in plastic wrap, for at least an hour before rolling. Regarding pie plates - glass is preferred. Cook in the lower half of the oven so the top doesn't brown so quickly and the bottom cooks through. Most of all, Kristen encourages bakers to experiment with different ingredients and techniques until the desired end product has been achieved.

### Kristen's Basic Pie Crust Recipe (Pic)

- 3 cups flour (all white or up to 1/4 or 1/3 whole wheat)
- 1 tbsp. sugar
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 cup cold, unsalted butter
- 5 tbsp. cold shortening
- 1/4 cup ice water

This recipe makes enough for a two-crust pie. Pre-heat the oven to 375 degrees. For a 9" pie, bake 45 - 50 minutes; 10" bake 50 - 60 minutes; deep dish pie plate, bake 60 - 70 minutes. If baking a pre-made, frozen pie, add 10 - 20 minutes to the baking time to ensure the filling is thoroughly cooked and the bottom crust browned.

## Recipes of the month:

### Squash squares and drive by pie crust

Here is Patti Stanko's fallish recipe for pumpkin/squash squares, which have been getting a lot of praise lately at library events. Patti joined the Friends of the Library two years ago when she moved to Royalston. Before coming to town, she spent 20 years farming and gardening in Winchendon. For the past five years, Patti has taught reading in the Gardner Public Schools, where Patti's famous pumpkin squares are a similar hit.

#### Pumpkin Squares

(Use mashed pumpkin or butternut squash)

#### Ingredients

- 3 eggs
- 3/4 c. butter
- 1 1/2 c. sugar
- 2 tbsp molasses
- 1 tbsp vanilla
- 1 - 1/2 cup pumpkin or squash (mash or put in a food processor to get blended)
- 2 cups flour
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 tsp ground ginger
- 1/2 tsp ground cloves
- 1 tsp baking powder

Preheat the oven to 350. Oil a 9 x 13" pan. Cream eggs, butter, sugar, vanilla, pumpkin or squash, and molasses. In a separate bowl mix dry ingredients. add to creamed mixture. Bake about 35 minutes. cool before frosting.

Frosting: Combine: 1 1/2 oz. cream cheese, 3 tbsp butter, 1/2 tsp vanilla and 1 cup powdered sugar.

## Royalston Community School Update

*Bella O'Connor*

Gobble, Gobble, Gobble! The teachers and students have settled down at R.C.S., and this month students look forward to the annual Thanksgiving Feast for grades K,1,and 2 and our days off on the 11th, 24th, and 25th. The monthly PTG meeting will be on the 16th ( half day) at 5:15. It has started with the fall fundraiser, which is a lottery calendar, so check you tickets during the month to see if you've won! Also, the Student Council officers have been chosen; they are getting to work on spirit days and managing the School Store. Picture Day was on October 18th, so parents, check your child's agenda for photos and report cards around Thanksgiving.

### Community Reading Day at RCS

This year the Community Reading Day organized by the Athol Public Library, and locally coordinated by Jen Bartkus, will be on Monday November 14 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. at the Royalston Community School. Anyone interested in reading to the children may call the Phinehas Newton Library 978-249-3572 to sign up.



*Officer Sherry Miner, of the Royalston Police Department, accompanied by her German Shepard, Cami, provided an entertaining and informative Halloween Safety Program at Royalston Community School on Wednesday, October 26th. Officer Miner shares her expertise as a professional dog trainer utilizing her trained Shepard, Cami, to inform students how to carefully approach their "trick or treating" on Halloween. Cami actively participates and manages to keep the children's attention very*

*effectively while Officer Miner conducts her lesson.*

### Monty Tech

Several school districts (including the Athol-Royalston Regional) have announced they have canceled the annual middle school field trip to Monty Tech's tour day. The hands-on, interactive program is designed to introduce students to their regional vocational technical school and see if the voc-tech curriculum may be more appropriate than their comprehensive high school's curriculum. Despite the loss of this valuable eighth grade field trip, there are still a number of options for elementary and middle school students and their families to explore offerings at Monty Tech.

VIP (Vocational Interest Program) is a multi-week program for seventh and eighth graders where students experience various trades through innovative, two-hour exploratory programs taught by Monty Tech instructors.

Career Awareness Nights (the next is in March) allow families to visit Monty Tech's 20 exciting career programs, discuss college opportunities, meet staff, students and alumni and tour the campus. As always, visitors by appointment are welcome at any time of the year.

Monty Tech Is not for every student, but every student should have an opportunity to explore all available options so they, with help from their families, can make informed decisions about their education. Information about Monty Tech in general or any of the programs mentioned is available by calling 978-345-9200.

## Village School News

### Lantern Walk Celebration Friday November 4

The Village School hosts the annual Autumn Lantern Walk on Friday, November 4th. The public is invited to participate in this seasonal celebration. The evening starts at 5:00 p.m. at the school with a gathering in the dark with songs and stories by the fire. Everyone will then join in a procession on Royalston Common to the Town Hall, singing and carrying glowing candle-lit homemade lanterns. Bring a lantern! A community pot luck Italian supper at the Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. will be followed by a family contra dance with caller Tim Van Egmond and the No Name Band, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

All over Europe, children participate in lantern walks to mark the seasonal transition in nature, from light and warmth to darkness and dormancy. The Village School has adopted this custom with songs, stories, and handmade lanterns that bring light to the darkness. The contra dance will be called, and children of all ages will find it easy to join in the dances. Donations are suggested of \$5 per adult, \$2 per child, or \$10 per family.

### Open House Saturday November 19 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Come meet the teachers, visit with current parents, see the classrooms, talk to alumni, find out about our unique curriculum and get your questions answered. Get a taste of what is so compelling about the school that parents drive for miles to bring their children! Bring your children to join in activities in the classrooms. Find out about openings for next year. Refreshments are served. See the Village School website for more information [www.villageschoolma.org](http://www.villageschoolma.org)

### Book Fair

The Village School hosts a book fair of excellent children's books, picked by staff and parents alike, with the help of Bruce's Browser. Come in anytime, during school hours to browse and buy books. It begins on Monday November 28th, and lasts all week.

## Obituaries

Condolences to Chet Miganowicz whose mother, **Helen A. (Pszczolkowski) Miganowicz**, 82, died Saturday, October 15, 2011 at his Winchendon Road home after an illness. She was born in Gardner on December 10, 1928 to Chester and Josephine (Skrowonski) Pszczolkowski. A Mass of Christian Burial was held in October at St. Vincent De Paul in Baldwinville; burial will be at a later date in St. Joseph's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family suggested memorial contributions be made in Helen's memory to the Dana Farber Cancer institute; 10 Brookline Place West; 6th Floor ATTN: Contribution Services; Brookline, MA 02445-7226 or to the Gardner Visiting Nurse Assn.; 34 Pearly Lane; Gardner, MA 01440.

**John Nash**, a long-time summer resident in the town center, passed away peacefully in Tryon, North Carolina one week short of his ninetieth birthday. John and his family were long time summer residents of Royalston. Memorial donations in his name may be made to the charity of your choice.



**Catherine Bernice Guiney**, 87, of Morse Rd., died peacefully July 10, 2011 with her family at her side. She was born in Arlington on May 15, 1924, the daughter of Helen B. Robinson Guiney and John Joseph Guiney. She attended Arlington schools and Mount St. Joseph's Academy. She studied classical music for 13 years and assisted in the music program at the school. In 1946, she entered the order of the Carmelites. Due to health problems, she was released from her vows in 1949. She became a book-

keeper in various companies, including the John Hancock Life Insurance Company, as well as serving as bookkeeper for her father's business. Her mother's ill health caused Catherine to leave her employment and care for her mother until her death. In 1968, Catherine moved to Royalston, with her father and brother; she tended to her father in illness and later looked after her brother in his retirement as a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston. Catherine is survived by her brother, William P. Guiney and his wife Betty of Boca Raton, Fla. and Andover; her sister Helen Feliciano of Royalston and nieces, nephews and cousins. Her brother Father John Guiney died in 1999.

Memorial donations may be made to Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Chapel, PO Box 57, Royalston, MA 01368.

*ed note:* In the Nancy Bolton obituary printed in last month's newsletter, the addresses for the suggested memorial donations were inadvertently cut off. The Royalston Community Newsletter is sorry for any inconvenience. Here are the complete addresses: In lieu of flowers the family suggests contributions be made to: the Salvation Army-Athol Corps, 107 Ridge Ave., Athol or the Athol Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, 2033 Main St., Athol, MA 01331.



## CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD NEWS

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

Allen Young of Butterworth Road is working on a new book, entitled "*The Man Who Got Lost: North Quabbin Stories.*" It will be published by Haley's of Athol in the spring. Ten local businesses are sponsors of the book, which is a collection of articles written by Allen from the 1970s to the present -- all previously published in the Athol Daily News. For each of the more than 30 articles, there will be a brief introduction and postscript. Several of the articles are about Royalston. The book will include photographs. This will be Allen's 14th book, several of which remain in print, including "*North of Quabbin Revisited.*"

Safe and happy travels to the Freudenheims, who are in China for five weeks and replaced Royalston fall colors with the yellow trees near the Great Wall. They are looking forward to Thanksgiving in Royalston.



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## Garden Notes

20 October 2011

The garden trucks on. So, too, does the gardener. Frost-free still and none in sight. What's going on here? This may well become the latest fall frost we've experienced. Not that it matters all that much in the garden. The cucumbers and squash and melons had long ago matured their fruit. Frost didn't kill them, old age did. The beans endured, even providing a handful of beans from time to time, but, over the past few days, I've begun pulling them and feeding them out to the steers. The cherry tomatoes, after a lackluster season, gave up the ghost but the other tomatoes provide just enough fruit for me to leave them in place. Even the basil is alive, though you'd hardly know it, a green stem with a few forlorn leaves atop. Peppers, on the other hand, continue to thrive and may well mature a large percentage of their crop. A ripe pepper is so much sweeter than an unripe one (not, of course, as sweet as a raspberry; the patch continues to churn out raspberries at the same pace as a month ago). Even summer annuals continue to bloom; the zinnias, marigolds, calendulas, tithonias, amaranths, globe amaranths, statice, and strawflowers providing color in the garden and material to cut for bouquets. Alas, the frost-sensitive weeds, primarily galinsoga and smartweed continue to bloom as well, maturing seed and assuring their presence next year. It is an unusual sight, especially in view of the fact that the garden is pretty much covered with downed leaves from nearby trees.

Some garden results bewilder me. I've mentioned the poor crop of onions. Leeks, kissing cousins of the onion, have performed admirably. Unlike the onion, they persist in the garden, being pulled as necessary. It is not unreasonable for me to expect any remaining ones to successfully winter-over. Cucumber yields were overwhelming;

## Classifieds

**House cleaning in your home.** 4 hr - \$60.00. Experienced with references. Royalston resident. Home - 978-249-4596 or cell - 895-0817, ask for Fran.

Do you need help with **housekeeping, outdoor work, or other odd jobs?** \$14/hr. Call Kathleen Lawrence Pirro at 978-249-9774.

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

**Little Farmers Child Care** on Winchendon Rd. has full and part time openings available. For more information please call Joni Adams @ 978-575-1083.

## For sale

**Russo Glass View Wood Stove** \$200; **20 wildlife collector plates** (18 white tail scenes, 1 black bear, and 1 elk) \$25 each, 20 for \$400; **Heywood-Wakefield China Hutch**, beautiful condition, glass doors and shelves on w/ lights 72"Hx48"Wx18"D \$750; and **Gorilla 15' ladder tree stand brand new \$125.** Call Teddy 978-249-6843.

**Squier Davis Farm honey;** \$6.00 /1 lb.; Deb & Joe Nunes, 249-4000. Makes great hostess/stocking/Christmas gifts for the upcoming holiday season.

**Locally grown potatoes for your Thanksgiving feast** available \$5.00/10lb., as well as butternut squash and maple syrup. Call John Divoll after 3 pm at 978 894-5109

winter squash (sharing family ties) yields were underwhelming. A casualty of the summer rains (I am guessing) was the fall spinach and beets. Despite four different plantings of spinach and three of beets, yields have been meager (though there remains the possibility

Apples require attention on an ongoing basis. Some are tree-picked but most are gathered from the ground. The greatest number is fed out to the steers, who expect (nay, demand) their daily hit. A lesser number is piled high in the barn, most to be pressed and some to be stored, ultimately, in the root cellar. The least number is hauled to market, promoted with a sign reading, "these apples are not without blemishes, but who among us is?" I sell very few apples.

I have increased my seed gathering activities this year to include a top-performing hot pepper and a carrot, which successfully wintered over and flowered and set seed this summer. Carrots are but tamed versions of Queen Anne's Lace and will readily cross reverting to their wild form. But the carrot flowered early and I am assuming it did not cross. If I am wrong I could have a couple hundred feet of Queen Anne's Lace in the garden next year, an embarrassing situation indeed. I have packed up a couple types of bean seed, rutabaga, parsnips, coriander, dill, and sage and replenished the supply of my no-name tomato, appearing as a volunteer several years ago. Next spring I will set out beets and celeriac from the root cellar, replenishing their supply as well.

I performed my annual rite of fall just three days ago (my birthday 'celebration'): the planting of the garlic. Sixty-nine years of living, thirty-four years planting garlic. My only regret is not having started earlier.

*Larry Siegel*

**Alpaca farm downsizing... good home for alpacas needed.** 978-249-7629

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

**Birch Hill Computers** - Sales, Repairs and Parts. 978-790-7876. birch-hillcomputers.com.

**Pete and Henry's Gift Certificates** are available by phone at 978-249-8375 or 978-249-9845. Pete & Henry's closes Nov. 27 for the month of December! Pick up gift certificates by that date or they'll need to be mailed.

**Local Maple Syrup** from Richardson's sugarhouse is now available at Pete & Henry's Restaurant. Of course, it is also available from the Richardsons at 978-249-6283.

**Fresh Royalston Produce** from Neale Farm: ornamental corn, corn stalks, baled hay, and a limited number of winter keeper veggies. Call ahead to see what's available. Divoll's Maple Syrup there, too. 249-6872



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The Royalston Community Newsletter is printed by:

**Performance Press**  
 Owners- Sandy and Dick Creamer  
 87 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475  
 978-297-0433 Fax: 9778-297-1719  
 email: perf4man@verizon.net  
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## Wildlife Sightings



Amy Putney and Caitlin Barclay were enjoying a leisurely trail ride in the northern section of Royalston when a young **black bear** crossed their path, briefly interrupting their trip. The bear was followed shortly thereafter by a wide-eyed hunter.

Apparently the bear had been circling the tree where the hunter was perched in a tree stand. The hunter reports shooting an arrow into the brush to scare the bear away, which it did...resulting in the bear crossing right in front of the girls and their horses.

Jan Vaccari saw a large **black bear** in the Vaccari driveway on North Fitzwilliam Rd. Jan was in the barn and the bear walked up the drive way, through the gap in the stone wall and on up the hill to the woods.

Sonja and Gidge Vaccari saw a **bobcat** on 68 coming up out of S Royalston at the end of Josh Doub and Lydia Musco's driveway.

Lynn Anair spotted a **Bald Eagle** on Winchendon & Norcross roads on October 25, flying towards Stone Rd.

## 2011 Deer Hunting Season Dates and Bag Limits

Wear bright colors!in the woods. (No hunting is allowed on Sundays.)

Archery Deer Season: Oct. 17 - Nov. 26, 2011

Shotgun Deer Season: Nov. 28 - Dec 10, 2011

Blackpowder Deer Season: Dec. 12 - Dec. 31, 2011

The Royalston Community Newsletter  
Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library  
PO Box 133  
Royalston MA 01368

Royalston Resident  
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Royalston MA 01368

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Mail: PO Box 133, Royalston MA 01386

Fax: 978-249-3572 (library)

Phone: 978-249-0358

In person: Drop off at library

RCN reserves the right to edit and restrict all submissions. This Newsletter is mailed out free of charge to all Royalston households as a public service provided by the Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library with support from the Performance Press, the Royalston Cultural Council, our sponsors and the entire community.

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