

THE ROYALSTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

July/August 2012



Volume XV, Issue VI

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

Calendar of Events

Monday July 2

10 am **Preschool summer story time.** Make a big mess making goop! (Summer story time continues Mondays throughout July.)

Tuesday July 3 **Dog Days of Summer begin**
2:52 pm **Full Buck Moon**

Wednesday July 4 **Independence Day**

Aphelion, the point in the year where the earth will be the farthest point from the sun, is today. We will be 94,505,932 miles from the sun.

July 5 Thursday

1:30 pm **Summer Reading Program** for school-aged youth begins at the library. Make home-made paper and then make paper airplanes. Summer reading program continues for 4 Thursdays at 1:30. Free. Snacks provided.

3:45 **Friends of the Library meeting** to foment library support, this newsletter, summer events and more. All welcome.

Friday July 6

7 pm **Royalston Shakespeare Company workshop performance of *The Tempest*.** All welcome. Free. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library with financial backing by the Cultural Council.

Monday July 9

10 am **Creative movement for pre-schoolers** at the library. Free.

Wednesday July 11

3 pm to swim, 6 pm to eat **LBS family pot-luck and swimming party** at Packard Pond. Call 249-0358 for details.

Thursday July 12

1:30 pm **Create a homemade book** at the library's summer reading program. Free. Snacks provided.

Saturday July 14

8 am - 3 pm **Congregational churches fair** on the Common.

Sunday July 15

12 noon - 5 pm **Musicfest 2012** at Bullock Park (behind Post Office), featuring Lux Delux as well as Linq, Nexus, Empty Bank, Side Street Band, and Mike Patterson and the Wise Guys. Hooola hoops, face painting, watermelon, ice cream and burgers and dogs available. Sponsored by the cultural council.

Monday July 16

10 am **Pre-schooler yoga** at the library. Free.

Tuesday July 17

6:30-8:30 pm **Jewelry making with Lauren Pacosa** from Noho Beadery for teens and adults; everyone will leave class with a knotted necklace, earrings and bracelet, and the knowledge to create many more. \$10-\$20 for supplies. Held at Town Hall. Call the library to register.



Thursday July 19

12:24 am **New Sturgeon Moon**
1:30 pm **Native American flute & storytelling program** at the library. Decorate and learn to play your own Native American flute.

Monday July 23

10 am **Ice cream social** for preschoolers at the library.

Tuesday July 24

7:00-9:00 pm **Origami for teens and adults-** Learn the basics and beyond from Worcester Art Museum origami expert Karuo Shiga at the library. Pre-register.

Thursday July 26

1:30 pm **Churn homemade ice cream** at the library's summer reading program for kids. Free!

Saturday July 28

TBA **Royalston F&G car show and chicken BBQ**

Wednesday August 1

11:23 pm **Full Sturgeon Moon**

Monday August 6

6:30 pm **Family dance party: Hip Hop Under the Stars** on the Common. Free. (Rain date: August 13th)

Friday August 10

The Perseid meteor shower; with clear skies a meteor a minute or better may be seen streaking out of the northeastern skies just after midnight tonight through Monday. Sleep out under the stars.

Friday August 17

11:54 am **New Red Moon**

Saturday August 18

9 am - 2pm **Town -Wide Tag Sale** to benefit the Town's 250th anniversary celebration. \$15 for a table on the common or a spot on the yard sale map. Burgers, dogs, ice cream and more available for lunch on the common. Call Carla 249-4422 for info or to register.

Sunday August 26

Women's Equality Day

Wednesday August 29

First day of school in ARRS

Select Board Notes

Christine Long, Member

The Select Board has hired Community Opportunities Group, Inc., of Boston to develop an affordable housing plan for the town and Haynes, Lieneck and Smith, Inc., of Ashby to design an accessibility plan for town hall – specifically, to make the second floor meeting room accessible to all residents.

The Select Board will be creating two short-term committees to work with the companies, with both projects expected to be completed by November. Both will also seek public input, certainly in the form of public meetings but also perhaps through interviews and surveys. The Select Board urges residents to watch for announcements of these events and to participate actively. If the architectural plan goes smoothly, the town intends to apply in December for a construction grant.

Both plans will be subject to a vote by the Select Board; the Planning Board will also vote on the affordable housing plan and the Historic District Commission on the accessibility plan.

Both projects will be funded by a Community Development Block Grant the towns of Royalston and Phillipston won with the help of Kevin Flynn, Community Development Director for the Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission. The Select Boards of the two towns jointly interviewed the finalists for the awards, and Phillipston will be using the same companies for the same purposes.

The bid for the housing plan came in at \$11,500, less than the grant award of \$18,000. The “leftover” money will be applied later to implementing part of the plan or to augment a fund that provides low-interest loans to Royalston residents for home improvements. The fee for the architectural work is yet to be negotiated.

Musicfest 2012

Deb Nunes

The Cultural Council is again proud to bring you Musicfest on Sunday, July 15th from 12 noon-5 pm at Bullock Park (behind the Post Office).

This year’s headliner band is Lux Delux, who will be on stage promptly at 4 pm. Other participants, appearing from noon until 4 pm include Linq, Nexus, Empty Bank, Side Street Band, and Mike Patterson and the Wise Guys. Phil Leger will again be our MC and Jim Bennett is our Musical and Sound Director.

As always, the Fire Department will be serving up famous hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken and other delectable foods. There will be ice cream from the 250th Anniversary Committee, watermelon from the Cultural Council, face painting, balloons, hoola hoops, and this year’s fabulous T-shirts, designed by artist extraordinaire, Gordon Morrison.

A number of canopies will be set up for shade (we won’t mention rain) protection. Bring your own canopy, blankets, chairs, friends, family, and get ready to rock, roll, dance, eat, visit, and in general have a great time! This is the Cultural Council’s biggest, funnest, awesomest event every year - be there!!!! For more info. please contact Deb Nunes at 978-249-4000.

Eyes on the Common

Celt Grant



Have you noticed that our historic and much-admired Royalston Town Common has grown a bit shabby and neglected over time? Things such as crumbling roads, aging and dying trees, distressed lawns, and inadequate and unattractive lighting detract from its beauty.

Don’t despair. Plans are under way to change that! With the upcoming Royalston 250th anniversary celebrations on the horizon for 2015, now is a good time to focus some attention on improvements to the Common.

To kick off this project, the Select Board will host a brainstorming session at town hall on Wednesday, September 19 at 7:30 p.m. This meeting will offer a vital opportunity for residents to “speak for the Common,” and offer suggestions on how best to preserve and improve this beloved centerpiece of the Town.

Following this meeting the Select Board will appoint a Common Restoration Committee comprised of citizens with interest and expertise to refine the suggestions, draft a proposal and budget, and apply for grants to move this project forward.

It’s YOUR Common, it’s OUR Common. Please put this on your calendar and plan to attend and participate on September 19.

(Celt Grant is the co-chair of the Historic District Commission.)

Vacancy on the Sewer Commission

The Sewer Commission and Board of Selectmen are seeking someone to fill a vacant position on the Commission. The appointment will be until next Annual Election. If interested, please contact Curtis Deveneau or Gary Winitzer, Sewer Commissioners, or the Board of Selectmen at 978-249-9641 or bos@royalston-ma.gov.

Board of Health News

Phil Leger, chairperson

New stickers due July 1. See attendant. They are fifteen dollars and are red.

By the time you receive this, new pavement will be installed at the transfer station making easy to clean and maintain. Thanks to the RDPW and local contractors for making this possible.

Royalston Community Preservation

Marsha Charest

Several articles utilizing the funds from the Community Preservation Fund were passed at the recent town meeting. Phase two of the restoration of the Estabrook portraits, which hang in the Phineas S. Newton Library was funded. Now they will be completely restored; not just cleaned. The town will also see the restoration of the fence and gateway at the Riverside Cemetery in South Royalston. Up near the town common, the area behind the post office that is commonly known as Bullock Park will begin its first phase of enhancement as a recreational area by having an electrical panel that meets with the historical guidelines installed.

The Community Preservation Committee welcomes proposals for projects, both large and small, to enhance Royalston with CPA funds. Those with project ideas can inform themselves about the legal requirements as well as the inspiring possibilities of the CPA by visiting www.commutiypreservation.org. On this website, under Technical Assistance are articles that explain the details and restrictions regarding projects.

The committee serves as a catalyst for projects, not an initiator ; it's a funder for projects; not a developer. The four main categories for projects are Open Space, Recreation, Historic Preservation and Community Housing. The committee also has as a resource the Community Preservation Coalition that is located in Boston.

Eligibility forms have been placed at the Country Store, Library and Town Hall. Drop off an eligibility form or written questions at the mailbox in the town hall lobby or send them to Royalston Community Preservation, 13 The Common, PO Box 125, Royalston or send email to cpa@royalston-ma.gov.

Three Helens Dine at the Weekly Senior Luncheon. Do You?



The senior luncheon is the best deal in town at \$2/senior or \$2.50 seniors-to-be for a hot meal and convivial company. The meal is served at 11:30 on Wednesdays. To reserve a spot, call Bety Woodbury 978-249-9656 by the Monday prior.

You may run into these three Helens: Helen Williams, Helen Divoll and Helen Feliciano . They may tell you of their rich lives: ships launched, battles fought and times in Troy.

Royalston's 250th Anniversary

Call Geoff Newton for information about any of these events- 978-249-3726. Help the committee raise money and plan for the Royalston 250th Anniversary Celebration, coming up in 2015.. There are many good ways to get involved:

Clear your clutter: Participate in the town wide yard sale on August 18. Call Carla 978-249-4422. Sign up by July 30. Rent space on the Common, or have your house listed on the town map which will be available by the lunch tent. Sign up with the tear-off slip on the flyer in this newsletter.

Grab the Gear: "Where Many Rivers Fall" t-shirts \$15. Buy at Royalston store or at 250th events. Make good gifts.

Rent the Tent for your summer event: \$40/day for a 20x30' tent. Will help set up and take down. Call Geoff 249- 3726. Proceeds benefit the 250th cause.

Get in the mood for local food: On Saturday , September 15 at 6:30 pm, come to the Local Foods Harvest Supper. Kale soup and strawberry cake are already on the menu. What's your garden inspired specialty? To help with the supper in any way, call or e-mail Beth Gospodarek. 978-249-0358

Hand crocheted afghans by Marlene Jarvenpaa for sale to benefit the 250th committee. \$75.

Have **input** about the 250th celebration? Want to get involved in town? Come to the next 250th committee meeting at 7 pm on July 12 at town hall. All welcome.

Thank you to all who helped out at the recent country music concert, especially committee members, Irene Lawrence, the Lackeys, and Tim Wright. Thanks also to recording artist Will Corey who kindly donated his performance.

And the winners of the recent 250th committee raffle are...

Buddy Dyer, quart of wood and maple syrup basket,
George Bodman, NASCAR jacket
Diane Carpentier, 250th blanket
Helen Williams, coffee pot
Rob Plummer, \$100 cash
Pat Bushee, \$50 Market Basket Card
James Draper \$50 Best Buy Certificate
Rosie Fairchild, Home Goods Basket
Janice Draper, 4 bottles of wine
Jan St.Jean, Edible Arrangements certificate
Rob Jailbert, Wachusett Brewery growler
Zach St. Jean, Mary Kay
Donald Jarvenpaa, Deja Vu gift certificate

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

Robert Fairchild for his electrical assistance and fixing our electrical problems for free!

John Chencharik for putting together our lamps

Clarence Rabideau for his continued competent volunteer work

Norma Butterworth for a great balloon program for the preschoolers

Stephanie McClure for help with the book sale

Beth Gospodarek, Patti Stanko, and Sonja Vaccari for running the plant sale and to all the **community members** who donated beautiful plants, (with especially deep curtsies to Sonja who brought a truckful of rare hosta and other exciting herbage and then stayed to sell it). The kind neighborly donations of 100s of plants makes this one of the most successful Friends fundraisers and directly funds this newsletter and other library projects.

Special thanks to the **Royalston Academy** for funding the library's expanded Summer Programs; also for providing funds for an iPad and educational software for the Children's Room and for some exciting special programs during the school year.

Donations to the Friends

John and Stephanie McClure

Kate Collins and George Northrop

Donations in memory of Werner Bundschuh

Mariah Mallet

Art Exhibits

During July there will be an exhibit of photos of South Royalston showing the park surrounded by a picket fence, the old water tower, and the woolen mill, along with many others. In August and September, photographs of the natural world, taken by Rosemary Lincoln Clark, will be displayed. Rosemary has been taking pictures since she was a child and moved to Royalston last September living with her daughter, Susan Valliere.

Royalston Yellow Pages Coming

The Royalston Yellow Pages are a list of contact information for town officials, committee members and local services. do you have a business in town that you would like to list? Call the library and leave your particulars. The yellow pages are a service of the Friends of the Library. A fall publication of the directory is planned.

The Royalston Shakespeare Company proudly presents



It's a brave new world Friday, July 6 at 7 pm.

**Free (but donations to defray costs appreciated).
Featuring 19 local actors ages 7 - 15 treading the boards
and 5 youthful directors trying new roles, all supported by
a familiar triumverate of producers, the cultural council and
the Friends of the library**

**The RSC is a whirlwind-2 week youth Shakespeare program, put
together mainly with community support, hard work and duct tape. It's
free to all participants. The results are magical.**

summer fun at the library for all ages:

Free Summer Reading Programs for kids

Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. at the library

- July 5 – Paper airplane design and paper making
- July 12 – Book-making using handmade paper
- July 19 – Native American flute making and stories
- July 26 – Homemade Ice Cream Celebration

Free Preschool Summer Programs

Mondays at 10:00 a.m. at the library

- July 2 - Make a mess! Make Goop!
- July 9th – Creative movement and dance with Jenny Membrino-Nano
- July 16th – Yoga with Lauren Macgruber
- July 23rd- Homemade Ice Cream celebration

New! Young Adult/ Adult Programs

July 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall

Beading with Lauren Pacosa from NohoBeadery. The class will teach knotting and cord endings. Learn how to create simple jewelry using different techniques. In this class, participants will create a sliding knot necklace and attach a clasp to cording such as silk or nylon. Everyone will leave class with a necklace, bracelet, earrings and the knowledge to create many more adornments. Supplies for this class will be from \$10 to \$20 depending upon the materials chosen. All tools will be supplied for the class. Preregistration by contacting the library is required.

Origami class for teens and adults with Haruo Shiga from the Worcester Art Museum on Friday, July 24 from 7 - 9 pm at Town Hall. Free but pre-registration is required.



Dance Party For the Whole Family

Monday, August 6th – 6:30 p.m. Hip Hop Under the Stars on the Common. Join dance instructor, Jennie Membrino-Nano for an evening of fun. (Rain date: August 13th)

What can be checked out at the library?

For sure, books...

Required Summer Reading

The library has local public school summer reading lists and can obtain any of the books that we don't own. There is also a huge selection of books and other media to peruse, computers for public use with the State-wide Databases and newspapers for research and general information.

Royalston Review of Books

Gus Williams highly recommends *The Hunger Games* trilogy. If you are looking for exciting books to read, this trilogy will not disappoint. Do not miss this thrilling adventure.

Book Discussion Group meets the 3rd Monday of the month at the library from 5:30-6:45 p.m., but is taking July off. The next book selection is *The Orphan Master's Son*. This critically acclaimed novel by Adam Johnson is set in North Korea and follows people whose lives must conform publicly to a fiction created by the dictator Kim Jong Il. The group will meet on August 20 at 3:45. Copies of the book are available at the library. All welcome.

But also lots of extras...

State Park Pass to Loan

The library once again has a State Park Pass valid for parking for one vehicle at over 50 State Parks thanks to the Department of Conservations and Recreations, Division of State Parks & Recreation. Those with a valid library card may borrow the pass. Visit the library for more information.

Multimedia Digital Projector to Loan

Thanks to the Friends of the Library, we have purchased a new multimedia digital projector and thus now have one that we can loan to individuals with valid library cards. This projector can be connected to computers (PC or Mac), iPad, or DVD player. For more information about the borrowing procedure, please contact the library.

The USS Constitution Museum Pass to Loan

This pass admits up to 9 people and may be borrowed with a valid library card.

Ice Cream Makers to Loan

Homemade ice cream has been a feature of the summer reading program for years and this year the Friends of the Library purchased two 'Play and Freeze Ice Cream Makers.' These will be available to borrow after the completion of the summer celebrations in August. Making the ice cream is easy and the instructions and recipes are included with the kit. All you have to do is add the ingredients to the inner container and put ice and rock salt in the outer container, and then roll it around to make a quart of delicious ice cream. And to make it easier, we will also have bags of rock salt, enough to make one batch, for sale at a nominal cost.

Milestones

Obituary

Elton M. Divoll, 91, of Red Brook Lane, died Monday, June 4, 2012 at the Quabbin Valley Healthcare.

Elton was born in Winchendon, Massachusetts on June 23, 1920, the son of Arthur M. and Amy H. (Day) Divoll. He grew up in Winchendon, attending schools there and living there until 1937. He later moved to Baldwinville for 10 years, Westminster for four years, Royalston for 45 years and since 1997 has resided in Orange.

Elton did farming most of his life, mostly in the Royalston area raising feeder pigs for 18 years, working as a logger with a team of horses and drove school bus. He also worked at the farm on the University of Massachusetts – Amherst campus for several years, retiring in 1985. He was a member of the Baldwinville and Royalston Grange, enjoyed hunting, fishing and horseback riding.

He leaves three sons; John Divoll and his wife Helen of Royalston, Mark Divoll and his wife Kris of Florence and Timothy Divoll and his wife Nancy of Williamsburg; a daughter Nancy Sprague and her husband Lew of Cameron Park, CA; 18 grandchildren, 44 great-grandchildren and 5 great great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his first wife of 47 years, Ruth (Dunham) Divoll who died in 1987 and his second wife of 18 years, Elizabeth R. (Guyer) Divoll who died in 2009. He was also predeceased by a son, Matthew Divoll, four brothers, Walter, George, Elmer and Fred and five sisters, Irene, Ruth, Louise, Thelma and Evelyn.

He was buried in Jonas Alliene Cemetery in Royalston. In lieu of flowers contributions are suggested to: UMASS Cancer Center, P. O. Box 2795, Worcester, MA 01613-9938 or Blue Star Equiculture, P.O. Box 7, Bondsville, MA 01009 or www.equiculture.org.



Some of Elton Divoll's 18 grandchildren and their spouses recently gathered for Randy Divoll's wedding.

Felicitations! Helen Feliciano's 90th birthday is on July 3rd



Engaged: Raymond and Doreen Sawyer proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, **Christine Sawyer** to Jeffery Robichaud, son of Paula Simeone of Athol and Kenny Robichaud of Phillipston.

Both are 2009 graduates of Athol High School, 2012 graduates of Mt. Wachusett Community College and both will be attending UMass Amherst in the fall. Christine is studying speech pathology and Jeffrey is pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is also serving in the Air National Guard.

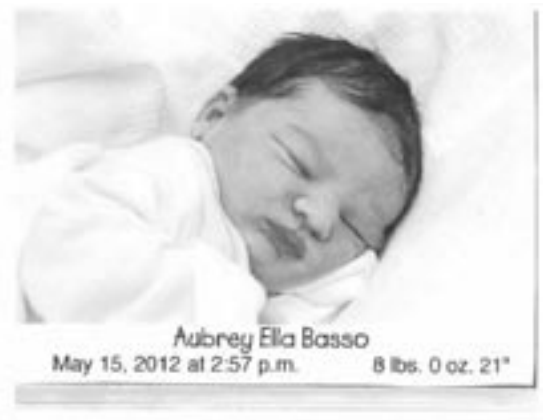
No date is yet set for the wedding.



Congratulations to **grinning grandparents** Tony and Kim Basso.

Tony and Amanda Basso, Jr. of King Street welcomed Connor James Basso at 9:48 a.m. on April 26 2012. He weighed in at an impressive 8 lbs 13 oz and measured 20" long. He joins a sister, Ivy.

Brandon Basso and Allison Gillis of Tewksbury welcomed their first child, Miss Aubrey Ella Basso at 2:57 p.m. on May 15, 2012. She weighed an even 8 lbs, and was 21" long.



CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD NEWS



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

Recent Graduates

Montachusett Technical High School

Ashley Marie Butterworth	Drafting Technology
Ryan James Carrier	Industrial Technology
Matthew Rae Hartin	Industrial Technology
Amanda Lee Putney	Industrial Technology
Amy Marie Putney	Cabinetmaking
Ian Christopher Duffin	Industrial Technology

Athol High School

Beliveau, Devon	Bushee, John
Bergquist, Allison	Butterworth, Paul
Bousquet, Serene	Frazier, Kelly
Brousseau, Michael	White, Elizabeth
	Colby Dawson

Ralph C. Mahar High School, Orange



Sarah Currie, daughter of John and Robbie Currie and granddaughter of Don and Elvia Richards of Royalston recently graduated from Mahar and will be attending Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in North Adams in the fall.

Boston College: Jessica Jayne Brown, daughter of Richard Brown of Butterworth Road and Linda Dale of Winchendon, was awarded a doctor of education from Boston College on May 21. Jessica resides in South Dartmouth with her husband Gregg Bois. The couple married last year. Jessica received her high school education at Northfield Mount Hermon School and her bachelor's degree from Brown University, Providence, R.I. She has a special interest in education policy and is currently employed by the Rhode Island Department of Education.

Picnic anyone?

Ian Duffin has now reached the rank of Eagle Scout, with the completion of the picnic area at route 68 at Birch Hill Dam, Ian's Eagle leadership project. He would like to thank the Army Corps of Engineers, Rick Paul Excavation, Graves Gravel, Countyline Lumber and Chair City Lumber for all their help and donations.

Ian is now a graduate of Monty Tech, and is going onto UMass Lowell for computer and electrical engineering studies.



Academic Honor Rolls:

Royalston Community School: straight As Molly Divoll, Erika Gambill, Anthony Oro, Jocelyn Trenga, Haylie Baker, Hannah Bartkus, Owen MacPhee, Destiny Wrigley, James Laford, Isabelle O'Connor, Kristopher Selanis and Amber Mahony;

honors: Miranda Carpenter, Jamieson Francis, Tayiah Neale, Justin Blake, Kayla Gerry, Lindsay Leadbetter, Kyla Rathburn and Alyssa Cassarino

teacher award for conduct and effort: Mackenzie Mastaler

Winchendon School: Elizabeth West earned high honors for her Freshman year.


Awards

Grady MacPhee was one of only 2 juniors inducted into Cushing Academy's Cum Laude Society and he also received the University of Rochester's Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award in Humanities and Social Sciences. This award is given to the junior who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to social justice and achievement in the humanities and social sciences.

Alexis and Ashley Javier and Michele Thompson, who attend Athol High School, were inducted into the Mu Alpha Theta Math National Honor Society.

Ladies' Benevolent Society Scholarships were awarded to the following high school seniors:

Nancy S. Bolton Scholarship to Allison Bergquist
 Arline Vining Scholarship to Amanda Putney
 H. Pauline Smith Scholarship to Ian Duffin



BICYCLE WORLD

104 Federal Street Greenfield
 Get spring into summer with a bicycle tune up.
 Reasonable rates and skilled mechanics.
 Free local pick up and delivery if you mention this ad!
 Call Bert Sawicki at 978-396-0039 for details.

Weekly Mass Discontinued at Our Lady Queen of Heaven

Because there will now be only one priest in Athol, South Royalston's Catholic church will now be considered a chapel and used only for baptisms, funerals and weddings. Mass will not be offered.



Congregational Churches News

*The FAIR is back. We will be holding the church fair on the common July 14th, from 8:00am - 3:00 pm. There will be great food, music, and fun for the whole family.

Donations for the Attic Treasures table at the fair are welcome. Thank you to those within the community who have made donations already. If you would like to donate your items, give us a call. 978-249-9155.

*Church service times for Sundays start at 9:00 AM, at the South Royalston Church (SCCR) at 3 School Street, and at 11:00 AM at the First Congregational Church (FCCR) located at 15 On the Common.

* If you would like to inquire about the food pantry at FCCR please feel free to call us at 978-249-9155. You can also check us out on line as well at WWW.FCCRLIVE.COM



Joann Deacon Retires from Royalston Community School Kindergarten

Some of the students of Joann Deacon's kindergarten classes posed at a recent reception thanking her for her many happy years of service. The sizable group included two generations of Killays as well as Joann's son-in-law, daughters and grand-daughter. Raffles were held for the dinosaur costumes and the "100th day of school" 100 dollar shirt benefitting the PTG. Mary Carnie composed and read a lovely poetic narrative. Sniffles were prominent as children sang "I'm Glad to Know Mrs. Deacon" to the tune of "I'm Proud to be an American", Joann's Memorial Day standby. RCS welcomes Anna Lunetta, who will be taking the reigns in the kindergarten in the fall.



Local Musicians Get Around

Jazz Hawks: Saxophonist Charlie Gamble (a Royalston resident) invites one and all to come out and listen to his new band, the Jazz Hawks, at the Cheshire Tavern/Fitzwilliam Inn. Friday, August 17, 8-11 PM. \$5.00 at the door.

Melanie and the Blue Shots Summer Schedule

July 19th Sky Box Tewsbury, Ma "Women of the Blues Series".

July 21st Athol 250th Music Fest 4pm Athol High

July 21st Cheshire Inn, Fitzwilliam Inn.

Paul A. Montero, P.L.S. Professional Land Surveyor

101 Northeast Fitzwilliam Rd - PO Box 20
Royalston, Massachusetts 01368
Telephone: (978) 249-5879

New Materials at your Library

Pete and Henry's Turns 25

Pete & Henry's is celebrating its 25th anniversary all summer long. To celebrate, it is providing free chances to Pete & Henry's customers to win \$25 gift certificates. Winners are drawn each week on Sunday at 8 p.m. Seasonal specials currently include lobster salad and lobster roll dinners. In addition, the 22 oz rib eye steak is back. Seasoned cheezie fries are the special appetizer. Pizzas are Thursdays and Sundays only; chowder is Fridays and Saturdays only. Call 978-249-9845 for reservations. Gift certificates are also available.



Lion's Club Monthly Breakfasts

Lions' Club breakfasts are third Saturdays at the Phillipston Center Church from 7:30 – 10:30 a.m. July features a Summertime Veggie Omelet with summer squashes, tomatoes, onions, broccoli and green peppers with homefries, and toast. August's special is Creamed Chipped Beef on Texas Toast with homefries. Breakfasts to order also available with any style eggs, sausage, home fries, toast/French toast and beverages. Specials are \$7 and all other meals are \$7/adults; \$6/seniors; \$5/under 12 – add \$1 for omelets.

Local Poet Publishes e-book

Paul Thibodeau of Frye Hill published a book of original poetry in June. *Broken Angel*, a poetic journey inspired by broken hearts and broken wings, is available as an e-book from amazon.com for \$9.99. Here is a sample:

Note to Self

Nothing is ever final,
 Perhaps not death,
 There are no absolutes,
 There is no absolute beginning,
 There is no absolute end,
 Just a door way to the beginning
 What matters is life, now
 The dream, the road, the adventure
 The love of it all
 to be still
 to listen for the beat of your heart

Fiction

Berry, Steve *The Columbus Affair*
 Clipston, Amy *A Life of Joy (Large Print)*
 Cotterill, Colin *Granddad, There's a Head on the Beach*
 Cussler, Clive *The Storm*
 DeSilva, Bruce *Cliff Walk*
 Ebisch, Glen *Breaking the Rules*
 Evanovich, Janet *Wicked Business*
 Flynn, Gillian *Gone Girl*
 Fountain, Ben *Billy Lynn's Long Half-time Walk*
 Furst, Alan *Mission to Paris*
 Goolrick, Robert *Heading out to Wonderful*
 Haddon, Mark *The Red House*
 Haynes, Elizabeth *Into the Darkest Corner*
 Kallentoft, Mons *Midwinter Blood*
 Lanchester, John *Capital*
 Mantel, Hilary *Bring up the Bodies*
 McCall-Smith, A. *A Conspiracy of Friends*
 McLaughlin, Emma *Between You and Me*
 Patterson, James *11th Hour*
 Quick, Matthew *The 500*
 Scalzi, John *Redshirts*
 Shaara, Jeff *A Blaze of Glory*
 Rice, Luanne *Little Night*
 Russo, Richard *Interventions*
 Vargas, Llosa *The Dream of the Celt*

Non-Fiction

The Cook's Illustrated Cookbook
 Brinkley, Douglas *Cronkite*
 Carter, H. *The Whole Life Prostate Book*
 Gospodarek, Beth *Royalston Library- Celebrating 100 Years*
 Heinrich, Bernd *Life Everlasting*
 Lewis-Kraus, Gideon *A Sense of Direction*
 Maddow, Rachel *Drift: The Unmooring of America*
 Maraniss, David *Barack Obama*
 Natterson-Horowitz, B. *Zoobiquity*
 Rutkow, Eric *American Canopy*

Young Adult Fiction/ Nonfiction

Harison, Lisi *Back and Deader than Ever*
 Lacey, Josh *Island of Thieves*
 McQuerry, Maureen *The Peculiars*
 Montgomery, Sy *Temple Grandin*
 Turnage, Sheila *Three Times Lucky*
 Wilson, G. Willow *Alif the Unseen*

Children's Fiction

Cooper, Elisha *Homer*
 DiCamilo, Kate *Bink & Gollie*
 McKay, Hilary *Caddy's World*
 Russell, Rachel *Tales from a not-so-graceful Ice Princess*
 Seeger, Laura *Green*
 Willems, Mo *Edwina, the Dinosaur who didn't Know She was Extinct*

Children's nonfiction

Allaire, Caroline *Let's Look at the Vegetable Garden Close Up*
 Cross, Becky *I am a Space Shuttle. I Love to Fly!*
 Muntean, Michaela *Stay*
 Stewart, Mark *The Boston Red Sox*
 Sullivan, Jaclyn *What's in your Hamburger?*

CDs

Adrian McKity *The Cold, Cold Ground*
 John Mayer *Born and Raised*
 Neil Young *Americana*
 One Direction *Up all Night*

Audiobooks

Birding by Ear
 Gourlay, Candy *Tall Story*

DVDs: Act of Valor

Alvin and the Chipmunks- Chipwrecked
Ghost Rider- Spirit of Vengeance
Goon
Horton Hears a Who!
Journey 2- The Mysterious Island
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Royalston Maple Syrup from Divoll's sugar house. Prices \$9/pint; \$15/qt; \$28/ half gal.; \$50/gal. Call Randy at 978-602-5583.

Wanted: pianist to play for movements class at the Village School for 45 minute session on Thursday mornings during the school year, starting in September. Interesting music is provided. Call 978 249-3505

Garden Notes

June 24, 2012



The garden life has provided some bumps and bruises over the last several weeks. (So, too, has the non-garden life, but these are Garden Notes, not Life Notes, so I will restrict my comments to the former.) Heretofore, sugar snap peas and spinach were "can't miss" crops; this year they've done some missing. I had suspected the compost I had incorporated was not broken down enough (too much sawdust) and immediately tried to scrape it off the unplanted beds, a virtually impossible undertaking. Some of the potatoes are experiencing a viral disease, manifested by the curling of leaves. It is called, duh, leaf curl and seriously affects yields. It appeared for the first time last year (affecting some cherry tomatoes as well) and I wonder, forlornly, whether I have a new issue to fret over. Turkeys have found the newly-planted ground ideal for scratching and our two guest cats find them ideal for depositing waste products from their bodies. The tomatoes, peppers, and basil languish (though they've begun to stir with the recent heat, requiring only a soaking rain to stir them even more). And, yesterday, I discovered the raid of the crows upon the corn patch. Not a pretty sight, the crows pull up the seedlings to extract the kernel of corn for their dining pleasure. I will plant again (how could I not?), use a row cover, and trust we do not experience an early frost. It is as if someone up there has ordained that I would benefit by a healthy dose of humility.

Notwithstanding, I plug along, confident that successes are just around the corner. In fact, there are optimistic signs already. The garlic looks lush. Above ground. It remains to be seen whether this translates to large bulbs. The answer is but weeks away. The cucumbers, winter squash, and brassicas are thriving under the row covers. The downside is that I have to lift the row covers to admire them. The carrots and onions are not yet afflicted by whatever routinely afflicts them. I continue to set out the fall brassicas. Carrots, beets, cucumbers, and beans are planted on an ongoing basis. Winter squash thinnings find a home in some unoccupied beds. I am awaiting that soaking rain before I apply the mulch to retain the moisture and relieve me of much of the weed pressure.

The garden was advanced in April and advanced in May, and remains advanced in June. We've already consumed sugar snap peas and blueberries (admittedly, low-bush). These are July events. Heads up on the blueberries: the bushes are groaning with fruit. Storage of blueberries is a simple matter. Clean them (better yet, pick them clean), drop them into plastic bags, and freeze. Washing is unnecessary; in fact, it would do well to freeze the berries dry to avoid the ice crystals that would otherwise form.

The newsletter observes summer vacation in August. I do not. I would find it inconceivable to vacate the garden in August. It is the time for harvesting, consuming, and sharing. (Oh, yeah, peddling as well, the least favorite of my garden chores), the culmination of months of preparation. Have a bountiful summer.

Larry Siegel



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Performance Press
 Owners- Sandy and Dick Creamer
 87 Central Street, Winchendon, MA 01475
 978-297-0433 Fax: 9778-297-1719
 email: perf4man@verizon.net
color copies .50 wedding invitations
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Wildlife Sightings

Charlie Gamble reports, "I was sitting at the kitchen table, dawdling over a second cup of coffee, when my eye was caught by a mysterious fluttering on the back porch (screened in, but still lacking a door!). It was a ruby throated hummingbird, apparently attracted by an inflatable pool toy of precisely the right color, and now unable to find its way out, and clinging desperately to the screen with its miniature feet. After several false tries, I was finally able to gather the tiny thing into my cupped hands and release it outside. Such a small bird, about the size of my pinky finger. I think it survived unharmed."

Former Royalston Police officer Chris Conrad, now a sergeant working and living in Ashburnham, encountered a black bear as he was leaving the Athol-Royalston Road home of Roland Hamel one morning mid-June. It could be the same one nosing around at Bill and Sharon Hood's place on Millyard Rd. recently.

Larry Siegel shares, "I spotted a fisher crossing Prospect Hill road just north of the Harris house. Unlike my prior fisher sightings, this one was ambling, eventually coming to a stop in an adjoining field. Spotting me, it did what fishers do best,: run real quick."

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

Royalston Resident
Star Route 80
Royalston MA 01368

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Submission deadline for Sept. issue is: August 22

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are available for \$25/calendar year (10 issues)
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