

THE ROYALSTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

November 2012



Volume XV, Issue IX

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

Calendar of Events

November 1 Thursday

Studded snow tires may be put on today

3:45 pm **Friends of the Library meeting.** Discuss library support, upcoming programs and this newsletter. All welcome.

November 3 Saturday

10 am - noon **Village School Open House**

6 pm **Roast Beef Supper** at the Royalston Fish and Game club. Call Ginny at 978-249-4951, Marie at 978-249-2836 or the Clubhouse at 978-249-3004 for tickets.

November 5 Monday

3:30 - 4:30 pm **Hip hop for kids dance classes** at Town Hall begin and continue for 6 weeks. Snack provided. Participants can take the bus from RCS with a permission note from home. Free. Sponsored by the library. Funded by the Royalston Academy.

6 pm **Zumba** at Town Hall with Kristen Killay sponsored by the Friends of the Library. All ages and fitness levels welcome.

November 6 Tuesday **Election Day**

7 a.m. – 8 p.m. Precinct one ballots are cast at the Town Hall; Precinct Two votes in Whitney Hall.

2:00 pm until sell-out. **Election Day Bake Sales** at both Precinct 1 and 2, by the Ladies Benevolent Society. Support your candidates and support the LBS Scholarship Fund

November 9 Friday

5 pm **Autumn Lantern Walk for Families from the Village School to the Town Hall** Public invited. Community pot luck supper at the Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. followed by a family contra dance with 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 pm **Turkey Raffle** at uptown fire station. Can't make the event? Buy a chance on a festive and overflowing Thanksgiving basket from any firefighter beforehand.

November 14 Wednesday

12:15 pm **And Now Mark Twain, a historic and comic presentation** following the senior lunch at the Town Hall. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council. To dine beforehand, call Betty Woodbury (978-249-9656) by Monday. For more information, please call Deb Nunes at 978-249-4000.

November 17 Saturday

Pre-dawn hours – **Leonid Meteor Shower.** Look to the south and expect a shooting star about every five or six minutes.

8 am - 3 pm **Craft Fair to benefit the 250th committee at Royalston Community School** on Winchendon Rd. Balsam wreaths, 250th commemorative ornaments and other home-made local items on sale. Soups and sandwiches available. Kids' activities. A great place to have lunch and holiday shop.

9 am to sold out **LBS Drive by Pie Sale** across from P.O. on the Common. Benefits Ladies Benevolent Society Scholarship Fund. Pre-orders available. Call Maureen 978-249-5138.

November 18 Sunday

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Stomp Out Hunger** at the Royalston F&G

November 21 Wednesday

half day **dismissal for all schools** for Thanksgiving break

November 22 Thursday

Thanksgiving Day

November 28 Wednesday

9:31 a.m. **Full Beaver moon**

December 2 Sunday

5:30 - 7:30 pm **Jewelry-making workshop** with Lauren Pecota of Noho Beads. Craft 3 pairs of sterling silver and bead earrings, perfect for gifts. \$30 materials fee. All tools provided. Sign up at the library.

December 7 Friday

7 pm **Open Mic inaugurates its 2012 - 2013 season** in Town Hall. Sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council,

December 9 Sunday

2 pm **Weave a wheat straw ornament** with Kathy Morris, Materials fee \$5. All materials provided. Register at the library.



Selectboard Notes: Community Housing Survey

Christine Long, Member

Enclosed in this newsletter is a light blue survey about housing options in Royalston, and the Select Board urges every household to complete and mail it to the address on the sheet or drop it in the boxes provided at Town Hall, Whitney Hall, the post office, the library and the Royalston General Store by November 15. That survey is the first step toward the creation of an affordable housing plan for Royalston to be developed by Community Opportunities Group, Inc., a study funded by a Community Development Block Grant won by the town this summer.

The plan will help the town promote the creation of affordable housing for our residents and employees and avoid the threat of inappropriate development being imposed on the town. The state wants every city and town to aim for 10 percent of its housing units to be affordable – less than one percent of Royalston’s current housing stock qualifies.

What qualifies as affordable? Units must be deed-restricted to low- or moderate-income sales or rentals; that is, the price must be such that buyers would pay no more than 30% of their income for mortgage, taxes, and insurance, and renters no more than 30% for rent and basic utilities. Furthermore, buyers and renters must be income-qualified by federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) criteria. Currently in this region, eligibility is defined as a maximum household income of \$65,000 for a family of four and \$58,500 for a family of three. The survey will help the consultant and the town evaluate our current housing and our residents’ needs. The town will also hold one or more public meetings to explore residents’ ideas about how to move forward.

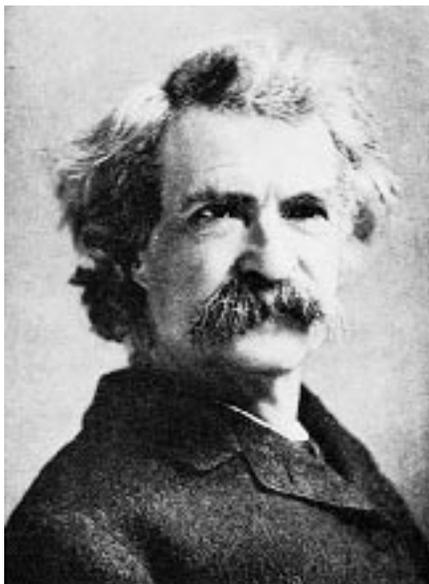
The board also urges registered voters to go to the polls on November 6 – which provides an excellent opportunity to return the survey.

Luncheon Club News

COA Presents: And Now Mark Twain

Come and visit with one of America’s best loved writers and humorists. Be treated to a compendium of Twain’s life and works; laugh along with him at the foibles, follies and fantasies of a bygone era.

The date is Wednesday, November 14th; the location is the Senior Luncheon at the Town Hall; the program begins after the meal, about 12:15. This program is sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council and is free and open to the public. If you wish to join us for lunch that day, please call Betty Woodbury (978-249-9656) by Monday. For more information, please call Deb Nunes at **978-249-4000**.



Royalston Police Department News

Mary C. Barclay



Probationary members of the Royalston Police Department have been completing their extensive check-offs and are gradually making the transition from observer to fully proficient officers. The influx has provided a welcome break for some of the more senior officers who have been trying to cover all of the necessary duties while working full time jobs and raising families. The entire department is now training together, providing opportunities for all to refine their technical skills and for the senior and junior members to learn to work together as cohesive unit. A recent training program on traffic control took place at the Town Hall under the direction of Operations Sergeant Roland G. Hamel. The class began in the parking lot as officers were ‘directed’ to their seats. An audio/visual presentation followed, with time for demonstration of gear and equipment, some hands-on time and of course, Q&A. The skills were put to good use shortly thereafter when many of the officers were tapped to manage the convoluted traffic patterns that occur at the annual Tully Triathlon.

Royalston WiredWest Support Form Update:

Jon Hardie - Wired West Delegate, MLP Manager & Royalston

Broadband Committee Member

Congratulations! Give Yourself a Pat on the Back - You Did It!

More than 52% of the households in Royalston, and all of our core anchor institutions: fire, police, emergency services, library, schools, and town offices - 274 in all - have completed and returned that orange Royalston Wired West Coop support card or have signed up on line at www.wired-west.net.

Together we have demonstrated our overwhelming need for real high speed internet across town. AND we have demonstrated the economic viability of a high speed internet network serving every house in town. That’s a big deal!

I’d like to thank the many residents who shared their stories - and frustrations - at the town dump, library and general store about trying to run their home businesses, have their kids participate in online school resources, talk to their grandchildren, and do the simplest things - like updating their registration, pay bills, or update their computers on dial-up, flaky satellite or DSL.

AND If you still have that orange card on your kitchen table, and have been meaning to get to it - **it’s not too late** - to go online at www.wired-west.net, or drop it off at the library or general store. Every card is a dot on the planning map.

Board of Health News

Phil Leger, chairperson

The EEE dusk to dawn ban for outdoor activities was lifted Oct. 10th due to hard frost hitting Royalston. There are still pockets of mosquito activity in protected areas such as buildings and tarps. Still use precautions when out at night. Thanks to Royalston residents for their understanding concerning this response action.

Reminder that there are two options at the transfer station for used clothing, textiles, etc. The new option is adjoining the CRT container, and the town will receive some revenue for its use. Don't throw away those textiles.

Royalston Emergency Management Agency

Mary C. Barclay

By this time last year, Royalston was buried under more than two feet of heavy, wet snow. Get ready. The standard all-hazards preparedness plans should take care of most home needs – be sure to keep a shovel and bucket of sand/salt at all exits. Tips for road safety include:

Studded snow tires can be put on any time now; studded or not, tires with good treads are always a plus. Winter wiper blades, antifreeze for winter and sometimes a change in the viscosity of oil are due now. Take every opportunity to top off your windshield washer fluid during salted slush-spraying season.

For winter annoyances like getting stuck on ice or mired in a snow bank, if you're properly dressed, in excellent health and in a location where you can safely get yourself out, it's nice to have some sand or ice melt, a shovel and perhaps some of those traction mats in your vehicle. A working flashlight/lantern should always be within reach – LED type lights will go a long time on fresh batteries.

Should you end up in a disabled motor vehicle, it is generally better to stay put, warm and dry, and wait for someone to come to you. Keep a heavy blanket or two in the passenger compartment. If you travel rural routes or in case you're sidelined during a major winter event, have what you need to survive a day or two. A couple of plastic bottles of water with room for expansion during freezing, bagged in leak-proof bags or containers, can generally be left under the seat without dire consequences. A plastic storage container with some pre-packaged nuts, crackers, etc. can also live under a car seat without incident.

Of course you already have a Family Communications Plan in place, so you and everyone in your family know who the point person is in case of an emergency. If you have a cell phone, you keep a charging cord in your vehicle and a full list of contact information in your phone, right?

Check out www.ready.gov for more information on being prepared for whatever adventures winter may offer. And as always, if you or a loved one has a special need like electricity for medical equipment, requires oxygen, regular medical visits etc. please inform the Royalston Emergency Management Agency so you can be added to the high-priority emergency outreach list. REMA Director Jim Barclay can be reached at 978-249-2904 or ema@royalston-ma.gov.

Cultural Council's Open Mic Returns in Early December

On Friday, December 7, 7:00 PM in the Town Hall, the Royalston Open Mic will inaugurate its 2012 - 2013 season. Sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council, with Royalston legend Phil Leger as MC, the Open Mic offers blues, folk, bluegrass, jazz and rock from your favorite local musicians, plus talented performers from all over our area. Come hungry. A homemade main dish and delicious baked goods are always available. Additional Open Mic sessions will take place on the first Friday of each of the following four months: January 4, February 1, March 1, and April 5, 2013.

250th Committee Events

The fun is not done...

***Holiday shop at the craft fair** to benefit Royalston's 250th anniversary events on Saturday, November 17th. at the Royalston Community School located at 96 Winchendon Road from 8 am - 3 pm. There will be crafters, raffles, soup and sandwiches, children's games & more. Please come for all your holiday shopping.

Vendors: Spaces are available for \$10/ea plus a donated item with a value of \$10 for a grand auction. Tables can be supplied for an additional \$5/ea.

The committee is also looking for anyone who would like to help make goodies for the bake sale, concoct a pot of chowder or chili, or donate items for our raffles. These kindnesses would be greatly appreciated. For donation drop offs or questions, please contact Carol Rogers @ 978.249.5195 or Geoff Newton @ 978.249.3726. Thank you.

Upcoming 250th committee events

*Dec. 8 **120 club drawing**

*January 26 **Super Bowl**. The brainchild of Marlene Jarvenpaa. Ice skating, snow fun and games along with bottomless soup slurping at the Royalston Fish and Game Club all at one low price. Great for kids and their adults as well as anyone who likes winter or hearty food and convivial company.

*February 23 **Chicken Pie Supper** followed by Royalston's first ever **trivia night**. Get together a team of 5 players to compete for the coveted trivia title and prize.

Have input about the 250th anniversary celebration? All welcome to come share ideas on November 8 at 7 pm at the next committee meeting.

Vacancy on the Conservation Commission

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

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

John Jeffrey for donating the pumpkins that adorn the library steps, lots of little pumpkins inside and all the delicious apples and honey sticks.

Donations

John Poor
Cornwall Trust

Art Exhibits

Aaron Ellison will continue to have his beautiful photographs of the North Quabbin region on display during the month of November. During December and January Scott Griffin will exhibit photographs, wood carvings, and wood burnings.

Raffle: Hand-colored Pen and Ink Painting by Phil Mickey



Phil Mickey and Nell Vaughn recently moved from Royalston to New Mexico. Phil has had his beautiful pen and ink drawings exhibited at the library. Right before they left Phil donated a water-colored ink drawing of a stone house and barn in winter that he described as being in the style of Hal Borland for us to raffle as a benefit to the Friends of the Library. This lovely, framed 30" x 36" print can be seen at the library and tickets are available for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Book Discussion Group meets the 3rd Monday of the month at the library from 4:30-5:45 p.m. In November, the group will discuss, *Of Human Bondage*, by Somerset Maugham. Copies of the book are available at the library. All are welcome to come munch cookies and chat about this crisp British classic.

Zumba Returns

Grab your sneakers (instead of that Halloween Snickers). Zumba, led by Kristin Killay, is back at the Town Hall on Monday nights from 6 - 7 pm beginning November 5. Every fitness level is welcome in this accepting workout program that crosses Latin rhythmic dancing with aerobics. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library with sound system help from the Cultural Council and generous permission to use the hall from the town select board. Free but donations appreciated.

Hip Hop for kids is back too

Beginning Monday November 5th, Hip Hop class with Jennie Nano will resume. Class is from 3:30pm until 4:30pm for 6 weeks and a snack will be provided. Jennie will teach basic dance movements as well as exposing participants to some beginner / intermediate Hip Hop/Jazz technique. Each class will begin with a warm-up that will stretch and strengthen muscles and develop proper body alignment, coordination and flexibility. Students then will participate in across the floor and center combinations.

Jennie has a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in dance and currently teaches dance at The Dance Center in Winchendon, Nashoba Valley Dance Academy in Groton, and the Paula Meola Dance in Sterling. She is the founder and artistic director of Jennie & Company, a modern/jazz dance company based in Fitchburg. RCS students can take the bus from school to the Town Hall with a note from a parent or caregiver. This program is funded by a grant from the Royalston Academy.

Two Holiday Gift-Making Classes

The Friends of the Library are sponsoring two gift-making classes on Sundays in December in Town Hall:

First, a jewelry making class with Lauren Pacosa will be held on December 2 at 5:30 pm. This class will be wire-working, making earrings with sterling silver wire. Lauren will teach about the different types of wire and hardness and teach how to work with wire and use a bench box and hammer to form different shapes. Participants will leave with three pair of sterling silver earrings, perfect for gifts or personal use. To see the earrings, visit the library website. The class will have a \$30 materials cost for the sterling silver wires and all findings. All tools will be supplied.

Then, on Dec. 9, local wheat-weaver Kathy Morris will guide participants in creating a traditional wheat ornament. \$5 materials fee.

Pre-register for either class by visiting or contacting the library.

Some of the New Materials at Your Library

Adult Fiction

Alexie, Sherman *Blasphemy*
 Banville, John *Ancient Light*
 Barker, Pat *Toby's Room*
 Brandman, Michael *Robert B. Parker's Fool me Twice*
 Castle, Richard *Frozen Heat*
 Erdrich, Louise *The Round House*
 Harrison, Kim *Into the Woods*
 Isaacs, Susan *Goldberg Variations*
 Johansen, Iris *Sleep No More*
 Lehane, Dennis *Live by Night*
 Leon, Donna *The Jewels of Paradise*
 Mayor, Archer *Paradise City*
 Moehring, J.R. *Sutton*
 Pamuk, Orhan *Silent House*
 Rowling, J.K. *The Casual Vacancy*
 Weir, Alison *A Dangerous Inheritance*
 Woods, Stuart *Severe Clear*

Adult Non-Fiction

Ellison, Aaron *A Field Guide to the Ants of New England*
 Owen, Mark *No Easy Day*
 Presilla, Maricel *Gran Cocina Latina*
 Romney, Mitt *No Apology*
 Sparrow, Giles *Cosmos Close-up*
 Sroufe, Del *Forks Over Knives- The Cookbook*
 Wolf, Naomi *Vagina*

Young Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction

Albin, Jennifer *Crewel*
 Forde, Jasper *The Last Dragonslayer*
 Lowry, Lois *Son*
 Meloy, Colin *Under Wildwood*
 Patterson, James *Confessions of a Murder Suspect*
 Riordan, Rick *The Mark of Athena*

Audiobooks

Child, Lee *A Wanted Man*
 Clancy, Tom *Locked On*
 Grisham, John *Calico Joe*
 Lehane, Dennis *The Given Day*
 Patterson, James *Private Games*

Juvenile Fiction

Dunrea, Olivier *Ollie's Halloween*
 Frazee, Marla *Boot & Shoe*
 Hoberman, Mary *You Read to me, I'll Read to you*
 Howe, James *Otter and Odder*
 Klassen, J. *This is not my Hat*
 McMullan, Kate *A Wedding for Wiglaf?*
 McMullan, Kate *Class Trip to the Cave of Doom*
 McMullan, Kate *Revenge of the Dragon Lady*
 McMullan, Kate *The New Kid at School*
 Oliver, Lauren *The Spindlers*
 Russell, Rachel *Tales from a not-so-smart Miss Know-it-all*
 Spinelli, Eileen *Cold Snap*
 Stilton, Geronimo *The Quest for Paradise*
 Stilton, Geronimo *Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye*
 Stilton, Geronimo *The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid*
 Stilton, Thea *Thea Stilton and the Blue Scarab Hunt*
 Stilton, Thea *Thea Stilton and the Prince's Emerald*
 Stilton, Thea *Thea Stilton and the Secret of the Old Castle*
 Willems, Mo *Let's Go for a Drive!*
 Woodson, Jacqueline *Each Kindness*

Juvenile Non-Fiction

Frisch, Aaron *Boston Celtics*
 King, Martin Luther *I Have a Dream*
 Old Ironsides Museum *A Sailor's Life for Me*

Dvds:

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, The Cabin in the Woods, A Cinderella Story, Marvel's The Avengers, Rock of Ages, Snow White & the Huntsman, and Thomas and Friends: Blue Mountain Mystery

Cds

The Killers *Battle Born*
 No Doubt *Push and Shove*
 Pink *The Truth about Love*



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.

Royalston Yellow Pages Enclosed

The Royalston Yellow Pages should be inserted in this newsletter. Many thanks go to Maureen Blasco for scouting out the entries and to Barbara Stowell of Grayrock Graphics for making them readable and attractive on the yellow page. This directory is a free service to Royalston residents published by the Friends of the Library.



Milestones

Boston Post Cane Recipient

Welcome



Happy parents Nick Scott and Julia Fitch of Winchendon welcome Luca Peter Scott, he was born on October 18, 2012 at 9:25 pm weighing 9lb 9 oz. The proud grandparents are Ben and Kristin Scott, the great-grandparents are Peter and Sandi Scott. Luca joins an older sister Shaeli Davis.

Wed



Ellee Bronnes, daughter of Jody and Jeffrey Bronnes of Royalston and Andrew Newton, son of Bruce and Elizabeth Newton of Fitzwilliam, NH and John and Irene Drozdowski of Athol were married on Saturday August 25, 2012 at the Spencer Country Inn in Spencer with many friends and family. Ellee is employed at Rainbow Child Development Center and Andrew is in the Army National Guard and works for Loomis. The couple resides in Royalston. *photo Megan Hume*

Condolences to the Lively family of the Common. Ken's father, William P. Lively died October 26, 2012 in Athol. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Athol High School Scholarship Association (PO Box 338 Athol) or Our Lady Immaculate Church ,(191 School St. Athol.)



The town's oldest resident is Marguerite Langlois, who was born February 25, 1921. She received Royalston's Boston Post Cane at a Selectboard meeting on October 2nd. The previous holder, Dorothy Bailey, recently moved. *Pictured: Selectboard chair, Linda Alger and Marguerite Langlois. photo J. Hardie*

Obituary

Charles Edward Lincoln Jr., 86, died Saturday, Oct. 13, 2012, at Kindred Nursing and Rehabilitation-Hillcrest in Fitchburg after a short illness.



Charles was born in Warwick, May 24, 1926, the son of Charles and Esther (Matthews) Lincoln Sr. He grew up and spent many years in Warwick, later moving to South Royalston where he lived for many years. As a youngster he worked on his father's small dairy farm.

Charles worked many years for Rodney Hunt Company operating the foundry stack smelting iron. He later went to work for the Walter E. Fernald School in Templeton. While living in Warwick he served as constable, Chief of Police, volunteer fireman, dog catcher, selectman and even hand dug many graves in the cemetery. There was nothing he would not do to help people and could do anything he put his mind to. Charles had an affect on many troubled teens later in life as a foster parent in Royalston.

Charles loved cats, dogs and all animals and even had an encounter with a moose on a back road in Royalston with his car. The moose was fine and got up and wandered into the woods but his car did not fare too well! He enjoyed driving his car, and recently was very proud of the 178,000 miles he put on his 2006 Ford Taurus. He would drive anywhere: Walmart, CVS, or grocery store and was always very happy behind the wheel.

He leaves his wife Nancy; a daughter, Linda Gale and her husband Brian of Warwick; a son, Michael Lincoln and his wife Terri of Arvada, Colo.; stepchildren, Ernest Lopez of Gardner and Alex Cruz of Athol, Cheryl Richard, Fitchburg, Cedric Fisher and was predeceased by Greg Fisher; five grandchildren, Justin Gale of Warwick, Darren Gale of Orange, Brandon Lincoln of Arvada, Adam Lincoln of Russellville, Ark. and Sierra Lopez of Gardner; and two sisters, Sue Wallock and her husband John of Winchester, N.H. and Rosemary Lincoln-Clark of Royalston.

Burial was at the Village Cemetery in Fitzwilliam, N.H.. The family suggests donations in Charles's name be made to a charity of one's choice.

Open Space and Recreation Committee News

Paul Montero, Chairperson

One Town: Three waterfalls



Photo Dave Malinoski

A powerful waterfall owned and managed by The Trustees of Reservations is **Royalston Falls** deep within the woods of West Royalston. The Falls Brook is deceptively quiet just before it makes the single plunge of 45 feet to the basin below Royalston Falls and makes its way as the East Branch of the Tully River and south to the Tully Lake.

The Trustees of Reservations have made a trail and parking area on the west side of Royalston Falls that is accessible from Route 32. Follow Route 32

north approximately 2 miles past the intersection of Route 68 to the entrance of the parking area on the right and adjacent to the Newton Cemetery. Here, follow the conjoined New England Trail and Tully Trail marked with both white and yellow marks until the trails split near the shelter. Then continue along the Tully Trail marked with yellow approximately one-half mile to the west side of Royalston Falls. This trail is steep and wet. The Falls Road is an alternative route that will take you to the parking area on the east side of Royalston Falls. Falls Road is a turn off to the right half-way-down the "Jacob's Ladder" on Route 68 west of The Common. Beware the Falls Road though as it becomes accessible by high clearance four wheel drive vehicles only. The third way is to go south down the Metacomet-Monadnock Trail from Greenwoods Rd, right over the New Hampshire Border from Rt 32. This hemlock and laurel lined route follows the brook past a unique natural stone arch and several impressive glacial potholes.



A century ago, Royalston Falls was called Forbes Falls. It was a social hot spot with public transportation to its dance pavillion, where special meals and clam bakes were served.

The Open Space and Recreation Committee welcomes everyone to its meetings to discuss issues of open space and recreation in our town. It holds public meetings on the 2nd Thursday of every other month. Next meeting: November 8, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

The conclusion of the series about Royalston waterfalls will be next month.

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.

Quiet Heroes: **Tony and Amanda Basso** went on a cruise and stopped in St. Thomas. While out on a jet ski, they saw someone out in the ocean waving at them and they skied over to him. He was a older conch diver being pulled out to sea who was very grateful that they had seen him and come. They put him on the jet ski and took him to his boat where he said he would be fine and refused a tow to the dock. Concerned that he might need help getting to shore they reported him to the people on the dock when they returned the jet ski as they prepared to continue on their tour.

Laurie Truehart recently was awarded Peoples' Choice and President's Choice, and in the Master's Division, she received first, second, and third place in birds of prey and first prize in wading and shore birds at the Spirit of Wood Show held at Middlesex College on October 14.

Local Poetry

Of You

Shelter me with soft whispers of nothing
Surround me with the scent of your prose
Protect my core from cruel wisdom
Upon your heart I rest my fragile love
Fragments of time bleed quickly into years-yet
You remain faithfully by my side
With each passing hour I am bemused
The gift fate herself has bewtowed upon me - is
I may live out the remainder of my days
Blessed-in the company of you

Paul Thibodeau

Paul Thibodeau of Frye Hill has recently published an e-book, *Broken Angel*, of his original poetry. It is available on Amazon for \$5.95.

RCS Poetry Club

The 1st and 2nd graders in the RCS Poetry Club wrote this raggedy acrostic poem for the newsletter:

Halloween

F
a
m
i
l
y
F
u
n
R
a
t
s
b
A
t
s
N
i
n
j
a
s
s
K
e
l
e
t
o
n
s
E
x
c
i
t
i
n
g
N
o
!
S
c
a
r
y
T
e
r
r
i
b
l
e
p
h
E
w
w
I
t
c
h
b
o
N
e
s



by Jacob Rathburn, Sydney Ares, Adriana Gaulzetti, Karrisa Agnelli, Rebecca Nano, Samantha West, Ben Veness, and Andrew Robinson

Royalston Community School Update

Tayiah Neale and Rachel Killay, 6th graders

A wonderful month coming up at R.C.S. The classrooms are off to work. Kindergarten has welcomed a new teacher, Mrs. Green! Grade K was excited to perform *Stone Soup*. Then, the students made a book to go with it. The Hungry Boy was played by Jackson Phelps and the old woman was played by Aubrielle Brockney. Congrats to those two volunteers. First grade has been looking at New England mammals and each student will be making a flip book to go with the assigned mammal. The class has also remodeled its library. In grade six, students have been working in science. Their "wings" have been clipped because of EEE threat but they have worked inside with ferns and molds. Also in grade six, a group ran by Rachel Killay and Tayiah Neale are performing the play *Sleepy Hollow* at school and tickets cost a dollar. All money will be donated to the MSPCA.

Office News: Veterans Day NO SCHOOL. We would like to get across that Veterans Day is MORE than a day off from school. It is a day to remember all those who fought or had anything to do with the wars, dead or alive. November 19th-20th are parent teacher conferences. Please call Mrs. Lajoie at 978-249-2900 to book one.

P.T.G News/Natures classroom: Thank you to everyone who took part in the fundraiser! Our next meeting will be on Monday Nov. 5th @ 3:15 please join us! The 5th and 6th grade is doing a gift card raffle for different stores. Get one at the post office or the school!

11/4 Daylight Savings Time Ends, Turn clocks back 1 hr.

11/5 End of Term 1

11/5 PTG Mtg. @ 3:15

11/7 Community Reading Day

11/12 Veteran's Day, NO SCHOOL

11/13 Picture Retake Day

11/14 1/2 Day, NO KINDERGARTEN, Lunch Served, Noon Dismissal

11/15 Caring for Kids Dental Program

11/19 Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30 - 5:00pm

11/20 Parent/Teacher Conferences 6:00 - 7:30pm

11/21 1/2 Day, ALL STUDENTS, NO LUNCH SERVED, Noon Dismissal

11/22 Thanksgiving, No School

11/23 NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Break



Many thanks to the Royalston Academy for sponsoring a visit to Royalston Community School by a traveling theater troupe from Mount Wachusett Community College, which presented *How to Train your Pirate*. photo: Marie LaJoie

Village School News

After School Program for Royalston children

If you are looking for after-school care, the Village School offers a fun After School Program from 3 to 5:30 on school days. Children can take the RCS bus and get dropped off at the Village School on the common. There is homework help, supervised outdoor play, and lots of arts and crafts, (children learn knitting!) run by Royalston resident, Lynn Anair. To sign up, call the school at 249-3505.

After-School Music Lessons

Private and group lessons are offered at the Village School daily from 3:30-5:30 p.m., for flute, recorder, guitar and beginning piano. Call the school for more info. 978 249-3505

Upcoming events at the Village School

Open House Saturday November 3 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Come meet the teachers, talk with parents, meet alumni, see the classrooms, find out about our unique curriculum and get your questions answered! Bring your children to enjoy activities in the classrooms just for them. Next year's preschool will start filling up.

Autumn Lantern Walk for Families Friday November 9

The Village School hosts the annual Autumn Lantern Walk on Friday, November 9th. 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 for stories and songs. Everyone then joins in a procession on Royalston Common to the Town Hall, singing and carrying glowing 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 the No Name Band, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Renown folksinger and storyteller Tim Van Egmond will call the dances. 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.

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 26th, and lasts all week.

For continual updates on events, go to www.villageschoolma.org

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

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

Royalston Fish and Game Club

Famous Fish and Game Roast Beef Supper : family-style meals include tossed salad, Italian bread with real butter, perfectly prepared beef roasts with mounds of steaming mashed potatoes and gallons of savory gravy. Coffee and dessert, too.

Ladies' Day at the Range, sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation and hosted by the Royalston F&G was a WILD success, with well over 100 women in attendance! Women as young as 15 had opportunities, often for the very first time in their lives, to hold a variety of guns, try their hand at archery and even fly fishing! Shotguns, rifles, and handguns of varying calibers were available, and by the end of the day, a number of the women were knocking off clay pigeons like professionals. NSSF estimates some 25% of women who participate in such an event decide they enjoy shooting to such a degree, they take up sport shooting as a hobby. Based on the smiles and chatter on Royalston F&G's Ladies' Day at the Range, there are some newfound shooting sport hobbyists. Females 15 or older by next spring may be interested in knowing the Royalston F&G is planning to host another Ladies' Day at the Range. Call to have your name added to the contact list.

The Royalston F&G is open Sundays from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesdays from 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. and Fridays from 6 p.m. to midnight. Memberships are available at the bar or at the Royalston General Store. If you are interested in more information, contact Ginny at 978-249-4951, Marie at 978-249-2836 or the Clubhouse at 978-249-3004.

Monty Tech News

Royalston Rep. Mary C. Barclay

mbarclay@juno.com – 978-249-2598

Month after month this column tells of accomplishments made by students in many facets of their lives – academic, athletic, social – but rarely do the staff members receive mention, and I would add Royalston and surrounds are remarkably well represented on staff! I'm guessing the most senior Royalston member is Tom Verolini of River Road who is the evening facilities supervisor. If you have ever stepped foot in Monty Tech, chances are you've notice how clean, neat, impeccably-maintained a building it is. Thank Tom and his staff! The newest staff member isn't from Royalston, but has connections. Pam Pothier of Ashburnham (married to newly appointed Royalston Special Police Officer Paul Pothier) is a member of the Technology Support Team. Longtime Graphic Arts Instructor Brian Bean lives just over the line in Phillipston, but has long been an active Royalston participant. Electrical instructor John Bussiere of Winchendon was raised in Royalston, and Kevin Killay of Toney Road is an instructor in the completely revitalized Machine Technology program. To my knowledge, Royalston's first-ever husband-wife teaching duo at Monty Tech is that of Tracie and Tim Wright of Morse Road. Tracie is a seasoned member of the Dental Assisting instructor staff; Tim is in his second year as a teaching assistant in Welding and Metal Fabrication...and perhaps one of the most enthusiastic members of the staff! Be sure to thank these folks and all members of the administration, staff and faculty who make up Monty Tech.

Upcoming local music

Melanie and the Blue Shots Fall Tour:

Cheshire Tavern, Fitzwilliam Inn Nov.16th; Red Apple Farm Harvest Fest Nov 18th; and New Year's Eve Cheshire Tavern, Fitzwilliam Inn Stay close to home and bring in the new year with your dancing shoes.

Folk Singer, John McCutcheon Coming to Area

North Country Sustainability Center, Inc. (NCSC) (in Ashburnham but serving Royalston) welcomes John McCutcheon to the Stratos Dukakis Performing Arts Center at the Montachusett Regional Technical High School. This family-friendly fundraiser for NCSC happens on Friday, November 9, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students. Tickets are available online at www.brownpapertickets.com. For more information about North Country Sustainability Center or about the concert, please visit www.northcountrysustain.org or call 978-252-5021. NCSC is a 501(c)(3) organization. This concert is a major fundraiser for this regional group.

Recipe of the Month

Braised chipotle pork

Serves 6-8

This recipe comes from Phil Rabinowitz. He made it for the local foods supper from Chettie Hall's pork with yummy results. Phil is known in town for his work on the Capital Improvements Committee and his folk performances at open mic, where he is dubbed the "man who knows 10000 songs."

Ingredients

3 pounds marbled boneless pork, rinsed, dried carefully, and cut into 1" cubes (You can also use country-style ribs if you like gnawing bones. In that case, you'll need about 4 1/2 to 5 pounds of bone-in ribs. Rinse and dry the ribs, but leave them whole.)

Salt and fresh ground pepper

Butter or oil for browning

2 large sweet or yellow onions, chopped

About 6 large fresh tomatoes, chopped, or 3 14 oz. cans tomatoes, chopped

1 1/2 to 2 cups chicken stock or water

2 to 4 or more chipotles from a can of chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, depending on how hot you want the dish.

2 Tbsp tomato paste

1/2 cup or more orange juice

2 good-sized bunches fresh cilantro, chopped

Salt to taste

Season the pork with salt and pepper. In a large heavy pot or deep frying pan with a cover, heat the oil and brown the pork. Chopped pork will brown quickly -- be careful not to cook it through. Ribs will take about 3-4 minutes a side. Remove the pork to a plate or bowl. Then, in the same pan, saute the onions till they soften and just start to brown. Add the chopped tomatoes, with any juice they have, and cook briefly. Add stock or water, scraping up the brown bits that cling to the pan. Add chipotles, tomato paste (stirring to dissolve it), orange juice, salt, and about 1/4 of the cilantro. Return the pork to this pan. Cover and bring to a boil, then either turn the heat down and simmer, or place in the oven, checking and stirring regularly and adding water or stock as needed to keep the dish from burning. Cook for 1 1/2 to 2 hours or more, until the meat is very tender. Taste the sauce as the dish cooks, and add salt, orange juice, chipotles, or tomato paste to your taste if needed. Let the liquid cook down at the end to a cup or so. Remove from the heat or oven and add the rest of the cilantro. Serve with rice. Enjoy, with a lot of napkins.

Classifieds

Services Available:

Plowing & Sanding. Contact Wayne R. Newton at 978-895-7422.

Sharpening: knives and scissors. Also, custom knife making. Call Rob 978-320-9982.

Little Farmers Child Care, located next to RCS now has full and part time openings! It also has before and after school child care. Hours are 6am-5pm Call Joni @ 978-575-1083

Graphic digital artist for hire. Websites, print materials - posters, flyers, brochures, business cards, invitations, etc... Also photo and slide scanning offered. Call Barbara at 508.364.3339 or email bgruiney@wildblue.net.

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

House cleaning. 4 hr - \$60.00. Experienced with references. Royalston resident. Call Fran: home 978-249-4596 or cell 895-0817.

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

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

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 Laurie Truehart private wood carving lessons. 978-249-3291.

Winter Storage: motorcycle, automobiles, boats, etc. Unheated. Clean and dry. Call 978-249-4013.

Custom sawmill. Call Josh Doub (978) 249-2871 or Tom Musco @ Royalston Oak Timber Frames at (978) 249-9633. We also make beautiful timber frames for additions, barns, sheds and homes.

Wanted

Chest freezer, approximately 18 cu. ft. Age and appearance not important; ability to freeze food is. Call Kathy or Larry 249-4260.

For sale

Ford F150 1994. \$2,000 or best offer. Call Henry. 978-249-9274.

Hand-knitted items: baby sweater sets, mittens, hats, boot socks, etc. Nice selection of colors. Call 978-249-4013.

Birch Knoll Farm - Hay for sale, Goats for sale: for meat or pets or rent them for brush clearing. Contact Helen at 978-249-3163 or 774-239-5062

Free-Range, pasture raised pork. Raised in Royalston. \$2.00/pound; hanging weight. Processing fees not included. Whole pig or half. We arrange and ship for processing. Come pick one out. Call Chet Hall IV 978-249-2183.

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

Squier Davis Farm- Local, raw honey from happy bees at Squier Davis Farm. \$6.00/1 lb. jar or \$12.00/2 lb. jar (new this year). Call 978-249-4000 or stop by. We are located on Route 32 just past mile marker 60.

Nature books and prints suitable for children and adults. Commissions accepted. Call Gordon Morrison at 978-249-2947.

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

Firewood- Taking orders for spring delivery of green firewood \$180/ 170 cu feet. Also, limited supply of semi-seasoned wood. Call Jim Putney. 978-249-3379.

Royalston Maple Syrup from Divoll's sugar house. Prices \$9/pint; \$15/qt; \$28/ half gal.; \$50/gal. Call Randy at 978-602-5583.

Garden Notes

October 22, 2012

We awoke to a frost on the morning of October 13. Coincidentally, it was market day and I was obliged, at 5:00 a.m., to load the truck, drive to Amherst, and set-up (bundled as I was in sweater, coat, gloves, scarf, and winter hat). All in a day's work.

If frost befell us, situated as we are nearly atop Prospect Hill, I am certain it befell every other part of Royalston. Within my range of frosts (for the short-of-memory: my garden is touched by, hit by, or killed by frost), I reckon this was a hit by. Some things died (principally tomatoes and squashes), but others I would have expected to succumb did not (beans and some annual flowers), though to look at them you would be hard-pressed to consider them alive). I covered peppers; a large number of them were late in developing and were covered with fruit. They survived just fine, the only damage inflicted, not by the frost, but by the weight of the blankets thrown over them.

The availability of garden beds to be re-worked for next year arrives in waves (just as well, given the logistics of dealing with eighty-four beds at one time). Work on the first wave is essentially complete. It included beds previously occupied by corn, potatoes, onions, and winter squashes (all long-ago harvested, corn in the freezer, potatoes, onions, and squashes strewn in bushel baskets here and there throughout the house). I am in the midst of the second wave, those beds made available by the recent frost. The third wave will not occur until seriously cold weather sets in and the root crops and brassicas are pulled. Wave four? That's next spring, dealing with beds occupied by crops I will attempt to nurse through winter.

This fall's honoree as recipient of my fleet of fish tanks is tatsoi, a crop I'm growing for the first time. Like all brassicas, it is cold-hardy, but, unlike some brassicas, I suspect is it especially cold-hardy. I'm hoping to harvest until such time as snow depths make it impossible to determine where the tanks are located. (Reminder to all: that never occurred last winter.) Tatsoi belongs to that category of vegetables referred to in the seed catalogs as Asian greens. (Think Chinese cabbage or pak choy.) It is attractive with deep green leaves growing from a rosette. I've been harvesting heads (one-half to three-quarter pounds each) but, as winter progresses, I will pick outer leaves, expecting them to be replaced by emerging new leaves from the center). It cooks quickly; either stir-fried or braised, and can be eaten alone or in combination with other vegetables.

I notice other gardens during my infrequent wanderings around the area. I know they are garden sites because the ground has been tilled, the earth bared in preparations for next spring. Not so my garden. It is no longer in-your-face stunning, but I still find it a thing of beauty. It is not entirely bereft of flowers: a couple of rudbeckias, one solitary verbena, an orange and yellow patch of calendulas, and, underfoot, the remarkably persistent Johnny jump-ups (which can be found blooming almost every month of the year). Eighteen or so beds remain in production, obliging me, thankfully, to remain in production as well.

Larry Siegel



BEAR'S DAIRY SERVICE
978-249-6843
 Home Deliveries Since 1980
 Home Delivery of Local Farm Fresh
 Milk in Glass Bottles
 INDEPENDENT DISTRIBUTOR OWNED:
 Robert Laakkonen (Teddy Bear)

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
color copies .50 wedding invitations
soup to nuts printing

Renovations R Us
All Phases of Home Improvement
 Bob Leblanc, Royalston

cell 508-425-0570
 MA CS #62476 HIC # 115978
 MA Lead Cert. #LR000324

BRUCE'S BROWSER, INC.
 1497 MAIN STREET, ATHOL MA
BOOKSTORE • CYBER CAFE • CARDS & GIFTS
Come in and Browse!
OPEN MON-SAT 9-7PM CLOSED SUNDAY
978-249-3978 WWW.BRUCESBROWSER.COM

Family Pet Mobile Veterinary Services
Sue Ellen Mowcomber DVM

 Caring for your pet in the
 comfort of your home.
 978-249-4626
 www.familypetmobilevet.net

union music
 New & Used Musical Instruments
 Sales, Service, Rentals
 Sheet Music, Accessories, Amps, PA's
 Lessons, Rehearsal Space, Events
www.unionmusic.com
 142 Southbridge Street, Worcester, 508-753-3702
 Carl Kamp, Royalston, 978-249-9675

ROYALSTON GENERAL STORE
 MON - WED 7AM-7PM. THUR & FRI 7AM - 8PM
 SAT 8AM -8PM. SUN 9AM - 6PM
DAILY LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS
FULL BREAKFAST
978-249-9798
 Subs • Pizza • Pasta • Beer • Wine
 Liquor • Lottery • Groceries • Hardware
EAT IN OR TAKE OUT

Pearson Rubbish
978-249-5125
 127 Bliss Hill Road, Royalston
 Full Service Disposal
Weekly Pick Up in Royalston
 Prompt Courteous Service Call Russ

DeMar Technologies LLC

 15 Oak Hill Lane sales@demarmachine.com
 Fitchburg, MA 01420 www.demarmachine.com
 Tel: (978) 345-8655 Fax: (978) 345-8656
Rich DeMar

Stephen Chase Contracting
 Restoration and Preservation Services

 Royalston
 978-249-4860

 MA Construction Supervisor #044817
 EPA Lead Safe Certified # NAT-58592-1

Drive By Pie!



Saturday, November 17

9:00 am-Noon

Across from P.O., Royalston Common

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

Apple	\$12
Pumpkin	\$12
Mince	\$14
Blueberry	\$14
Pecan	\$16
Vegan*	\$20

Drive-By and purchase that day, OR ensure your favorite is available and

Pre-Order by calling:

Misteen at 249-5138

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

Deadline to order: November 12

All proceeds benefit the
Scholarship Fund
Ladies' Benevolent Society
of Royalston

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

*call for details on types of vegan pies

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

Submission deadline for Dec-Jan. issue is: Nov. 22

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

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.

Out of Town Subscriptions

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

by mailing a check to: Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library, PO Box 133, Royalston MA 01368

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

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
ATHOL MA
PERMIT NO. 42

Royalston Resident
Star Route 80
Royalston MA 01368