

THE ROYALSTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

July/August 2004



Volume VII, Issue VI

A PUBLICATION OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PHINEHAS S. NEWTON LIBRARY, ROYALSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

This summer in Royalston is full of interesting activities for all ages: the Congregational Church, the Rangers of Tully Lake, the Cultural Council, the Fire Departments and of course, the Friends and the Library are offering an impressive roster of events. What other Town of 430 families offers a summer of Shakespeare, edible plant and art lessons, lop eared bunnies, BBQs, baseball, and the Blues without leaving home?

The Friends would like to emphatically thank the many residents who generously donate to our causes. This includes **Cynthia Kacian, Elizabeth Denniston** and **Pat Jackson** for their recent membership donations as well as the many community businesses and families who helped bring the Bard to Royalston by advertising in the program of our Shakespearean workshop, the many neighbors who generously brought plants and shopped at the plant sale, the softball team that shows up on Sunday nights despite the clouds of mosquitoes, Jeff Mangum for his web-site help, Fieldstone Press for its printing subsidies, and all of the people who write submissions, collate, and read this newsletter.

Calendar of Events

July 1 Thursday

1:30 p.m. **Fantasy Illustration program** with new Royalston resident and professional illustrator, Gary Lippincot. Part of the Summer Reading Program for kids and teens at the Phinehas S. Newton Library; it continues every Thursday in July on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. All Free.

7:00 p.m. ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** by the Royalston Shakespeare Company at Town Hall. Over 30 local children involved. Admission Free but donations welcomed. Come see "What fools these mortals be." Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

July 2 Friday

7:09 a.m. **Full Buck Moon**

July 4 Sunday **Independence Day**

July 5 Monday

Earth is at **aphelion**, its farthest point from the sun during 2004

July 7 Wednesday

7:30 p.m. **Royalston Fish & Game Club** mtg.

July 10 Saturday

7:00 -10:00 a.m. **Pancake Breakfast** sponsored by the Second Congregational Church of South Royalston.

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Annual Congregational Church Fair**
4:00 p.m. **Chicken Barbecue** sponsored by First Congregational Church Call Wayne or Kelly Newton for tix: 249-9252.

8:45 p.m. - 10 p.m. Look for what the Old Farmer's Almanac calls, "the year's best showing of **man-made satellites**. Some 300 are visible, one every minute or two."

July 18 Sunday

12:30 -5:00 p.m. **Music Festival in Bullock Park** (behind the Post Office) The featured band this year is The Everyday Blues Band. The opening act will be open mic performances by your friends and neighbors. Firefighters will be selling beer, dogs and burgers to benefit the Emergency Rescue Vehicle Fund. This FREE family, community event is sponsored by The Royalston Cultural Council.

July 19 Monday

7:00 p.m. **Library Trustee Meeting**

July 24 Saturday

5:00 p.m. **Chicken BBQ** to benefit 2nd Congregational Church at Royalston Fish and Game Club. Tickets are \$8.00 and are available from church members.

July 31 Saturday

2:05 p.m. **Full Thunder Moon**

August 4 Wednesday

7:30 p.m. **Royalston Fish & Game Club mtg.** (Directors meet at 7:30 p.m.)

August 7 Saturday

3:30 p.m. **4th Annual Softball Slugfest** between the Royalston Fire Department and the Friends of the Phinehas S Newton Library. At the Royalston Fish and Game Club.

5:30 p.m. **F.D. ERV Fundraising Chicken BBQ** at the Royalston F&G

August 8 - 12

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. **Vacation Bible School** - Theme: "The Fruit of the Spirit" - ages 3-13.

6:30-8:30 p.m. **Prophecy Seminar** - teens and adults.

August 11 Wednesday

Official end to the "Dog Days of Summer"

Perseid Meteor Shower occurs tonight and tomorrow, with the best viewing after midnight.

August 25 Wednesday

2:00 - 4:00 and 7:00-8:00 p.m. **Last day to register to vote** or change party enrollment to vote in the Massachusetts state primary. Mail in registrations must be postmarked no later than 8/25/04. Call Town Clerk, Barbara Richardson, for locations.



August 26 Thursday **Women's Equality Day**

August 29 Sunday
10:22 p.m. **Full Sturgeon Moon**

September 1 Wednesday **First Day of School ARRSD**

September 6 Monday **Labor Day**

September 10 Friday
Fire Department Fundraiser: Semi-formal dinner dance.
Watch for upcoming details

Road Construction Ahead

Keith Newton, DPW Supervisor

Paving projects begin in August for Laurel Lake and Frye Hill Rds. Residents should expect delays and machinery noise beginning early in the morning. The rural character of these roads will be protected; speed limits will not be changed after paving. Town goals will be met making road surfaces level and safe. Thank you for your cooperation.

Selectmen's Meetings will be on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of July and August at Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

ROYALSTON COMMUNITY CO-OP

mbarclay@juno.com or bputney@crystal-mtn.com

July orders are due in by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13, with an expected delivery date of July 22. Members are urged to drop coolers off in advance to hold frozen and refrigerated items.

Board of Health News:

New transfer station stickers are now available for the new fiscal year starting July 1st. They are \$10.00 for residents and \$50.00 for commercial haulers and non-residents and are available from the transfer station attendant. New stickers are to be placed on the drivers side windshield. For those who prefer not to stick them on the windshield, put them on a piece of plastic or other suitable material and place on the drivers side dashboard. Stickers need to be visibly displayed when using the facility. This helps the attendants to monitor usage. The BOH would like to thank everyone for their cooperation in this matter.

The BOH received a DEP grant for kitchen scrap buckets and are available free with the purchase of a compost bin still only \$20.00. The BOH newly reorganized with Phil Leger Chair, Mark Drouin Clerk, and Chet Hall member.

Junior Rangers Program at Tully Lake

The US Army Corps of Engineers is offering a free environmental education program at Tully Lake Park for children between the ages of 6-11. One section will be offered each day for five consecutive days in the following areas: a ranger's job, the environment, water safety, wildlife and forestry. Programs run Monday through Friday from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Choose one week: July 12-16, July 19-23 or August 9-13. Pre-registration requested; call Steve or Ashley at (978) 249-9150. At the end of the program, children will become official Jr. Rangers.

Upcoming Events at Tully Lake

Enjoy a program at the Tully Lake Campground sponsored by the Trustees of Reservations, the Athol Bird & Nature Club, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. For the latest updates and additions to these events visit www.TullyLake.org and click "Events".

July

Sat 10 1:30-6 pm Hiking the Tully Trail with TTOR: Royalston Falls to the Campground Staff from The Trustees will lead a hike beginning at the Newton Cemetery parking area of Royalston Falls and end at the Campground. Carpool to Newton Cemetery after meeting at the Campground at 1:30pm.

Fri 23, 7 pm Monarchs, Royals, and Other Nobility with Dave Small ABNC. Discover through Dave's photographs the beauty of the small creatures that wizz around you as you hike the trails or boat on lakes, ponds and streams. This will be a preview of the explorations on Tully Lake the next morning.

Sat 24, 10am-2pm Paddle Tully Lake with Dave Small Explore Tully Lake, its inlets and island edges. We will be looking for dragonflies, damselflies, and other wildlife. Bring your lunch and water to drink, sunscreen, canoe/kayak and PFD. Canoes are available at the Campground, to arrange rental beforehand, call 978-248-9455. Meet at the Campground at 10 am.

Sat 31 10 am Intro to Mushrooms with Noah Siegel Meet at the campground.

August

Sat 7, 6-8pm Russ Cohen, Edible Plants Walk Russ Cohen, professional environmentalist and wild foods enthusiast, will lead a walk in search of wild edible plants. Plan on encountering at least two dozen of the 150 different species of edible wild plants and mushrooms that New England has to offer, many of which are more flavorful than their cultivated counterparts.

Sat & Sunday, 14 & 15 - Hike the Tully Trail with the Pioneer Valley Hiking Club

The Pioneer Valley Hiking Club will lead a two-day, moderate to strenuous, backpacking outing on the Tully Trail. It will begin at the parking area for Tully Mountain promptly at 8am Saturday morning and end there sometime Sunday evening. The group will overnight at the new Adirondack shelter built by The Trustees with the help of many volunteers and the PVHC last fall. Backpackers must provide their own gear, food and water. For more information call 978-248-9455. NOTE: This is a strenuous hike and not suited for beginners.

Sat 21, 3pm Tully Lake Mt. Bike Trail Ride This ride through the Tully region with James West will take an estimate of 2.5 hours and be moderate to difficult riding.

ROYALSTON FISH & GAME CLUB NEWS

There's lots going on down at the Royalston F&G – lots of fixing and improving and many activities for individuals of all interests and ages. The Club recently hosted a Basic Hunter Education Course which drew an impressive 29 participants. The Club extended special thanks to the volunteer instructors Rick and Ruth French, Larry and Jane French, Larry Shider, Gary Regnier and Malcolm Speicher. The F&G is looking for some kitchen volunteers to assist during trap shoots. Members interested should call 978-249-3004 to volunteer.

EMERGENCY RESCUE VEHICLE FUNDRAISING

The ERV fund is holding firmly about \$64,000. Some summer “fun”draisers are planned to get the fund moving upwards: Members of the Royalston Firefighters’ Association will be on hand at this year’s 2nd Annual Royalston Music Fest on Sunday, July 18, running a food concession and silent auction to add valuable dollars to the ERV fund. They’re encouraging everyone to come hungry for a day of fun and food. Every burger, hot dog, plate of nachos or beverage (including water, soda, beer and wine) sold, and all support for the silent auction brings the firefighters that much closer to the Association’s \$100,000 fundraising goal for the purchase of a badly-needed Emergency Rescue Vehicle.

On Saturday, August 7, in conjunction with the Library Friends v. Fire Department softball game, the Royalston Firefighters’ Association is holding a chicken barbeque. Tickets may be reserved in advance through Geoff, and will be available closer to the date from most members of the FD. As always, donations (fully tax deductible under 501c) may be sent in any amount, at any time, to Royalston Firefighters’ Association treasurer James M. Putney; 185 N. Fitzwilliam Rd.; Royalston, MA 01368.

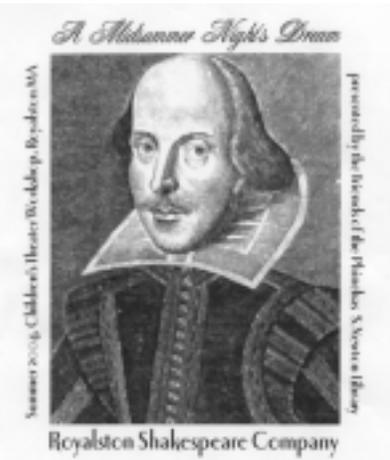
Scraps from the Scrapbook

Vieno Sinivuori died on May 31, 2004. She was born in 1916 in South Royalston as part of a thriving community of Finnish immigrants. Finns had their own church, store and social club in the South Village. Many had farms in the area which were later taken over to make the Birch Hill Conservation area. Vieno told a funny story about non-Finish neighbors who would come to take a sauna on the Finnish farms, but were too timid to take their clothes off, so they would enjoy their sauna fully clothed. Vieno shared many wonderful photos with the Town Scrapbook and many wonderful stories with all who asked.



photo of Finnish gathering circa 1900 in South Royalston courtesy of Vieno Sinivuori.

Shakespeare on the Common July 1st at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall



“The course of true love never did run smooth”, and therein lies the tale told in the July 1st workshop production of *A Midsummer Nights’ Dream* at the Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Under the direction of Norah Dooley over 30 local children ages 7-14 have been working to build sets, learn parts, master Shakespearean language, and bring together a performance of one of Shakespeare’s most whimsical comedies..

Dante Divoll plays Oberon, the king of the faeries, out to get the best of Tatania, his Queen, Eliza Holmes; she is served by a troupe of charming faeries including Katie Robinson, Elizabeth West, Tobey Chase, Addie Ramsdell, and Rosalie Dooley. Ben West shimmers as the trickster Puck, who makes an ass of Asher Chase in his role as Bottom; a group of over-the-top bumbling performers including Darion James, Grady MacPhee, Garret Hall and Perry Holmes provide comic relief by presenting a funny play within this play; and Cady Boucher, the Queen of the Amazons, will soon marry the conquering Duke Theseus, Caleb Chase. The well known pooch, Lulu, also appears in a small cameo role. Aaron and Mike Richardson as well as Jake LaJoie are doing yeomans’ work as technical support with the lights, sets and props.

Admission is free, but donations are welcome at this Friends of the Library Presentation. Come see for yourself “What fools these mortals be.”

Grand Plant Sale

Thanks to all who supported the recent Friends of the Library Plant Sale. We raised nearly \$1000 that morning, with about \$125 of that sum from purchased advertising in the program of the Friends’ production of Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Many took home beautiful plants at reasonable prices. The profits will be used to support the many Friends’ projects, such as this newsletter.

Particular thanks to the local businesses and neighbors who donated plants to the sale: Prospect Hill Farm, Shepardsons’ Gardens, Down to Earth Perennials, Perennial Patch, MacMannis Florist, Noels’ Nursery, Agway of Athol, and Maple Hill Nursery of W. Swansey NH. Becky Divoll, Barbara Richardson, Celt Grant, Chris Long, Allen Young, Buddy Dyer, Carla Rabinowitz, Beth Ingram, Pat Jackson, Sonja Vaccari, Gary Wessels, Maureen Blasco, Barbara Willhite, Beth Gospodarek, Marjorie Bassett and Evie Richards all dug up a piece of their gardens to share with the community and benefit the library.

Phinehas S. Newton Library News

Kathy Morris, Library Director

Trustees: Polly Longworth, Lisa Freden, Barbara Guiney
Mondays and Thursdays: 1:00pm - 5:00pm and 6:30 - 8:30pm
Saturdays: 9:00am - 12:00noon
978-249-3572 www.royalstonlibrary.org

Thank you

Ferron Dooley Fairchild for her continued volunteering.
Jim and Pat Kelley, Marsha Charest, Joshua Morris-Siegel, and Carol Englander for book donations
Marsha Charest for keeping us in paper to order interlibrary loans.
Marjorie Bassett for help and ideas for preschool storyhour
Maureen Blasco, Beth Gospodarek, and Barbara Willhite for running the plant sale and **Stephanie McClure** for running the book sale and for all her fund raising activities.
Nicola Bolduc for the houseplant donations for the preschool story time pots and **Preschool story time participants** for decorating the great pots to sell to benefit the program.

Some of the new books

Adult Fiction

Black, Holly *Tithe: A Modern Faerie Tale*
Byatt, A. S. *Little Black Book of Stories*
Cherryh, C. J. *Forge of Heaven*
Coulter, Catherine *The Sherbrooke Twins*
Delinsky, Barbara *The Summer I Dared*
Feather, Jane *The Wedding Game*
Gaffney, Patricia *The Goodbye Summer*
Gruen, Sara *Riding Lessons*
Guest, Judith *The Tarnished Eye*
Haruf, Kent *Eventide*
Heinlein, Robert *To the Stars*
Kellerman, Jonathan *Therapy*
Lethem, Jonathan *The Fortress of Solitude*
Mayle, Peter *A Good Year*
McCullers, Carson *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*
Parker, Robert *Double Play*
Pierce, Tamora *Circle of Magic: Daja's Book*
Quick, Amanda *The Paid Companion*
Tally, Marcia *I'd Kill for That*
Wilson, F. Paul *Midnight Mass*
Woods, Stuart *Reckless Abandon*

Adult Nonfiction

Fox, Faulkner *Dispatches from a Not-so-perfect Life: Or How I Learned to Love the House, the Man, the Child*
Truss, Lynne *Eats, Shoots & Leaves*
PDR for Nutritional Supplements
Campos, Paul *The Obesity Myth: Why America's Obsession with Weight Is Hazardous to Your Health*
Hawthorne, Linden *Walls & Fences*
Grossman, Andrea *Designer Scrapbooks with Mrs. Grossman*
Chappell, Fred *Backsass*
Chernow, Ron *Alexander Hamilton*

New DVDs

Girl with a Pearl Earring
The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King
Miracle
Mystic River
And over 125 VHS format videos from the AV Center!

New Large Print Books Purchased with a Grant from the Council-on-Aging

Fiction

(These books are available for borrowing at the Senior Luncheon Club on Wednesdays.)

Albom, Mitch *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*
Binchy, Maeve *Quentins*
Chevalier, Tracy *Girl with a Pearl Earring*
Doyle, Arthur Conan *Eight Great Sherlock Holmes Stories*
Evanovich, Janet *Full Tilt*
Jakes, John *A Century of Great Western Stories*
Lackey, Mercedes *Alta*
Lewis, Beverly *The Sacrifice*
McCall Smith, Alexander *The Full Cupboard of Life*
Packer, Ann *The Dive from Clausen's Pier*
Shaara, Michael *The Killer Angels: A Novel of the Civil War*
Siddons, Anne *Rivers Islands*
Sparks, Nicholas *A Walk to Remember*

Nonfiction

Canfield, Jack *Chicken Soup for the Grandparent's Soul*
Canfield, Jack *Chicken Soup for the Soul*
Saukek, Christopher *The John Hopkins Guide to Diabetes*
Quindlen, Anna *Loud and Clear*
Greene, Bob *Once Upon a Town: The Miracle of the North Platte Canteen*
Armstrong, Lance *Every Second Counts*
McCourt, Frank *Angela's Ashes*



Grant Received

to Continue Preschool Storytime in Fall

Francis Graziano, director of the Athol-Royalston Community Partnership for Children, announced that the Phinehas S. Newton Library has been awarded a grant to fund the Preschool Storytime and extra hours on Monday mornings beginning in the fall. The Partnership funds projects which enhance preschool education and provide opportunities for families of preschool children. We are pleased to continue this popular and important program. After a summer break, the storytime will begin on Monday, September 13th at 10:30 a.m. at the library with the library opening at 10:00 a.m. Jen Bartkus will again read stories, serve healthy snacks, and allow plenty of play and socializing time for children and their caregivers while Barbara Stowell will staff the library. Everyone is welcome to use the library during these extra hours. Registration for storytime is not necessary.

Summer Reading Program: Explore Other Worlds @ Your Library.

Every Thursday in July at 1:30 p.m. at the Phinehas Newton Library

The popular Summer Reading Program returns this summer with lots of free and enriching fun for kids and teens; it also brings kids into the town library to socialize and stock up on books for the week. Programs usually last about an hour and a half and include a snack. All welcome. Call the library at 978-249-3572 for more information. Pre-registration is helpful, but not required.

July 1st **Learn about Fantasy Illustration** with new Bliss Hill resident and professional illustrator, Gary Lippincott, who is the illustrator of many books including the popular young adult Magic Shop series by Bruce Coville. Several of books illustrated by Gary Lippincott are available to borrow at the library. To view some of Gary's artwork, go to <http://www.garylippincott.com>.

July 8th **Search and Rescue Dogs** Sherry and Roland Hamel of the Royalston PD will demonstrate their skills at finding missing people. "Hug a tree" and other strategies for getting found once lost will also be taught.

July 15th **Exotic Pets** with Laurie Truehart and Robert Truehart. Learn tips on animal care and interesting facts about these unusual animals. The Trueharts will be bringing several lizards: the golden gecko, water dragon, and bearded dragon, a miniature horse, Southern Flying Squirrel, miniature lop rabbits, and more.

July 22nd **Tie-Dye-o-Rama**. Bring anything made of white 100% cotton (t-shirt, undies, pillow case, socks, etc) and make it wicked groovy through tie-dye. A variety of techniques will be demonstrated and new, improved dyes and fixers will be used.

July 29th **Hand Cranked Ice Cream**, scavenger hunt and prizes as a program finale. No cranking; no eating!

The Phinehas S Newton Summer Reading Program is part of the 2004 Statewide Summer Library Adventure called "Explore Other Worlds @ your Library." It is funded by the Phinehas S. Newton Library and the Massachusetts Regional Library Systems, and supported by the Friends of the Library.

Summer Art Classes for teens and adults:



On the four Wednesdays of July, there will be weekly art instruction with M. E. Kane at the Royalston Town Hall. Tentative times are 9:30-11:30 a.m. but they may be adjusted to suit interested participants if an

evening is better. Each class will focus on an individual technique so that each lesson will stand on its own and participants may choose to attend one or all of the classes. The cost to participants is \$5.00/class. A materials list will be provided but artists bring their own paints and brushes. Partial funding for the classes will be provided by the Friends of the Phinehas S Newton Library. Call the library 978-249-3572 for information or to register. To see the work of instructor ME Kane, check out the "windows on Main" series at the Millers River Environmental Center or take in the current art display at the library.

Class 1 : Perspective. Understanding the relationship of forms in your drawing and painting to help create the illusion of depth.

Class 2 : Composition and Balance. A primer on creating interest in your drawings or paintings through the use of geometric, color and emotive/intellectual theories.

Class 3 : Color Choice and mixing. A beginner to intermediate exploration of color theory and choice of painting medium.

Class 4 : Palette Refinement, Tone and Texture. Choosing colors that work with your vision, and learning techniques for visually describing the feeling of objects and their relationship in space.

New CDs at the library

Over 124,000 CDs were distributed to Massachusetts libraries as part of the antitrust settlement relating to CD pricing. Royalston received 50 CDs but like most lawsuits, it was better on paper than in reality. Of the 50 CDs we received 4 copies of The Fitzwilliam Quartet playing Shostakovich String Quartets and Reba McEntire's GH3, and 3 copies each of Enrique Iglesias; 60's Rock: Feelin' Groovy; and Linda Rondstat's Merry Little Christmas. One would be plenty. Many CDs elicited the response, "Who?" Then, when one sounded really good, such as the boxed set, Respect: A Century of Women In Music (5CDs), we opened it only to discover the box and book were molded. Many libraries were complaining of the selection and multiple copies received, so the Central Massachusetts Regional Library set up a swap day so libraries could trade their multiple copies. So stop in and see if there is anything that tickles your fancy.

Books for Summer Reading Lists

We have many of the titles on the summer reading lists from various schools and grades and can order titles if we don't own them.

In Your Own Backyard

Summer days are anything but lazy in our backyards. Many local plant and animal species are working overtime producing a new generation in the brief time before the food, warmth, moisture and other favorable environmental conditions of summer pass. These time pressures are why summer seems to be racing toward its end, even as it is just beginning. November through April, change is subtle, but in May through September, obvious change is constant. Wildflower colors turn from pale early whites and pinks to late summer golds. Pliable spring leaves are replaced with the stiff or brittle stalks of August. Peepers go to bullfrogs, which are in turn replaced by crickets as the predominant night chorus. Scents start spring earthy, grow fragrant and rosy around the solstice and finish out the summer smelling rich, musty and a little fermented. Birth, growth, procreation and death keep the clock ticking.

Northern orioles are summer residents of some backyards in Royalston. The male has black head, back, wings and tail and a bright orange breast, rump and shoulder patch. These were Lord Baltimore's chosen colors and hence the name "Baltimore Oriole". The female has much duller plumage; she is greenish yellow with dull yellow-orange underparts and two dull white wing stripes. The Northern Oriole was thought to be two separate species; "Baltimore" in the east and "Bullocks" in the west. After trees were planted across the Great Plains, the two species met and began to interbreed and hybridize. Now, for unknown reasons, they are beginning to choose mates of their own kind; they may soon become two species again.

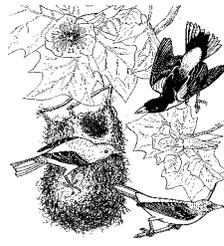
Orioles came back in late May, having just completed a journey to Central America and back. One of the first things a male will do upon arrival is try to attract a mate thorough a courtship dance. If sufficiently impressive, the female builds a distinctive and sturdy nest that is shaped like a 6" basket or pouch hanging from a crook in a drooping branch. They will take whatever is at hand to construct these nests including hair, yarn and other fibers.

Wildlife Sightings

Jon Hardie saw a **bobcat** on June 1st crossing Route 68 just south Stockwell Road near the new clearing up on the hill on the left between South Royalston and Royalston. Clearly not a fisher cat; no tail or pointy ears, so not a fox or a dog.

In the last couple of weeks Gary and Brenda Wessels of Winchendon Rd had several wildlife sightings. One day, there were four **Turkey Vultures** circling around their yard. One was very large with about a 6' wing span and the other three may have been its babies but were also big. They kept circling overhead and then all four of them landed in a big pine tree behind their house and stayed there for about ten minutes. On another day, they saw a **Northern Flicker**, which is in the woodpecker family, wandering around the yard, and their daughter, Megan, saw a mother **turkey** and her babies going through the back yard.

The Bruce Robinson family of Northeast Fitzwilliam Rd had half a dozen **Luna Moths** drowsing through the day on their sliding screen door and lolling on the cover of their gas grill in late June.



Orioles often nest in fruit trees as this is near their preferred food source of fruit and insects. The clutch consists of 4-6 grayish eggs with brown spots. It is one of the few birds that will push Cowbird eggs from the nest. The eggs are incubated for about 2 weeks. Once the young hatch they are fed, fledged and nurtured attentively until, by the end of August, both the parents and the fledglings are ready to make the trip back to the tropics. That is definitely a lot to accomplish in one summer.

Bird song can be a kind of clock to mark the rapid passing of summer days. When the chickadee changes its cry from "chickadee dee dee dee" to "pheobe," spring is around the corner. The buzzy "pshhhhh" of flocks of blackbirds and honks and snickering sounds of waterfowl soon follow. By May, the over 300 species of New England migrants such as songbirds, orioles and hummingbirds are back and filling the dawn hours with lilting love songs. By the time the ovenbird's cry "teacher, teacher, teacher" is heard, mid-summer has arrived. Robert Frost wrote a poem about how sad he was to hear the Ovenbird's call because it reminded him that glorious summer was rapidly passing.

The Ovenbird

THERE is a singer everyone has heard,
Loud, a mid-summer and a mid-wood bird,
Who makes the solid tree trunks sound again.
He says that leaves are old and that for flowers
Mid-summer is to spring as one to ten.
He says the early petal-fall is past
When pear and cherry bloom went down in showers
On sunny days a moment overcast;
And comes that other fall we name the fall.
He says the highway dust is over all.
The bird would cease and be as other birds
But that he knows in singing not to sing.
The question that he frames in all but words
Is what to make of a diminished thing.

Free Courses in Outdoor Skills

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Environmental Police sponsors a wonderful, **FREE Maps, Compass and Survival** program for the public. It's a great family event, in nearby Westminster, and well-suited to children aged ten or so (basic reading and writing skills are needed) and older. This is a definite **MUST** for hikers, hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts. The brief classroom portion of the one-day training event is held in the morning, and then students move outdoors to practice compass and map reading skills, first as individuals on "line courses" in open fields, and then in groups into the woods to identify a number of markers along the way to the assigned location. Three one-day programs are being offered from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. on the following Saturdays; July 17, August 14 and September 4. A **FREE Basic Hunter Education Course** (which meets training requirements for handgun licensing) is also being offered close-by – at the Templeton Fish and Game Club in East Templeton, from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on July 14, 19, 21 and August 2, 4, & 9.

Church Fair on July 10

The Royalston Common will be alive with activity on Saturday July 10th, the day for the annual Church Fair. Friends and members of the First Congregational Church welcome you to activities from 9 am to 3 pm.

The day begins with a Pancake Breakfast at the Town Hall in the Center of Royalston from 7 to 10a.m. This is sponsored by the Second Congregational Church of South Royalston. Tickets are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children 10 years and under.

Come stroll under the shade of the maples as you browse leisurely at crafters' tables and listen to a mix of contemporary gospel, country, and easy listening music. New on the scene is Noel Vielleux. His newest release "Shared Treasures" includes such songs as The Lighthouse, Vacationland, Wings Made of Steel, Ship of my Dreams, the Miner's Song, and more. "In the Vine," "The K&C Homeward Bound Band," and "Unity" will be returning to our hearts with gospel music. As always the fair features crafters from near and far. David and Shirley Putney and Jean and Jim Enright invite you to the Attic Wonders Table. Ron and Jane Cherichetti will be at the Chinese Auction table. Louise Clement and Nancy Bolton will be at the food table.

Helen Divoll will have her freshly made donuts available first thing in the morning. John Divoll will be serving crafters their complimentary sample of the donuts with hot coffee. John Graham and John Divoll will be giving hay rides. Games for the children will be conducted by Kyle Stoddard, Ron and Adam Hutchins.

John Charles Scribner and his crew (Betty Woodbury, Shelly Graham, Mike and Sue Veilleux) are ready to serve up hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings. Keith Newton, Wayne and Kelly Newton and friends are in charge of the Chicken Barbecue which will begin at 4 p.m. Tickets are available from church members. Call Wayne or Kelly Newton at 249-9252 or John Divoll at 249-6136.

CHICKEN BARBECUE

SATURDAY, JULY 24TH
6:00 P.M. TICKETS \$8.00
ROYALSTON FISH & GAME CLUB

BENEFIT SECOND CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
SOUTH ROYALSTON

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM CHURCH MEMBERS

Vacation Bible School for the Whole Family

August 8-12
6:30-8:30 p.m.
(Sunday Night through Thursday Night)

Themes:
Children- "Fruit of the Spirit"
Teens and Adults – Prophecy Seminar: "End Time Prophecy"

This year a team of students from Faith School of Theology will be conducting our Vacation Bible School. Those of you who participated in the special youth rallies this October will remember the wonderful enthusiasm that these young people have. There will be puppets, crafts, refreshments, stories, dramas, games, awards, fun and learning.

Adults and teens are invited to participate in a seminar on "End Time Prophecy" taught by Gail Januskiewicz, faculty member at Faith School of Theology.

First Baccalaureate Service



On Sunday June 6th a Baccalaureate Service was held at the Second Congregational Church in South Royalston. The graduates had previously met in the parsonage with Pastor Ginger for a planning/pizza party. The entire service was designed by the graduates, including their favorite choruses and hymns. Nate Melbourne led in the Call to Worship. Christina Jahl opened in prayer. Jeff Scribner led the Responsive Reading. Jessica Trask and Anna Otto sang a duet, "You'll Never Know." Each graduate shared a brief biography. Deacon John Divoll from the First Congregational Church presented each with a cross that he made from three nails and explained its significance. Deaconess Gertrude Parnanen from the Second Congregational Church presented each one with a red rose. The highlight of the service was when each shared their favorite scripture. The service was followed by a reception for the graduates held church hall. The ladies of the Second Congregational Church hosted this occasion.



Congratulations and Good News

Got something to crow about? Drop the news by the library or e-mail chasegos@gis.net .

West Royalston musician **Linq** has a new album. It rocks!! It will be available beginning in mid-July at Bruce's Pharmacy. See Linq live opening for June Millington at the 1794 Meeting-house on Sat Aug 21st at 7:30PM.

Joshua Morris-Siegel has been chosen to work as part of a 6-person crew on the Pacific Crest Trail on the Washington-British Columbia border this July and August for the Student Conservation Association, a nationwide leader in national resource conservation, providing service opportunities, outdoor skills and leadership training to thousands of young women and men each year. Last year Joshua volunteered for a month on a SCA crew in Great Sands Dunes National Monument in Colorado rebuilding a wilderness trail in the mountains surrounding the dunes.

Happy Anniversary to **James and Nancy Melbourne!** The North Fitzwilliam Road couple, who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on May 12, was feted that month with a party at the Ellinwood Country Club.

All Hail Sir Maba

Former Royalston Librarian Knighted



The President of the Republic of Finland, Tarja Halonen, has bestowed Mrs. **Marita Cauthen** with the insignia of the Knight, First Class of the Order of the Lion of Finland. Hon. Jukka Leino, Finland's consul general in New York decorated Mrs. Cauthen at a ceremony organized in his residence on June 17. Mrs. Cauthen has worked actively for the Finnish-American media and culture. She is editor-in-chief of a Finnish language newspaper, Raivaaja, with a wide national circulation and a longtime trustee of the former Finnish Cultural Center at Fitchburg State College. During that time she served as chairman of its program committee and brought numerous performers and speakers to the Fitchburg area.

In the Cabbage Patch:

The folks at Pete & Henry's are all smiles, especially owners **John and Terry Cloutier**, who have just welcomed grandchild number three into their family! **Kaylin Brooke Waclawski** joined her parents **Angie Cloutier** and **Mike Waclawski** (4803 Sennett Court; Nottingham, Maryland 21236) on June 15. Kaylin Brooke weighed in at 6 lbs. 11 oz, and measured 21 " long. All reports indicate Kaylin and her new pets Bella (an extremely social Weimaraner) and Apollo (a robust Rotweiler) are getting along just famously.

Memorials

Audrey B (Cook) Anderson, died June 9th of post surgical complications leading to heart failure. She was born on June 14, 1926, daughter of Eva and Austin Cook Sr. She was laid to rest in Lawrence Brook Cemetery. She is survived by her husband John; two brothers, Austin B. Cook of Royalston and Ernest Cook of Smithfield NC. ; a sister, Austine Ferguson of Worcester; a daughter, Brenda St George and a son, Bruce Singer as well as three granddaughters and four great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Seventh Day Adventist Church in memory of Audrey Anderson, 1118 Sumner Av, Springfield MA 01118.



A great many people in the Town of Royalston will miss life-long resident **Vieno I. (Sillanpaa) Sinivuori**, 85, of Sinivuori Rd. The well-known and much-loved South Royalston woman died at U-Mass Medical Center following an illness. Mrs. Sinivuori was born in Royalston to Ivar and Hilda (Oja) Sillanpaa, attended elementary school in South Royalston and high school in Templeton. She was extremely proud of her Finnish heritage and compiled a written history of the Finnish-American settlement along the Miller's River in South Royalston, and the part her family played in that history. Among her many jobs, she worked at the Mason Parker Company in South Royalston and upon retiring, was one of many of her generation to work summers at the Lightning Rods for Mr. and Mrs. Henry P. Cole. She was a life-long member of the Second Congregational Church and long-time member of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, the Royalston Village Improvement and Historical Society, the South Royalston Reunion Association and for many of her last years, an extremely active member of Royalston's Council on Aging and "cook" for the Royalston Luncheon Club. She also volunteered her skills over the years for various breakfasts, bake sales, suppers, and coffee hours. Mrs. Sinivuori was predeceased by her husband, Veikko M. Sinivuori, in 1987, and by her brother Toivo Sillanpaa, former S. Royalston postmaster. She leaves her daughter and son-in-law Shirley and Raymond Bullock of Athol; daughter and son-in-law Judith and Gordon Shaw of Virginia; grandsons Joseph and Ryan; and great-granddaughter Katrina Bullock. Memorial contributions may be made to the Second Congregational Church of Royalston.

Vieno generously shared stories about her life in Royalston. She once told about growing up in the worker housing on Pleasant St in the early 1920s. Immigrants from various countries filled the houses their children learned to play together and try new foods even when they could not understand each other's languages. The mother of the Italian family next door to Vieno's family would sometimes receive letters from Italy, but was illiterate. Since Finnish and Italian were both phonetic languages, Vieno's mother would sound out the Italian words out loud for her neighbor, who was then able to understand the content of the letters.

Pomp and Circumstance

2004 graduates of Monty Tech: **Michael LaFond**- Information Technology, **Laurie J Taylor**-Cosmetology, **Heather St. Jean**-Drafting Technology.

Nathan Melbourne graduated this year from Athol High School, where he served for four years as his class' vice president and president of Students Against Destructive Decisions. He played soccer, volleyball and track. He participated on the school's math team and took first place in the district competition. Mr. Melbourne will attend Boston University, where he will major in Mathematics Education. He received numerous local scholarships, a four-year National Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks scholarship, the B.U. Western Mass scholarship and the prestigious, B.U. Presidential Scholarship, which is renewable for four years. He is the son of James and Nancy Melbourne of North Fitzwilliam Road.

Anna Otto of Royalston is a recent Athol High graduate who participated in peer education, Students Against Destructive Decisions, student council, the National Honor Society and video club. She was also on the track team at school and the Athol YMCA's swim team. Miss Otto has been accepted to Bridgewater State College, where she will begin studies this fall in Aviation Flight Operations. She is the daughter of Luther Otto of Laurel Lake Road and Karen Swan Otto of Chestnut Hill Avenue in Athol.

Paul Charest, son of Fred and Marsha Charest, recently graduated from UMass - Dartmouth with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance. Paul is currently employed as a Sales Coordinator with Silpro Corporation in Ayer, MA.

Shelly Leary recently graduated from Fitchburg State College.

Hats Off...

Congrats to these Royalston students on the Athol-Royalston Middle School 4th quarter honor roll: Gold- **Marissa Kellner, Alexandra Krasowski, Travis Stevens, Kimberlee Thompson,** and **Lindsay Irons**. Silver: **Sofia Brighenti, Chester Hall, Blue Otto, Christine Sawyer** and **Natalie Whitcomb, Rhetta Guimond, Andrew Martioski, Mieka Melborne** and **Daniel Seco**; Bronze: **Katie Brighenti, Dylan Bates, Ellee Bronnes** and **Megan Wessels**.

Ashley Willhite was a starter on the fall and spring varsity soccer teams at Vassar and was named to the Academic All Star Team. During the school year, she works as a member of campus patrol and this summer, she is working as a ranger at Tully Dam. Ashley is a geography major. She'd like to thank all respondents to her request for opinions on the swimming ban.

Herve Bosse, one of Royalston's call police officers, recently received some exciting news: He's been accepted into Mount Wachusett Community College's highly selective nursing program. Since his retirement as a career corrections officer for the Department of Corrections, Mr. Bosse has been taking pre-requisite courses through MWCC's Division of Continuing Education. He begins the actual two-year nursing program in September.

Best Wishes to **Michael K. Lafond**, who recently graduated from the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School with his high school diploma and a certificate in Information Technology. He has been accepted into Fitchburg State College, and begins studies this fall for a degree in Computer Information Systems. He was a multiple medal winner during his high school career in VICA, (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) twice competing at the State level. He has been employed for the past two and a half years at Pete & Henry's Restaurant and was also a cooperative work study student this past year in the technology department at Monty Tech. He recently accepted employment at Data Guide Cable Corporation in Gardner. Mr. Lafond serves as a coach for the Athol-Orange Phantoms, a street hockey travel team. He is the son of Michael and Diane Lafond of Neale Road.

William C. Deveneau just completed an Associate in Science of Criminal Justice, with a concentration in Law Enforcement, at Mount Wachusett Community College. Mr. Deveneau is currently a part time reserve officer for the Town of New Salem Police Department. He has been accepted into the Vermont State Police, and departs for their academy training program on July 12. He plans to continue working towards a master's degree once he's settled in Vermont. Mr. Deveneau is the son of Curtis and Lori Deveneau of Stone Road.

Amy L Flagg, a South Royalston resident, recently graduated from Smith College in Northampton with a B.A. in English language and literature. She is a graduate of Athol High School. Flagg will be living outside Boston. She hopes to either work in the publishing industry or to obtain a graduate degree in library science. Flagg is the daughter of David and Mary Flagg.

Town Scholarships:

...and the winners are:

LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY of ROYALSTON
Dorothy B. Corser Memorial Scholarship: Jessica Trask
Clara Mimms Memorial Scholarship: Anna Otto
H. Pauline Smith Memorial Scholarship: Nathan J. Melbourne
Maxine E. Wilcox Memorial Scholarship: Lindsey Caisse

DONALD BLACK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Nathan Melbourne, Jessica Trask

ROYALSTON ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF
KATHERINE SEYMOUR BULLOCK COLE.
Nathan Melbourne

SOUTH ROYALSTON SCHOOL REUNION SCHOLARSHIP
Anna Otto

ROYALSTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP
Jessica Trask

Monty Tech News

Monty Tech graduated 217 members of the class of 2004. Approximately 50% of this graduating class is going on to two and four year colleges, and approximately 6% of the class is entering the military. The majority of the remaining students (37%) have accepted employment in their professional, vocational and technical areas.

Regarding MCAS, 96% of the statewide Class of 2004 met MCAS requirements for graduation, up 1% from last year. Monty Tech had a 97% pass rate for 2004 graduates, which is among the highest of voc-tech schools and higher than the statewide passing rate.

A full slate of summer activities is offered at Monty Tech, including one of the most progressive summer schools in the region. In some instances, students who were behind by as much as two years, have come up to grade level through the innovative and intensive camp-style summer program which is run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. four days each week. For those having MCAS difficulties, the MCAS Summer Institute at Monty Tech is just the thing. For additional information, contact Rich Ikonen at Monty Tech.

Eighteen freshman applications were requested by Royalston students for the Monty Tech class of 2008. Thirteen students met the minimum qualifications and eleven have received their acceptances. Two other qualified candidates remain on the waiting list, and will hopefully fill slots declined by applicants from other towns. Five Royalston students did not meet the acceptance criteria.

Internet News

From Windhorse Farm, Jon Hardie

I have received bogus emails in the past week that have the potential for identity theft and loss of tens of thousands of dollars. BOTH ARE FRAUDS This is the result of just a week of several hundred pieces of spam. The first one is an approval for a home loan that I did not apply for, but which asks me to confirm my critical personal bank account and social security and financial information by going to their website and providing personal financial info. The amazing thing is that people actually go to this website and give up their financial identity believing they will get a loan. To report fraud here are two places both to learn more and file complaints: Securities and Exchange Commission <http://www.sec.gov/investor/pubs/cyberfraud.htm>
FBI Internet Fraud Unit <http://www1.ifccfbi.gov/index.asp>

RCS Poetry Club News

The RCS Poetry club is pleased to announce that the following children's work has been accepted for publication in the Young American Poetry Digest. This is a National School project and is juried by a panel of educators. The children receiving this honor are: **Benjamin Boudreau, Tobey Rose Chase, Katelyn Robinson, Elizabeth West, Devin Bates, Shelby Bronnes, Dana Nicholas, Amber Simington, Michele Thompson and Brandon Tisdale.**

Summer Programs in Royalston

The following Village School summer programs still have space available:

Nature Arts & Play, ages 4-8

July 6-9 and July 13-16, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Craft Afternoons, ages 4-14

July 6-9 and July 13-16, 1:00-5:00 pm

Nature Explorers, ages 8-12

July 26-30 (full day program, 9:00 am-4:00 pm)

August 2-6 (half day program, 9:00 am-1:00 pm)

For more information please call the school at 978-249-3505 or download a brochure at www.villageschool.to

After School Day Care in Royalston Available

Thinking about how to get home for the kids when school starts again? The Village School provides an After School Program daily, 3:00 to 5:30 p.m., for children of working parents, starting Thursday, September 9, at the school on the common. RCS students can be dropped off from the school bus, with arrangement. Two Royalston residents, Lynn Anair, and Rebecca Ramsdell, work and play with the children, providing snack, helping with homework, supervising outdoor play, and having fun with arts and crafts. Parents can take certain days of the week or the whole week. The cost is \$225 a month for daily use, \$48 for one regular day a month, such as every Tuesday in the month. Call the school for more information, and to apply and register for the fall. The Village School: 978 249-3505



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YARD WORK AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD UPKEEP: Two hard-working young adults available. Contact James Charrest: - 249-3879 or Brendon Kellner: 249-4644

COMPUTER REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, UPGRADING AND CONSULTING: House calls made \$10/hour. Contact Brendon Kellner 249-4644

SPINDLE LATHE NEEDED: Local woodworker John Chencharik is working to restore the long, historic benches in the Town Hall. This work would go much easier with a spindle lathe. If you have one he could use, please call 249-2037.

Good Thoughts:

Wishing a speedy recovery to Deb Nunes
Congratulations Kelly Spear and Wayne Newton
Fire Department Softball Team; they might need them!

The Royalston Community Newsletter
Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library
PO Box 133
Royalston MA 01386

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In person: Drop off at library

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