Calendar of Events

June 1 Friday
6:30 pm Dinosaur Date: Prehistoric Kindergarten Pageant returns in RCS cafeteria.

June 3 Sunday
9 am Royalston Baccalaureate at the 2nd Congregational Church
1:30 pm Graduation at Athol High School

6 pm Season Opener: Sunday Evening Pick-Up Softball Games at Bullock Field, behind the post office. Open to all (even the fire department). Families welcome, but for safety, kids should have some basic skills and attentiveness. Free fun. Dress for mosquitoes. Pick-up softball continues most Sundays throughout the summer. Call 249-0358 for more info.

June 5 Tuesday World Environment Day
7 pm Crowning of the Royalston Poet Laureate and runner up at the Selectmen’s meeting.

June 7 Thursday Royalston Blood Donor Day at Town Hall, sponsored by the LBS. Call the Red Cross to make an appointment or for more details.

June 9 Saturday Saturday Morning on the Common
Pancakes and silent auction at Town Hall, entertainment on the Common, goodies and plants for sale at the post office, and good deals on used books at the library. Events benefit the Village School, the Village Improvement and Historical Society, the Athol-Royalston Education Foundation and the Phinehas Newton Library.

June 10 Sunday
10 am Mushroom and Wildflower Walk to Royalston Falls with the Monadnock Mushroomers, led by Noah Siegel. Meet at junction of Greenwoods Rd and Metacomet Monadnock Trail. (Take the 1st right after the NH border driving north on Rt 32.)

June 12 Tuesday
6:30 pm Grade 6 graduation at RCS. Speeches, Supper and Celebration. Community welcome.

June 14 Thursday Flag Day
half day - dismissal for summer vacation in local public schools
11:13 p.m. New Strawberry Moon

June 17 Sunday Father’s Day

June 20 Wednesday
9:30 - 12:30 Royalston Shakespeare Company ´07 theater workshop begins and continues for 2 weeks. Open to ages 8 and up. Free, but a commitment to attend all rehearsals mandatory. Pre-registration at the library required. 249-3572.

June 22 Friday
7 pm Royalston Annual Town Meeting continuation
7:30 pm Special Town meeting, both at RCS

June 23 Saturday TBA Chicken Barbecue at Royalston Fish & Game

June 30 Saturday
9:49 a.m. Full Strawberry Moon

July 1 Sunday Canada Day
10: a.m. Preschool Kindermusik® Summer Program at the library begins. Free and open to all preschoolers and their caregivers. Continues Mondays at 10 a.m. through August.

8 p.m. Pete & Henry’s Closes for Vacation will reopen July 12.

July 2 Monday
7 pm Trustees of the Phinehas S. Newton Library meeting

July 3 Tuesday Royalston Shakespeare Company performance at the Town Hall. Culmination of a two week theater workshop starring local kids and produced by the Friends of the Library.

July 5 Thursday
1:30 pm Make Giant Hula Hoops at the library. The Summer Reading Program, free events for kids of all ages, begins today at the library and continues each Thursday afternoon in July.

July 14 Saturday Bastille Day
Inquiring minds want to know: Why is the house on the Common with the roses on the fence called “The Bastille?” Anyone with information, pls. contact the library or the newsletter.

8:04 a.m. New Buck Moon

Congregational Church Fair
7 – 10 a.m. Pancake Breakfast at Town Hall
9 – 3 p.m. Country Fair on The Common
4 p.m. Chicken BBQ

July 15 Sunday noon to 5pm Royalston Summer MusicFest in Bullock Park behind the post office (in case of rain: in the Town Hall). Many activities for children and Ray Hendricks performing with his band.
Time to Renew Post Office Boxes

Pam Caranfa

This month, according to federal post office regulations, almost every P.O. Box holder needs to sign a form stating his/her residence whether it has changed or not. Once the annual paperwork is complete, Royalston boxholders will continue to use their boxes at no charge. Already signed? Thank you. If not, come in ASAP or the Athol office will close the box.

Royalston Police Department News

Chief Curtis Deveneau released an e-mail notice on Mother’s Day about a seriously injured Royalston Police Officer, Dan Wolski, 21, of Winchendon. Wolski was enjoying a recreational motorcycle ride, traveling north on Route 202 in Winchendon when a south-bound vehicle turned left into the Waterville Plaza, directly into Wolski. Although alert at the scene, Wolski suffered multiple lacerations to the liver and a compound fracture of the femur (thigh bone), each of which can be life-threatening, due to blood loss. Both knee caps were fractured, and of course, there were a number of soft tissue injuries. Wolski was transported to Heywood, stabilized and promptly air lifted to U-Mass Medical Center in Worcester where he underwent more than five hours of surgery to insert a titanium rod into his femur. Following two days in Intensive Care, he moved to a medical-surgical unit for physical therapy and continued monitoring of his liver function. Just one week later, he was released to home for an extended recuperation. The driver of the car that collided with Wolski had not noticed Wolski on the motorcycle. Ironically, the Royalston P.D. recently embarked on a campaign designed to alert car and truck drivers to “Check Twice, Save a Life – Motorcycles are Everywhere!” Wolski’s fellow officers have been dropping by and report that he is recovering well and in good spirits. Chief Deveneau adds, “If you wish to send Danny a card, you can address it to the Royalston P.D., and we will deliver it to him.”

Selectboard Briefs

Andy West offers a few recent developments with the Selectboard:

1. New officers have been chosen. Linda Alger is the Chair for the coming year.

2. The Board has appointed Ed Wheeler as Town Accountant. The Board wishes to thank Lori Blanchard for her great work as Town Accountant for the last few years.

3. Strategic planning and goal setting sessions have begun between the Board, departments, and the capital planning and financial advisory committees.

4. The Route 32 Rehabilitation project engineering is moving forward! We’ve selected an engineering firm that is already developing the plans required by MassHighway. Watch for a notice coming soon for an informational meeting to hear “The Route 32 Plan.”

Applications for 0% Interest Housing Repair Loans, Funded by the Government and Forgiven After 15 Years, are Available for Qualified Residents through Selectmen’s Office

Residents who qualify are eligible for funding assistance with health and building code repairs to their homes. Program recipients may receive a no interest deferred loan that is 100% forgiven over a 15 year schedule. Eligible repairs include septic & heating systems, lead paint & asbestos removal, door and window replacements and other repairs as allowed in the CDBG program guidelines. For larger projects, additional 0% interest, deferred loans may be incorporated to supplement the available CDBG funds; however, some programs include non-forgiveness of their funds.

Eligibility guidelines: Household size includes everyone living in the home or dwelling unit. Income limits include ALL income earned by ALL household members.

2007 INCOME LIMITS - U.S. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds are administered by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for the benefit of Massachusetts residents who meet the income guidelines. Project funds will be administered locally by the Athol Office of Planning and Development and its consultants. Qualified applicants will be placed on a waiting list for available funds. All information is confidential and will only be viewed by grant administration staff.

Persons interested in applying for the Housing Rehabilitation Loans may request an application from the Athol Office of Planning & Development (978-575-0301) or the Royalston Selectmen’s Office (978-249-9641). They will be sent an application and a program inspector will then make contact to arrange a property inspection. All repairs will be performed by licensed and insured contractors. Contracts, inspections and payments are supervised by the grant administrator. Loans up to $35,000 are not required to be repaid unless the property is sold within 15 years. 100% of the balances are forgiven over the 15 years of the loan.

A brochure further explaining this program is available @ www.royalstonlibrary.org.
What Happened at the Annual Town Meeting?

This Annual Town Meeting reconvenes at 7 pm at RCS with a special Town Meeting to clear up budget items to follow at 7:30. On May 11, approximately 55 voters approved every expenditure on the warrant recommended by the Finance Committee for a Town Budget of around $1.6 million. This was $50,000 more than last year and $150,000 more than was billed in taxes, leaving the remainder to be funded by transfers from the Town’s stabilization account, a funding strategy that can work now, but is obviously unsustainable. Operating monies for schools, roads, the transfer station, police department, the library, tax collection, fire department and all other forms of Town government went unchallenged. Funds to maintain town assets and purchase new equipment were also decided. Thus, there will be payments on the road grader and dump truck; state grants sought for paving projects; extra police patrols held around Tully Dam; the Raymond School copula and fire alarm system repaired, the Town Hall furnace replaced; library windows fixed; property revalued for tax purposes; and some emergency radios purchased. Funding for quite a few other small items was also approved. In addition, the article recommending an amendment to the Regional Agreement of the Athol Royalston Regional School District to designate the Royalston Community School as a Kindergarten - 6th grade school passed.

Several articles were tabled, and consequently, they may or may not be revisited at the reconvened Town meeting. One, which debated whether department heads should serve on the Finance Committee and whether the chair of the John N Bartlett fund should have a reserved seat on the FinCom, took over a half hour of discussion. Article 20, which would have established a committee to explore joining another public school district, was tabled immediately. Funding requests that were tabled included money for a new truck scale and pad at the transfer station, a new copier at Whitney Hall, exterior pointing and interior painting at the library, paving Dump Road, and repairs to the Town Hall copula. The only article to fail was one which would have increased the Town Administrative Assistant’s position to 30 hours a week with fulltime benefits.

Board of Health News

Phil Leger, BOH chair

There is a new face at the transfer station. His name is Bryan Bassett and he lives on Brown Rd. Say “hi” to him next time you’re there.

Spring clean up is in full swing at the recycling center. People will see a newly lined off oil and paint recycling area. Residents dropping off oil, anti freeze, paint and paint related material should see the attendant before depositing these items. There is a fee of $1.00 per gallon of paint or paint related material. Make sure the original labelling is on the containers. If the paint is latex based, dry it up with speedy dry or cat litter and then deposit it in regular trash. If you bring oil, please be sure to have it in a capped sealed container. Please try not to get water in the oil. (You would be surprised how often this happens. This goes for gas in oil also.) If you have an item for the reusable area, please make sure it is reusable. We have been getting a lot of junk lately. Some residents try to avoid paying the disposal fee by sneaking the items into the reusable area, so see the attendant first before depositing items there. Also, we still are getting demo in the metal and paper boxes. Please, if you are not sure what box is what, check with the attendant.

Town Clerk News

Melanie Mangum, Town Clerk

Summer Hours: Beginning the week of June 18, summer hours for the Town Clerk’s Office will be in effect. The office will be open on Mondays, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and by appointment. These hours will be in effect until after Labor Day.

Voter registration for the June 22nd Special Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 12 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. This will be the last opportunity to register to vote for the Special Town Meeting that will take place on the same night as the Annual Town Meeting reconvenes. Voter registration for the Annual Town Meeting was previously held. If you are registering to vote for the Special Town Meeting, please note you will be unable to vote in the Annual Town Meeting.

Inactive voters - are you one? If you did not return your census form, you may have been one of the more than 150 voters that were recently made inactive due to no response. You should be receiving a returnable post card in the mail asking you your residency status. Please fill it out and return it so your voter status may be returned to “active.” If you have any questions about the inactivation process and what it means to be an “inactive” voter, please call my office.

Two Ways You Can Help Athol High School’s Efforts to Keep its Accreditation

Athol and Royalston residents, as well as Athol High School alumni and their families, now have two ways to contribute to the efforts to maintain accreditation for AHS.

The first way is to write a check to “AHS Accreditation Fund” and send it to the Office of the Superintendent, Athol-Royalston Regional School District, 1062 Pleasant St., Athol. All monies in the fund will be spent on areas identified in the NEASC report as in need of improvement.

Alternatively, people who wish to take advantage of a tax deduction or matching gift programs through their employers for their contributions, or who might want a more detailed report on the way their donations have been spent, can also send contributions to a new fund set up by the Athol-Royalston Education Foundation: A-REF Accreditation Fund, P.O. Box 149, Athol, MA 01331. Contributions will be spent by the Foundation in consultation with AHS principal Kent Strong and the AHS department heads. The items purchased through the A-REF Accreditation Fund will be ones that are identified as priorities by the school, that are related to areas of NEASC concern, and that would not be covered by other sources of funds. Priority will be given to items with a direct impact on the quality of instruction. One possibility suggested by Mr. Strong is the purchase of computerized equipment and software for AHS science classes, including such items as a force sensor, magnetic field sensor, gas sensor, turbidity sensor, Vernier Dynamics System and wireless dynamics sensor. More and more classroom science experiments now require such equipment, but at the present time the school cannot afford to buy it. Another possible purchase through the fund might be LCD projectors for power point presentations. Other priorities are expected to emerge as the 2007-08 school year gets under way.
Phinehas S. Newton Library News
Kathy Morris, Library Director
Trustees: Polly Longsworth, Lisa Freden, Barbara Guiney
Mondays: 10:00am - 8:30pm. Thursdays 1:00pm - 5:00pm and 6:30 - 8:30pm
Saturdays: 9:00am - 12:noon
979-249-3572 www.royalstonlibrary.org

Thank yous
Catherine Anthony and Linda Alger for movies
Linda Ellis for an audiobook
Sonja Vaccari, Diana Newton, and Pat and Jim Kelley for books
Kourtney Frazier and Marsha Charest for CD cases
Gary Winitzer for help obtaining DSL for the library
Ashley Guyer, Ashley Sawyer, Cady Boucher, and Allyna Baker
for all their help weeding the collection to get ready for the book sale.

Donations to the Friends
The Bergquist Darling family
Elizabeth and Deems Leonard
Meryl and Marie Willhite
Rev. Phillip and Pheobe Jacobs
David and Shirley Putney
Arline Vining
Ginny Moore
Celt Grant
Helen Williams
Cadence Brinkley
The Cauthens
Theresa Quinn and George Krasowski
Roger O'Donnell and Raeann LeBlanc

Testing...Testing...DSL at the Library
A couple of years ago, the library went to satellite to improve the internet service. Now with the discovery that Verizon thinks it can provide DSL service to people along the Athol Road and into the Common, library staff has signed up to receive DSL. The plan is to test this service for a month and see if it is an improvement over the satellite. Please come in and test it on our computers or try the wireless connection on your laptop to see if this DSL service is faster than the satellite connection. If the service is comparable or superior, we will switch to the DSL service and save some money in the bargain.

Regional Library Calculates Value of Services to Royalston
The Central Massachusetts Regional Library System provides a number of services to our library and all other State certified libraries in Worcester County, the “Central” Region. Each year they fund continuing education courses for personnel, roundtables for library directors, consulting services, cooperative purchasing programs, technical services, all the databases offered through our library, delivery services for interlibrary loans and other materials, and interlibrary loan searches beyond the region and state as well as trying to answer all questions. Each year as part of its accountability to the State, the value of the services offered to each library is calculated. This year Royalston received over $84,000 worth of services. Patrons who use the library’s interlibrary loan and databases, have received deposits of books or borrowed the Region’s materials know the added benefit of these services. The staff knows the value of the training and technical support, which makes it better able to serve patrons’ needs.

Plant Sale and Book Sale Benefit Library, 9-noon, June 9
Giant Book Sale at the Library: In bar coding all the books, staff did a major “weeding” of the entire collection, so there are lots of books (fiction and nonfiction), books-on tape, and movies for adults and kids to sell. There is also a special area of books that are “collectibles,” ones that have been identified as having “value.” These books are priced way below (usually less than half) what you’d pay on Amazon.com, alibris.com, or at used book stores. And at 11:00 a.m., all the books in the regular sale will be available for $1.00/big paper bag! Stop by and pick up some great books and support the library.

A-Z: Some of what will be at the Plant Sale: Once again, Prospect Hill Farm, Shepardson’s Gardens, the Perennial Patch, Noel’s, Down to Earth and MacMannus florist are very generously donating their wares. Combine these commercial donations with offerings from our community and there will be an impressive selection. What actually arrives for sale on the morning of the plant sale is always a bit of a surprise, but we can promise it will be fun to wander through an alphabet of friends and flora.
A is for advice, usually good, and freely shared, as well as annuals; B is for bargains, basil, and baked goods; C is for community support, coreopsis and cosmos; D is for daylilies; E is for everlasting and echinacea, F is for forsythia; G is for generosity, galardia, gladiolus and geraniums; H is for horseradish, hostas, herbs, house plants and hanging baskets; I is for iris; J is for Jack in the Pulpit; K is for know-how; L is for lilacs and locally grown library support; M is for medicinals, mints, and monarda; N is for neighbors; O is for oregano; P is for plenty of pretty perennials at pleasing prices; Q is for quality, R is for rhubarb and roses, S is for super selection and some succulents, T is for traditional plants like heirloom tomatos, thyme and tansy; U is for the unusual finds like sea and pink lavenders; V is for Veronica and vegetable seedlings; W is for wisteria and wild ginger; X is for the extraordinary friendliness; Y is for yellow sunflowers, lemon lilies, heliopsis and golden glow; and Z is for State Fair Zinnias.

Plants Always Needed: You optimistically bought more annuals than you can fit and you need to thin out those perennial beds anyway. Why not give the potted extras to the Friends of the Library? The plant sale is usually one of the biggest fundraisers of the year for the Friends. Proceeds pay for library support and Friends projects, including this newsletter. Drop off plant donations at the library the week prior to the sale or bring them to the Post Office on the morning of June 9. By donating plants, it’s easy to spread cheer from your garden to your neighbors’. Sharing plants can make a chain of nurturing and beauty. It’s somehow sweeter to have a piece of Buddy Dyers’ foxgloves, Becky Divoll’s bleeding hearts, Theresa Burgess’ lilacs, Eldora Bowers’ sweet william or any of dozens of other friends’ plants prettifying up your yard, all while benefiting our library.
What's Shaking with the Shakespeare Program?
The Bard is back. The Royalston Shakespeare Company will begin rehearsals June 20 for a July 3 workshop performance at Town Hall. Volunteer directors will be Norah Dooley, Maureen Blasco and Beth Gospodarek. There are no auditions, but there are limits in the numbers of actors that can fit on the stage, so local youth, ages 8 - high school, who would like to participate in this theater workshop as actors or tech crew are encouraged to sign up at the library as soon as possible. Be aware that participation requires attendance at every session Mon. - Fri. from 9:30 a.m.- noon and an evening performance on July 3. The program is produced by the Friends of the Library and constructed mainly of begged and borrowed costumes and sets, so there is no set charge to participate; (however, be aware that to help defray costs to the library, T-shirts will be available for sale, there are opportunities to advertise in the program and donations are welcome.) The play is the thing, and the directors are thus far indecisive. The play will either be Much Ado About Nothing or Romeo and Juliette depending on the gender/ age/ personality combination of the cast.

Preschool Kindermusik® Summer Program
Thanks to the Royalston Academy and the Judith Jenkins Musco Scholarship Fund, the Kindermusik ® music and movement program for preschool children will be offered on the four Mondays during July and the first Monday of August. It will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the library and is free and open to all preschoolers and their caregivers. This fun program gets kids (and adults) moving and has been a perennial favorite. Tina Gemborys, a certified Kindermusik ® instructor, elementary school music teacher, and mom, will again lead the program. Snacks will be served. Older siblings are welcome to hang around while the program is in progress but no library services other than the program will be available. No registration is necessary and you are welcome to attend one, several, or all of the programs.

Summer Reading Program Coming Thursday Afternoons in July
On Thursday, July 5th we’ll be catching the beat of our bodies by making and decorating giant hula hoops. Then we’ll have contests to see who can keep his or her hoop rotating the longest and who can roll it the farthest. On July 12th everyone will be making wheat weavings, a craft that has been in existence almost as long as the growing of wheat. Thursday, the 19th everyone will catch the beat with the Walden Witham, who will make music with us. Then on the 26th it’ll be a great big party with everyone cranking to make beat of ice cream makers as we create homemade ice cream, play games, shoot off our bottle rockets and generally have a good time. These programs are funded by the generosity of the Judith Jenkins Musco Scholarship Fund, the Royalston Academy, and the Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library. Catch the Beat is the Statewide Summer Reading Program sponsored by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Central Massachusetts Regional Library System and Waste Management. Registration by calling the library, emailing the library, or stopping by at least one week in advance, is required for the hula hoop and wheat weaving workshops to ensure adequate materials be available.

Art Exhibit
This is the second month that Pat Kelley’s potpourri of toile painting pieces is on exhibit at the library. Pat uses a wide variety of containers and materials including glass, metal, and wood of all varieties as the basis for her intricately free-hand painted pieces. Stop by the library to see the diverse assortment of intricately painted work, many with holiday themes. During July and August, Lian Cutting will display her artwork.

Some of the New Books at the Library
New Adult Fiction
Anderson, Jodi Lyn Peaches
Baldacci, David Simple Genius
Berg, Elizabeth Dream When You’re Feeling Blue
Black, Holly Ironside: A Modern Faery’s Tale
Box, C.J. Free Fire
Britton, Pamela To The Limit
Cabot, Meg Pants on Fire
Cabot, Meg Prom Nights from Hell
Carter, Ally I’d Tell You I Love You, but Then I’d Have to Kill You
Chabon, Michael The Yiddish Policeman’s Union
Chandra, Vikram Sacred Games
Child, Lee Bad Luck and Trouble
Cohen, Harlan The Woods
Coehlo, Paulo The Witch of Portobello
Coyote, Ivan E. Bow Grip
Dantecat, Edwidge Breath, Eyes, Memory
DeLillo, Don Falling Man
Desai, Kiran The Inheritance of Loss
Earls, Nick After Summer
Edwards, Kim The Memory Keeper’s Daughter
Enger, Leif Peace Like A River
Englander, Nathan The Ministry of Special Cases
Giles, Gail Playing in Traffic
Hoffman, Lynn bang BANG
Hunter, Erin The Sight
Ignatius, David Body of Lies
Khadr, Yasmina The Sirens of Baghdad
Naylor, Phyllis Dangerously Alice
Patterson, James The 6th Target
Quick, Amanda The River Knows
Sandford, John Invisible Prey
Smith, Roland Peak
Snicket, Lemony Horseradish: Bitter Truths You Can’t Avoid
von Ziegesar, Cecily Don’t Forget About Me: A Gossip Girl Novel
Vreeland, Susan Luncheon of the Boating Party
Wells, Rosemary Red Moon at Sharpsburg
Westlake, Donald E. What’s So Funny?
Wheeler, Richard S. The Canyon of Bones

New Adult Nonfiction
Browne, Sylvia If You Could See What I See
Darke, Rick The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes
Gore, Al An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming
Gross, Terry All I Did Was Ask: Conversations With Writers, Actors, Musicians, and Artists
Kingsolver, Barbara Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life
Kolata, Gina Rethinking Thin: The New Science of Weight Loss—and the Myths and Realities of Dieting
Lavington, Camille You’ve Only Got Three Seconds: How to Make the Right Impression in Your Business and Social Life
Ryder, Joanne Toad By The Road: A Year in the Life. . .
Tortorella, Paul The Common Poems
Williams, Wendy Cape Wind: Money, Celebrity, Class. . .
Get the Connection: Royalston and Jamestown Colony

Royalston’s earthworms, honeybees, rats, Shakespeare Company and at least two of its residents, Chuck and Polly Longsworth, all have a direct connection to the Jamestown Colony, the first major English colony in the New World. (Jamestown was settled 400 years ago, 13 years before the Massachusetts Colony in Plymouth and 158 years before Royalston was incorporated.)

The English settlers in Jamestown had a hard road to hoe before eventually becoming a successful tobacco-producing colony. Most of the settlers were genteel business people who had no idea how to grow or find the food necessary to survive in the New World. Their plan was to build a fort, find gold and get rich quick. The local Native American population already laid claim to the best land for habitation, hunting and farming; the colony was set up on a brackish portion of the York River, and the water quality was terrible. The settlers starved and suffered severe gastro-intestinal diseases. Most died. The winter of 1609 saw 500 colonists reduced to 60. Luckily for us, although there have been hunger and epidemics in Royalston, there are no historical accounts of anyone who “murdered his wife... and after Chopped the Mother in pieces and salted her for his food” as in Jamestown Colony.

Jamestown was one part of the Old and New World exchange that introduced potatoes to Ireland, tomatoes to Italy and small pox to native American populations. Stowed away in dirt used as ballast in ships arriving in Virginia were earthworms. Before earthworms, there was a deep leaf litter in the hardwood forests of the New World. After worms, the leaves were decomposed quickly and the nutrients brought deep in the soil. This meant that different plants thrived B.E.E (Before Earthworm Era) than after. Species like trillium or morel mushrooms prefer a deep coating of leaves and a shallow soil common in the pre-Jamestown era. In Jamestown, honeybees were intentionally introduced to bring sweetness to a bitter Colonial life. Mead and honey were rare, longed for treats. These honey bees were much more promiscuous pollinators than the native species. Pollination took off to a level where planting orchards was realistic. In addition, rats tagged along in the ships coming to the colony and were soon competing with the small rodents like chippmunks and squirrels already in the Americas. Rats famously spread disease. The rats common in Royalston’s barns could well be descendants of the Jamestown rats. Furthermore, The Tempest, performed by the Royalston Shakespeare Co. two summers ago, has a Jamestown connection. It was written by Shakespeare around 1611, 7 years after Jamestown was established, and featured Caliban, a dark skinned miscreant kept as a slave by the crafty wizard Prospero. The plot and characters were influenced by tales about shipwrecks and fanciful wild natives coming from the New World colonies back to London. Finally, resident Polly Longsworth has a fine connection to Jamestown. While she isn’t a direct descendent of Pocohontas, she did recently travel to Virginia to visit the Queen. Read on.

The Queen’s Visit

Polly Longsworth

When Her Majesty Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip determined to visit Virginia in early May, in honor of the 400th anniversary of the English settlement at Jamestown in 1607, the Governor of Virginia and the president of Colonial Williamsburg decided to hold a luncheon in her honor. Having had a seventeen-year association with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Chuck and I were invited.

The first concern was a hat. The Queen is noted for her stylish hats, which always match her outfits perfectly. No American female would choose to let down this side of the Atlantic by appearing without one, but hats (really nice wear-to-a-party-but-not-be-too-sensational hats) are hard to find. I did find one, with the help of a daughter, at a wonderful craft fair in Washington, D.C. Next was a suit. “You can’t wear anything you haven’t bought in the past three years,” said this same urban daughter. That eliminated everything in my closet. So with the help of a Boston daughter, and a trek to the big city, a suitable garment was found to enhance the hat.

Arriving at Williamsburg the day before the luncheon, we found extraordinary excitement. Every stop was pulled out, every employee given three hundred things to do, every looker-on was a-twitter at the impending sight of The Queen, who was to stay overnight in the Williamsburg Inn. Security men were everywhere – President Bush had sent the FBI and dogs to enhance the local police and CW’s own security force, our first opportunity to be sniffed for bombs.

The Royal Party (of forty) arrived by 747 in Richmond late Thursday afternoon, and were whisked the 50 miles to Williamsburg in a light rain. There they transferred into the beautifully restored eighteenth-century carriages Colonial Williamsburg brings out for special occasions, to parade with the mayor and local dignitaries through the historic streets to the Inn. We stood on the sidelines with many clapping, cheering citizens as the Queen in a beautiful red hat and plume rolled by, smiling and waving her traditional small wave.

Trundling discretely behind, keeping to back ways, were two Mayflower moving vans, which held the paraphernalia that accompanies the Queen when she travels. To see such large Mayflower representations in Jamestown territory produced more than a few smiles.

The next morning, a beautiful, cool Spring day, we began getting instructions. We were to dress for luncheon and be at the Colonial Williamsburg president’s house by 11 a.m. to join the guests who would meet the Queen. The accumulated hats were beautiful; the mood festive and anticipatory. She, meanwhile, dressed in turquoise, was visiting the archaeological digs at Jamestown, where the outlines of the original fortifications have been revealed and over a million fascinating artifacts of the earliest settlers recovered. An hour or so later our group of luncheon guests was transported to the Royal Governor’s Palace at Colonial Williamsburg where we waited another hour with the governor, Senator Warner, and Virginia dignitaries. Here we learned one does not speak or offer one’s hand to the Queen until she speaks and offers hers. One may call her “Your Majesty,” and bow ones head or genuflect if desired, but deep bows and curtsies are un-American. We stood in “clusters” to enable ease in meeting. Dick and Lynn Cheney appeared and shook some hands. Suddenly She was there (without the Prince, who had gone to Norfolk to check out some ships.) She moved simply and graciously from group to group, smiling and offering her hand, saying a few words to each of the sixty persons in the room. Dressed head to foot in pink, she looked younger than her 81 years, with a mix of dignity, friendliness, and command honed by years of such duties. The audience was swift – a brief touch of gloves, a murmured exchange of greetings, a genuine smile – repeated around the room and over in minutes. We all trouped behind her out onto the lawn where a huge tent was set up for the luncheon. The menu featured rockfish (striped bass) from Virginia waters and lemon tart. There were toasts and short speeches. When the Queen put down her fork, the meal was over, and we all rose to witness her exodus. By the time she arrived at the College of William and Mary a short time later, she was sheathed in blue, and next day we saw on television she attended the Kentucky Derby garbed in green. That’s the color of my new suit. I hope to wear it again soon, and think of her.
Saturday Morning on Royalston Common
June 9 from 7:30 to noon. Something for Everyone:

Doing good by having fun: shoppers browse the quality items available at last year’s silent auction to benefit the Village School building project at the Camp Caravan site. The local public library, historical society and education foundation also benefit from the diverse offerings at this annual community fair.

In the Town Hall: Pancake Breakfast 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Adults $6 Children $3 Organic pancakes and local syrup
Spectacular Silent Auction 7:30 to 11:00 a.m. Auction items include 4 Red Sox tickets, Otter River Farm manure, Royal Pines Alpaca Farm alpaca teddy bear, machine washable local sheepskin, and gift certificates for Plotkin’s Furniture, Toadstood Bookshop, Gardner Ale House, Noel’s Nursery, Brook’s Automotive, massage and more. Auction and Breakfast benefit the Village School Building project at Camp Caravan. Also that morning, The Athol-Royalston Education Foundation will be raffling off a handmade Shaker-style cherry wood clock.
At the post office: the Village Improvement and Historical Society will sell baked goodies and the Friends of the Library have its plant sale.
At the library: great deals on used books
Program of events outside on the Common:
8:30 Tag Sale
8:45 Alotta Hoopla will entertain with hula hoops
9:45 Live Birds of Prey with Tom Ricard
10:45 Cake Walk for children

Important dates at the Royalston Community School in June
6/1, Step-up day, Grade 6 to ARMS, 6/1, Kindergarten’s Dino Date @ 6:00 p.m.
6/4, Wampanoag Indians come to RCS for a program for Grades 3 + 5.
June 4 - 8, Grade 6 to Nature’s Classroom - Ocean Park, Me.
6/13 Grade 6 Graduation @ 6:30 p.m.
6/12, Field Day @ RCS
6/14, Students last day, 1/2 day of school
6/15, Teachers last day
6/22 Royalston Town Meeting continuation @ RCS @ 7:00 p.m.

Congregational Churches News
Jeff Scribner is participating in the Annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life on June 8 & 9 at MWCC. He is registered at the Royalston Team for Jesus. Sponsors and people who would like to walk with him are invited to do so. Contact John at 249-2649.

2007 Village School Summer Programs
Pack a lunch, make new friends, learn something and enjoy the outdoors during these one week summer programs at the Village School on Royalston Common. All prices include supplies and a snack. Call (978) 249-3505 or visit www.villageschool.to for more information
Nature Arts & Play Ages 4 to 8 9:00 - 1:00
Week 1 Mon - Fri /July 9 - 13
Week 2 Mon - Fri /July 16 - 20
Mornings are filled with art, nature exploration, singing, games and tree play. Each week will have a unique focus, with different arts and crafts activities and projects. Cost: $125.

Science and Art Experience
Ages 6 to 12 9:00 - 3:00
Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri July 2, 3, 5, 6 No Class July 4th
Local artist and art teacher, Kerry Stone, and freshwater field biologist and science teacher, Cathy Szal, join forces to present science, nature and art as a unifying and creative experience for children. Explore streams, ponds, woods and meadows and examine finds under microscopes. Make science toys, and create nature prints. Learn bookmaking, working in clay, and explore landscape painting. Cost: $140.

Summer Art Intensive
Ages 8 and up 9:00 - 1:00 Mon - Fri July 16 - 20
Explore a wide variety of art media in depth. Create sculpture, pottery, watercolor and acrylic paintings, and fiber art. Cost: $150

Annual LBS Blood Drive at Town Hall:
Donors Needed
Royalston’s 12th annual Blood Donor Day is planned for Thursday, June 7th, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Royalston Town Hall. First held in 1995 to commemorate the heroes and memorialize the victims of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, this annual event brings in between 30-50 units of blood, which can help as many as 150-250 people, when re-administered as various components. Those 17 and older, weighing at least 110 pounds and in good health are candidates for donating. There is no upper age limit for those who meet the criteria above, and even people on certain types of medication are eligible to donate. This is a tough time of year – need for blood is up and donations are down. This is a chance to fill a real need. As always, donors will be treated to the “Canteen Deluxe,” which features lots of home baked goodies and various beverages, not to mention a nice time to socialize! Contact Brenda Putney, 978-249-7787 for more details.

Visit the Royalston Historical Society Museum
If you want to see what a general store of the 19th Century had in it or old photos of the town, pay a call on your local Historical Society. You may also find what can be called a “Murphy” tub there as well. Many more artifacts can be seen in our Society Building, itself the schoolhouse of a bygone era. Call curator John McLure at 249-8675 to arrange a time to visit during the summer.
The Recipe of the Month

**CHOCOLATE DELIGHT** is a cool confection for a hot summer day submitted by Florence Bourbeau. Originally from Gardner, Florence used to drive through Royalston and fantasize about living here. Three years after her marriage, her dream came true, and she, along with her husband and 2 children, has lived here for the last 21 years. Florence and her husband run a used car business, Royalston Auto Sales, on South Royalston Rd (Rt 68) and she works part time at the Kitchen Garden. To relax, Florence enjoys, cross-stitching, writing poetry and playing a little guitar.

1st layer
1 cup of flour
1/4 lb. of soft margine
Blend together. Spread in a 13X9X2 inch pan. Press down tilling the pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Let cool.

2nd layer
1 8oz. soft cream cheese
1 9oz. container of Cool Whip
1 cup confectioners sugar
Blend until smooth. Spread on 1st layer

3rd layer
2 boxes INSTANT chocolate pudding mix.
Mix with 3 cups milk. Beat with egg beater. Spread on 2nd layer.

4th layer
Spread a 9oz. container of Cool Whip on top of pudding mixture. Sprinkle with chocolate sprinkles if you want.

Cool overnight in refrigerator. Enjoy!

**Fish and Game Club News**

The annual Walter E. Carlson Fishing Derby was wet and wonderful. Some two dozen boys and girls participated, pulling just a fraction of the 300 plus trout from the freshly-stocked pond. Royalston’s Allyson Mowrey was the first place girl’s winner and took the largest fish of the day, a 15 1/8” trout. All participants were provided with lunch and a prize at the conclusion of the day. The Royalston F&G Club thanks the Miller’s River Fisherman’s Association for its donation of ten jumbo trout, including one about 24” long. Mohawk Trout Hatchery of Sunderland was the stocking agency, providing 250 10” – 12” trout, and about 50 in the 12” – 16” range. Mike Zak and Tom Bushee, representing fish with serial numbers; anglers reeling in tagged prizes. Contact the Club for more details.

**June Gardening Tip**: Don’t mow down your daffodils until after they have finished blooming and the leaves have begun to yellow. This provides extra time for photosynthesis to feed the bulb to make it strong for future blooms.

**Awards**

Ashley E. Bergquist earned one of the coveted 2007 Telegram & Gazette Student Achiever Awards. Her photo and biography appeared in the May 13th insert. Under honors and awards: John & Abigail Adams Scholarship; National Honor Society for three years and served as chair for the Tutorial Committee. Activities: Co-captain and four year member of the Math Team; co-president and four years as a peer educator; VP and four years on Students Against Destructive Decisions; four years on Student Council; one year on spring track. Plans: study political science or government

Jessica A. Putney is one of twelve accepted to Mount Wachusett Community College’s highly selective Community Scholars program. The program features a full scholarship, including tuition, fees and books, as well as a paid position in the non-profit sector. The high school senior is a 2007 graduate of Monty Tech with a certificate in welding. She intends to major in Exercise and Fitness Sciences.

Congratulations to the Monty Tech students who earned spots on the early spring honor roll: Rebecca Paine, Daniel Demboske and Megan Wessels all achieved honors. High Honors were achieved by Michael Demboske and Brittany Warren.

Joann Deacon was named “Regional Teacher of the Year” by Walmart. This award includes $1000 prize for the school and an extra $100 prize for her classroom. Joann was chosen for her excellence as an efficient and compassionate teacher as well as her success at soliciting grant money used used to fund myriads of enrichment programs at the Royalston Community School.

Attorney Joan Katz of Laurel Lake Road recently received the prestigious Mary C. Fitzpatrick Children and Family Law Award from the Massachusetts Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS), a state agency. In its presentation to Katz at a recent ceremony in Worcester, the CPCS described her as a “tireless and dedicated advocate for parents and children... often on the most difficult cases and in the face of what appear to be overwhelming odds. She is a skilled trial lawyer; she is passionate in her advocacy and compassionate toward her clients; and her preparation and attention to detail serve as a model for all of our attorneys.”

She was also cited for her work on behalf of mentally ill clients and for providing “countless hours” of pro bono (unpaid) “advocacy to children in paternity, adoption, and abuse prevention cases.”

The CPCS is a 15-member body established by Chapter 211D of the Massachusetts General Laws to oversee the provision of legal representation to indigent persons in the Commonwealth. Most of the legal representation in nearly 300,000 cases annually is provided by approximately 2,400 private attorneys appointed by various courts. Of those 2,400 private attorneys, Katz was the only one chosen for this year’s Fitzpatrick award.

Katz lived in Royalston in the 1970s and 1980s, then moved to Greenfield, recently returning to Royalston where she resides with her partner, Nancy Ferron. Katz’s children attended Royalston schools. A daughter, Rose Ciccarelli, is a student at Wheaton College in Norton. A son, Aaron Ciccarelli, resides in Oregon and recently graduated from Pacifica University, while her other son, Indra Ciccarelli, lives in Sherman Oaks, Calif., and teaches in a public elementary school.
**CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD NEWS**

*Graduates and others: Got something to crow about? Send it along to the RCN. Zap to chasesgos@gis.net or drop at library.*

**Graduates: Jessica Guiney** graduated Suma Cum Laude from Fitchburg State. She also received the Frederick Douglas Citizenship Award. She will be in Washington, D.C. this summer for an internship at the Research Institute on Terrorism. Then in the fall, Jess will be attending George Washington University’s Elliot School of International Affairs as a graduate student.

**Gina M. Verelli** recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education with a specialization in History from Fitchburg State.


**Mary Carnie New Royalston Poet Laureate**

*Our judge, Polly Longsworth, read through all the anonymously entered poems several times and was very touched by them. She felt each had a unique merit and loved the strong sense of appreciation of Royalston’s special beauty working through many of the poems. The following poem, written by long-time RCS teacher and poetry club facilitator, Mary Carnie, was chosen as winner for its “ease of expression, gentle rhythm that matches its subject, and engaging, not too regular, pattern of rhyme.” She, along with the runner up, 9 year old Crystal Kilhart, will receive a laurel crown and a book of poems at the June 5th selectmen’s meeting to mark their achievement.*

Oh timeless wonder of rocks and rills
Endless beauty among the hills
peepers in symphony,
birds and toads
maples and ash on winding roads
all bring sway
in color majestic
Royalston, oh Royalston
Instep with my heart
Your beauty is etched
As whippoorwills dart
We walk along your grassy ways
Course your waters
On endless days
Past fields of sedge
By water’s edge
Through clouds of gauze fields
endless beauty reveals
The jewel in diadem crown
Royalston, our town

**Town Scrapbook**

Arlene Vining kindly donated this 1928 photo of a Sunday school outing to the Highview Conservation School. This site, a school for children from broken homes from 1916-36, eventually became Camp Caravan and now, renovation plans are in the works to make it the future campus of the Village School. *Left to right/ Back row: Meril Cleveland, Kenneth Wilcox, Donald Barnes, Lewis Shine, Willard Newton, Merton (Kelly) Wilcox and Clyde Shine. 2nd row: Catherine Smith, Dorothy Jewett, Marjorie Bowers, Edith Lemon. front: Gertrude Cleveland, teacher Minnie Lescord, Jane Newton, Lilith Bowers and Clara Crumb.*

**MILESTONES**

**Weddings:** Liz Wheeler and Chad Evangelous will be married June 23 at the Athol-Orange Baptist Church.

**Jerry Marcanio** and **Rob Jalbert** of Butterworth Road were married in a private outdoor ceremony at their home April 29, followed by a party on May 12 for more than 60 friends, neighbors and relatives. The wedding ceremony was conducted by Allen Young, longtime friend and neighbor, who obtained a special one-day state permit. Marcanio, who has lived in Royalston since 1977, is a graduate of Greenfield Community College and is employed as an administrative assistant for the town of Greenfield. He’s been involved in community theater for many years. Jalbert, of Dorchester, formerly of Grafton, is a self-employed gardener and rental property manager. He is a graduate of Framingham State College. He is an avid skier and taught skiing for 10 years at Sunday River, Bethel, Maine.

**Obituary:** Enrico “Conrad” Caranfa, 58, died suddenly in a three-car accident early May 1, 2007 in Michigan while on a business trip for his job as an engineer for the special gage division of L.S. Starrett Co. He is the spouse of Royalston’s postmistress, Pam Caranfa, and father of three children, Lisa, 19, Antonio, 16, and Laura, 14. Mr. Caranfa, who served on the Athol Capital Planning Committee and Rt 2 Task Force and formerly worked on the Athol Finance Committee, was a devoted public servant known for fairness, frugality and strong opinions. According to Athol selectman Alan Dodge, “It’s hard to find people like him who give their whole life to their community.” Strong sympathy is felt for the Caranfa family from many Royalston residents, whose encounters at the post office, through the school committee and town government, and as classmates have led us to admire its exceptional diligence, kind intentions and thorough decency. Sincere condolences.
Wildlife Sightings:

Pat Jackson saw a “large and beautiful” red fox cross Rt. 32 at 8:00 am on Mother’s Day. Her dog, Kalu, found a porcupine near her house on South Royalston Rd about 10 pm at the end of April.

Maureen Blasco and Mark Shoul each saw a cow in their neighborhood near the junction of New Boston and Neale Rds in early May. On Tuesday, May 22nd, a female moose and her calf toured the herb gardens at the Morris/Siegel household on Prospect Hill Road. The moose seemed to be watching the young calf (bovine) in front of the gardens at the Morris/Siegel household near the junction of New Boston and Neale Rds in early May.

Helen Feliciano out on Morse Rd., adjacent to the Birch Hill Conservation Area, has a turkey family coming 3 times a day for food. She reports, “Dad is handsome and rather patriotic as well: his throat is red; his head white and his face has a blue tinge. He is very cautious; his head perks up at any noise. Since they are in my driveway, I have to leave by the back door. Also, every day I have great visitors to my feeders under a blossoming apple tree. The squirrels are real cloulls, hanging from their tails and at times falling off the feeder fighting and chasing each other. The little red ones try to attack my metal container with their tails and at times falling off the feeder fighting and chasing each other.” At the feeders, Helen has between 30-36 birds on the ground eating, including “red wing blackbirds, juncos, purple headed grackles, mourning doves, cute little chickadees, nuthatches and cow birds.” Her hummingbirds arrived May 15. The male in his beautiful red neck tried the feeder before the green female. Helen has observed, “They are very unshar ing and will push another one off the feeder.”

Marvin, a housecat, left a dead short tailed shrew on his lawn on Northeast Fitzwilliam Rd. This shrew is one of the most common animals in North America. Famous for its ferocity, a shrew bites its victims in the throat and face and its saliva contains a paralyzing poison. For a human, a shrew bite is painful and slow to heal.

Watch your pic-in-ic baskets: Bears at the Feeders

John McLure, northeast of the Common, had more nocturnal visits from a bear in May. He is getting good at repairing fence. The bear also called on John Poor across the street. Similarly, the Verrelli family on Warwick Road had a bear come feast for 4 nights on the contents of their bird feeders. Eventually, after having destroyed all the feeders, it just licked up remains that had fallen to the ground. On Bliss Hill, Phil Mickey, Nell Vaughn, and Nell’s visiting sister from San Francisco got a view, photo, and camera video from a porch window of a black bear reclining and dining. According to Nell, “This bear was at least hip high at the shoulder and a hunter friend guessed it was 250 pounds; he lumbered. When he realized we were watching, he looked straight at us with a look not just animal, but primitive, unrecognizable—not at all like a wild coyote or moose.” Their bird feeders are all down now. They just wish the bear would just stop tromping through the perennial beds every few nights leaving four-inch deep craters. The Conry family on Butterworth Rd also snapped photos of a bear near their home. They’ve also report enjoying Evening Grosbeaks at the feeders, Great Horned Owls hooting in the night and deer wandering in the fields. The dogs do not enjoy the porcupine quills however.

Garden Notes

Larry Siegel

When we moved here in the fall of 1976, I knew it was for the long haul; notwithstanding, a half-dozen years later, when I determined Royalston to be too urban, I began searching for a more remote spot to live. The following spring, fifty asparagus roots were set out. It would be three years before we harvested our first spear but it is from this original planting I currently harvest. The plants are a bit less vigorous than thirty years ago (then again, so am I) but continue to satisfy all our asparagus needs. I’m out there every day, not because it is necessary, but rather to celebrate the first ongoing harvest in six months.

Also, in that first spring, two dozen fruit trees were planted. Most are still alive; they have transformed from three-foot sticks to striking trees nudging each other from thirty-five feet apart. As I write, I am looking out at a sea of blossoms. Once again, though, they are flowering during a period of wet and cold, discouraging anything that flies and pollinates, and making problematic any substantial fruit set. This stretch of mid-May weather has been a mixed blessing. Beyond the havoc it is playing with fruit set, the conditions put a hold on seed germination. There is no sign of the potatoes I planted two weeks ago. On the other hand, conditions are ideal for transplanting cool weather vegetables (onions, leeks, celery, celeriac), and, mercifully, the black flies are inactive.

Events have been unfolding without a hitch. There is a lull in the action now while I await more summer-like conditions to set out the warm-weather plants. Like May, June garden activities will unfold in a precise pattern. If late-May cooperates, tomatoes will be in the ground but peppers, basil, and the remaining annual flowers must await even warmer conditions. Soon after the first of the month, I plant winter squash, rutabagas, and daikon radish. Every week, religiously (I have begun to consider gardening somewhat religiously lately), I will plant a row or two of beans, cucumbers, beets, and carrots. The corn, started indoors, will be set out by the second week in June, at the same time I direct seed some. My vegetable and fruit consumptions will not be particularly diverse: asparagus, lettuce, and spinach, followed by asparagus, lettuce, and spinach. Before month’s end, there will be strawberries; until then, there is rhubarb crisp and rhubarb cobbler and rhubarb flummery.

For years, I’ve mumbled about spending some leisure time in the garden. It is finally happening: as sunset approaches, I wander off to the gardens, spending a half-hour or so meandering and observing, hands in my pockets to discourage me from bending over and pulling a weed (though I’ve been known to displace one or two with my feet). There is nothing quite as orderly as the late-May garden: hardly a weed appears and the only insects are disturbing anything that flies and pollinates, and making problematic any substantial fruit set. This stretch of mid-May weather has been a mixed blessing. Beyond the havoc it is playing with fruit set, the conditions put a hold on seed germination. There is no sign of the potatoes I planted two weeks ago. On the other hand, conditions are ideal for transplanting cool weather vegetables (onions, leeks, celery, celeriac), and, mercifully, the black flies are inactive.

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Happy Birthday to the Texas Ladies, Mother and Daughter.
One is 40 & one is 20!!
We love you Holly and Goldie,
Have a Blessed Birthday!!
Mom, Gram, Sister and Aunt

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Construction Supervisor #044817
Royalston’s oldest resident, **Molly Smith**, has recently moved into the Baldwinville Nursing Home. She would appreciate contact from people in Town.

The Anair family on Norcross Rd has been adopted by a **stray cat**. If she’s your lost cat, call. She’s young, maybe a year or less. Very friendly. Call cell and leave message- 978 413 2566.

**Classifieds**

John Divoll will **mow lawns** this summer (or perform any odd jobs) Respondees will have to provide mower. Call 249-3158.

**Boat For Sale**: 19’ 1987 FourWinns Cutty Cab I/O merc. 165h mint condition Xtras totally updated; includes trailer - $5500. Interested? call 978-249-4865

**Woodstove Pellets**: The Royalston Community Coop is investigating the financial savings in ordering woodstove pellets in quantity. Pellets would be a premium grade/low ash content product made in North America and ordered by the unit, which is one ton pallet loads of 50 bags of pellets, each weighing 40 lbs. So far, a half-dozen people have indicated they could use about 20 tons of pellets. The last chance to indicate interest (no commitment required until price established) is Sunday, June 3. Orders will be placed in June. Contact Mary Barclay at 978-249-2598 – and yes, the answering machine is now working.

**Submission deadline for July/Aug issue is: June 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 provided free of charge to all residents of Royalston as a public service provided by the Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library with support from the Royalston Cultural Council and the entire community.

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