Calendar of Events

October 4 Thursday
3:30 pm  Friends of the Library Meeting to discuss library support, upcoming events, the need for volunteers to help with this newsletter and fundraisers. All welcome.

October 7 Sunday
4 pm  Royalston’s Award winning filmmakers: Werner Bundschuh, Liane Brandon and Boyd Estus will show clips and share secrets from careers in film and television at The 1794 Meetinghouse in New Salem. Tickets & info at www.1794meetinghouse.org or call 978-544-4200. (adults $10/ kids free)

October 8 Monday  Columbus Day observed
Schools, library and post office closed.

October 10 Wednesday
11:00 - noon  free cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure screening at the Town Hall in conjunction with the senior luncheon. Screenings are open to all. Pre-registration not required. Funding comes from the Mass. Office of Elder Affairs.

October 11 Thursday
1:01 a.m.  New Hunter’s Moon

October 13 Saturday
4 pm  104th School Scholarship/Alumni Meeting and Social at Royalston Fish & Game Club.

6 pm  104th School Scholarship/Alumni Dinner Dance at Royalston Fish & Game Club.

7 - 10 pm  A-REF’s Oktoberfest, Micro-brewery beer and German wine, live music, and schmeckhafte German food. Donation $25-50. Contact Beth Gospodarek, Carla Rabinowitz or Melanie Mangum for tix. Raises money for enrichment projects in the local public schools.

October 14 Sunday
Tully Lake Triathlon. Based out of the Campground; (fun family activities the day before). Includes a 5-mile paddle, a 4.5-mile trail run, and a 7.5-mile mountain bike ride. Live music following.

Applications for grants are due at the Royalston Cultural Council, P.O.Box 125. If you have an idea of an activity the people of Royalston and South Royalston would enjoy, apply. Forms at the post office, library or on-line at http://massculturalcouncil.org/applications/lccapp.html

October 19 Friday
6:30 pm  Historical Society Pot Luck Supper and Annual Meeting at the home of Peter Kraniak on Winchendon Rd. New members welcome to attend. RSVP Peter Kraniak at 978-249-7625.

October 20 Saturday

October 21 Sunday
The Orionid Meteor Shower takes place during pre-dawn hours today and tomorrow. Look to the southern skies for approximately 25 shooting stars per hour, emanating from Halley’s Comet.

October 24 Wednesday
7:30 pm  LBS business meeting to finalize plans for the annual braised beef supper, which raises money for local scholarships.

8 pm  The annual LBS Memorial Piano Concert in the ballroom at The Maples, the Bundshuh home, on the common. Local pianists, including the lovely and talented Deb Nunes, will perform. Community (of all genders) welcome. Refreshments.

October 26 Friday
12:52 a.m  Full Hunter’s Moon

TBA  Family Halloween Dance at RCS. Kids and their parents are encouraged to wear costumes and come boogie with the Boogey Man at the RCS gym. Sponsored by the Parent Teacher Group. Tix $4. ( $10 maximum/ family.)

October 27 Saturday
5 pm  Harvest Party at the First Congregational Church

5:30 - 8 pm  Town Halloween Party at Town Hall, includes a Haunted Hay Ride, indoor games, Costume Parade, Wolf Talk and refreshments. Free, but please bring a bag of candy to share. To assist, call 249-5807. Sponsored by the Royalston Police Association.

7 pm  “Wolf Talk”, a program by wolf rehabilitators Michael and Amy LaBlanc, which features a live wolf will be a grande finale at the Town Halloween Party at Town Hall. It is also possible to just come for the wolves at 7:00. Wolf talk sponsored by the Friends of the Library and funded by the Royalston Cultural Council.
What Happened at the 9/7/07 Special Town Meeting?

Everything, except money to repair the police cruiser, passed. The thirty or so voters in attendance approved funding $5000 to remove a mobile home from 63 North Fitzwilliam Rd; $5000 to pay for a facilitator for the ARSSD’s strategic planning huddle; $8500 for Cemetery Maintenance due to increased mowing costs; $750 to repair a hydrant; and $1200 to repair or replace doors at Town Hall. The $3800 to repair the police cruiser was defeated 11-15 as the car was reported to be unsafe and in such rough shape, needing ball joints, a radiator repair and a new fender, that it couldn’t pass inspection. Some voters voiced it would be better to put same money into a lease on a newer cruiser. All of the articles related to changes on the Athol-Royalston Regional School District passed unanimously, including designating RCS as a k-6 school and allowing an 8 of 10 member school committee majority to settle intra-district requests for school choice. The Athol Special Town Meeting on October 15 will also have to pass these amendments if they are to become part of the ARSSD Regional Agreement.

Selectmen’s News

Andy West, selectmen

The Special Town meeting in early September left one item unfinished. An article to fund repairs to the police car was voted down because many Town Meeting participants felt that the car should be replaced instead of repaired. Because of the comments from many of the voters, the Selectboard will hold a special town meeting to ask for funding for a new car by lease or purchase. The Board will open and discuss this warrant at our next meeting on October 2, 2007. The public is always welcome. It is the Board’s policy to handle capital expense items like this at the annual meeting in June. But, the urgent nature of the repairs and the sentiment on the floor sent a message to handle this differently.

Good news for West Royalston: The south end of Bliss Hill Road make-over will be completed shortly. Our Highway crew has been prepping the road for drainage improvements and repaving.

Route 32 News Flash! The Board of Selectmen will host a public information session in October. Representatives from our engineering firm will be on hand to share their research and gather public input. They will use this input to help shape the plan for the road. The road to successful funding for this project starts with public input. Immediate funding for this project is not guaranteed: the more public input, the better. Now is your chance to voice your needs or sound off with your frustrations. Watch the Athol Daily News and www.royalston-ma.gov for the exact date and time.

Community Crime Watch

Curtis Deveneau, police chief

Royalston residents are encouraged to play a part in our local home & land security. Currently our community does not have a formal crime watch program in place but the police department is asking all residents to keep a watchful eye out for things that do not seem right while traveling to and from work. Central Massachusetts, southern New Hampshire and southern Vermont are experiencing numerous breaks into residences and businesses during the day. The following are some things to look for: vehicles parked along roadways that are not in the area of known hiking trails or a subject that you do not recognize from the area who is walking or jogging and is not dressed properly for the activity. Items being taken range from currency to electronics to metal. The value of metal being paid from salvage yards is at an all time high. If you make an observation, call the police station (978-249-5838) and leave your name, number and the information/discription. If a vehicle is involved, please try and get the license plate number and state. Should you feel you have an emergency, call 911 or 978-249-4211 for an emergency dispatcher. If you are interested in having an organized Crime Watch program in your neighborhood, please call the police station at 978-249-5838. Thank you for your anticipated efforts to help keep our community safe.

The Royalston Cultural Council says: Get Your Act Together!

Children’s Halloween Party

Sponsored by the Royalston Police Association
Date: Saturday - October 27
Time: 5:30PM - 8:00PM
Location: Town Hall - On The Common

photo: Amber Plummer at the ‘06 Town Halloween Party.
This year’s event will include a Haunted Hay Ride, indoor games, a Costume Parade, and a “Wolf Talk”, a program with a wolf rehabilitator featuring a live wolf. Drinks and snacks will be available. Families are encouraged to bring a bag of candy to be distributed into treat bags. Anyone interested in assisting with games or the haunted hay ride skits please call Curtis or Laurie at 978-249-5807.

Get Your Act Together!

Diners invited to wear costumes. Prizes and treats.

October 29 Monday
10:30 am Pre-school Storytime Halloween Party. Kids can wear costumes. Healthy seasonal treats and stories.

October 31 Wednesday Halloween
11:00 am Halloween Party at the Senior Luncheon. Diners invited to wear costumes. Prizes and treats.

6-8 pm Recommended Trick or Treating hours

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From the Forest Warden’s Desk:
submitted by Wayne Newton

There have been many questions regarding the burning regulations of Royalston and chimineas (outdoor fireplaces). They are as follows: These devices are not specifically regulated under Chapter 148, 527 CMR or the Air Pollution Prevention Regulations 310 CMR 7.00. Typically these devices are to be fueled by clean firewood. 310 CMR 7.07 (relative to the Fire Pits) and 7.08 (relative to the Outdoor Fireplaces and Chimineas) prohibit the burning of trash, refuse or other similar material in such devices. As with wood boilers, 310 CMR 7.09 prohibits any burning which creates a nuisance or a condition of air pollution (i.e., excessive smoke) or hazard to others, and again the fire department does have authority to enforce this prohibition. Additionally, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 148 § 5 allows the head of the fire department to order that conditions likely to cause fire be remedied. This could be applicable when these devices are located on decks, or porches or located close to buildings.

Open air fires are generally regulated pursuant to M.G.L. c.48 s.13 which states in pertinent part “No person shall set, maintain or increase a fire in the open air...except by permission...granted by the Forest Warden or Chief of the Fire Department, or Fire Commissioner “There is a statutory exception for outdoor cooking. However, the exception is limited to persons eighteen years of age or older, who may, without a permit, set, maintain or increase a reasonable fire for the purpose of cooking, upon sandy or gravelly land free from... vegetation or upon sandy or rocky beaches boarding on tidewater, if the fire is enclosed within rocks, metal or other non flammable material...” Every other outdoor fire must be permitted by the head of the fire department or the Fire Warden.

The Town of Royalston has an Open Burning Process. All fires will be with the permission of the Royalston Forest Warden or the head of the Royalston Fire Department by obtaining a permit. Standard procedures to obtain a burning permit are as follows: Open burning is from January 15 to May 1st. Once an application of permit is filled out, additional burn days may be authorized by calling the Fire Department Business Line, 978-249-8138 only, on the day of the proposed burn; listen carefully to the message as you may be denied a permit due to weather and/or other conditions not desirable for safe burning. If allowed, leave message with your name, address, telephone number and permit number issued to you. There will be no tolerance for burning when dangerous, dry conditions are present. Permit is non-transferable to another person or address. Permission is still required every day you want to burn. Burning is from 2 Hours after sunrise to 4 P.M. No Permits will be issued after 12 Noon. All fires must be out by 4 P.M. Each fire will have extinguishing capability at the fire site. Fire must be monitored at all times. Fire must be at least 75 feet from all buildings. Burning structures and large amount of building materials is prohibited. Do not use tires to start fire. Nuisance smoke could cause the revocation of your permit. Applicant is responsible for all conditions and requirements set forth in M.G.L Ch: 48:13

October 7-13, 2007 – Fire Prevention Week

National Fire Prevention Week will be celebrated October 7-13. This year’s theme is “It’s Fire Prevention Week - Practice Your Escape Plan,” which focuses on how to plan and practice an escape route from a home if a fire occurs. If you have children, you may choose to go to this website http://www.sparky.org/family.html and print an “Escape Planning Grid” for your household to practice. The Fire Department will be promoting escape plans during Fire Prevention Week at both the Royalston Community and Village Schools.

Royalston Luncheon Club

Remember to reserve a seat any Monday for the following Wednesday’s community luncheon at the Town Hall by calling Betty Woodbury at 978-249-9656. In addition to the ongoing luncheons, there are two special events in October. On October 10 from 11:00 - noon there will be free cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure screening at the Town Hall. These screenings are open to all. Pre-registration not required. Funding comes from the Mass. Office of Elder Affairs. On October 31, there will be a Halloween Party at the luncheon. Participants are invited to wear costumes. There will be prizes and treats.

The Royalston Cultural Council says:
Get your act together; the Follies are coming up in the Spring of 2008.

Board of Health News
Phil Leger, chair

Part 2: What happens to the bottles, cans and plastic brought to the Royalston transfer station?

Aluminum and metal cans get reprocessed into new cans and other metal uses. Metal is the easiest to capture and remanufacture due to the nature of metals. We just melt it and re-form it into its next reincarnation. It takes ten times less energy to do this from recycled cans than to make a new can from raw materials. Most of the glass is ground up and used as a component in road paving material. Much of glass comes from sand, so using it to make roads is a good match. Maine is one state that is a leader in using glass in road paving projects. Plastic containers, depending on their numbers, are used for different products. Polarfleece is spun from recycled plastic. Plastic fencing, decking, furniture, and carpeting are other major uses of recycled plastic. Milk and juice cartons are recycled for the paperboard that is in the containers. A key point: If consumers don’t buy recycled content products, then they are not closing the loop. Close the loop, BUY RECYCLED!

The Board of Health is asking people to “step on it”. By this we mean, after you have rinsed you plastic, metal, milk carton etc., STEP ON IT! This simple act enables more items to go into the roll off. This increases the tonnage that can be hauled at one time, which helps save trips, therefore, saving energy. A similar tip for metal cans: after taking the lid off and emptying contents, rinse the can and then take the bottom off. Step on the can, flattening it, and then, insert the top and bottom inside the can. Be careful not to cut yourself as some metal edges can be sharp. (Not to be done by your five year old.) At this time, the only container that should not be crushed is glass. In the future, if we are able to install a compactor unit for plastic, metal, and milk cartons etc, we will be able to crush the glass in a separate container. Until then, do not break the glass. The lids should be taken off containers. Lids can be put in with the bottles and cans, just not on the containers. With the lids on, it creates air space and also can cause odor once the lids do come off. Remember, reduce your use, reuse what you have, and then recycle. Reminder, new stickers where due as of July 1st. If not in sync, see attendant when you next come in. Thank you.

The Royalston Community Newsletter October 2007 Page 3
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
Marsha Charest for lots of supplies and many ideas
Alyana Baker for help around the library
Jim and Pat Kelley for books and craft supplies
Tom Musco for an audiobook
Barbara Richardson for books
Aaron Richardson for planting mums
Jon Hardie for helping sort out the library computers as well as his continuing financial support of this newsletter
Diana Newton for donating books

Library Submits Long Range Plan
After gathering the surveys, digesting the information gathered at the Focus Group, talking to lots of people, and discussing it with the Trustees, I have submitted a 5 year plan for the library to the Board of Library Commissioners. We will be focusing on several areas including: getting the catalog on-line, which means getting all the books bar coded and progressing to an automated circulation system; improving the cataloging and availability of the genealogy materials at the library and collecting resources helpful to individuals researching family histories; expanding information of interest on the website including some genealogy resources and more photos of library events; continuing and improving our role as a community center by providing information and media in a variety of formats for enjoyment and enrichment; and providing more services for young adults along with maintaining our programming for children and adults. We also included plans for the library’s 100th birthday in 2010. A copy of the plan is available to read at the library.

Allen Young to Discuss His New Book
Long time resident and author, Allen Young will discuss his new book, Make Hay While the Sun Shines: Farms, Forests and People of the North Quabbin, on Friday, November 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Library. This collection of stories about people from Royalston and around the North Quabbin has been updated and includes photos by Allen’s sister. Royalston items in the book: profile of Maba Cauthen as “editor of Finnish newspaper; profile of Glenn Freden as a conscientious forester; interview with “Jake” Clark about his life as a butler/gardener in the Hill house circa 1930 (currently the Bundschuh house); article about historic district issues, with emphasis on Royalston; article about one of the first Christmas Tree lighting ceremonies; article about a snowmobile ride from North Orange to Pete and Henry’s; article about old-time farmers Francis and Linnie Dillon; article about “new” farmers George Northrop and Kate Collins; detailed feature story about South Royalston and what makes it special, including a photograph of Martha, Waino and John Kirkman. AND MORE.

Join us for an evening of superb refreshments including beer and wine and maybe hear some additional tales about your neighbors. For more information, please call the library.
Some of the New Books at the Library:

**New Adult Fiction**
- Alexander, Lloyd *The Golden Dream of Carlo Chuchio*
- Bloom, Amy *Away: A Novel*
- Cain, Chelsea *Heart Sick*
- Crusie, Jennifer *Agnes and the Hitman*
- Farmer, Nancy *The Land of the Silver Apples*
- Francis, Dick *Dead Heat*
- Gibson, William *Spook Country*
- Hunter, Stephen *The 47th Samurai: A Bob Lee Swagger Novel*
- Keillor, Garrison *Pontoon: A Novel of Lake Wobegon*
- Kellerman, Faye *The Burnt House*
- Korman, Gordon *Maximum Ride: Saving the World and Other Extreme Sports*
- Kellerman, Faye *You’ve Been Warned*
- Mallery, Susan *Tempting*
- Minter, J. *Inside Girl*
- Patterson, James *Eclipse*
- Patterson, James *Schooled*
- Lynch, Scott *Red Seas Under Red Skies*
- Meyer, Stephen *2012: The War for Souls*
- Minter, J. *Exit Ghost*
- Tapply, William *One-Way Ticket: A Brady Coyne Novel*
- Wilhelm, Kate *The Price of Silence*

**New Adult Nonfiction**
- Campbell, Alastair *The Blair Years: The Alastair Campbell Diaries*
- Schaab, Fred *The 50 Best Sights in Astronomy and How to See Them: Observing Eclipses, Bright Comets, Meteor Showers, and other Celestial Wonders*
Historical Society Pot Luck Supper/ Annual Meeting

The Royalston Historical Society will hold its annual pot luck supper and elections on the 19th of October at the home of Peter Krania on Winchendon Rd. If you wish to help preserve the history of Royalston and have the time, come and join us. The meal commences at 6:30 pm. Bring a favorite recipe. Call 249-7625 for more information.

Ladies Benevolent Society

Annual Piano Concert

The annual LBS Memorial Piano Concert, begun a few years ago to commemorate members who have passed on, is planned for Wednesday, October 24, in the ballroom at The Maples, home of member Patience Bundschuh. The program begins at 8 p.m., under the direction of LBS member Deb Nunes. Local pianists will perform on the grand piano which once belonged to Royalston benefactrix, founder of the Royalston Academy, Katherine Cole. Lovely refreshments served. All members of the community welcome, regardless of gender or age. Free.

LBS business meeting will precede the concert at 7:30 pm. to finalize plans for the annual braised beef supper. (Members who do not attend may find themselves in charge of making the carrot salad.)

Oktoberfest

Break out the lederhosen. The Athol-Royalston Education Foundation is holding another of its *froliche* Oktoberfests at the Ellinwood Country Club in Athol from 7 - 10 pm on October 13. Ticket price includes beer tasting of over 20 varieties of micro-brewed seasonal beers and German wines, sampling yummy German appetizers and desserts, and dancing to Melanie and the Blue Shots, (polka optional). This fun event raises money for enrichment projects in our local public schools. The suggested donation for a ticket is: $25-50. Business sponsors are also sought. Contact Beth Gospodarek, Carla Rabinowitz or Melanie Mangum for tix or to place a business ad in the program.

Royalston’s Award winning filmmakers: Werner Bundschuh, Liane Brandon and Boyd Estus (shown left to right) will show clips and share secrets from careers in film and television on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7 at 4PM at THE 1794 MEETING-HOUSE, North Quabbin’s Center for the Performing Arts in New Salem Center. Tickets are $10 (12 and under FREE) Tickets & info at www.1794meetinghouse.org or call 978-544-4200. Boyd Estus, Director of Photography and owner of Heliotrope Studios makes films for public television. Liane Brandon is an independent filmmaker, a founder of New Day Films and Professor Emerita, UMASS, Amherst. Werner Bundschuh produced, directed, wrote, shot and edited documentaries for PBS, The History and Discovery Channels.

Tully Lake Triathlon

Date: Saturday, October 13, 2007 - Sunday, October 14, 2007  
Time: 11:00 AM  
Location: Tully Lake Campground  
It’s a weekend packed with activities, all capped off with the main event, a 17-mile paddle/run/bike triathlon. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each of the following categories: Individual—Women, Individual—Men, Team—Two Person, Team—Three Person. Camp Saturday night at Tully Lake Campground to enjoy the full weekend’s worth of activities.

The Course:
The 5-mile paddle starts from Tully Lake Campground, proceeds up the Tully River (flat water) to the north end of Long Pond, and returns to the starting point for the transition to the run. The 4.5-mile run follows a dirt trail around Tully Lake. Its course is moderate except for one short, steep hill on Doane Hill Road. The 7.5-mile bike leg will loop the Tully Lake Mountain Bike Trail, a moderately difficult mix of fire roads and single track.

Schedule of Events:

*Saturday, October 13*  
Registration.: 11 am - 4:30 pm  
Pre-Race Meeting: 4:40 - 5 pm  
Workshops: 2 - 5 pm  
Pre-Race Pasta Dinner: 5:30 - 7 pm  
Concert : 7 - 10 pm  
Bonfire: 9 - 11

*Sunday, October 14*  
Pre-Race Meeting: 9 - 9:30 am  
Race Starts: Teams:10 am  
Individual Women: 10:10.  
Individual Men: 10:20  
Concert : 4 -6 pm

Call for more information. Telephone: 978-840-4446 x1901
For more information and / or to register on-line: http://www.thetrustees.org/pages/29852_tully_lake_triathlon.cfm or E-mail: central@ttor.org
All Schools’ Reunion & Scholarship Event
Attention All Royalston Students, Past & Present: If you’re a Royalston Community School family, a Raymond School Family or a South Royalston Elementary School family, you’re all invited to attend the 104th annual South Royalston School Reunion Association activities on Saturday, October 13. If you have not yet reserved your seats, please do so immediately! Call Luann (978-249-8746), Debbie (978-249-9445) or Sue (508-790-3640). The annual meeting begins at 4 p.m. with a social and light refreshments (free of charge). A roast beef dinner begins at 6 p.m. ($12 by advance reservation only!) followed by a 50s dance with that rock’n’roll aficionado, DJ Duane Neale.

A Chinese auction is also slated for the event. New items are requested and may be brought with you the evening of the reunion. Those unable to attend are encouraged to make a donation, since all monies are used for the annual SRS Reunion Association Scholarship and to defray incidental expenses of the reunion.

Important Dates at the Royalston Community School
October 1  Progress Reports go home in upper grades
October 8  Columbus Day observed- NO SCHOOL
October 10  1/2 day, noon dismissal, lunch served
October 15  School Picture Day
October 22  Parent Teacher Group meeting at 3:30.
October 26  MWCC visits RCS @ 2:00 p.m. to perform, “Miss Nelson has a Field Day”, generously funded by the Royalston Academy. PTG family Halloween Dance that evening.

The school year is off to a roaring start. Despite some adjustments due to increased class sizes, RCS has settled into a comfortable pattern of teaching and learning. All of the classes recently enjoyed various science programs which came to the school from the Boston Museum of Science. Mrs. Stimpson’s 4th grade is planning a trip to Northfield Mountain in conjunction with its unit on electricity and poetry club is starting soon. After a year hiatus due to funding cuts, school band is resuming this October for the upper grades. Also, watch for information on a new after-school chorus program. Thanks to all in the community who supported the recent successful fundraisers: a PTG mum sale and the school library’s book fair. Particular thanks go to volunteers Theresa Quinn, Vickie Paine and Lori Darling, none of whom have kids in the school anymore.

Monty Tech “Returns” Some Money to Town
Mary C. Barclay, Monty Tech School Committee Representative
Due to an increase in aid, Monty Tech voted to reduce the assessments to the towns – Royalston treasurer should have the dollar amount that will be “returned” to Royalston soon.

Village School News
Autumn Lantern Walk Celebration Friday November 2
The Village School hosts the annual Autumn Lantern Walk on Friday, November 2nd. The public is invited to participate in this seasonal celebration. The evening starts at 5:00 p.m. at the school (the old Raymond School building) with a gathering in the dark for a bonfire, stories, and songs. Everyone will then join in a procession on Royalston Common to the Town Hall, singing and carrying glowing candle-lit homemade lanterns. Bring a lantern! A community pot luck Italian supper at the Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. will be followed by a contra dance with caller Norah Dooley and the No Name Band, beginning around 6:30 p.m.

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

Open House: Saturday November, 17 from 10 a.m. to noon. Come meet the teachers, talk with parents, see the classrooms, find out about our unique curriculum and get your questions answered. Bring your children to join in activities in the classrooms. Preschool is already filling up for next year.

Parent Work Day at the Village School is Sunday, October 14.

Dean’s Beans Coffee Fundraiser: Get coffee delivered, fresh, once a month to the Village School, whole beans or ground. Order online at www.villageschool.to or pick up an order form in the hallway at the school. Orders are due the first Wednesday of the month. Prices are around $7 a pound.
Memorials

Condolences to the family and friends on the passing of Eleanor B. (Albrecht) White, 91, of 12 Main Street in South Royalston. Mrs. White died August 27, 2007 at the Golden Living Center in Fitchburg. Her husband of 65 years, Francis H. White, Sr. died April 26, 2006. She was a member of the Second Congregational Church, a lifetime member of the Royalston Fish & Game Club and enjoyed many activities. She leaves her children Francis H. White, Jr. and wife Florence of South Royalston, Kenneth White and wife Cathy, of Orange; Judy Lamoreaux of Baldwinville; Susan Nance and husband David, of Tennessee; Janice Trask and husband Larry, and Cindy Boucher and husband Ed., all of South Royalston.

Sympathy goes to Nancy Monette and family at Neale Place on the death of her mother, Harriett McElveen Thomas, 86, who passed peacefully on August 30, 2007. Mrs. Thomas moved in with the Monettes following the 2005 death of her husband of 60 years. She was the author of several books and short stories. She was a humanitarian who donated her time to numerous charities. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimers program at North Quabbin Adult Day Care Center, in c/o the Gardner Visiting Nurses Association, 34 Pearly Lane, Gardner, MA 01440.

Condolences to the Scribner Family of Laurel Lake Rd. on the loss of Maryellen’s father, Peter P. Krustapentus, 86, who died Sunday, September 9, 2007 at home. Mr. Krustapentus attended Athol schools and served as a Signalman 3rd Class in the US Coast Guard during WWII, seeing action in the invasions of Iwo Jima, Okinawa and the Philippines. He retired from UTD industries after 40 plus years as an order analyst. He was a life member of the American Legion, VFW and Lithuanian Naturalization Club. In recent years, he was the featured Memorial Day speaker at the Royalston Community School, where he said he hoped the children would never know the horrors of war. He was a member of the firing squad and taught Jr. ROTC members riflery. He was buried with full military honors in Silver Lake Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions be made to the American Legion Scholarship Fund, 325 Pequiog Ave., or the St. Francis of Assisi Building Fund, 105 Main St., both in Athol, MA 01331.

Pamela J. Osborne, the daughter of Harold and Joyce (Wilcox) Newton died September 19, 2007. She grew up in Royalston, graduating from Athol High School in 1974. Later that year, she married Donald J Osborne and moved to Orange. She worked for Hannaford Supermarkets, Union Twist Drill and Athol Memorial Hospital. She enjoyed knitting, golfing, rooting for the Red Sox, collecting glass and coins and especially spending time with her children. She is remembered as a generous person, who always puts others before herself. Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life, 30 Spleen St, Framingham MA 01701.

Congregational Churches News

Bible Club

Bible Club has begun under the leadership of Sue Veilleux (978-249-5004) and David Williams. It meets Wednesdays after school from 3-4 p.m. at the Royalston Community School. All are welcome. Below is the permission slip applicable for the school year. Stories, songs, Scripture, refreshments!! Special features during the year: puppets, Bible videos, drama, and fieldtrips.

Bible Club Permission slip

I give permission for my child(ren) to attend Bible Club for the school year of 2007-08. I will pick them up at the school at 4 p.m. or make arrangements for their transportation with Susan Veilleux - 978-249-5004

Name(s) of child(ren):

Telephone # where parent can be reached between 3-4 p.m.:

Signature: __________________________

Youth Group Update

The recent car wash at Wal-mart raised an impressive $257. Part of the proceeds went to pay for a plane ticket for Pastor Ginger to fly over The Cross in Barre. It was her lifetime dream come true. Also, the group did a great job singing “Here I am to Worship” at services at both the 1st and 2nd churches. At the September 16th church picnic and baptism, three candidates were baptised. The youth group will attend Acquire the Fire at the Mullen’s Center at UMASS in Amherst. To earn the trip, the group cleaned both churches and did work, including stripping wallpaper, moving furniture and doing yard work, in Pastor Ginger’s home in Barre, where she will reside after she retires from Royalston churches this fall. They will also be washing windows and stacking cord wood for parishioners.

The annual harvest party will be held Saturday, October 27 at 5 pm. please call Kelly Newton for details.
CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD NEWS

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

Recipe of the Month

The calendar may have officially turned its back on summer, but Elvia and Don Richards offer one last evocative taste with this recipe. The Richards' built their Athol Rd home 27 years ago. Royalston is Don's home town.

Easy Blueberry Pudding

2 cups fresh or frozen blueberries
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1 tsp. lemon juice
1 cup flour
3/4 cup sugar
1/2 cup milk
3 tbsp. butter or margarine

Mix blueberries, cinnamon and lemon juice and spread on the bottom of an 8" square baking dish. Combine flour, sugar and baking powder. Melt butter. Stir milk and melted butter into flour mixture. Spoon this batter over the blueberries. For the topping, mix 3/4 cup sugar and 1 tbsp. corn starch and sprinkle over batter. Boil one cup of water and pour it slowly over everything. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes.

Fiber to Fashion Alpaca Extravaganza

Appealing to both Fashionista and Earth mama (and daddy), alpaca is definitively in this season. It's fibers are soft, warm and non-itchy. Alpaca fiber is grown locally on Brown Rd at Royalston Pines Farm. Learn more at the Fiber to Fashion Alpaca Extravaganza October 20 at 5 pm at Town Hall.

The ticket price ($20) includes appetizers and wine, dinner, and a fabulous fashion show, which features neighbors whom you'd never have guessed would agree to take to the runway. It's a great place to shop locally for early holiday gifts. Sponsored by Royal Pines Alpaca Farm: 978-249-7629. Tickets are on sale now.

Norah Dooley on WICN

Listen to The Folk Revival with host Norah Dooley as she spins the platters and chatters live every Thursdays 7-11PM –Listen online or http://wicn.org or 90.5 FM in Worcester MA contact: norah@wicn.org http://wicnfmpasturesofplenty.blogspot.com/

The Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library support this Newsletter and many other activities.

Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library

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Thank You!
**Wildlife Sighting:** Elizabeth Farnsworth & Aaron Ellison saw a juvenile moose ambling down NE Fitzwilliam Road right outside their house on September 10.

**Nature Challenge**

Q: What do jack-in-the-pulpit, lily of the valley, deadly nightshade and asparagus have in common in October?

A: They all have red berries. This is an adaptation which encourages berry eating animals, including some birds, reptiles and mammals to easily visually locate the berries, eat, digest them and eventually excrete the undigestible seeds far from the parent plant. If they land in favorable soil and light conditions, the cycle begins all over again.

**Royalston Community Coop**

The Coop’s order and delivery schedule has been adjusted ever-so-slightly. Orders must now be in on week 2 Mondays by 5 p.m. in order to give Brenda and Mary sufficient time to process and submit. Deliveries will still arrive on week 3 Thursdays, however the expected delivery time is now between 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. Next orders are due in Monday, October 1, and delivery will be Thursday, October 11. As a courtesy, please inform Brenda AND Mary if you’re not planning an order.

**Classifieds**

Wanted to buy: a used wood splitter. Call (978) 249-3040.

Free to a good home: apples. Larry Siegel has many more than even he can handle. Applesauce-making instructions provided at no extra cost. Call 978-249-4260.

Used Vogelzang woodstove, great for outbuildings, garages and workshops. Double 55 gallon barrels with cast iron fittings and damper. Best reasonable offer. Phil or Nell 978-248-9404

**Garden Notes**

*Larry Siegel*

A plague of porcupines. We’ve caught six and still there are piles of munched-upon apples under the trees each morning. The buzz around town suggests that the porcupines are making their presence felt most everywhere. Remember those raccoons in the corn? They were, in fact, porcupines, as we observed one walking through a couple of strands of electric fence as if they were clothes lines.

The rain on September 9 was the first in twenty-seven days and it was followed by a couple more days of inclement weather. By the time the sun had returned, over two inches had fallen, soaked up by a parched garden. A four-week stretch of rainlessness is not all that unusual; remarkably the garden had held up well. Cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, and peppers continued to yield prodigiously, acquiring their water from who-knows-where. Broccoli and cauliflower began to head up and the root crops continued to add poundage. I took advantage of the wet days to move around thinnings of lettuce, kale, and oriental greens and those and the spinach have taken off.

My gardening activities have heated up, primarily because many of them occur in the kitchen and firing up the wood cook stove during the balmy days of September and October ensure some sauna-like conditions. But providing food for the table has always been my primary motivation for gardening and providing food for the winter table requires steamy days in the kitchen. While I’ve begun to rely more and more upon the root cellar for my food preservation techniques of choice, there remains plenty to can, freeze, and pickle. Most of my efforts revolve around churning out one of the four sauces: chili, tomato, apple, and pear. With the exception of the first, it is a simple matter of separating the skins and seeds from the pulp and cooking down until the desired consistency is obtained. To save on canning time and effort, I tend toward a thick product, fruit butters and tomatoes somewhere between a puree and a paste.

The living quarters, as always this time of the year, are cluttered with bushel upon bushel of stuff: potatoes, onions, garlic, apples, pears, and winter squash biding their time until relocated to the root cellar. Surrounded as I am by this bounty, I am reminded that the previous five months of work has not been in vain.

I am aware that this is difficult to convey to those who do not garden, but there is something immensely satisfying about enriching a small piece of earth, especially in this day and age of extracting all that one can (be it the fertility from the soil, the fish from the seas, the oil, coal, and natural gas from deeper and deeper places), to hell with the consequences. So I go about my task, wheelbarrow by wheelbarrow, choosing to believe I am enriching myself at the same time I am enriching the earth.
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Help wanted at the Royalston Community Newsletter:
The RCN, like so much that is good in this world, is written, edited, laid-out and distributed by volunteers. However, helping out here is not meant to be a life-sentence. Accordingly, a few of our regular staff want a well deserved break. A million thanks to Barbara Stowell, who not only founded the RCN, but has maintained the subscription lists since the first issue, and to Jim Kelley, who has overseen the pick up, labeling and mailing of the newsletter for the past several years.

As the masthead says, this is the community newsletter. It strives to keep the town informed, promote the library, create an historical record, and be reasonably entertaining and literary. If you’d like to get involved, we are a friendly bunch who would welcome your help. Call Beth at 249-0358 or the library 249-3572.

Volunteer Positions Available at RCN
Distribution Director: responsible for picking up the newsletter at the Fieldstone Press in Orange and mailing at the Athol Post Office ten times annually around the 28th of the month in the afternoon. It’s not hard. We’ll train.

Writers: The RCN needs news. Let us know if you’ve a town event to promote or have an idea you would like to write about in the newsletter. Teens: we’d particularly like to cover ARMS and AHS a little more. National Honor Society credit may be available to anyone who’d like to write 4-7 sentences about his/her school monthly.

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

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Submission deadline for November issue is: Oct 22

Please Contact Us
To submit news, articles, ads, calendar notices, classifieds:
E-mail: chasegos@gis.net
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In person: Drop off at library
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