Celebrating 10 years of the Royalston Community Newsletter. This is the 100th issue!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45</td>
<td>Friends of the Library meeting. All welcome.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Full Harvest Moon</td>
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<td>October 9</td>
<td>Friday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>half day schedule for all ARRSD schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Skip Ciccarelli of town will share details of his 1700 mile journey kayaking from Chicago to New York in an effort to raise awareness of prostate cancer at the library. Refreshments. Free.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>Deadline for submissions of contact information for Royalston businesses that want to be included in the new town directory, (yellow pages.) Drop at library or e-mail Barbara Stowell at <a href="mailto:stowell@rcn.com">stowell@rcn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Columbus Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 - 12:30</td>
<td>Free Seasonal Flu Immunizations at Town Hall.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Royalston F&amp;G Club Meeting (Directors meet at 7 p.m.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cultural Council Grant Proposals due. Applications are available on-line at (<a href="http://www.royalston-ma.gov/cultural/indexrcc.htm">http://www.royalston-ma.gov/cultural/indexrcc.htm</a>). Contact Elizabeth Farnsworth (249-6771) or Lorraine Cassingham (249-5151) for info.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 16 - 18</td>
<td>The Congregational churches’ first mission’s conference weekend</td>
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<td>All invited for a weekend full of activities, great food, and anointed preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>The Village Improvement and Historical Society will display some of the recently acquired original Royalston Town documents and Woodbury family papers with dates ranging from 1762 to 1804 at its annual meeting at the Town Hall. Public welcome. Free.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 17</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
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<tr>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Tully Lake Triathlon, a unique 17 mile paddle, run, mountain bike race. Try it solo or put a team together. Visit <a href="http://www.thetrustees.org/tullytriathlon">www.thetrustees.org/tullytriathlon</a> to register.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 - 10 pm</td>
<td>The Athol-Royalston Education Foundation’s 5th annual Oktoberfest, featuring German appetizers and desserts, dozens of locally brewed beers, dancing and carousing to the sounds Melanie and the Blue Shots. $20 tickets benefit enrichment programs in the local public schools. Contact Melanie Mangum 248-2094 or Beth Gospodarek 249-0358 for tix or info.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 18</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:33 a.m.</td>
<td>New Beaver Moon</td>
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<td>October 19</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Trustee meeting at the library</td>
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<td>October 20</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Predawn hours: Orionid Meteor Shower featuring remnants from Halley’s Comet, shooting one every three or four minutes from the southern skies. The near absence of moonlight means the viewing should be excellent.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 pm</td>
<td>The 7th Annual Ladies Benevolent Society Memorial Piano Concert in the ballroom at the Maples on Royalston Common. Business meeting precedes at 7 pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>United Nations Day</td>
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<td>October 26</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Fall Costume Party during the Preschool Story Time at the library. Stories, a fun craft, and goodies. Free fun for preschoolers and their families.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>noon</td>
<td>Early dismissal at RCS. Lunch served.</td>
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<td>October 28</td>
<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 – 9 pm</td>
<td>Ladies’ B. Craft’n’Chat Night at the town hall – all welcome.</td>
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<td>October 31</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>Halloween</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Town Children’s Costume Party at the town hall, sponsored by the police dept. Traditional games and costume parade.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6-8 pm</td>
<td>Town Trick or Treating hours. The Phinehas Newton library is open, so stop in...if you dare.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Light the Night at the First Congregational Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Daylight Savings Time ends. Check batteries in all home fire, smoke, carbon monoxide and radon detectors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 – 8 pm</td>
<td>Pete &amp; Henry’s United-Way Spaghetti Dinner</td>
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**Royalston Trail Gets Federal Designation**

We all know that Royalston is scenic, but did you know that part of our landscape has been recognized nationally as a scenic trail? On March 30, 2009, Congress designated our very own Metacomet-Monadnock-Mattabesett Trail to become part of the National Scenic Trail system. The trail winds from Mount Monadnock to southern Connecticut, skirting Royalston Falls along the way. Soon, you will be able to walk five days from our town, all the way to Long Island Sound. The path, now called the New England National Scenic Trail, takes you past many native American and colonial landmarks, spectacular vistas, lush forests, and unique habitats for plants and animals -- all within a stone’s throw of some of the most densely populated regions of New England. Volunteers, hikers, and landowners recognize the value of the trail and pitch in to take care of it. Enjoy the trail and help out! See [http://www.newenglandnst.org/](http://www.newenglandnst.org/) for more information. *Biologist and Royalston resident and hiker, Elizabeth Farnsworth, wrote the original natural resources assessment for the Connecticut portion of the trail.*

Scenic and Historic: All of the Royalston portion of the M-M-M Trail is scenic, but just north of the Royalston Falls are glacial potholes and a natural stone arch (left) which are particularly impressive and more than worth a visit, especially on a fine October afternoon. In the first decades of the 20th Century, Royalston Fall’s scenic drama made it a popular destination for carriage outings. There were ladders and walkways built down into the fall’s ravine and a dance pavilion and restaurant closer to Falls Rd.

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**Board of Health News**

**Seasonal flu and H1N1 Flu Clinics Scheduled**

*Phil Leger, chair*

There will be a seasonal flu clinic October 14th 11-12pm at the town hall sponsored by the Council on Aging. There is no charge for this clinic, but bring along your health insurance card. H1N1(swine)flu clinics will be held later in the season as supplies become available. The Athol Royalston Regional School Committee gave approval to holding school based H1N1 vaccination clinics. Since one of the first priority groups are school age children, being able to offer school-based clinics will allow this critical population group to have access to immunizations. Flu mist for H1N1 will also be available. Watch for more information from the school concerning this important initiative. The vaccine is not mandatory, but strongly encouraged. Handwashing, covering your cough, and staying home if presenting fever, sore throat, and/or cough are important for all. This is a novel virus that has spread worldwide and it is important to get as much immunity into the population as possible. The best websites for ongoing information are: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and [www.mass.gov/dph/flu](http://www.mass.gov/dph/flu). Once the school-based clinics are held, there will be public clinics held. Stay tuned for further info. If you have questions, email boh@royalston-ma.gov or call BOH chair. Phil Leger cell 617-584-9714.

**Board of Selectmen’s Corner**

*Andy West, selectman*

Route 32 update: The Route 32 Project has been advertised! The project was advertised on September 12 and officially contains over $1 million in Federal Stimulus! This means that the Town’s portion of the design process is complete and MassHighway owns the project from here. The bid process allows several months for contractors to measure, plan, and cost their expenses in order to submit a bid. The contractor award is anticipated to be late December or early January. While this is too long for most of us, the Board will continue to request that MassHighway start work at the earliest possible moment. See [www.royalston-ma.gov](http://www.royalston-ma.gov) for updates.

Ice Storm Brush: Brush collection has begun. Several crews have been working over the last couple of weeks to remove damaged limbs and roadside brush. When the brush collection is complete, the brush will be chipped and hauled away.

This has been a complicated and delicate process of conforming to strict and complex FEMA regulations in order to insure federal reimbursement to the Town for the clean up cost. FEMA required the location of every broken branch to be identified and marked, every tree crew monitored, every square yard of brush measured. Forms needed to be filed before and after the process with particular care to use the right terms and follow the proper process. Many thanks go to REMA Director, Jim Barclay, who navigated the process and performed months of preparation work over hundreds of volunteer hours to make this happen.

Energy Committee: The Board of Selectmen recently created a five-member Energy Committee as part of an eight town Green Communities grant award. The Energy committee will research ways in which our municipality can achieve energy savings and reduce its carbon footprint through conservation and alternative energy. There are many grants for this work available now and more are coming. We need volunteers to help the Town take maximum advantage of the opportunities available. Please contact the Selectmen’s office if you are interested at 978-249-9641 or bos@royalston-ma.gov.

Post Office Clerk: The Board is seeking candidates for a Post Office Clerk to work 3 to 6 hours per week at the Royalston Community Post Office. Please contact the Selectmen’s office for more information.
Debris removal IS underway. Obtaining maximum FEMA reimbursement is an arduous and complex process. It is obvious, though, from the numerous well-labeled FEMA personnel traversing the roads of Royalston since Labor Day that FEMA is willing to ensure we are meeting reimbursement criteria. The highway department has changed the topography of their back lot to meet federal specifications as a TDSR (Temporary Debris Staging and Reduction) site. Several residents have accepted paid positions as debris monitors, and all contract trucks have been thoroughly inspected, carefully measured and certified for the number of cubic yards they could carry at 100% full. Monitors at the scene ensure that all storm debris (but only storm debris) is removed and properly packed, then accompany the truck back to the TDSR where another monitor assesses the fullness of each load and marks a trip ticket. Once opening day kinks were worked out, on the order of a dozen loads of debris a day were unloaded at the TDSR. This is a highly choreographed effort by the Town of Royalston selectmen, the EMD, the DPW superintendent and contract companies Northern Tree and J. R. Vinagro, along with several resident monitors and Royalston police officers serving on details in areas where traffic poses a hazard.

Despite the excitement over debris removal, it is important to remember that autumn is upon us. Have you set by enough water and food for a few days in case you’re confined to home with flu or by downed wires? Are your wood burning stoves, fireplaces and chimneys cleaned and ready for use? Do you have your well-seaoned firewood or pellets in an easily accessible location? Do your flashlights have fresh batteries, and are your oil lamps filled, wicks trimmed and candles and matches where they can be found...in the dark? If you have a new generator, have you given it a trial run and taken a look at what type of plugs can be used? Be Ready for the change of season. Be Ready for the unexpected. Go to www.ready.gov for more ideas on how to be better prepared.

The annual SEASONAL FLU IMMUNIZATION CLINIC is taking place a month early, October 14, 2009. These immunizations are FREE to residents of all ages. They are recommended for elders or people at high risk for medical complications.

The weekly Royalston Luncheon Club offers one of the best meal deals around, and is open to anyone who would like to share a hot meal and company each Wednesday, beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Royalston Town Hall. Meals are $2 for seniors and $2.50 for pre-seniors. Call Betty Woodbury at 978-249-9656 by Monday to reserve a seat for the next Wednesday’s meal.

Visit our website (http://www.royalston-ma.gov/cultural/indexrcc.htm) for lots of information about grants and links to the funding application. Contact Elizabeth Farnsworth (249-6771, efarnswo@mtholyoke.edu) or Lorraine Casinghino (249-5151, lorrainecasi@gmail.com) for more information and to discuss your proposal.

Note that the grants approval meeting, per Massachusetts law, is open to the public. It will be held at 5:30pm on Monday, October 26 at 21 on the Common.
Donation to the Friends
Allen Young
Thank yous
Marie Holmes for snacks for the preschool story time
Priscilla Dand for books

New Look to the Card Catalog
Gone is the old oak card catalog that used to grace the West wall of the reference room and in its place is a custom-made (in Winchendon) stand-up desk with a computer that allows you to search our (almost!) complete listing of all items in the library. Sad as it is to see the old catalog go, it’s sure nice to be able to know if a book is available and to let individuals know what is checked out without searching through thousands of cards. Even if you don’t like those pesky overdue notices sent to your e-mail, the new system provides more services. Our catalog is available at masscat.kohalibrary.com and anyone can search even if without a library card, patrons can or view their accounts, place holds, make lists, view check-out history, and see what is currently checked out and when it’s due (and renew on-line too).

Photo Contest Winners to be Announced Shortly
The panel is deliberating and pouring over the dozens of entries submitted in three categories. The judges, professional photographers Melanie Mangum, Noah Siegel and Liane Brandon have a hard decision as there are some quite fabulous photos. Generally, professionals, adults and children all took a lot of nature photos with insects on flowers and panoramic vistas favorite subjects. One 11-year-old managed to photograph a fox. Tully Lake was the most photographed venue in town. Not many submissions included people. There was one of a frisbee golfer tossing a glowing disk directly at the camera, (a direct hit, the digital camera malfunctioned ever-after), a family reunion, some horseback riders, fishermen, kayakers and this cutie of Anthony Divoll as bathing beauty.

Upcoming Programs at your Library
Interested in local yoga classes? The Friends are considering offering yoga classes for all ages this fall but are not sure of the best way to do it. If interested, call the library to express your opinion as far as convenient times and days. 349-3572.

Preschool Story Time Earlier
The Preschool Story Time will begin at 10:00 am instead of 10:30 this year. The Preschool Story Time Costume Party will be on Monday October 26th at 10:00 at the library. Stories, a fun craft, and holiday goodies will help make the day a lot of fun for all preschoolers. Costumes suggested. No pre-registration is required.

Program: Skip Ciccarelli Describes Adventures Kayaking from Chicago to NYC for Cancer Awareness
On Friday, October 9th at 7:30pm at the Library, Skip Ciccarelli of town will share details of his 1700 mile journey kayaking from Chicago to New York in an effort to raise awareness of prostate cancer. Skip, a prostate cancer survivor, is an avid kayaker and was amazed that people were so unaware of the disease and the availability of a simple test to detect it. Determined to raise awareness while doing something he loved, he decided on the trip through the Great Lakes, the Erie Canal and into the Hudson River; he ended in New York City. To see photos, press releases and video clips of the journey visit: http://www.paddle4prostate.org/gallery.php Delicious refreshments will be served.

Win a Pumpkin
Once again this year you have the chance to win a big pumpkin by guessing its weight. Stop by the library, check out something, and make your guess. The winner will be determined when the Preschool Story Time participants weigh the pumpkin on October 19th.

Art Exhibits:
Clarence Rabideau has his pen and ink and pastel drawings at the library through October. During November and December, peruse the photos from the Photo Contest all taken by Royalston residents and with scenes of Royalston. See if you agree with the judges.
Banned Book Week
Stop by the library and see its display of banned books during the first week of October. Celebrated since 1982, Banned Book Week recognizes our right to intellectual freedom. Every year hundreds of books are challenged but most are not banned due to the efforts of librarians throughout the country to protect the right to read and hold views that may not be shared by the majority. Some of the books included in this year’s top hundred challenged books include Jodi Picoult’s My Sister’s Keeper; the perennial: To Kill a Mocking Bird by Harper Lee and Catcher in the Rye by J. D. Salinger, and the Twilight series by Stephanie Meyer, and Justin Richardson and Peter Parnall’s And Tango Makes Three. A complete list of the books is on display at the library. Come check out a they display and maybe a banned book. You may be surprised at which books are on the list!

New Materials at your Library
Adult Fiction
Blinn, William A Cold Place in Hell
Brettton, Barbara Laced with Magic
Brooks, Terry A Princess of Landover
Brown, Dan The Lost Symbol
Cain, Chelsea Evil at Heart
Carter, Stephen Jericho’s Fall
Denning, Troy Abyss
Doctorow, E.L. Homer and Langley
Francis, Dick Even Money
Goodman, Jo Never Love a Lawman
Gregory, Philippa The White Queen
Kellerman, Faye Blindman’s Bluff
Kinsella, Sophie Twentieths Girl
Loehfelm, Bill Bloodroot
McMurtry, Larry Rhino Ranch
Miller, Linda The Bridegroom
Moore, Lorrie A Gate at the Stairs
Oldham, Nick The Nothing Job
Patterson, James Alex Cross’s Trail
Patterson, Richard North The Siege
Reichs, Kathy 206 Bones
Robertis, Carolina de The Invisible Mountain
Rosnay, Tatiana Sarah’s Key
See, Lisa Shanghai Girls
Stirling, S.M. The Sword of the Lady
Strout, Elizabeth Olive Kitteridge
Young, William The Shack

Adult Non-Fiction
Brinkley, Douglas The Wilderness Warrior
Eggers, Dave Zeitoun
Franklin, Jon The Wolf in the Parlor
Jacobs, A.J. The Guinea Pig Diaries
Jones, Geoffrey A Guide to Logging Aesthetics
Keller, Garrison 77 Love Sonnets
Kidder, Tracy Strength in What Remains
Koontz, Dean A Big Little Life
Nhat, Hanh True Love
Small, David Stitches
Weil, Andrew Why Our Health Matters
Wrangham, Richard Catching Fire: How Cooking Made Us Human

Young Adult Fiction
Collins, Suzanne Catching Fire
Flanagan, John The Siege of Macindaw
Green, Tim Baseball Great
Mead, Richelle Blood Promise
Patterson, James Maximum Ride School’s Out Forever

Children’s Fiction
Anderson, M.T. Jasper Dash and the Flame-Pits of Delaware
Arnold, Todd Hooray for Fly Guy!
Arnold, Tedd Shoo, Fly Guy!
Bond, Felicia Tumble Bumble
Carman, Patrick The Black Circle
De la Garza, David The Great, Great, Great Chicken War
DiCamillo, Kate The Magician’s Elephant
Ehler, Lois Color Farm
Fleischman, Sid The Dream Stealer
Giff, Patricia Wild Girl
Lipson, Eden Applesauce Season
Pinkney, Jerry The Lion and the Mouse

Resident Recommended Reading
Read anything good lately? Write a review and send it along to the RCN. Alyce Mayo recommends Sarah’s Key by Tatiana de Rosnay alternates between France during World War II (beginning in Paris, July 16, 1942) and the present, weaving a story of a young girl in war-torn France and an American journalist investigating a little-known incident that occurred during the war. I have read numerous books on the Holocaust and this, a novel based on a real incident, is a riveting and haunting story told with a poignant velocity... and again, makes the case for the need to remember.

Christine Beckert Long recommends The Help by Kathryn Stockett. The author of The Help, Kathryn Stockett, notes in an afterward that she feared she was ‘crossing a terrible line, writing in the voice of a black person.’ I don’t know how blacks react to her crossing, but as a white, I’m glad she did, in writing this moving fictional account of the relationship between white employers and black domestics in 1960s Mississippi. It is one of those books I was sorry to have ended - I wanted to know so much more about so many of the characters.
Destinations

Tully Lake Triathlon
Saturday, October 17  10am  Tully Lake Campground
The word is out, this race is a blast! Try it by yourself or put a two, three, or four person team together for this unique 17 mile paddle, run, mountain bike race. You can also just come to be part of the excitement - bring the family and enjoy music and children's activities while supporting your favorite team. Preregister by October 1st for discounted entry fees and free T-shirt
Visit www.thetrustees.org/tullytriathlon to register.
If you are a business interested in sponsoring the event at any level (prize donations, cash sponsorship, food) please contact Walker at wkorby@ttor.org

A-REF’s Oktoberfest
Something to yodel about: The Athol-Royalston Education Foundation will hold its fifth annual Oktoberfest, a gala night which benefits enrichment activities in the local public schools on Saturday, October 17, 2009 at the Ellinwood Country Club. A buffet of German cuisine, samples of locally micro-brewed beers and German wines, and live music and dancing to Royalton favorites Melanie and the Blue Shots are all included in one $20 ticket. Tickets available from any A-REF board member (including Melanie Mangum, Laurie Deveneau or Nancy Melbourne); at these businesses: the Atholl Technology Center, Daily Grind, Kimball-Cooke Insurance or Stan’s Liquors; or by contacting Beth Gospodarek 978-249-0358/ chasegos@gis.net or JoAnn Lake 978-249-2305/ jo-annlake@verizon.net.

LBS Memorial Piano Concert

The Seventh Annual Ladies Benevolent Society Memorial Piano Concert will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2009, at 8:00 pm sharp in the ballroom at the Maples on Royalston Common. This year’s participants will include Benjamin West, Rene Lake, Carl Kamp and Deb Nunes. Patience and Werner Bundschuh are hosts and a reception provided by the Ladies will follow. All are invited to attend. The LBS will hold its regularly scheduled business meeting prior to the concert, beginning at 7:00 pm sharp. Please note the change in time. For further information, please call Deb Nunes at 978-249-4000.

Unsung Hero: A big thank you to Charlie Divoll, Jr. and his companion for stopping late Saturday night, Sept. 19 along Rte 68 and rescuing a stranded motorist who foolishly ran out of gas. It’s wonderful in this world to see a son demonstrating some of the values of his parents.

Decorator Showcase
For the past 8 weeks, Lorraine Cassinghino been working 7 days a week in Keene NH for a fundraiser for the Colonial Theater, the Wright House Decorator Showhouse, which will be open to the public from October 3 to the 18th. The Wright house is a gorgeous 1930’s reproduction Federal brick house, built by the owners of Wrights Silver Polish. Since June, over 30 decorators and designers have each selected a room or an area in the house to let loose his/her creativity. The grounds have also transformed with eye-popping gardens for the event. Lorraine was chosen to do the servant’s hallway, which is a 44’ secondary hallway in the servants wing of the house where she’s done a border and scroll painting, which is an early 19th century technique executed half by stencil and half by freehand work. Lorraine effuses, “It’s really been a daunting experience, but it looks great!” There is more info as well as special events listings on the website http://www.friendsofthecolonial.org

Take-in a Play: Locals Tread the Boards
Ben West of South Royalston Rd. is touring with the Theater at the Mount production of Richard Scarry’s Adventures in BUSYTOWN, which with kind funding by the Royalston Academy will be performed for all the students at RCS at 1:15 on October 23rd. Call 249-2900 for more information.

Veteran community theater actor-singer-dancer Jerry Marcanio of Butterworth Road will star in the title role in a production of “The King and I” at the Shea Theater in Turners Falls in October. Marcanio is reprising a role he played 26 years ago. The musical, which was both a Broadway show and a Hollywood film, is based on actual people and events in the mid-19th century. The story line concerns the relationship between the king and an English governess who was hired to educate the children in the royal family. The production by Arena Civic Theater will open Oct. 16 at 8 p.m., with additional evening performances on the 17th, 23rd, and 24th all at 8. There are also two matinees, both with curtain times at 2 p.m., Oct. 18 and 25. The box office can be reached at 413-863-2281, Mailbox 3.

United Way Spaghetti Supper at Pete and Henry’s
Once again, spaghetti will be served at Pete & Henry’s as the Cloutiers are hosting their 3rd annual Athol-Area United Way Community Supper on Monday, November 2, from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Last season added $1,400 profit to Royalston’s U-Way contribution. Dinner will feature the restaurant’s signature garlic bread with a crunchy side salad, a heaping platter of long spaghetti served with flavorful Italian sausage, and homemade beef meatballs covered with the savory Italian-style Battaini tomato sauce. Non alcoholic beverages and dessert – home baked pies – are included in the ticket price of $12.50/ adults and $8/children ten and under. Get your tickets good and early by calling 978-249-8375.

Friendly waitresses are part of the deal at this U-way benefit supper.
**CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD NEWS**

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

Becky Krause-Hardie and Amy Larkey, have been playing french horn together since high school. Both teach French Horn. They had lots of fun attending the Alphorn Retreat on Solitude Mountain outside of Salt Lake City at 8400’. The Alphorn is a traditional horn of the Swiss Alps. They did an Alphorn duet in their ‘almost traditional’ lederhosen, on the local TV station, and series of local concerts with 20 other participants.

**Allen Young Launches Newspaper Column**

Allen Young of Butterworth Road has begun writing a weekly column, entitled “Inside/Outside” for the Athol Daily News. It is published every Thursday. Young worked for 10 years at the newspaper as reporter and assistant editor, from 1979 to 1989. In his introductory column published in June, Young wrote the following: ‘As for the name of this column, ‘Inside/Outside,’ it has a double meaning. I came to the North Quabbin Region in 1973 at the age of 32. That makes me an outsider. I realized early on that I would never be an ‘insider,’ as that status is reserved for those who were born here.

But, after 36 years of making my home in Royalston, serving on town boards, working for Athol’s newspaper and its hospital, and writing local-interest books (most notably North of Quabbin Revisited), I see myself as ‘almost’ an insider. ‘The column’s name also reflects that fact that I have a strong interest in the out-of-doors, thus ‘outsider,’ but also enjoy focusing at times on what’s happening on the inside, whether it be community business, politics and economics, or issues that people like to think about – the stuff inside our minds.”

Photo by Diane Keijzer

**Memorials**

Condolesnces to the Divoll family with the recent passing of Edith Turnbull, Helen Divoll’s sister.

Sadly, Jane L. Newton, 96, recently of Daniel Shays Highway, but who lived most of her life in Newton Hollow by Lawrence Brook on NE Fitzwilliam Rd, died on September 27, 2009. More information will be in next month’s newsletter.

Former Royalston resident Thomas E. Porter, 57, of Deland, Florida, died Monday, August 24, 2009 with his parents Ernest and Pat (Lein) Porter by his side. Exposure to Agent Orange while serving in Vietnam was a strong contributing factor in his early death. For his military service, Tom received the Army Commendation Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, The National Defense Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal Overseas Bar. He was laid to rest Monday, August 31, 2009 in Florida National Cemetery, following a funeral with full military honors. He leaves the love of his life, his wife Dodie (Littlewood) Porter; a son, Andy; his parents and seven siblings, as well as his in-law’s family, with whom he was very close.

The town is saddened by the death of Linda A. (Hawke) Scotland, 50, of N.E Fitzwilliam Rd who died unexpectedly Thursday, Sept. 24, 2009 in the UMass Memorial Medical Center.

She was born in Gardner, on July 17, 1959, the daughter of Robert D. and Nancy M. (Moschetti) Hawke. Linda grew up in Gardner and graduated from Gardner High School with the Class of 1977. She was a Pro Merito Student, a member of the track team, the field hockey team and tennis team. She received her Associate’s Degree in Horticulture from Mass Bay Community College in 1979. She married Greg D. Scotland on Aug. 14, 1982. Linda loved life and embraced it to the fullest. She was at her happiest in the great outdoors hiking, skiing, windsurfing or just sitting on the porch watching the birds and butterflies.

Linda and her husband, Greg, enjoyed travel to the Caribbean, Mexico, Outer Banks, North Carolina, Pacific Northwest and throughout Vermont together. Gardening was her passion and she planted to attract birds and butterflies. Linda worked at Brooks MacMannis Florist for 30 years where she was the wedding coordinator. Linda’s outgoing personality endeared her to her many customers over the years.

She leaves her husband of 27 years, Greg D. Scotland; two sisters, Cynthia Leroy and her husband, Tim of Winchendon, Heather Dube and her husband, Tom of Winchendon; two brothers, Dean Hawke and his wife, Tammy of Winchendon, Mark Hawke and his wife, Shelly of Gardner; her mother in-law, Elinor Scotland of Leesburg, FL; brother in-law, Glen Scotland and his wife, Judy of Ocala, FL; brother in-law, James Scotland and his wife, Jo Ellen of Winchendon; sister in-law, Victoria Smith and her husband, Dave of Mason, NH; as well as several nieces and nephews and her very best friends, Bill and Jan Hogan and their sons Connor and Aidan.
Monty Tech News

The Monty Tech SchoolCom recently voted to accept more than $50,000 in grants. The Collectors Foundation granted $8,925.42 to institute an upholstery component in the Auto Body/Collision Repair program. The Doyle General Endowment Fund is providing $20,000 for a bio-diesel project. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is subsidizing Monty Tech’s MCAS Summer Camp to the tune of $31,700.

In an effort to defray expenses for the various sports programs at Monty Tech, athletes are selling Sports Fundraising “Gold Cards,” reusable discount cards good at a number of locations. The $20 donation for each card could easily be recovered by using the card occasionally throughout the year! If you’re interested, check with a neighborhood Monty Tech student or give SchoolCom rep Mary C. Barclay a call at 978-249-2598 or e-mail mcbarclay@juno.com.

Dates to remember:
10/2 Monty Tech Counselor’s Day; Monty Tech interim progress reports sent out
10/7  7 p.m. Monty Tech SchoolCom meets in conference room
10/15 6:30 p.m. Monty Tech School Council meets
10/16 11 a.m. Monty Tech early dismissal for Tour Day
10/19 Monty Tech classes canceled for Tour Day
10/23  6:30 p.m. Monty Tech Career Awareness Night

RCS Dates and Updates

Jes Willhite

Open House on 9/14 was a huge success. The children were happy to show off our RCS to moms, dads, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and the community. Families were joyfully reminded of what a safe and loving environment RCS staff offers to our children everyday. Each child is valued and is guided to reach his/her personal potential. Mrs. Quinn once again donated her time to offering the children the Scholastic Book Fair, which raises money for library purchases. Thank you to Vicky Paine, Lori Bergquist and Nancy Melbourne, all parents of RCS alumni, who came back to help run the fair.

Upcoming Events:
10/2 Fire Trailer with Fire Chief Newton for grades 3 and 5.
10/9  1/2 day for ALL ARRSD schools
10/12 No School
10/19 6:30 pm MCAS Review for Parents of grades 4-6
10/20 School Pictures
10/23 Time TBA Halloween Dance
10/27 1/2 day on 10/27/09 for elementary schools only

Village School News

Looking for after school care? The Village School has a fun After School Program from 3 to 5:30 on school days. Children can take the RCS school bus and get dropped off at the Village School on the common. The cost is $6 an hour. There is homework help, supervised outdoor play, and lots of arts and crafts, run by Royalston resident, Lynn Anair. To sign up, call the school at 249-3505.

Got Dean’s Beans Coffee? Get yours delivered, fresh, once a month to the Village School, whole beans or ground. You can view the order form at www.villageschool.to There are lots of varieties. Price: $7.75/ lb.

What’s happening at the Village School? All the children joined in harvesting the garden, digging the potatoes they planted last spring, and combining it with Poetry Week to write poems about potatoes. We are taking advantage of the weather. Classes have been visiting local gardens: the Farm School and Red Apple and Sweetwater farms and have climbed Jacobs Hill. Students recently had a wonderful afternoon outside with Elizabeth Farnsworth, observing ferns and drawing them. Most science classes are taking place outside, investigating the local flora and fauna.

Upcoming events at the Village School
10/3 - 4 Visit the Village School Tent at the Garlic Fest.
10/7  6:30 p.m. Monty Tech SchoolCom meets in conference room.
10/9  7 p.m. Monty Tech SchoolCom reviews progress reports.
10/16 11 a.m. Monty Tech early dismissal for Tour Day.
10/19 Monty Tech classes canceled for Tour Day.
10/23  6:30 p.m. Monty Tech Career Awareness Night.

After-school enrichment opportunity:

Athol YMCA YOUTHREACH

The Athol Area YMCA invites Royalston youth in grades six through eight to participate in the YouthReach! After School program where kids can get together with friends to do a variety of activities that will keep them busy and having fun! The program offers a teen center with an arcade game, movies, foosball, air hockey, Wii gaming and more. Also offered are open gym time, open swims and homework help. Kids can also participate in activities like art-making, yoga, dance, cooking and lots of other cool stuff all for a very affordable price.

YouthReach! is open Monday through Thursday, from 2:00 to 5:00 pm and runs from Monday, September 28, 2009 to Friday, May 14, 2010. The program does not operate during school holidays, half days or snow days. With arrangements, students can take the school bus to the Y after school. Students can attend on a drop in basis.

This year Fridays are set aside for our YouthReaching Out! (YRO!) Community Service Crew members. During the course of the school year, students will plan and complete a community service project of their own choosing, and for their service they will earn a free YRO! T-shirt and a Youth Membership to the YMCA.

Our annual Red Cross Babysitter’s Training Certification Course will be offered on Saturday, November 21 from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Space is limited in this class, so sign up soon.

To find out how to get involved with the YouthReach! After School Program visit the YMCA and pick up a program brochure or call Manuel King, Director of Youth Services, at 978-249-3305 x 17 for more information. YouthReach! is funded by the John W. Boynton Fund, the Athol Area YMCA and the Local Cultural Councils of the North Quabbin Region.
Mark these Dates for Athol High School

October 9, 2009 is a half day of school for teacher Professional Development. Also on October 9 is a Homecoming/Freshman Welcome Dance from 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM. The National Honor Society is sponsoring a blood drive on October 15 in the AHS gym from 8 AM to 1 PM.

LBS Spaghetti Supper Raises $ for Village School

Society president Laurie M. Deveneau and member Nancy D. Melbourne organized a family-friendly spaghetti supper for September, focusing on making an affordable family night out for supper. Thanks to many generous donations of materials and desserts, the event turned a $494 profit, earmarked for the Village School Capital Campaign Fund. At the supper, President Deveneau presented a $500 check to Andy West, one of the Village School board members. The check brought to $3,000 the amount the Society has turned over towards their three-year, $6,000 commitment to the Capital Campaign Fund.

Congregational Churches News

It is with great anticipation that we launch our first mission’s conference weekend on October 16th and 18th. We are preparing a weekend full of activities, great food, and anointed preaching and presentations. We would like to invite everyone to come out and enjoy this powerful weekend as we raise financial support for foreign and domestic mission organizations as well as lift up our prayers to the God who cares and gave His life for the nations of the Earth.

“Touch the World Mission’s Conference” will kick off on Friday night with a chicken bbq outside on the common. As with our summer fair, the bbq will be catered by Teen Challenge and will begin at 5:30 pm. The price of the meal which includes a 1/2 chicken, potato, salad, baked beans, bread, and drink is $12.00. Tickets are for sale after our morning services and can be picked up as many as needed. All proceeds go to missions.

Our guest minister for the evening following the cookout is Pastor Anthony Triplett from Lowell, MA, pastor of Whole Armour International Church. He will be joined by his very own worship team as they sing the songs of Zion and declare God’s blessing on the nations as well as our community. Service time begins at 7:00 pm.

Sunday, October 18th will be a day of celebration as we focus on the international community and Global Missions again. We will be hosting several students from Zion Bible College as well as Faith School of Theology, two of the leading bible college in the Northeast. They will be sharing from their hearts their experiences while serving on foreign soil this past summer. The worship team from Zion Bible College will be leading the congregation praises to our King! You don’t want to miss this power-packed service as we give glory to our God. Following the service we’ll be hosting an International Luncheon for all to enjoy. Come taste and see all of the delicacies of the nations. Service time begins at 10:30 am with the international luncheon to follow.

In the Middle of Nowhere: "Satellite Reception" by: Megan Wessler

Recipe of the Month

This month’s recipe comes from Leslie and Tom Freudenheim, who have had a home on Stockwell Rd. for 31 years, while also living in Baltimore, Worcester, Washington, Berlin, London, and now in New York City. They are careful readers of the newsletter. This healthful and easy-to-make submission makes use of autumnal ingredients grown locally and should hit the spot cozily on the first frosty evenings of the year.

Royalston Low-cal, One-dish Herbed Chicken Dinner

(adapted from NYTimes)

1) You will need a skillet with a cover that fits fairly tightly; then fill with 3 layers as follows:

2) bottom layer: slices/small pieces of root vegetables: carrots, parsnips, turnips, etc. as well as small pieces of cut-up potatoes (ok to leave skin on). Mix with sausage cut into quarter sized rounds.

3) middle layer: one cut-up chicken or whichever pre-cut chicken pieces you prefer. (The Freudenheims like boneless skinless thighs)

4) top layer (distribute evenly across top of chicken): several sprigs of fresh rosemary and/or thyme 3-6 fresh sage leaves 2 bay leaves 1-2 cloves garlic slices (or chopped) 6-10 cloves 2-3 crushed peppercorns (or some fresh-ground pepper) chili flakes (optional) 1/4-1/2 cup small cubes of prosciutto or salami 1/4-1/2 cup white wine (or other liquid: water, juice, etc.)

Note: no salt! the prosciutto or salami will provide salt

Cover and cook on top of stove at medium heat for 20-30 minutes (depending on how much chicken, whether boneless, etc.). If the potatoes and veggies are done, the chicken will probably also be done. Serve from skillet or put on a platter for an elegant and healthful dinner! Substitute different things for almost everything here, except for the sage and the cloves. Try adding other herbs from your garden.
Classifieds:


Hand knit baby items: 2 and 3 piece baby sweater sets, assorted colors. Great shower gifts. Call Shirley Anderson at 978-249-4013.

House for rent: 2 bedroom 1920s cottage in Royalston’s historic district, 19 Frye Hill Rd. Recent updates; peaceful spot across from horse farm - boarding available. $900/mo. Call Beth or Stephen at 978-249-0358

Attn Parents: Do you need after school help with your children? How about a home cooked meal waiting for you when you arrive home from work? Do your children need to be driven to activities after school or do they need help with homework? If yes then I am here for you. Experienced in-home nanny, cook and teachers aide. Very reasonable rates..... Excellent references. Please call Karen at 978-249-3146.

Child Care in Royalston: Little Farmers’ Childcare Lic#2086547. Next to RCS, 10 minutes from Winchendon. Toddler-preschool curriculum. Ages: birth-5 years. for info, call Joni, 978-249-3379.

High Winds Farm now has pork and beef for sale as well as our produce. Our winter squashes and cucumbers can also be purchased by the bushel. We are currently looking for hay fields, crop fields as well as pasture. We will seed, fertilize, and maintain as needed. If anyone has fields that they would like to keep open please contact us. Also, rotary mowing available $75.00/hr. Please contact Randy 1-978-602-5090

Backhoe for hire: No job too big or small. $65 per hour. Call Phil Leger; cell 617-584-9714.

Justice of the Peace/Notary: Any wedding, call Mariah Mallet 249-9410.

Wildlife Sightings

Royalston Police Officer Darren Senecal crossed paths with a black bear the morning after Labor Day, while on patrol on Athol Road near the upper end of Bolton Road. The bear crossed the road in front of the cruiser with little warning, but luckily, executed the crossing without injury. No citations were issued.

Garden Notes

The dire predictions of widespread frosts for yesterday morning were unfounded. (Have you noticed that the weather reports provide us with warnings for most everything these days: frost, wind, flooding, heat, sun, dew points, snow, hail, pollen, a plague of locusts? Take cover, folks.) Driving through Putney Hollow, one of Royalston’s notorious cold sinks, I noticed blackened leaves on the pumpkin vines, but the plants themselves were alive. It is probably as bad as things got in town. 420 up here on the hill, requiring no more than a second blanket in bed.

I am amused at these weatherfolk, encased as they are in their climate-controlled, windowless rooms, staring at their computer screens. I prefer my weather straight-up, outside in the elements, letting my various senses assist in my predicting. It didn’t seem right for a frost and it wasn’t (o.k., I admit to covering the basil bed).

These same weatherfolk will solemnly state at the arrival of the first frost that the garden season has come to a close. These people oughta get out more often. Yes, it closes for a handful of things, we all know what they are, but I have many handfuls of things which will continue to thrive for another month.

Spinach has provided me with several pleasures. I planted it four times between July 29 and September 1 (about fifty feet each time) in beds previously occupied by peas and potatoes. Other growers know I have trouble getting the seed to germinate unless they constantly irrigate. I do no irrigation and have no trouble. About those pleasures; it is food for the table, fresh green leafy stuff; it is food for the market (I take a modest amount each week and I am the only vendor to do so); and it provides me the opportunity to do spring-like things (planting, weeding, thinning) and forget for the moment that the leaves have begun dropping from the trees. My goal is to time a planting which not only provides a fall crop but will successfully winter over. (Late plantings, as late as now, are more likely to winter over but little likely to provide grub this year.)

The late corn is very late corn this year, but there is still time. The fall raspberries are groaning with fruit, and have started bearing two weeks earlier than usual. It’s my last chance: the blueberries and blackberries, after early promise, proved to be duds. Another fruit-groaner is the Golden Russet apple tree, where three branches have already snapped from the weight of the apples. The russet is an antique apple variety, tracing its roots to the mid-eighteenth century. We planted it, along with the rest of the orchard in the late 70’s. At thirty, the tree has apparently reached maturity. (I’m not sure I had.) Remarkably, the apples are generally blemish-free, the only one of our half-dozen varieties that is.

My world is a small one. This might be short-sighted but it makes it far easier for me to determine that all is right with the world.

Larry Siegel
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Attn Local Businesses: Town Yellow Pages Update
The Friends of the Library are busy updating the Town Directory, the Yellow Pages flyer, which is produced and sent out with the Royalston Community Newsletter bi-annually. It includes contact information for residents serving on Town boards, community resources and Royalston based businesses. If your business would like to take advantage of this free listing, please e-mail Barbara Stowell at stowell@rcn.com or call Maureen Blasco at 978-249-5138 as soon as possible. Requests must be received before October 10.

Happy 65th Anniversary to Harold and Ruth (Smith) Fagal of North Fitzwilliam Road and Riverside, California. The couple celebrates noteworthy occasion on October 15. The pair met while students at Atlantic Union College, and married in Boston in 1944. They are regulars at the Royalston Luncheon Club.

The Royalston Community Newsletter
Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library
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Newsletter Staff
Editor: Beth Gospodarek
Layout and Sponsorships: Stephen Chase
Circulation: Becky Divoll, Lorraine Casinghino
Treasurer: Barbara Willhite
Staff: Maureen Blasco, Theresa Quinn, Mary Barclay, Larry Siegel

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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
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Royalston Resident
Star Route 80
Royalston MA 01368