THE ROYALSTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

June 2013

Volume XVI, Issue V

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

Calendar of Events

June 1  Saturday  Saturday morning on the common
7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Village School organic blueberry pancakes and local syrup breakfast at the Town Hall. Adults $6 Children $3

7:30 - 11 am  Spectacular Silent Auction to benefit the Village School Building project at Camp Caravan.

9 - noon  Friends of the Library plant sale at the post office and book sale at the library.

9 - noon  Historical Society Museum at Old School House #1 (post office building) open.

June 2  Sunday
250th Committee Breakfast at town hall. adults: $5

Amanda Putney Memorial Open Horse Show at Cheshire Fairgrounds in Swanzey, New Hampshire.

June 3  Monday  early dismissal
Last day for students in the ARRSD.

June 4  Tuesday
9:30 am - 12:30 pm  Royalston Shakespeare Company 2013 rehearsals begin and continue through July 7 (with weekends and July 4 off). Kids and adults, aged 5 and up, who can make every rehearsal and want to work hard but have a blast conjuring a play from the Bard’s words and the Royalston summer are encouraged to join this free theater workshop. No auditions-everyone is cast. Limited directorial opportunities available. Produced by the Friends of the Library. Sign up ASAP at the library or call Beth 249-0358.

7 am - 8 pm  Special State Election to elect a Senator in Congress in precincts 1 and 2. The last day to register to be eligible in this election is June 5. Register at Whitney Hall from 2-4 p.m. and 7-8 p.m.

June 9  Saturday
9:00 am  New Strawberry Moon
5:00 p.m. Chicken Barbeque at the Royalston Fish and Game Club. $10. Open to the public.

June 10  Monday
7:30 pm  Community Preservation Committee annual public hearing at at Royalston Town Hall.

June 11  Tuesday
5:30 pm  Walk in a town owned forest, which may soon be logged to demonstrate good forestry practice and bring some income into town coffers. Glenn Freden, who with Kevin Sherer, wrote the forest management plan in 2004 leads the walk. Meet at the entrance to the transfer station on Dump Rd.

June 12  Wednesday
1:30 and 7 pm  Two Housing Forums to get input about local needs, goals, constraints and resources, as well as realistic strategies to provide Royalston residents with more diverse and affordable housing opportunities consistent with state law Chapter 40B. The town is in the middle of creating a Housing Production Plan and this input will be considered.

June 15  Saturday
9 - 12 am  Mini-golf Family Fun Fundraiser at 202 Mini-Golf, in Orange; all admission collected will benefit the Athol-Royalston Education Foundation. Call Laurie Deveneau or Nancy Melbourne for information.

June 16  Sunday  Father’s Day

June 17  Monday
4:30 pm  Library Book Discussion Group meets to discuss The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie by Alan Bradley. All welcome.

June 21  Friday  Summer Solstice

June 22  Saturday
9 am  Motorcycle Poker Run, classic car show, chicken BBQ and Texas Hold ‘Em at the Royalston Fish and Game Club to benefit the 250th Committee.

June 24  Monday
7 am - 8 pm  Spectacular Silent Auction to benefit the Village School Building project at Camp Caravan.

June 25  Tuesday
9:30 am - 12:30 pm  Royalston Shakespeare Company 2013 rehearsals begin and continue through July 7 (with weekends and July 4 off). Kids and adults, aged 5 and up, who can make every rehearsal and want to work hard but have a blast conjuring a play from the Bard’s words and the Royalston summer are encouraged to join this free theater workshop. No auditions-everyone is cast. Limited directorial opportunities available. Produced by the Friends of the Library. Sign up ASAP at the library or call Beth 249-0358.

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June 28  Friday
7 pm  Reconcvene of Annual Town Meeting/Special Town Meeting.

Memorabilia Donated

The town library recently received a banner commemorating the 150th anniversary of the town from Alan Bassett of Lexington, Virginia, who lived on the common during the 50’s and 60’s and fondly remembers Mrs. Jewett, the librarian. Separately, a jigsaw puzzle was also given. See p 6.

Furthermore, the Village Improvement and Historical Society recently received a treasure box of photos from Maxine Wilcox’s daughters, including class pictures from most years she taught in School House #1, the Raymond School, Athol Junior High School and back to the Raymond School. To enjoy an example, see p. 9.

Do you like local history? Get involved: visit the Historical Society Museum on June 1st and attend its annual meeting on July 18. The library also has several tomes of note, and the 250th Committee is indefatigable.
Select board Notes
Christine Long, Member

The Selectboard thanks voters who attended the annual town meeting on May 10. A great deal of important business was accomplished. The board also wishes to remind voters that town meeting will reconvene on Friday, June 28 at 7 p.m. at the Royalston Community School.

Voters unanimously approved the purchase of a new fire truck to replace the now-dead 32-year-old fire truck at Station 2 in South Royalston and by a vote of 47-1 approved the creation of a Capital Stabilization Fund. Both these actions are contingent on future ballot approval: a debt exclusion to cover the $400,000 price tag for the fire truck and an override to seed the stabilization fund with $50,000. Voters also approved $1.8 million as the town budget for Fiscal Year 2014, a budget that includes very modest raises for town employees, firefighters and police officers and very modest increases in operating funds. In the near future Royalston will be immensely better prepared to deal with emergencies because voters also approved using $60,000 from the snow and ice account and $15,000 from the mortgage reduction account to purchase and install a generator that will allow Royalston Community School to be used as a shelter in emergencies. (The town hopes, however, to get half that money back via a grant.)

Two Housing Forums on June 12
Are you concerned about the future of housing in Royalston? Then speak your mind on Wednesday, June 12. Two forums will be held at town hall that day – one at 1:30 p.m. after the senior luncheon and one at 7 p.m.

The result of those forums and of the survey conducted last fall will be the creation of a Housing Production Plan - an analysis of local needs, goals, constraints and resources, as well as realistic strategies to provide Royalston residents with more diverse and affordable housing opportunities consistent with state law Chapter 40B. With an approved plan, the town can be protected from unsuitable 40B development if a target is met – in Royalston’s case, three affordable units per year. The housing plan is being developed by Community Opportunities Group, Inc., in a study funded by a Community Development Block Grant. If you can’t attend either of the forums but want to share your views, you can contact COG personnel directly: Roberta Cameron at (617)791-7831 or rcameron@cogincorp.com, or Courtney Synowiec at (617)542-3300 or csynowiec@cogincorp.com. You can also participate in an online survey at www.tinyurl.com/RoyalstonHPP.

Notice of Community Preservation Committee Public Hearing
The Community Preservation Committee will hold its annual public hearing at its next meeting on Monday, June 10, 2013. The meeting will be at Royalston Town Hall at 7 pm and the public hearing will begin at 7:30 pm. The agenda will include:

- The Determination of Eligibility Form; its use and problems
- Review of Current Projects
- Project suggestions and questions from the public.

Department of Public Works News
Keith R. Newton - Department of Public Works Supt.

The Department has been very busy getting all the grounds and parks cleaned and mowed for the Memorial Day celebration. Cemeteries are looking great with care being shown in brush removal and restoring lawn areas. A big help would be to keep all flower arrangements close to the grave stones or markers. This will help keep them safe from the mower and trimmers. Thanks for helping out!

The work of the D.P.W. can be seen when driving through town. For example, sights like the Route 68 section of roadway by the Millers River are impressive. The visual spender that comes from the Old King Street Bridge in the background with the beautiful Millers flowing West can’t be matched. Drive through slowly and see for yourself. The D.P.W. staff does a great job mowing and brush cutting and makes the streets look great as well. Thank you men!

Bridge activity has started with North East Fitzwilliam Road over the Lawrence Brook being replaced. The traffic has been detoured. Please use caution on any of these alternate routes of travel because they are very narrow. Keep to the right and drive responsibly. Another bridge that is scheduled for replacement is the Stockwell Road Bridge over the Lawrence Brook. This will not impact traffic as much, but still use caution in that area. One more bridge that is in the engineering phase and will be scheduled for replacement is the North Fitzwilliam Road Bridge over the Lawrence Brook; it will have similar impacts to traffic when the project starts. This has been planned for a start date of next year.

Paving: The top layer of hot mix for a section of Warwick Road is scheduled. Please drive slowly and safely when traveling through this section. Watch for the signs!!! Another scheduled section to be paved will be On The Common. The small streets that make up the Common area including Town Dump Road will be reclaimed and paved. This is all part of the Common Restoration Plans that have been designed for our 250th celebration coming in 2015. Additional paving projects that will start soon are Blossom and Park Streets in South Royalston. This work will be done with grant funding secured from M.R.P.C. Drive slowly in these areas when this work begins.

Municipal Buildings that will receive corrective repairs and painting will be the Town Hall and Old Fire Station #1. Funds for this work were voted at the annual town meeting and I would like to say, “Thank You,” to those in support. Again this is to get the buildings in shape for the 250th. Next year a schedule will be presented for funds to repair and paint Whitney Hall and finish the Town Hall painting. It is hoped that Community Preservation Committee will again be the vital funding source.

Northeast Fitzwilliam Road Closed for Bridge Work

 alternate routes include:

Stone Road or Brown Road
(Please use care as these roads are very narrow.) Drivers can also loop around North Fitzwilliam Road from the north.
From the Town Clerk’s Office:
Election/Town Meeting News:
The Special State Election to elect a Senator in Congress will be held Tuesday, June 25. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you are not currently registered to vote, the last day to register to be eligible to vote in this election is Wednesday, June 5. A voter registration session will be held at Whitney Hall from 2-4 p.m. and 7-8 p.m.

Reconvene of Annual Town Meeting/Special Town Meeting.
The Annual Town Meeting will reconvene and be held in conjunction with a Special Town Meeting on Friday, June 28 at 7 p.m. As of this writing, the warrant for the Special Town Meeting had not been finalized. Look for the warrant posting in town and an announcement in the Athol Daily News for the place and time the Special Town Meeting will be held with the reconvene on June 28. A voter registration will be held to register new voters for the Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, June 18, from 2-4 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. at the Town Clerk’s Office at Whitney Hall.

Royalston Road Side Cleanup – 2013 Checkpoint Charlie
Thank You to all the friends and families that made the 2013 Roadside Cleanup a success. The roads and streets of Royalston look great! The weather was sunny with a breeze that kept the black flies at bay. About 55 people worked to clean their neighborhoods and streets in town. About 15 truckloads of fast food litter, bottles/cans and car parts were collected, sorted, recycled and disposed. Checkpoint Charlie Chili, chips, cheese, and plenty of hotdogs were cooked up and soda served for the volunteers.

Thanks to Board of Health for free disposal of trash and selectmen for use of Bullock park. A special thanks to Dan and Karol Monette for food donations, use of the grill, and assisting with the cooking and serving at Checkpoint Charlie.

The following families helped with the Royalston Roadside clean up.
Team Blinky – Phil, Paul, Ray, Randy, Matt, Melissa and Jack – Deland Rd., Turpike and Taft Hill Rd. Lots of big items – tires, couch, TV sets and a Birch Log
Andrea and Ken Lively – Rt 68, Bolton Rd. and around small pond by Jacob’s trail.
Jill and Shawn – Brown Road and Woods Rd.
Pam and Brenda – parts of North Fitzwilliam Rd. and the center of town.
Becky Divoll – parts of Stone Rd., Deland Rd, NE Fitzwilliam Rd.
Scribner family – parts of Laurel Lake Rd., NE Fitzwilliam Rd. and Dump Rd.
Chase Gospodarek family – Athol Road from center of town, parts of NE Fitzwilliam
Andy West and family – Part of Rt. 68
Maureen Blasco and Kevin Killay – parts of Winchendon Rd. to Norcross Rd.
Richard and Rose Lawrence, Cathy Piro – Dickley Rd. up Rt 68.
Deb Nunes – Rt 68 at NH line – lots of bottles and cans.
Nanji Davison and Millers River Rd. Co-Op – Rt. 68 at Camp Caravan
Steve Cutler – Winchendon Rd. by Royalston Community School
Phil Rabinowitz – Athol Road
Kathy Chencharik – River Road and School St.
Ernie Leblanc – Rt 68, From center
Charlie Gambel and Dan and Karol Monette – Lower Norcross Rd.
Bob White and family – Bliss Hill Rd.
John Bossie – NE Fitzwilliam Rd, Brown Rd., part of Winchendon Rd.
Carl Kamp – Warwick Rd to Falls Rd.
Ginny Moore – So. Royalston Rd.
Maureen, Scott, Nancy Griffin – Stewart Rd. to Doanes Hill Rd.
George Vaccari – Parts of N. Fitzwilliam Rd.

Explore our Forest on June 11
Abutting the transfer station to the south is a 78-acre woodland owned by the town. This year the town would like to demonstrate good forestry practice and bring some income into town coffers by acting on a forest management plan developed in 2004.

To give town officials and residents a feel for what a selective cut would look like, forester Glenn Freden, who with Kevin Sherer wrote that 2004 plan, will lead a walk on Tuesday, June 11 at 5:30 p.m., meeting at the entrance to the transfer station on Dump Rd.

The planned harvest would be the first of a three-cut shelterwood system, accomplished by removing lower quality stock to improve the vigor of the dominant white pine and enough overstory to stimulate regeneration. The overall purpose, according to the plan, is “promoting sound forest management practices for long-term income, biodiversity, passive recreational activities, and wildlife habitat.” The plan encourages the creation of a trail network that “could highlight wildlife habitat areas, rock outcroppings, large-diameter oak trees, and stone walls.”

Board of Health News
Phil Leger, chairperson
New stickers are in and due July 1. These are $15 for 1st vehicle and $5 for the 2nd. Vehicles must display the stickers on the driver’s side windshield for access to the transfer station. This year they are purple, which is a first.

Yard waste is banned by MADEP for disposal in solid waste. Some folks have been sneaking grass, leaves, and brush in the compactor. We have an unofficial area for some woody organic waste, but not grass, leaves, and other yard waste. These are easily composted. Don’t trash grass!

Due to continued frugality on the RBOH’s part, there may be some more asphalting done in June. This area will probably include the access road down to the roll off and finishing up the area by the roll off. This will allow the large trucks that move the containers better and safer access.

Since the new textile box has been available, we have collected over 1000 pounds for reuse. Don’t trash those textiles. Keep up the good work.

Reminder to go to www.royalston-ma.gov and click on health page for updated list of what is recyclable. If it’s trash and you put it in recycling, it’s still trash.
Phinehas S. Newton Library News
Kathy Morris, Library Director
Trustees: Polly Longsworth, Lisa Freden, Barbara Guiney
Mondays: 10:00 am- 8:30 pm. Thursdays 1:00pm - 5:00pm and 6:30 - 8:30pm
Saturdays: 9:00am - 12:noon
978-249-3572 www.royalstonlibrary.org

Donations to the Friends - Thank you
Gene and Maba Cauthen
Sara and Alan Dilg
Albert and Linda Gallant
Mary Hoag
Richard and Rose Lawrence
Carla and Phil Rabinowitz
Sally Zettel

Royalston Shakespeare Company
What a Piece of Work is Man? Come find out.
Summer with the Bard. Kids age 5 and up who can attend every rehearsal and want to work hard and have fun acting, building sets, running lights and sound, creating costumes or all of the above are welcome in the free theater workshop. Tentative dates for the RCS’s kids’ theater workshop are weekdays starting June 25 from 9:30 - 12:30 with a performance on July 7 at town hall (with no rehearsals on July 4). Produced by the Friends of the Library, the RSC is free to participants. Also, older teens/younger 20-somethings are welcome to apply for a modestly-stipended director position. Interested? Contact the library. If there is a critical mass of participants, it will be "once more into the breech." for the RCS, so sign up as soon as possible! Call Beth Gospodarek for more information. 978-249-0358.

Friends of the Library Plant Sale -
June 1 - 9 to 12 am at the post office.
Got a hankering for a hosta? Begging for some basil? Longing for an allium, lilies, lilac or lupine? Ready for some rhubarb? Totally stoked for staking tomatoes? Calling for cauliflower or calendula? Asking for astilbe, lilies, lilac or lupine? Ready for some rhubarb? Totally stoked for staking tomatoes?" or the RCS, so sign up as soon as possible! Call Beth Gospodarek for more information. 978-249-0358.

Dig into Reading!
Thanks to the Royalston Academy and the Friends of the Library for funding the Summer Reading Programs, making them free to participants. Everyone is invited on Thursdays at 1:30 at the library. Targeted preschool programs are on Mondays at 10:00. Please remember that the library is closed on Monday mornings for regular business during the summer, so please be considerate and don’t try to borrow items during the preschool program times.

Dig Into Reading Summer Programs
July 11 - Medicine Mammals: Learn about wildlife rehabilitation from Loril MoonDream. See some of the animals she has been working with and find out about the work that Medicine Mammals does.

Dig Into Reading Preschool Programs
July 1 – Dig into Yoga: Brandy Lefsyk will teach new poses and increasing flexibility in this joyous music and movement program
July 8 – Button Bouquets Create fanciful button bouquets with Sharon Harmon. Participants will each make a bouquet of flowers from buttons. Bring a favorite little vase if you like.

Dig Into Ant Hills – sort of:
Join one of the authors of The Ants of New England, Aaron Ellison, to learn about ants. Look at them up close and identify ants from around the library. Learn more about these fascinating insects and become an ‘ant expert.’

Dig into Cupcakes: Amanda Basso will show everyone how to make cool decorations on cupcakes in this yummy program. Each participant will create two cupcakes to take home.

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August 1 – Dig into Ice Cream – Make and enjoy homemade ice cream in our final celebration of summer reading. There will be games too.

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Special Family Summer Program to Beryl Hill Mine
On Sunday, July 14 at 10:00 a.m. Chet and Sheila Hall will take us into the Beryl Hill Mine. Beryl is found in locations throughout New England as well as in many other sites around the world. Royalston’s Beryl Hill Mine was originally discovered and mined by A.C. Hamlin in 1871 and became known as a site of good quality aquamarine beryl. We are fortunate to have this opportunity to hunt some beryl crystals. You must pre-register (by calling the library) for this trip as space is limited.

Book Sale at the library: Good prices on used books. All genres: all ages.

Book Discussion Group meets the 3rd Monday of the month at the library from 4:30-5:45 p.m. In June, the group will discuss The Sweetness in the Bottom of the Pie by Alan Bradley. All are welcome to gather, munch cookies and chat about books and questionable recipes. Copies of the selection are available at the library.

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Gardeners, shop the annual plant sale to fill those holes in the yard, garden, or veggie patch with the plants you need and the ones you didn’t know you needed. Good local plants: good prices; good advice.
Patrons, can you spare a perennial? or an herb, a shrub, some extra seedlings, or anything else with chlorophyl that can be sold? Pot it up and bring it all to this sale to benefit your library. Garden-to-garden neighborliness promoting health, beauty and community. The plant sale is a good deal all around.

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Some of the New Materials at Your Library

**Adult Fiction**
- Adichie, C. *Americanah*
- Allende, Isabel *Maya’s Notebook*
- Archer, Jeffrey *Best Kept Secret*
- Baldacci, David *The Hit*
- Brown, Dan *Inferno*
- Clark, Mary Higgins *Daddy’s Gone a Hunting*
- Coelho, Paulo *Manuscript found in Accra*
- Conklin, Tara *House Girl*
- Coonts, Stephen *Pirate Alley*
- Dee, Jonathan *A Thousand Pardons*
- Evans, Richard *A Step of Faith*
- Godwin, Gail *Flora*
- Hannah, Kristin *Fly Away*
- Harris, Charlaine *Dead Ever After*
- Hershon, Joanna *A Dual Inheritance*
- Hill, Joe *NOS4A2*
- Hosseini, Khaled *And the Mountains Echoed*
- Kinsella, Sophie *Wedding Night*
- Le Carre, John *A Delicate Truth*
- Lescroart, John *The Ophelia Cut*
- Lipman, Elinor *The View from Penthouse B*
- Loehfelm, Bill *The Devil in her Way*
- Messud, Claire *The Woman Upstairs*
- Meyers, Randy *The Comfort of Lies*
- Patterson, James *12th of Never*
- Perry, Anne *Midnight at Marble Arch*
- Quick, Amanda *The Mystery Woman*
- Rutherford, Edward *Paris*
- Stonich, Sarah *Vacationland*
- Tuomainen, Antti *The Healer*
- Walter, Jess *Beautiful Ruins*
- Wiggs, Susan *The Apple Orchard*
- Willig, Lauren *The Ashford Affair*
- Weldon, Fay *Long Live the King*

**Adult Non-Fiction**
- local writers *Echoes of Africa*
- Boggan, Steve *Follow the Money*
- Brown, Brene *Daring Greatly*
- Difffley, Atina *Turn here Sweet Corn*
- Eisenberg, Ophira *Screw Everyone*
- Frances, Allen *Saving Normal*
- Grandin, Temple *The Autistic Brain*
- Learner, Laurence *The Price of Justice: a True Story*
- O’Brien, Edna *Country Girl*
- Philbrick, Nathaniel *Bunker Hill*
- Pollan, Michael *Cooked*
- Sedaris, David *Let’s Explore Diabetes with Owls*
- Theroux, Paul *Last Train to Zona Verde*

**Audio Books**
- Brown, Dan *Inferno*
- Philbrick, Nathaniel *Bunker Hill*
- Pollan, Michael *Cooked*
- Sedaris, David *Let’s Explore Diabetes with Owls*

**Children’s Fiction**
- Black, Holly *Doll Bones*
- Branford, Ann *Violet Mackerel’s Natural Habitat*
- Bunting, Eve *A Perfect Father’s Day*
- Bunting, Eve *Mother’s Day Mice*
- Collins, Pat *The Deer Watch*
- Columbus, Chris *House of Secrets*
- Dunrea, Olivier *Jasper & Joop*
- Fleischman, Paul *The Matchbox Diary*
- Fogliano, Julie *If you want to see a Whale*
- Horvath, James *Dig, Dogs, Dig*
- Jenkins, Emily *Water in the Park*
- Kimura, Ken *999 Frogs Wake Up*
- Lee, Jenny *Elvis and the Underdogs*
- McCleod, Carol *Have you filled a Bucket today?*
- Ochiltree, Dianne *It’s a Firefly Night*
- Pierce, Lincoln *Big Nate*
- Staahe, Bob *Bluebird*
- Willems, Mo *That is not a Good Idea*
- Wing, Natasha *The Night before Father’s Day*
- Wing, Natasha *The Night before Mother’s Day*
- Zenz, Aaron *I Love Ewe*
- Zenz, Aaron *Hug a Bull*

**Children’s Audiobook**
- Harley, Bill *It’s not Fair to Me*

**DVDs:** *Broken City, Cloud Atlas, Gangster Squad, The Guilt Trip, The Impossible, The Intouchables, Jack Reacher, The Oranges, Pitch Perfect, Promised Land, Safe Haven, Siberian Tiger Quest, Silver Linings Playbook, and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*

**Art Exhibits**
During June and July Lydia Musco and Josh Doub, who just taught a print making class for the library, will exhibit some of their prints along prints made by each of the participants in the class.

Lydia grew up in Royalston and met Josh while both were grad students at Boston University. Lydia specializes in sculpture while Josh paints primarily in oils. These multitalented artists have recently built their studio and home in Royalston. Both have joined the fire department. Lydia also works as a substitute librarian.

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**Jin Stearns Pens His Memoir – *Lost Seoul***
Jin Stearns, the adopted son of Patricia and Frank Stearns and the grandson of Barney and Anne Stearns, relates his journey from Seoul, Korea to his adoption by Patricia and Frank in 1973 in his new book, *Lost Seoul.* Abandoned by his parents when he was 6, Jin and his two brothers, aged 8 and 10, survived on their own for months through the winter before ending up with a relative in Seoul. One day he followed his brother through the train station, lost sight of him, and ended up at 6 years old alone in the station. After a night under a bench, he spent the next several days, ‘spit shining’ shoes for money to buy food and sleeping under a bench hoping his brothers would come looking for him. What happened next is the story of his journey that brought him to the United States and to the Stearns. This heart-wrenching and heart-warming story relates his life journey from Korea to the United States and back to Korea forty years later to find his brothers. The book was donated by Patricia Stearns and is available to borrow at the library.
**Royalston Common Jig Saw Puzzle**

Rita Besseck recently walked into the library and wanted to donate a completed jigsaw puzzle. It was the Royalston Common, viewed along the fence adorned in roses looking towards the town hall and church. It turns out that the photo is by Paul Rezendes and the other interesting fact is that the library sign board announcing MacBeth is in front of the town hall. Rita received the puzzle from her sister Mary Ann Jacobs.

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**Recipe of the Month**

**Checkpoint Charlie Roadside Clean-up Chili**

prepared each year by Charlie Scribner as a reward for the trash pickers that participate in the annual roadside cleanup, (organized for the umpteenth year by who-else-but Charlie Scribner)?

**Ingredients:**

- 2 to 3 cloves of garlic
- 1 large onion
- 2 pounds hamburger
- Dice up garlic and onion – brown in large pan with oil
- Mix in hamburger and brown up – drain
- In large pan or crock pot
- Add
  - 3 (16 oz) cans dark red kidney beans, (drained)
  - 3 (16 oz) cans light red kidney beans, (drained)
  - 3 (16 oz) cans black beans, (drained)
  - 1 large can crushed tomatoes
  - 1 large can stewed tomatoes
  - 1 large can tomato sauce
- Pinch of garlic salt
- Pinch of salt
- Chili powder – your preference on amount
- Cook 2 to 3 hours on low
- Add 2 cans (16 oz) baked beans
- Cook 1 to 2 more hours
- Serve with cheese, chips

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**Local Arts Scene**

The 1794 Meetinghouse in New Salem hopes to see some of our Royalston music fans in attendance this summer. Here’s what’s happening in June.

- **Saturday, June 8th at 7:30PM:** Saturday Night Live’s longtime vocalist Christine Ohlman (the beehive queen) with Rebel Montez and special guest Mitch Chakour will open the Summer Program with a sizzling roots-rock performance. Come early for our champagne reception.
- **Sunday, June 9th at 4PM:** The award-winning pianist and composer Steven Schoenberg will create a dynamic afternoon of improvisational piano.
- **Thursday, June 13th at 7:30PM:** Brother Sun, a nationally touring trio, will bring an explosion of musical diversity and harmony to the stage, fusing Americana, folk, blues, jazz, pop, rock and a cappella singing.
- **Saturday, June 15th at 7:30PM:** Southern Rail returns! They’re one of the most significant contemporary bluegrass groups on the scene today, and they’re always an audience favorite at the Meetinghouse.
- **Sunday, June 16th at 4PM:** Virtuosa cellist Dr. Rebecca Hartka and virtuoso pianist Greg Hayes bring their stunning classical skills.
- **Thursday, June 20th at 7:30PM:** Greenfield’s Rosemary Caine brings harp-based Celtic music from ancient to cutting-edge contemporary to the Meetinghouse with her band Trine Cheile.
- **Saturday, June 22nd at 7:30PM:** Darlingside: this string-rock quintet is brilliant! With special guest Caitlin Canty.
- **Sunday, June 23rd at 4PM:** The Four Story Players use puppets and storytelling to introduce young people to classical piano, Bring the kids.

There’s more information on all of the performances at www.1794meetinghouse.org

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**Saturday Morning on Royalston Common June 1st, 2013**

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Organic blueberry pancakes & local maple syrup
7:30-10:30 AM • Town Hall • $6/$3 kids

SPETACULAR SILENT AUCTION

www.villagechoolma.org for list of items 8:00-11:00 AM • Town Hall

ARial Sale

1:00 PM • MILLIENET BAYZE PACIFIED MEIN

10:00 AM • NOCTURAL ANIMNAS IN YOUR BACKYARD with Debbie Krueger

11:00 AM • OLD-FASHIONED CAnE WALK Everyone is a winner!

RAFFLE 4 Red Sox tickets

ANNUAL LIBRARY PLANT SALE

8:00-11:00 AM • at the Royalston Free Library

BOOZE SALE

8:00-12:00 PM • at the Royalston Free Library

FACE PAINTING
Got something to crow about? Send all the news along to the RCN. Zap to chasegos@gis.net or

Congratulations Recent Graduates
Of course several important graduations have not yet occurred, so stay tuned in the next issue. Grads - and grads’ moms - It's not too late. Send your good news and photos (optional but appreciated) along to the RCN so the whole town can acknowledge your fine feats.

Dylan J. Bates, Jessica Benoit, and Paul A. Thibodeau all were recently awarded an Associates degree from Mt Wachusett Community College.

Shelby Bronnes will be graduating from Athol High School in June. She is attending Bridgewater State University in the fall and majoring in the Health Sciences. She will also be a member of the Women’s Basketball Team.

Caleb Gospodarek Chase graduated from Cushing Academy on a cold Memorial Day weekend. He will be attending the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston in the fall.

Kelsey Savoy will be attending Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. in the fall. She is a recent graduate of Northfield Mount Hermon School. Kelsey is the daughter of Steve and Cindy Savoy.

Grady Scot MacPhee graduated from Cushing Academy on May 25, 2013. He was awarded the Ellen E. Osgood Prize for excellence in Senior English, the Frank Prentice Rand 1908 History Prize for outstanding performance in history, and the Vincent V.R. Booth 1923 Award, which is awarded to 13 students in the graduating class for personal growth and contribution to the life of Cushing Academy. He was inducted into the Cum Laude Society as a Junior and for a second time his Senior year. He was a Cushing Scholar and was on the High Honor Roll for each semester during his four years at Cushing. He will be attending Haverford College in the Fall and has been selected as a Haverford Magill-Rhoads Scholar. Grady plans to study Political Science with a concentration in Peace, Justice and Human Rights through Haverford’s Center for Peace and Global Citizenship. He also plans to complete his pre-med requirements. His classmates chose him as Most Likely to Succeed and Most Likely to Change the World.

Garrett Hall is graduating from Athol High School on June 2, and will be attending MWCC majoring in Criminal justice.

Chet Hall graduated Cum laude, from UMass Amherst May 10; Bachelor Degree in Natural Resource Studies; concentration in Forestry and Wildlife and Fisheries.

Obituary
Richard Alfred Paganetti, 68, of 4 Belnel Road, South Royalston, peacefully passed away at home on May 18, 2013.

Richard, “Dickie” to most, was a 1962 graduate of Athol High School. Following graduation he was employed as a carpenter, working on the Northfield Mountain hydroelectric plant. He was an avid skier throughout the New England area and also worked on the ski patrol at Stratton Mountain Ski Area in Stratton, Vermont. In 1973 he was involved in an automobile accident that left him disabled.

Richard was preceded in death by his father and mother, Alfred and Karrine (Koski) Paganetti of South Royalston. He is survived by his twin sister Roberta Erickson of Athol and younger sister Karrine Hoover of Prescott, Arizona as well as a nephew and several nieces.

Per Richard’s request, there will not be a memorial service. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Franklin County Home Care Corporation at 330 Montague City Rd., Turners Falls, MA 01376-2530 or the New England Handicapped Sports Association at PO Box 2135, Newbury, NH 03255-2135.

Life Cycle
Tadpole
Blackish, Brown
Moving, wiggling, Eating
Tails, gills, legs, lungs
Hopping, swimming, croaking
Dark green
Frog
by RCS Poetry Club: Daisy Pisani, Adriana Gaulzetti, Samantha West, and Sydney Ares
At R.C.S. ... It is A Busy Month!
Tayiah Neale, grade 6
June is coming so fast here at R.C.S. Sixth grade has come back from Nature’s Classroom and the students had a blast. They got to do so many science experiments. Sixth grade is planning for its western-themed graduation. Kindergarten has gone on a field trip around Royalston to important landmarks. Fourth grade is working on a state project. The students have to learn some things about a state, follow their rubric, and make a poster. Here at R.C.S., it’s going to be a busy month.

Ed note: Thanks to Tayiah Neale for being the RCN RCS correspondent all year. Not only was she enthusiastic but also very responsible. She paid attention to deadlines and got information early when it conflicted with school vacations. She sought out news throughout the school and weighed which items would be of interest to the wider community. Her unique voice will be missed in these pages.

RCS Calendar
HERE IT IS – THE LAST RCS CALENDAR OF THE YEAR!!!
(The calendar is also available on our website)
June 07 RCS students to ARMS @ 9:30 for “Dracula” play
Grade 6 students Step-Up @ ARMS, back after lunch
Dance @ ARMS for grades 4-6 @ 6:30 – 8:00pm
June 10 Kindergarten to Davis Farmland
RCS Spring Concert @ 6:15pm
June 12 Grade 5 presents the “Wax Museum” 10 c to make the presenters “come alive”!
Kindergarten Night-more info to come
June 13 Thayer Symphony Orchestra; 9:15 & 10:15 performances
PTG Meeting @ 3:15 *Meet our new PTG officers
June 14 Grade 6 Field Trip
June 17 FIELD DAY
Grade Six Completion Ceremony @ 6:00pm
June 18 Field Day Rain Date
June 19 Story Teller, John Porcino @ 10:30am *sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council
June 21 Grade 6 to Smith College
June 24 LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS, ½ day, lunch served
June 25 Last Day for Teachers
JUNE 15--MINI-GOLF FAMILY FUN DAY- 9:00am – 12:00 At 202 Mini-Golf, Orange; all admission collected will benefit the Athol-Royalston Education Foundation
HAVE A SAFE, HEALTHY & FUN SUMMER VACATION.
WE WILL SEE YOU IN THE FALL!

Monty Tech News
Royalston Rep. Mary C. Barclay – mcbarclay@juno.com – 978-249-2598
May and June 2013 mark the first time in history Monty Tech students will take Advance Placement Exams; two AP courses in English were initiated last year. Students scoring at certain levels will receive college credit.

Looking for some robust vegetable and bedding plants? Be sure to check out Monty Tech’s greenhouse. Hours are 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Monday – Friday through June 7.

The Monty Tech Foundation presented $27,000 in scholarships on May 28ths Senior Awards assembly. Between now and the end of the school year, Monty Tech seniors are expected to have earned scholarships in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Eighteen Monty Tech students earned on the order of 30 medals during the Skills-USA Massachusetts State Leadership & Skills Conference, held this past April – 18 of these medalist will have the opportunity to attend the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference later this month in Kansas City, Missouri!

Amanda Putney Memorial Horse Show
Family and friends are working diligently towards keeping the late Amanda Putney’s dream alive – to help young equestrians afford the expenses of horse showing. To that end an absolutely HUGE fundraising event is slated for the entire day on Sunday, June 9 at the Cheshire Fairgrounds in Swanzey, NH. The first Amanda Putney Memorial Open Horse Show takes place with an entire day of affordable family fun.

Expect vendors with all things equestrian, as well as an assortment of raffle items: everything from cords of wood, bales of hay and tack to catered barbecue, metal roofing, and custom photography. If you have items or certificates for goods and services you’d like to donate, please contact Brenda L. Putney at 978-249-7787. Proceeds will help defray expenses of the show, so those profits can go to the Amanda Putney Scholarship.

Paul A. Montero, P.L.S.
Professional Land Surveyor
101 Northeast Fitzwilliam Rd - PO Box 20
Royalston, Massachusetts 01368
Telephone: (978) 249-5879
As we move from spring to summer the collision between cooler and warmer air masses frequently causes severe wind and electrical storms. Be Royalston Ready for Wind, Lightning and Thunder!

If you’re at home before the storm hits:
~Ensure all lightweight furniture, toys, gardening tools, trash cans, etc. are secured so they won’t blow into windows or vehicles.
~Bring domestic pets indoors; farm animals should have access to protection from rain, lightning and hail.
~If you have working shutters, they should be closed to protect windows. Indoor shades, blinds and curtains should be closed. People and pets should stay away from windows.
~Of course you already have three days’ supply of water and food, pet food, flashlights, and a battery operated radio set by in case of power outage, right?!
~Unplug electric appliances, TVs, computers, air conditioners, etc. to minimize damage from power surges.

During a storm:
~DO NOT USE hardwired landline phones, which can conduct electricity – cell/mobile phones are safe (if, of course, you have one of the few homes with good coverage!)
~DO NOT USE faucets, sinks, showers and tubs, all of which can conduct electricity.
~Stay in the lowest level possible, interior rooms or rooms with as few windows as possible.

If you must leave your home, take your pre-made “Grab and Go Kit” (see www.ready.gov) and go directly to your vehicle where you should have a cell phone charger, some water and snacks. Keep windows rolled up; park in the open, away from trees, towers and other desirable lightning targets.

Please also keep an eye on your elders in the neighborhood – and make sure any new folks in your neighborhood know how to be ready – Royalston Ready for storms – and where get help in an emergency.

Fun and Food
The Lions’ Club fundraising breakfast takes place Saturday, June 15 from 7:30 – 11 a.m. at the Phillipston Center Church. Breakfast offers coffee, juice and tea also included. This Saturday’s special is “Everything but the Kitchen Sink,” loaded scrambled eggs with onions, peppers, salami, tomatoes and cheese, served with home fries. Breakfasts to order are also available with any style eggs, sausage, home fries, toast/French toast and beverages. Specials and all other meals are $7/adults; $6/seniors; $5/under 12 – add $1 for omelets. The Phillipston-Area Lion’s Club could use more Royalston members – contact Junior Whitney at 978-249-3566 to see what it’s all about!

Do you know anyone? Let the RCN know. Many school pictures across the decades and other treasures were recently given to the Historical Society by the daughters of long time teacher Maxine Wilcox.
**Garden Notes**

Reflections on spring: it matters not how many times I experience it, the onset of spring borders on the miraculous (if the scientists among you refrain from explaining it to me). Renewal. New life. Health. Seemingly overnight, the prevailing color morphs from brown to green (in all its various spring shades). Amid the greens are the striking accents of dandelion yellow and violet purple and violet white. There are two opinions in regard to dandelions and violets. One (probably the majority) holds them to be pariahs, to be eliminated by any means. The other welcomes them as a joyous expression of the bounty and diversity of spring. (Clearly, I count myself among the latter.)

While the onset of spring might have appeared to be abrupt, garden chores have been progressing at a more leisurely pace. Just as well. The body ain’t what it used to be and benefits from this easing-in period. All of that is about to change: the next three weeks will be the busiest non-harvest period of the growing season. Upwards of a dozen vegetables will be directly-seeded; even more will be transplanted. Potatoes will need hillling and the earlier plantings weeded. Everything must be just-so by June 11: for the first time since I embarked on this adventure thirty-six years ago, I am removing myself form the garden for eight days during the height of the season. Everyone ought to experience Yosemite and the Sequoias once in his or her lifetime, and this is my once. Upon return, I will throw myself back into the tasks at hand (including, of course, penning next month’s column).

In fact, I continue in my make-work mode. The parsnips and a half-dozen annual flowers have prodigiously self-sowed and I must grub out many hundreds for each one I retain. I drop some seeds into the ground (carrots, beets, fennel, chard), primarily to keep the ball rolling. I weed non-existing weeds. There is even a modest amount of harvesting, providing our daily hit of salad with lettuce, spinach, scallions, radishes, and asparagus.

The weather has not been ideal. Neither has it been dire. (How could I write garden notes without reference to weather notes?) Temperatures, until recently, were well below normal, but the peas and spinach and lettuce have thrived in these cooler conditions and the hot weather crops are a week or two from being planted and /or set out. Again, until recently, it has been dry. (I know it is dry when non-gardeners tell me we need rain.) April showers turned into April shower. On April 20. It was three weeks before we experienced another significant rain and I even hauled the hose out to the garden (a first time event for May). But, lots of rain last night, and more predicted for tomorrow and a dry stretch in May is not as troublesome as a dry stretch in August, so the garden trucks on.

I close the column with colorful, compost chat. The photo shows two piles in varying states of evolution. The one on the left was started last fall and completed this spring, a combination of garden refuse, barn scrapings, leaves, and manure. The one on the right was started in the fall of 2011 and completed in the spring of last year. It is sufficiently broken down to permit me to set out a dozen or so cherry tomato seedlings. By fall they will have filled the area with their ramblings. After frost the completed compost will be incorporated into the garden, freeing the space to start the process anew. So it goes.

*Larry Siegel*

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**Classifieds**

**Housing Wanted:** Three responsible, working young adults with some pets seeking a house to rent or housesit, three bedrooms preferred. For more information, please call Deb Nunes at 978-249-4000.

**Young man wanted** to help with work in yard: Will pay $8/hour. Must have own transportation. Call 978-249-4596.

**Services Available:** Laurie Truchart private wood carving lessons. 978-249-3291. Sharpening: knives and scissors. Also, custom knife making. Call Rob 978-320-9982.

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

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

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

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

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

**Do you need housekeeping, outdoor work, or other odd jobs?** $15/hour. Call Kathleen Lawrence Pirro at 978-249-9774.

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**For sale**

**Utility Trailer:** approximately 8’ x 4.’ Has lights, Has no sides. Well worth. $50.00 firm. 978-249-4596, ask for Paul.

**Eggs:** $2.00 per dozen. Best time to call or stop by: after 4 p.m. 978-249-5548.

**Eton Beamer Matrix Scooter:** 2005, black, 49cc, 1,716 mi., 75mpg. New battery and plug. Must sell for health reasons. $800 Call 978-249-3119

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

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

**Fall piglets.** $70. Call Chet 978-249-2183

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


**Firewood-** Taking orders for spring delivery of green firewood $185/ 170 cu feet. or $360/340 cu feet. Call Jim Putney. 978-249-3379.
Next 250th Committee Community Events:
**Breakfast-a-looza!** Sunday, June 9 at Town Hall. Tickets $5- for homemade hash, eggs, pancakes and more!

But wait there is more... VROOM, VROOM
**June 22nd at Royalston Fish and Game Club**

**Poker Run with Fire and Iron Motorcycle Club** *
9 am motorcycle registration $25
10 am kickstand up! $100 grand prize
12 pm Classic and Antique Car Show with North Quabbin Cruisers. Registration $15 - includes ticket for the 3 pm chicken barbecue. (guest $7)
3 pm chicken bbq
5 pm Texas hold “Em” at the club
Refreshments all day. Prizes. Silent Auction
* Club located on Rt 68. Main Rd. Phillipston, Mass.

**Calendar raffle** tickets on sale. Every day in July wins cool cash. See any board member for tickets.

**Giant-sized thanks** to everyone who cooked for and came to the Foods of Our Mamas Supper. The food was exceptional, the company convivial, the town hall prettied-up, and the match-the mother’s-portrait-with-the-cook game poignant. It was a fine community supper indeed.

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

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