July 1  Monday
**Dig into Yoga** at preschool summer reading program at the library. Brandi Lefsky will teach new poses to increase flexibility in this joyous music and movement program.

July 4  Thursday
**Independence Day**

July 5  Friday
**Aphelion** – The farthest point from which the earth passes the sun. We will be 94,509,041 miles (give or take!) from the sun today.

July 6  Saturday
7 pm  **Royalston Shakespeare Co’s workshop production of Hamlet.** See what happens when a great script, 2 weeks, and dedicated youthful actors and staff are all mixed with early summer and town support. Produced by the Friends of the Library, this is the 10th year of free theatre workshops for kids with the Bard. Former players are now directing.

July 7  Sunday
8:22 p.m. – Sunset – **Ramadan**, Islamic period of fasting, begins.

July 8  Monday
3:14 a.m.  **New Buck Moon**
10 am  **Button Bouquets** at preschool summer reading program at the library. Create fanciful button bouquets with Sharon Harmon. Bring a little vase if you like.

July 11  Thursday
1 pm  **Medicine Mammals** at the summer reading program at the library: Learn about wildlife rehabilitation from Loril MoonDream.

July 12  Friday
**“Chicken Shoot”** at the Athol Lithuanian Club to benefit the Royalston 250th Celebration.

July 14  Sunday
10:00 a.m.  **Library trip to Chet and Sheila Hall’s Beryl Hill Mine.** Pre-register (by calling the library) for this trip as space is limited.

noon - 5 pm  **Royalston Musicfest** at Bullock Park. Live music all day, food for sale, friends on the grass. Free. Sponsored by the Cultural Council.

July 15  Monday
10 am  **Dig into Cupcakes** at the preschool summer reading program at the library. Amanda Basso will show how to make cool decorations on cupcakes. Each participant will create two cupcakes to take home.

July 18  Thursday
1 pm  **Barn Raising** at the summer reading program at the library. Led by Deb D’Amico and Tom Musco. The barn is a ¼ scale model of an early New England barn. Put together the posts and beams and pound pegs.

July 19  Friday
7 pm  **Historical Society Annual Meeting** in its museum (School House #1 / post office). View museum collection, attend a brief business meeting, and enjoy live folk music by Phil Rabinowitz. The museum will be open July 6th and July 20th as well as August 10 and 24th - 8 am - noon.

July 22  Monday
10 am  **Make Homemade Ice Cream** at the preschool summer reading program.
2:16 p.m.  **Full Buck Moon**

July 25  Thursday
1:30 pm  **Dig into Ant Hills** - sort of...at the summer reading program at the library. Join one of the authors of *The Ants of New England*, Aaron Ellison, to learn about ants.

August 1  Thursday
1:30 pm  **Make homemade Ice Cream** and play old-fashioned games at the summer reading program at the library.

August 6  Tuesday
5:51 p.m.  **New Sturgeon Moon**

August 10  Saturday
8:30 am - 2 pm  **Royalston Yard Sale on the Common.** Send back the tear-off on page 3 to hawk your wares. Benefits the Town’s 250th Anniversary Celebration.

2 p.m.  **Fire & EMS Association Show’n’Tell Day**
4 p.m.  **Pig Roast** to benefit Fire & EMS Assoc.: Bullock Park.

August 11 - 13  Sunday
**Perseid Meteor Shower** sends a nearly steady stream of “shooting stars” at a rate of about one a minute between August 11 and August 13. Since we are just days past the New Sturgeon moon, these remnants from the Swift-Tuttle Comet will be dramatic in the velvety black sky.

August 20  Tuesday
**“Ragweed in full bloom,”** warns the Old Farmer’s Almanac. Due to climatic conditions, this year’s allergy season is supposed to be epic.
9:45 p.m.  **Full Sturgeon Moon**

August 26  Monday
**Women’s Equality Day**

**Save the Date:**  September 14  Saturday
6 pm  **Local foods supper** to benefit the 250th Celebration. If you’d like to grow, harvest, donate, sell, or cook a dish from local foods, get in touch with Beth Gospodarek.
Special Election Results
On June 25, Ed Markey was elected U.S. Senator from Massachusetts over Gabriel Gomez. In Royalston, with 32 percent of eligible (276 of 855) voters participating, the results:

Gomez - 127
Markey - 145

Interestingly, in nearby towns, the results were quite split: Athol, Orange and Phillipston voted decisively for Gomez, while Warwick and New Salem supported Markey. With 42 percent of voters participating in Petersham, the contest came down to one vote difference, Gomez-194; Markey-193.

Royalston Emergency Management Agency
EMD Jim Barclay – ema@Royalston-ma.gov – 978-249-2904

Stay Cool – Stay Healthy!
Climatic conditions are such that we are still very likely to experience some extreme heat – which can be every bit as much an emergency as extreme cold, especially for young children, elders and those with chronic health issues. If extreme hot weather overtakes the area, there are a number of potential situations that can take the day from uncomfortable to dangerous – for example, the increase in the electrical usage can ultimately overload the grid and cause power outages. Think of it – no air conditioners, no fans, no refrigeration and no water pump on a 100+ degree day!

Some things to do to beat the heat, before it becomes an emergency:
~ Be aware of expected heat waves and in the days before, allow your house to cool as much as possible. Then, before the heat strikes, close it up to retain the cool air. In case of power failure, always have three days of bottled drinking water on hand - at least a gallon per person per day – stored in the coolest place in your home.
~ During heat waves use as little electricity in the heat of the day as possible; do laundry, dishes, etc. in the late evening or early morning. Cook outside on the grill to keep the house cool or eat no-cook meals.
~ If your home has window air conditioners, be sure they are installed properly, well insulated and that windows and doors are weather-stripped to keep cool air in. Keeping storm windows in place, with shades pulled and drapes closed, can also help retain cool air.
~ Cover windows that receive direct sunlight with drapes, shades, awnings or louvers – exterior awnings and louvers can mean an 80% reduction in heat in the home!
~ Keep a roll of heavy duty foil on hand to install inside window glass, shiny side out, to reflect sunlight (and its heat) to the outside of the glass.
~ Stay in contact with family and friends, especially those who might be at risk in high heat conditions; make a plan to either check in or have these people check in with you through the day to ensure they’re tolerating the heat.
~ Stay well hydrated, let little kids play in the pool or bathtub – SUPERVISED, of course – and take time now to learn about the signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses and problems.

www.Ready.gov has an excellent section on how to stay cool in extreme heat, and what to do if heat becomes an issue. Of course in an emergency, dial911!
**Board of Health News**

*Phil Leger, chairperson*

A reminder that we no longer take paint and paint-related material at the transfer station. These items must wait for the annual hazmat collection held in the fall. Please do not leave these items in the building! Someone also left us some used flares. Again, please do not leave these items in the building. To dispose of old ammunition, old flares etc., contact the police/fire dept. We do take clean used oil and anti-freeze. Thanks.

A reminder that new windshield stickers are due by July 1. The cost is $15 for the first vehicle and $5 for 2nd. The stickers should be displayed on the driver’s side lower windshield. See attendant to purchase a sticker.

By the time this goes to press, new paving should have been completed at the transfer station. McLaughlin Paving from New Salem was the company that completed the work. A big thank you for a job well done. Also, thanks go out to DPW Super Keith Newton for coordinating the work. The RDPW will be paving the entrance road down to the second entrance as part of the town common upgrade using Chapter 90 funding. At last year’s annual town meeting, the voters included Town Dump Road down to the 2nd entrance as a Chapter 90 road. This road is one of the busiest roads in town on a Saturday and also has large truck traffic using it on a regular basis.

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**Royalston Community Newsletter July/August 2013 Page 3**

**Royalston Fire and EMS News**

*Publicity coordinator Firefighter/First Responder Jaret Thiem,*

The Royalston Fire & EMS Association has a busy couple of months of fun and fund raising planned, beginning with the July 14 MusicFest Food Concession. Members will again cook up a storm from noon to 5 p.m. (or so) under the tent at Bullock Park. Burgers and dogs, popcorn, soft drinks and beer will all be available with profits benefiting the Association.

An August 10 Fire & EMS “Show’n’Tell Day” begins at 2 p.m. with personnel on hand to give tours of apparatus and specialty equipment purchased with more than $100,000 non-tax dollars. Plans for educational demonstrations and a mini-muster are in the works. Plan on a 4 p.m. Pig Roast, under the direction of Royalston FD Large Animal Rescue Specialist Brenda L. Putney. Ticket prices were not available at press time; Tickets will be available toward the end of July from F&EMS members and at select locations around Royalston.

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**Royalston Yard Sale On the Common**

Saturday, August 10, 2013

8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Set up On the Common by 7:30 am

Another Fun Event to Raise Funds for the Town’s 250th Anniversary Celebration in 2015

Space Available- 10’ x 12’

Bring your own chair and shelter

Coffee and donuts for early risers!

Stop by for a quick lunch

On the Common Hot Dogs Hamburgers Ice cream and more…

Coffee and donuts for early risers!

On The Common Yard Sale Registration Form

If you want to participate in the On the Common sale, please cut off this slip and return with appropriate fee payable to “250th Celebration Committee” to: 250th Celebration Committee P.O. Box 29 Royalston, MA 01368. Deadline for registration is Saturday, August 8, 2013.

☐ I would like sale space on the Common:   $10 by 8-8 __________________________

$15 day of event __________________________

NAME________________________________ ADDRESS________________________________ PHONE______________________
Donations to the Friends - Thank you

The Landry family
Sylvia and Clifford Simula

Royalston Shakespeare Company
What a Piece of Work is Man? Come find out.
Performance of Hamlet is June 6 at 7 pm.

Art Exhibit
During July, Josh Doub and Lydia Musco will continue to have a selection of their prints on display along with prints created by participants in their print making workshop. In August and September they will be exhibiting a diverse variety of their work.

Summer Reading Lists
Students: Wondering what to read over the summer? Reading lists from area schools are available at the library.

Old Book Review: Isaac Royall’s estate and legacy
The Romance of Old New England Roof Trees
by Mary Caroline Crawford, 1922.

Thinking it was about trees, this book was purchased at a used book store in Fitzwilliam. It turns out that a roof tree is another word for an old house beam and the author’s forward says that her purpose was to “supply . . . a volume which should give a clearly, compactly, and with a fair degree of readableness, the stories connected with the surviving old houses of New England.” There is a short “sketch” of the Isaac Royall’s estate in Medford, the home of the namesake of this town.

Royall’s father was a British gentleman whose wealth derived from the triangle trade: slaving, exporting sugar and manufacturing rum. In 1737, during a time of slave rebellions and rampant disease in the Caribbean, the family moved from Antigua around to Medford. Isaac was 18. The father built a somewhat showy and quirky mansion with elaborate gardens. According to the author, they were bringing “among other things and chattels a parcel of negroes, designed for his own use, and not any of them for merchandize.” In legal documents, Royall “prays that he may not be taxed.” . . . The father dies four years after arriving in Medford and “Royalston’s” Isaac Royall assumes responsibility for the family business.

This information sent me to the Internet to find out more about Isaac Royall. An article by Janet Halley, 2006 Isaac Royall Chair at Harvard Law School, (http://www.law.harvard.edu/students/orgs/blj/vol24/Halley.pdf.) indicated that the Royall household had “six times more slaves than any other household in the town – 12 in all in 1754.” At Harvard University, it is a bit of a controversy that the position funded by Royall, the “Royall Chair”, which eventually grew into the Harvard Law School, had origins in profits from slavery.

Back in the Roof Trees, ... The summer house (pictured, right), “long a favorite resort of the family and their guests, was a veritable curiosity in its way. Placed upon an artificial mound with two terraces, and reached by broad flights of red sandstone steps, it was an architecturally model. Hither, to pay court to the daughters of the house, used to come George Erving and the young Sir William Pepperell” . . . for “many a historic love tryst... It is intersting to discover that it was utility that led to the elevation of the mound, within which was an ice house. And to get in slaves went through a trap-door in the floor of this Greek structure!”

Royall, though “colonel, was altogether inclined to take more care for his patrimony than the king. When the revolution began, Col. Royall fell upon evil times... He had prepared...to take passage for the West Indies, intending to embark from Salem to Antigua, but having gone to Boston the Sunday previous to the Battle of Lexington,... he was by course of events, shut up in the town. He sailed for Halifax very soon, still intending,...to go to Antigua, but on the arrival of his son-in-law, George Erving, his daughter, and the troops from Boston, he was... persuaded to sail for England. (According to the Harvard article, he sold his slaves first and granted freedom only to an elderly woman, who then had nowhere to go.) The Royall House and Slave Quarters are open for regular tours on Saturdays and Sundays through November 3. Tours are on the hour at 1, 2, 3, and 4 p.m. $7 adults/ school groups free.
Some of the New Materials at Your Library

### Adult Fiction

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<tr>
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<td>Berry, Steve</td>
<td>Idiopathy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Byers, Sam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Card, Orson Scott</td>
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<td>Corley, Elizabeth</td>
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<td>Delinsky, Barbara</td>
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<td>DiSclafani, Anton</td>
<td>The Yonahlossee Riding Camp for Girls</td>
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<td>Donohue, Meg</td>
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<td>Evanovich, Janet</td>
<td>Hot Stuff</td>
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<td>Evanovich, Janet</td>
<td>The Heist</td>
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<td>Evanovich, Janet</td>
<td>Two for the Dough</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaiman, Neil</td>
<td>King of Cuba</td>
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<td>Garcia, Cristina</td>
<td>Requiem Mass</td>
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<td>Grant, Michael</td>
<td>BZRK</td>
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<td>Hage, Rawi</td>
<td>Carnival</td>
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<td>Haasen, Carl</td>
<td>Bad Monkey</td>
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<td>Hoag, Tami</td>
<td>The 9th Girl</td>
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<td>James, Eloisa</td>
<td>Once Upon a Tower</td>
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<td>King, Stephen</td>
<td>Joyland</td>
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<td>Koontz, Dean</td>
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<td>Logan, Michael</td>
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<td>Matthews, Jason</td>
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<td>McCann, Colum</td>
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<td>Mead, Richelle</td>
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<td>Nesbo, Jo</td>
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<td>Nova, Craig</td>
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<td>Nussbaum, Susan</td>
<td>Good Kings Bad Kings</td>
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<td>Sandford, John</td>
<td>Silken Prey</td>
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### Children's Fiction

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<tr>
<td>Capucilli, Alyssa</td>
<td>Biscuit in the Garden</td>
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<td>Demi</td>
<td>One Grain of Rice</td>
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<td>Kann, Victoria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Klimo, Kate</td>
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<td>Meisel, Paul</td>
<td>See me Dig</td>
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<td>Muth, Jon</td>
<td>Zen Shorts</td>
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<td>Rinker, Sherri</td>
<td>Steam Train, Dream Train</td>
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<td>Say, Allen</td>
<td>The Favorite Daughter</td>
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<td>Schwarz, Viviane</td>
<td>Welcome to Your Awesome Robot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shea, Bob</td>
<td>Unicorn Thinks He's Pretty Great</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simpson, Martha</td>
<td>What Not to give your Mom on Mother's Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willems, Mo</td>
<td>A Big Guy took my Ball</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoboli, Giovanna</td>
<td>I wish I had--</td>
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### Children's Audiobook

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harley, Bill</td>
<td>It's not Fair to Me</td>
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### Children's Non-Fiction

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Arlon, Penelope</td>
<td>Emergency Vehicles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arlon, Penelope</td>
<td>Puppies and Kittens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mamada, Mineko</td>
<td>Which is Round? Which is Bigger?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marsico, Katie</td>
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<td>Marsico, Katie</td>
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<td>Oxlade, Chris</td>
<td>Gadgets and Games</td>
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### DVDs:

- Beautiful Creatures
- Before Sunrise
- Before Sunset
- Call the Midwife Season 2
- Chasing Mavericks
- Doc McStuffins
- Escape from Planet Earth
- The Fox and the Hound
- A Glimpse inside the Mind of Charles Swan III
- A Good Day to Die Hard (DVD & Blu-ray)
- The Good Wife Season 3
- Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters
- Identity Thief
- If I Were You
- Jack the Giant Slayer
- Little Einsteins
- Little White Lies
- Mad Men Seasons 1-4
- The Master
- Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
- Mighty Machines
- Nickelodeon Favorites
- Oz the Great and Powerful
- Pretty Woman
- Pulp Fiction
- Quartet
- Return to Nim's Island
- Scandal
- Scooby-Doo! Mystery Incorporated
- Thomas and Friends
- Warm Bodies

### CDs:

- Alabama Shakes
- Boys & Girls
- The Civil Wars
- Barton Hollow
- Darius Rucker
- True Believers
- Eric Church
- Caught in the Act: Live
- Of Monsters
- My Head is an Animal
- Phillip Phillips
- The World from the Side of the Moon
- Sixto Rodriguez
- Searching for Sugar Man
- Steve Martin
- Love has Come for You
- The Lumineers
- The Lumineers

### Audio Books

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ellis, Joseph</td>
<td>Revolutionary Summer</td>
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### Young Adult

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<th>Author</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dessen, Sarah</td>
<td>The Moon and More</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kadohata, Cynthia</td>
<td>The Thing about Luck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russell, Rachel</td>
<td>Tales from a not-so-happy Heartbreaker</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Echoes of Africa - Author Talk in September

On Friday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the library, Beth Gospodarek, editor of this newsletter, will discuss her years of working in the Peace Corp in Lesotho and the Agency for International Development and then her travels around Africa, which she documented in a chapter in the book ‘Echoes in Africa, North Quabbin Perspectives on the Second Largest Continent.’ Allen Young, who wrote the introduction to the book will also discuss his perspectives on Africa along with Rice Flanders, who with Allen traveled to Africa in 1991.
@ The Phinehas S. Newton Library

Dig Into Reading Summer Programs – For All Ages – 1:30p.m. @ the Library

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.

July 18 – Barn Raising: Come to a barn raising right at the library. Led by Deb D’Amico and Tom Musco. The barn is a ¼ scale model of an early New England barn. Put together the posts and beams and pound in the pegs. Bring work gloves if you have them.

July 25 – 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.’

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

Dig Into Reading Preschool Programs – 10:00a.m. @ the Library

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.

July 15 – 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.

July 22 – Dig into Ice Cream: Rolling our ice cream makers around and around and cranking ice cream are only part of the fun on this last preschool summer program.

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- 978-249-3572) for this trip as space is limited.

Dig Into Reading! is sponsored by your local library, The Royalston Academy, the Friends of the Library, the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Summer Programs for Children at the Village School
Go to www.villageschoolma.org to get the PDF brochure of the Summer Programs, which run from July 8 to July 26, for children aged 4 to 14. Programs include Nature Arts and Play for ages 4-8, Woodworking for Kids for ages 8 and up, and the Science and Art Experience, ages 8 and up. Discounts are given to Royalston families, courtesy of Royalston Academy. Brochures are at the Post Office and the library.

Summer Music Program at the Village School
Summer instrumental music lessons will take place at the Village School from July 1 – August 23. Lessons are open to ALL AGES – even adults! Students may begin cello, violin and piano at age 4, recorder, guitar and ukulele at age 6, and flute at age 9. Group and private lessons are available. Flexible schedule: Just sign up for the weeks when you’re home – you won’t be charged for lessons when you’re on vacation!

Why sign up for summer lessons?
Try out a new instrument
Continue to build skills or take on new challenges
Flexible schedule
Explore music from different time periods & places!
Private lessons help students to build confidence and deepen their love of music
Summer lessons are fun!
For more information, and for a registration form, go to www.villageschoolma.org

Growling for Breakfast?
The next two Lions’ Club fundraising breakfasts take place Saturday, July 20 and August 17 from 7:30 – 11 a.m. at the Phillipston Center Church. Breakfasts to order are available with any style eggs, sausage, home fries, toast/French toast and beverages. The July special is a $7 Summertime Omelet filled with your choice of fresh, summer veggies and flavorful cheese, along with home fries, toast and beverages. The August special is Classic Creamed Chipped Beef on Texas-style toast, again with homefries and beverages. Breakfasts 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!
Recipe of the Month

The recipe this month comes from Erin Girouard, RCS music teacher. She lives on NE Fitzwilliam Rd and with her tech-savvy husband Clayton, is busy with home improvement projects. Erin is also an accomplished actress and has wowed crowds in several Theater at the Mount, Shea Theater, and the Athol Community Theater productions. She plays Maid Marion in the annual Turners Falls Renaissance Festival. She is available to perform for children’s birthdays as a visiting princess and occasionally decorates cakes professionally. Here is her recipe for:

Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Cupcakes with cream cheese frosting

Cookie Dough recipe:
1 stick unsalted butter, softened
½ cup plus 2 tbsp sugar
½ cup plus 2 tbsp brown sugar
2 Tablespoons milk
½ Tablespoon vanilla
1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup mini chocolate chips

Cupcake recipe:
1 package yellow cake mix (I use duncan hines)
1 package of vanilla jello pudding mix
4 eggs
½ cup vegetable oil
1 cup water

Cream Cheese Frosting
2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup butter, softened
1 tsp vanilla extract
2 cups confectioners sugar

To make Cookie Dough: Combine butter and both sugars in a mixing bowl and cream on medium-high speed until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Beat in milk and vanilla until incorporated and smooth. Beat in flour and salt until just combined. Stir in chocolate chips. Scoop about 1.5 tablespoons of dough at a time, and shape into balls. Place cookie dough balls on a parchment or foil lined baking sheet. Cover with plastic wrap and freeze for 6-12 hours.

To make Cupcakes: mix ingredients and fill cupcake liners. Be sure to only fill cupcake liners 2/3 of the way full with the batter. You don’t want the cupcakes over-flowing while they bake. You may have a little bit of batter left over after filling all 24 cupcake liners. Place frozen cookie dough ball on the top center of each cupcake. Bake at 350 for 16-18 minutes.

To make frosting: In a medium bowl, cream together the cream cheese and butter until creamy. Mix in the vanilla, then gradually stir in the confectioners’ sugar.

Milestones

Moving on: Happy trails to the Dawson family as they move from Royalston to Seattle. There may never be another laugh as full-bodied and sincere as Dawn’s in this town.

Pastor Jeff Francis and his beautiful family are moving to Virginia. Certainly, the congregants at the 1st and 2nd Congregational Churches will miss his preaching as well as Judi’s pure singing voice. The community school is sad to see the children go. Who can fill Jamieson’s dancing

Retired: Wishes for a restful and interesting retirement to Ruth Suyunaga, who has just retired from her position of 20 years as art director in the Gardner Public Schools. Before that, in the 1980s and early 90s, Ruth taught art in the Royalston schools, Whitney Hall and the Raymond School.

Musicfest 2013

It’s almost here - this summer’s annual Musicfest, the Royalston Cultural Council’s biggest event of the year! It will be held in Bullock Park on Sunday, July 14, from noon until five pm. Rain location is the Town Hall. It is free and open to everybody.

This year’s headlining band is Zydeco Connection, who will entertain you with Cajun and Zydeco style music, beginning at 4 pm. Prior to them, Melanie and the Blue Shots, Nexus, Linq, Sandra Bruso, Empty Banks, and Work in Progress will be performing.

The Fire Department will be serving food, including hot dogs and hamburgers; the 250th Committee will be scooping up ice cream; and the Cultural Council will offer watermelon, pound cake and this year’s commemorative T-shirts. For the kids, there will be balloon creations and face painting. The Ladies Benevolent Society will be raffling off a basket.
Bring blankets, your own canopy, if desired (the Cultural Council will have several set up) your appetite, and many friends.

More information is available at www.1794meetinghouse.org
Amber Simmington, the Dorothy W. Newton Scholarship
Grady MacPhee, the Nancy S. Bolton Scholarship
Alexis Javier, the Patricia C. Poor Scholarship
Garrett Hall, the Arline Vining Scholarship
Shelby Bronnes, the Maxine E. Wilcox Scholarship

congratulations to these recipients:

Thank you to those who support the LBS throughout the year, and special Six Ladies’ Benevolent Society Scholarships awarded

pie at work:

Six Ladies’ Benevolent Society Scholarships awarded

Thank you to those who support the LBS throughout the year, and special congratulations to these recipients:

Shelby Bronnes, the Maxine E. Wilcox Scholarship
Caleb Chase, the H. Pauline Smith Scholarship
Garrett Hall, the Arline Vining Scholarship
Alexis Javier, the Patricia C. Poor Scholarship
Grady MacPhee, the Nancy S. Bolton Scholarship
Amber Simmington, the Dorothy W. Newton Scholarship

This past May, Alexandra Q. Krasowski graduated from College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA with a B.A. in Classics and a minor in Russian. She will be applying to graduate school for Fall 2014 where she plans to earn her M.A. in Museum Studies. She currently has an internship at the Worcester Art Museum.

Alexis Javier, a 2013 graduate of Athol High School, has been accepted to attend Luzerne County Community College in Nanticoke, Penn., where she will major in pre-pharmacy. While at AHS, she was a member of the Student Council and played soccer and flag football. She was also a member of the Women’s Club, Enviro Club and the National Honor Society. She is the daughter of Renee Javier of Royalston and Martin Javier of Hawley, Penn.

Ashley Renee Javier was 2013 Salutatorian of Athol High School.

2013 Graduates of Athol High School from Royalston: Shelby Jane Bronnes (NHS), Nacoal R. DuPray, Randy Kenneth Favreau, Jr., Keith Wayne Gellinas, Jr., Garrett Hunter Hall, Jacob Michael Laajoie, Timothy John Normandin, Amber Marie Simmington, Michele E. Thompson, and Ruth White

2013 Graduates of Monty Tech from Royalston: Sydni Ayres, Meredith Carrier, Andrew Demboske, Storm Easton, Sabriena McCassie, Michael Persson, and Joshua Roberts.

She was buried June 7, 2013 in Lawrence Brook Cemetery, Royalston. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations in Helen’s name be made to the Royalston Fire & EMS Association, C/O James Putney, Treasurer, 185 North Fitzwilliam Road, Royalston, MA 01368.

Gilbert Robert Anderson died at his home in East Hartford, CT, on June 20, 2013, from esophageal cancer. Son of Eleanor (Gunn) and Richard T. Anderson, Gib (also known as Gil) was born October 16, 1949, and grew up in Windsor, CT. A graduate of the Robinson School, in West Hartford, CT, and Colgate University, Gib also earned a Master’s degree in International Relations from Boston University. Gib’s long career in teaching began at the Meadowbrook School (PA), and then included positions teaching English and History at The Anglo-American School of Moscow, Tabor Academy, Pomfret School, The Masters School, Faribault High School (MN), and the Hebrew High School of New England in West Hartford. His passionate avocation was working with wood, and Gib built two beautiful post-and-beam houses for his family, in Royalston, MA, and East Hartford, as well as many other structures and pieces of furniture. Gib was an avid proponent of historic preservation, environmental protection and maintaining open space. Gib is survived by his beloved family, including his wife Rebecca Huntley, and their children, Nicholas Anderson of Portsmouth, NH, and Avery Anderson of East Hartford; and Ryan and Brett Tetro of New York City. Memorial donations may be sent to: Hartford Land Trust, P.O. Box 12, East Hartford, CT, 06027.
Classifieds

Kayak Partner Wanted: Looking for Royalston friend to kayak the Millers River when the water is high enough. Call Tom Kellner: 978-249-4644

Housing wanted: Mature female with two small dogs needs a small apartment or house. Excellent references. Call 978-575-0751

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.

Help wanted: stack firewood

Will pay $100 to stack 5 cords of firewood. Call Bob at 978 249 4904

Services Available:

Odd jobs and lawn mowing. Call Charlie White 978-249-9122

Laurie Truehart: 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 brguiney@wildblue.net.


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


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

For sale

Farm-Fresh Produce: currently picking sugar nap peas, spinach, and garlic scapes; followed by buns, chard, zucchini and cucumbers; full array of vegetables in Aug. Call Larry, Prospect Hill Farm, 249-4260.

Utility Trailer: approximately 8’ x 4’. Has lights. Has no sides. Well worth. $50.00. Call 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.


Garden Notes

Yosemite, the sequoias, the coastal ride through Big Sur, were, of course, magnificent. But. This was, after all, central California on the cusp of summer and (with the exception of the higher elevations [which soon enough will dry out as well]) and the irrigated agricultural fields) the prevailing color was brown. Mile after mile of brown. I returned to the lushness of Royalston, with its own special brand of magnificence.

On one hand, the condition of the garden is almost a carbon copy of what it was when I last wrote: the cool weather crops are thriving and the hot weather crops are languishing. This should work out well since the cool weather crops are in varying states of maturity and the hot weather crops have an entire summer to shake off their languishness. In contrast, another condition couldn’t be more different. The May column lamented the lack of rain; since then over ten inches have fallen, a massive sum for a week period. Fortunately most of the garden is on a hillside and the soil is fundamentally sandy, so drainage is excellent. Only the lowest garden remains sodden, and, while the plants are decidedly unhappy, they persist.

July is the dual purpose month. Whereas June was primarily a planting month and August will be primarily a harvesting month, July will find me busy with both. Hundreds of brassicas are awaiting open space to be transplanted. Others (kale, a variety of oriental greens) will be direct seeded. There will be several more plantings of beans, beets, and cucumbers, and by month’s end, the first of the fall spinach. Spinach and lettuce harvests continue into July, sugar snap peas will be available most of the month, and beans, chard, beets, summer squash, and cucumbers for at least the latter part.

The cross of a spinach patch: the first spinach was seeded in early April. As mightily as I attempted to plant carefully, substantial thinning was required. The first set the plants one to two inches apart. The second spaced them at four inches and this thinning was large enough to drop into the salad bowl. Harvesting began in earnest in early June. (I harvest the large outer leaves, leaving the smaller ones space to grow out.) It started bolting (sending up flower stalks) a couple of days ago, necessitating one final (large) picking for the market. The tale does not end there. A call to Maureen Blasco and she arrived promptly to glean the patch, filling several shopping bags to be processed for the freezer. (She needs several bags: four cups of spinach will blanch down to less than one cup.) What remained were stalks and the occasional leaf. They were pulled and fed to the steers. Spinach-fed beef. Waste not, want not. (The bed was turned immediately and set out with brassica seedlings.)

So, there are two months of gardening before I next report. In that time, I will care for the plants, and I will coddle the plants. I will not control the plants. (That is, well...beyond my control.) But that is the appeal; I can be a participant in the gardening process without being in charge of it. I am not a take charge guy.

Larry Siegel
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New e-mail address for Newsletter Submissions - effective immediately
chasegos2@gmail.com

Also, the editors at the RCN are hugely appreciative of the submissions received and know that diverse writing is what makes this a community newsletter. We try to be flexible when it comes to deadlines, but a pattern has developed in which way more than half of submissions arrive late. Clearly, the newsletter is less of a chore when there is time to think and futz. Generally, when submissions are late, it means the volunteer editor is staying up late to get the newsletter out for the 1st of the month. The deadline for the newsletter is always the 22nd of the prior month and although we are accommodating, we’d prefer tardy submissions only be in special circumstances.

Similarly, inserts need to be arranged with the circulation manager, Maureen Blasco, well in advance. They should be clearly marked with the sponsoring group, who should be willing to help with the manual stuffing of the insert. The Friends of the Library reserves the right to not include any insert.

Wildlife (death) Sighting
Commuters, taking the long way around on Brown Road because of the NE Fitzwilliam Bridge closing, report seeing lots of turtles throughout June. Startlingly, one day there was a Great Blue Heron dead on the side of the road with its head bitten off. The speculation is that snapping turtles are responsible.

The Royalston Community Newsletter
Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library
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