### Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>New Sap Moon</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
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<td>Fat Tuesday</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
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<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7 - 10 pm Open mic at Town Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1 - 3 p.m. Public meeting and presentation on the natural gas pipeline proposed for River Rd., Gulf Rd., Dickley Rd., and Rt 68 (as well as towns from the Berkshires to Dracut) at Village Congregation Church in Cummington, Mass. Bruce Winn from the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT - <a href="http://www.thebeatnews.org">www.thebeatnews.org</a>) will be talking about the basics of fracking, the proposed pipeline route, the nature of the pipeline and its contents, environmental and health issues, economic and regulatory issues, issues of eminent domain, and other topics.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>2 a.m. Daylight Savings Time begins. Spring forward; sleep less</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 10</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>3:45 pm Friends of the Library Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7 pm John Smolens, the author of the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award nominated novel Cold, as well as other novels, short stories and articles will discuss his books and writing in the ballroom at the Maples, the Bundschuh home, next to the library.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00 - 11:30 a.m. Chet Hall Pancake Breakfast and raffles at RCS to benefit Chet Hall Scholarship Fund. Tickets are $8.00 adult/$5.00 child/children 4 &amp; under free. (Advance tickets available at RCS) To donate, call Becky Divoll, 249-3158 (h) or 249-2900</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30 pm The Ladies Benevolent Society meets at Deb Nunes house, 350 Athol Richmond Road. Business meeting followed by Beatles and Boomers Sing-a-long in the parlor around Deb’s new Steinway piano. Exceptional refreshments. All invited, especially newcomers. For more information, call Deb at 978-249-4000.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 30</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>New Pink Moon</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Zoning Update Meeting at the Town Hall. Discuss the work completed over the last several years, current status, goals, and schedule. Over the next several months, the Planning Board will be holding a series of public information meetings to present drafts of zoning changes and gather input.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>10 am 16th Annual Royalston egg hunt and chocolate melting. During the month of March, the organizers welcome donations of small, individually wrapped candies to fit in plastic eggs. Cash donations are also helpful. No additional plastic eggs will be needed this year. Bring donations to the Royalston General Store in South Royalston or the Phinehas S. Newton Library on the Common. Volunteers are also welcome on the day of the event to help “hide” the eggs and to assist with the chocolate melting in the Town Hall. For more information, contact Rene’ at 978-249-4639.</td>
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Selectboard Notes

The Select Board continues to wrestle with the reality of large needs and limited funds.

At town meeting and at the town election, the board will again ask voters to support an override of $50,000 for a capital stabilization fund. Last year, the town had only $55,000 available for appropriations after funding the budget – and only $35,000 of that went to capital projects. This year the Capital Planning Committee (CPC) is recommending over $100,000 in capital projects – obviously, many of those recommendations will not be funded.

In addition, however, the Capital Planning Committee notes in its report the really big projects that lie ahead – rehabbing the Raymond School for town use, replacing totally inadequate restrooms in Whitney Hall, and creating better public safety and public works facilities.

Coming out of a winter in which the state and every city and town is facing large overruns in snow and ice accounts, the board may also ask voters to support an override to fund a special account to deal with winter realities.

The Select Board will close annual town meeting warrant on April 20.

Energy Committee Wants You

Donna Caisse

The Royalston Energy Committee is looking for individuals who are passionate about clean energy, the environment, and what the world, particularly Royalston, will look like in 50 years. If you are concerned with global warming and the possible routing of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline through Royalston...... we need you! Take a stand; help us make a difference! Contact the Board of Selectmen office at 978-249-9641 or Donna Caisse at 978-249-4497 to become an Energy Committee member.

You may have heard that Royalston is pursuing becoming a Green Community. We are almost there...... This May, at our Annual Town Meeting, make your vote count. The Stretch Energy Code will be an article on the Warrant. To become familiar with the Stretch Energy Code, you can visit the Department of Energy Resources at mass.gov.

As part of a broad public engagement process, DOER is accepting public comments with regard to revising and updating the Stretch Energy Code. Through March 28, 2014 written comments should be submitted to stretchcode@state.mass.us and will be posted weekly on the Green Communities home page http://e2.ma/click/ctzlj/krbww/oybg7b. Following the March 28, 2014 deadline for written comments, DOER will review the feedback received and consider the next steps. If you were at the Special Town Meeting in October, and voted the Stretch Code down, please take a minute to comment to the DOER how you feel as a stakeholder, and what changes you would like to see in the updates.

Open Burning Permits Available

Keith R. Newton, Fire Chief

The Fire Department will issue Open Burning Permits at the Royalston Fire Station #1, located on #4 Athol Road, on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Mondays of every month at 7:00 PM until May. The burning season starts January 15, 2014 and extends through May 1, 2014.

All fires must be at least 75 feet from any building, can only be burnt between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and must be out by 4:00 p.m. The Department of Environmental Protection also urges that you burn only on clear days to allow smoke to rise up and stay away from residences minimizing the effects of the smoke. On the day you wish to burn, call and listen for a recorded message that will give you the information about safe burning.

Thank you all for your full cooperation.
Major Pipeline Project
May Soon Change Our Rural Landscape-
Informational Meeting March 8
Peter Gagliardi with Rene’-Lake Gagliardi

People in town, along with residents of communities along a 250 mile path from Albany, New York to Dracut, Mass., are becoming aware of a proposal by the Tennessee Pipeline Company to build a major natural gas pipeline that will affect property in Royalston as well as Athol, Orange, and Winchendon. The high pressure pipeline, perhaps as large as 36 inches in diameter, will deliver natural gas to the northern tier of Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. It will also increase the supply of gas available to the eastern part of the state.

Royalston residents along the pipeline’s proposed path, including landowners on River Road, Route 68, Dickley Road, and Gulf Road first heard of the proposals when representatives of the company knocked on their doors or left door hangers for those who were not home. The representatives provided limited information about the plan and sought permission for their surveyors to enter private property to conduct an initial survey, including collecting environmental and archaeological data. They informed landowners that the project, if approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), would enjoy the right of eminent domain. The project requires a 50 foot right of way that is kept clear of trees.

The Royalston Select Board has discussed this matter, meeting with a number of residents potentially affected by this development. Elsewhere, the Athol Conservation Commission has granted permission to survey its land, while in Montague, local officials refused to do so because they felt that not enough information had been provided.

It appears that Massachusetts needs additional natural gas supplies to meet the needs both of communities that currently have access to natural gas (and others who are seeking a lower cost alternative to heating oil) and the many new or planned gas-fired electricity generating facilities. There are substantial economic factors motivating this proposal, and hence many high powered supporters.

While the pipeline could bring gas from Texas and Louisiana to the region, it also would be a convenient vehicle to distribute gas from proposed “fracking” ventures currently being reviewed in New York state and Pennsylvania.

People from a number of Western Massachusetts communities will be gathering at the Village Congregation Church in Cummington, Mass. on Saturday, March 8 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. On tap are presentations on the proposed pipeline that will traverse the Berkshires and then proceed into Franklin County and along the northern border of Massachusetts. Bruce Winn from the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT - www.the-beatnews.org) will be talking about the basics of fracking, the proposed pipeline route, the nature of the pipeline and its contents, environmental and health issues, economic and regulatory issues, issues of eminent domain, and other topics. This meeting is open to the public.

Zoning Update Project Kick-off Meeting Scheduled
Kate Collins, Planning Board Chair

The Planning Board will be holding a kick-off meeting for the Zoning Update Project on Wednesday, April 2nd at the Town Hall from 7 – 8:30 p.m. We will discuss the work completed over the last several years, the current status of the project, goals for this year, and the project schedule. Over the next several months, the Planning Board will be holding a series of public information meetings to present draft sections of the zoning changes and gather input from residents. We look forward to seeing you at the project kick-off meeting.

Board of Health News
Phel Leger, Chairperson

Snow, snow, and more snow! Watch your step when walking around the transfer station. Although the Royalston DPW and the attendants do a great job plowing, shoveling, and sanding, you never know where ice lurks or where the real edge of the walls near the roll offs are located. The message is, be careful! Also, vehicles can’t always stop quickly, so drivers be careful backing up and travelling around the facility. Cheer up! Spring is around the corner.

Speaking of snow, now is a great time to get out and participate in winter activities such as snowshoeing, XC skiing, skating, and just plain walking. The air is crisp and clean and best of all no bugs! Outdoor winter activity can leave you invigorated and recharged. The days are getting longer and the sun is warmer in the sky. So get out and get active and stay healthy!

Democratic Caucus rescheduled for March 14, 7 p.m., at town hall

Royalston Democrats will caucus at the town hall at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 14, it was announced by committee chair Allen Young. All registered Democrats in Royalston are encouraged to attend the caucus to learn about the candidates for statewide offices and to elect a delegate and alternate to the June convention, which will be held in Worcester at the DCU Center.

The positions to be filled are governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, treasurer, auditor and secretary of state. Any candidate that receives votes of 15 percent or more of the delegates will be listed on the Democratic primary ballot.

The town committee welcomes new members. Current members include Christine Beckert Long, George “Buddy” Dyer, Lynne Kellner, Tom Kellner, Phil Rabinowitz, Carla Rabinowitz, Vyto Andreliunas and Ruth Suyenaga.

Common Restoration Committee - Heads Up

This is just a heads-up to our residents regarding an upcoming flyer asking for donations for various projects from the Common Restoration Committee. As we seek funding for our projects, some large and some small we are asking organizations, private groups and individuals to be generous by donating for any items listed in the flyer in the upcoming April issue of the Community Newsletter.

We have been busy applying for grants and seeking approval from various commissions to move our efforts forward. We realize that there are many different groups seeking money for the upcoming 250th celebration and this is just one more. Anything we receive will greatly help and be appreciated. Please look for our upcoming flyer, and if you can, give generously to help restore and beautify our wonderful common. Thank you.
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!
Buddy Dyer
George Bodman – for children’s programming
Virginia Moore
Kate Collins and George Northrop
John, Kathy, and Shadow Chencharik
Rebecca Krause-Hardie and John Hardie
Bill and Suzanne Richard
Vyto and Pat Andreliunas
Bob and Lorraine Casinghino
Celt Grant
Virginia Gingras
Anne Bedaw
Ken and Andrea Lively
Gordon Morrison
Diana and Geoff Newton
Tony Ferragamo
David and Shirley Putney
Dan and Cheryl Mahoney
The Village School
Allen Young
Nancy Melbourne
Donald Shambroom
Tom and Lynne Kellner
Christine and Russ Long

Thank you
Emily Mangum for volunteering to help with processing of books and lots of other tasks.

Cross-Culture Club
Cross Culture Club for kids at the library from 3:45 - 4:45. All ages are welcome, but the gathering is aimed at telling kids about the wider world through slides, songs, art, and food. The presentations are made by young people from these cultures. With a permission note, students from RCS can take the bus to the library. Call for more information.

March 6  Visit Quebec
March 13  Visit Guatemala

Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award Nominee
John Smolens to Speak in the Ballroom at the Maples
On Friday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the ballroom at the Maples (the Bundschuh home next to the library), John Smolens, the author of eight novels, a collection of short stories, and numerous articles, will discuss his books and writing. Cold, a mystery set in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, was nominated for the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. His latest books, Quarantine and The Schoolmaster’s Daughter: A Novel of the American Revolution, are historical novels set in Newburyport and Boston. The Boston Globe says of Quarantine, “Thrilling. The subtlety and vigor with which Smolens evokes this turbulent era makes for more than a superior adventure.” On leave to research a new book, Smolens teaches at Northern Michigan University in the Masters of Fine Arts Program where he has been the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award and was named Michigan Author of the Year in 2010 by the Michigan Library Association. He holds degrees from Boston College, University of New Hampshire and the University of Iowa Writers Program. This program is funded by donations made by John Poor and others in memory of Pat Poor to sponsor author visits to the library. The Friends of the Library will provide refreshments. Copies of his books are available to borrow from the library. Visit his website: johnsmolens.com.

Library Book Group
meets at 4:30 the 3rd Monday of most months, (the fourth if it’s a holiday). All welcome for cozy literary chat and a cuppa with a couple cookies.
On March 17, the book group will discuss Cold by John Smolen. The meeting will occur a few days after the author’s talk, so there will be a lot to say about the writing as well as the presentation. Public invited. Copies of all of Smolens’s novels are available to be checked out at the library.

Zumba on all Mondays at 6 p.m.
Fun and friendly workout at town hall. Sponsored by the Friends but donations welcome. If the weather is inclement, call the library to confirm. Otherwise, just show up to dance away mud-season blahs and cabin fever.

Yoga on Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
The morning yoga class led by Melanie Miller of Westminster and held on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the upstairs of the Town Hall will continue. This free class (donations accepted) provides a relaxed, stretch workout for every level and is funded by the Friends of the Library. No pre-registration is necessary but bring your own mat and blanket to lie on and a cover (small blanket) for the cool-down/relaxation.
Some of the New Materials at Your Library

**Adult Non-fiction**

- **Taste of Home Annual Recipes 2011**
- Aslan, Reza: Zealot
- Davis, William: Wheat Belly
- Gates, Robert: Duty
- Kolbert, Elizabeth: The Sixth Extinction
- Laing, Olivia: The Trip to Echo Spring
- Livermore, Mary: My Story of the War
- Mahoney, Rosemary: For the Benefit of Those Who See
- Northup, Solomon: Twelve Years a Slave
- Patchett, Ann: This is the Story of a Happy Marriage
- Sahill, Jeremy: Dirty Wars
- Swidey, Neil: Trapped Under the Sea

**Adult Fiction**

- Allen, Sarah: Lost Lake
- Allende, Isabel: Ripper
- Barnhardt, Winton: Lookaway, Lookaway
- Brockman, Suzanne: Do or Die
- Clark, Mary Jane: That Old Black Magic (Large Print)
- Collins, Jackie: Confessions of a Wild Child
- Cook, Robin: Cell
- Doyle, Roddy: The Guts
- Elo, Elisabeth: North of Boston
- Greenway, Alice: The Bird Skinner
- Harris, Robert: An Officer and a Spy
- Hoffman, Alice: The Museum of Extraordinary Things
- Horan, Nancy: Under the Wide and Starry Sky
- Kellerman, Jonathan: Killer
- Lippman, Laura: After I’m Gone
- McCabe, Erin: I Shall be Near to you
- McMahon, Jennifer: The Winter People
- Michaels, Fern: Kiss and Tell
- Modesitt, L.E.: Rex Rigs
- Nesbo, Jo: Cockroaches
- Novak, B.J.: One More Thing
- Oates, Joyce Carol: Carthage
- Offill, Jenny: Dept. of Speculation
- Patterson, James: Private L.A.
- Possner, Michael: The Hanging Judge
- Powers, Richard: Orfeo
- Quick, Matthew: The Good Luck of Right Now
- Quindlen, Anna: Still Life with Bread Crumbs
- Robb, J.D.: Concealed in Death
- Smolens, John: Quarrantine
- Smolens, John: The Schoolmaster’s Daughter
- Spencer, Sally: Death’s Dark Shadow
- Straley, Joonh: Cold Storage, Alaska
- Thompson, Sam: Communion Town
- Todd, Charles: Hunting Shadows
- Weber, David: Like a Mighty Army
- Wingate, Lisa: Wildwood Creek

**Young Adult**

- Baggott, Julianna: Burn
- Meloy, Colin: Wildwood Imperium
- Meloy, Colin: Danny’s Doodles
- Chaud, Benjamin: The Bear’s Song
- Stanton, Elizabeth: Henny
- Turnage, Sheila: The Ghosts of Tupelo Landing

**Children’s Non-Fiction**

- Carle, Eric: What’s Your Favorite Animal?
- Demi: Florence Nightingale
- Donovan, Sandra: How do I Deal with Bullying?
- Donovan, Sandra: I am Abraham Lincoln
- Nelson, Robin: How do I Deal with Bullying?
- Nelson, Robin: Can People Count on Me?
- Oliver, Lin: Little Poems for Tiny Ears
- Patrick, Jean: Who Carved the Mountain?
- Rosenstock, Barb: The Noisy Paint box

**Children’s Audiobooks**

- Bacigalupi, Paolo: Zombie Baseball Beatdown
- Brown, Daniel: The Boys in the Boat
- McBride, James: The Good Lord Bird

**Audio Books:**

- 2014 Grammy Nominees: Now that’s what I call Music 49
- Church, Eric: The Outsiders
- Nettles, Jennifer: That Girl
- Springsteen, Bruce: High Hopes

**DVDs:**

- 20 Feet from Stardom, About Time, All is Lost, Austenland, Breaking Bad, Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2, Dallas Buyers Club, Downton Abbey (Season 4), Ender’s Game, Free Birds, Instructions not Included, Liberal Arts, Rush, Sherlock (Season3)
- Start!, Walking at Home, The White Queen, and Wings

**CDs:**

- 2014 Grammy Nominees: Now that’s what I call Music 49
- Church, Eric: The Outsiders
- Nettles, Jennifer: That Girl
- Springsteen, Bruce: High Hopes

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**Paul A. Montero, P.L.S.**
**Professional Land Surveyor**

101 Northeast Fitzwilliam Rd - PO Box 20
Royalston, Massachusetts 01368
Phone: (978) 249-5879

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Barns

**Contact Information:**
H 978-249-5524
C 978 618-8810
Book Review
“Dreamseeker’s Daughter”
By Carole Ann Borges
Reviewed by Allen Young

Back in the 1970s, when I moved to Butterworth Road in West Royalston, motivated by love of nature and a desire to live communally, a group of like-minded people were renting an old farm on Jolly Road in South Royalston. Among other things, they were farming and building ferro-cement boats -- with plans of sailing off to warmer waters.

One of the people who lived there then, now a resident of Knoxville, Tenn, was Carole Ann Borges, author of a fascinating new memoir entitled “Dreamseeker’s Daughter.” The dreamseeker was her father, James Edward Goodlander – a hard-working and capable but rather unorthodox man who taught his children that they should never let “dreamcrushers” ruin their plans in life.

Married to an Italian-American named Marie who yielded to his dreamseeker’s quest, Goodlander wanted to acquire an old boat to fix up near their home in Chicago, then make his way with his family down to the Mississippi River, into the Gulf of Mexico, and eventually reach the legendary islands of the South Pacific Ocean.

With Marie, Carole and two younger children, Goodlander took his boat, the Elizabeth, as far as the Gulf Coast of Florida, where more repairs were needed. Most of this book is about that journey, and its impact on Carole’s girl-to-woman transition.

Both bucolic and dangerous days on the river, time ashore in legendary river cities including New Orleans, a cast of intriguing and sometimes sketchy characters, and the improbability of some dreams all color this 327-page book.

I feel lucky that by reading this book I get to learn about Carole’s early life, previously unknown to me when we knew one another in the 1970s. It was a great pleasure to see her in more recent years during one of her visits to Massachusetts, and last year when we

Carole and Joe started a family and set about building boats with other dreamseekers, including Kate Collins and George Northrop (who later bought their land on Taft Hill Road to remain in Royalston and continue as farmers after the curtain came down on the Jolly Road scene).

“I remember crying,” Carole told me, “when the time came to move our boats out of Royalston, to head back to Boston and the sea. My children loved going to the tiny schools there. My daughters were terrific spellers and Mr. Black the principal, who had always wanted to win the regional spelling bee, was overjoyed when Cindy and Angie arrived and won first and second place. My son, Gary, excelled at Athol High and even won a cash award for his good grades. Between the friendly people and the healthy living, we all have fond memories of our time in South Royalston.”

Joe Borges, a licensed electrician, helped many people who were building houses during the time he lived in Royalston. A handy person who could build or fix anything and was always ready to lend a hand, Joe made many friends. Carole smiles when she remembers those happy times. “When Joe died in a 1999 motorcycle accident in Colrain, Royalston residents were well represented at his funeral.”

The book is available at the Phinehas S. Newton Library, and can be ordered from amazon.com in printed book or Kindle format. The website is www.dreamseekersdaughter.com.

This book is not about Royalston, but the concept of dreamseekers and dreamcrushers has meaning for all places and all times. Readers are fortunate in the case of “Dreamseeker’s Daughter” to get to know the title character of this entertaining and thought-provoking book.

In the book’s final pages, Carole marries a dashing man named Joe Borges, leaving her folks and heading with him for his native state of Massachusetts. The romantic young couple doesn’t know it at that moment, but they are destined for a town called Royalston.

BOAT-BUILDERS -- The construction of ferro-cement boats was a major activity at the Jolly Road commune in the 1970s. Photo by Allen Young

JOLLY ROAD FARM IN THE 1970s -- Carole Ann Borges and her family members are in the center of this photo taken in front of the barn at Jolly Road farm in the 1970s. Kate Collins and George Northrop, seen at upper right, are the only ones who remain in Royalston, now living on Taft Hill Road. Photo courtesy of Kate Collins.
Rosalie Dooley Fairchild recently saved a choking woman’s life. Rosie was just running out to her car near her apartment at UMass when an erratic honking car lurched down her street. Rosie noticed the driver was in distress and tried to help. The woman in the car was choking on a piece of candy. Rosie dredged up and applied her 9th grade health class Heimlich maneuver. The candy was expelled, so the airway was reopened. The grateful driver called the newspapers. Here is a link to the story: http://www.gazettenet.com/home/10368191-95/choking-pelham-woman-saved-by-strangers-in-dramatic-side-of-the-road-rescue

Mr. January - Keith Newton’s big, muscular, shiny red tractor was featured in the 2014 Pete’s Tire Barn Calendar

Royalston Community School Academic Honor Roll, Term II
HIGH HONORS: Anthony Divoll, Brian Nano, Mariah Valliere, Haley Wrigley, Sadie Wright
HONORS: Aliyah Neale, Jack Sonnabend, Maria Bianchi, Isabella Cooke, Krystal McCulley, Noah Michelson, Matthew Willhite, and Jonathan Mahony
BRONZE: Elliot Gould and Jayce Lajoie

TEACHER’S AWARDS: Kylie Lashua and Trevor Davis

Welcome back Dawson - Easton Family. You’ve been missed.

Melanie and the Blue Shots Winter Tour concludes: March 1 Fitzwilliam Inn

The Royalston hills were alive: Maria von Trapp, the last surviving member of the seven original Trapp Family Singers, the Austrian family that inspired the 1965 film The Sound of Music, died at 99 at her home in Vermont on February 23, 2014. The Austrian Von Trapp family were friends with another Austrian family who spent time for some years in Royalston after the Second World War. The widowed Empress Zita of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire was in exile and spent time with her children at the home that then belonged to Hugh Bullock on the Common. A summer resident at that time, Mrs Elsie Vangel, remembered hearing the singing coming form that house when the Von Trapps would visit Empress Zita and family in Royalston. Fair Alice McCormick has stories and photos. Do any readers have memories of these visits?

Empress Zita in Royalston

Milestones

Daniel L. Schodek of Winchester and Frye Hill Rd in Royalston, age 72, died August 27, 2013 of acute myelogenous leukemia. He was husband of Kay (Striebier) Schodek. Father of Ned Schodek and his wife Johanna Marion of Brooklyn, NY, and Ben Schodek and his wife Megan Marinic of Winchester. Grandfather of Rowan, Eden, and Esme Schodek. Brother of Franklin Schodek and his wife Janiece of Texas. Also survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces & grandnephews.

Growing up in a Texas community of Czechoslovakian descent, Dr. Schodek was the second son of Frank Schodek and the former Hermina Sabrsula. His father was a plumber. His grandfather was a tinsmith. In the 1960s, Dr. Schodek graduated from the University of Texas Austin with undergraduate and graduate degrees in architectural engineering. He began teaching at Harvard in 1969 and received a doctorate in civil engineering in 1971 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In Austin, he met Kay Strieber during a Thanksgiving break car pool from campus. For several years, their relationship grew mostly through letters, after she went to study in Germany and Dr. Schodek headed to MIT. They were married 43 years.

Dr. Schodek taught for more than 35 years in the architecture department at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. He was co-author of the widely used architecture textbook “Structures,” now in its 7th edition. Dr. Schodek also coauthored an introductory book on nanomaterials and nanotechnologies for architects and engineers. In his classroom, he discussed using software to create materials, sometimes called 3-D printing, long before the technology became mainstream. From 1981 to 1991, Dr. Schodek was director of the laboratory for computer graphics and spatial analysis at Harvard, where he worked on research projects sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Dr. Schodek worked with architect Paul Stevenson Oles to design a bridge for West Dover, Vt., winning a 1989 state competition and an American Institute of Architects New England award in 1996. He used digital media in 2001 to explore possible construction techniques used during the Renaissance for architect Filippo Brunelleschi’s iconic cupola atop the cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence.

In the late 1980s, Dr. Schodek taught in the Netherlands as a visiting scholar in civil engineering at what is now the Delft University of Technology. He took his family with him and enjoyed introducing his sons to international travel.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, PO Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284; or The Trustees of Reservations, 572 Essex St., Beverly, MA 01915.

ed note. This is an excerpt from the full obituary by J.M. Lawrence published in the Boston Globe on Sept. 1, 2013.
Royalston Historical Society

Old Schoolhouse Number One will be experiencing a renaissance over the next couple of years. The Community Preservation Committee has approved the use of funds to restore and preserve the cupola and make the bell ring once again. Those funds may also be used as matching funds toward a larger grant from the Massachusetts Historic Commission.

**Restore:** The first round of projects is to secure the building’s envelope and make the building water tight. This will entail new roofing, flashings, paint, and cupola restoration. All work will be done using the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

**Donate:** Ongoing fundraising will allow restoration work to the windows and the interior. Community input and support is being sought. Tax deductible donations of funds may be sent to PO Box 23 Royalston MA. Donations of goods to the upcoming benefit auction are also sought. Call Steffi: 978-249-8675 to donate.

**Auction:** Another way to support the restoration is to attend the benefit auction March 15, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Town Hall. Some of the items to be auctioned are: vintage 1940s baby furniture (cradle, high chair and pram), home-made quilts, artwork-including Burmese painting and prints by Elias Grossman, Royalston-ibelia, a large gilt framed mirror, child’s roll top desk, antique chest, a belly dancing costume and much more. Services offered include the chance to bid on a mini-barn raising experience with Tom Musco ($250 value).

For the State grant application, the Society has recently spent many hours collecting records, drawing up-to-date floor plans, planning finances and documenting its building’s history. As part of this documentation, Marguerite Langlois recently visited the Old Schoolhouse #1 to share her memories as a student there 83 years ago. She graciously answered questions posed by Patience Bundschuh, Marie-Claire Humblet, Peter Kraniak and Stephen Chase. The interview was filmed by Boyd Estus. (Photos: Liane Brandon)

Marguerite Langlois, c.1931, age 10, 3rd girl from the right

Marguerite Langlois, 2/23/2014, posed in the same corner of the doorway at Old School House #1, the Historical Society’s home. Funds are being sought for the building’s restoration.

Cat Mobile: Low cost spay and neuter clinic in area

The Gardner Animal Control Facility located at 899 West Broadway (Route 2A) will be hosting a visit of The Catmobile. The catmobile is a low-cost spay/neuter clinic for cats sponsored by Merrimack River Feline Rescue Society. The Gardner visit is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26 at the Gardner Animal Control Facility at 899 W. Broadway. The Catmobile will also visit Leominster on Friday, March 7. Appointments are necessary and can be arranged by calling 978 465-1940 or email catmobile@mrfrs.org or www.catmobile.org.

Ladies’ B : Meeting and Eating; Chorusing and Carousing

The Ladies’ Benevolent Society will be meeting on Wednesday, March 26 at 7:30 pm at Deb Nunes’ house, 350 Athol-Richmond Road. The business meeting will commence at 7:30 followed by its second Beatles and Boomers Sing-a-long, and, of course, food! All are invited- especially newcomers. For more information, please contact Deb at 978-249-4000.

North Quabbin Garden Club

Thursday, March 20, 2014 7 p.m.

Merrill River Environmental Center/ 100 Main Street, Athol, MA 01331

The Riches of the Emerald Isle

Member Debbie Kent plans to show her travelogue of her July trip to Ireland, enticing us with the green of the Emerald Isle. We will be taken to Dublin’s Botanic Garden, to Galway, the Cliffs of Moher, Adare and Adare Castle, various ancient sites, Waterford, the Viking Triangle, then back up the coast to Powerscourt Gardens and the lovely little town of Enniskerry. With its narrow roads and “Neat and Tidy Towns”, the beautiful Emerald Isle is enchanting and challenging to drive. Do come and enjoy the ride!

Royalston 250th Anniversary Committee Planning Big - Save the Dates and organize the homecomings:

February 21, 2015 -- Gala Dinner Dance

Friday - Sunday September 11 - 13, 2015: A full slate of parades, performances, events, sports, games, music, meals, fireworks and surprises.

Help support the 2015 hoopla: Now!

Roast Beef Supper at Town Hall

6 pm  March 22nd $12 tickets available from Geoff Newton or any committee member.

Also help needed selling calendar raffle cards with a cash winner every day in April. Call Geoff 249-3726 or Marlene 249-4491 for tickets.

Later! - Top this: float from 1930s Old Home Day Parade. Town organizations and families, start pondering your floats for the 250th Anniversary parade, kicking off at 1 pm on September 12, 2015. Prizes awarded.

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Marguerite Langlois, 2/23/2014, posed in the same corner of the doorway at Old School House #1, the Historical Society’s home. Funds are being sought for the building’s restoration.
Community School News

The Royalston Community School Parent Teacher Group will be hosting the Chet Hall Pancake Breakfast at RCS on Saturday, March 15th from 8:00 am to 11:30 am. There will be a full breakfast, 50/50 Raffle & Chinese Raffle. Tickets are $8.00 adult/$5.00 child/children 4 & under free. (Advance tickets available at RCS)

**All proceeds to benefit the Chet Hall Scholarship Fund**

*If anyone would like to donate to the auction please let Becky Divoll know 249-3158 (h) or 249-2900 (RCS). Anything and everything will be appreciated: individual items, services, or in true Chet style, a donation of your time for a nature walk etc.

Recipe of the month

Blackout Cake

This recipe was submitted by Ben Morris-Siegel and is his favorite cake. Kathy Morris makes it for him for his birthday, which is often during sugaring season, and for most other birthdays.

1 ½ sticks butter, 6 ounces, softened
3t. baking soda
1 ½ - 2 cups maple syrup (to taste)
½ t. salt
3 eggs
¾ c. buttermilk
2 t. vanilla extract
1 c. boiling water
4 (1 ounce) squares unsweetened chocolate, melted
3 c. whole wheat pastry flour (3 c. flour)

Preheat oven to 350°. Line the bottom with greased parchment paper, 3 - 9” round cake pans with butter and dust with flour, tapping out excess. Have all ingredients at room temperature.

Beat together butter and maple syrup (or sugar) at medium speed in electric mixer until well blended and light and fluffy (2 minutes). Add eggs and vanilla until well blended. Add cooled chocolate and beat 1-2 minutes.

Mix together flour, baking soda, and salt. Add , half at a time, chocolate mixture alternatively with the buttermilk (reconstituted powdered buttermilk works fine). Beat until well blended. With mixer on low speed add boiling water. The batter will be thin. Pour into pans.

Bake 35 to 40 minutes, or inserted tester comes out clean. Cool in pans for 10-15 minutes, unmold onto racks to cool completely.

Cream Cheese Frosting

This easy frosting can be made with sugar but is so good with maple syrup. Make sure the butter and cream cheese are softened.

½ pound butter (2 sticks)
1 pound cream cheese
¼ to ½ c. maple syrup
1 t. vanilla

In a food processor, blend all ingredients together. Taste for sweetness and adjust if necessary. Frost cake.

Village School March News

Now we are heading into sugaring season, and all the classes will be making field trips to the Richardson Farm in Phillipston for sugaring and lambing. On Wednesday, Feb. 26th, the whole school went to see Prokofiev’s Peter and the Wolf at the Hanover Theater in Worcester. The K-6th classes start swimming at the YMCA on Fridays in March and April.

The week of March 24th is Drama Week! Actor and storyteller Judith Black has a Mass. Cultural Council STAR residency at the school, teaching drama daily to all the classes, culminating with an all school performance at 4:00 Friday March 28th.

Science Night  Wednesday evening March 19  7:00 pm
Back in January, 4th-6th grade students chose a topic to investigate, and with the help of scientist Cathy Szal, designed experiments to prove or disprove the initial hypothesis. No help from parents! Peer review is part of the process. Students will enthusiastically display their work at Science Night and be ready to explain it. Come see their work and ask questions! Everyone is welcome.

Save the Date:  Summer Programs at the Village School
(check the website soon for info)
Nature Arts and Play for ages 4-10   9-1:00 Choose 1 or 2 weeks:
July 7-11 and/or July 14-18

The Science and Art Experience for ages 8-13
July 7-11 9 to 1

Woodworking for Children for ages 8 and up
July 21-25 9 to 3

Scholarships for Royalston Residents

Royalston Academy Scholarships: Deadline April 15, 2014 . Forms are available through your high school guidance counselor, Phinehas Newton Library, or Kristen West c/o Royalston Academy Scholarship Committee, Box 35, Royalston, Mass. 01368. The Katherine Seymour Bullock Cole Memorial Scholarship (up to $1000) is available to graduating high school residents of Royalston going on to a higher education. The Judy Jenkins Musco Scholarship is available for Royalston residents interested in pursuing educational activities including college, home schooling, educational travel, and educational and literacy programs.

Ladies’ Benevolent Society Scholarships: Deadline April 15, 2014. Funds awarded to residents of all ages pursuing higher education. Forms are available through high school guidance counselors or at the Phinehas Newton Library. Contact Theresa Quinn with questions at 978-249-3819.
Garden Notes  

February 22, 2014

Nothing like a couple of feet of snow on the ground to divert one’s attention from gardening. Trouble is, when my attentions wander, I tend to haul out the soapbox and crank up the cynicism.

Increasingly I find myself in situations I prefer not to find myself in, situations I find degrading. Degrading situation number one: airport ‘security’. I empty my pockets, remove my shoes, take off my belt, expose the liquids (in their appropriately-sized bottles; I once had a container of yogurt confiscated), and place the carry-ons onto the conveyor. Through the x-ray or the detector or whatever else they subject us to these days, followed by (more often than not) the obligatory pat-down. (How old must I be before I cease to be profiled as a person-of-note?) Then, the reassembly: picking up the shoes and pocket contents in one hand, the carry-ons in the other, and holding up my pants with the third, I hobble over to a bench to put things in order. The irony: I feel no more secure (though a tad more hungry, the TSA agent having consumed my yogurt).

Degrading situation number two: the ‘conversation’ with a computer. You place a call to gather some information and the company ‘representative’ is a computer. I may be in awe of this technological achievement but not enough to actually engage in it. For those of you (are there any of you?) who think likewise I cheerfully provide the solution. Garble your response to the computer’s first question. The computer, in all its (her? his?) wisdom, will ask you to repeat it. Garble again. The computer will repeat its request. Be patient. Sooner or later, you will be informed that a (living, breathing) representative will handle your call. Larry – one; computer – zero.

There are more. Life, alas, is filled with degrading moments. Gardening, joyfully, is not one of them. Humbling, perhaps, but decidedly not degrading. There is at least one Royalston household currently engaged in a bit of gardening. In a south-facing window of an unheated room, Andrea and Ken Lively have placed some shelving encased in plastic. Within, there are pots of mustard and cilantro (as well as assorted house plants). They won’t be over-eating from the yields, but a touch of freshly-harvested greens on one’s dinner plate is a welcome touch.

The garden site has been plotted, the seeds ordered. The sequence of indoor events forthcoming is nothing if not predictable. At the onset of March, I will start onions and leeks, and by mid-month, celery, celeriac, parsley, and peppers. Outdoor activities are less predictable. There have been March pasts when, among other things, I’ve turned soil, planted peas, and harvested parsnips, spinach, and scallions. It is reasonable to assume that none of these activities will occur this March. Notwithstanding, they will occur. I will bide my time.

Larry Siegel

Classifieds


Royalston resident, 17 year old guy, looking for work. Will do any odd or outdoor jobs, including snow shoveling or snowblowing etc. asking 10 dollars an hour. (603) 852-8094.

Horse Board: Closed shed w. turnout available in Royalston at Black Horse Farm for one or two horses. $300 monthly per horse, advance pay discounts available - secure space, arena, nearby trails. Call 978-249-9880 or email suzannagaits@gmail.com

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

After-school child care at the Village School.

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 bguiney@wildblue.net.


House cleaning. 4 hr - $60.00. Royalston resident. Call Fran: 978-249-4596 or cell 895-0817. References available.


For sale:


Twin bed frame and dark wood headboard in very good condition $30 or best offer. Call Diana or Geoff at 978-249-3726.

Dean’s Beans Coffee - Order form at www.villageschoolma.org. Pick up the coffee in the Village School hallway.

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

Birch Knoll Farm - Hay for sale, Goats for sale: for meat or pets or rent for children and adults. Commissions accepted. Call Gordon Morrison at 978-249-2947.


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Wildlife Sighting:
Jon Hardie reports, “a stunning and rare display of winter predation. A Northern Shrike, swept in on a couple dozen smaller birds at our feeders, and relentlessly and repeatedly drove one to the ground, ultimately carrying it away. “http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/northern_shrike/lifehistory

250th Committee Snow Sculpture Contest winners: Congratulations to Anthony and Molly Divoll, whose Snoopy won a copy of Ezra Jack Keats’ “The Snowy Day” and 2 tickets to the upcoming roast beef supper. Supper-time? Snoopy would approve.