## Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Yom Kippur</td>
<td>Friends of the Library meeting. All welcome.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 7</td>
<td>Yoga classes</td>
<td>Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Begin. They will meet every Tues through December; then, take a break in January and resume in March.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 - 6:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Seasonal Flu Vaccination Clinic</td>
<td>Free for Royalston residents 18 year or older. Walk-ins welcome. Health insurance not required. Pneumonia vaccine also available.</td>
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<td>10:30 - 11:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>ARRSD &amp; Monty Tech</td>
<td>No classes for students</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 13</td>
<td>Columbus Day observed</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 18</td>
<td>8th Annual Tully Lake Triathlon</td>
<td>A 17-mile paddle/run/bike triathlon showcasing area autumnal beauty. Awards go to the top finishers in each of the following categories: Individual--Women, Individual--Men, Team--Two Person, Team--Three Person, and Team--Four Person. More info at: <a href="http://www.thetrustees.org/things-to-do/special-events/tully-lake-triathlon.html">http://www.thetrustees.org/things-to-do/special-events/tully-lake-triathlon.html</a>. Doane Hill Road will be closed to thru traffic from 8:00 am – 3:30 pm for the Triathlon.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Library Book Group</td>
<td>Meets to discuss, Dear Life, a collection of short stories by the 2014 winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature by Alice Munro. All welcome for book talk and cookies. Copies available to be checked out at the library.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 21</td>
<td>Pre-dawn hours – Orionid Meteor Shower</td>
<td>Halley’s Comet will be ripping through today and tomorrow, shooting a chunk of its ‘tail’ about every three seconds. Just hours short of the new moon, the show should be spectacular. Look to southern skies.</td>
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<td>7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>Historical Society Meeting</td>
<td>At the home of President Peter Kraniak, Winchedon Rd. Optional pot luck supper preceding at 6:30. Discuss restoration of Old School House #1, upcoming projects and election of officers. All welcome.</td>
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<td>7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 25</td>
<td>All Town Children’s Halloween Party</td>
<td>Sponsored by the Royalston Police Association. 11:30 am - 12:30 Hamburger and Hotdogs. 12:30 - 1:30 pm - Ed the Wizard (local entertainer/magician). 1:30 - 3:00 pm - Games, Pie Eating Contest. Free. A donation of a bag of candy is appreciated and can be brought that day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 3</td>
<td>Zumba</td>
<td>Resumes and continues through the winter on Mondays at Town Hall. Participants must carry in sneakers for the classes to avoid tracking sand and salt.</td>
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<td>6 - 7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 4</td>
<td>State election.</td>
<td>Voters will select winners in 12 state offices, including Governor and Lt. Governor. There are also 7 questions on the ballot, including one local question from our town asking voters to approve a $50,000 override to fund a capital stabilization fund. For a full listing of candidates and information on the state-wide questions, see <a href="http://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/">www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/</a>. Precinct 1 is located at Town Hall on The Common. Precinct 2 is located at Whitney Hall, South Royalston.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 am - 8 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Annual Fire Dept Turkey Raffle</td>
<td>At Station 1 (4 Athol Rd)</td>
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<td>5 - 8 pm</td>
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Select Board Notes
By Linda Alger – member
The Board of Selectman again are asking for your support of a $50,000 override in the November election. We fully understand that the citizens in the Town have voted no twice on this same article. We consider the need vital to the Town’s fiscal health. The Board is committed to providing taxpayers with the necessary information for the full understanding of the Town’s dilemma.

The Town has been supplementing our operating budget by spending from the stabilization fund for years. The stabilization fund’s current balance is approximately $80,000. During the last fiscal year $110,000 was spent from stabilization to cover snow and ice expenses. The Town has received millions of dollars in funding for bridge work. Presently we have a failed culvert on North Fitzwilliam Road and we do not have the funds to correct the problem and this will negatively impact the completion of the current bridge project as well as numerous citizens that have homes there. The Board and various Department Heads have applied and received hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant funding which has funded equipment and projects that we could not have afforded otherwise. We have regionalized dispatch services and animal control to save money but more importantly to provide the Town with better services. The Board recently appointed Jon Hardie; System Administrator to manage the Town’s technology. Jon has been providing this service to the Town as a volunteer, saving the Town thousands of dollars. We are able to offer him a small $500 stipend for his service, hardly enough but it is what we can afford. The 250th Anniversary Committee has raised approximately $50,000 for the Town’s Celebration next year, all as volunteers. If the taxpayers were actually taxed on the funds derived from grants, fund raising and volunteerism, it would be far greater than the $50,000 we are requesting.

Please attend the upcoming forums and support the override.

State Election
Melanie Mangum, town clerk
On the November State Ballot, 12 state offices, including Governor and Lt. Governor will be selected by voters. There are also 7 questions on the ballot, including one local question from our town asking voters to approve a $50,000 override to fund a capital stabilization fund. A full listing of candidates and information on the state-wide questions, as well as links to check your voter registration and other helpful voting information is available at the Secretary of State’s Elections Division page: www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/

Wednesday, October 15: Voter Registration Session
A voter registration session for unregistered voters will be held on this date from 2-4 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. at the Town Clerk’s Office. This will be the last day to register to be eligible to vote in the November State Election.

Tuesday, November 4: STATE ELECTION
Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Precinct 1 is located at Town Hall on The Common. Precinct 2 is located at Whitney Hall, South Royalston.

Tax Bills Due November 3
Becky Krause-Hardie, tax collector
The 2015 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bills have been mailed and are due on Nov 3rd. These are estimated bills based on 1/2 of last year’s bills. Missing a bill? Call the Collector at 249-2927 or email collector@royalston-ma.gov.

Children’s Halloween Party
Sponsored by the Royalston Police Association
Saturday October 25th
11:30 am - 12:30 Hamburgers and Hotdogs
12:30 - 1:30 pm - Ed the Wizard (local entertainer / magician)
1:30 - 3:00 pm Games, Pie Eating Contest and lots of Fun!!!

Food and entertainment is free. A donation of a bag of candy is appreciated and can be brought that day and will be divided amongst the children’s goodie bags.

We look forward to seeing you there.
Sincerely, Chief Curtis Deveneau

Board of Health News
Phil Leger, chair
The RBOH would like to thank Keith Newton for arranging to have Town Dump Rd. paved as part of the Royalston Common project. The RBOH has been trying to get the access road to the transfer station paved for over 15 years. The issue has always been (and will always be) funding. Thanks to a town meeting vote several years ago designating that part of the road to the facility Chapter 90 eligible reimbursable, it was included in the Common paving project. Some people, however, have already been complaining, “Why pave that road?” Well, that road is the busiest road in town when open. That road is the access road for heavy commercial traffic to a commercial facility on a regular basis. That road is now safer for all who use the transfer station. Please be aware that a safer road should not be a faster road. Fifteen mph speed limit signs and “truck entering” signs will soon be installed. Please use caution when entering the facility and be aware of the counter clockwise flow of traffic. When parking to drop off at the facility, please be aware of other vehicles so as not to block them in. When browsing at the reusable area, please park where you will not block the flow of traffic. Line painting hopefully will be done prior to weather change.

It’s the season for flu vaccines. Contact your health care provider so you may be protected during the flu season.
Local Foods Supper - Giant Thank you
The food at the supper came from local gardens, but it also came from Royalston’s farmers. You can keep food local by supporting these neighbors involved in making a living through agriculture: Bear’s Dairy Service, Keith and Deb Newton for eggs, Kathy Morris and Larry Siegel for veggies and beef raised with a view of both Mt. Monadnock and Mt. Wachusett, Kate Collins and George Northrop for lamb and chicken tutored by the town’s smartest dogs, Ted Neale’s for sweet corn and garden veggies grown on his family’s homestead for nearly a century, Leray’s and Divoll’s for golden maple syrup, Helen and John Divoll for good goats, Putneys and Luther Otto for firewood, Joe Nunes for honey and sometimes turkeys, and Ann Bedaw and Putneys for enough hay to get the beasts through the polar vortex.

Some of what was not purchased for the supper was foraged. It is thanks to town open space that wild mushroom risotto and blueberry cornbread had their starring ingredients. A lot of the rest on the menu was grown in our backyards. Thanks so for sharing the bounty of those blackfly bites, hours with the hoe, and exuberant plantings. Extra big thanks to Patti Stanko and Maureen Blasco, who donated lots of veggies, especially onions, and then, delivered the onions to various chefs and afterwards, went home to cook multiple dishes (some involving onions) for the supper.

Once the food was grown, cooks took over: Mariah Mallet, Deb Nunes, Beth Weaver, the Freudenheims, George Krasowski, Barbara Stowell, Mark O’Connor, Allen Young, Andrea Lively, Kristen West, Alyce Mayo, Laurie Deveneau, Phil Rabinowitz, Geoff and Diana Newton, Gina Verelli, Emma O’Connor, Marie-Claire Humblet, Kay Schodek, Grace Belmont, Beth Gospodarek, Patti Stanko and Maureen Blasco all rolled up their sleeves and created delicious dishes for the event.

Ambiance was supplied by the classical guitar of Carl Kamp, the beautiful poster created by Barbara Stowell, the exceptionally lovely local flowers arranged by Marie-Claire Humblet, and the edifying mushroom-talk delivered by Noah Siegel. The ever-affable Stephen Chase volunteered as bartender for the evening.

The event generated a goodly profit, so the fireworks on diners’ tongues will be mirrored in the sky come next September’s local foods supper, which will be arranged by the LBS. Save the weekend of the September 11 - 13th for a full compliment of fun and hoopla.

Royalston Community Newsletter October 2014 Page 3

Uncle Geoff Wants You!
Join up now.

The 250th Committee is looking for residents to form a town choir to sing the “Town Hymn,” written 150 years ago and printed in Caswell’s History of Royalston during the celebration weekend next September.

Similarly, if any residents ages 8 - 80 are interested in creating a town band, start practicing and let us know. You will be featured in the town parade. (If marching is a bit much, there is always the bed of a flatbed from which to perform.)

Also, there will be opportunities to perform in a town history pageant and possibly an opera as well next September. Volunteer actors needed.

Royalston will appoint a new Poet Laureate for its anniversary year. Send a poem about “Life in Royalston 2015” to the library by November 30. Entries will be judged by library trustee and Emily Dickinson scholar, Polly Longsworth. The contest is facilitated by the Friends of the Library. Winners will be announced at the Founder’s Ball in February 2015.

If you would like to join any of these projects, contact Beth Gospodarek, 978-249-0358/ chasegos2@gmail.com or anyone on the 250th Committee for more information.

Luncheon Club News: Flu Clinic 2014
The annual Seasonal Flu Vaccination Clinic is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7 from 10 AM to 11:30 AM at the Town Hall. The clinic, sponsored by the Royalston Council on Aging, is free of charge and is for Royalston residents who are 18 years of age or older. Walk-ins are welcome. The vaccination is free. Health insurance is not required. This year’s flu shot contains vaccines for influenza B virus, influenza A (H1N1) virus and influenza A (H3N2) virus. Pneumonia vaccine will also be available. The vaccine protects against 23 types of pneumococcal bacteria, including those most likely to cause serious disease. Vaccine will be administered by nurses from Athol Hospital. Assistance will be provided by the Athol Board of Health. To join the Wednesday Luncheon Club for a meal, please call Betty Woodbury at 978-249-9656 before noon on Monday.
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

Thank you
Boyd Estus for drawing all the participants together for the Navigators program.
Patience Bundschuh for so graciously allowing us to hold programs in her ballroom.
Boyd Estus, Sam Low, Sheila Bernard, Eric Taylor, and Roger Haydock for an entertaining, educational, and enjoyable program.

Donations to the Friends
Donation to the Friends:
In memory of Louise Altieri, who passed away September 1 at the age of 91, by Elwood and Marian Taylor.

Art Exhibit
The walls are bare. If you are an artist who would like to have an exhibit; it doesn’t have to be huge; contact the library for more information.

Pre-school Storytime Holiday Party
On Monday, October 27 at 10:00 a.m. Pre-school story time will hold a harvest holiday party. Costumes optional. Like always at pre-school storytime, crafts, a story, and festive refreshments are provided. This is a good place for toddlers to mingle and for caregivers to meet other families with preschoolers in the area.

Author Charles Mann to Speak in November
Charles Mann, acclaimed author of 1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus and 1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created, will be speaking as part of the Pat Poor Memorial Lecture series. This event will be held in Patience Bundschuh’s ballroom at the Maples (next to the library). Copies of his books and some audiobooks will be available to borrow at the library. More details will be included in the next newsletter, on the website, or by calling the library.

Zumba and Yoga to Resume
Zumba classes will be on Mondays, beginning November 3rd, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and continuing through May 2015. Yoga classes will begin on Tuesday, October 6th and run through December, take a break in January and February and resume in March and continue until May 20th. This year the Yoga will be from 5:30-6:30 p.m. All classes will occur upstairs in the Town Hall and are sponsored by the Friends of the Library. It is important that participants not wear street shoes for these classes as winter’s salt and sand can wear away the town hall’s wooden floors. The classes are free but donations are accepted.

Sesquicentennial Poet Laureate contest
Royalston will appoint a new Poet Laureate for its anniversary year. Send a poem about “Life in Royalston 2015” to the library by November 30. Entries will be judged by library trustee and Emily Dickinson scholar, Polly Longsworth. The contest is facilitated by the Friends of the Library. Winners will be announced at the Founder’s Ball in February 2015.

A Long History of Libraries in Royalston
We have almost completed cataloging all the historical reference books in the library and will soon we will be delving into the records cabinet to catalog and, at some point, digitize some of the records to our website. There are many historically important documents in our collection including one of Joseph Lee’s earliest sermons delivered on January 10, 1768, the deed to the library, and the Book of Records of the Library-Company of Royalston which was established in January 1778. In 1784 The Library Company formalized their group by forming a committee, adopting a constitution, and electing Josiah Goddard, President, Joseph Lee, secretary and librarian, and Lieutenant Jonas Allen, treasurer. Other members of the committee were Henry Bond, William Clements, and Lieutenant Oliver Work. Perusing the book you discover the dues and fines collected and the books purchased and donated. And, it turns out that there was yet another library group in town. The record indicates that on January 8, 1817 member of the Second Social Library of Royalston attended the meeting of the Library Company to determine whether they would combine. The vote was in favor and the two joined to become the Social Library in Royalston on February 25, 1817. Not long after on May 7, 1817, a woman was allowed to join the group when it was voted to allow Rebecca Sibley to take the place of her late husband Jonathan Sibley. The last entry in the book is dated June 10, 1869, 91 years after the founding, and records the selection of new officers for the library.
All welcome at the Library Book Discussion Group, which meets the 3rd Monday of the month at the library from 4:30-5:45 p.m. Copies of the book are always available for check out at the library in the month prior.

On October 20, the group will discuss, *Dear Life*, a collection of short stories by the 2014 winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature by Alice Munro. All welcome for book talk and cookies (whether you’ve read the stories or not.) Copies of the monthly selection are always available to be checked out at the front desk.

**Some of the New Materials at Your Library**

**Adult fiction**

Atwood, Margaret  *Stone Mattress*

Baldacci, David  *The Innocent (Large Print)*

Boggs, Johnny  *The Killing Trail*

Brown, Sandra  *Lethal (Large Print)*

Brown, Sandra  *Low Pressure (Large Print)*

Castle, Richard  *Raging Heat*

Coelho, Paulo  *Adultery*

Coleman, Reed  *Robert B. Parker’s Blind Spot*

Dodd, Christina  *Virtue Falls*

Follett, Ken  *Edge of Eternity*

French, Tana  *The Secret Place*

Hannah, Sophie  *The Monogram Murders*

Indridason, Arnaldur  *Strange Shores*

Kelly, Erin  *Broadchurch*

Kreslehner, Gabi  *Rain Girl*

Lamb, Wally  *We are Water (Large Print)*

Lehane, Dennis  *The Drop*

Maas, Sarah  *Heir of Fire*

McEwan, Ian  *The Children Act*

McIntyre, Adrian  *I Hear the Sirens in the Street*

McIntyre, Adrian  *In the Morning I’ll be Gone*

Meyers, Randy  *Accidents of Marriage*

Mitchell, David  *The Bone Clocks*

Penny, Louise  *The Long Way Home*

Phillips, Susan  *Heroes are my Weakness*

Robb, J.D.  *Festive in Death*

Roberts, Nora  *The Witness (Large Print)*

Scalzi, John  *Lock in*

Taylor, Elizabeth  *You’ll Enjoy it When you get there*

Vreeland, Susan  *Lisette’s List*

**Young Adult**

Dashner, James  *The Maze Runner*

Delaney, Joseph  *A New Darkness*

Pokemon  *Pokemon X Pokemon Y Official Pokedex*

Stroud, Jonathan  *The Whispering Skull*

Telgemeier, Raina  *Sisters*

**Children’s fiction**

Branford, Anna  *Violet Mackerel’s Pocket Protest*

Brodski-Quigley, K.  *Lullaby*

Davis, Kathryn  *Mr. Ferris and His Wheel*

Gantos, Jack  *The Key that Swallowed Joey Pigza*

Glass, Calliope  *Frozen read-along Storybook and CD*

Holm, Jennifer  *The Fourteenth Goldfish*

Johnston, Tony  *Winter is Coming*

Kadohata, Cynthia  *Half a World Away*

Long, Loren  *Otis and the Scarecrow*

Mathers, Petra  *When Aunt Mattie Got Her Wings*

McGhee, Alison  *The Sweetest Witch Around*

Perkins, Lynne Rae  *Nuts to You*

Rundell, Katherine  *Cartwheeling in Thunderstorms*

Scieszka, Jon  *Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor*

Wells, Rosemary  *Max and Ruby at the Warthogs’ Wedding*

Wunderli, Stephen  *Little Boo*

**Children’s Non-Fiction**

Davies, Nicola  *Tiny Creatures*

Bryant, Jennifer  *The Right Word*

Guibert, Emmanuel  *Ariol*

Kibuishi, Kazu  *Escape from Lucien*

Kusaka, Hidenori  *Pokemon Black and White v.1 & v. 15-17*

**Adult non-fiction**

Ackerman, Diane  *The Human Age*

Ahlbald, Stefan  *Boston*

Bell, Ian  *Time Out of Mind (Bob Dylan Biography)*

Feiffer, Jules  *Kill My Mother*

Fox, Renee  *Doctors without Borders*

Holland, F. Ross  *America’s Lighthouses*

Low, Sam  *Hawaiik Rising*

Roberts, Bruce  *New England Lighthouses: Bay of Fundy to Long Island Sound*

Sheehy, Gail  *Daring*

Watman, Max  *Harvest*

Wheatley, Bill  *Little Joe*

**Audio Books :**

Maguire, Gregory  *Son of a Witch*

**DVDs:**


**CDs:**

Brad Paisely  *Moonshine in the Trunk*

Maroon 5 V  *Lullaby and – the Ceaseless Roar*

Robert Plant  *Smokey & Friends*

Smokey Robinson  *Smokey & Friends*
Recipes of the month:

Gina’s Coconut Green Curry

Gina Verrelli was born and raised at the bottom of Jacob’s Ladder. She began volunteering at the Phinehas Newton Library for the National Honor Society while a student at Monty Tech; she continued as a substitute, then staff member, and finally as Assistant Director. She is also the Reference Librarian at the Heywood Memorial Library in Gardner. She lives in Gardner but still works Monday evenings and on special projects at the library in town. She created this delicious curry for the local foods dinner and many people requested her recipe.

Serves 4

1 can Coconut Milk
1-2 tbsp. Green Curry Paste
1 Green Pepper cut in strips
1 Jalapeno (for added heat, optional)
1 Onion diced
3-4 carrots cut into rounds
1/2 lb green beans cut into 1-2 inch pieces
1 med zucchini cut into half moons
a little fish sauce (optional)
Salt & Pepper to taste

Sauté onion in olive oil until soft, add curry paste, cook for 1-2 minutes, add green beans, carrots, and green pepper cook 5 minutes stirring occasionally. Add coconut milk, zucchini, salt & pepper and fish sauce if using, bring to a simmer, cook until vegetables are desired doneness. Serve over rice.

Deb Nunes Herb Bread

Another hit at the local food supper was Deb’s famous herb bread. Deb Nunes is known about town for adding musical verve to events. Last month she organized the LBS memorial concert and then performed on piano for an hour or so in ensembles, accompanied by guitar, violin and cello. Deb also plays the accordion, “which is difficult because you cannot see the keys”, banjo, “the best stringed instrument because it never needs tuning” and is an accompanist at the Keene Unitarian Church as well as Waldorf School. She and her husband, Joe, raise turkeys and bees as well as supervise grandchildren from time to time. Most days she has a dog by her side except for when she is out riding her motorcycle. She says, “I have no idea where I got this recipe, but I love it as you can mix it with a wooden spoon in a bowl - no kneading!”

1/2 cup milk
1 1/2 T. sugar
1 t. salt
1 T. butter
1 pkg. yeast (2 tsp.)
1/2 cup warm water
2 1/4 cups flour
1/2 onion chopped
1 T. rosemary (dried)
1/2 t. dill (dried)

Scald milk; add sugar, salt, butter; let cool
Dissolve yeast in water while above is cooling; then add to above
Add remaining ingredients
Mix well; cover; let rise an hour
Stir vigorously; put in pan; let sit 10 minutes (while oven preheats)
Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees. Makes one loaf. Freezes well.

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

Ready for Germs?

If predictions are correct, by the time this issue of the RCN hits your mailbox, Enterovirus D68, a highly contagious respiratory virus that can be serious or even fatal in certain populations, will be confirmed in Massachusetts. Every family would be well-advised to take time to plan for a two-three week period of isolation – known as “sheltering in place.” Even if closings of schools, stores, businesses never happen, the ability of a family to care for itself and limit exposure to viruses is worth a lot. In addition to being prepared for this potential “pandemic,” you will also be ready for winter-related issues like travel bans and power outages.

First – Ensure you have water and food for three weeks. (Make some of these no-cook meals and be certain you have a manual can opener in case power is out.) Have enough baby formula and pet foods on hand, if appropriate.

Second – Check out your medicine cabinet. Maintain at least a two-four week supply of prescription meds, and be sure you have the standard over-the-counter meds for pain relief, coughs and colds, upset stomachs; it wouldn’t hurt to keep something like Gatorade or Pedialyte for dehydration. Have you enough multi-vitamins? Do any of your pets require medication?

Third – consolidate your pertinent medical information including insurance, names and contact information for care providers, pharmacies and hospitals so you can grab it and go if need be. Check out http://healthit.gov/bluebutton for information on obtaining your electronic medical records.

Fourth – make a contact list that includes immediate and extended family members, with addresses, landline, cell, e-mail, social media information. Distribute among your family members and discuss some different scenarios. Consider how you will deal with college students, elders, and ill family and friends if they are too ill to stay where they are.

The very best thing all Royalston residents can do is to practice proper flu hygiene – sneezing into your elbow rather than into hands that shake other hands, open doors, pass money, etc. Handwashing is the very best way to limit spread of viruses of all types. Eating properly, staying well hydrated and getting proper amounts of rest will improve your resistance and speed recovery from an illness. Be sure to clean your cell phones, wipe off keyboards and wash doorknobs with disinfectant on a frequent basis.

Be Royalston Ready for whatever life brings! Contact the Royalston Emergency Management Agency at 978-249-2904 or ema@royalston-ma.gov for more information on preparedness.
Celebrate fall with the 8th Annual Tully Lake Triathlon on Saturday, October 18, 2014
Join us for what has now become an autumn North Quabbin tradition. Our 17-mile paddle/run/bike triathlon is designed to showcase all the best this region has to offer. Awards will be given to the top finishers in each of the following categories: Individual–Women, Individual–Men, Team–Two Person, Team–Three Person, and Team–Four Person. More info at: http://www.thetrustees.org/things-to-do/special-events/tully-lake-triathlon.html.

Free Talks at Harvard Forest
There are chances to attend free talks at the Harvard Forest seminar room, led by experts. All are open to the public or can be accessed through your internet (sorry soRo) as on-line seminars. No pre-registration is required. Visit http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/seminars for more information and the extended schedule.

- Friday, October 10, 11:00 - 12:00
  Haim Goren, Tel-Hai College (Israel)
  How low is the lowest point on Earth? The story of determining the level of the Dead Sea

- Friday, October 17, 11:00 - 12:00
  Rutherford H. Platt, Professor of Geography Emeritus, University of Massachusetts
  Reclaiming American Cities: the struggle for humane urbanism since Olmsted

- Friday, October 31, 11:00 - 12:00
  Tom Rawinski – United States Forest Service
  White-tailed deer in northeastern forests: understanding and as-

Milestones

Elizabeth Robertson Currie, daughter of John and Robbie Currie and granddaughter of Don and Elvia Richards of Royalston is attending the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine where she is studying Medical Biology.

Congratulations to Frances and Paul Dias, who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on October 9.

Louise C. (Driscoll) Altieri of Everett and Royalston, passed away on September 3, 2014, at 91 years. Beloved wife of the late William H. “Barrie” Altieri. Loving mother of William H. Altieri, Jr and his wife Linda of South Yarmouth, Loretta Shoemaker of Chelsea, Stephen Altieri and his wife Shannon of Everett. She is also survived by 9 cherished grandchildren and 8 cherished great grandchildren. Louise was a former secretary for the City of Everett Women’s Volleyball League for over 35 years. She played in the Royalston Volleyball group that played in the mid 90s at night in the gym at RCS. She always brought her own ball. In her memory, donations may be made to the Jimmy Fund, One Harvard St., Brookline, MA 02146-9795.
**Royalston Pipeline Action Group**

*Maureen Blasco*

The North Quabbin Pipeline Action Group is holding a tag sale on October 18 from 8 am to 4 pm (raindate October 19) at the Millers River Environmental Center. You can help by donating items or helping at the event. For more information, call Maureen 978-249-5138.

**Royalston Village Improvement and Historical Society**

*Stephen Chase, Vice President*

The Historical Society’s new web-site is up and running. Please visit us at www.royalstonhistorical.org where you can catch up on the goings on, make donations, join our membership or just browse.

We have received bids from qualified preservation consultants to fully assess the upcoming restoration of Schoolhouse #1. This will be funded by grants from the Royalston Community Preservation Fund, The Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund and from generous gifts from donors.

The Society will meet Friday, October 24 at Peter Kraniak’s house at the corner of Winchendon and Stone Rds. An optional potluck at 6:30 will be followed by the meeting at 7:00. New members urged to attend. Desserts served. Call Peter at 978-249-7625.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events at RCS**

- 10/03 - MWCC 1:30 - 2:30 Fabulous Fable Factory
- 10/06 - PTG Mtg. @ 3:30
- 10/10 - NO SCHOOL
- 10/13 - NO SCHOOL - Columbus Day
- 10/17 - Fire Prevention Program @ 9:00
- 10/23 - Grade 4 to Northfield Mtn.
- 10/24 - Halloween Dance - 6:00 - 7:30
- 10/29 - 1/2 Day, Noon Release, Lunch Served

Recess at R.C.S.

*Akash Darjee, 6th grade correspondent*

Recess is a great time for students at Royalston community School. the weather has been beautiful with sunny days, changing colors on the trees, and the comforting September wind. Children are excited that R.C.S. is getting new playground equipment. The Parent Teacher Group has put up a tetherball pole. The new gym teacher, Mr. Hause, is going to talk to students about the ground rules for tetherball. Then, the P.T.G. will put up the ball and students can frolic like they have ants in their pants. While some kids play on the equipment, other kids do sports. Some students alternate between playing soccer and football. It is awesome for teachers and students to have recess to have a break from work and not get overwhelmed. So now you know what happens during recess at Royalston Community School.

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ARRSD School Committee News

Mary C. Barclay, a Royalston member

A generous donation from the Athol-Royalston Athletic Association was accepted by the School Committee at their September meeting in the amount of $11,000 to install an irrigation system for the baseball infield ($8,000) and re-sod the infield after the installation ($3,000). The Association was thanked for its continuing support and this most generous donation.

Two Athol-Royalston high school students applied and were accepted into the “Pathways Program,” which allows academic high achievers to attend Mount Wachusett Community College during their junior and senior years, taking college level classes. These students can earn an Associate’s Degree, while at the same time, continuing participation in music, sports and social (ie: clubs or prom) activities at the high school. In a related program, eleven students are taking MWCC CIS 143, a “hands-on, tech” class in computer maintenance and repair. College credits will be granted to those who meet the qualifications. The second of eight CIS courses required to earn a certificate in computer maintenance and repair will be offered in the spring.

Monty Tech News

Royalston Rep. Mary C. Barclay – mcbarclay@juno.com – 978-249-2598

Monty Tech’s annual Career Awareness Night is planned for Monday, October 20 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This is the time for fifth and sixth grade students to get a peek at all Monty Tech has to offer, and time for seventh and eighth graders to decide if they are interested in applying – and more specifically, if they are meeting the minimum requirements to be accepted. By regional agreement, Royalston freshmen are guaranteed just two of the 350+ freshmen seats. Meeting minimum qualifications is easy; earning more than two seats is not. This event is one of the best ways to determine if a vocational-technical education is of interest.

At Career Awareness Night, parents and potential students can meet with a career coach and the work co-op coordinator, find out which of the 20 trades and professions may be of interest, and learn of the impressive extracurricular activities available including sports like golf, soccer, football and hockey and special interest clubs like fish & game or drama.

Village School News

Rise Richardson, director

Openings for Children in the morning Preschool Program at the Village School. There are 2 openings, a rare event, in an outstanding program with experienced teachers. Call to schedule a visit. 978 249 3505.

After School Program for Royalston children

If you are looking for after school care, the Village School offers a fun After School Program from 3 to 5:30 on school days. Children can take the RCS bus and get dropped off at the Village School on the common. There is homework help, supervised outdoor play, and lots of arts and crafts, (children learn knitting!) run by Royalston resident, Lynn Anair. To sign up, call the school at 249-3505.

Saturday November 15th  First Annual Central Mass. Children’s Book Festival

At MWCC, from 9-4. Meet local authors and illustrators. Storytelling by Norah Dooley, children’s folksinging with Sarah Pirtle. FREE  Find more info at centralmasschildrensbookfestival.org

What’s happening at the Village School

We had our annual Harvest Day, harvesting the Village School garden that was planted by the students last spring. We found two huge ground hog holes. The ground hog did leave the potatoes and pumpkins alone, so there was a harvest. The whole school enjoyed eating the roast potatoes that were dug up by the students.

It’s still field trip time! Classes are visiting local gardens, visiting Sweetwater Farm in Petersham, Larry Siegel’s Prospect Hill Rd. Farm, hiking to Lawrence Brook and climbing Jacobs Hill.

On our mid-October Sunday Parent Work Day, we’ll all pitch in and spruce up the inside and outside of the school.

Upcoming events

Autumn Lantern Walk Celebration for Families: Friday, November 7

Open House: Saturday, November 22 10 a.m. to12 noon. Come meet the teachers, talk with parents, meet alumni, see the classrooms, find out about our unique curriculum and get your questions answered! Bring your children, they will enjoy activities in the classrooms just for them. Preschool will start filling up for next year.

For continual updates on events, go to www.villageschoolma.org
We experienced a (very) light frost on the morning of the nineteenth (I assume it was more than light in the low-lying areas of town). The grass was crunchy but nothing in the garden (not even the forlorn basil) succumbed. Hopefully, it was a blip, and I can look forward to one more month of frost-free days. Thanks to the August planting of lettuce and spinach, our second salad season has begun. Unlike our spring salads, we are able to supplement them with (our apparently unending supply of) cucumbers, cherry tomatoes (which, inexplicably, resisted the blight far longer than the regular varieties), and an assortment of shredded root crops. Both corn and fall raspberries were late in yielding, but there is no shortage of either, and can life be better than a daily hit of corn and raspberries? Most of the garden “work” revolves around harvesting (it is difficult for me to ascribe the concept of work to harvest). When as they become available, the beds are prepared for next year. Removing spent material. Enriching. Incorporating. Shaping. Mulching. That is work.

There is no need for me to await New Year’s Eve for my 2015 garden season resolutions. Resolution number one: the perennial glut of cucumbers must end. I will plant half as many. (Fair warning to patrons of the library and attendees at the senior lunch, the glut of cucumbers must end. Call Maureen 978-249-5138.) Resolution number two: every season their numbers seem to increase. Bringing to an end (it is difficult for me to ascribe the concept of work to harvest). When as they become available, the beds are prepared for next year. Removing spent material. Enriching. Incorporating. Shaping. Mulching. That is work.

October remains my favorite time in the garden. Leaves are turning, the air is crisp, the body is exercised, food is plentiful. Living the good life.

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Dog Needs a Home
Sandie Campos writes, “I have a five-year-old black lab. I am not able to spend enough time with her because I’m spending a majority of my time caring for my elderly parents in Weston. My lab is one of the puppies that came from the Royalston pound in Sept of ’09. She is a really great dog. If interested, contact me at 978-895-9145. Thanks”.

Silver Earring Found at Local Foods Supper - If it’s yours, 249-4611.

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Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library
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