## Calendar of Events

### May 30  Saturday
7:30 to 11:30 a.m.  **Saturday Morning on Royalston Common**
- Pancake Breakfast 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Town Hall
- Adults $6  Children $3  Organic blueberry pancakes and local syrup. Spectacular Silent Auction 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.  Auction items include original paintings, crafts, gift certificates, maple syrup, a half organic lamb, a garden cart, aged manure, museum passes and lots of interesting brand new items from local farms and businesses. The whole list of items for the auction is posted at www.villageschoolma.org .  The auction and breakfast will benefit the Village School Building project at Camp Caravan.
- Friends of the Library have plants for sale at the Post Office and books for sale at the library from 9 - noon  The program of events includes a Red Sox ticket raffle, a tag sale, the Millers River Morris Men, a Live Birds of Prey Presentation, a Cake Walk for children, and face painting.

### June 2  Tuesday
12:19 p.m.  **Full Strawberry Moon**

### June 6  Saturday
11 a.m.  **Friends of the Library** annual meeting. Plans, election of officers, library support, newsletter and programs and rhubarb squares. All welcome

7 - 10 p.m.  **Royalston Follies** talent show at Town Hall. Beer, wine, and soda will be available for purchase. Tickets are $10.00. Seating is limited, so reserve by calling Lorraine Casinghino at 978-249-5151.

### June 13  Saturday
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  **Classic Car Show. Motorcycle poker run leaves at noon**, sponsored by the 250th Committee, on the common. Antique cars, trucks, tractors. Awards: Best Ford, Best G.M., Best Mopar, Best Air-Cooled Classic, Best Motorcycle. Trophies and cash prizes for “People’s Choice” award. The cost to enter a car is $10.00. Refreshments available beginning at 11:00 a.m. (hot dogs, hamburgers, water, soda, fried dough, French fries, and ice cream. Judging of vehicles will begin at 12:30. All prizes will be announced at 4:00 p.m. Judges still needed! Call Geoff Newton!

### June 18  Thursday
**Ramadan** begins, continues for one moon cycle until the crescent moon after the new moon is spotted. Muslims fast during daylight hours, (which is difficult in the northern hemisphere in late June.) It is a time to ask forgiveness for sins over the past year.

### June 21  Sunday  **Father’s Day**
12:39 p.m.  **Summer Solstice**

### June 27  Saturday
**3-Band Concert in the South Village** for town’s 250th anniversary
- noon  **True Country from SoRo**
- 1:30 pm  **Small Town from Worcester**
- 4 pm  **Obsession on Elm Street with Sandra Maillet of town**
The event is free. Bring your lawn chairs and have fun. Refreshments sold.

### June 29  Monday
9:30 - noon  **The Royalston Shakespeare Company**, the town’s own free Shakespearean theater workshop for kids ages 8 and up, begins its 2015 season workshop production of *Julius Caesar*. Produced by the Friends of the Library and supported by a grant from the Royalston Cultural Council, this 11 day theater workshop is free to participants. It seems almost impossible, but kids tread the boards spouting the Bard, build sets, conjure costumes and create a workshop edition of a classic play in less than a fortnight year after year with jaw-dropping success. It is a lot of work, but even more fun. Please sign up or get more information by contacting the Phinehas S. Newton Library. Performance July 9 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

### Save the date
**July 19  Sunday**  **Cultural Council’s Musicfest**

### July 24  Friday
6 p.m.  **Softball match against Ashburnham** at the Royalston Fish and Game as part of the 250th celebrations. Rematch on Sunday July 26, 2015 at 2 p.m. at Oakmont Regional High School in Ashburnham. Call Rob to join the town team: 978-895-5014. Practices begin soon.

### September 11 - 13  **Royalston’s 250th Celebration Weekend**. Parade, fireworks, old-fashioned games, clowns, magicians, 3 days of live music, historical walks, pageants, town chorus, art and craft shows, face painting, car shows, food trucks, horticultural judging, local food dinner and much more. Not bad for a little town. Something for everyone. Don’t miss it.
Select Board Notes
Linda Alger

The Annual Town Meeting was held at the Royalston Community School on May 8th. An annual budget of approximately 1.9 million dollars was approved for FY 2016. The ATM will reconvene on June 24th at 7pm in the Town Hall to reopen several articles that were tabled. In addition to the reconvened we will hold a Special Town Meeting the same evening to transfer funds not spent into the Stabilization Fund. Department heads are urged to project funds that may not be spent to transfer at that time.

The Select Board spearheaded by Chairwoman, Christine Long presented a balanced budget for FY2016. Christine did a commendable job organizing and presenting the warrant.

The month of June the Board will be focusing on annual appointments and bids for goods and services.

If you are interested in volunteering for a committee, please let us know. With the 250th celebration we are looking forward to the events and activities that are planned for the summer.

Fire Department Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended the Royalston Fire & EMS Association Breakfast in April! A great success, and wonderful to see everyone who came out. We especially want to thank Teddy Bear Dairy for his donations of milk and half & half, as well as Deans Bean’s and Country Hen who helped make this event possible.

Board of Health News
Phil Leger, chair

New stickers are now available for the new fiscal year starting July 1. They remain $15 for the 1st one and $5 for the second one. All vehicles need to show a current windshield sticker when entering the facility. They should be on the left hand driver side windshield. This fee helps keep recycling free to you. It cost the town $150 a pull each time the recycling containers are shipped. This also keeps the reusable area available to users. See Tony to purchase your new vehicle sticker.

High Speed Internet in Royalston
Royalston Selectboard & Broadband Committee

Tuesday May 19th
Marks the official Launch of Royalston High Speed Broadband Network.
Jon Hardie Royalston Broadband Network Project Lead
If we stay on track, the Town-Wide High Speed Wireless Broadband Network & initial fiber build-out in both town centers should be able to be completed by the fall of 2017. Two years from now. We have done hundreds of hours of preparation, designing, engineering and mapping. Now we turn it into a town-wide network, but first it will be tested in the Royalston South Village, with up to 50 households.

Here are the 5 steps we need to go through, so that we can all get high speed broadband in our homes. Help is needed along the way.

1. By early June, submit the MBI Planning Grant, which provides technical assistance with final planning & engineering, legal, MLP and ISP operations/procurement, and send out the town internet survey to complete online or by mail. The link for the survey is: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9HSFNZV. Please complete as soon as possible.

2. Build out and learn from the test network in the South Royalston Village – to make sure we have it right. During this test over the next several months, we will complete the full MBI grant application. This would provide $630,000 toward the final cost of the network.

3. October: submit the Final MBI grant application which includes the aggregate (not personal) survey data, the South Royalston test results, and final engineering specs as well as legal documents, contracts and budgets. The total network cost will be reduced by the $630,000 MBI share.

4. With final project cost, we’ll call a special town meeting to fund the town’s portion of the MBI network grant, from a low interest MLP bond issue. We’ll own our network, not Wired West!

5. Once we complete the bond issue, we can begin building the town-wide network, late this fall. We expect to complete, and turn on, the town-wide wireless portion of the network in the Fall of 2016! We can all do this together.

Deb Nunes, Cultural Council

The Follies Are Finally Here!
The fabulous, fantastic Follies happen on Saturday, June 6th from 7-10 p.m. (We have no problem using a variety of “F” words to describe the evening!) If you haven’t called Lorraine at 978-249-5151 to reserve your $10.00 tickets, you had better do so before they sell out. Beer, wine and soda will be for sale. All proceeds go to the Cultural Council programs (Open Mics, Blues Night, MusicFest).

Speaking of MusicFest, it’s not too soon to mark your calendar for this year’s MusicFest to be held on Sunday, July 19th. Many consider this to be the best thing we host. See you there!
Happy 250th Anniversary Royalston!

Geoff Newton

The 250th committee has recently decorated the town buildings with bunting. Thank you to James Draper, Craig LeRay, and Joshua Doub, members of the Fire Department who helped with this detail. Members of the 250th committee, Tom LeRay, Keith Newton, Stephen Chase and Geoff Newton also were handy assisting in this endeavor.

Summer Celebratory Events

A Car Show and motorcycle poker run is scheduled for June 13th on the common. Antique cars, trucks, tractors, as well as classic vintages of all restored motor vehicles are encouraged to enter. Three judges still needed. A motorcycle “POKER RUN” is scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. and the car show begins at 12:00 noon. It will end at 4:00 with awards being presented immediately following. Best Ford, Best G.M., Best Mopar, Best Air-Cooled Classic, Best Motorcycle will receive trophies, and the overall “PEOPLES CHOICE” will be a monetary prize! The cost to enter a car is $10.00. Refreshments (hamburgers, hot dogs, fried dough, ice cream and more) will be available. Prizes announced at 4 pm.

NB: For all cool car owners, please sign up for the parade in September... It is not required to be in the car show to be in the 250th parade, but why not do both? If you’d like to cruise down the street in a classic vehicle (car, truck, tractor) accompanied by marching bands and a few clowns, please notify Geoff Newton of your intentions and register the appropriate info so that it can be announced as it goes by the reviewing stand.

A free summer musical concert in the park next to the Royalston Fire Station #2 (across from Pete and Henry’s) on June 27th from noon to 6:00 p.m. is scheduled with these bands:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Band</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>noon</td>
<td>True Country from the South Village</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Small Town from Worcester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 pm</td>
<td>Obsession on Elm Street with Sandra Maillet of town</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The event is free. Come take part in celebrating the town’s 250th anniversary and have some relaxing fun!!!

Getting organized for more fun:

Softball players needed to beat Ashburnham:
Robert Newton is putting a team together to play ball against Ashburnham. His number is 978-895-5014. Call him to start practicing. Fire, Police, Highway, Library, old and young, men and women. ALL ARE INVITED to play and to be spectators to cheer on your community. LET’S PLAY BALL AND HAVE FUN!

Art Show registration: During the 250th celebration in September, there will be a tent on the common with tables for crafts as well as a visual art exhibit in the dining room of the Town Hall. Right now, the organizers are trying to sort out size limitations and need to know how many would be interested in showing work hung on panels in the dining room. An e-mail list is being compiled by Tom Kellner. If you would like to participate in the visual arts show, please send your name by e-mail to: tomkellner@gmail.com

Gardeners: plant now; brag later

During the Sept. celebrations, there will be a horticultural fair with commemorative blue ribbons awarded in a dozen categories of vegetables, (including pumpkins, root crops, tomatoes and most families of veggies), as well as preserves and pickles and flower arrangements. Children under 10 have their own prizes. Entries need to be grown in Royalston and submitted by town residents. Call the library for more information.

btw... While you are planting, put in an extra row for the local foods dinner, scheduled for September 13.

Performers needed:

Those who signed up to be in the Royalston chorus, will begin rehearsing on Tuesdays starting the last week of July and meet once a week until the big show on Sept. 11. If you didn’t sign up, but would like to lift up your voice for the civic good, it is not too late. Call Beth Gospodarek, 249-0358.

Students at Athol High School, Athol Royalston Middle School, and Royalston Community School have been busy studying original source documents concerning Royalston’s history. With the guidance of Norah Dooley, these insights are being turned into historical skits to be performed as part of the September celebrations. Actors of all ages are needed to perform in this historical pageant. Interested? Call Beth Gospodarek, 249-0358. This project is supported by a grant from the Royalston Cultural Council and the Mass. Council for the Humanities.

Clear the dates and gather your kin for 3 days of peace, love, music, civic pride and fried dough....

The Big 250th Celebra-looza is September 11,12,13th.

Parade! Fireworks! Non-stop Entertainment!

Something for Everyone!
Phinehas S. Newton Library News
Kathy Morris, Library Director
Trustees: Polly Longsworth, Lisa Freden, Clarence Rabideau
Mondays: 10:00 am - 8:30 pm. Thursdays 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm and 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Saturdays: 9:00 am - 12 noon
978-249-3572  www.royalstonlibrary.org

Thank You
Thank you to Valuing Our Children for funding and organizing the Bugs, Bugs, Bugs program for April school vacation.

Stephanie McClure, Kathy Chencharik, Patti Stanko and Maureen Blasco for baking for the CS Manegold program.

Donations to the Friends
John and Kathy Chencharik and Shadow
Maj/Gen R. C. Davenport
Nanji Davison and Walt Thornton
Charles and Polly Longsworth
Virginia Moore
Deb Nunes
Kathy Pirro
Clarence and Elizabeth Rabideau
Elvia Richards

Summer Monday Hours Funded
Thanks to a grant from Valuing Our Children, the library will again be able to open on Monday mornings during July and August so that people attending the preschool summer programs and others will be able to use the library during those hours.

Art Exhibit
Diana Santiago will exhibit her acrylic paintings during the months of May and June. She lives on Frye Hill Road.

Library Book Discussion 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 of cookies. The next meeting is June 22 when the group will discuss Far from the Madding Crowd by Thomas Hardy.

Got history? Bring it in to be scanned at the library Scan-a-Thon
If you have interesting photos or letters or other historical memorabilia, call to make an appointment so that we can scan it for posterity. We will scan the material to our computer and then if you would like, we have flash drives to download to or we can make a print.

Sign up for the Royalston Shakespeare Company
The Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library present:

The Royalston Shakespeare Company in a workshop adaptation of Julius Caesar, which will be directed by Maureen Blasco, Grace Belmont, Grady MacPhee and Tobey Chase

Needed: Kids ages 8 and up to be actors: (fretters, schemers, murderers), prop makers, set designers, lighting technicians and musicians. Adult help welcomed as well. Venue: Royalston Town Hall

This production consists of whirlwind workshops culminating in an impressive production. It is always a very fun and rewarding experience. Participation is free, but a commitment to attend every rehearsal, work responsibly, and cooperate with all the cast is required. Prior theater experience is not necessary. Intended for ages 8 and up.

Schedule and Venue: June 29 - July 9 at Royalston Town Hall
9:30 a.m. - noon each weekday morning, with a performance the evening of July 9th
To sign up or for more information, please contact or visit the library:
(978-249-3572 or royalstonlibrary@gmail.com)

‘Escape the Ordinary’ at the Summer Reading Programs at the Library
The theme for this year’s Summer Reading Program is ‘Every Hero Has a Story’ and is sponsored by the Phinehas S. Newton Library, the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The library will feature extraordinary adventures each week.

Programs for preschoolers will be held on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. beginning July 6 and include: Escape into Stories with Norah Dooley, Yes to Yoga with Loren Magruder, Heroes Supercrafts with Paula Pralinsky, and a Kaboom Ice Cream Party. The library will be open during these programs and while older children may come to the library the programs are geared to preschoolers. Funding for the open hours is thanks to a grant from Valuing Our Children.

‘Every Hero has a Story to Tell’ is the theme for the older kids and we will be focusing on creating unique crafts that can be used for the 250th celebrations. Programs will occur on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. and will begin on July 9 after the Shakespeare Theater Workshop is concluded. They will include making giant decorated hula-hoops and dyed flags for the 250th parade, a magic show, and of course, other-worldly homemade ice cream and games.

On Monday August 3 at 1:30 p.m. Manuel and Mary King will be leading a workshop for children and adults to create giant puppets and signs and banners for the 250th Anniversary celebration parade.

Town Trivia contest: Each week there will be a contest with questions about the history of the town and all are invited to enter to win prizes. Stay tuned for more details by checking the library website, facebook page, next month’s newsletter, and visiting the library.
**Some of the New Materials at Your Library**

### Adult fiction

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atkinson, Kate</td>
<td>A God in Ruins</td>
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<td>Baldacci, David</td>
<td>Memory Man</td>
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<td>Bowen, Peter</td>
<td>Bitter Creek</td>
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<td>Enright, Anne</td>
<td>The Green Road</td>
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<td>Fielding, Joy</td>
<td>Someone is Watching</td>
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<td>Genova, Lisa</td>
<td>Inside the O’Brien’s</td>
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<td>Gregorio, Michael</td>
<td>Cry Wolf</td>
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<td>Helton, Peter</td>
<td>A Good Way to Go</td>
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<td>Iles, Greg</td>
<td>The Bone Tree</td>
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<td>Indridason, Arnaldur</td>
<td>Reykjavik Nights</td>
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<td>Johansen, Iris</td>
<td>Your Next Breath</td>
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<td>Lutz, Lisa</td>
<td>How to Start a Fire</td>
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<td>Morrison, Toni</td>
<td>God Help the Child</td>
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<td>Nesbo, Jo</td>
<td>Blood on Snow</td>
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<td>O’Brien, Edna</td>
<td>The Love Object</td>
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<td>Quick, Amanda</td>
<td>Garden of Lies</td>
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<td>Sandford, John</td>
<td>Gathering Prey</td>
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<td>Scottoline, Lisa</td>
<td>Every Fifteen Minutes</td>
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<td>Shepard, Jim</td>
<td>The Book of Aaron</td>
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<td>Smiley, Jane</td>
<td>Early Warning</td>
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<td>Swift, Graham</td>
<td>England and Other Stories</td>
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### Adult non-fiction

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<tr>
<td>America’s Test</td>
<td>The America’s Test Kitchen New Family Cookbook</td>
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<td>Barnett, Cynthia</td>
<td>Rain</td>
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<td>Brooks, David</td>
<td>The Road to Character</td>
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<td>Ellis, Joseph</td>
<td>The Quartet</td>
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<td>Evans, Rachel</td>
<td>Searching for Sunday</td>
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<td>Fallon, Sally</td>
<td>Nourishing Broth</td>
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<td>Frank, Barney</td>
<td>Frank</td>
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<td>Gardner, Kevin</td>
<td>The Granite Kiss</td>
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<td>Greene, J.R.</td>
<td>From Valley to Quabbin 1938-1946</td>
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<td>Keen, Andrew</td>
<td>The Internet is not the Answer</td>
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<td>Krakauer, Jon</td>
<td>Missoula</td>
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<td>McCullough, David</td>
<td>The Wright Brothers</td>
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<td>Nelson, Willie</td>
<td>It’s a Long Story</td>
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<td>Norris, Mary</td>
<td>Between You and Me: Confessions of a Comma Queen</td>
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<td>Osborne, Steve</td>
<td>The Job</td>
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<td>Reeves, Richard</td>
<td>Infamy</td>
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<td>Rivers, Melissa</td>
<td>The Book of Joan</td>
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<td>Sampson, Scott</td>
<td>How to Raise a Wild Child</td>
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<td>Smith, Jeremy</td>
<td>Epic Measures</td>
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### Audio Books:

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<td>Kurkjian, Stephen</td>
<td>Master Thieves</td>
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<td>Larson, Erik</td>
<td>Dead Wake</td>
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<td>Simon, Scott</td>
<td>Unforgettable</td>
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### Children’s Fiction

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barry, Dave</td>
<td>The Worst Class Trip Ever</td>
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<td>Barton, Byron</td>
<td>My Bike</td>
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<td>Beaumont, Karen</td>
<td>Wild about Us!</td>
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<td>Child, Lauren</td>
<td>The New Small Person</td>
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<td>Doodler, Todd</td>
<td>Super Fly</td>
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<td>Ferrell, Sean</td>
<td>I Don’t Like Koala</td>
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<td>Ferry, Beth</td>
<td>Stick and Stone</td>
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<td>Florian, Douglas</td>
<td>How to Draw a Dragon</td>
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<td>Lawson, Jon</td>
<td>Sidewalk Flowers</td>
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<td>Litton, Jonathan</td>
<td>Snip Snap</td>
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<td>Musgrave, Susan</td>
<td>More Blueberries!</td>
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<td>Palatini, Margie</td>
<td>Under a Pig Tree</td>
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<td>Pinkney, Jerry</td>
<td>The Graspawisher &amp; the Ants</td>
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<td>Quinn, Jordan</td>
<td>The Secret World of Mermaids</td>
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<td>Sirett, Dawn</td>
<td>Happy Birthday Sophia!</td>
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<td>Spinelli, Jerry</td>
<td>Mama Seeton’s Whistle</td>
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<td>Viva, Frank</td>
<td>Outstanding in the Rain</td>
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<td>Wilson, Karma</td>
<td>Bear Counts</td>
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<td>Yolen, Jane</td>
<td>You Nest Here with Me</td>
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<td>Young, Ed</td>
<td>Should you be a River</td>
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### Children’s non-fiction

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arnold, Caroline</td>
<td>A Day and Night in the Desert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arnold, Caroline</td>
<td>A Day and Night in the Forest</td>
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<td>Arnold, Caroline</td>
<td>A Day and Night in the Rain Forest</td>
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<td>Arnold, Caroline</td>
<td>A Day and Night on the Prairie</td>
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<td>Fisch, Sholly</td>
<td>Teen Titans Go!</td>
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<td>Kibuishi, Kazu</td>
<td>Escape from Lucien</td>
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<td>Kostecki, Jenny</td>
<td>Luna and Me</td>
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<td>Loy, Jessica</td>
<td>Weird &amp; Wild Animal Facts</td>
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<td>How to Speak Cat</td>
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<td>Newman, Aline</td>
<td>How to Speak Dog</td>
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<td>Raidt, Gerda</td>
<td>In the New World</td>
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<td>Sheehy, Shawn</td>
<td>Welcome to the Neighborhood!</td>
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<td>Simon, Seymour</td>
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<td>Spiegelman, Nadja</td>
<td>Lost in NYC</td>
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<td>Stewart, Whitney</td>
<td>Meditation is an Open Sky</td>
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<td>Yomtov, Nelson</td>
<td>Titanic Disaster!</td>
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<td>Yomtov, Nelson</td>
<td>Trapped in America!</td>
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### Young Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction

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<tr>
<td>Alexander, Kwame</td>
<td>The Crossover</td>
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<tr>
<td>Braun, Eric</td>
<td>John Green</td>
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<td>Buckley, Michael</td>
<td>Undertow</td>
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<td>Grisham, John</td>
<td>Theodore Boone</td>
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### DVDs

50 to 1, After Stonewall, Before Stonewall, Big Eyes, Black or White, Cake, Death in Paradise Season 3, Fading Gigo, Fifty Shades of Grey, Finding Vivian Maier, The Gambler, Get on Up, The Immigrant, Love is Strange, Mordecai, Paddington, Selma, Still Alice, Taken 3, and Wolf Hall

*Enhance your summer fun for FREE!*

**Unique things to borrow from the library:**

- Orion StarBlaster Telescope and tripod
- Ice cream makers (the round ball type)
- Kill-A-Watt electricity monitor
- 6’ folding tables (2)
- Digital projector and screen
- Kindergarten readiness kits
- State park passes
- (Sorry - no kittens)
- (Luckily - no ticks)
- (Arranging local beef is possible)

*(There are rarely turtles - and never to be checked out, but yellow spotted salamanders frequent the basement.)*
Royalston Roadside Cleanup 2015

John Scribner
April 25th 2015 Saturday

It was a sunny day for this year’s roadside cleanup, with many of the same families returning to help keep Royalston beautiful. A big section of Bullock Ball Field was muddy and wet. Check Point Charlie opened at 9:00 with 4 bags already collected by the ladies on North Fitzwilliam. Charlie set up the Checkpoint with bags, gloves and reflective vests. My first volunteers were Nancy Melbourne and Mrs. Clark, who headed out to Athol Rd. starting at Doanes Falls and working their way back. Jim Taylor started at the commons and headed down Athol Road.

Many regulars of the cleanup were away on a historical society tour of the Isaacs Royal house. They cleaned beforehand though: Chase / Gospodarek family - Northeast Fitzwilliam Rd., Maureen Blasso – New Boston, Neal Pl., Norcross Rd., Pam, Brenda and John Gray – North Fitzwilliam Rd. Pam and John Gray stopped by at lunch and I got to catch up with my Indian Dance Teacher. Erin also helped clean NE Fitzwilliam Road, and gave the idea to use buckets as a cleanup tool.

Here is a list of others who helped with 2015 Roadside Clean up. George Vaccari – N. Fitzwilliam Rd. Jerry Lajoie – Norcross Rd. and part of Winchendon Rd., Phil Jacobs and Miss Lilly Rt. 68 headed south, and came back for more bags. They wanted to keep going after the cook out!! Erin Mahoney and Tyler Boyd – parts of So Royalston – Pleasant St, Skip Ciccorelli - Part of Rt. 32 and Rt. 68., Karl Camp – Warwick Rd. and Falls Rd., Sheena Butler and Aiden Wyatt - Royalston Rd., Herve Bosse family - Laurel Lake Rd. and Brown Rd., Jeff Cooke – part of Norcross Rd. and Winchendon Rd., Dan Hardy part of Rt. 68., Mike Young – Gulf Rd., Dickley Rd. Rt. 68., Andrea and Ken Lively – Athol Rd. and Bolton Rd. And of course TEAM MOWER – Phil, Randy, and Paul M. - Turnpike Road. A special thanks to Dan and Karol for set up of grill and help cooking and clean up. Also thanks to Tony and STEVIE for the extra work at transfer station. An estimated 50 bags of trash and recyclables were cleaned and disposed at transfer station. At 11:45 we fired up the grill and started Checkpoint Charlie Cookout. Everyone enjoyed hot dogs, soda and Checkpoint Charlie Chili. Thanks to everyone for all the hard work. Come celebrate a cleaner Royalston and Earth Day with your family next year.

bitman’s Goat cheese and mushroom tart with potato crust

Recipe of the Month

Here’s a recipe from Melanie Miller. Though she is from Westminster and not Royalston, she has been teaching a yoga class at Town Hall for the past three years. When she heard a group of folks talking about the recipe section of the newsletter, she generously offered this recipe:

3 tablespoons butter / olive oil
1 large russet potato peeled,
Salt and pepper
2 cups chopped mushrooms, (any kind - I use baby bella or big portabellas)
1 Tablespoon chopped fresh herbs, (tarragon, thyme, sage, rosemary)
1 1/2 cup of crumbled goat cheese.
⅔ cup of heavy cream or half and half
1 egg plus 1 yolk.

Preheat oven to 400
Grease pie pan/tart pan with 2 tablespoons of butter (lay it on thick) Grate potato add salt and pepper and squeeze the moisture out (put in a clean kitchen towel and twist and squeeze the water out. Press potatoes into bottom of pan Bake till golden 30-40 minutes. Remove from oven, set aside, and lower oven temp to 375. In frying pan, melt butter and sauté mushrooms 5 minutes; add herbs. Cook another 5 minutes until nearly dry. Stir cheese, cream, eggs, salt and pepper then mix with mushrooms. Pour into prepared crust. Bake until set but slightly jiggly in middle 20-30 minutes, Cool on rack for few minutes. Slice and serve warm or room temp.

You can do this in any crust, and I like to add onions or shallots, serve at brunch or w/ salad, yummy

Old Schoolhouse No. 1 Update:

The Historical Society has submitted an application for a grant to the Massachusetts Historical Commission for a second round of funding. The first round has been completed, giving us a comprehensive assessment plan prepared by an architect and engineer. The second round of funding will allow us to do exterior repairs to the siding, molding and flashings. The entire building will then be painted. The sash will be removed from their openings, repaired, relazed and weatherstripped.

Thanks to generous donations, fundraising, the community preservation commission grant and loans, we have enough money in the bank to meet the matching requirement set by the state. We had hoped to begin the work this year but with the change of governorship the uncertain budget delayed the awarding of grants.

Unfortunately this round of work will deplete our funds and we still need to put on a new roof. The present asphalt shingle roof is 30+ years old. We also need to do interior repair and structural work.

We will be distributing cards and brochures with more details. Please donate toward the restoration or at least become a member (still only $5!). We plan many programs and activities in conjunction with the towns 250th Anniversary Celebration. The museum will be open most Saturday mornings throughout the rest of the year. Volunteers are needed. Join us. Call Peter Krania 978-249-7625 or Stephen Chase 978-249-0358.

Stephen Chase Contracting
Preservation Carpenter
Restoration and Maintenance
Royalston
978-249-4860

MA Construction Supervisor #044817
EPA Lead Safe Certified # NAT-58592-1
**Congratulations and Good News**

Got something to crow about? Send all the news along to the RCN. Zap to chasegos2@gmail.com or drop at the library.

**Welcome!** Weighing in at 8 pounds and 11 oz and 22 inches in length, Sophia Lively Zinkievich arrived at 1:54 PM on May 17, 2015. She is a robust little angel who is enjoying her life adventure along with her Mom and Dad, Shannah and Adam Zinkievich. Proud grandparents are Ken and Andrea Lively and Cathy and Paul Zinkievich, with Heather and Jason Goodhind in the role of Auntie and Andy and Kristen West are very proud to announce that Elizabeth West graduated from The Winchendon School, cum laude. She will attend Worcester Polytechnic Institute where she will major in Biomedical Engineering with a Pre-dental focus. At Winchendon, she pursued her love of the performing arts in musicals. This spring, Elizabeth will also complete fourteen years of dance at The Dance Center in Winchendon where she earned top honors in dance competitions. Elizabeth plans to continue dance and musical theatre at WPI in the fall.

Teach a man to fish...

*Congratulations to Owen Dresser, 6, who won the 2015 Royalston Fish and Game Club fishing derby last month with this 18-inch trout. His dad, James Dresser, won the children’s division of the derby about 15 years ago and came in third in the adults competition this year. The mom, Nicole Dresser also won a cash prize.*

Tobey Rose Chase recently graduated from the Winchendon School, where she benefitted from its integrated studies program opportunities to engage in internships. She just returned from teaching 3rd graders in Hanoi, Vietnam and spent part of March building earthquakeproof homes for villagers in central Nicaragua. At Winchendon, she received the Perkins Prize for Academic Excellence and Commitment to Social Justice and the Gardner Prize. In the fall, she plans to take a gap year before attending Clark University to study anthropology and ecology. **ed note: That’s our girl and we are very proud.**

**Royalston General Store**

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2015 graduates of Mt. Wachusett Community College:
Associate’s degrees: Daniel P. Enright, and Steven A. Robinson Certificate: William C. Rheault

**Graduates**

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Associate’s degrees: Daniel P. Enright, and Steven A. Robinson Certificate: William C. Rheault

Andy and Kristen West are very proud to announce that Elizabeth West graduated from The Winchendon School, cum laude. She will attend Worcester Polytechnic Institute where she will major in Biomedical Engineering with a Pre-dental focus. At Winchendon, she pursued her love of the performing arts in musicals. This spring, Elizabeth will also complete fourteen years of dance at The Dance Center in Winchendon where she earned top honors in dance competitions. Elizabeth plans to continue dance and musical theatre at WPI in the fall.

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Christopher James, formerly from Royalston, recently earned a juris doctorate from Western New England University School of Law.

**Graduates:** It takes a village.... Share your photo and/or graduation announcements with the town. Submit them to the RCN for publication in upcoming newsletters.
Community School News
Aliyah Neale

It is almost here! The last month of school. All the kids at RCS are excited. But that doesn’t stop us from learning!

Our Futures class has welcomed a new student! In their cooking class, they made a fruit salad. They have also been gardening. They are getting ready for a fun trip to visit community helpers. They are also going to Davis Farm Land! At our Memorial Day program, together they lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

In kindergarten, all the kids have been watching frog eggs hatch. The whole class has been working with teen numbers in math. For our Memorial Day program, everyone sang “God Bless the USA”. But they all did it in sign language!

1st graders are reading all the time! They are reading books by the authors Mem Fox and Mo Willems and making text to text connections in their stories as well.

Second graders are doing an author study on Eric Carle. They are planning on going to the Eric Carle museum to learn even more about Eric Carle and his amazing children’s books.

Third graders are all about biographies! They have been learning about the lives of famous people and having lots of fun.

4th grade is also working with biographies and doing their own projects for the biographies. They are also planning a trip to Sturbridge Village.

Fifth grade is reading a book called Seedfolk. The students are learning about characters. They are also very excited about their wax museum coming up! They just finished working with simple machines.

Sixth grade is immersed in a turtle project. The students have been given a turtle species to create a poster about. The sixth graders had lots of fun at Nature’s Classroom, where they learned all about nature. A big thanks to Mr. Snell for taking us!

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Local Arts Scene

Caleb Chase created video and wrote and recorded original music for the collaborative project “The Unknown Between”, which was shown on the ceiling of the Boston Museum of Science Hayden Planetarium in late May. Caleb is a member of MassArt's Studio for Interrelated Media Department.

Village School News
Rise Richardson, director

Openings in the Village School for Fall 2015: There are openings in preschool, kindergarten, 1st grade, 4th and 5th grade. Call the school for more information and to set up a visit.

What’s happening: Congratulations to the 4th-6th class on performing an engaging and delightful play at the Royalston Town Hall. The video will be shown on AOTV. The K-1 is climbing Tully Mtn. Everyone participates in Jackson Pollock Day, outside in the driveway, throwing paint on big sheets of paper. The 2nd-3rd grade finishes the year with a Theme (Colonial) Share Celebration, including singing, playing recorder and sharing their writing. On Wednesday June 3, the 4th-6th class shares their artwork portfolios at 6:15, followed by graduation at 7:00 p.m.

Summer Programs for Children at the Village School
Go to www.villageschoolma.org to get the PDF brochure of the Summer Programs for children ages 8 to 14. Programs are: Woodworking for Kids, and the Science and Art Experience.. 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 6th through August 21st. 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! For more information, and for a registration form, go to www.villageschoolma.org and click on Summer Programs

Obsession on Elm Street Band is playing at the Winchendon Rod and Gun on Saturday, June 20th from 8pm till 12pm. This band will also close the show in South Royalston on June 27th.

Melanie and the Blue Shots Summer Tour
June 27th Fitzwilliam Inn; Aug 10th Gardner Ale House

June Happenings at the 1794 Meetinghouse in New Salem
Saturday June 13th: Christine Ohlman & Rebel Montez - roots rock and soul from the beehive queen (season opener - champagne reception at 6:45 PM & show at 7:30 PM)
Sunday June 14th: Quabbin Valley Pro Musica - choral presentation of Brahms Requiem (4 PM)
Thursday June 18th: Haley Hewitt – Scottish and world music from one of the most exciting, innovative, and gifted harp players of the up-and-coming generation (7:30 PM)
Saturday June 20th: Tim Eriksen & Trio de Pumpkintown - hardcore Americana featuring Zoë Darrow on fiddle (7:30 PM)
Sunday June 21st: Hartka-Sinkeych Duo – classical cello and piano sonatas (4 PM)
Thursday 25th: Sam Amidon – beautiful and daring arrangements of traditional folk songs (7:30 PM)
Saturday June 27th: Tracy Grammer - one of folk music’s most beloved artists, with the multi-instrumentalist powerhouse, Jim Henry (7:30 PM)
Sunday June 28th: Jeff Warner – special presentation by one of the nation’s foremost interpreters of traditional music (7:30 PM)
Bus Tour Promoting North Quabbin Region Will Pass Through Royalston

Allen Young

A nine-town bus tour sponsored by the North Quabbin Trails Association (NQTA), with Royalston resident Allen Young as guide, will pass through Royalston on the morning of Saturday, June 6.

There will be 56 passengers, including several Royalston residents, on the purple Wilson bus. The 60-mile-plus tour, which is sold out, starts at 10 a.m. at the NQTA headquarters at the Orange Innovation Center (former Bedroom Factory), with slow drive-bys and a few stops in Athol, Royalston, Phillipston, Petersham, New Salem, Wendell, Erving and Warwick, before returning to Orange.

The route in Royalston includes Tully Lake, Doane’s Falls, the Historic District (Town Common) and South Royalston village. Lunch will take place at the Quabbin overlook in New Salem.

The purpose of the tour, according to the NQTA, is to increase North Quabbin regional awareness in all nine towns and promote ecotourism as a source of jobs and economic opportunity. Young is the author of “North of Quabbin Revisited” and other books of local interest. His column, Inside Outside, appears Thursdays in the Athol Daily News.

Wildlife sightings:

Forest tent caterpillars were foraging on Frye Hill Rd. on a dry overheated day in mid-May. Supposedly trees can withstand 2 - 3 years of defoliation, but they weaken each time and become more susceptible to disease and other stressors.

Air war over Little Pond: On the morning of Monday May 11, Jim Taylor was distracted from his yard work by horrific screeching and feathers flying overhead. A Golden Eagle was raiding a Red Tail Hawk nest in the top of a nearby Pine tree. The huge black bird with the bronzey shine was confronted by the nesting hawk pair for quite an epic battle which lasted a few minutes. It was unclear who was, or if there were, winners of the fight, but eventually things quieted and all soared off into the wind and Jim got back to work.

Richard Monahan has been enjoying Northern Orioles in his yard this spring.

Larry Siegel reports: “Sighting a porcupine in Royalston this spring has been almost as common as sighting a squirrel. But this one was over-the-top. I was hanging clothes and reached the end of the line (which was wrapped around a pear tree); the pear tree, by the way, being the porcupine’s vey favorite food source. The porcupine climbed down and ambled by me. I gave chase, of course, but it descended the bulkhead and entered the basement. It has not been seen since.”

On May Day, Gerry Plante was sitting on his deck on Fall’s Rd. at the end of the day. A barred owl landed in a tree nearby. “I knew it would only be there for a moment so I took out my smart phone and set it to camera. I was lucky to get this picture as it took flight in front of me.”

Fish and Game News

Marie Melllo

The Royalston Fish and Game Club had 71 kids participate in the fishing derby this year. It was a great turn out. Thanks to Tony Basso for his generous donation of some of the fishing supplies for prizes - 1st place winner for the boys was Owen Dresser (18 inch fish) 1st place winner for the girls was Skyler Basso (11 1/4 inch fish.)

Fish and Game News

Marie Melllo

Sam’s Canine Companions L.L.C.

Sherry A. Miner
71 Athol Road
PO Box 123
Royalston MA 01368
508-873-0629 call or text

Professional all breed grooming and obedience training
A flashback (for those of you memory challenged)...thirty days ago I was grumbling about the sodden conditions, the soil more worthy for mud packs than as a planting medium. Since then, I’ve recorded 0.1” of rain. That is not a misprint; it is one-tenth of one inch of rain. The garden has evolved from a mire to a sand pit in one month. No plantings since the very earliest have germinated. Transplanting is possible but the thought of hand-watering for an indeterminate amount of time is depressing. That being said, garden activities, once again have come to a stand-still. (Not quite, the weeds are pushing through the mulch and I am obliged to knock them back. Essentially, I am weeding crops that do not exist.)

I’m wont to ramble, especially on matters weatherly, so it is with some effort I change the subject. Onto a brighter matter. Much brighter. My paean to peonies: peonies are my favorite perennial flower. From the emergence of the burgundy-colored shoots in mid-April to the harvesting of the seed pods in September (used in dried arrangements) there is always something to admire. The foliage can be used throughout the summer as an accent in any mixed bouquet. It is the flower, of course, which is the crowning achievement of the peony. The typical flower is the double, a fluffy mass of petals. We have some of these, but even more of the open, single petal variety. Currently in tight bud, I anticipate flowers sometime in the second week of June. They will be red or pink or white and unlike many showy flowers, the peonies sport a delightful aroma. Our peonies come with a history, planted as they were in the early 1900s. Now that is a perennial. There are two downsides to the peony. First, the flowering time is all too short…two, two and a half weeks, and wait til next year. Second, there are so many flowers (a mature specimen can sport seventy-five or more) that any rain during the flowering period will beat down the plant. There is a solution. Actually two. A devise which keeps the peony upright can be purchased. Or, using the materials-at-hand approach, four stout posts can be driven into the ground and old clothes line or used baling twine run around them. I need not tell you which solution I chose. One final piece of information regarding our peonies….they reliably self-seed. Most germinate near the mother plant, but some, thanks to rodents, appear in the unlikeliest of places. I gather the seedlings, set them out in a nursery, and three years later have plants ready to flower.

While I can state unequivocally that the peonies will bloom, I can make no such assertions for the vegetable garden. By early June I will simply bite the bullet; tomatoes, peppers, basil, parsley, celery/ celereiac will be transplanted. Corn, beans, squash, cucumbers, and a host of others will be direct-seeded. The heavens will either oblige or they will not. Stay tuned.

Larry Siegel

Classifieds

Photography Services: Events, portraits, weddings, horse and dog shows, and commercial photos. Visit www.snowheronstudios.com  Call at 978-249-8108 or 978-248-9454

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.

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 bgruiney@wildblue.net


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

Need help cleaning your house, outdoor work, or other odd jobs? $16/hr. Call Kathleen Lawrence Pirro at 978-249-9774.


Looking for someone to do yard work. 978-249-4013

For sale:

Yardman tractor/ mower $500, Husqvarna snowblower ST927E $500, Bear Cat chipper/ shredder $700. Call Chris 978-249-0323.

HP OfficeJet v40 all-in-one printer/fax/scanner/copier Model C8413A (used $40), Epson Perfection V370 flatbed Photo, Image, Film, Negative & Document Scanner Model J232D (mint condition $75). USB, Printer & Power Cables, Logitech speakers, headphones, hard drives and DDR memory sticks (make an offer), Laplink Professional. Moves or restores all selected files from an old PC to a new one ($10), Asahi Pentax 35mm SLR Film Camera w/50mm lens (used $75), CPC Auto Zoom CCT 80-200mm lens ($10), Yashikor Aux. Wide Angle 1/4 len and Telephoto lens in Case ($20), Vivitar 102 Electronic Flash ($10), Knight Exposure Meter KG-275 ($10). Call 978-249-3040 in West Royalston

Hand knitted baby sweater sets (limited colors), etc. Call 978-249-4013. Leave message.

Taking orders for Portuguese sweet bread. Call Lee at 978-249-4507.

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.

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


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Full Service Disposal
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How Royalston Came to Be
An original origin myth by Bella Cooke, 7th grader at ARMS

A long, long, long time ago (around 435 A.D.), there was a group of kings, queens, princes and princesses and a dragon. They all left their kingdoms (and cave in the case of the dragon) because they wanted to be living somewhere better. They all climbed on the dragon’s back and flew off. About 3 hours later, they arrived in the woods. They all agreed it would be the best place to live because it had a feeling of home; therefore, it was above the rest. The kings, queens, princes and princesses and the dragon all agreed to name it “Royalston” because they were all royal. (The dragon ruled over a valley of animals.) There were a ton of them, so the word came together: royals + ton.

The next thing the royals did was build a town hall and a church, as well as a thousand houses. After talking it over, they all decided that the town should not be spoken of to outsiders, for their enemies would come and take the place over and use Royalston’s power for no good if given the chance. Around 523 A.D., the royals all died. They got very old and just passed away. Royalston lay empty for many centuries.

One day, however, 232 settlers found Royalston. They knew it was called Royalston because of the sign the royals had left. This new group felt Royalston’s power.

The residents of Royalston today all understand Royalston is an extremely special place where everyone feels like a giant family. When people criticize, “Royalston is small and nobody lives there,” it is because they don’t know how powerful Royalston is. As for us, who truly know Royalston’s power, we are the lucky ones.

Cloutiers’ Pete & Henry’s
18 Main St. (Rt. 68) in South Royalston, MA 01368
Thu. 4-9; Fri. 4-10; Sat. 3-10; Sun. 1-8 p.m.
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