## Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 1</td>
<td><strong>Full Buck Moon</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>July 3</td>
<td><strong>Transfer Station is open today</strong> but closed on Saturday for July 4 holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td><strong>Independence Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>July 6</td>
<td>10 am <strong>Pre-school Summer Reading Program begins</strong> and continues Mondays through July 27 at the library. Cool projects, story times, snacks and chances to check out books. See page 5.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 9</td>
<td>1:30 pm <strong>Library Summer Reading Program</strong> begins. It continues every Thursday through July 30. Lots of cool events, healthy snacks and ice cream, and chances to check out some summer reading. Free. See flyer on p. 5 for complete details.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>100 BCE <strong>Julius Caesar’s birthday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>7 pm <strong>The Royalston Shakespeare Company</strong>, the town’s own free Shakespearean theater workshop for kids, presents a workshop production of <em>Julius Caesar</em>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>9:24 pm <strong>New Thunder Moon</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>10 am <strong>4th Annual Car Show &amp; Chicken BBQ</strong> at the Royalston Fish and Game Club Route 68. The chicken is served at 1:00 pm. There is a $5.00 per show car or bike entry fee. All vehicles and bikes welcome. Free admission for spectators. BBQ is $10.00. Grilled food and beverages will be available. Limited amount of BBQ tickets, so reserve early by calling the club at 978-249-3004 and leaving a message with your name and how many tickets you would like saved. Proceeds go to sending a child to Conservation Camp.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 19</td>
<td><strong>Cultural Council’s Musicfest</strong> in Bullock Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 24</td>
<td>6 p.m. <strong>Softball match against Ashburnham</strong> at the Royalston Fish and Game Club as part of the 250th celebrations. Rematch on Sunday July 26, 2015 at 2 p.m. at Oakmont Regional High School in Ashburnham. Practices are Wednesday nights at 6 pm at the Royalston Fish and Game Club. Call Rob for info: 978-895-5014.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>3 pm <strong>LBS family potluck and splash around</strong> at Packard Pond. Call Beth Gospodarek for information: 249-0358</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 31</td>
<td>6:43 am <strong>Full Thunder Moon</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td><strong>Historical Society Museum in School House #1</strong> is open the first and 3rd Saturdays in August. An exhibit of artifacts from past town anniversary celebrations is currently featured.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 3</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. <strong>Workshop at Town Hall for children and adults to create giant puppets, signs, bike decorations and banners</strong> for the 250th Anniversary celebration parade. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 7</td>
<td>7 pm <strong>Historical Society quarterly meeting</strong> in Old School House #1 in the downstairs museum. Pierre Humblett will make a short presentation on the history and future of the building. Refreshments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 9 - 13</td>
<td><strong>Persied Meteor Showers</strong> at their peak. (With the new moon August 14, conditions should be cooperatively dark for watching shooting stars.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 14</td>
<td>2:53 pm <strong>New Sturgeon Moon</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td><strong>Cat Nights of Summer?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td>7 pm <strong>All-town ice cream social at the library.</strong> Summer Reading Program prizes announced.</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 26</td>
<td><strong>Womens’ Equality Day</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 29</td>
<td>4:35 pm <strong>Full Sturgeon Moon</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>September 11 - 13</td>
<td><strong>Royalston’s 250th Celebration Weekend</strong>.</td>
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Select Board Notes
By Christine Long, chair
As you may know from recent news reports, the South Royalston Improvement Corp. is at a critical point. This private water system is under order from the state Department of Environmental Protection to come up with a plan to deal with what DEP deems is too much manganese in the water.

The “obvious” solution, the SRIC is told, is to install a green sand filter system to treat the water. Ballpark estimates for such a system are $1.5-2 million. Clearly, the 57 ratepayers in the SRIC cannot afford such a tab – but neither can the town.

While this problem is not the town’s direct responsibility, the town does care about the welfare of all its citizens. Thus, it has been in conversation with the SRIC to come up with an alternative.

In a joint letter to the DEP, the SRIC and the town have proposed digging 57 private wells, a solution that would cost far less, improve water quality, and disconnect the potable water system from the fire-suppression system.

Significant questions must be answered, including these: Will it work? How much altogether would it cost? Can the town contribute to easing the financial burden on the ratepayers? What are the legal implications of town involvement? How legally would SRIC be dissolved and its assets and liabilities handled? And how would this plan impact the two businesses in the South Village?

The SRIC and the town have not always seen eye to eye, but from a sense of both what is right and what is necessary, we are now exploring ways to work through these issues.

If the DEP is interested in exploring with us, the probable next step is to conduct an engineering, hydrological, legal and financial analysis of the plan. And there might (stress, might) be a grant that could pay for such a study.

Board of Health News
Phil Leger, chair
The Transfer Station will be closed for the July 4th holiday. Instead, it will be open July 3rd Friday from 8am-3pm. Mark your calendars. Similarly, the transfer station will open on Friday, September 11th from 8am-3pm but be closed for the 250th celebration on Saturday, September 12th. Please mark your calendars and smartphones and plan accordingly.

New signs indicating “NO DUMPSTER DIVING, PLEASE THIS MEANS YOU!” will soon be posted at the transfer station. This is for safety #1 and monetary #2. We have a very active reusable area for plenty of free stuff. Satisfaction guaranteed or double your stuff back!

We will be purchasing with MADEP recycling grant funds public space recycling containers for bottles and cans. These will be available for town events such as the Music Fest and the 250th celebration. We hope to capture these recyclables that would otherwise be trashed. Look for them at future events. If any group wants to use them in the future, contact Phil Leger RBOH.

We hope to have work completed on the compost area in time for the fall leaf season. All necessary filings with MADEP have been completed and sent in. Look for further updates. Have a safe and fun filled summer. RBOH and the staff at the recycling center.

Update: Launching Royalston’s High Speed Wireless Internet Network
Jon Hardie, Project Lead
With your help and support, over the next two years, the Town of Royalston will design, consult with experts to engineer, and own a town-wide high speed broadband internet network. Together, we will create a Municipal Light Plant Utility, like Leveret. Then an experienced ISP (Internet service provider) we hire, will build, support, and manage it with us. It will reach & serve residents everywhere in town.

This week, we took the first step, with our first two grant applications that total $50,000. Soon, we will actually start building and testing, our high speed wireless network, starting with the first phase, in the South Village, this August thru December. We’ll be connecting up to 50 initial customers, and up to 80 by this December, testing and tweaking the network, to make absolutely sure we get it right. You can complete the survey, and participate in the test, for free, for 30 days then you can sign up if you love it.

For us to do all of this detailed town-wide network design/engineering, we need to know where everyone is who wants to connect to the network, and what you have, what you need, and what you want. If you want high speed internet, we really need to hear from you!

If you want to try our high speed internet network in the South Village, you should sign up by calling or emailing Marsha Charest - soon. She’ll help you complete the survey and get on the list. Call or email mecharest@gmail.com or cell 508-735-4447.

By the time we complete this test in the South Village, we will have completed the design and engineering of the whole town hybrid network. Then, hundreds of town residents will have a chance to see the network show its stuff. We will submit the final grant application for the whole town network, to MBI, to begin to draw down the $630,000 being held in the town’s name. We will bring the remainder of the network cost – our share – to a special town meeting, and take out an MLP bond.

We expect to complete the first phase of our network and signup residents, all across Royalston, on our high speed broadband network by Dec 2016. That’s a year from this December. We can’t do it without you.
Happy 250th Anniversary Royalston!

Tentative Schedule for the Celebration
(watch for final schedule in next newsletter)

Friday evening September 11, 2015
5 pm  Craft show set up
5:30 - 7:00 p.m  Richard Chase and Company, guitar music
5:30- 7:00 pm  Art show opening, downstairs in town hall
(Art show stays open until 10 pm)
5:30 - 10 pm  petting zoo
6 - 7:30 pm  5k walk and race
6 - 7:30 pm  Magician Eddie Raymond
7:00  - 8:30 pm  Old-fashioned Town Pageant: includes skits written by students studying the town’s history, “the town chorus”, readings by the town poet laureates and more.
8:30 - 10:30 pm  Lux de Lux - dance party on the common

Saturday, September 12
6:30 am  Set up for crafts, tag sale, and food service
9 am - 6 pm  art show, craft show, tag sale
10 am  Guided tours of the common, every hour on the hour until 6 pm (except during the parade)
10 am - 7 pm  Face painting
10:30 am - 12:30 pm  music by Windfall
10:30 am - 12:30 pm  traditional games and old-fashioned ice cream making at the library
11 am - 1 pm  Magician Eddie Raymond
11:30 am - 1 pm  parade line up (North Fitzwilliam Rd.)
12 noon - 6 pm  (except during the parade) helicopter rides
1 - 3:30 pm  PARADE!
3:30 - 4 pm  awards
4:30 - 6:30 pm  Reprobate Blues Band, with Scotty Monette
7 - 9:15 pm  Melanie and the Blue Shots
9:15 - 10 pm  FIREWORKS!

Sunday, September 13
6:30 am  vendor set up
9 am  craft show, tag sale and art show open.
10:30 - 11:30 am  Ecumenical Church Service in the Congregational church
11:30 am - 3:30 pm  face painting
noon  agricultural judging of local garden crops at library
12:30 pm  local foods Sunday dinner, coordinated by the Ladies’ Benevolent Society, tickets benefit scholarship fund
12:30 - 2:30 pm  Magician Eddie Raymond
12:30 - 2:30 pm  Maples Jazz Band
3 - 5 pm  Legacy
*Food carts will be there on Friday and Saturday; look for pizza, Korean food from Sun Kim Bop and chili and corn bread from the Bohemian Kitchen

Clear the dates and gather your kin ...

The Big 250th Celebraloosa is September 11, 12, 13th.
Parade! Fireworks! Non-stop Entertainment!

Be in the Parade: The parade committee is still waiting on the few civic organizations and the other interested parties to commit to a float in the parade. Put your group’s (or family’s) talents together and put forth a masterful float that might generate a monetary prize (or at least a good trophy.) Please drop a letter of intent to 250th Celebration Committee, P.O. Box 29, Royalston, MA. 01368. You can pick your own theme. It just has to be appropriate for the event.

Seeking convertibles to offer rides to the parade dignitaries and our GRAND MARSHALS. We have six elderly residents that have been approached to lead the parade.

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. 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. Call Kristin West if you’d like to provide produce or cook a dish for 20 people out of mainly local ingredients for 20 people.

Performers needed: Those who signed up to be in the Royalston chorus, we 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 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 Town Pageant. Actors of all ages are needed. Interested? Call 249-0358. This project is supported by a grant from the Royalston Cultural Council and the Mass. Council for the Humanities.
Thank You to:

**Royalston Academy** for funding all the Summer Programs and for the funds to purchase an iPad and educational games for use in the library by children and young adults.

**Friends of the Library** for supporting and funding all the extra things, including great healthy refreshments for the Summer Programs and for support with all programming like the Royalston Shakespeare Company.

**Tyler Boyd** for more volunteer help in the library.

All those who donated and purchased plants at the plant sale and to **Maureen Blasco, Patti Stanko, and Sonja Vaccari** for running the plant sale.

**Valuing Our Children for funding extended summer hours** on Monday mornings during July and August; people attending the preschool summer programs and others will be able to use the library during those hours.

**Barbara Guiney Retires as Library Trustee**

Kathy Morris

After twenty-three years as a library trustee Barbara Guiney decided not to seek re-election this past April. Barbara has served as treasurer for the trustees for all those years and in that capacity has guided the library through good and bad financial times and has all the records of every cent spent during that time! In addition, she shared the responsibility for developing and implementing policies and procedures and overseeing the day-to-day operations of the library and staff. Her dedication, intelligence, fairness, and open-mindedness in dealing with sometimes thorny issues and her good cheer have made my tenure as director even more pleasant and easy. She has always been supportive of me and has let me know when she agrees and disagrees with decisions. And, of course, I will never forget my interview with her when I was seeking the librarian position. I will miss not having her around. She has been making the transition even easier for the new trustee and treasurer, Clarence Rabideau. For all of us, staff, trustees, friends, and the community, we want to say thank you Barbara for your commitment to the library.

**Recent Donations to the Friends**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Richard and Gertrude Corser</td>
<td>Gerald Plante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deb D’Amico and Tom Musco</td>
<td>Steve and Cindy Savoy</td>
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<td>Tom and Lynne Kellner</td>
<td>Leslie Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuck and Polly Longsworth</td>
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**Library Gets Access to eBooks!**

Thanks to the statewide implementation of the Massachusetts Library System eBook Initiative, you now have access to online content for adults and children: fiction, nonfiction, comics, graphic novels, and many exciting databases. One of these sites, BiblioBoard Library, is now available statewide via geolocation. That means you can view this resource anywhere in Massachusetts by going to: http://library.biblioboard.com. You don’t even need to log in unless you want to download material. Two other resources are also available, Baker & Taylor and EBL, but must first be accessed at the library before you can use them anywhere. Each will require your library card number and password. Both contain a huge selection of online content and EBL has databases on genealogy (such as the Ellis Island records), local histories and current histories of events in Massachusetts communities, art, and a plethora of other topics besides books. Each also has short tutorials and help pages if you run into problems using the sites. Stop by the library for help with setting up your accounts. The eBook project is made possible by the Massachusetts Library System in partnership with the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, and the Phinehas S. Newton Library, and funded in part by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. You can also link to the sites from the library website: www.royalstonlibrary.org.

**Students: Beat the Summer Slide at the Library**

Research shows that students of all ages who do not read over the summer show a decline in reading skills when they return to school in the fall. The good news is that reading at least 4 - 6 books in the summer can make a big difference. In addition, listening to books read aloud or as audio books is powerful for building vocabulary and reading fluency. So, let the library be a source of reading material, skills and fun this summer.

**Many Summer Programs! Ice Cream Social for All!**

As you can see we have lots going on this year for summer programs. This year we are also adding an incentive to read for young adults and adults. Each time you take out a book you can enter your name in a drawing for a gift certificate for two movie tickets and another for a dinner certificate for two. There are reading logs for younger people to fill out which will entitle them to be entered in all drawings for kids’ prizes. And to draw the winners we will have an ice cream social on Monday, August 17 at 7:00 p.m. Prizes include two tickets to the Big E, a gift from Yankee Candle, and Friendly’s Ice Cream coupons. To assist students, we have the Athol-Royalston School District summer reading books list for each grade, multiple copies of the Long Way Gone, the summer reading book for all students at Monty Tech, and are glad to research other school’s reading lists as needed.

**Art Exhibit:** Hear Ye! Year Ye! Looking for artists to exhibit one piece of his or her work during July and August. Several artists have volunteered. We want reading participants to see the diversity of styles and techniques and experience the talent that exists in town. There is still lots of space left, so please call the library or bring by one of your pieces of work to be displayed.
@ The Phinehas S. Newton Library

*Every Hero Has a Story! – For All Ages – Thursdays @ the Library*

**July 9th 1:30 p.m. – Giant Hula Hoops:** Kathy Morris will lead the group in making custom-sized giant decorated hula hoops which kids are invited to use in the 250th parade.

**July 16th 1:30 p.m. – Dyed Banners and Flags:** Beth Gospodarek will have everyone being creative in this flag and banner making workshop. You will be able to tie-dye, or use wax resist, to create a colorful flag or banner to wave in the 250th parade.

**July 23rd 1:30 p.m. – Heroes Ice Cream Party!** Come learn about ice cream and “Unmask” some creative flavors with our ice cream balls and old-fashioned ice cream maker and make a hero sandwich with the ice cream you make. Earn prizes by knowing answers to questions about Royalston.

**July 30th 2:00 p.m. – Ed the Wizard!** – Learn to be a Super Hero with Ed taking you through classes on Divination through Potions. Starting at 4 Privot Drive, experience the power of inspiration, how to improve your own reading skills, and learn how to become your own Super Hero. **This program starts at 2:00 p.m. and will be held at the Town Hall if it is raining.**

**Be a Super Hero! Preschool Programs – Mondays in July at 10:00a.m. @ the Library**

**July 6th – Painting Mania with A²:** Paint wooden toys with Alyssa and Allison Bergquist

**July 13th – Yoga with Loren Magruder:** Experience the pleasure of yoga and gain balance and coordination in the fun movement program.

**July 20th – Storytelling with Norah Dooley:** Children’s book author and storyteller extraordinaire will weave a web of fairytales to capture the imagination of all.

**July 27th – Unmask the Ice Cream!**: Rolling our ice cream makers around and around and cranking ice cream are only part of the fun on this last preschool summer program.

**Special Family Summer Program – Giant Puppet Workshop**

*On Monday, August 3rd at 1:30 p.m.* – Manuel and Mary King will led a giant puppet making workshop for children of all ages and adults at the Town Hall. Help create and then carry a storybook character in the 250th parade!

Every Hero has a Story! is sponsored by your local library, The Royalston Academy, the Friends of the Library, the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Local Arts Scene

CIRCUS STORIES
Gene Cauthen
An exhibition of cast linear bronze,
drawings and niche paintings

July 3 - 26, 2015
reception July 10, 5 - 8 pm

APE Gallery
126 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060
www.apearts.org
Gallery Hours: Tues - Sun. 12-5 pm, Fri. 12 - 8

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council
Pictured: “Rockaway” cast bronze, 2000

Recipe of the Month
Janet Bettey and her husband Rene have lived in town since 1995. Janet is a talented craftsperson and has led several holiday workshops for the Friends. You will often find her on the Tully Trail with Myah and Oliver (aka Q-tip) as she is an avid hiker. Janet is well known as the ‘lost person victim’ going out into the woods to aid in the training of dogs for MASK-9 in Royalston, the search and rescue canine organization headed up by Roland Hamel and Sherry Miner. This recipe is one of her favorites.

Kapusta
5 - 7 lbs of fresh kielbasas
1 large head of purple cabbage sliced
1 lb carrots thinly sliced
1 onion thinly sliced
1 apple thinly sliced
1 package or jar of Sauerkraut
1 package of instant Lipton chicken noodle soup
caraway seed (a minimum of 1 Tablespoon, add more based on preference)
1 can/bottle of favorite beer (optional, it but does enhance the flavor)
2 quarts of chicken stock (more if necessary to allow liquid to reach ½ way up ingredients)

Layer half of the veggies, apple, sauerkraut, dry soup mix & caraway in the bottom of a deep roasting pan. Place kielbasas links on top. Cover with remaining veggies etc...

Pour the beer and chicken stock over the top. Cover and bake at 325 for 3 - 4 hours. Enjoy!

250th Celebration Car Show Winners:
The Poker Run had a trip that consisted of a 67.8 mile ride through southern N.H. The winner of the best poker hand was Karen Powers, and the rider who was closet at guessing the distance, 66 miles, was George Vaccarri.

33 Registrants entered the car show and the following are the winners:

Best Air-Cooled: Brian Billow black 911 Targa Porsche
Best General Motors: Roland Hamel black 2011 Chevy Camaro SS
Best Ford: Jim Cornwall blue Ford Torino GT
Best Mopar: Charlie Ballow red 1939 Plymouth Coupe
Best Motorcycle: Jeffrey MacManus 1982 Honda Goldwing 1100 GL
Best Truck: Dana Blais 1963 Mack B81 Tow Truck
Best Tractor: Joseph Steim 1956 John Deere 80 Diesel
Oldest Tractor: Keith Newton 1947 John Deere G
Oldest Vehicle: Michael Lackey 1931 Ford Coupe

PEOPLES CHOICE awards:
Automobile: Peter Gedenberg white Ford Ranchero 20 votes
Motorcycle: Jeffrey MacManus Honda Goldwing 30 votes
Truck: Dana Blais Mack Truck 30 votes
Tractor: Joseph Steim 1956 John Deere 25 votes

The Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton Library present:
The Royalston Shakespeare Company
Royalston's decade-old, free-of-charge, all around impressive theater workshop for kids

Julius Caesar
Thursday, July 9
7 pm
Royalston Town Hall
(free but donations appreciated)

Melanie and the Blue Shots Summer Tour
Aug 10th Gardner Ale House

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**CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD NEWS**

Got something to crow about? Send all the news along to the RCN. Zap to chasesgos2@gmail.com or drop at the library.

Congratulations and good news

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.

Ladies Benevolent Society Scholarships Announced:

Katelyn Robinson - Maxine E. Wilcox Scholarship
Tanner Favreau - Eldora Bowers Scholarship
Tobey Rose Chase - H. Pauline Smith Scholarship

THE HALL FAMILY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE ENGAGEMENT OF
\textit{Chet Hall IV to Emily Durette} of Townsend Mass. Chet is the son of the late Chet Hall and Sheila Hall of Royalston. Emily is the daughter of Dennis Durette of Lowell and Linda Durette of Townsend, Mass. Chet is employed by the town of Amherst as Assistant Land Manager for the Conservation Department, and Emily works as a Speech Language Pathologist Assistant in the North Middlesex Regional School District. They are both 2013 graduates of UMass Amherst. The happy couple plan to wed June 11th of 2016.

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**Athol High School graduates:**

Katelyn Robinson, Tiffany Lusco, Tanner Favreau, Beau Guimond, and Robert Javier

\textbf{Fitchburg State Graduates:} Dylan Bates and Kevin Killay

\textbf{Monty Tech:} Emily A. Mangum, Ryan R. Sawyer and Sophia J. Zeena

Emily Alice Mangum, daughter of Jeffrey and Melanie Mangum of Royalston, graduated from Montachusett Vocational Regional Technical School on May 27, 2015. Emily and her family have lived in Royalston since 1999. Emily attended the Village School, Royalston Community School and Athol-Royalston Middle School before attending Monty Tech. Emily also spent a few summers in productions of the Royalston Shakespeare Company. A trip last year to London only augmented her lifetime fierce love for all things British, and she hopes to study abroad in London or another international city to slake her thirst for travel and longing for a metropolitan lifestyle. In the meantime, she will be attending Bridgewater State University in the fall.

\textbf{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.

Closed July 2-5, 2015

978-249-9845 ~ Gift Certificates Available ~ 978-249-8375

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**Royalston General Store**

\textbf{Mon** - Wed 7am-7pm, Thur & Fri 7am - 8pm}
\textbf{Sat 8am -8pm, Sun 9am - 6pm}

\textbf{Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials}

\textbf{Full Breakfast}

978-249-9798

Subs • Pizza • Pasta • Beer • Wine

Liquor • Lottery • Groceries • Hardware

\textbf{Eat In or Take Out}
Community School News

ed note: Many thanks to 6th-grade students Aliyah Neale and Akash Darjee, who volunteered their talents to keep our town apprised of events at RCS by writing for the newsletter this past year. These correspondents were responsible, sincere and spoke in a unique voice to the greater community. We look forward to hearing from Adam Rogers in the next school year.

Year-end events at RCS were both impressive and fun!
Lots happened in June. The 5th graders dressed up like historical figures and created a human wax museum. If a passerby dropped a dime in the cup, they came to life and recited long biographical passages they had written. There were also many field trips, the 6th grade step up ceremony, and the all-school concert featuring songs from the 80’s. Field day, which brought in a bouncy house, was energetic fun. June has been a time to show off learning at RCS.

RCS Kindergartners successfully completed their year with Mrs. Jessica Willhite. They enjoyed a year-end celebration at which they recognized the people in their lives who “fill their buckets” with all good things. They demonstrated some of their advancements with recitations and songs, even signing the three songs they performed.

Cultural Council News
Thanks to all who made our recent Follies the best show ever! All the skits and musical acts were superb and we are still laughing! We have three years now to think about what we will do for the next follies.

Our next event, which many say is our best effort, is the MusicFest, scheduled for Sunday, July 19th from noon to five pm at Bullock Field (behind post office). The headliner band, performing at 4 pm, is Mission of Blues, with frontman and former Royalstonite Scott Bronnes. The other acts include Joanna Katzen, Linq, Phil Rabinowitz, Definitely Maybe, Obsession on Elm Street, and Side Street Blues Band.

The Fire Department will be selling hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks, etc., the 250th Committee will provide ice cream, and the Cultural Council will serve watermelon and pound cake. There will be face painting, children’s games, and the return of world famous fortuneteller Madame Blaguse. The Ladies Benevolent Society will be raffling off two baskets, one designed for adults and one for kids. There will be several canopies set up around the field and you are free to set up your own. Don’t forget your chairs. This is a FREE event, and in case of rain will be moved to the Town Hall. Any non-profit group is invited to set up its own table. For more information please call Deb Nunes at 978-249-4000.

The Cultural Council has commissioned through a Mass Lottery Grant a play for our 250th celebration. Norah Dooley is the director and the play will be presented the evening of September 11th. It will include both children and adults, so if you are interested in participating please contact Carla Rabinowitz at carla.rabinowitz@gmail.com

Village School News

Rise Richardson, director
Thank you to everyone who participated in Saturday Morning on Royalston Common on May 30th. It was a glorious day that also contributed significantly to the project for the new Village School building at Camp Caravan.

Openings in the Village School for Fall 2015
There are openings in preschool, kindergarten and 1st-5th grades. Call the school at 249-3505 for more information and to start the application process. Find out about financial aid too.

School starts…..
Preschool and K-1 Orientation is Tuesday, Sept. 8th, and the first day of school is Wednesday Sept. 9th.

Summer Programs for Children at the Village School
Go to www.villageschoolma.org to get the PDF brochure of the July Summer Programs for children ages 8 to 14. Programs are: July 13-17, The Science and Art Experience and July 20-24, Woodworking for Kids. Discounts are given to Royalston families, courtesy of Royalston Academy. Brochures are at the post office and the library.

Instrumental Music Lessons 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 to schedule lessons, email jocelyn.langer@gmail.com

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

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Monty Tech News

Monty Tech welcomes yet another Royalston resident to its staff: Ivan Cardona, who recently moved to the former John and Pat Poor residence on North Fitzwilliam Road! Ivan joins the second shift maintenance staff – the dedicated and hard-working people who have so beautifully maintained the 40-year-old building, it looks even better now than it did when it first opened! He is picking up where Tom Verolini left off… The River Road resident recently retired after more than 30 years at the school, ending his career as evening supervisor. Thank you, again, to Tom and welcome to Ivan!

An unusual event the evening of the annual General Advisory Committee meeting: the July School Committee meeting, which also happened to be the night of the Superintendent-Director’s review’ was interrupted by the rupture of a major gas line on Route 2A in front of Monty Tech. It caused a complete evacuation of the building, with all occupants walking to South Ashburnham Road and waiting approximately two hours for the 4” main to be shut down and for the cloud of gas to dissipate. The Superintendent-Director Review was rescheduled to June 24.

Incoming 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are invited to attend one of several summer camps (full day – 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.) offered at Monty Tech. Drama, Graphics and Cosmetology are offered July 6-10; Art, Culinary and House Carpentry are July 13-17. Cost is $200/week and includes a camp t-shirt, all program materials, daily lunch, free Friday breakfast buffet and field trip. Scholarships are available. Limited openings; Contact Kim Curry, Dean of Admissions at 978-345-9200 x5231 to see what’s available.

The Monty Tech Foundation’s annual fundraising gold tournament – 21st annual – is Monday, August 31 with a “shotgun start” at 1 p.m., cocktails and dinner immediately following. Proceeds go to student scholarships and grants; $34,000 was awarded to 2015 graduates and another $6,000 to 2015 graduates of the evening Practical Nursing program. For more information, call 978-345-9200 x5253.

Historical Society News

Peter Kraniaik, President

May 24th was an enjoyable day for those people who were able to obtain seats for the second annual Jazz Brunch in honor of Gerry Chiasson. Close to 40 people attended the event and enjoyed the music and food that was prepared by a group of dedicated people. Thanks to all the volunteers and to Patience Bundshuh for the use of her ballroom. Mark your calendars for 2016! The Third annual Jazz Brunch will take place on Sunday, May 22nd at noon. This, as you can see, is an annual event.

The quarterly meeting of the Society which was scheduled for July 17th will take place on August 7th at 7PM in the Society building. Do have protection against the mosquitoes. Pierre Humblet would like to give us some info on the building. I wish to thank him for his efforts in writing the grant for the next round of money from the state. Our grant has been accepted for consideration along with 31 others and the announcement will be made in July as to whether we received the $35,000 asked for. A thank you to all who have given to our restoration fund so far but we could still use assistance and we will be asking for that help in the next few weeks.

I would ask you to see if you can help in obtaining a few mannequins to display some of the dresses we have. The only thing, they need to have small waists as the dresses are early ones.

Go to www.royalstonhistorical.org or the society’s Facebook page for more information.

Anniversaries come around quickly. Interested in organizing the next one? The core members of this year’s celebration will likely be doddering or mouldering come the 2030 celebration. If you think you’d like to be an organizer in the future, learn from the present. Contact Geoff Newton to learn from the master.
And then there was rain (4.2” in the last two weeks). The grass rejoiced. The occupants of the garden rejoiced. And, most of all, the gardener rejoiced. I have been scrambling to catch up, seeding and transplanting, which, in more agreeable times, ought to have been seeded and transplanted in May. Potato beetles, my most noxious pest (some consider me their most noxious pest) have arrived and I have commenced the one and half hour weekly regimen of inspecting the four hundred fifty potato plants in a search-and-destroy mission. Currently, it is egg clusters that are searched-for and destroyed; eventually I must deal with the larva hatched out from missed eggs, an even less enviable task. It’s killing, of course. Some vegetarians are remarkably blind to the fact that sanctity of life is compromised in any number of ways in the course of growing and delivering vegetables for their table. There are many insects beyond potato beetles to deal with. Crop-devouring varmints abound. It doesn’t stop there. Consider the plight of ground-nesting birds and small mammals during field preparation. Or those animals foolish enough to attempt a road-crossing while a truck, transporting product to market, flattens them.

The ups and downs of gardening. The crown prince of downs continues to be the porcupine. The corn, beans, and brassicas have been enclosed within electrified fence, whose efficacy has yet to be determined. The spinach, what’s left of it, was not, and there are a legion of porcupines sporting Popeye-like torsos wandering about the garden. And, way up among the ups, strawberries. The saga of the strawberries has come to fruition (literally) and, after an innumerable number of strawberry-less years, a bowl graces our table on a daily basis. The only certainty in the world of gardening is uncertainty. But that is part of its appeal to me.

On to…my first annual seed planting primer. Extracting a seed from a packet, setting it in the ground, covering it with soil is gardening at its most fundamental. It was just such an undertaking ten thousand or so years ago (after a couple of million years of hunting-gathering) that touched off civilization as we know it. Some of us, observing the current state of ‘civilization,’ wonder if it was such a good idea. Anyway, I digress. Again. Seed sizes vary dramatically. The largest vegetable seed I plant is the scarlet runner bean (300,000 to a pound). Flower seed can be a good deal smaller. Poppies, for instance, (are you ready for this?) weigh in at 3,136,000 to a pound. The smallest is the carrot (which averages 300,000 per pound). The saga of the strawberries has come to fruition (literally) and, after an innumerable number of strawberry-less years, a bowl graces our table on a daily basis. The only certainty in the world of gardening is uncertainty. But that is part of its appeal to me.

Classifieds

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

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. Breed your mare to your stallion of choice. Visitors welcome. 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 brguiney@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.

Justice of the Peace and Notary Public, Mariah Mallet 249-9410. Looking for someone to do yard work. 978-249-4013

Saddle horses for sale, on-farm lease or lease/purchase option when you decide! Some tack available. Companion mare available. Call Suzanne at Black Horse Farm (978) 249-9880 or cell: (413) 356-1263.

Squire Davis Farm honey available sometime around the end of July. One and two pound jars will be for sale, so call Deb at 978-249-4000.

For sale:

4 Icelandic lambs: 1 wether, 1 ram, 2 ewes. Also, looking for a cheap stock trailer-happy to share, rent, barter, or buy. New pastures await my hungry sheep! Call/text Chris Dawson @ 978.895.1699

Royalston-raised Pork Sausage: $4.00 per pound. Packaged in 1 lb. packages.

Breakfast, Hot and Sweet Italian available. Please call Chet 978-249-2183

Squire Davis Farm honey available sometime around the end of July. One and two pound jars will be for sale, so call at 978-249-4000.

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

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 pints $10, quarts $17, half gallons $30 and gallons $52. Call John 978 895 5109

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


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**Wildlife Sightings**

One dark and stormy night, Alissa Allen heard a crashing and a plaintive lowing in the swamp on Norcross Road. Investigation with a flashlight found small **moose** tracks in the mud entering and leaving the pond.

Jon Hardie had a **dappled fawn** and a worried doe (a deer) in his N. Fitzwilliam Rd. yard. Aww.

Early one rose-scented June morning, Beth Gospodarek was cheered to spot a **Cedar Waxwing** handsomely posing in a crab apple tree. On approaching, a whole flock of Cedar Waxwings burst up from her garden. They had been breakfasting on the just ripe strawberries.

*photo: Alissa Allen*

The first weekend in June, dozens of **turtle nests** pocked the sandy approach where the Stockwell Rd bridge used to cross Lawrence Brook. Many nests had been plundered by raccoons or skunks, but many remained intact.

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

Royalston Resident
Star Route 80
Royalston MA 01368

Eldy Taylor of Warwick Road has been visited by this female bear and her cubs many times this spring. For several years, this sow has been stopping by this yard. Usually she has three cubs but this year there are four.

**Looking for the new books lists?** For a complete list of new materials please visit www.royalstonlibrary.org. You will also find links to academic databases, old newsletters, many photos, upcoming library events, and much more.

**Agricultural Commission News**

Your Agriculture Commission is working to educate all of us about farming and farm products in the Town of Royalston. The Commission wants to put together a list of all agricultural business in the Town. This would be published as part of a brochure about agricultural pursuits in Royalston. The purpose is to let the community know what is produced and available here. **Please email us the name of your farm, the address and list the products you produce and what you have available for sale.** Email to Kate Collins, katecollins64@gmail.com, or Brenda Putney, brenput@yahoo.com. We are also talking about the possibility of a **small farmer’s market** and a dinner featuring food grown in Town. If you have some ideas for the Commission please contact any member.

Tom LeRay Chair, Brenda Putney, Keith Newton, Kate Collins, and Randy Divoll