Calendar of Events

October 3 Saturday
10 am Guided hike up Tully Mountain with Carl Kamp. Sponsored by Mt. Grace Land Trust and the Open Space and Recreation Committee.

October 4 Sunday
1 – 4:30 p.m. Village School’s Caravan Campus Open House

October 5 Monday Child Health Day
3:30 p.m. RCS PTG meets RCS cafeteria
4 p.m. Friends of the Library Meeting. All welcome

October 9 Friday
1 p.m. Village School’s Annual Jacob’s Hill Hike alumni welcome

October 10 Saturday
10 a.m. Hike through the flaming foliage and practice map and compass work with Paul Montero in a guided hike on the former M and M trail. Meet at Newton Cemetery on Rt. 32.

October 12 Monday Columbus Day
8:06 p.m. New Hunter’s Moon

October 14 Wednesday
10 a.m. Flu Vaccination Clinic at the Town Hall. The clinic, sponsored by the Royalston Council on Aging, is free of charge and is for Royalston residents who are 18 years of age or older. Walk-ins are welcome. The vaccination is free. Health insurance is not required. If you have insurance, please bring your card.

October 15 Thursday

October 16 Friday
7 p.m. Historical Society Meeting at the home of president, Peter Kranick on the corner of Stone and Winchendon Roads. Program by Pierre Humblet on the Rev. Lee home. Optional pot luck supper at 6:30 pm. Fabulous desserts.

October 17 Saturday
8 a.m. Tully Lake Triathalon. Visit www.thetrustees.org for more information.

October 19 Monday
4:30 pm Library book group meets to discuss Moby Dick. All welcome. Call us all Ishmael.

October 23 Friday
6-7:30 p.m. RCS Halloween Dance

October 24 Saturday
United Nations Day
10 a.m.–noon. Village School Open House
7 p.m. Athol Royalston Education Foundation’s Oktoberfest. Good food, good fun and good cause. Benefits the local public schools.

October 27 Tuesday
7 p.m. Meeting to discuss future town-wide gatherings and celebrations at town hall. Bring ideas.

October 28 Wednesday
7:30 pm LBS meeting. Plan for drive by pie. Program: Climbing high for therapy with Joann Deacon. All welcome.

October 30 Friday
7 p.m. Paranormal investigator and author, Joni Mayhan, at the library discusses her book, Bones in the Basement: Surviving the S.K. Pierce Haunted Victorian Mansion, which is in Gardner.

October 31 Saturday
TBA Halloween Party for Children
5 – 8 p.m. Trick-or-Treating

Thanks for the Memories
Marlene Jarvenpaa, Carol Rogers, Maureen Blasco, the 250th committee, the selectboard and all who enjoyed the 250th weekend

The Royalston 250th Celebration committee spent 5 years planning and raising money for the recent culminating events. The dozens of fundraising activities were community-building celebrations in themselves.

Throughout it all, Geoff Newton was a driving force. His love of Royalston and his memories of past celebrations were evident in his determination to have a great 250th celebration. Geoff spent endless hours making sure the group was on target to raise sufficient funds to do it all - parade and pageant, food and fireworks, helicopters and historic tours, art and animals, music and mechanical bulls!

So many citizens in town organizations such as the Select Board, Cultural Council, Royalston Community School, the Historical Society, the Ladies B, the Fish and Game, the store, the lay people, and the Library went the extra mile for our town. The police and firefighters, emergency managers, board of health and the 250th committee members stepped up and made sure everything got done. Geoff coordinated it all. Geoff, you did a great job.
Select Board Notes:
Linda Alger
The summer has been busy and incredibly exciting. The 250th Celebration weekend was a huge success and received rave reviews and a good time was had by all. The Board would like to commend Geoffrey Newton and the 250th Committee for a job well done. Words are not enough to express our gratitude for the fundraising and implementation of such a stellar event. We have heard that the event was so much fun that town’s folk would like to do an annual event, not to the same scale but a way to get together for some fun and fellowship. No one wants to wait 25 years !!!! The Board would like to explore this further and is scheduling a meeting on October 27th at 7pm in the Town Hall. Please attend and offer your suggestions.

The wireless internet pilot project is being installed in the south village. The hope is that within 2 years every home in Royalston will be within easy reach of fast and consistent internet service. We have applied for grant funding through Mass Works for reclaimation of Winchendon Road. We have applied for grant funding in the past and those grants have been rejected. You can help by sending letters of support for the project to the Board of Selectmen, and we will include them in our pursuit of funding.

We have applied for grant funding through Mass Works for reclamtion of Winchendon Road. We have applied for grant funding in the past and those grants have been rejected. You can help by sending letters of support for the project to the Board of Selectmen, and we will include them in our pursuit of funding.

School is back in session. Please be conscientious especially in the early morning hours when students are waiting for their buses. Additionally, if you have some spare time and would like to volunteer at the school(s), call and inquire.

Enjoy the fall foliage. Royalston is particularly beautiful this time of year. Celebrate the 250th, Celebrate Nature!

Celebrate the 250th, Celebrate Nature!
As part of the town’s 250th celebration, the Royalston Open Space and Recreation Committee and the Athol Bird and Nature Club are co-sponsoring Saturday walks this fall to five outdoor gems, each from 10 a.m. to noon.

To the top of Mount Tully along part of the Tully Trail on October 3, led by Carl Kamp, past president of the Massachusetts Butterfly Club and an avid naturalist and photographer. Meet at the Tully Lake Campground parking lot on Doane Hill Rd. (This walk goes to 1 p.m.)

To a section of the New England Trail (formerly called the M&M Trail) on October 10, led by Paul Montero, Royalston’s representative to the NET. A professional land surveyor, Montero will also demonstrate compass use. Meet at the Royalston Falls trailhead on Rte. 32 (Newton Cemetery).

All the walks are weather permitting. If in doubt, call Paul Montero at 978-249-5879 by 9 a.m. on any walk morning.

Tully Triathlon on October 17
Interested racers or volunteers can find more information at www.thetrustees.org. It should be noted to the general public that Doane Hill Road will be closed to through traffic between 8:00 am and 3:30 pm because of the event.

Board of Health News
Phil Leger, chair
Well, it certainly was a fun-filled weekend. We all should be proud of the little town that could.

On that note, the 250th trash and recycling committee reports that all went mostly as planned. Marie Humblet and Phil Leger sat down and had several planning meetings. The RBOH transfer station was used as final disposal site for trash and recycling. Phil’s truck was staged at Marie’s house as a mobile dumpster. Randy Moore donated an all-electric cart with a truck bed. Tony Argiro and Phil put out all the barrels in the rain on Thursday evening. Marie and her husband Pierre put the bags in the barrels and policed the fields and the site at the beginning of the day. Phil and Jim Taylor were on t/r patrol on Saturday. Chettie Hall and Emily Durette took the Sunday patrol and brought all the barrels back to the transfer station. It was a group effort. We were able to keep up with the flow. We diverted for recycling all the cardboard and roughly 10-55 gallon bags of bottles and cans. The recycling barrels which we now own and will be available for future town events were purchased with Municipal Recycling Incentive Points funding from MADEP. The trash barrels, although an odd bunch were barrels collected over the years at the transfer station. As, Gen. Eisenhower once stated, “It’s the planning not the plan”. Good job to the t/r team!

A reminder that there will be a haz/mat collection October 3rd at the Orange Recycling Center. You need to pre-register however at www.franklincountysolidwastedistrict.org or call 413-772-3786.

Space is limited, so first come first served.

West Nile positive mosquitoes and humans have been reported in Mass., so use personal protection when going out, especially dusk to dawn. We don’t want frost yet, at least my tomatoes don’t, so enjoy the waning bug friendly weather and be aware.

And lastly, don’t forget to get your flu shot. It’s the season.

Great Parade, Great Fireworks, Great Trash and Great Recycling Management!

Marie Humblet, 250th Committee

“Phil Leger was not even supposed to be part of this effort: I had gotten in touch with him to simply ask how many trash barrels he could lend me and who else in town had some more of them. To my great surprise, he offered to partner with me and promised to find money to cover the cost. What followed was a wonderful cooperation where I benefitted from Phil’s experience, his organizational skills and his habit of prompt and clear communication. Last Saturday, Phil did not stop his rounds. At the scheduled daily 8 am walk of the Common to pick up any stray trash, there was no stray trash. So cheers to a job well done and for one more part of the 250th celebration weekend making us “Royalston Proud.””

Here are the people who, with energy and good humor, helped out: Chettie Hall and Emily for taking over from Phil on Sunday. Jim Taylor for doing so on Saturday while Phil was playing music. Tony Argiro for putting the trash barrels out on the Common on Thursday night. Randy Moore for graciously lending us an electric cart. RBOH for the trash and recycling disposal. Catherine Humblet for sharing her experience on the board of The Council for Responsible Sport and for helping me draw the first draft of this plan.
The Royalston Broadband Project
Jon Hardie
The Mass. Broadband Initiative not only supports regional ‘Fiber to the Premise’ (FTTP) broadband solutions to connect homes and businesses in Western Mass, but is also assisting towns that are building out their own solutions to address ‘last mile’ broadband connectivity. The MBI recently awarded a $45,000 grant to the town of Royalston for a wireless pilot project in the South Village neighborhood. South Royalston was chosen for the pilot as it contains the highest population density in the town, marginal phone and cell service, and limited public safety communications access. Currently satellite, hotspots, and dial-up connectivity are the only available options for Internet. This section of town has often been left behind with past technology initiatives.

Over the next 6 months, Royalston expects the pilot to become a permanent capital investment for a future town-wide hybrid Last Mile network, which would utilize both fiber-optic and wireless connections. This initial effort will help test the advanced wireless technology, providing both qualitative and quantitative service feedback. Input from users in the town will allow the necessary technical adjustments to be made before the launch of the town-wide network. Wireless access points for the pilot network have been installed at two locations in South Royalston. The bandwidth of each access point will be sufficient to provide coverage across the area and signals sufficient to meet the emerging 25/3 megabits per second standard for broadband connectivity, which will allow for ubiquitous high-speed Internet service to locations within the defined test footprint.

As proposed, the pilot network has the technical capacity to serve 80 premises in South Royalston Village, however, the town has targeted a smaller sampling of 50-60 unserved residential dwellings to ensure that pilot customers can be successfully managed as service data is collected, real-time system performance is evaluated, and modifications are made to equipment to enhance performance. The sample group will be determined by which premises within the test footprint are first to subscribe. Jon Hardie, Project Lead Royalston Hybrid Fiber/Wireless Broadband Network Project, provided a recent update on the project:
“Royalston’s initial wireless network goal is to deliver 25 Mbps Down/5 Mbps Up. Today (August 26, 2015) we tested our [PtP] wireless network connection between our two access points with two low power point to point wireless antennas ... Our 25/5 is 450 times faster than dialup, and almost 20 times faster than DSL.”

The committee believes that this is a highly transferable model that other unserved towns in Western Massachusetts could potentially replicate as a Last Mile solution. Leaders in Royalston have indicated that the project could serve as a technical case study for towns not involved in the regional FTTP (Fiber to the Premises) efforts led by WiredWest or other fiber-only projects, but which are looking at alternative solutions. Royalston has also offered to be a resource and is willing to share information, knowledge, and documentation. The MBI looks forward to the successful results of this pilot.

The proposed town-wide hybrid network is expected to have the capacity to provide broadband quality service to all 603 verified premises in the town of Royalston. For questions about the Royalston pilot or to get updates on its progress, contact Jon Hardie, Project Lead, Royalston Hybrid Fiber/Wireless Broadband Network Project, at Jon.Hardie@Royalston-ma.gov.
Phinehas S. Newton Library News
Kathy Morris, Library Director
Trustees: Polly Longsworth, Lisa Freden, Clarence Rabideau
Mondays: 10:00 am - 8:30 pm. Thursdays 1:00pm - 5:00pm and 6:30 - 8:30pm
Saturdays: 9:00 am - 12 noon
978-249-3572  www.royalstonlibrary.org

Thank You to:
Beth Gospodarek and Patti Stanko for running the games for the 250th anniversary celebration. (Sorry about when the pull for peace (aka tug of war) turned into a pull to pieces and the rope snapped!)
Patti Stanko and Barb Richardson for being there to collect all the entries for the agricultural fair.
Thanks to Nora Weaver and Julie Lake for help with judging the agricultural entries.

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 month’s selection is available to be checked out. The next book chat is October 19 when the group will be tackling the theme of obsession, the content of blubber hunting, and the development of character as it plunges into Moby Dick. All welcome, even if you have not read this book, (ed note: and speaking as an English major, i know well it is possible to discuss this tome by only spot reading...)

Upcoming Program
Ghosts in the Attic?
On Friday, October 30, at the library, paranormal investigator and author, Joni Mayhan, will give a presentation on her work and her books. Her book, Bones in the Basement: Surviving the S.K. Pierce Haunted Victorian Mansion, relates the story of her and other paranormal investigators experiences in the Gardner mansion where the hauntings forced the owners to vacate the premises. Mayhan is the author of twelve books including the best-selling The Soul Catcher. Refreshments will be served and the author will have copies of her books for sale. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Yoga is Back and Zumba is Right Behind
pending approval for town hall use
Beginning October 6, yoga will be held on Tuesday mornings through December. It will break for the cold months and return March - May. Zumba with Christine Rouleau will run on Thursdays from 6 - 7 pm starting on November 5th and continuing until April.

MassCat Log in Reminder
If you want to log in to your MassCat account or download ebooks, all log in names are now your library card number. So if you haven’t been able to get into your account using your regular login that is the reason. Can’t find your card and don’t remember your card number, give us a call at the library or email us and we will let you know your 14 digit number. The resources available through the Commonwealth eBook Collection are extensive and diverse; check them out!

Agricultural Fair Winners
As part of the 250th celebration, the Friends of the Library sponsored an agricultural fair to judge the produce and condiments grown in Royalston. Judges for the event were Julie Lake from Market Basket, Nora Weaver from the Farm School, and Kathy Morris from the library. All three judges agreed on each winning entry. The winners were: Pumpkin – Chet Hall; Watermelon – Tom Montagna; Garlic – Maureen Blasco; Shallots – Ted Neale; Onions – Maureen Blasco; Cabbage – Kate Collins; Tomatoes – Tom Montagna; Peppers – Beth Gospodarek; Potatoes – Kate Collins; Legumes – Tracy Wright; Flower Arrangement – Donna Caise; Jams and Jellies – Beth Gospodarek; and Pickled Vegetables – Dawn Stein. Three special awards were also given: Garden to Table - Allen Young; Unity Tomato – Chet Hall; and Potato with Personality – Ted Neale. Start planning your garden for next year’s fair to be held at the Local Foods Supper.
Some of the New Materials at Your Library

**Adult fiction**
- Brown, Sandra: Friction
- Child, Lee: Make Me
- Clegg, Bill: Did You Ever Have a Family?
- Cline, Ernest: Armada
- Coleman, Reed: Robert Parker’s The Devil Wins
- Coulter, Catherine: The End Game
- Egan, Elisabeth: A Window Opens
- Franzen, Jonathan: Purity
- Gerritsen, Tess: Never Say Die
- Grafton, Sue: X
- Gregory, Philippa: The Taming of the Queen
- Jackson, Shirley: Let Me Tell You
- Jong, Erica: Fear of Dying
- Lackberg, Camilla: The Drowning
- Lagercrantz, David: The Girl in the Spider’s Web
- McLain, Paula: Circling the Sun
- Moulin, Jules: Ally Hughes has Sex Sometimes
- Patterson, James: Alert
- Penny, Louise: The Nature of the Beast
- Rankin, Ian: The Beat Goes On
- Rash, Ron: Above the Waterfall
- Robb, J.D.: Devoted in Death
- Rushdie, Salman: Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Days
- St. Aubyn, Edward: A Clue to the Exit
- Thor, Brad: Code of Conduct
- Weiner, Jennifer: Who do you Love

**Adult nonfiction**
- Bowers, Alan: Bay Circuit Trail Map 7 Guide
- Calabrese, Salvatore: Complete Home Bartender’s Guide
- Clinton, Chelsea: It’s Your World
- Collister, Linda: Holiday Cookies and Other Festive Treats
- De Laurentiis, Giada: Everyday Pasta
- Pizant, Barry: Uniquely Human

**Audiobooks**
- Child, Lee: Make Me
- Goldberg, Tod: Gangsterland
- McCullough, David: The Wright Brothers
- Packer, Ann: The Children’s Crusade

**Young Adult Audiobooks**
- Farish, Terry: The Good Braider
- Gibbs, Stuart: Evil Spy School
- Scieszka, Jon: Frank Einstein and the Electro-Finger

**Art Exhibit:**
The diverse collection of paintings, drawings, and prints in a variety of media created by Molly Divoll are on exhibit through the month of October. All are invited to view the work of this talented young woman.

**Young Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction**
- Bray, Libba: Air of Dreams
- Dragt, Tonke: The Letter for the King
- Gantos, Jack: The Trouble in Me
- Pratchett, Terry: The Shepard’s Crown
- Selznick, Brian: The Marvels

**Children’s Fiction**
- Are You What You Eat?
- Barnett, Mac: Leo
- Bass, Jennifer: Edible Numbers
- Beaumont, Karen: Crybaby
- Brown, Marc: Monkey
- Cooper, Elisha: 8
- David, Eric: The Polar Bear Piper
- Dean, James: Five Little Pumpkins
- Dewdney, Anna: Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa
- DiCamillo, Kate: Francine Poulet meets the Ghost Raccoon
- Ed the Wizard: Magic for Heroes
- Fergus, Maureen: Buddy and Earl
- Goodrich, Carter: We Forgot Brock!
- Henkes, Kevin: Waiting
- John, Jory: I will Chomp You!
- Kann, Victoria: Pinkalicious and the Pink Parakeet
- MacHale, D.J.: Project Alpha
- McDonald, Megan: The Wishbone Wish
- Medina, Meg: Mango, Abuela, and Me
- Moore, Julianne: Freckleface Strawberry
- Osborne, Mary: Civil War on Sunday
- Pilkey, Dav: Captain Underpants: Saga of Sir Stinks-A-Lot
- Ransom, Candice: Pumpkin Day
- Rylant, Cynthia: Mr. Putter & Tabby Smell the Roses
- Seuss: I am not Going to get up Today
- Seuss: I can Read with my Eyes Shut
- Worth, Bonnie: Oh Say Can You Say Di-no-saur?

**Children’s Non-Fiction**
- Greenberg, Jan: Vincent Van Gogh
- Hatke, Ben: Little Robot
- Holm, Jennifer: Sunny Side Up
- Richards, Jon: Record-breaking Animals
- Richards, Jon: Record-breaking Earth & Space Facts
- Stewart, Melissa: Hurricane Watch
- Thompson, Craig: Space Dumplins

**DVDs:**
- The Blacklist Season 2, Descendants, Elementary Season 3, Far From the Madding Crowd, The Good Wife Season 6, Home, Homeland Season 4, Hot Pursuit, Insurgent, Nashville Season 3, Once Upon A Time Season 4, and Scandal Season 4

**CDs:**
- Allman Brothers: Brothers and Sisters
- Disney: Descendants Soundtrack
- Luke Bryan: Kill the Lights
Community School News
Adam Rogers, 6th grade correspondent
Hey, how’s it going? I’m here to speak about RCS. Kindergarten has been working on the letters T, B and F. They are taking care of caterpillars, soon to be butterflies. First grade is doing Readers’ Workshop and playing with dough to form it into letters. Second grade has been working on science in gardens and having lots of fun. Third is focused on multiplication. Every day there is a new game on the rug. Fourth graders wrote newspaper articles about themselves and now are working on rounding and math suffixes in reading. Throwbacks, they are working very hard on cursive writing too. In 5th, they have been reading a book called Loser (about a boy that everyone thinks is a loser) and working to master decimals. The 6th grade is immersed in ratios and grids. It also does nature walks in the woods with kindergarten buddies. I’ll check in next month, Bye.

RCS PTG
Next Meeting: Monday, October 5, at 3:30; RCS cafeteria
Royalston’s Parent-Teacher Group has hit the ground running for the 2015-16 school year! Some helpful information: There is a dedicated phone “message box” for PTG… Dial 978-249-2900. When indicated, press PTG extension #109 to leave a message. Notices coming from PTG will be on pink paper for ease of recognition. Information on the PTG may also be found at the District website, www.arrsd.org, first linking to RCS, then clicking on RCS PTG. The Royalston PTG welcomes input and participation from those who have ties to the school, and those who are interested in supporting and enhancing educational atmosphere at the RCS.

REQUESTS/NEEDS:
Ideas for donors of goods and services for a fundraising calendar for the Mon., Oct. 5 PTG meeting – items/services for each of December’s 31 days!
Hay bales, stakes, old clothing and twine for scarecrow building and permanent markers and lots of smallish pumpkins for decorating Thu., Oct. 8.
Props, sound effects, decorations as well as wrapped bake sale (proceeds to 6th grade Nature’s Classroom trip) goodies for the October 23, from 6-7:30 p.m. Halloween Dance.
On-going – send Box Tops and Labels for Education with students or leave at front office and “Shoparoo” school-wide fundraiser, a phone app that turns pictures of your receipts into cash for RCS.

Monty Tech News
Mary C. Barclay
Monty Tech’s Superintendent-Director Dr. Sheila M. Harrity is one of ten movers and shakers invited by Governor Charlie Baker to serve on the MA STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Advisory Council Executive Committee. Dr. Harrity is the only representative from public (k-12) education.
A branch of the Worker’s Credit Union is under construction in the school’s main lobby! In addition to the convenience of such a branch in school, Dr. Harrity announced she and WCU President are working together to bring a higher degree of financial literacy into classwork.
A big thank you to Nypromold Corp., which donated $1,000 to the Monty Tech Student Space Experiment Program and to BNY Mellon, which donated $840 in support of the school’s Cyber-STEM activities.
The annual Monty Tech Foundation Golf Tournament, with 24 sponsors and 107 participating golfers brought in more than $9,000 in profits, used to provide grants and scholarships to students.

Village School News
After School Program for Royalston children: If you are looking for after school care, the Village School offers a fun After School Program from 3:15 to 5:30 on school days. Children can take the RCS bus and get dropped off at the Village School on the common. There is homework help, supervised outdoor play, and lots of arts and crafts, (children learn knitting!) run by Royalston resident, Lynn Anair. To sign up, call the school at 249-3505.

After School Music Lessons: Fall Music Lessons run for 10 weeks starting the week of October 5, 2015. Lessons are open to ALL AGES – even adults! Students may begin cello, violin and piano at age 4, guitar and ukulele at age 7, and flute at age 9. See the brochure at villageschoolma.org Group and private lessons are available.

Roots and Sprouts: for infants and toddlers up to age 3
Wednesdays, starting September 30, for 6 weeks. 10:30 to 11:45
Suggested donation: $25 for all 6 weeks. Drop ins are welcome. Led by Brooke Coleman, nurse, midwife and health educator.
Come gather with other parents and their young children in the lovely Village School preschool classroom and deepen your connection with your child through singing, movement and art, celebrating the seasons and outside play. Learn more about child development, how to build a healthy parent/child relationship, and enjoy a simple snack with your child. Come to a session for free to try it out. Preregistration preferred. Call 978 249 3505 or email info@villageschoolma.org

Village School News
Open house at Camp Caravan
Future Home of the Village School, 255 S. Royalston Rd, Royalston MA
Sunday October 4th 1:00 to 3:30
Camp Caravan was once a farm, then an inn, and later, from the 1950’s to the 1980’s, a summer camp for disabled and impoverished youth. The current phase includes renovations and a building project, to turn the Camp Caravan property into an educational campus, and welcome children once more. Enjoy short presentations on the history of Camp Caravan, the ongoing renovations, connecting children to nature, and the vision for the property as an educational campus, including the future home of the Village School. Tours of the property all afternoon. Make it a family trip! Ponding with children. Rain or Shine! Refreshments by the Gardner Ale House. RSVP preferred but drop ins are welcome. Call 978 249 3505 or email info@villageschoolma.org . Hosted by the Village School and Millers River Educational Cooperative, Inc.
Recipe of the Month
Chawna Girard moved to New Boston Rd in 2013. She comes from Winchendon and works at Umass Memorial in Worcester. She is currently in school for nursing but enjoys baking when she has some free time. Her husband, Zack, grew up in Hubbardston and is a plumber. He enjoys hunting and being outside. The couple has two children, Hollie and Ethan, who love to play outside and pick the apples off the trees in the yard.

Homemade Cheesecake
Crust:
1 cup graham cracker crumbs
3 tbsp sugar
3 tbsp butter, melted
Mix graham cracker crumbs, sugar, and melted butter together until all crumbs are moistened. Press firmly into the bottom of a round drop pan using your fingers or the back of a spoon. Bake at 325 degrees for 10 minutes. Remove from oven and set aside.

Filling:
5 packages cream cheese, softened, 1 cup sugar, 3 tbsp flour, 1 tbsp vanilla, 1 cup sour cream and 4 eggs
Using a mixer, beat together the cream cheese, sugar, flour, and vanilla until well blended. Add sour cream and mix well. Add eggs one at a time on low speed. Pour the filling on top of the crust in the round drop pan. Bake at 325 for 1 hour and 5 minutes or until the center is set. Chill for 4 hours or overnight. Top with cherries, strawberries, or anything you wish!

North Quabbin Garden Club
Thursday, October 15, 2015, 7 p.m.
Millers River Environmental Center, 100 Main Street, Athol, MA 01331

Magic Overhead - Understanding the importance, needs and power of trees. Trees nestle next to our homes, line our roads, and quietly exist in every aspect of our daily lives. Yet, they are often noticed only when they uproot, shed branches and leaves, or are cause for concern. Certified Arborist, Tree Safety Professional and Petersham Tree Warden, Melissa LeVangie will tell us why these fantastic plants need our attention, support and care in an hour long presentation. Participants will take away a better appreciation of what trees provide, how they grow and what we can do to keep them structurally sound and thriving.

The celebration of the 250th Anniversary of Royalston was wonderful. Geoff Newton and the 250th committee did a great job.

The society had a float in the parade which took about 12 hours over Thursday and Friday to construct. The float measured 5 feet by 8 feet by 10 feet tall with the cupola. Members and non-members were a great help in this effort. Thank you to Leslie and Tom Freudenheim, Ken and Andrea Lively, Stephen Chase, Patience Bundshuh and Sonja Vaccari. George Vaccari pulled the float in the parade with his tractor and Steve Bocardi walked alongside. Thanks to all for your effort. I must mention that there were two young people who were inside the float as the back was cut out for them to toss candy to the crowd and they were Gabriel Dawson and Samantha West.

The weekend before, (Sept.6th) we finished the cleaning of the building and revamping of some exhibits with the help of Steve Chase, Beth Gospodarek and Marie Humblett. Thank you.

During Saturday, when the museum was opened, there were members who manned the museum: John McClure, Sue and Mark Smith, Pierre Humblett and Raeann and Roger O’Donnell. The museum had various displays from past celebrations plus a quilt show with 21 quilts on display, the oldest from 1840 and one on loan from the Athol Historical Society that was made in South Royalston in 1885. Stephanie McClure helped with the tag sale we had on the lawn. Any amount helps us refurbish our building.

Marie Humblett, Deb D’Amico, Andy West, Stephen Chase and Beth Gospodarek led guided tours of the history of the Common on the hour throughout the day. Marie Humblett put a lot of effort into researching and writing the scripts for the tours. All wore wonderful period costume.

Again, thank you to everyone who aided us and forgive me if I forgot anyone.
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Garden Notes  September 19, 2015

I’ve done this before, penning the column from the patio of a rustic retreat in western North Carolina, overlooking an array of mountains of the Blue Ridge, wine glass in hand, cheese and crackers at the ready, awaiting the sunset. Gentleman farming at its finest. The garden is out-of-mind. It is not out-of-mind. This mushroom weekend can occur any time from early September to early October. Little matter. The one unyielding truth is that I will miss the garden and the garden will miss me. I left in a flurry of activity, almost all of it related to harvesting. Beans. Tomatoes. Cucumbers. Peppers. Apples. Raspberries. Grapes. All must be harvested two or three more times during my six-day absence. Fortunately my devoted and accomplished fellow traveler has willingly (?) taken on the task.

I continue to be astounded by the magnificence of the current growing season. I repeat, astounded. And challenged. In my zeal to assure that every item of foodstuff becomes food, for someone or something, I leave nothing behind. No apple is rotting beneath the tree. Of course, to accomplish this task, 5,000 or so apples must be picked (or picked up) from one tree (there are seven of them) and moved around (often more than once).

Harvesting priorities will change in October but the level of activity will not. Until frost (which I no longer anticipate until late in the month), there will be at least a few lingering tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers; and many raspberries. There will be more and more brassicas, the root crops (carrots, beets, and daikon) must be attended to, and the fall spinach will be ready (porcupine permitting). And, of course, the interminable supply of apples. But it is harvesting, after all, and I hardly consider it work. Not so my other principal October activity – bed preparation for next year. Turning, enriching, incorporating, and mulching. The fact that it is something of a rigorous activity, combined with the fact that the gardener is a year older than last year, have combined to encourage some evasive action on my part. But I can evade no longer, so October will find me thoroughly engaged with my hoe, spade, and wheelbarrow.

October, be reminded, is garlic-planting month, the onset of the 2016 growing season. My experience suggests that the larger the clove planted, the larger the clove harvested. By selecting and re-selecting for thirty odd years, the size of my bulbs has increased dramatically. Six inches apart, seven rows in a four-foot bed, two inches deep (do I need to remind you to plant the clove root end down?), mulch, and let nature do its thing. There is one other matter to attend to in October. The weeding season comes to a close when there are 500 monthly per horse, advance pay discounts available - secure space, arena, nearby trails. Breed your mare to your stallion of choice. Call 978-249-9880 or suzannagaits@gmail.com

Larry Truehart: private wood carving lessons. 978-249-3291.

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

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


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Hay - located in Royalston. 168 bales square bales @ $5.50 / bale. Call Ann Vining Bedaw - 603-357-3000.

3-drawer dark-green steel filing cabinet in good condition free to a good home. Call Aaron at 249-6771 or email aellison@fas.harvard.edu to arrange to pick it up.

DR field and brush mower: 13 HP Briggs & Stratton Intek OHV engine, Cast iron cylinder sleeve, Cutting width 26”, Cutting capacity 1-1/2”. All manuals. Like new. $900 Firm  978-249-5099

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Mulch your garden this fall. Fertilize by the load or by the bag from Black Horse Farm (978) 249-9880, (413) 336-1263 or email suzannagaits@gmail.com

HP OfficeJet +40 all in one printer/fax/scanner/copier Model C8413A (great condition) $40.00 And a Sylvania 13 inch colored TV mint cond. $25.00 Great for college dorm. Call 978-249-3040

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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

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Classifieds

Living Situation wanted: Certified Home Health Aid, Former EMT, Non-smoker, Mature Single Female, BS degree, Specialist in plant-based nutrition. Seeking a studio or a 1 bedroom apartment. Willing to rent, share a house, house sit, or swap services towards rent: companion, accounting, handy person. References. Sally at 978-249-0000 Sally@USA.net.

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

Board Horse: 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. Call 978-249-9880 or suzannagaits@gmail.com

September 22. Dateline Royalston. First things first, I awoke this morning and toured the garden. What was, still is, enhanced by the late blooms of the morning glory, flowering tobacco, purple verbena, and the reflowering calendula. It seems the garden missed me not-at-all. Larry Siegel
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Wildlife Sightings
On Monday, September 14 at 6:45 p.m. Hunter and Henry Couture had a bull moose run in front of their car on Winchendon Road. The moose walked down the middle of the road in front of them for about a quarter of a mile from the Royalston Community School until it finally turned into a driveway.

Cloutiers’ Pete & Henry’s
18 Main St. (Rt. 68) in South Royalston, MA 01368
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Congratulations and Good News

Aliyah Neale from Royalston is 12 years old and has been racing since she was 6. She went semi-pro this year in the Pro Wraps Bandolero series at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. In her rookie year she has had several podium finishes and is the first female Bandolero driver at NHMS. She will be racing in the World Finals at NHMS in October. It will be her first time racing a road course. You can follow her career and progress on Facebook at Neale Racing. Go #14!
(ed note: Oh the places you will go. Aliyah is a former 6th grade correspondent for the Royalston Community Newsletter).