November 1  Tuesday
All Saints’ Day

5 pm  Annual Village School Lantern Walk, pot luck and contra dance at Town Hall

November 6  Sunday
2 am  Daylight savings time ends. Fall back
Change smoke detector batteries

8  Tuesday
Presidential Election Day
7 am - 8 pm  Polls open
Precinct 1 – Town Hall – 13 The Common
Precinct 2 – Whitney Hall – 5 School St.

3 pm until sell out  LBS bake sale at both precincts: breads, cookies and sweets as well as savory homemade soups, stews and quiche ready to take home and heat up for supper. Proceeds go towards LBS scholarships.

November 11  Friday
Veterans’ Day
7 pm sharp  Fire and EMS Turkey Raffle at Fire Station #1

November 12  Saturday
10 am - 3 pm  Central Massachusetts Children’s Book Festival. Mount Wachusett Community College FREE  For more information, go to centralmasschildrensbookfestival.org

November 19  Saturday
10 a.m. – noon  Village School Open House

Drive by Pie!
Saturday, November 19
9:00 am to sell-out
Across from P.O., Royalston common

Pre-Orders are Best!!
You can also drive buy and purchase what is available that day, but to ensure you get your favorite, Pre-order by calling:

Maureen at 249-5138
(Please leave name, order and call back number.)
Deadline to order: November 13

LBS bake sale at both precincts: breads, cookies and sweets as well as savory homemade soups, stews and quiche ready to take home and heat up for supper. Proceeds go towards LBS scholarships.

Maureen at 249-5138
(Please leave name, order and call back number.)
Deadline to order: November 13

All proceeds benefit the Scholarship Fund
Ladies’ Benevolent Society of Royalston

Pies available freshly baked or frozen and ready to bake in your own oven!

November 24  Thursday
Thanksgiving Day

November 25  Friday
Andromedid Meteor Shower – late nights through the weekend. A shooting star every six minutes or so, originating in southern skies.

November 29  Tuesday
7:19 a.m.  New Cold Moon

December 4  Sunday
2 pm  Fused dichroic glass pendant workshop at town hall. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. $5 for members or $10 non-members. Preregister by calling or emailing the library.

(Pre-orders for LBS pies are due. Call Maureen 249-5138)

November 14  Monday
Full Beaver Moon
Select Board Notes:
Christine Long, Chair

“You can’t continue as you have been doing.” That in effect was the message two representatives of the state Department of Revenue and the two authors (also from the DOR) of our Community Compact reports told the Select Board, the Financial Advisory Committee, all our financial officers and the assessors’ clerk on October 18.

Specifically, these DOR reps strongly recommend that Royalston move toward at least a part-time town coordinator (possibly shared with another community) to orchestrate our budget process, including revenue and expenses, and to oversee our financial team to ensure that accounts are reconciled in a timely manner, reports filed with the state as they should be, and the tax rate set earlier in the year.

One scenario they suggest is a 24-hour per week coordinator to be paid $35 per hour, which with benefits would translate to a cost of about $80,000 per year. They also note the possibility of hiring a seasoned interim coordinator (no benefits required) who could mentor a current employee to take on this role. In any case, the state would be prepared to help with a three-year transition grant, paying 75% of the cost in the first year, 50% in the second, and 25% in the third.

Yet to be determined is whether such a coordinator would handle the clerical responsibilities that are part of our current administrative assistant’s job or whether the coordinator would have fewer hours plus a clerk at a lower salary.

The reps praised the steps the town has already taken – hiring a new interim accountant and working toward reconciling our accounts, something we have been unable to do for several years. Also as part of this process, the financial team will be applying for a multi-town grant to help a number of communities acquire software that will expedite a great deal of the work, at an affordable cost.

Given the tightness of Royalston’s budget as it is, these DOR reps also laid out scenarios for seeking a Proposition 2-1/2 override to cover the new expenses. They point out, however, that such an increase could save us money in the long run by increasing efficiency, developing multiyear financial forecasting (including capital expenses), and having an in-house resource to pursue, for example, grant possibilities.

Town Clerk News
Melanie A. Mangum, Town Clerk
978-249-0493 P.O. Box 127
www.royalston-ma.gov

Information below can also be found on the Town Clerk’s page at royalston-ma.gov, under the pages “Voting information” and “2016 Election Information”. At the Voting Information page, you will find links to check your voter registration status online.

Presidential Election
Polls open on Nov 8. From 7 a.m.- 8 p.m.
Precinct 1 – Town Hall – 13 The Common
Precinct 2 – Whitney Hall – 5 School St.

EARLY VOTING FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
This year the state passed legislation to enact early voting, and an early voting period will be active for the Presidential Election that will be held on November 8.

All registered voters have the option of early voting during regular town clerk business hours. This means it is possible to vote 2 - 4 pm and 7 - 8 pm at Whitney Hall on November 4. If you would like an early ballot mailed to you, an application is required and must be received by Friday, Nov. 4, before noon.

If you have questions about early voting, absentee voting, or wish to check your current voter registration status, please contact the Town Clerk’s office or visit the Voting Information page on the town website.

Notice of Public Disclosure
The Royalston Board of Assessors has been granted preliminary certification of values by the Dept. of Revenue for fiscal year 2017. The values will be available for public inspection at the following locations:

Town Hall Selectboard office during regular business hours of Tues. and Thus. 9:00 to 3:00
The P. S. Newton Library Mondays: 1 - 8:30 pm, Thursdays 1 - 5 and 6:30 - 8:30 pm and Saturdays 9 - noon.
The Assessors office Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 and 5:00 to 9:00

Property owners who wish to discuss the assessment process or values should speak with the assessors who meet the 1st and 3rd Weds. 7:00-9:00 at Whitney Hall
Board of Health News  
*Phil Leger, chair*

**Take sensible precautions with your:**  

**Health:** Ticks are still active as well as mosquitoes. Dress accordingly when outside. Flu clinics abound and most pharmacies have vaccines available. Alternatively, check with your health care provider for a shot.

**Water:** We’re still in drought with no end in sight. If someone needs a well permit contact Phil Leger Chair RBOH @ 617-584-9714. In the meantime, use water wisely.

**Trash:** Royalston Recycling and Transfer Station windshield stickers should be displayed upon entering facility. This simple act saves time for attendants. Thank you.

Fire Department News :  
*heat safely*  
*Keith R. Newton, chief*

Please take this time to review all heating methods used at your home. If you burn solid fuels, (wood), please have all stoves cleaned and inspected before using for the season. Burning good seasoned wood will help. Also, check all furnaces and water boilers for safety and have them cleaned as well. Finally, remember chimneys are the most problematic factor in heating your home. Please arrange for an inspection and complete cleaning of flue and connecting stove pipes.

If any questions arise about these suggestions, please contact the Fire Department to guide you. Thank you to all that exercise safety and good judgement.

Thanksgiving Dinner at Town Hall  
*Gary Winitzer*

The Royalston Council on Aging is inviting all those who are interested to join the Wednesday Luncheon Club for a Thanksgiving meal on Wednesday, November 16th at the Town Hall at noon.

The meal includes turkey with herb gravy, stuffing, mashed potato, green beans, a whole wheat dinner roll and cranberry sauce. Desert will be pumpkin pie.

To reserve a meal, please call Betty Woodbury at 978-249-9656 before 11 AM on Tuesday. A suggested voluntary confidential donation is $2.50 for seniors and $3.00 for others.

Department of Public Works  
*K Keith R. Newton -D.P.W. Supt.*

**New Pavement!!!**

The obvious issue with new pavement is the speed that traffic now moves. We must remember that this road is intended to be shared with other activity and careful driving will help assure safety for all. The Eagle Reserve and R.C.S. foot traffic to and from some of the Conservation Land areas will be expected and should be approached with caution. Thank you for exercising good driving habits.

Work on Winchendon Road continues. The construction piece of this project will surely impact travel on this roadway. The replacement of guardrails and traffic line painting will be some items on Phase 1 of this process and will include aprons to aid a smooth transition in and out of residential driveways.

Phase 2 of this project includes raising the profile of the low lying areas that have been subject to water flooding and causing traffic hazards for some years now. The intent will be a compromise with nature and create a drainage system that will manage the overflow and any surface waters that have plagued this area.

These corrective actions will create delays to vehicles and it is suggested that alternate routes or plan to leave several minutes early. School traffic, to and from RCS, can expect delays. Thank you for those who cooperate with this inconvenience.

Snow: It will be part of our daily lives soon enough, and we all know the drill. Please do all necessary steps to secure your mailboxes from the pressure of snow coming off the plow. Keep in mind that it is unlawful to push, throw, blow, or cause obstructions of snow to accumulate at the end of or across the street from your driveway. This causes huge issues when these deposits freeze and can’t be moved safely even with large equipment. Again, thanks to all that help keep it safe.

Events Committee Takes a Break, BUT Seeks your Help in 2017  
*Geoff Newton*

The events committee is taking a hiatus from fundraising these last three months of 2016. However, in order to start planning for the fall fair on September 9, 2017, we will begin having meetings in January and then monthly thereafter always on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. Please join us and add some ideas. It was a good time this past September! Keep it going.

All of the organizations in town are invited to join us and to make it successful. Bring your ideas and much needed energy to the meeting January 5, 2017. Remember to mark it on your calendar. We will remind you in December!!
Phinehas S. Newton Library News
Kathy Morris, Library Director
Trustees: Polly Longsworth, Jeffrey Magnum, 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

Donations to the Friends
Kathleen Lawrence Pirro

Art Exhibit
Five artists have work on display in the library. Kate Collins, Tom Kellner, and Sonja Vaccari have scenes from Royalston: Kate and Tom, Mount Mondanock and Sonja, Royalston Falls. Further afield, Gordon Morrison has a large tropical rainforest which you can peruse while looking for the 14 animals in the drawing and a painting of blue flags and a butterfly. Laurie Truhart has 2 paintings of local birds: a Golden Eagle and a Great Horned Owl.

Library Book Discussion Group meets at 4:30 the 3rd Monday of most months. Due to a jam-up of commitments elsewhere, the group did not meet in October. Instead, it will meet November 21 to discuss Sarah Orne Jewett’s Country of the Pointed Firs. This novella is a good fit for readers who enjoy the Maine coast. The narrator of this book, written in the late 1800s is friendly with many nonogenarians, who tell realistic stories of their lives traveling as a family in tall ships carrying trade goods or whaling decades before. All welcome. Copies of the selection are available at the library. Come for tea, cookies, connection and chat.

Yoga on Tuesday Evenings
(and Possible Future Class with Janet Bettey)
Yoga will continue on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall with Janet Bettey. This relaxing class is appropriate for people of all abilities and people may attend whenever they are available. Janet is also willing to teach a chair yoga class for people with limited mobility or who wish an easier program. Poses will be done while the participants are seated in a chair and concentrate on stretching and flexibility. If interested, please contact the library.

Zumba on Mondays??? Let us know if you want it....
Only four people responded that they would be interested in a Zumba class and consequently that is not enough interest to hold the class. If more people respond we will look into holding the class. If you are interested, you can call the library at any time and

Fused Glass Holiday Workshop
On Sunday, December 4, at 2:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Deenie Pacik Giuliano will lead a workshop where participants will make a dichroic fused glass pendant. The cost of the class is $5 for members of the Friends and $10 for others. Children under 12 may sign up with a parent (one child per parent). Space in the class is limited so you must pre-register by calling or emailing the library. Dichroic glass appears to change to another color in different lighting conditions. Fused dichroic glass is where a design is created using small pieces of dichroic glass which are then heated to very high temperatures to ‘fuse’ them together.

Glass artist Deenie Pacik Giuliano will lead the workshop.

The Little Free Library began as a tribute by one man to his mother, a teacher who loved to read. In 2009 Todd Bol of Hudson, Wisconsin built a model of a one room school house and filled it with books for people to take. University of Wisconsin professor, Rick Brooks saw Bol’s project and the two of them joined forces and expanded this creative adventure for the common good. By 2010, people called them “little free libraries” and the name took. In 2011 the national media picked up the story and all of a sudden there were 400 little free libraries and it became a non-profit organization. By January 2016, there were over 36,000 and by June 2016, there were over 40,000 worldwide. We found out about them when staff member Gina Verrilli was in Minneapolis, Minnesota and saw them all around the city. She researched the project, the Friends agreed to sponsor it, the selectboard approved it, and Stephen Chase designed and built a little library. It is in place at the park in South Royalston, is registered and awaiting the arrival of its charter sign and number and then will be added to the worldwide map of little libraries.

Anyone may take a book from the library and can leave a book or two if desired. Volunteers will replenish the books and soon we’ll have our sign up and an informational brochure inside. Stop by and browse and take a book. And say thanks to the Friends of the Phinehas S. Newton for funding the project.

Little Free Library – Check It Out!
Some of the new materials at your library

**Adult fiction**

Alcott, Kathleen  Infinite Home
Atwood, Margaret  Hag-Seed
Beaton, M.C.  Pushing Up Daisies
Carr, Robyn  The Life She Wants
Coben, Harlan  Home
De La Cruz, Melissa  Something in Between
Donoghue, Emma  The Wonder
Donoghue, Keith  The Motion of Puppets
Fluke, Joanne  Christmas Carmel Murder
Francis, Felix  Triple Crown
Groom, Winston  El Paso
French, Tana  The Trespasser
Hemings, Kauai  How to Party with an Infant
Hilderbrand, Elin  Winter Storms
Jance, J.A.  Downfall
Keneally, Thomas  Napoleon’s Last Island
Koryta, Michael  Rise the Dark
Lackberg, Camilla  The Lost Boy
Lethem, Jonathan  A Gambler’s Anatomy
McCall-Smith, A.  Precious and Grace: No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency
Mayor, Archer  Presumption of Guilt
Mills, Kyle  Vince Flynn’s Order to Kill
Moyes, Jojo  Paris for One and Other Stories
Patterson, James  Missing
Picoult, Jodi  Small Great Things
Preston, Douglas  The Obsidian Chamber
Sandford, John  Escape Clause
Semple, Maria  Today will be Different
Slaughter, Karin  The Kept Woman
Smith, Ali  Public Library and Other Stories
Sparks, Nicholas  Two by Two
Tremain, Rose  The Gustav Sonata

**Adult Non-Fiction**

Collins, Billy  Classic Car
Dalai Lama  The Book of Joy
Dittrich, Luke  Patient H.M.
Gospodarek, Beth  Royalston’s 250th Anniversary Celebration
Kaminsky, Jane  A Revolution in Color
Macy, Beth  Truevine
O’Reilly, Bill  Killing the Rising Sun
Palmer, Arnold  A Life Well Played
Sme, Sebastian  The Art of Rivalry
Springsteen, Bruce  Born to Run
Vance, J.D.  Hillbilly Elegy
Weiner, Jennifer  Hungry Heart
White, Ronald  American Ulysses

**Adult Audiobook**

Fairstein, Linda  Killer Look

**Young Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction**

Dashner, James  The Fever Code
Freeman, Russell  Vietnam
Reynolds, Jason  Ghost

**Children’s Fiction**

Beasley, Kate  Gertie’s Leap to Greatness
Boynton, Sandra  Dinosaur Dance!
Britt, Chris  The Most Perfect Snowman
Cocca-Leffler, M.  Janine and the Field Day Finish
Curtis, Jamie Lee  This is Me
Ehler, Lois  Leaf Man
Ellis, Carson  Du Iz Tak?
Gidwitz, Adam  The Inquisitor’s Tale
Godwin, Laura  Owl Sees Owl
Graire, Virginia  Shapes
Heide, Florence  How to be a Hero
Hennessey, M.G.  The Other Boy
Hest, Amy  Are You Sure, Mother Bear?
Keller, Laurie  We are Growing!
Klassen, Jon  We Found a Hat
Lin, Grace  When the Sea Turned to Silver
MacLachlan, Patricia  The Poet’s Dog
McDonald, Megan  Judy Moody and the Bucket List
Medina, Juana  Juana & Lucas
Pastis, Stephan  Timmy Failure
Pearson, Ridley  Lock and Key
Peck, Richard  The Best Man
Poulin, Andre  Pablo Finds a Treasure
Riordan, Rick  The Hammer of Thor
Rylant, Cynthia  Creation
Rylant, Cynthia  Mr. Putter & Tabby Hit the Slope
Sanna, Francesca  The Journey
Shea, Bob  The Happiest Book Ever
Sidman, Joyce  Before Morning
Smith, Alex  Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion
Stein, Joel  A Hanukkah with Mazel
Stringer, Lauren  Yellow Time
Tarshis, Lauren  I Survived the Eruption of Mount St. Helens, 1980
Wheeler, Lisa  The Christmas Boot
Williams, Vera  Home at Last
Young, Rebecca  Teacup

**Children’s Nonfiction**

Argueta, Jorge  Somos Como Las Nubes = We Are Like the Clouds
Bowman, Donna  Step Right Up
DeCristofano, C.  The Sun and the Moon
Fleischman, Paul  First Light, First Life
Hayes, Geoffrey  Benny and Penny in How to Say Goodbye
Levy, Debbie  I Dissent
Meltzer, Brad  I am George Washington
Sayre, April  Best in Snow
Stanley, Diane  Ada Lovelace, Poet of Science
Sweet, Melissa  Some Writer! The Story of E.B. White
Tonatiuh, Duncan  The Princess and the Warrior

**DVDs:**
Recipe of the Month

Not everyone knows that cranberries grow right in Royalston. Look for low-to-the-ground matting shrubs with leaves like pine needles in soggy spots on the edge of acidic bogs and swamps. Dark red berries may be growing on the underside. Cranberries are best picked in October between the first cold snap and the first hard freeze, and they are traditionally served on Thanksgiving. After a rinse, they can be stored in the fridge for a month and the freezer for a year until needed. Historically they were eaten by Native Americans, who called them sassamanash. The following is a recipe adapted from a 20-year old faculty cookbook at Mt. Wachusett Community College, sent in by none other than Mr. Asquino, the college president.

Tully Cranberry Bread

2 cups flour
2 tsp baking powder
1 1/4 cup sugar
1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp orange rind
1 tsp cinnamon
3/4 cup orange juice
1/4 cup butter
2 cups cranberries
1/2 cup walnuts

Line the bottom of a loaf pan with parchment and lightly grease with a butter wrapper. Sift: flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. In a large bowl, cream butter, sugar and orange rind. Beat in egg until blended. Add flour mixture in 3 additions, alternating with orange juice, mixing each time. Fold in cranberries and nuts. Bake in preheated oven at 350 degrees until a tester comes out clean +/- 55 minutes. Freezes very well, so make now and pull out for holiday events.

The Royalston Historical Society

The Royalston Historical society just held its annual meeting and discussed its gratitude towards the generosity and goodwill the community has shown to the group through its donations and attendance at events. Revenue (to be put toward replacing Old School house #1’s roof) is steadily growing. The society is looking for contractors to bid on replacing the roof. Pick up specs at the post office or on the society’s web-site.

New officers were elected. The group is looking for a new treasurer. Those interested should contact Peter Kraniak, president.

A moment of quiet recognition was held acknowledging Helen Feleciano, a founding member who recently passed away, Kathy Pirro, a member and friend who is moving South, and Mark and Susan Smith, who are moving away but have worked hard in many capacities in this group, especially in developing its on-line presence. Stephen Chase closed the evening with a talk about the history of “Historic Preservation”.

The Society has big plans for the coming year, including working on the South Royalston walking tour, the Jazz Brunch on April 30, a talk about the role of hat braiding in 19th century New England and its effect on women’s history, a showing of the entire Minnie Lemmon home movie, and a “haunted tour” of local cemeteries. The next meeting is January 20. If you would like to become a member or help with any of these events, please call Peter Kraniak or contact the group through the web-site or Facebook.
Obituary

Alan J. “Bobo” LeBlanc, 67, of Royalston passed away September 25, 2016 at Heywood Hospital surrounded by family.

Born October 17, 1948 in Gardner to Edward and Dorothy (Graves) LeBlanc.

Alan leaves behind his partner of forty-three years, Darlene Sweet, and their three children, Lori Sweet and her husband, Craig Casavant of Gardner, Brandy LeBlanc of Fitchburg, and Alan E. LeBlanc of Orange. He also leaves four sisters, Patricia Tenney and Linda Bilodeau of Rindge, Terry LaFortune of Winchendon, and Donna LeBlanc of Gardner; two grandchildren; several cousins, nephews, and nieces, and many friends, including the four-legged variety, Gronk and Blazer.

Alan was pre-deceased by his parents, Edward and Dorothy; sisters, Anne LeBlanc and Joyce Ruckey, and his brother, Edward A. LeBlanc.

Alan was a self-employed carpenter who valued craftsmanship over profit. He loved nature, the music of Bob Dylan, and enjoyed many unique hobbies including panning for gold and metal detecting. Above all, he loved spending time with his family.

Alan lived in Royalston for the last 26 years. Among his favorite places were Cripple Creek, Doanes Falls, Forbes Falls and Tully Lake. He spent many happy days with his family hiking, camping and enjoying the view. He will be missed.

November Night

By Adelaide Crapsey

Listen...
With faint dry sound,
Like steps of passing ghosts,
The leaves, frost-crisp’d, break from the trees
And fall.

Royalston General Store

Mon - Wed 7am-7pm, Thur & Fri 7am - 8pm
Sat 8am -8pm, Sun 9am - 6pm

Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials

Full Breakfast
978-249-9798

Subs • Pizza • Pasta • Beer • Wine
Liquor • Lottery • Groceries • Hardware

Eat In or Take Out

Royalston Computer Repair

- Virus and Malware Removal
- Tune up's
- Laptop Screen Repair
- Internet Data Cap Consultation
- Rural Internet Service Provider Recommendations
- Custom Builds

978-467-6194 Toll Free Call or Text
What’s happening at the Village School?

Openings in Pre-school
There are openings in pre-school in January. Call the school to set up a visit with your child.

After-School Program for Royalston children
If you are looking for after-school care, the Village School has a great After-School Program from 3:15 to 5:30 on school days. Children can take the RCS school 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.

Upcoming events

The Village School hosts the annual Autumn Lantern Walk on Friday, November 4th. The public is invited to participate in this seasonal celebration. The evening starts at 5:00 p.m. at the school with a gathering in the dark for stories and songs. Everyone then joins in a procession on Royalston Common to the Town Hall, singing and carrying glowing homemade lanterns. Bring a lantern! A community pot luck Italian supper at the Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. will be followed by a family contra dance with the No Name Band, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Renown folksinger and storyteller Tim Van Egmond will call the dances. The contra dance will be called, and children of all ages will find it easy to join in the dances. Donations are suggested of $5 per adult, $2 per child, or $10 per family.

Central Massachusetts Children’s Book Festival will be on Saturday, November 12th, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Mount Wachusett Community College, 444 Green St, Gardner Mass in the Dining Commons. FREE Come to the Central Massachusetts Children’s Book Festival, a daylong celebration of books and reading. Meet over 25 local authors and illustrators who are signing books, giving presentations, and reading their work, including Royalston’s own Gordon Morrison. A wonderful selection of children’s books ranging from picture books to young adult novels will be available for purchase. Bring your entire family for kid-friendly activities, a puppet show and fun. Refreshments will be available for purchase. For more information, go to centralmasschildrensbookfestival.org

Open House Saturday November 19 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Come meet the teachers, talk with parents, meet alumni, see the classrooms, find out about our unique curriculum and get your questions answered! Bring your children, they will enjoy activities in the classrooms just for them.

What’s Good at the Community School?
6th graders investigate
As you may know, we have some new teachers and even a new principal this year. Here are all of our new staff:
Mrs. Elaine Gagne - tech
Ms. Jessica Verock - art
Ms. Samantha Korpi - cafe assistant
Mr. Bailey Melanson - cafe aide
Mrs. Rebecca Vincent - gr. 4
Mrs. Tina Lewandowski (Mrs. Lew) - Special Ed.
Mrs. Marissa Coviello (Mrs. C) gr 5 - 6

Kindergarten Buddies
Every Friday, 6th graders read and play with their kindergarten buddies.

Have you heard about the principal’s challenge?
Find the words that are misspelled and win!

6th grade contributors include Anya, Julia, Karissa, Emilie, Elora, Connor P. and Lillian.
Classifieds

Free:

Services

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. Breed your mare to your stallion of choice. Call 978-249-9880 or suzannagaits@gmail.com

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

Graphic digital artist. Websites, print materials - posters, flyers, brochures, business cards, etc... Also photo and slide scanning offered. Barbara 508.364.3339 or brguiney@wildblue.net.

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


Affordable horseback riding lessons. C + R Ranch on the Royalston border in Winchendon. All ages; beginner and up. Call Cindy 978-894-5611

DTM Landscaping. spring cleanup, snowplowing. Call Theresa Gates 413-336-1850 or David Plourde 413-336-1593

Monty Tech News

Mary C. Barclay, Royalston’s Representative – royalston_community_news@yahoo.com

Exciting news: The ground-breaking for the new Monty Tech Veterinarian Sciences building was held in September! Students from masonry and the building trades have been hard at work, side-by-side with contractors, and have shelled in a state-of-the-art clinic with observation and classroom space. Look for a September, 2017 grand opening!

At the October SchoolCom meeting, it was reported that 145 Monty Tech students enrolled in one or more of six advanced placement (AP) courses offered last year. They took 187 exams and 27% placed high enough to qualify for college credits!

For those who have been sad Monty Tech didn’t offer music: Leominster High School’s music program has invited Monty Tech students to participate free of charge!

The cadets of Monty Tech’s Marine Corps Jr. ROTC received word that the Monty Tech battalion has been designated as a MCJROTC Honor School for its civic commitment and student achievements during the 2015-2016 school year.

Looking for housing: 64 year old woman on Social Security, non-smoking, non-drinking, no drugs, one elderly housecat, and one itty-bitty dog. Prefer washer and dryer hook-up. 413-326-0369

For sale: 15ft x 15ft EPDM 45 mil pond liner. Brand new still in box. $125.00 or best offer. Call Tom at 978-249-9633.

2007 Honda Fit. One owner very good condition. New tires, AC, power windows great on gas. 81,000 miles. $4,500.00. Call Sharon Harmon 978-249-3040

Fresh Seasonal Vegetables from Ted’s Neale Farm, 1 Neale Place, 978-249-6872

Computer Armoire: Lt. cherry finish, 38” wide X 23” deep X 54 1/2 high. Slide out printer shelf, slide out keyboard shelf and other storage. Excellent condition-$250. Call 978-249-7691

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 $7.00 lb. Available in 1 and 2 lb jars. Call Deb Nunes at 978-249-8800 or cell: (413) 336-1263.

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

Three barn stalls available. Some tack available Companion mare available. Call Suzanne at Black Horse Farm (978) 249-9880 or cell: (413) 336-1263.

Birch Knoll Farm - Hay for sale, 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 978-894-5109


Stephen Chase Contracting
Restoration and Preservation Services
Royalston 978-249-0358
MA Construction Supervisor #044817
EPA Lead Safe Certified #NAT-58592-2
Garden Notes  
October 23, 2016

The widespread frosts ten days ago were not so widespread as to afflict most of Prospect Hill. (The tomatoes on our lowest garden were hit.) A visitor to the garden four weeks ago would not notice any dramatic difference if he or she would return today. True, in anticipation of those widespread frosts, the tomatoes and peppers were shorn of most of their sizeable fruit, the winter squash (even those not quite ripe) pulled from the vines, and the beans and raspberries heavily picked, but the plants have endured, thrived actually, and another harvest is imminent. Pockets of color remain. I count nine frost-sensitive flowering plants that were not so frost-sensitive as to no longer flower. In combination with a handful of perennials, bouquets continue to adorn the house. The garden is living on borrowed time, of course (aren’t we all?), with the forecast for the upcoming week suggesting a series of sub-30º nights, but I’ll enjoy it while I can.

In a time-honored tradition, garlic was planted on October 17 (my annual birthday ‘celebration’). What with the unseasonably warm temperatures we were experiencing, I was a bit hesitant. The goal of fall-planted garlic is to allow enough time for the plant to begin growth under the ground but not so much time that above-ground growth occurs as well. It is in the hands of the garden gods.

Gardening in November? You bet. Foremost is re-working the beds, getting them planting-ready for next year. In the past, this task would have been well underway; this year I seem to require a kick in the butt just to get started. Any butt-kickers out there? At least some of the garden will remain occupied post-frost. The root crops (carrots, beets, radishes) shrug off the frigid temperatures and will survive lows in the teens (though digging them might prove to be a problem). Celeriac and cabbage are a bit less hardy; if sub-20º temperatures are predicted they will be dug and pulled. Leeks and kale and Brussels sprouts are a bit more hardy; there is no reason for them not to persist into December. I’ve been harvesting spinach from August 3 and 31 plantings. Borrowing from the Kate Collins/George Northrop playbook, a third planting (October 5) has just emerged. With no thought of picking it this fall, I will heavily mulch and hope it survives the winter. An unprecedented surprise this year has been lettuce (as well as dill and cilantro). We always let a few plants send up flower stalks and go to seed and are rewarded by a mass of seedlings the following spring. This year, for reasons unbeknownst to me, the seedlings have already emerged; we have lettuce and dill and cilantro aplenty. If that was not surprise enough, a population of peas which escaped picking this summer have germinated, grown, and flowered and are now maturing harvestable pods. Summer salad fixings in November. Go figure.

Larry Siegel

Teamwork and Timbers

On a bright October morning, the second and third graders in Shannon Johnson’s Village School classroom took their learning outside. As part of their study of Colonial America, the children had a first-hand experience of 17th century construction techniques: they built a timber frame barn.

Deb D’Amico and Tom Musco of Royalston Oak Timber Frames began the morning in the classroom, teaching the children about the history of New England barn construction, demonstrating mortise and tenon joinery, and explaining how the 15 students would work as a team to construct an English-style barn frame. Then the work moved outside as the children worked together to erect a scale model timber frame barn in the driveway of the school.

The experience held valuable lessons for the young timber framers. It was clear that teamwork is essential: timbers are heavy and need many hands to put them in place while other hands use mallets to hammer in the pegs. Math and science concepts became real as the frame took shape: braces create triangles, which distribute the weight throughout the structure and provide stability and strength. Attention to detail is essential: each timber is marked so that it is placed in exactly the right spot.

When the frame was finished and the children stepped back to view their creation, one child said in surprise, “We built that!” The young timber framers then climbed atop their creation for a photo op!

Musco and D’Amico offer this program as part of The National Barn Alliance’s “Teamwork and Timbers Program.” If you are interested in finding out more about this program you can contact them at 978 249-9633.
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Wildlife Sightings

On October 15th, Liane Brandon and Boyd Estus witnessed a flock of 15 turkeys gang up on a kitty that was sitting in the field next to their home on NE Fitzwilliam Road. The encounter was unprovoked. The kitty held its ground until it was nearly surrounded, then escaped with its dignity more or less intact.

Boo

RCS’s Halloween dance was once again a full house. All ages enjoyed the evening of fun, food and frolicking about in an impressive array of costumes. Thanks to Principal Jan Williams and PTG leaders Ashley Chartron and Britteny Hermes for pulling together a fabulous evening.

photo: Barclay

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Why it is important to choose words carefully...

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