Calendar of Events

February 2 Thursday  Groundhog Day
7 p.m. Royalston Events Committee meets at Town Hall – new participants welcomed

February 3 Friday
7 - 10 pm Open Mic at Town Hall. Coffee, baked goods and light suppers. Sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council. Jazz Depot is the host band.

February 7 Tuesday
7 pm Blissful Yoga with Janet Betsey at Town Hall. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Continues every Tuesday.

February 10 Friday
5:32 p.m. Penumbral Eclipse of the Moon, visible in North America, begins and continues through 9:55 p.m.
7:33 p.m. Full Snow Moon

February 11 Saturday
10 a.m. – noon Village School Open House

February 12 Sunday  Abraham Lincoln’s Birthday

February 14 Tuesday  Valentine’s Day

February 17 Friday
7 pm Drum Circle with Michael Young at the Town Hall, sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council. This circle is open to all, including children accompanied by an adult. No experience is necessary. Bring your own drum or use one of ours. For further information call Michael 978-249-2722

February 20 Monday  Presidents’ Day observed
Post Office, Library, schools all closed; School vacation continues all week.

February 21 Tuesday
1:30 p.m. Birds of Prey Program with wildlife rehabilitator Tom Ricardi at the Royalston Town Hall featuring eagles, owls, hawks and more. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

February 22 Wednesday  George Washington’s Birthday

February 27 Monday
Deadline for reading lists at the library to win fabulous prizes in the Winter Reading Contest

Application Deadline for Monty Tech’s VIP spring session

9:58 a.m. New Worm Moon

4:30 p.m. Library Book Discussion Group meets to discuss Revolutionary by Alex Myers. The novel is about America’s first female soldier, Deborah Sampson Gannett. All welcome. copies of the book can be checked out at the library.

February 28 Tuesday  Mardi Gras

March 1 Wednesday  Ash Wednesday

March 3 Friday  Open Mic Town Hall

March 4 Saturday  Soup “R” Bowl/Chicken Shoot at the Royalston Fish & Game Club, sponsored by the Events Committee. We are looking for donations in all three categories, also desserts and pastries. All you can eat soup, stews/chowders and chilies. Immediately following we will be hosting a Chicken Shoot, which is a raffle as well as a card game. This game cost $1 per round. Winners get a Market Basket pre-cooked chicken and a prize.

March 25 Saturday  Historical Society Cozy Community Supper to raise money for the needed new roof. $12 at town hall.

7 pm Wheat weaving expert, Kathy Morris, will discuss the importance of wheat and palm weaving in the 19th century to the local and regional economy, particularly its effects on women’s lives.
Select Board Notes:

Linda Alger

The Select Board is saddened by the passing of our fellow board member John “Jack” Morse. Chairman Christine Long ordered the flags lowered to half mast. The Police and Fire Department provided an honor guard at his memorial service on January 22, 2017, held in Sterling, Massachusetts.

Department heads have been asked to submit their budget requests for Annual Town Meeting approval. The Board will review requests during off weeks through the month of February. We will be using a new format this year for the ATM; rather than being alphabetized, it will now be done by categories.

Residents are reminded of the parking ban during the winter months as there is no parking permitted on any public way to facilitate snow removal.

Barbara Richardson has been hired as the Town custodian, a job she previously held. In other personnel news, the Accountant, Treasurer, and Tax Collector have been working diligently on meeting recommendations from our Community Compact report. The Board appreciates all of their efforts.

With the cold weather upon us please periodically check on your neighbors, especially if they are elderly.

Town Clerk News

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

Nomination papers for the Annual Town Election of April 3, 2017 will be available beginning Tuesday, January 17.
Nomination papers can be obtained at the Town Clerk’s Office on Mondays during the business hours of 9-1 and 6-8, or at the Administrative Assistant’s office at Town Hall Tue-Thur. from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
The deadline to return nomination papers is Monday, February 13 by 5 p.m.
Last day to object/withdraw - Wed, March 1
Last day to register to vote - Tue, March 14.

The following are the positions and terms up for election this year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITION</th>
<th>TERM</th>
<th>Official Currently in the Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selectboard member</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>Vacant due to passing of John W. Morse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selectboard member</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Christine Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessor</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessor</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>James Richardson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Health</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Philip Leger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Health</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cemetery Commission</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Roland Hamel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Trustee</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Mary Longsworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Public Welfare</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Nancy Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Board</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>Kate Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer Commission</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>Anthony Basso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer Commission</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Marie Mello</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trustees of the J.N. Bartlett Fund</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Gary Winitzer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trustees of the J.N. Bartlett Fund</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Wayne Newton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trustees of the J.N. Bartlett Fund</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>Roy Smith, Jr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustees of the J.N. Bartlett Fund</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athol-Royalston School Comm.</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Nancy Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARRS - ATHOL</td>
<td>3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARRS - ATHOL</td>
<td>3 years</td>
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</tbody>
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What Happened at the Special Town Meeting?

Beth Gospodarek

Two articles were passed. One raised and appropriated $50,000 to add to the Stabilization account. The other transferred money from the Stabilization account to cover the additional cost of accounting services to reconcile previous fiscal year balances. There was discussion about the recent audit of the Town, which has been returned to the Selectboard in a draft form.

Soup "R" Bowl/Chicken Shoot March 4, 2017 at the Royalston Fish & Game Club 5:00pm.

Gabe Jarvenpaa

The Events Committee is sponsoring an all you can eat soup, stews/chowders and chili’s, called a Soup "R" Bowl.

This year we are going to have a cooking contest with these three categories. Prizes will be determined by the ticket sales. Tickets will be $10 each. $2 from the sale of each ticket will be split between the winners of each category.

Immediately following we will be hosting a Chicken Shoot. The Chicken Shoot is a raffle as well as a card game. This game cost $1 per round. Winners get a Market Basket precooked chicken and a prize. We are looking for donations in all three categories, also desserts and pastries.

If you would like to donate or be in the contest, purchase tickets or volunteer please call Gabe or Marlene Jarvenpaa 249-4491, Linda Alger, Betty Woodbury, Jan St.Jean, Beth Gospodarek, Geoff Newton, Telma or Marcello Milioli, Nancy Melbourne, Gordon Morrison or Alice Leonard. Please come and join the fun! The Events Committee's next meeting is February 2, 2017 at the Town Hall 7:00pm. You are invited to attend and see how you can help.
Board of Health News
Phil Leger, chair
The cold weather has affected the trash compactor. A new heater was installed. Thank you Travis Neale for the electrical part of it. Our vendor Monadnock Disposal owns the compactor and replaced the heater for the hydraulic oil. It is operating better. Thank you for your cooperation when asked to put trash in a different container.

Still time to get flu vaccine. See your health care provider or nearest pharmacy.

Even though we have gotten precipitation the past month or so, we are still in drought conditions. This will continue for the foreseeable future. Conserve accordingly. Use water saving devices on your fixtures; don’t let water run unnecessarily; and catch rain water when weather permits to water plants. Water is not an infinite resource.

Winter Parking Ban:
December 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017
Please know that the 24 hour per day enforcement is extremely important for keeping our roads cleared and treated so all travelers can safely navigate to and from their homes. Any vehicles left on the roadway in this period of time will be towed at the owners expense. Thank you all in advance for your full cooperation. Have A Safe Winter!

Also be aware that North Fitzwilliam Rd. is now closed for bridge work. Alternate routes include: N. E. Fitzwilliam Rd. and Rt 32.

Keith Newton, DPW supervisor

Royalston Community Newsletter February 2017 Page 3

Cultural Council Notices
Deb Nunes
Our next Open Mic will be held on Friday, February 3rd from 7-10 at the Town Hall. Jazz Depot is the headliner band and will be followed by a variety of incredibly talented local performers. The Cultural Council will provide its always delicious soups, bread, comfort foods, a bargain at only $5.00. Delicious homemade goodies are also for sale, along with tea, coffee, and soda. Water is free.

Money raised goes to support our programs throughout the year, including Blues Night (Saturday, May 13, 2017) and our most popular event, MusicFest (Sunday, July 16, 2017). Upcoming Open Mics are the first Fridays of March (the 3rd) and April (the 7th). It’s not too early to put these dates on your calendar.

If you need a printed communications form, have questions about winter-weather readiness, emergency preparedness in general or want information and do not have internet access, please call REMA at 978-249-2904.

Senior Luncheon Celebrates
On January 11th Evelyn Ferrara (Rene’ Lake-Gagliardi’s mother) celebrated her 98th Birthday with her very special friends at the Royalston senior lunch group.

Royalston Emergency Management
Jim Barclay
e-mail ema@royalston-ma.gov or phone 978-249-2904
If you’ve followed the REMA suggestions over the years, you’re already well-prepared for a cold or snow emergency – you have your three days’ worth of potable water, easy-to-prepare meals, supplies including medications, animal chow and batteries to power your radio and perhaps lighting. Your vehicles are outfitted with basic survival needs. Ok. Now what? Now is the PERFECT time to either create or update your Emergency Communication Plan!

By now you’re familiar with Royalston’s CodeRED reverse 9-1-1 calling program, the best way to ensure you’re notified in emergencies affecting our town. Using a special one-sheet Family Emergency Communication Plan form – which you can fill in online, print and fold to fit into your wallet – you can assemble most of the contact information you will ever need in any emergency. More than likely, you’ll take some cold, snowy day next winter and update your unused communication plan, but just in case you need it, take a few minutes this month to complete it!

If you do not have internet access, call Royalston Emergency Management and Jim will print out copies enough so each member of your family can have one. Oh, and if you have a smart phone, take a picture of your completed form and file under “favorites” on your phone.

If you need a printed communications form, have questions about winter-weather readiness, emergency preparedness in general or want information and do not have internet access, please call REMA at 978-249-2904.

Senior Luncheon Celebrates
On January 11th Evelyn Ferrara (Rene’ Lake-Gagliardi’s mother) celebrated her 98th Birthday with her very special friends at the Royalston senior lunch group.
Phinehas S. Newton Library News
Kathy Morris, Library Director
Trustees: Polly Longsworth, Jeffrey Magnum, Clarence Rabideau
Mondays: 10:00 am- 8:30 pm. Thursdays 1:00pm - 5:00pm and 6:30 - 8:30pm
Saturdays: 9:00 am - 12 noon
978-249-3572  www.royalstonlibrary.org

Donations to the Friends
Donald and Jean Stanton
Theresa Quinn and George Krasowski
The Dooley-Fairchild family
Pierre and Marie Humblet
The MacPhee family
Leslie and Tom Freudenheim
George Bodman
Chris and Emily Santillo in memory of Werner Bundschuh
Rene Lake and Peter Gagliardi

Donation to the Library
Theresa Quinn and George Krasowski

Thank you
Patience Bundschuh and Stephanie McClure for goodies for Saturday refreshments

Blu-Ray Player Added to Items Available to Borrow
Thanks to Josh Doub and Lydia Musco who donated a blu-ray player to the library. Anyone with a valid library card can borrow the blu-ray player and determine whether the difference between the DVD and the blu-ray warrants investing in a machine. The player may be borrowed for one week but must be returned during regular library hours. And, as a reminder, we have a digital projector, small sound system, screen, and dvd player that may be borrowed as well.

Art Exhibit
During February, the art exhibit will continue to feature the work of Kate Collins, Tom Kellner, Gordon Morrison, Laurie Truehart, and Sonja Vaccari. In March and April, Clarence Rabideau, Library Trustee and retired art teacher, will exhibit a variety of his paintings and drawings.

Library Book Discussion Group meets at 4:30 the 3rd Monday of most months.

The book club selection for Monday, February 27 at 4:30 will be Revolutionary by Alex Myers. The novel is about America’s first female soldier, Deborah Sampson Gannett, who ran away from home in 1782, successfully disguised herself as a man, and fought in the Revolutionary War.

Looking forward to the March meeting (but not the end of the anthropocene), the book group will be discussing ‘The New Ecology: Rethinking a Science for the Anthropocene’ by Oswald J. Schmitz. Aaron Ellison, a friend of the author, will facilitate the discussion.

Birds of Prey School Vacation Program
Join us on Tuesday, February 21 at 1:30p.m. at the Royalston Town Hall to see wild raptors in a program by wildlife rehabilitator, Tom Ricardi of the Massachusetts Birds of Prey Rehab Facility in Conway, Mass. The interactive presentation features live birds of prey including a Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Red-Tailed Hawk, Harris Hawk, Kestrel, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, and Eurasian Eagle Owl. The event is sponsored and funded by the Friends of the Library and is free and open to the public but will be limited to the capacity of the room, so arrive early.

For thirty years Ricardi worked as a Fish and Wildlife game warden and licensed wildlife rehabilitator and at the rehab facility cares for injured birds, operates a successful captive-breeding program, and travels throughout New England and New York providing information aimed at helping people appreciate, respect, and assist in the conservation of these important raptors.

Winter Reading Contest Ends 2/27- PRIZES!
The winter reading contest, ‘Reading is Snow Much Fun,” will continue until the end of February. Stop by and pick up your reading log, check out a few books, read, and when you’ve finished, return them and log them in to win. Prizes include many local products: maple syrup from the Divolls, honey from the Nunes, lip balm from Brenda Putney, chocolates from Priscilla’s, and movie passes from the Gardner Cinema. The contest is open to all ages – from very young to very mature!

Yoga with Janet Bettey
Blissful Yoga resumes February 7 and continues each Tuesday at the Town Hall at 7 pm. All skill levels are welcome to attend and poses are given for each level of competency. This relaxing hour plus helps improve flexibility and balance and focuses on breath work. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library with free-will donations accepted.

Ukrainian Easter Egg Dyeing Workshop
Nanji Davison will lead a program on decorating eggs using wax and dye to create traditional designs on Sunday, March 12 at 2:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The class is limited to 12 people so sign up early by calling or emailing the library.

Belly Dancing Class in March
Interest has been plentiful for the six week belly dancing class with Tanya Allain to begin in March. The class will be held on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs of the Town Hall. To register, please call or email the library. Tanya will teach people the basic moves and ways to create a fluid dance. Belly dancing helps increase flexibility and is beneficial to the spine and abdominal muscles, lengthening and strengthening them in a gentle way and is appropriate for all ages.
### Some of the new materials at your library

#### Adult fiction
- Adiga, Aravind
  - Selection Day
- Bohjalian, Chris
  - The Sleepwalker
- Cussler, Clive
  - Odessa Sea
- Cutter, Mick
  - Little Heaven
- Harper, Jane
  - The Dry
- Hurwitz, Gregg
  - Nowhere Man
- Moore, Jonathan
  - The Dark Room
- Rollins, James
  - Seventh Plague
- Rooney, Kathleen
  - Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk
- Sanderson, Brandon
  - Arcanum Unbounded
- Steel, Danielle
  - The Mistress
- Woods, Stuart
  - Below the Belt

#### Adult Non-Fiction
- Barry, Dave
- Dann, Kevin
  - Expect Great Things
- Dyson, Michael
  - Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America
- Fisher, Carrie
  - The Princess Diarist
- Kelly, Megyn
  - Settle for More
- Kidder, Tracy
  - A Truck Full of Money
- Kimmelmer, Robin
  - Braiding Sweetgrass
- Lee, Shetterly
  - Hidden Figures
- Lewis, Michael
  - The Undoing Project
- Martin, Manjula
  - Scratch
- Napoli, Lisa
  - Ray and Joan
- Preston, Douglas
  - The Lost City of the Monkey God
- Sanders, Bernie
  - Our Revolution
- Schwabke, Will
  - Books for Living
- Smith, Chris
  - The Daily Show (the Book)
- Steel, Danielle
  - The Mistress

#### Adult Audiobook
- Driscoll, Sara
  - Lone Wolf
- Mullen, Thomas
  - Darktown
- Whitehead, Colson
  - The Underground Railroad

#### Young Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction
- Flanagan, John
  - The Battle for Hackham Heath
- Lu, Marie
  - The Midnight Star
- Roth, Veronica
  - Carve the Mark

#### CDs
- Lambert, Miranda
  - The Weight of These Wings
- Linq
  - Eagle Reserve
- Young, Neil
  - Peace Trail

### Children’s Fiction
- Brown, Lisa
  - The Airport Book
- Cordell, Matthew
  - Wolf in the Snow
- Edwards, Michelle
  - A Hat for Mrs. Goldman
- Ering, Timothy
  - The Unexpected Love Story of Alfred Fiddleduckling
- Fogliano, Julie
  - Old Dog Baby Baby
- Henkes, Kevin
  - Egg
- Jenkins, Emily
  - A Greyhound, A Groundhog
- Lee, Susan
  - Secrets of our Nation’s Capital
- Leroy, Jean
  - A Well-Mannered Young Wolf
- Patterson, James
  - Word of Mouse
- Rockwell, Anne
  - Zoo Day
- Scieszka, Jon
  - The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs
- Sloat, Teri
  - Pablo in the Snow
- Zagaredski, Pamela
  - Henry and Leo

#### Children’s Nonfiction
- Brown, Martin
  - Lesser Spotted Animals
- Bruel, Nick
  - Bad Kitty Takes the Test
- Fejto, Raphael
  - French Fries
- Gifford, Clive
  - 50 things you Should Know about Inventions
- Nixon, Jonathan
  - Energy Engineering and Powering the Future
- Ottnesku, Steven
  - 3D Printing
- Pilkey, Dav
  - Dog Man Unleashed
- Resler, Tamara
  - How Things Work
- Rooney, Anne
  - Genetic Engineering and Developments in Biotechnology
- Siegel, Randy
  - One Proud Penny
- Sjogren, Rebecca
  - Ocean Engineering and Designing for the Deep Sea
- Sobol, Richard
  - Growing Peace
- Telgemeier, Raina
  - Claudia and Mean Janine
- Telgemeier, Raina
  - Mary Anne Saves the Day

#### DVDs:
- The Accountant
- Bridget Jones’s Baby
- Call the Midwife Season 5
- The Dark Horse
- Deepwater Horizon
- Denial
- The Dressmaker
- Florence Foster Jenkins
- Jason Bourne (DVD & Bluray)
- A Man Called Ove
- The Magnificent Seven
- Middle School: The Worst Years of My Life Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children
- Pete’s Dragon (DVD & Bluray)
- The Philadelphia Story
- Rizzoli & Isles Final Season
- The Secret Life of Pets (DVD & Bluray)
- Snowden
- Storks
- Suicide Squad
- Sully (DVD & Bluray)
- War Dogs

### Preschool Storytime at the library
- 10 am each Monday
- Stories, socializing, songs, snacks and crafts
  - Free

Call the library for more information
The Royalston Historical Society

Use it or lose it: The Royalston Post Office, located in the Historical Society’s building, is one center of news, communication and socializing in our small town. The town contracts with the United States Postal Service to run it, and Janice Draper makes it work. The USPS needs to turn a profit to maintain this contractual relationship with the town. That means it is important to keep the money flowing by shopping at the 01368 PO when buying stamps or doing large mailings.

Raising the roof: The Society is currently soliciting and comparing roofing quotes for Old School House #1. It is hoped that the work will begin in the warmer months. To raise funds for this project, two events are planned:

March 25: Public Supper and Discussion with Kathy Morris about hat weaving: A cozy comfort food supper followed by a talk by Kathy Morris about the importance of wheat and palm weaving in the 19th century to the local and regional economy, particularly its effects on women’s lives.

April 30: Jazz in the Ballroom: delicious food and drink and all that Jazz brunch at the Maples.

Recipe of the Month:
Mousse for your Valentine

9 ounces semisweet chocolate
3 ounces unsweetened chocolate
2 whole large eggs (use fresh local eggs to avoid salmonella as you will not completely cook these eggs)
4 large eggs, separated at room temperature
2 tablespoons strong coffee (or rum or or whatever seems interesting)
1 1/4 cups heavy (whipping) cream, chilled
2 tablespoons sugar

Melt the chocolate in a double boiler. In a large bowl, whisk the 2 whole eggs and 4 egg yolks together. Then, add the rum or coffee. Add the chocolate to the eggs quickly and whisk vigorously so the eggs don’t curdle. Cool to room temperature. Meanwhile whip the cream in another bowl. Chill in the refrigerator. In a 3rd bowl, beat the egg whites until frothy. Gradually add sugar until soft peaks form. Add 1/3 of the frothy egg whites to the chocolate mixture. Stir. Then gently fold in the rest of the egg whites. Fold in the whipped cream. Spoon the mousse into a serving bowl or 6 - 8 individual containers.

Kudos Tyler Boyd, son of Erin Mahoney and grandson of Dan and Cheryl Mahoney of South Royalston made the honor roll for the 1st quarter. This past summer as co-president of the Best Buddies Club, he attended a leadership conference in Indiana. Tyler, a National Honor Society member, is a senior at Athol High School.

Best wishes to Chris Deveneau on his newest endeavor as a Realtor! He earned his license in December and was immediately snapped up by Foster Healey Real Estate, Inc., in Gardner. He is available to help both buyers and sellers of residential properties. Be sure to check out his sponsor box this month.

Drum Circle with Michael Young,
Friday, February 17th at 7pm
There will be a Drum Circle at the Town Hall, February 17th at 7pm, sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council. Led by Michael Young, an accomplished drum leader, this circle is open to all, including children accompanied by an adult. No experience is necessary. Some instruction will be provided. Bring your own drum or use one of ours. For further information call Michael 978-249-2722

Congratulations and Good News

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

Sam’s Canine Companions L.L.C.
Sherry A. Miner
71 Athol Road
PO Box 123
Royalston MA 01368
508-873-0629 call or text

Professional all breed grooming and obedience training

Chris Deveneau REALTOR®
Cell: 978-430-1151
Office: 978-630-2070 ext. 383
Email: chris.deveneau@foster-healey.com
Foster-Healey Real Estate Inc.
26 Pearson Blvd., Gardner, MA 01440
www.foster-healey.com
Obituaries

Marguerite E. (Clark) Langlois
Marguerite E (Clark) Langlois, 95 of 9 Frye Hill Rd., Royalston, died Wednesday, January 4, 2017 in the Athol Hospital, Athol.

She was born in Athol, on February 25, 1921, the daughter of the late Walter and the late Alice (Bowers) Clark.

Marguerite grew up in Royalston and graduated from Athol High School. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 102 in Athol for over 50 years. As a member with the Auxiliary, she held the office of President along with many others over the years. She was past director of the Worcester County Council, Cabane National Femmes for over 43 years, serving a president, National Sous President, Ladies Benevolent Society of Royalston for many years, and the Grange for over 80 years where she held many offices. She enjoyed crocheting. Marguerite was the oldest resident in Royalston.

She leaves two daughters: Alice D. Langlois of Royalston, Jean Langlois of Athol, two sons: Stephen Langlois of Orange, Kevin Langlois of FL: thirteen grandchildren: twenty-four great grandchildren, four great great grandchildren; two sisters: Virginia Gin gras of Royalston, Patricia Lamb of Orange.

Marguerite was pre-deceased by her husband Floyd Langlois; two sons: Peter Langlois and Donald Langlois; three brothers: William Clark, Richard Clark and Walter Clark.

John “Jack” Morse
Royalston/Hudson - John “Jack” Morse, 72, formerly of Hudson, passed away peacefully on Thursday, January 12, 2017 under the loving care of his family and the staff at UMass Memorial Healthcare.

Jack was born in Worcester and raised in Westborough where he graduated from Westborough High School. He went on to serve in the Army National Guard, earned multiple degrees through Wentworth Institute of Technology, and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Jack used his degrees running the family owned and operated company, Engineering Plastics, Inc. in Westborough for 45 years. Jack joined the Westborough Rotary Club where he made many lifelong friends and served as its president from 1990-1991. As his commitment to Rotary international grew, Jack became increasingly involved in district Rotary events and fundraisers and served as a District Governor for Rotary District # 7910 from 1996-1997.

Jack moved to Royalston in 1997 and immediately became involved in local issues and served consecutive terms on the Selectboard. Jack loved to talk and enjoyed being around everyone. He was an avid animal lover and Patriots fan. He could always be seen with a strong smile on his face and deep caring blue eyes. Jack took great pride in his work but his greatest pride was his family. He was a loving husband and an amazing father and grandfather.

Jack was the son of the late John and Martha (Winterbottom) Morse. He will be affectionately remembered and missed by his wife Marion and his three daughters, Christine McPheator of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Michelle C. Helmig and her husband, David of Harrison, Maine; and MaryEllen Jacobson and her husband, Daniel of Andover, Minnesota; his brother, James H Morse and his fiancé, Donalee Julian of Oakham, MA; and his five grandchildren.

Daisy Duke’s Country Salon
Waterville Plaza, 10 Main Street
Winchendon, MA
Hair, Nails, Tanning Services
& Hydro Massage
Hair Stylists
Lisa Martin & Emma LeGrand
Call for an appointment:
978-297-1200

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

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

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?
Dance Week was a special event for January. Dance teacher Anna Hendricks, thanks to a grant from the Mass. Cultural Council, spent a week teaching dance at the Village School, as our Artist in Residence. Children worked on four aspects of dance: focus, balance, energy and rhythm. The dance sessions balanced mental, emotional and physical capacities and skills. The week culminated with a performance for parents.

The 2nd-6th classrooms have started knitting on Tuesday afternoons. On Friday afternoons until February vacation, 1st-6th graders are cross country skiing behind Royalston common.

After School Music Lessons start January 30, for 12 weeks.
Lessons are open to ALL AGES – even adults! Students can begin piano at age 4, and guitar and ukulele at age 7. Group and private lessons are available. You can also sign up for a free trial lesson. For more info, go to http://www.villageschoolma.org/pdf/AfterSchoolMusicProgramWinter-Spring2017.pdf

Roots and Sprouts Parent Child Group
for infants and toddlers up to age 3
First 3 Wednesday mornings in February from 10:15 to 11:30. 
11:30 is outside time in the playground. Led by Brooke Coleman, nurse, midwife and health educator FREE Come gather with other parents and their young children 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.

Donations sought to defray expenses for Nature’s Classroom Trip
Dear Royalston residents;
This year, our district has decided to start sending Grade 5 to Nature’s Classroom instead of Grade 6. Historically, the RCS Grade 6 class would attend Nature’s Classroom for one week in May. The students, classroom teacher, along with parent volunteers, spend a week at Nature’s Classroom in Ocean Park, Maine. This outdoor residential educational program is dedicated to motivational learning by living and learning together, in a non-conventional classroom setting, the outdoors! Experienced Nature’s Classroom staff members assist students as they explore science, environment, team building and community development. The students return with enthusiasm and excitement talking about their experiences as they are welcomed back into the arms of their parent/guardians. For some students, it will be the first time they have been away from home, and, their first time seeing the ocean.

Due to this change, both grades 5 & 6 will be attending this year. The cost for each student is $550, which for many families creates a financial burden. Classrooms are fundraising by having bake sales to help decrease the cost. Simultaneously, the school is reaching out to our community for sponsorship or donations toward our goal, to send every student (44) in grades 5 & 6 to Nature’s Classroom. Contact the school to help.

PTG News: Please share Amerigas invoices:
Anyone who uses Amerigas for propane can give the school a copy of the invoices (going back 12 months) and the PTG will get 2 cents for every dollar spent, up to $2000 a year.

Monty Tech Updates
Mary C. Barclay, Royalston’s Representative – royalston_community_news@yahoo.com
Monty Tech’s Motivational Speaker for 2017 Noon Dismissal will be Chris Gardner, whose life is encapsulated in the autobiography, In Search of Happiness. His presentation is slated for February 27th. Parents are encouraged to read the book so it can be discussed with their Monty Tech students.

Yet ANOTHER articulation! A new agreement between Monty Tech and Mount Wachusett Community College means Business Tech students can earn THREE college credits towards an accounting degree!

Need a little sprucing up in anticipation of Valentine’s Day? Why not check out Monty Tech’s Cosmetology Salon? Services such as shampooing, cutting and styling, a little bangs or beard trimming are available for the cost of $3-$9. More complicated services like coloring, highlighting and perms range in price from $15 - $35. Acrylic nails are a steal at $22; Pedicures $10, Facials just $7 and make-up for a special occasion is a mere $5! Call for an appointment: 978-345-9200. If you time your cosmetology appointment just right, you can enjoy a FANTASTIC lunch at the student-run Mountain Room Restaurant. Exquisite dinners like buttered, poached Maine Lazy Lobster for $12.95 and Roast Duckling with Biarade Sauce for $11.95 join less exotic fare like broiled fresh salmon steak for $10.95 and Chicken Pot Pie for $6.95. Daily specials, soups, sandwiches and desserts are also on the menu, which changes daily. Hours are 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.; Walk-in service. Full handicap access, a waiting area and a bakery with delectable goodies to go!
Classifieds

Free:

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

Services Available:

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

Scholarship Opportunities for Royalston Residents

Residents pursuing post secondary school opportunities are encouraged to apply for local scholarships with deadlines of April 15. Forms are available through high school guidance counselors or the Phinehas Newton Library.

Royalston Academy Scholarships: The Katherine Seymour Bullock Cole Memorial Scholarship (up to $1000) is available to graduating high school residents of Royalston going on to a higher education. The Judy Jenkins Musco Scholarship is available for Royalston residents interested in pursuing educational activities including college, home schooling, educational travel, and educational and literacy programs. Submit to Kristen West c/o Royalston Academy Scholarship Committee, Box 35, Royalston, Mass.

The Ladies’ Benevolent Society offers $300 scholarships to resident men and women of any age attending institutions of higher education, either as a new or returning student. Contact Theresa Quinn at PO Box 108, Royalston, Mass.

for sale:

Royalston Maple Syrup from Divoll’s sugar house. Prices pints $10, quarts $17, half gallons $30 and gallons $52. Call John 978-894-5109

Sweetwater Sugar House at the LeRays has syrup available now and will be open for visits on the state Maple Weekend March 18 - 19. Call 978-249-3464.


Squire Davis Farm honey $7.00 lb. Available in 1 and 2 lb jars. Call Deb Nunes at 978-249-4000. Cash only.

Hand-knitted baby sweater sets, etc. Call 978-249-4013.

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

Three barn stalls available. Some tack available Companion mare available. Call Suzanne at Black Horse Farm (978) 249-9880 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

Birch Knoll Farm - Hay for sale, Contact Helen at 978-249-3163 or 774-239-5062


Fun and Food Across the Border

The Winchendon Rod & Gun, just past the Royalston Community School on Winchendon Road, is again doing their “Fish Frydays,” third Fridays, 4-7p.m., for an impressive yet affordable platter of food. Additional information is available by calling the Club during business hours at 978-297-3955.

Monthly Phillipston area Lions’ Club fundraising breakfasts have concluded for the winter. Club activities continue, and Royalston members are welcomed! Contact Junior Whitney at 978-249-3566 for details.

Daisy Duke’s Country Salon

Waterville Plaza, 10 Main Street
Winchendon, MA
Hair, Nails, Tanning Services & Hydro Massage
Hair Stylists
Lisa Martin & Emma LeGrand
Call for an appointment: 978-297-1200
Garden Notes  January 22, 2017

So…writing about the garden in the third week of January is a bit of a stretch. I wandered out there today. Patch-es, wee patches, of green remain. The lettuces under the fish tanks continue to grow. Surprisingly (life is full of surprises), the lettuces not under the fish tanks survive as well. With my singular lack of success wintering-over the spinach under heavy mulch, I left one bed uncovered. It is green. The kale is alive; so too the oriental greens. Bits of cilantro and chervil appear here and there. The parsley persists, though barely. The parsley in (number four son) Joshua’s garden in South Royalston thrives and we picked a bunch today. (It is South Royalston after all.)

With the ground mostly snow-free, I am reminded of the fact that my late November list of chores-to-complete remains my list of chores-to-complete. Leaves partly raked to their final destination. Beds unworked and uncovered. Raspberry canes not yet pruned. Busy days ahead.

Which exhausts me of garden notes. Fortunately, the weather is always a worthy subject of conversation. The wood furnace was fired up on December 15, two and one-half weeks earlier than the year before, and I had visions of a particularly severe winter to follow. Not yet, the furnace off more than on in the intervening five weeks. If it is not quite balmy, it is not quite winter either. Snow cover has hardly covered. The town plows may have been busy but we have shoveled but twice. I am not being naïve. By the time you read this, there could be a foot of snow on the ground with temperatures hovering around 0º. On the other hand, Kathy and I will be in Ireland, oblivious to conditions in Royalston. Between now and then I will be obliged to root through the root cellar. The relatively warm conditions in Royalston. Between now and then I will be obliged to root through the root cellar. The relatively warm temperatures, while welcome in so many other ways, is not conducive to the storage of vegetables in a root cellar. Potatoes have sprouted. Winter squashes exhibit increasing amounts of decay. Carrots, beets, and radishes have commenced top growth; onions bottom growth. The cabbages and leeks are nothing you would want to introduce to your kitchen. Removing the rotting outer leaves will reduce their size, sometimes significantly, but what results is a kitchen worthy vegetable. It is an ongoing project; soon after my return I’ll be, once again, rooting in the root cellar.

I’d like to think gardening activity might pick up a bit in February but that is not likely. Seeds will arrive but none will be started before the beginning of March. Fruit tree pruning beckons, but, in light of the absence of fruit last year, it is difficult to become motivated.

I am reminded that patience is a virtue.

I will engage in virtuous patience.  

Larry Siegel

Road Closed

For the second time in nearly three years our road is closed. This is not a complaint. The closures on North Fitzwilliam Road will allow culverts that transport the waters of Lawrence Brook to be reinforced or replaced. This is a good thing. Even so, life on our side of town has changed. We have gone from living on a well-traveled route to New Hampshire to living on a dead end.

Someone once told me that, from a “psychic energy” point of view, dead ends are problematic. Energy needs to flow unimpeded, he said. Dead ends capture energy, he said. Captured energy is not a good thing. I am skeptical. I know people who have lived long and happy lives on dead end roads. Still, when it comes to psychic energy one cannot be too cautious, so we are vigilant.

When our road was closed for the first time in June of 2014, Tom and I spent the first week grumbling. We traveled to New Hampshire several times a week. Our usual grocery store was in Rindge. We were used to our Keene outings that included Home Depot, Agway, The Goodie Shoppe, and the occasional lunch at the Thai restaurant on Main Street. Now a trip to New Hampshire involved the detour - dreaded by all at our end of town. The alternate route on Northeast Fitzwilliam Road took 10 to 12 minutes to reach a merge point that was a little more than a mile from our driveway. Suddenly New Hampshire was far away. And what about our neighbors who live on either edge of the closure? There is no minimizing the inconvenience when a distance of a few steps becomes eight miles.

Despite all this, our grumbling was short-lived and we’ve come to appreciate the up-side of our dead end. Through traffic is eliminated, giving us a renewed appreciation of our road as a neighborhood. When we take our walks to the Putneys’ mill and back, we greet every car or truck on the road with a smile and a wave: “We must know who this is,” we reason, since no one “from away” could be passing through. With traffic reduced to just us locals, roadside trash is gone. No more Bud Light cans and Dunkin’ Donuts bags. Could we possibly believe that “out-of-staters” are that much more careless? The silence that comes with less traffic opens our ears. We hear the call of birds from across the road and the bark of a neighbor’s dog as they begin their daily walk in the woods.

An early fantasy I had of our less-traveled road was that the animals would take it over. I had visions of deer and foxes wandering freely, becoming tamer, like communally-shared pets. This hasn’t happened, or not when I can see. But our neighbors, whose house is close to the road, report moose and coyotes in their back yard. Have these animals been seduced out of the forest by our quieter neighborhood?

When we do venture to New Hampshire I am struck by the beauty of the detour route. One of my favorite old homes, the Phinehas Newton house, is on this road and I love driving up and around the bend as it comes into view. The woods and fields are lovely in every season, and the prodigious pot holes and narrow turns cause me to slow down and notice.

So, we seem to be surviving with no visible effects of captured energy. Our road will reopen some day. Until then we continue to appreciate our life on a dead end road.

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Rich DeMar
Wildlife Sightings

Paula Pralinsky spotted a Great Horned Owl in a tree on Frye Hill in January. This raptor is common not only in Royalston, but also in deserts, wetlands, forests, grasslands, backyards, cities, and almost any other semi-open habitat between the Arctic and the tropics in North America. With sensitive hearing fed by special feathers that direct sounds to their ears, keen eyes on a head that can swivel 180 degrees, soft feathers for silent flight, and strong talons that sever the spine of its prey in a death grip that requires a force of 28 pounds to open, a Great Horned Owl is a strong hunter that consumes a diverse diet. They eat mostly mammals and birds—especially rabbits and mice, but also many other species including voles, moles, rats, chipmunks, squirrels, woodchucks, bats, skunks, house cats, porcupines, ducks, loons, owls, hawks, crows, doves, reptiles, insects, fish, invertebrates, and sometimes carrion. They are usually nocturnal hunters, but in winter they may hunt during daylight hours.

Great Horned Owls nest in mated pairs in February, so listen for the “Who cooks for you?” hoots that accompany their egg-laying this month. source: The Cornell Lab of Ornithology. https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/great_horned_owl/lifehistory

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

2017 Dog Licenses now available.
Dogs must be registered by March 31, 2017. $6.00/ altered dog; $10.00/ unaltered dog. Rabies Certificate required to license dogs. Business hours are Mondays, 9-1 and 6-8 at Whitney Hall, 5 School St.