July 3        Monday
7 pm  Workshop performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream, a comedy, by the Royalston Shakespeare Co., the best 2-week, cast-all-comers Shakespeare workshop we know! Everyone is invited to attend.

July 4        Tuesday
The 241st anniversary

July 6        Thursday
1:30 pm  Build a Better World Summer Reading Program for all ages at the Library. Continues Thursdays until July 27. See p. 3 for details.

7:30 pm  Events Committee planning meeting at the Town Hall. Any individual interested in helping or setting up on the Common for the annual country fair, show up and give the support that the community desires and deserves to enjoy one day a year.

July 9        Sunday
12:07 a.m.  Full Buck Moon

July 10       Monday
10 am  Preschool Summer Reading Program kicks off with a visit from Animal Adventures. Continues on Mondays through July 31.

July 21       Friday
7 pm  Royalston Historical Society Annual Meeting at Old School House #1. It's a night at the museum. Refreshments.

July 23       Sunday
5:46 am  New Sturgeon Moon
noon to 5 pm  Musicfest 2017 at Bullock Park

August 7      Monday
2:11 p.m.  Full Sturgeon Moon

August 9      Wednesday
National Booklover's Day

August 17     Thursday
7 pm  All Town Ice Cream Social at the Library. Prizes awarded from the Summer Reading Program. Free!

August 30     Wednesday
5:30 pm  Ladies' Benevolent Society Summer Potluck at Packard Pond. Bring the family. Come to swim and kayak at 3 pm. Eat at 6 pm. Call Beth for info and directions 978-249-0358

Save the date
September 9  Saturday
all day  the Events Committee presents "a country fair", music, food, agricultural judging and a lot more.

September 23 Saturday
7 pm  Local food supper to support on-going improvements to the building of the Royalston Historical Society's building, Old School House #1
RoyalstonNet Network UPDATE
Jon Hardie

Great news. With the successful ballot vote on June 27th, the Town of Royalston can now submit the final grant application for our RoyalstonNet town-wide Broadband Internet network to Mass EOHCD for $1,125,000. We have now completed all of the formal requirements and prepared all of the documentation for final EOHCD grant submission. We expect to receive final grant approval during July, and launch immediately.

Here’s how you can help.
If you’ve been holding back to see if RoyalstonNet is the real deal, or if your satellite internet contract will expire in the next 12 months ... NOW’s the time to pre-register for service at www.royalston-ma.gov (Look on the left hand side of the web page). This is not a contract for service, but it does tell us that you’re really serious and enables us to plan for your connection as we build out the town-wide network in your neighborhood.

The more people who sign up, the more quickly we can move past break-even and be able to reduce subscriber fees. It’s win/win; 350 of your neighbors have already pre-registered.

You can also sign-up for the Royalston.Net Newsletter for the most current progress reports and information about when we will be connecting subscribers. You can then sign up for a specific level of service. We’re all in this together.

Board of Health News
Phil Leger, Chair

Sticker time is here. Due July 1st, see attendant. First vehicle $15, 2nd household vehicle $5. Display it on the lower driver’s side windshield. This funding helps keep recycling free. Thanks to all who participate.

Please no smoking inside the recycling facility. It is a fire hazard. Plus, who needs second hand smoke? Cigarette butts are litter.

A reminder... if needed for your summer parties, recycling barrels are available to be borrowed for your cans and bottles. See attendant to sign one out.

Adopt an opossum! They eat over 4000 ticks a week by vacuuming anything in their path. They eat slugs, mice, rats, carrion, and poisonous snakes (they’re immune). Sounds like an animal to love. Too many are hit by cars, however.

That being said, personal protection from insects that bite and leave something behind starts with you. Empty those stagnant buckets and other receptacles of stale water. Better yet, water something that needs it.

Have a safe and fun summer.

Bring Home a Blue Ribbon
The Royalston Agriculture Commission is hosting a vegetable judging contest at the Events Committee Day on the common September 9th. Enter your summer produce, fruit or flowers. Please no canned/ prepared items such as jam, pickles, etc. Get started now growing your veggies!

Royalston Celebrates Memorial Day
Despite the Rain
Beth Weaver

Memorial Day brought showers, but many Royalston town residents still came out to honor those men and women who gave their lives in service of our country.

Church members from the First Congregational Church opened their doors and welcomed attendees to their newly renovated hall for the Memorial Day Service. John Divoll acted as Master of Ceremonies, while Selectboard member Christine Long welcomed the community.

The ceremony started with the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Honor Guard Post 102 of Athol, and Erin Giroud led the singing of the “Star Spangled Banner”. “America the Beautiful” was sung by the Royalston Community Singers including Gordon Morrison, Samantha West, Elizabeth West, Andrea Lively and Patience Budescht.

Many of our community youth participated in the service. “In Flanders Field” was read by Anya LeBlanc, while “Cemetery” was read by Lilly Johnson. Both of these young ladies are 6th graders at the Royalston Community School. Marissa Nadeau, Justice Bettez, Ruby Tower-Hughes, Aurore LaMarche and Jordan LaMarche from the Athol Community Elementary School sang patriotic songs led by Erin Giroud.

Peter Newman of Royalston spoke and delivered the benediction, followed by a procession to the monument where the memorial wreath was placed. Rick Abbott of Warwick was dressed in the military attire of 1763, and fired a musket, followed by taps. Glenn Hastings wore a Union uniform with his saber drawn, while Andy Anderson held the flag.

The group then paraded to the cemetery to present another wreath, followed by Royalston Fire Department while the Royalston Police Department directed traffic.

The ceremony was followed by a luncheon at the Town Hall, prepared and served by the Ladies’ Benevolent Society.

The members of the Memorial Day Committee would like to thank everyone who participated and attended, helping to make a beautiful tribute to our fallen troops. “Our Flag does not fly because the wind moves it, it flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it.”
@ The Phinehas S. Newton Library

Build a Better World Summer Programs – For All Ages – 1:30 p.m. @ the Library
July 6th - Sharpie Tie-Dye with Alyssa Bergquist - T-shirts will be provided to each child.
  July 13th - Animal Adventures - Lots of diverse animals from around the world.
  July 20th - Build a bluebird house with John Chencharik - Precut and ready for assembly.
  July 27th - Build Better Ice Cream! - Come use your muscles to hand-crank homemade ice cream.

Build a Better World Preschool Programs – 10:00 a.m. @ the Library
July 10th – Animal Adventures - Show and touch a lot of the gentlest animals
July 17th – Tie-Dye Sharpie T-shirts with Paula Pralinsky - T-shirts will be provided to each child.
July 24th – Summer Collages with Marjorie Bassett – Create your own masterpiece.
July 31st – Fresh Kid-Whipped Cream and Strawberries- Shaking up your own whipped cream to serve on top of fresh strawberries.

Adult & Young Adult Summer Program – Bit of Bliss Yoga with Janet Bettey
Tuesdays July & August @ 7:00 p.m. - Join yoga instructor Janet Bettey for relaxation yoga in the garden behind the Library (class will be held in the town hall if it rains or is too buggy).

Summer Reading Raffle Drawing and Ice Cream Social for all ages! Thursday, August 17th 7:00 p.m. - Participate in our summer reading raffle; read a book, get a raffle ticket! More details available @ the Library.

Summer Reading Dance Program with Tayiah Neale and Brittney Brown. Ages 6-12
July 24th – July 28th 8:30 am - 12:00 pm – Solo or Duet
July 31st – August 4th 10:00 am - 12:00 – Basic Dance and Group Performance
Sign up required. Sign up forms @ the Library.

Build a Better World is sponsored by your local library, The Royalston Academy, the Friends of the Library, the Royalston Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Phinehas S. Newton Library News
Kathy Morris, Library Director
Trustees: Jeffrey Mangum, Clarence Rabideau, Theresa Quinn
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- Thank you!
Matt Waserloos of Achilles Agway in Keene for donating many plants to the plant sale
Beth Gospodarek, Maureen Blasco, and Patti Stanko for all your work on the plant sale
Marita Cauthen for help with the book sale
Tyler Boyd for help setting up and taking down the book sale and providing other assistance during the book sale
To all those who so generously donated to the plant and book sale

Art Exhibit
Karen Otto will continue to have her hand sewn fabric collages at the Library. Stop by to admire the work and figure out which fairy tale is depicted in some of the work.

Commonwealth Catalog
In the last newsletter we mentioned that we were joining Commonwealth Catalog. We have completed training and are connected to the system. Commonwealth Catalog is an online network that connects us with most of the libraries, including academic libraries, in Massachusetts and many of the Rhode Island libraries so that we can not only let you know if that hard to find title is available but also order it directly for you. If it isn’t available there, we can still use the service through the Massachusetts Library System to order books from libraries across the United States and sometimes elsewhere (if you’ll pay the extra postage!).

Enhance your summer fun for FREE!
Unique things to borrow from the library:
* Orion StarBlaster Telescope and tripod
* ice cream makers (the round ball type)
* Kill-A-Watt electricity monitor
* 6’ folding tables (2)
* digital projector, and screen
* kindergarten readiness kits
* state park passes

Reading Bingo for Young Adults and Adults
Want to have some fun and win prizes this summer for reading? Participate in ‘Build a Better World Bingo’ at the Library. Pick up a card, begin reading, and fill in the categories. Each card has different categories, such as: a graphic novel or a book by a Massachusetts author. Each time you read a book that fits one of the squares, you get a ticket and fill in the square. Stop by the Library and pick up a card.

Summer Reading
There are lots of great things going on at the Library this summer and we invite everyone to stop by and join in the various events. Limber up with yoga for everyone. Kids can get their groove on at dance camp. Gravitate to the theater as the Royalston Shakespeare Co. presents its 14th workshop performance. Come to the summer reading programs each week for educational and fun events. Eat plenty of ice cream. Read some books to win some great prizes. The Library is fortunate to be able to offer these programs with financial support from the Friends of the Library and a grant from the Royalston Academy.

We also have the summer reading lists for schools and if we don’t have a book you are looking for, we can order it for you. We can also show you how to connect and download e-books.

Royalston Shakespeare Company Performance
A Midsummer Night’s Dream

REASON
AND LOVE
KEEP LITTLE
COMPANY
TOGETHER
NOW-A-DAYS

A FRIENDS OF THE PHINEHAS S NEWTON LIBRARY PRODUCTION
ROYALSTON TOWN HALL JULY 3, 2017
Some of the new materials at your library

Adult Fiction
Batuman, Elif  The Idiot
Beattie, Ann  The Accomplished Guest
Black, Benjamin  Wolf on a String
Crichton, Michael  Dragon Teeth
Doiron, Paul  Knife Creek
Fender, Joseph  The Switch
George, Nina  The Little French Bistro
Glass, Julia  A House Among the Trees
Godwin, Gail  Grief Cottage
Green, Jane  The Sunshine Sisters
Grisham, John  Camino Island
Gudernak, Heather  Not a Sound
Hilderbrand, Elin  The Identicals
King, Laurie  Lockdown
Lively, Penelope  The Purple Swamp Hen and Other Stories
Meloy, Maile  Do Not Become Alarmed
Paterson, James  The Black Book
Robards, Karen  The Ultimatum
Roberts, Nora  Come Sundown
Roy, Arundhati  The Ministry of Utmost Happiness
Sandford, John  Golden Prey
Shattuck, Jessica  The Women in the Castle
Various Authors  Matchup

Adult Non-Fiction
Alexie, Sherman  You Don’t Have to Say You Love Me
Franken, Al  Al Franken, Giant of the Senate
Grandin, Temple  Temple Grandin’s Guide to Working with Farm Animals
Lamott, Anne  Hallelujah Anyway
Mercola, Joseph  Fat for Fuel
Nhat Hanh  The Art of Living
O’Reilly, Bill  The Civil War: Lies & Legends
Ortiz, David  Papi
Ruhlman, Michael  Grocery
Sandberg, Sheryl  Option B
Sedaris, David  Theft by Finding

Children’s Fiction
Arsenault, Isabelle  Colette’s Lost Pet
De la Cruz, Melissa  Rise of the Isle of the Lost
Galing, Ed  Tony
Grabenstein, Chris  Beach Party Surf Monkey
Lennon, Julian  Touch the Earth
Naberhaus, Sarvinder  Blue Sky White Sky
Patterson, James  Pottermouth & Stoopid
Rosenthal, Amy  On the Spot
Rubin, Adam  Dragons Love Tacos 2
Stilton, Geronimo  The Treasure of the Sea
Willems, Mo  The Good for Nothing Button
Wolk, Lauren  Beyond the Bright Sea

Children’s Nonfiction
Davis, Jim  Garfield Cooks Up Trouble
Jenkins, Martin  Exploring Space
Markel, Michelle Balderdash!  Equality and Diversity
Ogden, Charlie  Government & Democracy
Ogden, Charlie  Identity and Gender
Pullman, Philip  The Adventures of John Blake
Winterbottom, Julie  Frightlopedia

Young Adult Fiction/Non-Fiction
Dessen, Sarah  Once and for All
Patterson, James  Crazy House
Yoon, Nicola  The Sun Is Also a Star

Audiobooks
Alexie, Sherman  You Don’t Have to Say You Love Me
Mackintosh, Clare  I See You
McKinty, Adrian  Police at the Station and They Don’t Look Friendly
Rooney, Kathleen  Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk
Sedaris, David  Theft by Finding
Tyson, Neil  Astrophysics for People in a Hurry

DVDs: A United Kingdom, Beauty and the Beast (DVD & Blu-ray), Before I Fall, Call the Midwife: Season 6, The Great Wall, In Dubious Battle, Labyrinth, The Last Word, Logan (DVD & Blu-ray), Queen of Katwe, The Shack, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, and Vikings: Season 4 Volume 1

CDs:  Chris Stapleton  From a Room: Volume 1

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

Stephen Chase Contracting
Restoration and Preservation Services
Royalston
978-249-0358
MA Construction Supervisor #044817
EPA Lead Safe Certified #55592-2
Mysteries at the Museum

The Historical Society Museum (Old School House #1) located at the head of the Common, will be open most Saturdays in the summer from 10 am - noon. However, between August 26th and September 18th, it will be closed. If anyone wishes to volunteer to open it for three hours those Saturdays, please contact us.

There are several items in the collection at the museum that no one can identify with surety. For example, does any reader know what this iron disk was used for? If you know, please stop by the museum or contact the historical society by calling Peter Kraniak or through the web-site royalstonhistorical.org.

Village School News

Groundbreaking at Camp Caravan

In early June, the building project at Camp Caravan was inaugurated with an inspirational groundbreaking, attended by past students, present students, parents, teachers, friends, and neighbors. John Richardson, President of Millers River Educational Cooperative, said that the new school would be the heart of the Camp Caravan educational campus, for continuous education throughout life. State Representative Susannah Whipps said that education is not a race, but a journey and the Village School would be a strong foundation for that journey. Rise Richardson, Village School Director, brought everyone's attention to past, present and future children who will benefit from this school.

Those of you passing by Camp Caravan on Rt. 68 are noticing the ongoing construction. The new home for the Village School is going up! It will be enclosed before the winter, and ready to move in, in August 2018, ready to welcome more students.

Openings

There are openings for this September. There are openings in the K-1 class and the 2nd-3rd grade class. Call as soon as possible to talk to Director Rise Richardson about admissions: 978 249 3505 or email rise@villageschoolma.org.


---

Royalston Computer Repair

- Virus and Malware Removal 978-467-6194 Toll Free
- Tune Up's Call or Text
- Laptop Screen Repair
- Internet Data Cap Consultation
- Rural Internet Service Provider Recommendations
- Custom Builds

---

Chris Deveneau
REALTOR®

Cell: 978-430-1151
Office: 978-830-2070 Ext. 383
Email: chris.deveneau@foster-healey.com

Foster - Healey.
REAL ESTATE, INC.
26 Pearson Blvd, Gardner, MA 01440
www.foster-healey.com
Kelsey Savoy recently graduated from Union College in Schenectady N.Y. Kelsey received a bachelor of arts degree, majoring in political science and minoring in anthropology. She has accepted a position in Admissions at Southern New Hampshire University.

Athol High School Graduates: Tyler Boyd, Kassandra Frazier, Ryan Warner, and Lucy White

Royalston saw three Monty Tech grads this year, all of whom garnered special recognition at the year-end award ceremony. Sarah Nicole Arsenault, who graduated with a certificate in Electrical, was awarded the title of “Most Cooperative” in her shop. Ivers Phillips Lawrence earned the title “Most Dependable” in his program, which granted a certificate in Welding and Metal Fabrication. Marnie Fryer Anair was awarded a total of $2,250 of the $88,950 in scholarships and grants that night!

Ladies Benevolent Society Scholarships 2017
Marnie Anair LBS scholarship
Tyler Boyd Marguerite Langlois Scholarship
Ryan Warner Maxine Wilcox Scholarship

President’s List (4.0 GPA) at Mount Wachusett Community College:
Dylan Hall, Loryn Killay, Melissa Persson, and Michael Young

Military news:
Brian Nunes, US Navy, has recently been transferred to Lemoore Naval Air Station in Lemoore, CA. He will be training until October, when he will be deployed on the aircraft carrier, US Theodore Roosevelt, for 7-10 months.
Kevin Nunes, Massachusetts National Guard, is spending three months at Fort Meade in Maryland, training to do publicity, news releases and photography for the Guard. After 10 years of active duty with the US Army, including tours in Korea, Iraq and Afghanistan, he has been attending college full-time, and will be starting his senior year at Framingham State University, majoring in accounting, where he maintains a 4.0 average. Deb and Joe Nunes are the proud parents of Brian and Kevin.

Police Department News
Congratulations to Royalston Patrol Officer Nicholas R. Trinque, who recently returned home after two and a half months at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, completing for the first time the U.S. Army Civilian Police Academy. Officer Trinque underwent Military Police training at Fort Leonard Wood in 2005; he continues to serve in the U.S. Army National Guard, and is also a Police Officer at Fort Devens Army/USMC Base.

Royalston Community Newsletter July/August 2017 Page 7

Summer Program at the 1794 Meetinghouse in New Salem
Saturday July 1st: Twangtown Paramours – Nashville-based folk/ Americana duo
Thursday July 6th: Fire Pond - old-time fiddle tunes, swing, roots music, Celtic, etc.
Saturday July 8th: O-Tones - Hot Swing & Motown
Sunday July 9th: Duo Déjà Vu (Rebecca Hartka - cello and Barbara Lysakowski –piano)
Saturday July 15th: (Old Home Day) The Mad, Mad, World of Adam Bergeron
Sunday July 16th: Erin Dubois (flute) with Andrew D’Antonio (piano)
Thursday July 20th: Jon McAuliffe - eclectic folk, folk-rock, jazz, blues
Saturday July 22nd: Green Sisters - Folk, Celtic, bluegrass and more with wonderful harmonies
Thursday July 27th: Danika & The Jeb – acoustic soul/pop duo from Nashville
Saturday July 29th: Jeff Snow – Celtic Music: the Songs, the Stories and the History
Saturday August 5th: Lonesome Brothers – Country swagger, wistful folk and breezy rock
Saturday August 12th: Rock Tri-Fecta - Anthony Kaczynski, Trusty Sidekick, and Fireking

Armchair Travel
Beth Gospodarek was selected to attend a summer tour of China and Vietnam with the National Consortium of Teaching about Asia. As an attempt to share the experience with her students and community, she’ll be posting family-friendly photos of her adventures on Instagram at mrs_g_inasia. (If readers don’t care to deal with social media, she will make a presentation for the LBS in the fall.)
Royalston Emergency Management
Royalston Emergency Management Director Jim Barclay
e-mail ema@royalston-ma.gov or phone 978-249-2904

Keep Your Cool This Summer – Things are heating up – Royalston went from low 40's, raw and rainy, to full-sun and mid-90's in 24 hours in June, and it is likely conditions will worsen over the next month or two. FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) states, “Heat kills by pushing the human body beyond its limits. In extreme heat and high humidity, evaporation is slowed, and the body must work extra hard to maintain a normal temperature.”

Prepare Your Family & Friends – 1.) Assemble an emergency kit. 2.) Make and share your family communications plan. 3.) Review signs and symptoms of heat-related emergencies, and how to treat them.

Prepare Your Home – 1.) Properly weather-strip windows and doors. 2.) Cover windows that receive early morning and afternoon sun with shades, drapes; outdoor awnings and louvers (which can reduce heat entering the house by 80%)! 3.) Install window air conditioners snugly, and insulate properly.

Take Care of Yourself – 1.) Stay well-hydrated, which means consuming plenty of water, even if you don’t feel thirsty. Avoid caffeinated beverages, which can have a dehydrating effect. 2.) If you must work outside, try to avoid noon-3 p.m. and wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing. 3.) Protect your skin with sunscreen and a wide-brimmed hat.

Take Care of Others – 1.) Check on elders and those who may be more prone to heat. 2.) Check frequently on farm animals and pets to ensure they have access to shade and water. 3.) NEVER, EVER leave children or animals in an unattended vehicle! (On an 80 degree, sunny day, a closed vehicle can reach 130 degrees in 30 minutes; 172 degrees in 60 minutes!)

Complete information, helpful templates and “printables” to help with preparing for extreme heat can be found at www.ready.gov and questions may be directed to Royalston Emergency Management at ema@royalston-ma.org or 978-249-2904

Athol Royalston Regional School District News
Mary C. Barclay
Welcome to our new Superintendent, Darcy Marie Fernandes, who comes to ARRSD with nearly a quarter century of experience in education, including “level IV school turn-arounds.” She is in the final stage of completing a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership through Lesley University. She has earned a reputation for setting expectations high, and enjoys a well-documented history of helping students, staff and districts meet those high standards. Her passion for children is obvious. She’s enthusiastic and approachable; she is committed to data-driven decision-making, but willing to undertake new and creative ideas and partnerships if the data indicate success is likely. Superintendent Fernandes expects to expand and develop new community partnerships, school-to-work programs, articulations with institutes of higher learning and collaborations with alternative education. Ms. Fernandes is planning to move to this area.

Royalston Community School
Mary C. Barclay
As part of the Royalston Community School’s career exploration program with Guidance Counselor Rachel Schwab, fourth and fifth grade students recently enjoyed an informative morning with Royalston Police Corporal Robert Plummer and Royalston Patrol Officer Jennifer Caisse. Corporal Plummer made a detailed poster about the career, which he donated to the classes. He and Officer Caisse answered questions, passed around several uniform components, demonstrated fingerprinting, and assisted students in trying on a protective vest. Both stressed how important an education is for this field.
Classifieds

Help Wanted:  Lawn Mowing/Trimming needed for 2017 season: Weekly, all equipment and fuel provided. Job takes 3 to 4 hours, will pay $15.00 an hour. Can provide transportation if needed. Great summer job for young person wanting some spending money. Must be reliable and commit to the job through September. Other odd job work available as well. Contact Gary @ 978-575-0124.

Services Available:

- Saxophone/Clarinet/Piano/Contemporary Songwriting and Theory Lessons: Laura Ramsey. Experience with students on ASD and learning disability. $20/half hour session. Call Laura 774-272-0760 or email lramsey@alumni.berklee.edu

- Piano and Guitar Lessons: Evan Foisy. $20 for a half hour session. Call Evan 978-249-4250, or email evan55@comcast.net

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 bguiney@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

Royalston Community Newsletter July/August 2017 Page 9

Royalston Cemetery Commission

WORK OPPORTUNITY: Contractor/individual to work as needed with the Cemetery Commission and area funeral homes for Royalston burials. For more information on requirements, contact Commission Chair Roy A. Smith at 978-249-9697 or Roland G. Hamel at 978-249-4587.

for sale:

- (for prices listed or best offer): Contact: Aaron @ 978-249-6771 or aelisson@fas.harvard.edu
- House & Garden: Generator: Onan Pro-4000E 4-kW Genset plus 50-foot, 20-Amp cable with twist-lok connectors and 12-V battery charger connector: $500.
- Weed Whacker: Stihl FSE-60 electric edge trimmer $50
- Rain barrels: Spruce Creek 55-gallon capacity. Two available. $30 each or $50 for the pair.
- Sprayer: Agway adjustable seed/fertilizer spreader. Hand operated. $25

Home brewing supplies:
- Primary fermenter: 6.5-gallon plastic True Brew Bali with venting lid: $10
- Glass carboys: 5-gallon capacity: $25 each or $40 for the pair
- Miscellaneous supplies: mesh straining bag, airlocks (2), carboy brush, beer-bottle capper, beer-bottle caps, wine-bottle corks: $25 for the lot

Firewood for sale. 6 cords cut and dry, 20”-24” $175/cord or $900 for all 6 cords. You pick up. Tony Cooper 978-249-9776.

1) Antique wooden hand operated grain thrasher. 2) Large old wooden book case with movable shelves. #) Large old wooden top load ice chest. 4) Large oak 4-drawer slant top desk. 5) Small oak 4-drawer desk. 6) Cherry color electric heater fireplace. Must see to appreciate! Please call 978-249-6814 for measurements and prices.

Mosquito Magnet advanced mosquito defense system. ½ acre range. Used one season only. Ideal for small yards and patios. $100.00 firm. Call Sharon 987-249-3040.

Royalston Maple Syrup from Divoll’s sugar house. Prices pints $10, quarts $17, half gallons $30 and gallons $52. Call John 978-894-1109

Sweetwater Sugar House at the LeRays has syrup available. Call 978-249-3464.


Local, raw honey from Squier Davis Farm. One pound jars $7.00 Cash preferred. Call Deb/Joe Nunes at 978-249-4000

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.

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

**Garden Notes**  
**June 13, 2017**

I best fess up. I am not penning these thoughts during a break from my day’s toils. Rather, I write while cruising at thirty thousand some feet en route to Salt Lake City, where a car will be rented to transport us to Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Heretofore, affairs in the garden have provided me a mid-June window of opportunity to take off for a bit. This year, with the delayed spring, that window was barely ajar. The past two days were a period of feverish activity (90° temperatures notwithstanding), the goal being to leave the garden maintenance-free during my absence. (Almost maintenance-free: number three son has been engaged to troll the potato patch for the dreaded beetles. The potatoes are never maintenance-free.) Toward that end, corn was (finally) planted. There were second plantings of a host of crops (carrots, beets, squash, cucumbers, and beans). All recent transplants were watered and mulch applied. And, of course, the entire garden was weeded. Notwithstanding, I always leave with a measure of angst: what might prevail in my absence, and, could it have been avoided with my presence? There has already been one casualty: peonies, which should have flowered a week ago, have just started opening and I will miss peak bloom. And so it goes.

**June 23, 2017**

Returned last night a bit worse for wear. How could I not; we travelled eleven hundred miles, unpacking and re-packing at five different bedding down sites. I do not mean to understate the magnificence of the natural world we encountered (the geysers and mud holes and hot springs, the wildlife, the canyons and the waterfalls, the [still] snow-covered mountains, the remote lakes accessible only by hiking) but the experience was undeniably compromised by the hordes of tourists we encountered as well.

The garden? Also, a bit worse for wear. All of the lettuce and some of the spinach were eaten. And not by people. Since they represented what I had anticipated to be the lion’s share of my product at tomorrow’s market, I was less-than-pleased. I was even lesser-than-pleased to discover that the hundred or so brassica plants I set out before departure had all but disappeared. Similarly, the corn planted at the same time must have emerged, then de-emerged. Not a sign of corn. It is, of course, possible that my presence would have altered these outcomes. It is, of course, possible that my presence would not have altered these outcomes. There remains some hope in regard to corn: more (a shorter season variety) will be planted tomorrow. There remains no hope in regard to the brassicas, it being too late to re-seed.

All is not bleak. Apples and peaches are plentiful. More importantly, they show little signs of disease or insect damage. There are pods on the first planting of peas. Within a week, they will plump up and we can begin our annual celebration of the sugar snap. And I am eternally grateful for the fact that whatever finds the lettuce and spinach and brassicas and corn so appealing has no interest in the strawberries. Though a half-dozen cedar waxwings do; row covers will be applied. Tonight, strawberries! (I am not in the habit of making use of an exclamation point, but what better time than first strawberries.)

Oh, if I could sit back, consume mountains of sugar snap peas and strawberries, and let the garden tend to itself. If only. Everything that was planted for the second time twelve days ago will be planted a third time. Another weeding, a final application of my declining stores of mulch, and the weekly visitation to the potato patch will ensure that I will not be occupying the armchair. But, in three weeks’ time, I’ll have turned the corner: prep work behind and harvest ahead. The fruits of my labor.

---

**Bird Magic**  
**Deb D’Amico**

Last night we heard a Whip-poor-will. Sadly, for us, we were not home. We were visiting friends in Petersham, and the dusk of the summer solstice kept the sky lit long after dinner. The bird’s distinctive call, an endless repetition of its own name, interrupted our conversation and we all stopped to listen.

While Tom and I expressed delight, our friends were less enthused. “We hear this nearly every night,” they told us with rolled eyes. “Often all night long!” I am envious, for we do not hear Whip-poor-wills at our Royalston home. Tom told us that, years ago, he heard them frequently at the site of a long-abandoned farmhouse down the road from the Jenkins’ homestead. Since this was also in Petersham, Tom joked that they must exist only there. We laughed at this and returned to our conversation, leaving the subject of Whip-poor-wills behind.

The Whip-poor-will’s call comes at the edges of the day – very early dawn and dusk – which are already magical times. Its haunting and slightly melancholy sound adds to the mystery. That Petersham moment brought me back to a childhood drive in midsummer twilight. It was after supper. My sister and I were in our pajamas, Dad was at the wheel, and we were “going for a ride” at a time when gasoline was 19¢ a gallon and the lack of seat belts allowed us to nestle close to our grandparents in the back seat.

Our family had favorite routes, one of which took us past a meadow that stretched to a dusky grove of trees. On this particular ride, Dad brought us there, parked the car, and turned off the engine. We waited in silence. Then, as dusk gathered, it began: “whip-poor-will, whip-poor-will.” We got out of the car and looked toward the trees, watching for the sound as much as listening. Grandpère picked me up and held me, and his pipe-tobacco scent, the gathering dusk, and the lonely call of the bird combined, there and then, to produce one of my most vivid memories. How could one tiny, insignificant bird create such magic?

Turns out the magic does not stop there. I have learned that Whip-poor-will’s time the laying of their eggs to the lunar cycle so that the eggs hatch, on average, 10 days before the full moon. This allows the parents to forage throughout the moonlit night, gathering – on the wing – an abundance of insects for their nestlings. This timing, so ancient and primal, is more magic and mystery.

I should say here that, while not yet endangered, the Whip-poor-will is on the decline due to the loss of open understory forests which have been repurposed for human use, (but you could have guessed that.) As much as I like to think of these birds, or any bird for that matter, as existing in their own magic-filled realm separate from the interference of human endeavors, I know this is not true.

Not long ago, my sister and I hiked to a Heron rookery where, at dusk, we watched scores of Herons returning to their treetop nests for the night. Except for the calls between mothers and babies, the rookery was silent. As with the Whip-poor-will’s egg-laying, the life of that rookery is rooted in avian instinct. Magical to be sure, and nothing to do with us. Yet, in a way, it has everything to do with us. These birds, so independent of us as they respond to ancient impulse, depend on our good stewardship. “Look,” I hear them say, “we need an environment that can support our way of life. We are counting on you.” The older I get the more I am aware of the awesome responsibility this is. If only human magic could make it so.
Renovations R Us
All Phases of Home Improvement
Bob Leblanc, Royalston

Cell 508-425-0570
MA CS #62476  HIC # 115978
MA Lead Cert. #LR000324

Family Pet Mobile Veterinary Services
Sue Ellen Mowcomber DVM

Caring for your pet in the comfort of your home.
978-249-4626
www.familypetmobilevet.net

Cloutiers' Pete & Henry's
18 Main St. (Rt. 68) in South Royalston, MA 01368
Thu. 4-9; Fri. 4-10; Sat. 3-10; Sun. 1-8 p.m.
Closed Monday, July 3rd – reopens Thursday, July 9th, 2017
Seasonal menu: LOBSTER SALAD OR LOBSTER ROLL!
call 978-249-8375 for reservations

Performance Press
Owners - Sandy and Dick Creamer
Winchendon
978-297-0433  Fax: 978-297-1719
email: perf4man@aol.com
color copies .50  wedding invitations
soup to nuts printing

Paul A. Montero, P.L.S.
Professional Land Surveyor
101 Northeast Fitzwilliam Rd - PO Box 20
Royalston, Massachusetts 01368
Telephone: (978) 249-5879

Union Music
New & Used Musical Instruments
Sales, Service, Rentals
Sheet Music, Accessories, Amps, PA's
Lessons, Rehearsal Space, Events
www.unionmusic.com
142 Southbridge Street, Worcester, 508-753-3702
Carl Kamp, Royalston, 978-249-9675

Pearson Rubbish
978-249-5125
127 Bliss Hill Road, Royalston
Full Service Disposal
Weekly Pick Up in Royalston
Prompt Courteous Service  Call Russ
Wildlife Sightings
Kathy Morris enjoyed the sight of a bobcat sauntering across North Fitzwilliam Rd twice in one week in early June.

Recipe of the Month
Cindy Savoy suggests using up your extra cucumbers and dill weed with this recipe:
Cucumber Dill Dip
8 ounces softened cream cheese
1 cup mayonnaise
2 medium peeled and chopped cucumbers (3-6 pickling cucumbers depending on size)
3 tablespoons sliced scallions
1 TB freshly squeezed lemon juice
1 TB freshly snipped dill weed
salt and pepper

Beat the cream cheese until smooth
Add the rest of the ingredients and mix until smooth
Cover and chill until ready to serve, can make a day ahead, just stir before serving. Great served with crudites or crackers.

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

MUSICFEST 2017!
This year’s Musicfest, sponsored by the Royalston Cultural Council, will be held on Sunday, June 23rd from noon until 5 pm at Bullock Park, behind the Historical Society Building on Royalston Common.

The fun begins at noon with acts that include The Williams Brothers Band; Tempo-airy Jazz Ensemble; Paul Skagerrand; The Heirlooms, with Fred and Wiggy Swedberg; and Doc Arsenault. At 4 pm. the featured headliner band, Wildcat O’Halloran’s Band, with be on stage.
This event is FREE and is famously considered the Cultural Council’s best yearly event!

The Council will be selling this year’s t-shirts, ice cream and watermelon, and the Fire Department will be grilling up hot dogs, hamburgers, and accompanying selections. There will be children’s (and adult) games, face painting, and Kronos, the Speedy (!) Tortoise making the rounds. Several large tents will be set up in the field for general use, so bring chairs, blankets, and your own awnings if you choose.