
Roxbury Newsy

Your community newsletter

April-June 2019, Vol. 4 No. 2

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*Do you have upcoming
newsletter submissions,
suggestions, or corrections
to the mailing list?*

*Please contact the RFL at
librarian@roxburyfreelibrary.org
or 802-485-6860.*

*Thanks to Ryan Zajac, Courtney
Jenkins, Jane Pincus and Heidi
Albright for compiling, editing and
designing this issue of the Newsy!
We hope you enjoy it.
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Crocus blooming in early spring remind us that winter won't last forever.

Green-Up Day on May 4th!

Just think of it! On May 4th, in just a few short hours we can clean our roadsides of the trash that has accumulated throughout the year. Join neighbors and friends to get our town looking spiffy again for Spring! Afterwards, **enjoy a free lunch** at the Church and browse the amazing books and baked goods for sale at the Community Center.

Get your official Green-Up trash bags at the Town Office or on Claire's porch. After picking up roadside trash in town or on your road, leave full bags by the roadside or bring them to the Town Garage for disposal. There will also be a tire collection at the Town Garage. Cost for tires is not known at this time.

Join us to keep Roxbury as clean as possible. Let's take pride in our town!

The Roxbury Green-Up Day coordinator could use extra help this year. If you are able to help with Green-Up Day and/or the lunch, please let Claire Chomentowski know by calling her at 485-7779.

From the Town Clerk's Office

2019 DOG LICENSES

It is time to license your dog(s). The deadline is April 1st but is extended to April 2nd, as our office is closed on Mondays. The cost is \$9.00 for a neutered dog and \$13.00 for an un-neutered dog. After April 2nd the cost will be \$11.00 for a neutered dog and \$17.00 for an un-neutered dog.

It is the law of the State of Vermont to license dogs annually. Owners of unlicensed dogs can be fined up to \$500 and/or the dog(s) could be impounded and destroyed.

It is the law of the State of Vermont that all dogs are vaccinated every three years. The first vaccination is only good for one year.

TAXES

The next property tax installment is due on May 10, 2019. The office will be open until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The Town accepts post-marked envelopes.

SUMMER HOURS

Summer hours will begin the May 6th. The Town Office will close at noon on Fridays (except for the day property taxes are due which happens to be the week of May 6). Summer hours will end the last Friday of September.

The Highway Department will start summer hours on May 6. The road crew will work Monday through Thursday - 6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They will not normally work on Fridays. Summer hours will end the last Friday of September.

2019 TOWN MEETING

Town Meeting was on March 5th at the Roxbury Town Hall (Village School). Sixty-two voters attended the annual meeting. One hundred and forty-one voters voted for Town Officials and the Montpelier Roxbury School District articles. All articles voted on the floor passed though some were amended and all articles for the Montpelier Roxbury School District passed in both towns. You can see the results on the Town's website: www.roxburyvt.org

SECOND CONSTABLE RUN-OFF ELECTION

Results from the Election of Officers is a tie-vote for Second Constable. There will be a Run-Off Election for the two people on April 2nd at the Town Offices from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Absentee Ballots are available.

2019-2020 PROPERTY TAX DUE DATES

At Town Meeting, the voters approved the dates the property taxes will be due. The dates are the second Friday of August 2019 (9th), the second Friday of November 2019 (8th), the second Friday of February 2020 (14th) and the second Friday of May 2020 (8th).

GREEN- UP DAY

Green-Up Day is May 4th. See more details on page 1 of this issue. 🏠



Roxbury Website Updated!

If you have a business in Roxbury and want it listed, email our town webmaster at roxburyvtweb@gmail.com

Provide a blurb on the business, contact details, and any social media links (Facebook, Instagram, etc). Not sure if your business is listed? Check out the [Our Businesses](#) page on the new website! 🏠

www.roxburyvt.org

Roxbury Village School PTO

Greetings from the RVS PTO! We have been keeping busy!

Our **big news** is that with our new partnership with the Montpelier schools we have joined the Montpelier Roxbury Public Schools "Partners in Education" or MRPS PIE, which has attained non-profit status. This will help our PTO by providing us more fundraising opportunities, for donors to have tax deductible charitable contributions, and allow us to share the cost of insuring the PTO. **The MRPS PIE board of directors is looking for more members!** If you are interested in joining, please let us know.

Here is a list of upcoming events, we hope to see you there!

April 25th, 5:15-6:15 "STEM Night"

We are putting on an evening of science for Roxbury kids to try hands-on science experiments and learn! We will be conducting four labs: a **Geology Lab** where kids can excavate gems to bring home; a **Chemistry Lab** where they will learn to make invisible ink; a **Biology Lab** where they learn about their heart, and how to take a pulse; and a **Neuroscience Lab** where they can test their senses--ice-cream is involved!

May 6th (tentative)- Safety day!

Northfield ambulance, the Department of Fire Safety and local law enforcement will come to RVS to teach kids safety tips and hands-on fun!

June 19th- Silver Lake field trip! Sponsored by the RVS PTO.

RVS PTO meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Roxbury Village school. We would love to see you there!

You can also contact us at our email address **RoxburyPTO@gmail.com**, through our **bulletin board** in the hallway at RVS, or our **Facebook page, Roxbury Village PTO**. Feel free to send any of your questions and suggestions to one of the contacts listed above, or to stop one of the PTO members in the hallways to chat. 🏠

Fish Hatchery News

The ground breaking for the **reconstruction of the Roxbury Fish Hatchery** took place last October. Construction started shortly after that and lasted about three weeks into November until winter settled in. Vermont Fish and Wildlife is looking forward to starting back up this spring, although with 24+ inches of snow on the ground as of this posting, no definitive date has been set yet.

I would like to remind community members traveling on 12A to use caution in the area of the hatchery this summer. There will be construction truck traffic entering and exiting 12A at the hatchery, trucks will be using the upper hatchery driveway and the lower entrance where the old trailer used to be.

Thank you,
Jeremy Whalen, Supervisor
Roxbury Fish Hatchery 🏠



A historical photo of the Roxbury Fish Hatchery.

Roxbury Ice Rink 2019

A big public Thank You to the folks who helped with the ice rink this year. Josh Axelrod, Gerry D'Amico, Mike Dickinson, Terry Edwards, Jon Guiffre, Adam Jackson, Andrew Legacy, Tim Martin, and Adam Sevi. Thank you gentlemen! Unfortunately the big thaw we had in the 2nd week of February wrought serious damage to the ice and ended the season for us. We'll see what next year brings... 🏠

A Playwright... right in the center of town!

*A Rare Interview with Jeanne Beckwith
by The Roving Reporter*

RR (Roving Reporter): What brought you and Brett to Roxbury, of all places?

JB (Jeanne Beckwith): We found the perfect house that we could afford. We loved the atmosphere, the church spire, the library, and the country store. We were ten minutes from Norwich University, where we both worked. What more could we want?

How long have you lived here?

Going on 14 years. We're newbies.

What made you decide to write plays, rather than novels, short stories or other works?

I had planned to write novels, and did write one, but no one wanted to publish it. I loved theater, and got work as an actor on occasion, and someone who read my novel said my strong point was my dialogue, so I turned it into a play, and it won an award and got produced, so I thought, well, maybe the universe is telling me something.

What do you like best about your work?

I love making up stories and seeing them come to life in front of an audience. The process of writing a play and getting it on its feet makes me happy, and work should bring joy. It's pretty much what I tell my students to go for in life -- find work that you love where you can hang out with people you like, and sometimes someone pays you for it. Teaching was not a bad day job, but I'm happy to be doing this full time now.

How do you find people and places that will perform the finished plays?

I follow various list-serves that post the theaters calling for plays. I am on a couple of playwright exchanges. I just keep sending things out. It's like anything in life: you have to show up. I have at least one company that comes to me. Sometimes my work

matches what someone is looking for. If I get 5 positive responses for 30 inquiries, I have beat the odds. there are literally thousands of playwrights out there. I think about getting an agent, but at my age, I'm probably not going to find someone willing to take me on. I should have done it when I was younger, but let's just say life didn't send me in that direction. I should have moved to New York too, but then I wouldn't be here in Roxbury with Brett.



What was a highlight, an experience that stood out as exciting, memorable, funny?

The first time I had a production in New York City, it was a play about a Rural Midwestern family, which was pretty good. I didn't think that a sophisticated city audience would like it, but they roared and cheered, and this classy long Island lady came up to me afterward and told me I had made her cry. I thought, "Well, maybe certain experiences are universal."

Are there a lot of fellow playwrights in Vermont?

When we put out calls for plays for the Vermont Playwrights Circle, we usually get around thirty submissions. I can name about 25 off the top of my head. There are probably more. Who'd have thought?

How can we find out about where your plays are being performed?

When I have things local, I try to make sure they get listed on calendars. I will try to post them on the Newsy if I know enough time in advance.

Do you have any advice for aspiring writers?

Advice for aspiring writers? Lord, I don't know. Here's what I tell myself every day: Be happy that you have been given a gift and do what you can to share it with others. Write as much as you can and as often as you can. Try to keep a routine, but don't beat yourself up if you fall short. Get used to rejection. Find a writer's conference and apply. It might cost you some money but you'll find encouragement there and others of your own kind. Take a class or join a writer's group. Read as much as you can. And don't stop. When I want to give it up, I remember how Emily Dickenson said that "Hope is the thing with feathers." Maybe someday when I'm dead people will come and visit my grave, and if they don't, I won't know about it! 🏠

Community Calendar April to June 2019

Mon	4/1/2019	Roxbury Select Board meeting at 7:00 in the Town Office
Tue	4/2/2019	Run-Off Election for Second Constable (10:00 - 7:00 or by absentee ballot)
Tue	4/2/2019	Deadline for dog registration
Wed	4/3/2019	Montpelier Roxbury School District meeting at 7:00 in the MHS library
Thu	4/4/2019	RVS PTO meeting in the RVS library at 5:30
Tue	4/9/2019	Roxbury Free Library Board meeting at 5:30 in the RFL
Wed	4/10/2019	Montpelier Roxbury School District meeting at 7:00 in the RVS library
Mon	4/15/2019	Roxbury Select Board meeting at 7:00 in the Town Office
Tue	4/16/2019	Community Potluck at 6:00 in the Roxbury Congregational Church
Thu	4/25/2019	STEM night at RVS
Wed	5/1/2019	Montpelier Roxbury School District meeting at 7:00 in the MHS library
Thu	5/2/2019	RVS PTO meeting in the RVS library at 5:30
Sat	5/4/2019	Green-Up Day
Mon	5/6/2019	Roxbury Select Board meeting at 7:00 in the Town Office
Mon	5/6/2019	Town Office and Highway Dept. begin summer hours
Fri	5/10/2019	Property taxes due today
Tue	5/14/2019	Roxbury Free Library Board meeting at 5:30 in the RFL
Wed	5/15/2019	Montpelier Roxbury School District meeting at 7:00 in the MHS library
Mon	5/20/2019	Roxbury Select Board meeting at 7:00 in the Town Office
Tue	5/21/2019	Community Potluck at 6:00 in the Roxbury Congregational Church
Mon	6/3/2019	Roxbury Select Board meeting at 7:00 in the Town Office
Wed	6/5/2019	Montpelier Roxbury School District meeting at 7:00 in the MHS library
Thu	6/6/2019	RVS PTO meeting in the RVS library at 5:30
Tue	6/11/2019	Roxbury Free Library Board meeting at 5:30 in the RFL
Mon	6/17/2019	Roxbury Select Board meeting at 7:00 in the Town Office
Tue	6/18/2019	Community Potluck at 6:00 in the Roxbury Congregational Church
Wed	6/19/2019	Montpelier Roxbury School District meeting at 7:00 in the RVS library

Please note, board meeting schedules change so check the official posting places for each of these boards to verify the above meetings will occur as listed here before you travel to attend.



Roxbury seniors host weekly lunches each Monday at 12:00 in the Community Center. Please RSVP to Claire Chomentowski (485-7779) the night before if you plan to attend.

Roxbury Village School News

Roxbury Village School continues to enjoy visits from Ariel, our therapy dog, every Monday morning. Students are selected to read to Ariel and maybe receive a few encouraging "dog kisses" throughout the day.



RVS students in Ms. Carrillo's Grade 1-2 class love visiting the Roxbury Free Library each week. The weather is finally showing signs of improvement and I know that will only encourage the students even more to walk to our community neighbor.

RVS will be on **Spring break April 15th-19**. I hope you can get away and enjoy the beach and some sun!

Ms. Duke is preparing her Grade 3-4 class for SBAC testing during the month of May. It is a culmination of work completed all through school. The children are tested in specific grades to see how they compare with other students in the state. Dates are listed below.

SBAC (ELA): Grade 3 - May 13th, 14th
Grade 4 - May 15th, 16th

SBAC (Math) Grade 3 - May 20th, 21st
Grade 4 - May 22nd, 23rd

Make-ups: ELA Week of May 20th,
Math Week of May 27th

May 27th there will be **NO SCHOOL** in observance of Memorial Day.

June is a very busy month for us! Here are some of the highlights:

June 6th - Safety Day! RVS will be visited by Vermont State Police, local ambulance and fire departments. Students will have an opportunity to get up close and personal with vehicles, equipment, and the fantastic men and women and keep us safe each and every day.

June 12th - Ms. Duke will be taking her Grade 4 students to Boston for the day!

June 19th - RVS will be traveling to Silver Lake for our end of the year celebration!

June 21st - Last ½ Day of School for RVS Students!!! 🏠



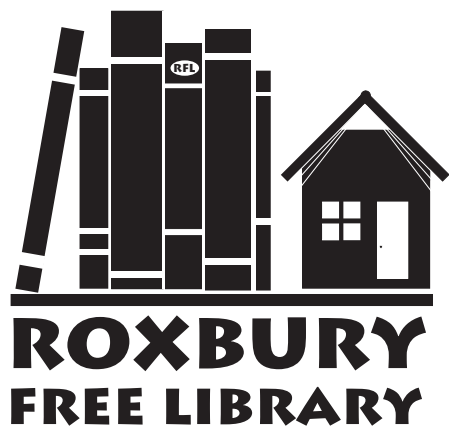
Silver Lake

Family Scouting

now in Roxbury and Northfield!

Cub Scout Pack 729 is a family scouting program. Both boys and girls starting in kindergarten can join. We meet on Sundays at 4:30 at the united Methodist church across from the Masonic temple in Northfield.

Please contact Kim Tenney if your child is interested at 485-4575



Roxbury Free Library Notes

Do you know about the **attraction pass collection** at the RFL? Here's a quick summary...

Your library card gives you access to passes for either free or reduced admission to the following places: ECHO Science Center, Brattleboro Museum and Art Center (BMAC) Vermont State Parks, Vermont State Historic Sites, and Shelburne Farms. Your library card costs nothing and these passes get you and your family into some really exciting places. So, don't miss out any longer - come check them out!

Note: we used to offer a pass to Billings Farm and Museum as well, but they have changed their fee this year. We need to decide if we should invest more money into that option, or another place. For instance, Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) and Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium are possibilities for future passes. Unfortunately, Montshire Museum does not offer a library pass program.

We'd love to hear your preferences to help us make a decision. Is the drive to Fairbanks worth it to you? Are the birds of VINS your favorite highlight of a weekend trip? Would your family not know what Spring is without seeing the baby animals at Billings Farm? Please stop into the RFL and share these stories in order for us choose the option that fits us the best.

We are wrapping up a busy stretch of programming. We will have multiple copies of this year's Vermont Reads title, *March, Book 1* by John Lewis, beginning in June.

The Roxbury Book Club will be reading the following titles before we begin our summer break. Join us for

engaging conversations about books and life! We usually meet on Monday nights. Contact Jane Pincus, 485-8427 for exact dates.

April: *The Future Home of the Living God* by Louise Erdrich.

May: *The Summer Guest* by Allison Anderson.

June: *White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America* by Nancy Isenberg.

We will run the **RFL Tennis program with Windridge** again this year. We will have more details when camp opens for the summer. When you donate to the RFL you gain access to some tennis courts at Windridge for summer and early fall evenings while the nets are up. The donation amount depends upon how many members of your family will be participating. Let us know in advance if you are interested. We will keep you informed of the opening dates and court details.

A few more items:

Beginning in June we won't be open on Wednesday mornings. Wednesday hours will resume in September.

We're also investigating ways the RFL might address addiction and substance abuse concerns. If you have any questions or suggestions on ways to help, please let us know.

We are seeking applications for a part-time librarian substitute. The position details are found on our website. Please inquire if you have any questions about this position. Deadline for submitting application materials is 4/9/2019.

Remember, we will announce the winner of the RFL raffle at Green-Up Day on May 4th! Tickets are still on sale at the circulation desk. Could you be the lucky winner? Stay in touch to find out. 🏠

The Roxbury Free Library is open three to four days a week and has WiFi access 24/7!

RFL is more than a place to find a great book- you can use computers for many purposes such as writing a resume or surfing the internet.

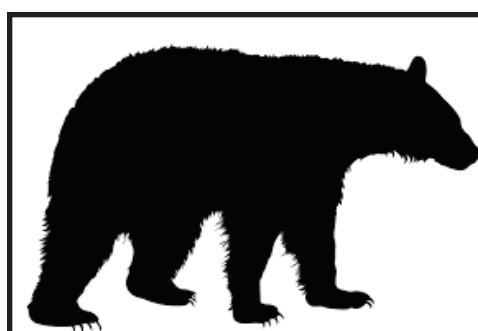
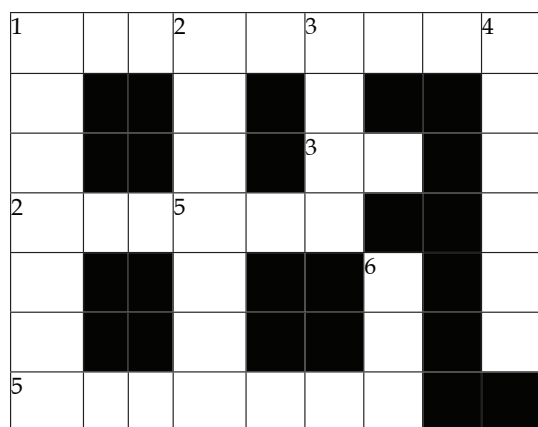
You can also use RFL passes to several museums and events in the area. Come in and visit!

Hours: **Tues.** 10-6, **Weds.** 8-11 ('til June) **Thurs.** 2-7, **Sat.** 10-1

Roxbury Newsy

PO box 95

Roxbury VT 05669



American Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*)

Bears are coming out of hibernation at this time of year! It's time to take down your bird feeders and make sure all household trash and animal feed is secure. If you see a bear in a residential area or you encounter an aggressive bear, please contact the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

DOWN

1. Jonas Hall made a product in Roxbury during the 1860's to repair _____.
2. This kind of license is due on 4/2/2019.
3. Day in March Shakespeare immortalized and in 2019 your Newsy contributors were working on all this great content.
4. First name of a Roxbury baby born in 2018.
5. Half the water in Roxbury flows into ____ Champlain.
6. Number of weddings held at the Roxbury Union Congregational Church in 2001.

ACROSS

1. Name of a Roxbury summer camp opening in June.
2. First name of a Webster Rd. beekeeper in the 1990's.
3. First name of Roxbury resident elected to the Roxbury Free Library board in 2019.
5. Kind of showcase the Roxbury PTO preparing for April 25th 2019.

Stop by the library for the answers to our last crossword puzzle!