

The Circle



Rutland Town's Link between School and Community

October 2015

TOWN NEWS

By Carol Bam

A special election was held August 25 for town voters to decide three issues: construction of the proposed Highway Dept. garage, purchase of a new compacter for the Transfer Station and election of Josh Terenzini who ran unopposed to fill a Select Board vacancy. All three article passed with wide margins. Town Clerk, Donna Zeller reported, "We had 425 voters, which is just under 20%, a good turnout for this time of year."

Select Board Chairman Joe Diction welcomed Josh Terenzini's return to the Board where he is no stranger, having served two terms from 2008-2012. He replaces Paul Clifford who was elected to a three year term in March, 2015. He resigned his seat this spring due to a job relocation. Terenzini currently holds a seat on the School Board as well. He will occupy both positions until March and then leave the School Board.

On behalf of the Select Board, Diction thanks voters for approving the two funding requests that passed in August. Construction of the Highway Garage was approved at a cost not to exceed \$700,000. Diction reminds voters that paying for the long needed garage will not raise taxes. Instead, some of the surplus 1% tax revenues will be tapped, an allocation that was approved by voters in the March election. Josselyn Brothers of Ludlow was the low bidder on the project, and will

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FROM SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AARON BOYNTON

It's great to be back starting a new school year at Rutland Town School. Students and teachers are energized and focused on another year of learning. This year we have so many new and wonderful things for kids to engage in. As part of our regular curriculum we are beginning a new math program for grades K-5. This is titled, Bridges Math and is not only standards aligned, but develops students' deeper thinking skills better than any program we've used in the past. Our Language Arts curriculum is expanding with additional professional development in writing instruction. Our academic support, (intervention), focuses on both math and reading in all grades, K-8. We are continuing to build a positive climate and culture with students. This year we held school-wide assemblies that focused on teamwork and decision making. Also, this year students in grades 4-8 will participate in a program that teaches digital citizenship, focusing on students developing the skills, tools, and etiquette to make the right decisions when using technology and in online forums.

We welcome two new teachers this year. Mr. Aaron Audet is our new band instructor. Mr. Audet has taught for

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FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

By Lynette Gallipo, Chair

The Rutland Town School Board is working with the other two Boards within the Rutland Central Supervisory Union to analyze the options for restructured governance under the Act 46 legislation.

There are many options available to Rutland Central Supervisory Union Schools. In addition to the common structures required in Act 46, there are restructuring options available through Act 156. These include merger options such as Regional Education Districts, Union School Districts and Side-by-Sides. For example, if Chittenden and Mendon School Districts (who jointly contract Barstow Memorial School) were to join with Rutland Town School within the RCSU Study a merged union district comprised of Barstow and Rutland Town School could be formed. (Both are PK-8 with secondary school choice).

At this time the best option appears to be the creation of a supervisory union comprised of two side by side districts where Proctor and West Rutland become a union school district and Rutland Town and Barstow become a

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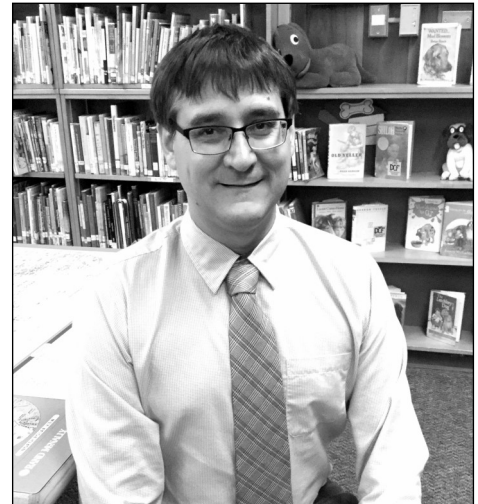
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RUTLAND TOWN SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW STAFF

If you see these new teachers at RTS, please say hello and welcome them. Aaron Audet (right) is the new instrumental music instructor. Rob McCuen (photo below) is a Special Educator and Gretchen Richer is a long term substitute for ELA (English Language Arts) in the Middle School. Here they introduce themselves:

Aaron Audet Instrumental Music

I taught at Proctor Jr/Sr High School for the last 16 years. I play a lot of music with my friends in the local area. I'm a Castleton grad, and I also attended Berklee College of Music for two years. I'm looking forward to making a lot of music with Rutland Town students. The program has a very solid reputation, and I'm real excited to be a part of it.



Rob McCuen Special Education

I'm excited to be joining the Rutland Town School community! I will be working as a Special Educator in grades 5, 6, and 7 this year. I have been working with students from elementary age through high school for the past 15 years, and look forward to getting to know our diverse student population here at Rutland Town School. My interests include gardening, outdoor explorations, and playing guitar, mandolin and banjo. I hope to infuse some of my own interests into project-based learning endeavors to help students get excited about learning.



Gretchen Richer 7th-8th Grade Language Arts

I was born, raised, and educated in Vermont. I have worked in several Vermont schools in varying capacities and am thrilled to be teaching Language Arts to seventh and eighth graders at Rutland Town School. I am a contra-dance enthusiast and also love reading, rowing, and hiking. I enjoy spending time with my teen son and hearing from my college student son. I live in Ferrisburgh with my two boys and three kitties.

THE CIRCLE is a publication of Rutland Town and Rutland Town School, informing the community about issues of local interest. **The Circle** is not a public forum. The school administration has the right to exercise editorial control over style and content in keeping with a proper educational environment.

The Circle staff includes Principal Aaron Boynton as Editor in Chief, Carol Bam, Theresa Kulig, and Marie Pennington. Five issues are published every other month from October through June.

For more information, mailing list changes, to advertise or contribute articles, call the RTS office (775-0566) or email carolbam@aol.com.

The Circle, c/o Rutland Town School,
1612 Post Road, Rutland, VT 05701.

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"We Return Your Call"

FROM THE TOWN OFFICE By Donna Zeller, Town Clerk

Many residents came into Town Hall to pay their tax bills this month and noticed we have a new cash management system. With a 'wave of the wand', your tax payment was recorded and a personalized receipt was printed! The Clerk and Treasurer's Office is more than half way through the transition to the NEMRC accounting system on our computers. This has made the tracking of tax payments and accounts easier and more accurate. The payroll module is the last component of the system for us to complete, and we should be fully on the new system by the end of 2015. Thank you to all the taxpayers for funding this computer upgrade for all the offices at Town Hall.

This October, the Secretary of State Elections Division will be rolling out a new website for voters. Vermonters will be able to use the website to register to vote, make a change in their voter status, and request an early/absentee ballot. Watch for updates in the next *Circle* issue, and also on the State website:

<https://www.sec.state.vt.us/elections.aspx>.

Also, please remember that:

- ◆ The office of the Town Clerk still closes at noon on Friday. All other town offices remain open.
- ◆ The Town's Post Office Box was closed last year. The Mailing Address for **ALL Rutland Town Departments** is:

**Town of Rutland
181 Business Route 4
Center Rutland, VT 05736**

We look forward to meeting and helping all Town residents whenever you stop in at Town Hall!

RAFFLE! RAFFLE! RAFFLE! RTS Library Co-sponsors Joe Citro Event Oct. 27

A raffle is under way for a **Full Season Pico Ski Pass** valued at over \$400! Tickets are \$5 each and only 200 will be sold! Drawing for the winning ticket will take place October 23.

This pass was generously donated by Mike Solimano and the Killington Resort.

If you are interested in purchasing one or more tickets, please send a check to Rutland Town School, written out to RTS PTO, in an envelope, to the attention of Mrs. Theresa Czachor. Tickets will be mailed to you in a separate envelope.

Proceeds from this raffle will help to pay for a special event that the RTS Library is collaborating on to be held at Rutland Free Library. Joseph Citro, a Vermont author and folklorist will present his unique Vermont tales of the bizarre and the mysterious, entertaining us with ghost stories and hauntings of New England on October 27, 6:30-7:30 pm! This event is free and open to the public.

This event stems from RTS (and its two partners, Rutland Free Library and the Godnick Center) being selected to participate in this year's Vermont Reads Program. The program supports community reading activities, including reading and discussion of this year's book choice, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* by Salman Rushdie. RTS Grade 8 students are reading it now (See page 6 for their reactions to the book.) RTS will hold a community discussion of the book Thursday, October 29.

Free copies of the book are available through Mrs. Czachor, RTS Librarian. (See Page 6 for more info.)



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- Have a more comfortable home

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(School Board ~ Continued from Page 1)

union school district. Each would have a separate governing board and all towns would be eligible for the tax incentives (8%, 6%, 4% & 2%) and safeguarded from some of the punitive measures of ACT 46 such as arbitrary class size limits and phantom student impacts.

Your Board will meet on Monday, September 28 with the Barstow Board to discuss this possibility. We are committed to continuing to offer secondary school choice. A union district including Chittenden and Mendon School Districts is a natural fit and is your Board's first choice of configuration. Should the Barstow Board be in favor of this option, a vote would take place in the three towns of Chittenden, Mendon and Rutland Town for approval.

Please feel free to contact your Board Members or Superintendent Debra Taylor with any questions you may have. We will keep you informed on the progress of this consolidation.



Principal Boynton above meets with students in his 'dog house' office. (His article below explains why.) The dog house was a shed whose use was donated by Garden Time of Rutland Town. Garden Time delivered and picked up the shed at no cost to the school. Many thanks for their generosity!

(Principal Boynton ~ Continued from Page 1)

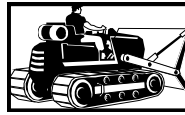
many years and comes to us from Proctor High School. We look forward to all of the wonderful experiences that Aaron will bring to Rutland Town School students.

We also welcome Mr. Rob McCuen as our new special educator. Mr. McCuen has experience in working with a diverse population of students and is happy to be able to begin his career in the special education classroom setting.

On another note, I would like to congratulate our students for reading over 1000 books this summer for the Summer Reading Challenge. If they read over 1000 books collectively I promised to spend a day 'in the Dog House.' They exceeded the challenge, reading 1083 books! I gladly moved into a medium sized dog house for a day in September. I appreciate that students rose to the challenge, and also visited me on the Dog House day!

As always, I welcome you to visit Rutland Town School. I would love to give you a tour. You can also find us on the Web, Facebook, and Twitter and view the school website at www.rutlandtownschool.org.

Also, our Rutland Town School solar information can now be viewed live on-line at the newly operational site <https://solarems.net/kiosks/328>.



Road Notes from Byron Hathaway, Road Commissioner

Construction is about to start on the Town Highway Garage that voters approved at a special election in August. I am very grateful for the overwhelming support shown by the voters for this project. We have needed a facility for some time for the purpose of taking better care of our equipment and employees.

Josselyn Brothers Construction of Ludlow was selected this past spring to be the general contractor. Their excavating subcontractor will start clearing the site the first week of October. After the trees and stumps are removed, the foundation will be excavated and prepared for the concrete subcontractor to form the footings and pour the walls. The septic system, water supply, and utilities will be installed at this time also. After the foundation is backfilled and the yard work completed the steel will be erected. I anticipate the building to look like a building by mid January or maybe a little sooner depending on the weather. With the roof and siding installed on the steel frame, the interior work consisting of plumbing, electrical and framing of the utility room, bathroom, lunch room, and office will be completed. With good luck the building should be ready for occupancy by March.

Cleanup from this summer's paving program has been completed. I thank the residents in the Gleason Road and Stratton Road areas for their patience waiting for us to complete the cleanup.

Construction has started on the West Proctor Road preparing that road for paving next summer. Some shoulder widening will be done, cross culverts will be changed, and any drainage issues addressed.

A section of the East Pittsford Road was reclaimed and paved this summer. The roadway was paved a little wider than in the past. This was done to accommodate a white fog line that will be placed on the road to delineate a paved shoulder for bicyclists and pedestrians. A narrower travel lane will be the result. This is being done to address "Complete Streets" needs that we have to adhere to. After this is done I would appreciate any public comment about this configuration and whether we should continue with this approach.

Thank you again for your support of the highway garage. Look for an open house in the spring.

Check out Front Porch Forum

Many Vermont communities, including Rutland Town, have Front Porch Forums. Members communicate about many topics: lost dogs, car break ins, plumber recommendations, school budgets, local events, helping neighbors in need, and much more. Each town forum is exclusive to that town. Neighborhood forums are private, limited to just the folks who live in each area, plus local public officials.

To join, visit www.frontporchforum.com and sign up.

**THE RUTLAND TOWN POLICE DEPT.
School Resource Officer is Funded
By Don Chioffi, Selectman**

As members of the Police Committee, Joe Diction and I are proud to announce that an idea first proposed by the School Board has finally come to a very productive result. The school has long wanted a full time School Resource Officer (SRO). Since partially funding this position, the community has come to appreciate its many benefits to all of us, especially our kids. The Select Board, early this year, approved a motion to have our PD apply for federal funding for a full time position. Due to the capable preparation and follow-up of this grant application by Captain Ted Washburn, on Sept. 21, we were informed that our application was approved as favorable and granted. Under our plan, the school will be assigned one officer during every day of school operation when kids are in attendance, that officer being under the direct supervision and control of the Chief of the RTPD. We are excited and very pleased and will be meeting with the department and the School Board very soon to flesh out the details of the contract under the Federal guidelines.

Following the receipt of a number of inquiries about speed patrolling in the town, Joe Diction and I met with Chief Dumas to discuss these concerns and the chief has developed a plan for what we choose to call "Directed Patrol." This will result in the assignment of officers to various high traffic areas of the town with the specific intent to both document the flow and speed of traffic in those areas, and to provide the safety to the public that comes with enforcement of speed violations. We ask the cooperation of all of our residents to assist us in the best use of our valuable police resources as it is impossible to have police everywhere all the time. A 24-7-365 policing of any community is a VERY expensive proposition, and you, the voters, have been very supportive of our efforts to provide a quality professional force for Rutland Town at a reasonable cost. It is our obligation to you to keep that cost reasonable and affordable.

Kids have been back to school for a month now. Be especially cautious and observant of the school speed zone and remember that the best policing in your neighborhoods starts with YOU being observant of anything out of the normal or usual. Vigilance saves lives and property.

**RUTLAND TOWN SENIORS
From Jim Hall, Treasurer**

The Rutland Town Senior Folks would like to hear from those who may wish to participate in the lunch program. The group has arranged with Seward's Restaurant to provide our lunch one day a month at their restaurant. Currently, lunches are held on the third Tuesday of the month through the month of December.

After winter, lunches are expected to start up again in March or April, 2016. We welcome anyone who would like to join us for a couple of hours to visit and have a bite to eat. The cost of lunch is \$7.00.

Point of contact for a lunch reservation is Pat Tucker at 776-1066.

**Getting to Know One Another
In Kindergarten
By Linda Mullin**

At the beginning of the school year, teachers spend time setting the stage for learning by teaching students rules and procedures for working in the classroom. They also begin to build relationships with their students. Building relationships is crucial to learning because it creates a safe, caring environment where teachers can help students achieve at high levels. In Kindergarten, our classroom rules are simply to work at listening well, following directions quickly and raising our hands to speak.

I asked the students to tell me what is special about each of them and here are their responses.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| Calvin | I like my hair. |
| Viktor | I like my hair too. |
| Ronan | I play the keyboard |
| Maeve | I can swim |
| Sophia | I have a wiggly tooth |
| Zachy | I am nice |
| Jordan | I like my teeth |
| Carly | I can do flips |
| Ellie | I can do cartwheels |
| Gavin | I play soccer |
| Gabe | I like my feet |
| Eliza | I can ride my bike |
| Keaton | I can drive |
| Jaydon | I can run and jump |
| Will | I can swim |
| Tory | I can run and jump |
| Chase | I can ride |
| Trevor | I can play soccer. |

As their new teacher, I look forward to working with these interested children who are ready to learn!



Self Portrait by Bryce McKeighan, Kindergarten

HELP WANTED at Rutland Town Office Assistant Administrator Position

The Town of Rutland, Vermont seeks a part-time Assistant Administrator who is a self-starter, well organized with strong interpersonal and communication skills. This candidate should possess proficient computer skills, a high school diploma or GED, and willingness to attend evening meetings. The ideal candidate will have some grant writing and website management skills, and will be able to multi-task in a public setting.

For a complete job description visit the town website at www.rutlandtown.com, or call Town Administrator Joseph Zingale at 802-770-5072. Applications including resume and references are due by Tuesday, October 13 at the Rutland Town Office, 181 Business Route 4, Center Rutland, Vermont 05736.

STUDENT REACTIONS TO VT READS CHOICE *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*, by Salman Rushdie From Gretchen Richer and her 8th Graders

"This is the most complicated thing I have ever read!" remarked one student. There is no doubt that students at Rutland Town School are being challenged by the 2015 Vermont Reads book, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*, by Salman Rushdie. RTS Language Arts eighth grade students are about halfway into reading Rushdie's first of several books for young people. The books were made available through a grant awarded by the Vermont Humanities Council.

"I really like all the plot twists," announced another student; "you never can guess what will happen!" "It's fast paced with lots of action", chimed another. *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* references many classic works of fantasy. So far students have encountered nods to *The Tales of the Arabian Knights*, Samuel Taylor Coleridge's poem "Kubla Khan", a Beatles song, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll, and J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*. "I just knew the Walrus and the Eggheads had to do with the Beatles song--I love the Beatles!", a young fan and reader enthused. Other students appreciated the vivid imagery. "I love the figurative language; it's so creative" said one student while others agreed. "There is lots of figurative language!" another added.

Classes spent a lesson examining that language and determining what the author meant. This fantasy story "...is magical", expressed one reader, "I think Rashid (a storyteller) dreams things and they happen" Some students found the geography of Rushdie's imaginary world interesting; "I think it's cool that there are cities on a second moon that goes so fast that we can't see it".

This world is populated by unusual creatures. "I like the Hoopoe Bird--he talks [to Haroun] through his mind." Additional creatures include a gardener constructed of plant matter and a pair of rhyming fish covered in mouths. "There is no way you could memorize all the characters," declared a student. Students use a graphic organizer to keep track of the major characters.

An insightful reader noticed that "...some parts are for older audiences and some parts are for younger audiences." It makes sense that the book is accessible to all, since Salman Rushdie wrote *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* for his eleven year old son. Despite all in the weird and wonderful world of Haroun the students have already encountered, the most intriguing parts of the novel may be yet to come "the Chupwalas and their shadows are the best!" voiced a student tempted into reading ahead.

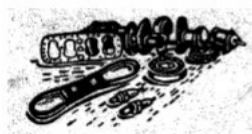
RTS will host a Round Table Discussion for students and community members on *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* by Salman Rushdie on Thurs. October 29. If you are interested in participating, please contact Librarian Theresa Czachor (theresa.czachor@rcsu.org; 775-0566 x2056) or Middle School Language Arts Teacher Gretchen Richer (gretchen.richer@rcsu.org, 775-0566 x2014.) Free copies of the book are available and can be picked up at the school.

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From the Rutland Town Fire Department By BJ Hathaway

Hello again from the Rutland Town Fire Department. Though we've been enjoying a late summer heat wave during the month of September, the last couple mornings have indicated fall is indeed on its way followed soon by the dreaded winter! The Fire Department would like to pass along the following list of items to check to ensure that you will be ready once winter finally does arrive.

- Check all batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. These should be installed wherever someone sleeps as well as near any potential source of fire or carbon monoxide.
- Make sure your smoke detector and/or carbon monoxide detector has not expired. Most are good for 5 years.
- Have heating equipment serviced by a qualified technician.
- Make sure oil, gas, wood pellet stoves and other gas fired appliances are properly vented with no restrictions.
- Ensure that all chimneys servicing a wood burning stove have been swept and inspected by a properly trained individual. Also be sure to have the stove or furnace itself inspected for cracks or other defects that may result in improper venting or poor fire containment.

As everyone may be aware, there has been consolidation of the state's Emergency Call Centers. The Rutland State Police barracks no longer has a dispatch center and all 911 calls are now answered in either Rockingham or Williston, VT. It is now more important than ever that you dial 911 from your phone, preferably a landline to improve location accuracy and also to be very patient with the dispatcher on the other end of the line. Try to have a specific address for them or at least a very specific description of the location as many of the dispatchers may not be as familiar with local areas. This is a new change for everyone, so please bear with us as we continue to grow into the new system.

Lastly, the department is also proud to at last announce that we will be having the long awaited **open house at the new Center Rutland fire station on Oct. 3 from 10am to 3pm**. The event features a dedication ceremony naming the station for former Chief Joseph Denardo. Chief Denardo joined the department more than 40 years ago and served as chief during the many long years of plan-

60 Plus Medicare Open Enrollment From Heather Baker, SVCOA

It's that time again: Medicare Open Enrollment. Mark your calendar with these important dates: October 15 to December 7. At this time, everyone enrolled in Medicare should check how their plan coverage works. As a beneficiary, this responsibility is yours.

Open Enrollment is your opportunity to change your Drug Plan (Medicare Part D) or Supplemental Plan (Medigap) if you find one that fits your needs better, or if your current plan is being discontinued.

Watch your mail. Your current drug plan, if you have one, will send you information in the fall about any changes they are making. For example, they may change the cost of the premium, deductible and co-pays, or the list of drugs included in the formulary. You can compare your current plan to other plans and choose the one that's best for you. We recommend that you look into these questions during Open Enrollment:

- Is the cost (premium) of my plan changing?
- Will my plan still cover the drugs I need?
- Are there any drug restrictions?
- How does my plan coordinate with any state or federal benefits, if I receive these? (Examples: V-Pharm, Extra Help-Low Income Subsidy, or Medicaid)
- Is there a plan that fits my needs better than my current one?

Medicare has strict deadlines, so don't wait! If you are confused about the options and how to compare them, you're not alone. It can be challenging, and that's why

Vermont's Area Agencies on Aging provide free unbiased information to help Vermonters learn everything they need to know about Medicare. Offerings include free classes, information by internet and telephone, and in some cases one-on-one meetings.

For personalized assistance with your Medicare questions, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-642-5119.

Also, please tune in to my show on PEGTV Channel 15 called "SVCOA TODAY" airing at 8 pm on Wednesdays. (The same show repeats throughout the month.) Each month we highlight senior issues and our community resources for seniors. Thanks!

ning for an upgrade to the obsolete Center Rutland facility. He was the "driving force behind getting the task done", and retired as chief just before the department moved into the new facility in February, 2014.

Town fire trucks and fire fighting equipment will be on display and light refreshments will be available. Police Chief Ed Dumas and officers will also attend the dedication. We encourage everyone to attend. If you can't make the open house, stop by any Wednesday night and look around.

Town of Rutland Planning Commission Notice of Vacancy

The Town of Rutland Select Board seeks two town residents to fill planning positions.

The Board would like to appoint a town resident interested in local planning activities to serve as an alternate to the Town's seven member Planning Commission and an individual interested in local and regional planning to serve as an alternate to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission.

Interested individuals should submit a letter of interest to The Town of Rutland Select Board, 181 Business Route 4, Center Rutland, Vermont 05736 or rutlandtown@com-cast.net.

Self portrait by Eliza Getty, Kindergarten



(Town News ~ Continued from Page 1)

begin clearing the garage site in early October. See Road Commissioner Byron Hathaway's report on page 4.

Town residents also voted for the purchase of a new trash compactor for the Tony Flory Transfer Station at a cost of \$20,000. It will replace the current one which is 20 years old and at the end of its useful life. The new model features a more precise pressure gauge which will increase the capacity of the compactor from 8 to 13 tons. Compacting more into the container will require fewer hauls resulting in lower fees, saving about \$1,000 per year. Buying the compactor will not raise taxes either as the cost will be paid from a surplus in last year's Transfer Station budget. Dicton said that the new compactor will "also be compatible with the expected shift next year to Zero-Sort recycling." A second compactor will be required, and that will be budgeted for and purchased in the next budget cycle.

Visitors to the Transfer Station will note that the guard rails in front of all containers have been lowered for easier disposal, while still meeting safety standards. Progress has already been made toward eliminating sorting. Clear and colored plastics no longer need to be separated. One bin takes newspapers, magazines and junk mail, glass of different colors can be combined, as can tin and aluminum items.

Another improvement is the large new sign that has been put up in Northwood Park directing visitors to the pool, ball fields and transfer station.

The McKinley Ave. Fire Station has received bids to install a 30KW generator and remove the underground fuel tank from the premises. The generator will supply back-up power to run the station in the event of a power outage, a capability that the new Center Rutland fire station already has. This project will not require new money, as there are surplus funds from building the Center Rutland fire station to pay for the improvements.

An open house and dedication of the Joseph Denardo Fire Station will be held October 3. Dicton said, "Former Fire Chief Denardo is a longtime member of the town fire department. It was through his vision and a great, sustained effort that construction of the new station happened."

Rutland Town has purchased a 3 acre property just south of Dewey Field at a reasonable rate. The extra land will help by providing a future parking area. "Currently, congestion due to on street parking creates hazards for drivers and neighboring residents, especially during ball games." The Board also foresees walking trails and other uses of the parcel that dovetail with the current amenities (ball games, tennis, basketball) offered Dewey Field.

Renovations are planned for Town Hall to provide adequate space for the Police Dept., which currently operates out of a large closet. Reconfiguring the space will also give the Town Administrator (Joe Zingale) a larger office. The men's and women's bathrooms will also receive a needed upgrade.

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RUTLAND FREE LIBRARY

September Rhythms

From Randal Smathers, Assistant Director

The timing of our kids' programming tends to be a little varied during the summer, with lots of vacation disruptions and extra events. But come September we settle back into our regular swing:

- **Babies & Toddlers Rock**, 10-10:30 am on Mondays;
- **Story Time**, 10-10:45 am on Thursdays;
- **Play Group**, 9:30-11 am on Fridays in conjunction with our partners at Rutland County Parent Child Center!

Just double check before you drive in, as there are occasional disruptions to any schedule.

- The **fourth Wednesday** of the month (Sept. 23, Oct. 28) from 4-4:45 PM is **Tales to Tails**, where young readers can read a story to a trained therapy dog, who make the best, least critical listeners.

Check the calendar online at rutlandfree.org/calendar for monthly Lego building challenges and specially scheduled children's programs.

October is for authors at Rutland Free Library

The month starts with the return of First Wednesdays, our flagship speaker series presented by Vermont Humanities Council. Biographer **Willard Sterne Randall** opens this season with "On Gentleman Johnny Burgoyne's Trail," a look at the British general's failed Champlain Valley campaigns of 1776 and 1777, including his newly uncovered route to Saratoga – and defeat. Weds., Oct. 7, 7 pm.

On Weds., Oct. 14, at 7 pm, **Hugh Coyle** will present some of the research he has done for his new book in a presentation called "Behind the Nobel Prize." The Nobel Prizes will be announced beginning the week of Oct. 5. Learn some of the curious facts of its past.

And in a special collaboration between Rutland Town Elementary and RFL, author **Joe Citro** will be bringing some of his tales of spooky events to the library on Tuesday, Oct. 27, from 6:30-7:30 pm. Raffle tickets selling for \$5 supporting this event are available at the front desk of the library;. The prize is an unlimited Pico season's pass.

Rutland Free Library is a public library at 10 Court St., Rutland City. All our services are free to residents of Rutland Town, City, Mendon, Tinmouth & Ira, whose citizens help support us through taxes. Thanks! Find us on Facebook, Twitter or online at rutlandfree.org.

NEWS FROM THE REC

By Director Mike Rowe

Hello all! I hope your summer was good. We had a great season at the pool as the weather was nice and the people were great. I want to thank the pool staff who did a great job this summer. We hosted a few swimming events and they went very well with a lot of hard work put into making it happen and run smooth. We may have seen a 10% increase in use of the pool this summer but not as large as people would think with the closing of the city pool.

This summer we also hosted the town seniors at the pool for a luncheon, it was a hot day but a good time was had by all. Thanks to Jim Hall, an officer of the senior group, for setting it up.

Fall soccer is underway and we are fielding six teams this year for the U-10 and U-12 teams. Many thanks to Sue Cooley, Pat Cooley, Beth Coughlin, Fabio Rosi, Brent Gile, Kim Peters and Rob Labate for all the time they are putting into this season.

The **Halloween party** for the town will be Friday 10/30 from 6pm-8pm in the RTS gym. Please come and join us for a great night of games, food, candy and costumes.

Basketball sign-ups will start the last week of October so look for the sign-up sheet.

We have a new sign in Northwood Park that will make it easier to finding where things are. Thanks to Byron Hathaway, Walt Tripp and John Trembley for setting up the sign. Just a reminder, you **must have your dogs on a leash** at all times while enjoying our parks.

WRITING FOR UNDERSTANDING

By Tina Ronn, Literacy Coach

Teachers at RTS will continue their work this school year using a Common Core aligned writing approach called "Writing for Understanding." Teachers will be taking part in several sessions throughout the year that will build on their knowledge and use of this writing approach. During the past two years we have addressed informative/explanatory writing as well as opinion/argumentative writing. This year our work will focus on narrative writing thus ensuring that our students become successful writers of all three writing types. These sessions will be conducted by Jane Miller, a writing consultant who is known for her work with the Vermont Writing Collaborative.



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RTS TAPESTRY

From Summer into Fall

By Lori McNeil, Director

As the cold weather begins to blow in we look back on the wonderful summer we had. Students at the summer Tapestry Camp enjoyed some relaxing afternoons at Northwood Pool and some adventurous field trips such as the World Awareness Children's Museum, the Hillbilly Hole Mini Golf, the Great Escape Water Slide, local state parks, and a fun filled Tapestry event at the Pittsford Recreation Park. Our theme for the summer was "Summer Tapestry Travels Around the World in 35 Days." We explored the culture, people, art, and food from countries around the globe. Other cultures came to life through hands on activities and multidisciplinary cultural experiences.



Tapestry students enjoying the State Park at Silver Lake in Barnard

Mrs. Howland's K-2 group will be doing lots of crafts, projects, and experimenting. Mrs. Crosby's group will be doing some team building activities and projects. It will be fun to watch students challenging themselves.

Our Home School Coordinator, Gina Fucci, will begin a yoga class with groups of student. It will be a great way for them to unwind after a long week of school.

We would like to invite all family, friends, and community members to our Annual Lights on Afterschool Nationwide Celebration on Thursday, October 22. Please come between 4:00 and 5:30 to play games, have a snack, and decorate a light bulb with us. This celebration is to show the importance of after school care for our children.

Please feel free to stop in and visit at any time or come share your talents with our children. If you have any questions about our 5 Star Program, call Lori McNeil, RTS Tapestry Site Coordinator at 779-7429.

Leaving summer behind, we look forward to some of our traditional fall activities. We hope to go to Garden Time for our annual pre-Halloween visit, pumpkin picking, and to Mendon Orchards apple picking. Along with various monthly field trips we will have activities inspired by the changing season. Apples, pumpkins, and the changing leaves will be part of our fun!

RTS Music This Fall

By Sue Tall and Aaron Audet

Music at RTS is off to a great start! Students are demonstrating a lot of interest and positive attitudes.

Please view the music calendar for the 2015-2016 year by going to the Rutland Town School website pages for Mr. Audet and Ms. Tall. These pages will be updated throughout the year with reminders, announcements and documents that can be downloaded and printed.

Middle School Chorus will be perform a recital on Thursday, October 22 at 6:30 in the cafeteria. Students will sing choral pieces and solos. Refreshments will be available and admission is free.

The RTS Marching Band will be participating in the **Halloween parade on Saturday, October 31**. The theme is "Despicable Me." Marchers will play the song "Happy" and dress as minions.

If you are interested in assisting with the parade, please contact Mr. Audet at 775-0566 ext. 2042 or email aaron.audet@rcsu.org. There will be a Halloween parade meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 30 at 6:00 pm in the band room. Please consider joining us!

We are fortunate to have excellent leadership for the RTS Friends of Music organization. The officers are: Chairperson- Robyn Schmitt, Treasurer- Marlene Lederman-Allen, Secretary- Juli Jo Jakubowski and Membership Chairperson - Meg Horrocks. We invite any and all those interested in joining the RTS FOM to contact Meg Horrocks, Mr. Audet or Ms. Tall. We encourage your attendance to the FOM meetings which are listed on the music calendar.

We are looking forward to a great year and we thank you sincerely for your support of the music programs at RTS.

PREPARE NOW for an Emergency

By Martin Wasserman,
Town Emergency Management Director

To all Rutland Town Residents:

I am soliciting your help in acquiring information concerning all residents who in time of a town emergency may require help in evacuating their residences and seeking shelter in a town-designated protective shelter. This information will be kept in the town's official computer file and only be accessed by town officials in time of an emergency. This information will require a special password to access.

If you would like to participate I would like:

- Resident's Name
- Address
- Home and Cell Phone numbers
- Any Medical conditions that would be helpful to know about
- Primary Physician, (name, address and phone number)

We also suggest that a container clearly labeled and marked "Medical Information" containing a list of all medications and medical diagnosis inside it, be kept at easy access in the freezer compartment of the refrigerator in the kitchen of residents' homes. Please also include the patient's name and date of birth in that container.

You may submit this information by email to emergencymanagement@rutlandtown.com or send by mail to the Town Office address. Thank you.

Emergency Management Director
Town of Rutland
181 Business Route 4
Center Rutland, VT 05736

Go, Slow, and Whoa Foods

By Lisa Lones RN BSN,
School Nurse

Educating kids about good nutrition can help them develop smart eating habits. Providing them with the knowledge and education they need to make the healthier dietary choices is key. Getting kids to apply health eating knowledge can be challenging. The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute classifies food into three groups to help kids remember healthy eating, **Go, Slow and Whoa foods.**

- The **Go group** includes heart healthy foods that should be eaten every day (low fat milk, whole grain cereals, vegetables, fruits, extra lean meat and fish, egg whites, pretzels, water, olive oil)
- The **Slow group** includes foods that should be eaten only a few times a week (waffles, pancakes, avocado, 100% fruit juice, dried fruits, white bread and pasta, granola, 2% milk, lean ground beef, peanut butter, eggs, sports drinks, processed cheese spread)
- The **Whoa group** are foods that should be eaten only once in awhile because they are high in saturated fat and cholesterol (french fries, doughnuts, whole milk, cream cheese, bacon, ribs, chicken nuggets, ice cream, chips, gravy, drinks with added sugar)

Teaching kids balance in food selection is key. Understanding that the Whoa group is not completely off limits but should be recognized as containing foods that aren't too healthy and should be eaten only every now and then. Providing kids with choices and stocking plenty of Go group foods that they like will make their nutrition decisions easier.

FOUR WINDS BLOWING

By Kirsten Marsh



Back to school means back to nature for the K-5 students at Rutland Town School. 'Structure and Function' is the name of the game for the Four Winds Nature Program this year. Why do grass plants have nodes and raspberry plants have thorns? Why do spiders make silk and beavers have water repellent fur? The physical structure and behavioral adaptations of an organism help it to survive in its environment – to avoid predation, to gather the food and water it needs, to find a mate. We'll compare different organisms to think about how particular physical characteristics relate to important skills and behaviors, and ultimately to survival.

Throughout this year long study, students will explore the characteristics of organisms, look for similarities and differences among them, learn about natural selection and wonder at the diversity of life on Earth.

In September we studied 'Spiders' We got to explore the similarities and differences in a variety of spiders. We learned that some spiders weave beautiful webs to capture their prey, while others wander in search of food. This was a great unit to get outside searching the school grounds for these amazing 8-legged creatures.

Volunteers and students will continue to explore Structure & Function in this hands on, classroom program throughout the year. Volunteers--parents and friends of learning--are trained each month by Four Winds Nature Institute staff. They then team teach an hour long program in the K-5 classrooms. Experiments, workstation projects, and outdoor scavenging are among the activities enjoyed by students. This program would not be possible without all our volunteers and the support of the school and teachers. A huge THANK YOU to all those that make this program work, past and present.

We had a fantastic start to the program in September and we look forward to coming back in October to learn about 'Grasses and Grains.'

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RUTLAND TOWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 5 8th grade High School Fair - 6 pm, Cafeteria
- 6 Four Winds Workshop - 9-11 am,
Shrewsbury Elementary School
- 6&20 Select Board meets – 6:30 pm, Town Hall
- 12 **Town Hall Closed** - Columbus Day
School Board meets - 6:30 pm, RTS Library
- 13 Friends of Music meets - 4 pm
Choral Music Room
- 15 Band recital, 4th grade - 6:30 pm, Gym
Planning Comm. Meets - 7 pm
Town Hall
- 16 **No School** – Teacher In Service
- 20 Senior Lunch - noon, Seward's Restaurant
- 22 Fall Chorus Recital, Middle School - 6:30 pm
RTS Cafeteria
- 27 Author Joe Citro at Rutland Free Library - 6:30pm
- 30 Rec. Dept. Halloween Party - 6 pm, RTS Gym
- 31 Halloween Parade - 6:30 pm, Rutland City



NOVEMBER

- 3 Four Winds Workshop - 9-11, Barstow School
- 3&17 Select Board meets - 6:30 pm, Town Hall

- 5 Early release day - Parent/Teacher Confer-
ences - 11:55 am
- 6 Early release day - Teacher In Service
- 5&19 Planning Comm. Meets - 7 pm, Town Hall
- 9 School Board meets - 6:30 pm, RTS
- 11 **Town Hall Closed** - Veteran's Day
No School
- 12 PTO meets - 6 pm, RTS
- 17 Friends of Music meets - 4 pm, Choral Room
Senior Lunch - noon, Seward's Restaurant
- 24 Article Deadline for **The Circle** (December)
- 25-27 No School - Thanksgiving
- 26&27 **Town Hall Closed** - Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- 1&15 Select Board meets - 6:30 pm, Town Hall
- 3 Vocal Concert, K-4 - 1:30 run through
6:30 pm Vocal concert, RTS Gym
PTO meets - 6 pm, RTS
- 3&17 Planning Comm. Meets - 7 pm, Town Hall
- 5 Breakfast With Santa - 9 am, RTS Cafeteria
- 8 Friends of Music meets - 4 pm, Choral Room
- 14 School Board meets - 6:30 pm. RTS Library

TOWN AND SCHOOL WEBSITES: rutlandtown.com and rutlandtownschool.org