

The Circle



Rutland Town's Link between School and Community

April 2017

TOWN NEWS

By Carol Bam

The March 7 Town Meeting election brought few changes beyond a new term to the ongoing work of the Rutland Town Select Board. Incumbents Mary Ashcroft and Chris Kiefer-Cioffi, who ran without opposition, returned to the Board. Josh Terenzini was re-elected Chairman, Ashcroft will continue as Clerk, and committee assignments will remain as they were.

Chairman Terenzini on behalf of the Board thanks town voters for passing all budgets and funding requests. "We were proud to put forth a 'lean and mean' budget that included no fat but which is sufficient to accomplish meaningful goals. The Town can operate very well on the approved budgets."

The Board will focus this term on cataloging municipal water and sewer systems, as well as Fire Districts, that exist in town. "We have a tremendous amount of water and sewer infrastructure, but much vital knowledge about location and actual equipment exists only in people's heads and not on paper or in a computer. We want to verify that information, record it and make it accessible."

A query to town residents who might be interested in planning a town wide celebration this summer has met with success. Terenzini, who is spearheading the committee, said that a group of 8 town officers and residents have been tasked to come up with a summer date and events to be held at various town locations.

(Continued on Page 5)

FROM SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AARON BOYNTON

Rutland Town School has had a strong year so far with many things to celebrate. Our Middle School Rock Climbing team won the state championship this year, their third time in five years. They secured their victory by 50 points. We congratulate the RTS rock climbing team; Mariah Crossman, Abi Farrow, Brady Geisler, Luci Horrocks, JJ Plemmons, Daniel Santiago, Morgan Washburn, Anne Watson, and Hunter Willis.

Recently, our Middle School Language Arts teacher, Erin Hanrahan, was recognized as a Project Ignite Educator by Vita-Learn and VT-ASCD. Recipients were recognized for their innovation and creativity in technology instruction. Ms. Hanrahan has demonstrated a high level of this in her classroom and we are grateful for how she engages students in the learning process.

We look forward to our 8th graders attending their Washington, DC trip this May. Thank you to families and community members for supporting our students as we plan for this trip. The experience they will have in Washington will be

(Continued on Page 7)

MY VIEW FROM HOUSE SEAT 101

By Thomas Terenzini, State Representative

As so many of you know, I have been battling a long illness for nearly one year now. I want to thank so many of you for your kind words, support, thoughts and prayers. I am happy to say that I am on the mend and continue to get stronger. I am also proud to tell you that I haven't missed a beat in Montpelier!

When I ran for this seat over 5 years ago, my top campaign promise was to not support any new taxes or fees. Under Governor Scott's leadership and campaign promises of his own, this was my first year in which I supported the proposed state budget. There were absolutely no new tax hikes or fees which would be passed along to all of you. With a new governor, we are starting to see some of these early wins for all of us.

I continue to serve on the Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Committee. Most of my days consist of reviewing proposals and bills which have something to do with those topics. The vast majority of these bills that come out of my committee I do NOT support due to the massive tax increases that they call for.

I continue to believe that the marijuana bill is bad news for our State. We already have an opioid problem and I do not

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RTS Kindergarten Registration 2017 - 2018 School Year May 1 and May 2

Registration for Kindergarten children for the 2017-2018 school year will take place at Rutland Town School on **Monday, May 1 and Tuesday, May 2, 2017.**

The registration process will consist of a review of your child's health history, vision and hearing assessments, and a conference with the teachers. This will take approximately 50 minutes. **Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

As per our School Board policy, all Kindergarteners must have reached their fifth (5th) birthday on or before August 31, 2017 .

The adult accompanying the Kindergartener must bring proof of birth in the form of a Birth Certificate or Baptismal Certificate.

An Immunization Record consisting of Polio, Measles, Rubella, Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis must be brought with you.

Please contact Mrs. Pam Mock at Rutland Town School at **775-0566, ext. 2001** as soon as possible to schedule an appointment.

THE CIRCLE is a publication of Rutland Town and Rutland Town School, informing the community about issues of local interest. **The Circle** is not meant to be 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 to contribute articles, email **carolbam@aol.com**, call the RTS office at 775-0566. or send by mail to:

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



From the Rutland Town Fire Department By BJ Hathaway

Happy spring from the folks at the Rutland Town Fire Department.

With the snow melt well underway and the impending warm and sunny days ahead, the risk of grass and brush fires increases immensely. The Fire Department would like to remind everyone that **there is no open burning allowed in Rutland Town without obtaining a burning permit.** Permits may be obtained by calling one of the following people:

Forest Fire Warden: Joe Denardo (802)-773-1542
Assistant Fire Chief: Chris Clark (802)-773-5098
Assistant Fire Chief: Mike Carlson (802)-775-2686

As always:

To report a fire or any other emergency, dial 911

The Fire Department would like to thank the community for its continued support by passing our budget on Town Meeting Day. We look forward to serving you for another year.

Our truck committee recently had the opportunity to go to Iowa for the first inspection of our new fire truck currently being constructed. The construction is going well and is on schedule. The Chief and truck committee members will be going back to Iowa the first week of May for the final inspection. Assuming the truck meets their approval, anticipated delivery will be around the middle of May to the McKinley Avenue station. The department again wishes to thank the community for their continued support.

As always, the department is continually seeking new members. Applications can be obtained by contacting any current member or stopping by either fire station on Wednesday evenings after 7 pm.

We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable spring!



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From Your School Board *Under Construction*

Our school administration, teachers and students are **constructing** learning in new and exciting ways! We have been implementing Learner Centered Education.

Here students are at the center. Our goal is to ensure that we provide just the right instruction, guidance and support to ensure that each student learns at a high level. There is no doubt that Rutland Town graduates will face very different expectations than in the past from their high schools of choice and beyond. Students are taking greater ownership for their own learning. Imagine, for a moment, what it is like to learn in our classrooms of the future – today! To accomplish this our teachers need to work together, learn and grow. In fact on March 17, we held an RCSU Learner Centered In-service based on teacher-identified needs which was facilitated by our teachers!



Our teachers are...

- Learning about virtual reality apps for virtual student field trips.
- Using Google Sites to build websites with their students.
- Using Open Educational Resources to augment our curriculum.
- Building proficiency based learning opportunities that cultivate student self-direction within a framework of productive transferable skills.
- Learning about how to build project based lessons to engage and motivate our students.
- Personalizing learning through formative assessment.
- Using Google Classroom to organize, communicate and instruct students.
- Using video for performance based assessments.

In addition, thanks to a Tarrant Institute for Innovative Education grant, Rutland Town students can now learn in an engaging, hands-on environment and practice key transferable skills such as collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving. The RTS **Maker Space** is equipped with a 3-D printer, vinyl cutter, construction sets, circuit boards, robotics construction kits, programmable robots, electronics tear-down station, duct tape creation station, 360 camera, virtual reality headsets, a drone, tools, and a variety of arts and crafts.

At Rutland Town School, through Learner Centered structures and strategies, teachers are partnering with students to help them build their own futures.

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Food Scrap Collection Begins July 1 at Transfer Station

**By: Joseph Zingale Jr.,
Town Administrator**

As of July 1, 2017 organic food waste will be accepted at the Anthony J. Flory Transfer Station. Town residents will be able to recycle the following organic food items:

ALL FOOD SCRAPS INCLUDING:

Meat & bones, fats, soup & liquids

Dairy: milk, cheese, yogurt

Nuts, eggs and their shells

Vegetables, fruit peels, cores (no stickers)

Baked goods, bread, pasta

Tea bags, coffee grounds & filters

In 2012, the Vermont Legislature unanimously passed the Universal Recycling Law (Act 148), which effectively bans disposal of three major types of waste materials commonly found in Vermonters' trash bins. Recyclables were mandated removed from the waste stream in July, 2015; and leaf and yard debris and clean wood by July, 2016. Now the goal is to remove food scraps (organic, compostable kitchen wastes.) By July 1, 2017, transfer stations and solid waste contractors must accept kitchen waste from Vermonters. In three years, food scrap recycling will become mandatory.

The following information is from State of Vermont educational materials:

"Organics", or *organic material*, include any plant or animal material or byproduct which will decompose into soil. Food scraps like carrot tops, egg shells, coffee grounds, and bread crusts—as well as leaves, grass and wood—are all organic materials. Paper napkins and paper towels are made from wood pulp and will also decompose into soil.

Why Separate Organic Materials?

Food scraps make up nearly 1/3 of the total waste a typical Vermont family generates at home. At businesses or institutions that serve food—like local restaurants or school cafeterias—food scraps often comprise more than half of total waste produced. Food scraps and leaf and yard wastes represent valuable resources that can be re-used in many products such as compost, garden mulch and animal bedding.

What Happens to Organic Materials I've Separated?

The collected organic materials that you have dropped off at the Transfer Station or contracted to be picked up by a solid waste hauler will either go to an anaerobic digestion facility or to a composting facility. At these sites, recognizable food scraps and organic waste decom-

pose into soil and can then be re-used. A carefully managed composting process (at a commercial site or at home) harnesses the power of millions of bacteria and fungi to turn your pineapple peelings and corn cobs into a valuable soil amendment.

The benefits of compost don't stop there. It can be used in soil building/erosion stabilization applications and can even be used as a storm water filtration system to clarify rainwater run-off. Unlike some fertilizers, compost will not pollute creeks and waterways.

The following information is from the Rutland County Solid Waste District. Visit the website rcswd.com to learn more about composting and for container options for kitchen scrap storage and outside composters

Backyard Composting

Composting is easy. Simply put different yard trimmings such as leaves and grass clippings in a bin or pile. You should have a mix of green material and brown material. Add water so the pile is slightly damp. Let the pile sit for 12 to 16 months.

You can add fruit and vegetable scraps and other materials as generated. Cover new kitchen scraps with leaves or bury them in the pile. If the pile dries out, add more water to keep it damp.

After 12 to 16 months, most of the material at the bottom of the pile will be dark, rich sweet-smelling compost. Sift or sort out large undecomposed materials and sprinkle the rest on your yard and garden.

For faster results, turn the pile at least once a month. The pile should reach a temperature of 130 to 160 degrees and will be ready in 6 to 9 months. The more frequently you turn the pile, the faster your compost will be ready.

What Can Be Composted at Home?

Grass Clippings

Yard Trimmings (old plants, wilted flowers, small prunings)

Leaves

Vegetable & Fruit Scraps

Coffee Grounds

Tea Leaves

Wood Chips

Shredded Paper (Low grade paper not acceptable for recycling)

What to Avoid

Meat, Fish and Poultry (including bones)

Food Sauces

Fats, Grease, and Oils

Dairy Products

Pet Feces

Invasive Weeds

Treated Wood (or any materials containing strong preservatives or toxins)

Ashes and charcoal

Non-organics (plastic, metal, glass, etc...)

From Town Clerk/Treasurer Kirsten Hathaway

Happy Spring! We have had quite the year of changes in the Town Clerk's office, and your patience has been especially appreciated. There will be one more change this spring, though we are working hard to ensure minimal disruption to the residents during this time. I will be taking maternity leave from the end of April through mid July.

On Tuesday, March 21, our office welcomed Mary Dahlin, former Clerk and Treasurer of the Town of Proctor to assist Susan McGee with running the office in my absence. She is a great asset to this town and we are lucky to have her with us. She will be part of our team until the end of July.

A quick reminder to everyone that the final installment for this tax year is due May 10th. Please do not delay in sending this in or you will receive an 8% delinquency fee on top of the standard 1% interest. If you have any questions, please give us a call or stop in. We are always here to help!



For each issue of The Circle, several volunteers gather at the Town Office to prepare about 1200 issues for mailing and distribution. Above, left to right are Roma Pulling, her daughter Cynthia Roberts, Betty Adamsen and Andrea Ryan. Thank you, volunteers!

(Town News ~ Continued from Page 1)

Ideas being discussed include a town softball game, tours of town buildings, BBQ at Northwood Park, performances by RTS jazz bands and others. It's not too late to get involved. If you are interested in helping the committee, call Chairman Terenzini at 802-353-7749 or email him at iterenzini@yahoo.com.

The Town Office welcomes Mary Dahlin as temporary help in the Town Clerk and Treasurer's office while Kirsten Hathaway is out on maternity leave. Dahlin recently retired from many years at the Proctor Town Office and came on board at the end of March for orientation. She will lend a hand to Assistant Town Clerk and Treasurer Susan McGee. The Highway Dept. is gearing up to construct a long planned sidewalk from the Adele Stanley apartments on Cold River Rd. to U-Haul on Rte. 7 South. "The sidewalk will vastly improve the safety of pedestrians on this route," said Terenzini. "It will also promote better access to shopping and increase the economic development potential of the area."

The Rec Department will lead construction of a new playground at Northwood Park on Saturday, April 22. People of all skill levels are encouraged to participate in this project beginning at 8:00 am, rain or shine. (See Rec report on page 5.)

Finally, Terenzini again thanks voters for approving the hike in Rec Depreciation funding from ¼ cent to ¾ cent on the tax rate. The ¼ cent assessment will continue to fund equipment replacement for the department. The additional ½ cent will be set in reserve for replacing the pool. Terenzini estimated that the ½ cent should raise \$38-40,000 per year. "The pool is currently in very healthy condition. Taking a lesson from Rutland City, this extra assessment ensures that the money for the project will be there when we need it."

NEWS FROM THE REC

By Director Mike Rowe

Spring has arrived and baseball is getting started. The Majors and Minor teams have begun to practice and the coaches have made contact with their players. The Mitey Mites program will start practice the first week in May, with more info to follow. Our T-Ball program will start May 5 and run for 6 weeks on Fridays from 6:00-7:00 behind the school.

On Saturday, April 22, we will be assembling the new playground at Northwood Park. If you would like to help, please show up and we will put you to work! We will start at 8:00 am rain or shine. Your help would be great even if it is for a short time, and refreshments are provided. Come help create this great new project.

Finally, the pool schedule is on the town website. As always, if you have programming ideas just let me know. I would like to congratulate our 5/6 grade girls basketball team for winning 3 of the big tournaments this season, a great job by coaches and players.

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Road Notes

from Byron Hathaway,
Road Commissioner

Thank you to the voters in Town for passing the highway budget. The new fiscal year starting in July contains some exciting projects. But first let me mention Green Up Day.

Green Up Day is May 6. This will be the 47th year since Green Up Day was started. Green Up bags will be available this year in late April at the Transfer Station and the Town Office. **Filled bags may be brought to the Transfer Station on Saturday May 6 from 8 am to noon only.**

For those who can't make it to the Transfer Station, you may leave your bags beside the road for the Highway Department to pick up on Monday after Green Up Day. You must let the Highway Department know that you have left bags out near the road by calling 773-8128 and leaving a message where the bags can be found.

Participation in Green Up these last few years has grown a little each year. Let's keep it going. Thank you to the Velco employees who pick up the North Grove Street/Pinnacle Ridge Road area and the Hubbard Bros. employees who pick up the Cold River/Stratton Road area. It is nice to have such community engagement from businesses on Green Up Day.

Projects this year include paving the gymnasium parking lot and the lower parking lot at the school. The gym parking lot will be dug out and base issues will be corrected. After paving, I will work with Jeff Colomb to stripe the parking area for parking spaces and the two lanes that will be established for stacking cars during parent pickup and drop off. This will all but eliminate vehicles waiting along Post Road to enter the school lot during pick up and drop off. Post Road will be widened slightly in front of the school to provide thru lanes for east and west bound traffic, as well as a left turn lane for east bound vehicles that want to enter the school parking lot. A Right turn/stacking lane will be provided between the two

Rutland Town Seniors

By Sue Colomb

The Rutland Town Seniors met on March 28th at Seward's Family Restaurant for the first meeting of 2017. There were fourteen members present. Secretary/Associate Treasurer Jim Hall lead the meeting. The group currently has a nominating committee working on finding interested volunteers to hold leadership positions for the current year.

The Seniors signed and sent a birthday card to member Ann Glagola who turned 100 on February 19th. Ann is the current recipient of the Rutland Town Cane which is held by the Town's oldest resident. Happy Birthday Ann!

Get well wishes were expressed for long-time leader Pat Tucker who is recovering from a recent illness. Pat's many years of dedicated service to the group are appreciated.

The next gathering will be Tuesday April 25th at 11:30 at Seward's. The group is looking for new members. Please plan to come! Contact Jim Hall at 773-5913 if you would like to attend.

school entrances for east bound vehicles that may have to wait to enter the school parking lot. Signage and the proper striping will be done in front of the school to accommodate these changes. In addition, we will be constructing some storm water treatment systems in front of the school to bring the school into compliance with current storm water standards. The back of the school will have to be looked at some time in the near future to bring storm water discharges behind the school into compliance with water quality standards that go into effect in 2018.

Included in the new budget is funding to develop plans for a new town road in the business area along U.S.7 South in the area of the Green Mountain Plaza and the Randbury Road. This new road will allow patrons to move from one business to another without having to use U.S. 7. This new road will also relieve the burden on the Cop John Drive/Holiday Drive intersection. This intersection and the Randbury Road/US.7 intersection have serious problems. The former intersection has stacking problems at the light and the latter has left turn exiting issues accessing U.S.7. More information will be reported as this project moves forward.

Another project that will be built this summer is a new section of sidewalk extending from U-Haul along the north side of Cold River Road to the entrance to the Adele Stanley Apartments. A VTrans grant has been secured to cover about 50% of the cost of construction. This will be another busy summer.



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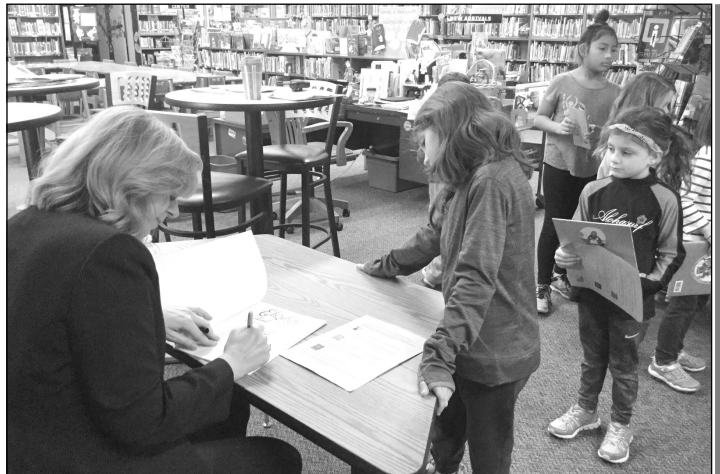
Water Testing

Students Are Eager Hosts to Author Tanya Lee Stone

Theresa Czachor Librarian

On the day of her visit to Rutland Town School students showed their appreciation for the work of author Tanya Lee Stone. They listened carefully and asked important questions about what is involved in writing a nonfiction book for children. Tanya shared with the students that her latest title, *Girl Rising*, was the 100th book that she has published!

The central theme of her presentations is the importance of the in-depth research that is needed to write nonfiction. In one of her presentations for elementary students, she told an amazing story about the research she did for one of the illustrations in her book entitled *Sandy's Circus*. She needed to find a written description of what the castle looked like that artist Alexander Calder built for his sister. She wanted to make sure that the illustrator got it right for the book. After numerous phone calls and much investigation, she said that a librarian helped her find a book with a description of the castle that she could share with the illustrator. I could not have been more proud to be a librarian!



Author Tanya Lee Stone autographing books in the Library



Students in first grade were asked to respond to the question, "What important information did you learn from the books Tanya Lee Stone writes for children?" Here are a few of their responses:

- "She had to do a lot of research." ~ Maeve Saunders
- "That women couldn't be doctors in the old days." ~ Zach Moser
- "I could be the next Tanya Lee Stone." ~ Ronan Duffy
- "I learned Tanya Lee Stone writes real books." ~ Paityn Mero

Tanya Lee Stone's visit was inspiring and informative. It may have even encouraged some children to grow up to be writers or doctors. I am entirely grateful to the Rutland Town PTO and the Rutland Town community for their support of this event.

Kindergarten students dressed as doctors provided a pleasant surprise for Tanya Lee Stone as they came to her presentation in the library .

(Principal Boynton ~ Continued from Page 1)

unforgettable.

As always, we welcome you to Rutland Town School at any time. Please feel free to contact me for a tour and to see all of the wonderful things we are doing in our classrooms.

Also, please see our website (www.rutlandtown-school.org) which will give you links to our Facebook and Twitter pages or call 775-0566.



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M Jazz Band

RTS MUSIC UPDATE

From Aaron Audet, Instrumental Music

Our spring schedule:

April 27 K-4 Concert	6:30pm Gym
May 7 Loyalty Day Parade	2pm Rutland
May 18 5-8 Concert	6:30 Gym
May 21 Foundry Brunch	M & T Jazz Band (see below)
June 2 Blue Man Group	MS Band and Chorus Boston, All Day Trip
June 7 Discover Jazz Fest	T Jazz Only 11:30-12:30 Burlington City Hall

On Sunday May 21 both M and T Jazz groups will be playing the Sunday brunch at The Foundry in Killington from 11 - 1:00. Come have brunch and support our music program fundraiser. Please call The Foundry at 422-5335 to reserve your table .



T Jazz Band

(Rep. Tom Terenzini ~ Continued from Page 1)

find legalizing marijuana as a step in the right direction. With a little luck, the session will end in the beginning of May without the majority party passing this legislation.

As always, I welcome your phone calls and emails. I love to hear from so many of you and if you are ever in Montpelier, let me know and I can show you around.

For God and Country: **Thomas Terenzini**

60 Plus

Older Americans Month 2017

From Heather Baker, SVCOA

Getting older does not mean what it used to. For many aging Americans, it is a phase of life where interests, goals, and dreams can get a new or second start. Today, aging is about eliminating outdated perceptions and living the way that suits you best.

Take Barbara Hillary, for example. A nurse for 55 years who dreamed of travel, at age 75 Hillary became the first African American woman to set foot on the North Pole. In 2011, at age 79, she set another first when she stepped onto the South Pole. Former president George H.W. Bush celebrated his 90th birthday by skydiving. Actress Betty White, now 95 years old, became the oldest person to host Saturday Night Live in 2010, coincidentally during May—the same month recognized as Older Americans Month (OAM).

Since 1963, OAM has been a time to celebrate older Americans, their stories and their contributions. Led by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), the annual observance offers a special opportunity to learn about, support, and recognize our nation's older citizens. This year's theme, "Age Out Loud," emphasizes the ways older adults are living their lives with boldness, confidence, and passion while serving as an inspiration to people of all ages.

The Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA) will use OAM 2017 to focus on how older adults in our community are redefining aging—through work or family interests, by taking charge of their health and staying independent for as long as possible, and through their community and advocacy efforts. We can also use this opportunity to learn how we can best support and learn from our community's older members.

Throughout the month, SVCOA will conduct activities and share information designed to highlight our many services we offer as an agency. We encourage you to get involved by calling us to volunteer (802) 786-5990.

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Spring Update from Rutland Free Library

By Randal Smathers, Assistant Director

Our First Wednesday series wraps up for the year with "What the Buddhists teach," presented by author Dr. Polly Young-Eisendrath on Wednesday, **May 3, at 7 PM, in the Fox Room.**

April & May are busy months in the Library. Mid-April sees the rush at the end of tax season. With 10 PCs connected to the internet and with printing and wireless printing available, we help a lot of patrons file their returns. And RFL donated three of our old computers to the AARP free tax preparation service, held this year at the Green Mountain Power offices on Post Road in Rutland Town.

We would also like to thank everyone who sponsored our Mini-golf in the Library event on March 25-26 and the hundreds of people who came out on Saturday for our mixer and Sunday for Family Fun Day. It was a record-breaking turnout this year!

As the school year winds up, we also see a surge of students (and /or their parents) looking for resources to do one last paper or book report. Come early for the best selection!

We also have resources for students beyond our print collection: Our consortium has grown to 15 libraries and we can generally get books at RFL within a week that are on the shelves at any of them. We also have databases of peer-reviewed articles available through our website (go to rutlandfree.org/kids, click on the Homework Help link and start with Academic Onefile). Or you can access e-books and audiobooks at any time through our website.

In June, it will be time to think about summer reading. Study after study finds students who read during the summer retain more of what they learned over the previous school year. It's the easiest way to help your child get ahead in school. Check the online calendar for days with events scheduled and you can make a fun afternoon out of helping your daughter or son succeed at school. And like everything at Rutland Free Library, there's no cost to joining the Summer Reading Club or attending events.

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Clarifying Library Finances

Please allow us this opportunity to shed light on our financial position. Rutland Free Library receives funds from three sources: Directly from taxpayers; fundraising, which includes donations and grants; and endowments, primarily one left by Nella Grimm Fox.

She provided that her money go to resources that directly benefit patrons, namely the purchase of books and periodicals, but she did not anticipate things like e-books and computers. The Library's accountant asked for an investigation, which showed we were still in compliance, and which we reported.

But some people are under the impression that the positive finding on the Fox Fund means the Library is no longer in dire fiscal need. That's unfortunately not the case.

In the annual budget process, the City Aldermen chose to level-fund us so we asked for level-funding from our remaining towns, creating a roughly \$40,000 shortfall. Because the Fox Fund cannot be spent on day-to-day operations, this money needs to be made up elsewhere.

Any internal cuts will be painful; we hope not to have to reduce hours or services. Grants are not usually available for operating costs. As for fundraising, we are acutely aware that Rutland only has so much charitable capacity. We host annual fundraising events in the community, like the recent mini-golf weekend; Friends of RFL host monthly book sales and we send an Annual Appeal letter. But in order to cover the budget gap without cutting hours or services, we would need to double the amount that we traditionally fundraise.

The Library remains a vibrant and relevant part of our community. We cannot stress enough how dependent and grateful we are for the continued generosity of our patrons and friends in order to provide our much-needed services, relied upon by so many people in our community.



RTS Students Attend VT 3D Competition

By Erica Zimmer,
Instructional Technology Specialist

Rutland Town Middle School students Brady Geisler, Adriana Grabach, Katelyn Velde, Thomas Transue, and Tyler Karpinsky recently competed in the 3D Vermont Competition. They worked on their project during their iLearn block, which is a period reserved in the morning for electives as well as time to get help with school work.

The students have met twice a week since December to prepare for this competition. 3D Vermont is a town history in 3D where high school and middle school students from around the state are challenged to work in teams to research and recreate 3D models of historical buildings in their area. In the process, they uncover and document the history of buildings and create a multimedia presentation to accompany their printed 3D models.

The students chose the Service Building located on Merchant's Row in downtown Rutland. Since December, they worked hard researching the Art Deco building, learning how to use a 3D sketching program called **Tinkercad**, and figuring out how to create a virtual reality experience as their presentation using a 360 camera.

You can check out their presentation by going to this link: <https://goo.gl/6ORuF6>. Be sure to click on the music notes to learn about the building. Even though the team didn't place, they were so inspired by the experience that they asked if they could start planning for next year's competition as soon as possible.

Help RTS Explore More with Virtual Reality

We recently purchased 10 Virtual Reality (VR) headsets to enhance learning at Rutland Town School. Virtual Reality can transform learning by providing our students with opportunities to experience and explore things that they otherwise might not be able to experience. Imagine being able to go to pyramids in Egypt, exploring the Titanic shipwreck, touring Paris, going on a space odyssey or visiting a museum. You can now do all of that and more with Virtual Reality! We want to provide a way for our students to experience the world and help teachers transform their lessons.

Currently, we allow students to use their own devices with the VR headsets, but unfortunately, most devices are not compatible with Virtual Reality apps, so **we would like to purchase 10 basic android phones to use with the VR headsets.**

Please help us open up the world for them with virtual reality! To donate to our Donors Choose campaign to bring Virtual Reality to Rutland Town School, go to the link: goo.gl/1DQUTr.

Your Deposit Bottles at Work

By Carol Bam

Thank you to all who faithfully drop off their deposit bottles and cans at the Anthony J. Flory Transfer Station. More than \$1000 was collected last year, doubling what was redeemed 12 years ago. Keep those bottles coming!

The money helps RTS pay for the award winning Four Winds Nature Program for K-5 students. The kids get 8 lessons during the school year relating to a natural sciences theme. Four Winds' main mission is to encourage scientific curiosity in our kids and support their observation and experience of the natural world right in their own back yard.

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Left:
Carlie Erickson and Rebecca Churchill

4th Grade Science Fair By Grade 4 Teachers, Kathryn Duguay and Hannah Thorpe

Fourth grade students at RTS did an amazing job at the Science Fair on March 7! The following students won a medal for their project: (Mrs. Duguay's Class) Sawyer Nelson, Lanza Bellomo, Sam Walker, and Wyatt Fuller, (Miss Thorpe's Class) Carlie Erickson, Riley Rodrigue, Jia Harchind, and Grace Smith. Congratulations to all our participants!

Be Prepared for Fun in the Sun, SAFELY!

By Heather Fredritz
Student Nurse- Castleton University

From Lisa Lones, RTS School Nurse:
Heather is a parent at RTS and is also a 3rd year nursing student at Castleton University. She is doing her community health clinical in the health office at RTS. She has been focusing on the community health and collaboration part of school nursing. She has a strong interest in pediatric nursing, and ties to RTS, so it was a perfect fit.

Longer days and lighter nights are upon us. As the summer months near it is important to be aware of measures you can take to help your family safely enjoy the summer days.

With all the available options choosing a sunscreen can be tricky. What matters the most is the degree of protection it provides from UV rays. Select a sunscreen with a SPF over 30 to prevent sunburn and tanning and ensure it's also broad-spectrum, meaning it protects against UVA and UVB rays. In addition, avoid products that contains PABA, which can cause skin allergies, especially in children. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends applying sunscreen 30 minutes before exposure, and then reapplying every 2 hours or after swimming or sweating heavily.

Other tips for safe fun in the sun include;

Beware of the shade: While shade does provide relief from the heat, you can still get sunburnt in the shade because sunrays are scattered and reflected.

Keep covered: Shield skin from UV rays. Be sure clothes will screen out harmful rays by placing your hand inside the garment and making sure you can't see through them.

Stay hydrated: Remind kids to drink water throughout the day, even if they aren't thirsty. It is especially important that they are taking in fluids before, during and after rigorous activity such as sports games and practices.

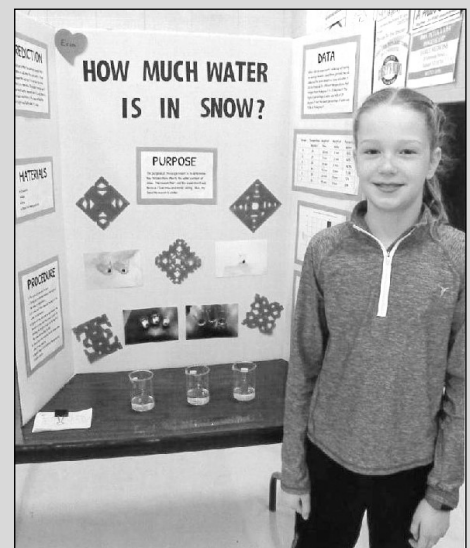
A little planning ahead goes a long way when it comes to safely enjoying the warmer weather!

Reference:

American Academy of Pediatrics. (2016, May 3). Sun and Water Safety Tips. Retrieved April 2, 2017, from <https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/news-features-and-safety-tips/Pages/Sun-and-Water-Safety-Tips.aspx>



Ryan McNeil



Erin Geisler

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RUTLAND TOWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APRIL

- 22 **Rec. Dept. playground construction at Northwood Park** - 8:00 am, rain or shine
27 K-4 Vocal & Band concert 1:30pm rehearsal
6:30pm evening performance, RTS

MAY

- 1&2 Kindergarten registration (Details Page 2)
2 Four Winds training workshop Barstow Elementary, noon
Friends of Music meets - RTS Band room, 4:30 pm
2,16,30 Select Board meets - Town Hall, 6:30
3 PTO meets - RTS, 4 pm
4&25 Planning Commission meets - Town Hall, 7 pm
6 Green UP Day (Details page 6)
7 Loyalty Day Parade - Rutland City, 2 pm
8 School Board meets - RTS Library, 5:30
8-12 Scholastic Book Fair - RTS, BOGO
10 **3rd Property Tax payment due**
All State Parade – Brattleboro, 6:45 pm



- 18 Concert – 5-8 Vocal & Band Rehearsal at 1:30 pm, Performance 6:30 pm
21 RTS Jazz bands perform at The Foundry 11:00 - 1:00 Brunch (Details Page 9)
26 Early release day - 11:55 am
29 **Town Hall Closed – Memorial Day**
No School

JUNE

- 6 Friends of Music - RTS band room, 4:30 pm
7 Discover Jazz Festival - Burlington
RTS Jazz Band performs 11:30-12:30
PTO meets - RTS, 4 pm
8 Article deadline for June issue of The Circle
12 School Board meets - RTS library, 5:30 pm
13&27 Select Board meets - Town Hall, 6:30 pm
15 Planning Commission meets - Town Hall, 7 pm
20 8th Grade Graduation - RTS gym, 7 pm
23 Tentative last day of school

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