

The Circle



Rutland Town's Link between School and Community

October 2017

TOWN NEWS

By Carol Bam

Select Board Chairman Josh Terenzini welcomes readers back after a busy summer. He reports that town Rec and Highway personnel, in collaboration with Rutland City, have created 1-2 miles of walking trails at Northwood Park. The extensive system begins at the end of the softball field with paths traversing woods and meadows, including some city land. Trail maps will be printed and signage for the trails will be up next spring. Terenzini said a significant impetus for the project came from dog owners. Dogs are welcome on the trails as long as they are leashed and cleaned up after.

Rutland Town Celebration Day on July 1 "was held during a monsoon," said the Chairman. But rain didn't completely drown enthusiasm for the event which was fairly well attended. Festivities focused around the Fire Department celebrating its 50th anniversary. Fire trucks, including the brand new Engine 1, were on display for adults to marvel at and kids to climb on. On behalf of the Select Board, Terenzini commends the Celebration Committee and Fire Department members for their planning and organization, as well as Mark Foley for arranging for his ice cream truck to distribute free ice cream to complement the town BBQ.

October not only brings fall, but budget development season. "Board members will soon ramp up work on putting together fiscal 2018

(Continued on Page 6)

FROM THE RUTLAND TOWN SCHOOL BOARD

VOTE on Tuesday, October 10, 2017

Public Information Hearing Monday October 9

The Rutland Town School District will hold an Informational Hearing on Monday October 9, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Rutland Town School.

The vote will be on the proposal that the Rutland Town School District **remain a single town school district** and become a member of the new Supervisory Union including Quarry Valley and Well Springs Unified Union School Districts.

A positive vote on October 10 would enable Rutland Town School District to continue to operate as a Preschool through Grade 8 school and continue to offer full school choice for students in grades 9 through 12.

By passing these Articles, the Town district will be exempt from:

- A. Filing a proposal under Act 46, Sec 9
- B. Being required to merge with another district by the State Board's final Statewide Plan

Your School Board members and Act 46 Study Committee have spent over two years studying and applying the new regulations in Act 46 and Act 49. The School Board fully backs this proposal and finds this to be the best action for Taxpayers and Students.

The main difference Rutland Town taxpayers would see under this proposal is the change in Supervisory Unions. The Rutland Central Supervisory Union will be disbanded and a new Supervisory Union formed. The change should save taxpayers money by merging two Supervisory Unions into one. The Supervisory Union is changing from 3 School Districts (three towns) to 4 School Districts (seven towns).

This proposal has been approved by the State Board of Education and Commissioner.

Please attend the Information Meeting on October 9 at RTS at 7:00 pm, and vote on Tuesday, October 10.

CONTENTS

New Staff at RTS	Page 2
Town Clerk	Page 3
Voter Information	Page 4
Fire Dept.	Page 5
Seniors	Page 5,7
Highway Dept.	Page 8
Rec Dept.	Page 9
Transfer Station	Page 11

FROM PRINCIAL AARON BOYNTON

A new school year is here and we are all very excited to see students and families back at Rutland Town School. As a learning community we are committed to providing a high level of academic excellence, social and emotional guidance, and physical, artistic, and musical opportunities for all children.

We welcome our new students this year to bring our PreK to 8th grade enrollment to 328. We are pleased and excited to meet so many new faces. Our full day PreK program is off to a great start and we are excited to have more students at RTS.

(Continued on Page 4)



RTS WELCOMES NEW STAFF

Some of the 17 new staff are featured here. The rest will be introduced in the December issue. For the complete list please see the continuation of Principal Boynton's article on page 4.

Stephanie Petrarca, Long term substitute Kindergarten
I am very excited to be a part of the wonderful community that is Rutland Town School! I grew up in Massachusetts and have lived in Vermont for the past six years. My wife and I live in Rutland City where I enjoy cooking, playing music, and watching movies. Last year I taught Preschool in Orwell and I love that I have "grown up" with my students' ages! I look forward to bringing my musicality and enthusiasm into the classroom for years to come!

Heather Norton, 2nd Grade
Hello Everyone! I am the new 2nd grade teacher. I am very excited to join the RTS team! I have been teaching for 18 years and love what I do. In my spare time I enjoy hiking, reading, and spending time with my family. I look forward to a great year of learning, laughter and fun!

Amy Torrey, 4th Grade
I am so excited to be a 4th grade teacher at Rutland Town School. This is my 11th year of teaching, but my first year here at RTS. I have taught every grade from 1st - 6th. I graduated from Castleton State College in 2005 and received my M.Ed from Union Institute & University in 2011.

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 information, mailing list changes, to advertise or to contribute item, email carolbam@aol.com, call the RTS office at 775-0566. or mail to:

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

From left to right, back row

Stephanie Petrarca - Long term substitute Kindergarten
Heather Norton - 2nd Grade; Amy Torrey - 4th Grade
Margaret Dodge - 1st Grade; Sue Toner - Long term substitute Reading Intervention Specialist;
Sybren Spensley - Pre-Kindergarten

Seated in front from left to right:

Emily Morrison - 3rd Grade
Shawn Dubois - Pre-Kindergarten

I have lived in Addison County for my entire life. My husband and I have a home in Orwell where we live with our four children ages 10, 9, 7 and 1, and close by to our very large extended family. In addition to being a life-long learner, I enjoy fishing, being around water, and, most of all, spending time with my family and pets.

Margaret Dodge, 1st Grade

I am the new first grade teacher here at Rutland Town School. I grew up in Eagan, Minnesota. I attended college at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls. I graduated in December of 2015 with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. I moved to Rutland last year and I love it! I like to read, bake, hike, and spend time with friends. I am so excited to be a part of the Rutland Town community!

Sue Toner, Long term substitute, Reading Intervention Specialist

I am providing reading intervention for students kindergarten through grade 6. I previously worked as a speech language pathologist for many years with students from preschool through high school. I am interested in animals, enjoy being outside, going for walks, and visiting family and friends. I am enjoying working with the students at the school.

Sybren Spensley, Pre-Kindergarten

This year will be my ninth year in education and I am excited to be teaching at Rutland Town School. Previously I taught preschool at Barstow and Caverly Preschool in Pittsford. I have also worked as a para educator at East Montpelier Elementary School. I live in Pittsford with my husband and our three children. We enjoy being outside in every season but especially love skiing in the winter.

Emily Morrison, 3rd Grade

I'm so excited to join the Rutland Town community! After graduating from University of New Hampshire, I moved to Hartland, Vermont, where I taught third grade for three years. My boyfriend and I bought our home in Mendon in July of 2016. When I'm not at school you might find me hiking, water skiing, visiting the Farmer's Market, or hitting the slopes!

Shawn Dubois, Pre-Kindergarten

I am so excited to be a part of the Rutland Town School team. I was born and raised in New York State, but have lived in Vermont for the past 30+ years.

I love to create. I enjoy gardening, drawing, cooking and walking. I enjoy spending time with my very energetic chocolate lab. I am so pleased to be a part of the RTS community and look forward to meeting everyone!

HELPING after HURRICANE HARVEY

By Karie Shelton, Rutland Town Resident

Brayden Shelton, a RTS 8th grader, was able to travel to Houston as part of the Mormon Helping Hands Disaster Relief Project to assist in clean-up of Hurricane Harvey. A total of 139 work gloves were donated, 66 from RTS, to contribute to clean-up crews. Thousands have been displaced from homes that have been destroyed after Hurricane Harvey swept through the Houston area.



Brayden packs donated gloves for Houston

The air smells of sewage and mold in these beautiful neighborhoods. Over 4000 homes have been destroyed. It's so unfortunate, but people come together in these moments. Families, communities and churches are all working together to help each other. There is much tragedy and devastation but the people are in high spirits and it is heart warming to watch so many working hard to take care of each other. Families and schools are still in need of financial donations to recover. Please consider helping!



Brayden and his mother, Karie, were assigned to work in West Houston, one of the hardest hit areas. These homes were intentionally flooded from two threatened reservoirs on top of hurricane waters in order to prevent the dams from breaking. These homes were "sacrificed" to save the city and prevent an economic recession since this area houses the energy corridor of the nation with many energy and power company headquarters based here.



Flood ruined materials fill each yard on the street

From Town Clerk/Treasurer Kirsten Hathaway

Happy Fall Everyone!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. We were incredibly fortunate this year to have the assistance of Mary Dahlin while I was out, and I thank her immensely for her support in the office. She has graciously offered to continue assisting us on an as needed basis so that we can best accommodate our residents.

Just a reminder to everyone that the Clerk's office hours are:

Mon., Wed., Thurs.	8:00 - 4:30
Tuesday	8:00 - 6:00
Friday	8:00 - 2:00

These office hours are also listed on the top of your tax bills if you happen to forget, as well as on the Rutland Town website: www.rutlandtown.com.

Office Closure dates are:

October 9 (Columbus Day)
November 10 (Veterans Day)
November 23 - 24 (Thanksgiving)

As always, please feel free to contact us if we can be of assistance to you. We look forward to seeing you at the polls on Tuesday, October 10!



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**Ms. Petrarca's Kindergarten students
in Ms. McReynolds's Art Class**

(Principal Boynton - Continued from Page 1)

Over the past years there have been new initiatives at Rutland Town School. Our focus has been on implementing the many changes that have been required of Vermont schools. Our focus this year is further implementation of a learner-centered model, where students assess their learning, create a plan to work towards understanding, and finally demonstrating their understanding. This model fosters self direction and also allows students to work towards the Vermont Proficiency Standards.

Our work as professionals has been in understanding these Proficiencies and how to implement the learner-centered model. This school year, we will be focusing heavily on improving our instructional practices around this. Our collegial work time is structured so teachers are reflecting on their practices, looking at school and student data to inform practice, regularly discussing student needs at all levels, and participating in school based and Supervisory Union based professional development. We value the importance of collaboration, communication, and the belief that we are all responsible for all student learning and progress. I am proud of the work our faculty and students have accomplished and I look forward to the future successes that Rutland Town School will demonstrate.

We welcome new faculty members to RTS this year and look forward to seeing the excellence that our new teachers and staff will bring.

Pre-K: Shawn DuBois, Pre-K: Sybren Spensley
 Kindergarten long term sub: Stephanie Petrarca
 1st grade: Margaret Dodge
 2nd grade teacher: Heather Norton
 3rd grade teacher: Emily Morrison
 4th grade teacher: Amy Torrey
 Special Educator: Megan O'Brien
 Middle School Science: Bayley Sanders
 Middle School Language Arts: Sean Hirten
 Literacy Intervention long term sub: Janice Ryan
 Literacy Intervention long term sub: Sue Toner
 Evening Custodian: Sara Davis
 SU Curriculum Coach: Brian Crane
 Para educators: Val Gragen, Wayne Thornton, and Jackie Bendick

I welcome you, as always, to Rutland Town School. Please tune in to School Board meetings for teacher and student presentations. Please stop by for a tour of the school anytime you wish. Our doors are open and we welcome you! You may also call me directly at 775-0566 x4003.

Have a wonderful fall season!

VOTER INFORMATION

For October 10, 2017

Same Day voter registration is in effect in Vermont allowing voters to register when they go to the polls. New voters are required by the "Help America Vote Act" to show a driver's license or provide the last four digits of their social security number. Voters must be 18 years old on or before October 10, 2017.

Vote Tuesday, October 10, from 7 am - 7 pm

Residents living east of Route 7 vote at Rutland Town School; west side residents vote at the Town Office.

Call the Town Office at 773-2528 if you'd like more information.

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From the Rutland Town Fire Department By BJ Hathaway



Hello again from the Rutland Town Fire Department! Hopefully everyone enjoyed the heat wave in September and was able to catch up on the remaining summer projects on your list. The members of the Fire department have been busy this summer as well. Much of our time has been spent training with our new Engine 1 that was delivered in late May. The truck has served us well and is a positive addition to our fleet. We have also completed some maintenance items around the stations as well as some much need cleaning and updating of items in storage.

We have had the good fortune of taking on many new members over the summer. Many of our new members are taking the Firefighter Level 1 course offered in Middlebury by the Vermont Fire Academy. Many of our new members who completed the Level 1 course last year are participating in the Level 2 course that the Rutland Town Fire Department has the privilege of hosting at the Center Rutland Station.

October is Fire Prevention month and as always some members of the department will be doing our annual fire prevention presentation to the students at the town school. We always look forward to that!

As you make your winter preparations this fall, the Fire Department would like to pass along the following checklist 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 where ever 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.

Please ensure that your street number is clearly visible on both your mailbox and your house. The numbers should be a minimum of 4 inches high and of contrasting color to the background on which they are placed. This helps to ensure all emergency responders, ambulance, police and fire, are able to quickly locate you in your time of need! Here's to hoping everyone has a happy fall!

RUTLAND TOWN SENIORS By Treasurer, Jim Hall

This summer has proven to be a busy one in spite of the fact that a boat cruise on Lake George did not happen. It is very difficult for a small group to pull off such a trip alone. There were no other groups in this immediate area that were planning for that, so we did not go. Hopefully, next year.

We had a great summer outing at Northwood with a large turnout in spite of the rain. In August we were at Sugar and Spice. We will be going to the Woodstock Senior Center on Tuesday October 17. **An RSVP is needed by October 12**, as the roster of names has to be submitted to The Bus by the 13th. Call Jim Hall at 773-5913, or email jim-hall1940@gmail.com. The Bus departs from the Maples at 10:30am on October 17.

The November lunch date has not been set but will be at Seward's Family Restaurant.

December will be our final outing for the season. We are having a catered meal at the Fire Station in Center Rutland, on Dec 12, 2017. We are asking people to gather at 11:30 am, with lunch to be served at noon. (Please RSVP to Jim Hall.) This is possible once again, thanks to of the Rutland Town Recreation Dept.

Cheney Hill Seniors wish to express condolences to the Livak family in the recent passing of Ann Livak Glagola, a very spirited person who was one of the original members of this group. Ann contributed much time and effort over the years in being sure things went according to plan. We owe much to her work on behalf of Seniors.

That about gets us up to date. Budgets for the coming fiscal year starting in July 2018, have been submitted to the Select Board. We want to thank them once again for the interest and effort in being the major component that has assured success of our group.



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Race to Read Summer Reading Challenge Was “Wheelie” Fun for Students!
By Theresa Czachor, RTS Librarian

Rutland Town School partnered with the Race to Read organization (racetoread.org) to encourage students to read during their summer break. Students who read up to fifteen books had the special privilege of autographing a race car!

Race car drivers from Devil’s Bowl Speedway and Thunder Road International Speedbowl brought their race cars to the school grounds in large trailers. Excitement began to build as the race cars were backed out of the trailers and **driven** onto the front lawn. All students had a scheduled time to see the race cars and talk to one of the five drivers that visited our school. Students who completed a reading log over the summer received a small trophy and were able to autograph all three cars on the lawn! A highlight of the day was when the fifth graders called out in a group, “START YOUR ENGINES!” and three drivers each started one of the race cars! It felt like a race was about to begin!

Congratulations to all the summer readers who logged a total of 1071 books!

Take Charge of Your Character

By Melissa Theis, Guidance Counsleor

Rutland Town School is working hard to not just build great students, but also build good citizens. We are excited to continue our school-wide program **Take Charge of Your Character**. Each month we will focus on a character trait that will help students be good neighbors and citizens.

Students will learn about the monthly trait through elementary school-wide assemblies and classroom discussions. Throughout the month adults in the building will look for students who exemplify the character trait. Those adults will fill out a shape of the month with how the student demonstrated that character trait. The shape will then be hung on a big tree by the cafeteria for the whole school to see.

At the next month’s assembly we spotlight those students for the great work they were seen doing. Additionally, two or three students from each classroom who go above and beyond will be recognized as “Student of the Month.” It is an opportunity to teach character and build unity within the school. The whole school comes together and leaves excited about a new month of practicing good character.

Below is the list of monthly traits. We hope that you discuss each trait with your child(ren) at home and brainstorm ways to put that trait into practice.

September	Responsibility
October	Fairness
November	Thankfulness
December	Patience
January	Curiosity
February	Uniqueness
March	Integrity
April	Citizenship
May	Humor

(Town News ~ Continued from Page 1)

budgets. The process begins at the committee level with Board members and department heads assessing the needs of Fire, Highway, Rec, Police and General municipal departments. It takes 3 months to hold the necessary meetings and provide for public input to formulate the budgets that will be presented to town residents in late January.”

The Select Board is starting the process to hire a Town Administrator. “We are working to produce an accurate job description and taking time to articulate qualifications for potential candidates. We hope to fill the position by the end of the year. In the interim, Assistant Town Administrator Patty Carbine will work full time under the guidance and assistance of Select Board members. Despite the vacancy, it’s business as usual at the Town Office thanks to an active, hands-on Select Board and staff.”

The 2017 budget included \$50,000 for renovations to improve energy efficiency and modernize the interior of the Town Office. This fall all windows will be replaced with energy efficient upgrades. A heat pump will be added to the Town Clerk’s office, as the one installed two years ago in the Select Board room has performed well. “The Board is receiving bids for a stand-by generator for the building to allow departments to continue functioning in a power outage, a necessity for police and emergency management personnel.” Says Terenzini, “We are excited about updating the look of the Town Office with some new carpet, interior painting and exterior pressure washing. These renovations build on work done two years ago that brought the two bathrooms into ADA compliance and created permanent space for the Police Department.”

60 Plus
Medicare Open Enrollment
By Kheya Ganguly, SVCOA



Once again, it is time for Medicare open enrollment. The open enrollment period for this year begins October 15 and runs through December 7, 2017. During this period, please make sure to check how your Medicare plan coverage works. No one but you is responsible for ensuring that you have the correct coverage for the upcoming year.

Open Enrollment is your chance to make any changes necessary in your Medicare and your Drug Plan (Medicare Part D). You can compare Health Care Plans to see if there is a better option to manage your health care needs. You may stay with your current plan if you are happy or, if necessary, look for a new option with better coverage, higher quality, and/or lower cost. If your plan is being discontinued you are required to have a new plan in place for January 1, 2017.

Make sure you are checking any information you receive in the mail, as Medicare Part D (your current drug plan - if you have one) will send you information about any planned changes. Types of changes that could occur can include - the cost of the premium, deductible and co-pays, or the list of drugs included in the formulary. It is important to compare your current plan to other plans and choose the one that is most effective for you. You can go to medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE.

Remember, Medicare has strict deadlines and make sure you make a decision soon. If you have any questions your local Area Agency on Aging provides free information to help you learn everything you 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**.

As an early reminder, Medicare will be mailing out new insurance cards between April 2018 and April 2019. The reason for this change is the removal of social security numbers from the cards to protect your identity and to keep your personal information more secure. You will be receiving a new Medicare number, unique to you and the number will only be used for health care coverage. More information will be sent with your new cards. To get ready for this change please make sure your mailing address is up-to-date. If you need to make changes to your address, contact Social Security at ssa.gov/myaccount or 1-800-772-1213. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0778. Beware of anyone who contacts you about your new card. Medicare will never ask for personal or private information to get your new card.

Meals on Wheels Needs Help

Meals on Wheels urgently needs volunteer drivers in Rutland County. Please consider volunteering, even if it is only 1 hour a week; any help is appreciated.

For many of our most vulnerable citizens, Meals on Wheels is an essential service that supports proper nutrition and provides socialization. **Please contact Penny at (802) 775-0133.**

RTS Fundraisers
Everyone Can Support
By Melissa Sicard, RTS PTO

Hello fellow RTS families! Welcome back to a new school year. I invite you to support our school through four simple fundraisers:

Box Tops for Education, Labels for Education, Price Chopper Supermarket's Tools for Schools, and Hannaford Supermarket's Hannaford Helps Schools.

Clipping box tops and labels for education, registering your Price Chopper advantage card and/or dropping off your Hannaford school dollars are **easy ways** for you to help our school buy what it needs.

So far this year, the **RTS PTO** has supported busing for field trips, Girls on the Run, the Tanya Lee Stone author visit, brand new books for the incoming kindergartners, and Scholastic Book Fairs with the monies earned from some of the above fundraisers.

To help our school, just look for Box Tops and/or Labels for Education on products, clip them along the dotted line, and send them to school. You can also register your Price Chopper Advantage Card for RTS to earn points. And, you can drop off your school dollars in the RTS slot of the Hannaford Tower.

If you have questions or want more information, please contact me at **sicards.rutland@yahoo.com**. Join me to make RTS's fundraising a continual success. Thanks to all who already participate.



The Corn Maze is Open!

Our 2017 theme:

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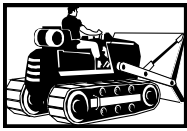
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Road Notes

from Byron Hathaway,
Road Commissioner

Paving for this year is complete. The big paving project was the rehabilitation of the school parking lot and the lane changes in front of the school. I have heard from a few folks and have received positive comments about the changes. The excess fill from the school parking lot was taken to Dewey Field and used to expand the parking there. That parking area will be finished up soon this fall.

The other big project this summer was the construction of a new sidewalk along the north side of Cold River Road from US 7 to Adele Stanley Apartments. I worked with a local contractor and was able to keep the cost of the project well under estimated costs. A VTrans grant will pay for 50% of the construction costs.

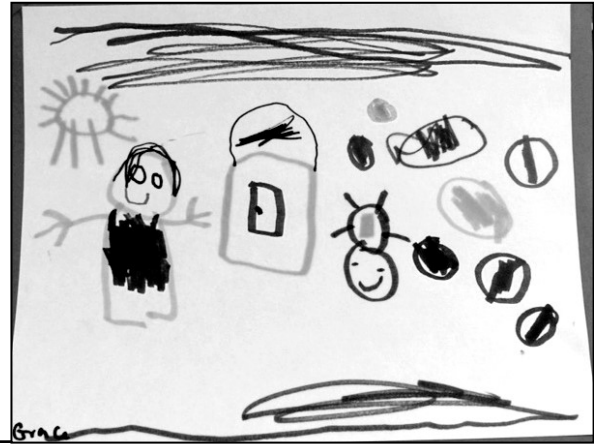
Engineering services for the proposed new town road has started. This service road will run west of the Green Mountain Plaza and exit back onto Route 7 at Aldi's Market. A preferred alignment should be determined by December.

Welcome Pre-K & Kindergarten

By Beth Mc Reynolds, Art teacher

The Pre- K and Kindergarten classes have attended their first Art Class! They started the year by using markers to draw a picture of themselves doing an activity that they love.

By Grace Kelley, Kindergarten



RUTLAND FREE LIBRARY EYES REPAIRS

From Randal Smathers, Director

As you may have heard, part of the ceiling collapsed in the Fox Room, Rutland Free Library's main meeting space, in August. Due to the age of the plaster – original to the 1858 courthouse – the Library Board of Trustees is pursuing bids to replace the entire ceiling. In 1966, acoustic tiles were glued to the plaster and there is a solid attic floor above it, so there's no way of seeing the condition of the rest of the plaster. The cost of doing the job all at once is much less than having to replace it piecemeal if more of the ceiling decides come down.

Complicating the matter is the fact that a test turned up a small amount of asbestos in the glue holding up the tiles. As a result, full remediation is required for the repairs, which will add considerably to the cost and time required. We don't yet have a finish date for the work but we're going as quickly as possible.

Relocating Programs

Closing the Fox Room has resulted in moving many of our regular programs.

The **First Wednesday** program featuring UVM professor Huck Gutman on "Walt Whitman and the Civil War" will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church at 7 pm on Wednesday, Oct. 4. Gutman is one of the more sought-after presenters for the series sponsored by Vermont Humanities Council, so be sure to save the date.

Trinity Church is also the temporary home to the Friday playgroup, presented by Rutland County Parent Child Center. Playgroup still starts at 9:30 am.

On Mondays, **Babies & Toddlers Rock** is in the children's

area of the library. It begins at 9:30 so the little ones have the space to express themselves before the rest of the building opens at 10 am.

Story Time is also in the children's area on Thursdays at 10 am.

Many other programs have moved into the Small Meeting Room or simply had to be cancelled for the duration. For details on the rest of our programs, please see our calendar online at rutlandfree.org.

Discover Tips to Eliminate Snoring

From Dr. Don Mc Laughlin, DDS

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RTS Friends of Music Membership

Dear Friends of Rutland Town,

On Behalf of the music program at Rutland Town School, the Friends of Music would like to extend an invitation to become a member of our group. FOM is a volunteer organization which strives to continue to provide a rewarding musical experience to RTS students and we can't do it without your support.

Simply put, music is an integral part of the learning process. Band and Chorus provide students advantages in several areas including, but not limited to, increased classroom performance, emotional health, self-discipline and creativity. By donating to RTS FOM, you are helping foster an environment where students can both flourish and grow. Your generous contribution will allow RTS students to receive instrument rental scholarships (please consider donating your used/unwanted instruments!) while also providing for the participation in such events as Rutland City's famous Halloween parade, district festivals, a musical theatre trip, and the Burlington Jazz Festival!

As a Thank You students will showcase their excellent talent throughout the school year by performing in school concerts; holiday gigs for The Gables, The Meadows and Loretta Home retirement communities; playing in the Halloween, Loyalty Day, and All State parades; entertaining patrons at the Foundry in Killington; and taking part in Jazz Bistro where RTS alumni eagerly return to the place that helped shape their love for music!

It's simple to donate. Please use our Donation Levels as a guide, or simply choose your own amount. **\$5/Student, \$10/Adult, \$25/Friend, \$50/Family, \$150/Business Sponsor, or \$250/Sustaining Sponsor.** Checks should be made payable and mailed to: RTS Friends of Music, 1612 Post Rd., Rutland Town, VT 05701. (Please indicate how you would prefer your name to appear in our concert programs, ie "The (name) Family", etc. by emailing Juli Jakubowski at juli1578@aim.com or Kendra Stute at kendrastute@hotmail.com. Your name will be included at our discretion unless specified otherwise.)

Please consider donating today. Thank you for your support! With appreciation,

Juli Jakubowski (President)
Gina Kelley (Treasurer)
Kendra Stute (Secretary)

The Rutland Town School Friends of Music is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your financial gift other than good feelings bestowed for supporting the Friends of Music.

Friends of Music Cookbook

The RTS Friends of Music is putting together a Cookbook Fundraiser. We would love for you to contribute a favorite recipe. Go to this link: <https://createmycookbook.com/groups/M2AmzqwWt> to add recipes.

If you would like to pre - order a cookbook, please get in touch with Juli Jakubowski either by phone - 770-8090, or email: juli1578@aim.com. Copies will be \$20. Deadline to add recipes is October 31, 2017.

NEWS FROM THE REC

By Director Mike Rowe

It was a very busy summer at the Rec with lots of events going on. To start off, the pool had over 15,000 visitors this past summer from swim lessons and general swim to district swim meets.

Once again, we held the senior luncheon at the pool with our biggest turnout yet. Many thanks to all who helped make this a great event. The seniors' holiday luncheon will be held December 12 at the Center Rutland Fire Station (See Seniors on page 5).

We have started to create a trail system at Northwood with the help of walkers, dog walkers, as well as Rutland City to create a well-defined loop in the park as well as many other trails for people to enjoy year round. We will finish up October 8th on the main trail. This spring we will start working on the entire trail system within the park.

Here are a few other highlights from the summer: We increased off street parking over at Dewey Field with the help of Byron, Tommy and Walt of the Highway Dept. Our baseball teams had a great season this past spring with many town kids picking up a glove and swinging a bat. We also hosted 3 charity events at Northwood over the summer. And finally, the playground at Northwood was put in during the spring and has had constant use ever since.

Fall is coming quickly, which also means the **Halloween party**. As in years past, we will be running it along with the Book Fair. The party will be held Friday, October 27 from 6-8:00 in the RTS gym.

If you have any questions or would like to help with programming or work on making our parks better, please contact Michael Rowe at 779-2518. Have a great fall!

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Four Winds Nature Program at RTS

By Kirsten Marsh

Take a moment... come up with 5 examples of cycles in the natural world, plants and animals. But don't stop at 5! It's amazing to realize how cyclical life around us is and how fortunate we are to live in a place like Vermont where we get to experience so many of these examples. A seed germinates, sprouting roots, stems and leaves, and eventually forms a flower in which new seeds develop. A butterfly emerges from its pupa case, drinks the sweet nectar of flowers, finds a mate and lays its eggs; the next generation will soon hatch to continue the cycle. These events repeat year after year in a pattern of ongoing change.

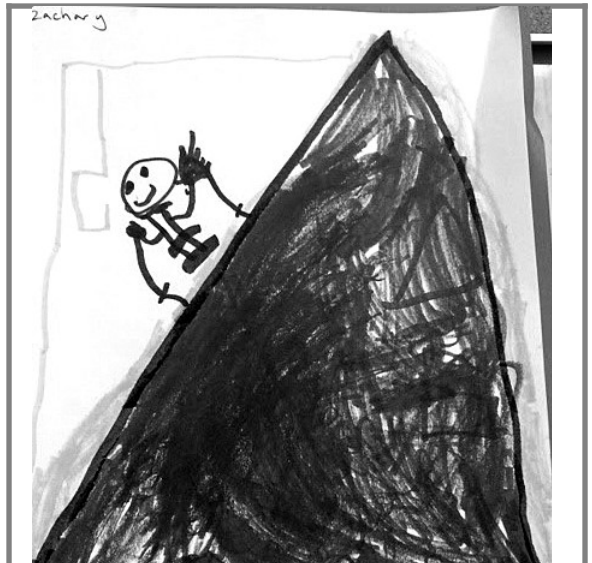
This will be the theme for this year's Four Winds Nature Program at Rutland Town School, Cycles in Nature. Throughout the year the students will investigate and explore the life cycles in plants and animals and how the two are closely related (when plants are scarce in winter, some animals go dormant...).

In September we learned about 'Insect Life Cycles'. Egg, nymph, larva, pupa, metamorphosis. We had a lot of fun learning about the cycles that insects go through. This was a great lesson to get kids outside bug hunting, exploring the natural world, searching for insects in different steps of their life cycle.

We look forward to coming back in October to learn about 'Traveling Seeds'. Oh those pesky burrs, binding your socks and pant legs together after a nice fall hike.... a wonderful example of nature by design. Burrs are actually 'hitchhikers' with seeds inside, you're doing your part by spreading the seeds from one location to another. Nicely done!

Volunteers and students will continue to explore 'Cycles in Nature' 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. Volunteers then team teach an hour long program in the K-5 classrooms at RTS. Experiments, workstation projects, and outdoor scavenging are among the activities enjoyed by students.

New volunteers are always welcome. No experience necessary and most materials are provided. To see what the program is all about join us for a training session on the first Tuesday of each month. In November we'll be learning all about 'Birds on the Wing'. For more information, call or e-mail Kirsten Marsh: kirstenklett@hotmail.com.



By Zachary Lighthart, Kindergarten

PTO NEWS

Welcome back to the 2017-2018 School year. It was great to see everyone at our annual Ice Cream Social and Membership Drive in September. If you did not get a chance to sign up at Back to School Night, please consider doing so. Here is the link to our website: <https://sites.google.com/rcsu.org/rutlandtownpto/home>. Family memberships are \$10.00.

PTO meetings are held once a month, usually the first Tuesday, at 6:00 pm in the RTS Library. We hope you will join us.

Meetings for the rest of the year:

November 7, December 5, January 9, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5.

Officers for the 2017-18 school year:

President - Abby Peltier

abigail.peltier@rcsu.org

Vice President - Megan Mero

Megan.Mero@rcsu.org

Secretary - Tammy Duclos

duclostammy@yahoo.com

Activities scheduled so far:

Book Fair - October 24-27

Family Night will be Oct. 27 during the Rec Halloween Party, 6 - 8 pm

Yankee Candle Fundraiser - October 9- 23.

Harvest Dance (Middle School Grades 6-8)

Friday, November 17, 7-10:00

Breakfast with Santa - Sat., December 9

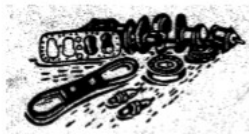
Parent/child Dance - February 9

Supermarket Bingo - Thursday, March 15

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Metamorphosis in Kindergarten

By Linda Mullin, Kindergarten Teacher

Photos by Jill Alderman, First Grade Teacher

What a wonderful surprise I received on the first day of school this year when my former student, Olivia Bullock who is now in third grade, presented me with a Monarch caterpillar. She remembered studying the Monarch life cycle in Kindergarten and wanted to help us out this year.

She was fortunate to find this natural treasure because the Monarch population is down. "A study from the World Wildlife Fund released earlier this month found bad weather and deforestation are the top threats to migrating monarch butterflies." (US News and World Report, February 16, 2017)



As we released the butterfly after nurturing it for two weeks in the classroom, the children bid it a fond farewell. "But we didn't name it!" said Izzie. I replied that each child could name it as they say goodbyes. The farewells included, "Goodbye, Buttercup!" from Trinity. "Goodbye, Little Guy!" from Billy. "I hope you have a nice trip!" from Mason. Anna was not able to say anything. Sometimes it is hard to say goodbye.

Thank you for thinking of us in Kindergarten, Olivia! Not only did you give a gift for my science lesson, you gave me a gift that all teachers appreciate - the knowledge that they inspire their students and help them become lifelong learners.



Food Scrap Collection Transfer Station Update

By Carol Bam

Transfer Station Manager Dick Lloyd wants to remind town residents that free disposal of food scraps took effect July 1.

All organic kitchen and food waste is accepted (peelings and scraps, plate leftovers and wilted and gone by food) and what should not be composted at home. Bring these items to Transfer Station:

- Meat & bones, fats, soup & liquids**
- Dairy: milk, cheese, yoghurt**
- Nuts, eggs and their shells**
- Vegetables, fruit peels, cores (no stickers)**
- Baked goods, bread, pasta**
- Tea bags, coffee grounds & filters**

The 2017 mandate is part of a 2012 the Vermont Recycling law. It ordered that all recyclables be removed from the waste stream by July, 2015, and all yard trimmings and clean wood by July, 2016. By July 1, 2020, all food waste and compostable organics must be recycled as well.

The goal is to separate as much as possible from the total waste stream limiting the amount that has to be put in a landfill. Restaurants, schools and other places that serve food must also comply with these regulations. It is estimated that food scraps and waste represent up to a third of what a typical family generates in trash. Scraps from home and commercial sources are hauled to facilities that break down the organics in high

temperature 'digesters'. The yield is valuable, 'clean' compost and soil amendment products that can stabilize erosion prone soil and even filter rainwater runoff, preserving water quality of rivers and streams.

To learn more about how to compost at home and what food waste to take to the Transfer Station visit the Rutland County Solid Waste District website rcswd.com. The site also has recommendations for food scrap storage containers (and some for sale) and composting bins for your yard.

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RUTLAND TOWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 9** **Town Hall closed – Columbus Day**
School Board meets 5:30 pm – RTS Library
Public Information Meeting on Act 46/49
7 pm – Rutland Town School
- 9-23 PTO Yankee Candle fundraiser (see page 11)
- 10** **VOTE 7 am - 7 pm, Town Hall and RTS**
Town Hall and Town Clerk's offices open
- 17 Senior bus trip to Woodstock
Senior Center for Lunch
(RSVP by Oct. 12 – see page 5)
- 17&30 Select Board meets 6:30 pm
- 19 Planning Commission meets
7 pm, Town Hall
- 20 No School – RCSU In-Service
- 24-27 Scholastic Book Fair during school hours
- 27 Rec Dept. Halloween Party 6-8 pm, RTS
Book Fair will be open during the party
- 7 PTO meets - 6 pm, RTS
- 9&30 Planning Commission meets - 7 pm, Town Hall
- 10** **Town Hall Closed - Veteran's Day**
No school
- 13 School Board meets - 5:30 pm, RTS
- 14&28 Select Board meets - 6:30 pm, Town Hall
- 17 (PTO) Middle School Harvest Dance - 7-10:00
- 22** **Article Deadline for December Circle issue**
- 22-24** RTS Thanksgiving break
- 23-24** **Town Hall Closed**



NOVEMBER

- 1 Friend of Music meets - 4pm, Band room
- 2&3 Parent/Teacher Conferences
RTS early release - 11:55 am

DECEMBER

- 5 PTO meets - 6 pm, RTS
- 6 Friends of Music meets - 4pm, Band room
- 9 Breakfast with Santa - 8 am, RTS
- 11 School Board meets - 5:30 pm, RTS
- 12 Town Seniors holiday party - 11:30 am
Center Rutland Fire Station (lunch at noon)
- 12&26 Select Board meets 6:30 pm, Town Hall

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