

# The Circle



**Rutland Town's Link between School and Community**

**April 2015**

## **TOWN NEWS**

**By Carol Bam**

Newly elected Chairman of the Select Board Joe Dicton said there was good attendance at the Monday night, March 2 Town Meeting held at Rutland Town School. "We as a board tried to be very transparent with the budgets. There were good discussions on the proposed uses of the surplus funds discovered earlier this year. We commend the residents for coming to Town Meeting and also for voting to support all funding requests and allocations on Tuesday, March 3."

The Board welcomed Paul Clifford who ran unopposed for the 3 year seat of retiring chairman, Steve Hawley. Dicton noted that Clifford's experience in the 1990's as Alderman in the City of Rutland, and later as the Street Dept. Supervisor for the Dept. of Public Works will serve the town well. He joins the Intermunicipal Committee working on issues that affect both City and Town.

Funding to construct a new town Highway Garage was approved by voters in March. Dicton said the Board is "moving forward by applying for an amended Act 250 permit from the District Environmental Commission to allow the construction of this additional building at the town's property at Northwood. "Please see page 4 for more information on the project from Highway Commissioner Byron Hathaway.

To reduce costs, the State Department of Public Safety is proposing to close the Rutland 911 Dispatch Center located at the State Police

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## **FROM SCHOOL PRINCIPAL AARON BOYNTON**

Hello everyone. I would first like to say "thank you" to the community of Rutland Town for supporting our budget this past Town Meeting. I believe it truly shows that you support Rutland Town School, its students, and all that we are doing. It's important to remember that the school budget also supports Rutland Town's high school aged students. I'm honored to be a principal in a community that supports its kids and learning no matter what age.

At the end of this school year we say goodbye to three wonderful educators who will be retiring. We wish Randy Dewey, Paula Townsend, and Glendon Ingalls all the best in their future adventures. You have touched the lives of many students and have helped make RTS the great school that it is.

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate our RTS Rock Climbing team led by coach Hunter Berryhill. RTS are the Scholastic Indoor Rock Climbing League Vermont State Co-Champions for 2015! (See recap on page 6.)

We'd like to recognize 8th grade student Emmie Lovko for her success at the Vermont History Day competition. She won second place in the state for her website on "The

*(Continued on Page 5)*

## **UNDER THE GOLDEN DOME**

### **Legislative Update from Senator Kevin Mullin**

The 2015 legislative year is well past the midpoint and appears to be struggling to find an identity. All energies seem to be focused on a discussion of the budget. Unfortunately, the discussion seems to be moving away from putting us on a sustainable path. The structure of state government cannot be maintained without significant tax increases. We are a tale of two states. The Burlington area has seen significant job growth since the Great Recession but the rest of the state has seen prolonged economic stagnation. Rutland County, and for that matter, the southern four counties have seen a decline in total jobs.

We need to start helping ourselves and put in place policies that will make it easier to create and maintain jobs. Many would say that we need to move away from corporate welfare but my position is that we need to invest in economic development to expand our tax base and grow our economy. Every business knows that there are times that you need to spend money to make money. I am hopeful we will pass a meaningful economic development bill that helps to create jobs and opportunity for Vermonters.

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## TONY FLORY - A Personal Remembrance

By Don Chioffi

There are leaders and builders in our community that simply cannot be allowed to pass into eternity without proper recognition for their vast contributions to our greater well being. Anthony J. (Tony) Flory was certainly one of those leaders.

The kind of love for a community expressed by this great man's entire life can never be understated, nor can there ever be enough appreciation expressed by those who have been the beneficiaries---and that would be us.

We all know of his dedication to community, his beloved Navy, his devotion to firefighting, his love of the law, his expertise at the controls of equipment, and his care and respect for our Transfer Station. What most of us never got to see was my privilege in knowing this great man. That privilege was the intimate knowledge as a beloved friend of just how much love and admiration he had for his wonderful wife Josie, and his two beautiful children, Nella and Jason, and how proud he was of them every single day of his life. Daddys and daughters have a special loving and caring relationship and Tony would just beam from ear to ear whenever talking about his Nella. And she would call him at least four times every day just to check on him and chat for a while. As for Jason, the pride that his father had in him was unmatched. As an old Navy man, himself, Tony would beam with pride that his only son not only followed in the Navy, but bettered him as an Underwater Demolition Specialist, requiring a very dangerous, daring, and critical skill set.

Always bragging about how much his lovely wife did for him, it certainly was no joke---for she cooked, cleaned, washed, planted the garden, shoveled snow, mowed and trimmed beside him for 30 years at the Town Cemetery, and was the most dedicated and caring mother to two beautiful children.

For those of us who were privileged to have worked alongside this prince of a man, and on behalf of a grateful Town of Rutland, I simply ask that we all offer a silent or vocal prayer of thanks to Josephine, Nella, and Jason, the family of Anthony Joseph (Tony) Flory, for sharing so much of their husband and father with all of us for so many years. For sure, the proud Town of Rutland is a better place for his having been a part of it.

I know that I am a better person for having known Tony Flory, and I have cherished his friendship for 45 years. I will miss him every day for the rest of my life, but I will never forget the valuable lessons of community service that he taught me simply by his humble, steady presence and his caring manner.



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### WHAT'S THE CIRCLE?

**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](mailto:carolbam@aol.com).

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

**RTS KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION  
2015 - 2016 School Year  
May 4 and May 5**

Registration for Kindergarten children for the 2015-2016 school year will take place at Rutland Town School on **Monday, May 4 and Tuesday, May 5, 2015.**

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 Kindergarten-ers must have reached their fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) birthday on or before August 31, 2015 .**

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**, to schedule an appointment as soon as possible.

(Senator Mullin ~ Continued from Page 1)

The House recently passed their budget proposal. We continually hear how there are significant cuts, but the harsh reality is that it is a 4.7% increase in state spending. This is not sustainable and it is coupled with the largest tax increase in recent memory. In addition there is significant use of one-time monies that will result in us being back next year to raise additional revenues. In addition, the House budget does not include their proposal to clean our waters which will result in the necessity for an additional \$8 million in needed revenues, nor does it include the revenue source for any healthcare cost-shift reduction.

A few years ago the legislature overrode Gov. Douglas' veto of the budget and passed a larger budget than the state could afford. If you use the rate of inflation and grew the budget from the Douglas proposal over the last five years we would not need any revenue increase this year. I believe it is the highest priority to put the state back on a sustainable path. I am hopeful that the Legislature will have the wisdom to make the necessary decisions to do that.

The Rutland delegation has been working diligently to save the PSAP (public service answering point) positions at the Rutland barracks. We have made some progress but have not reached a solution that the administration will agree with. We will continue to work to find common ground to protect these jobs and the public safety.

It is an honor to serve as your voice in Montpelier. If you would like to discuss specific issues, do not hesitate to email me at [kimbjm@aol.com](mailto:kimbjm@aol.com) or call me at 353-6770.

**911 Locatable Addressing  
and Cell Phone Calls  
By Joseph Zingale Jr., 911 Coordinator**

**It can happen at any time and it could happen to you.** If you ever find yourself in a situation where you need emergency service such as fire, police or ambulance, you will probably dial 911. But how will you call 911? Will you use your so called land line phone or will you use your cell phone?

If you use your land line the emergency responder will automatically know your location because your call will carry a three number code unique to land lines in Rutland Town. That is how a 911 dispatcher will know a call from a residence on the Creek Road with a North Clarendon mailing address is in the Town of Rutland and not in Clarendon, which has a different three digit code.

A serious problem could occur if a Town resident calls 911 from a cell phone or from a computer using a program such as Skype, neither of which carries the three digit Rutland Town code, and the individual correctly gives their address as being XXX Creek Road, North Clarendon, VT.

The 911 dispatch could possibly call out Clarendon Emergency services when in fact Town of Rutland services should have received the dispatch. Such confusion could result in the delay of emergency services.

Unlike other communities, Rutland Town residents have several zip codes 05701, 05736, 05759 and a couple other zip codes. **It is very important that any Town resident with a 05759 zip code using a cell phone make it very clear to the 911 call taker that they are in the Town of Rutland** even though their mailing address is XXX, Cold River Road, North Clarendon, VT.

Remember, if you make a 911 call with your cell phone, your exact location will not be known to the person at the other end of the phone.

**Jungle Collage by Olivia Bullock, Kindergarten**

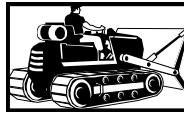


## PLACES WE WANT TO GO

By Linda Mullin's Kindergarten Students

- I want to to to Boston to see the city lights.  
(by Kaelin)
- I want to go to New York City to see dinosaur bones. (by Alanna)
- I want to go to Aruba to see dolphins.  
(by Olivia)
- I want to go to New Hampshire because I have never been there. (by Sydney)
- I want to go to Seattle to see the Seahawks.  
(by Cole)
- I want to go to Florida to see my mom's dad.  
(by Steven)
- I want to go to Florida to see dolphins.  
(by Seth)
- I want to go to Florida because it never gets cold there. (by Chloe)
- I want to go to the beach to swim in the ocean.  
(by Corlei)
- I want to go to the South Pole to see polar bears. (by Bryson)
- I want to go the North Pole to see Santa and let him know I've been a good girl. (by Faith)
- I want to go to Australia. (by Grady who spun the globe and chose a place at random.)
- I want to go to Thailand. (by Kason who also spun the globe and chose a place at random.)
- I want to go to China because they have yummy food. (by Dean)
- I want to stay home! (by Kyrilyn)

stubbins



## Road Notes

from Byron Hathaway,  
Road Commissioner

I would like to take this time to thank the voters for their support of the highway budget at the March town meeting election day. Your support is very much appreciated.

Green Up Day this year is on Saturday, May 2. Bags will be available at the Town Office and the Transfer Station. Bags that have been filled with roadside trash can be brought to the Transfer Station on Green Up Day only between the hours of 8 am to noon. If bags have to be left at the roadside please call the Highway Department answering machine at 773-8128 and leave a message saying where the bags have been left. The Highway Department will pick them up on the following Monday.

Woody debris that fell into the Town's ROW during the December ice storm will be picked up by the highway crew. There will be some reimbursement from FEMA for this cost.

A new precast concrete box culvert will be installed early this summer by Casella Construction on Prospect Hill near the intersection with East Pittsford Road. A VTrans structures grant will pay for 80% of the cost of construction. The road will have to be closed for up to a week to facilitate the installation work. **Keep an eye on Front Porch Forum for announcements.** (Read more about Front Porch Forum on Page 9.)

We need your input. A committee has been formed to write a complete streets plan for Rutland Town. Complete streets is a law passed by the legislature several years ago. What it means in a nutshell is all users of the road (trucks, cars, bicycles and pedestrians) must be considered when a road is reconstructed. The committee is conducting a survey to gather public input. You can respond to the survey by going to the following website and filling out the survey online. There is no cost to you. The site is at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/9NPZP62](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9NPZP62). Be sure to use the full address with the seven digit code at the end. Thanks for your help. This link will also be posted on Front Porch Forum for your convenience. Please take the time to participate in the survey.

The voters approved a ballot item setting aside some money for a highway department garage. The next step is to select a general contractor to design and build the garage. At the April 7 Select Board meeting, the selectmen voted to put the facility out to bid subject to voter approval at a mid-July special election. A firm, not to exceed price for the garage will be voted on at that time. Construction will start after that. Again keep an eye on Front Porch Forum for announcements and information.

Thanks again for your support of the Highway Department.

## 4TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR

By Mary Ashcroft, a project judge

Rutland Town 4<sup>th</sup> graders displayed an amazing assortment of science projects at the annual science fair on Town Meeting Day. The RTS school gym was filled with posters, experiments and eager young scientists anxious to share their work with their parents, teachers and the public. All 4<sup>th</sup> graders did an outstanding job with their projects.

Special recognition medals were given to Mia Marsh (gold), Jarrett Kelley (silver) and Satch Bowie-Reimers (bronze) in Miss Currier's class. In Ms. Peltier's class, medals were awarded to Karsyn Bellomo (gold), Austin Moran (silver) and Mattie Lou Peters (bronze). Medal winners in Mrs. Blanchard's class were Tristan Stute (gold), Anthony Cavalieri (silver) and Alexa Cary (bronze).

**Congratulations to all 4<sup>th</sup> graders  
for their hard work.**



### Fourth Grade Science Fair Winners (left to right):

Anthony Cavalieri (Silver Medal), Tristan Stute (Gold Medal), Mia Marsh (Gold Medal), Austin Moran (Silver Medal), Satch Bowie - Reimers (Bronze Medal), Jarrett Kelley (Silver Medal), Mattie Lou Peters (Bronze Medal), Karsyn Bellomo (Gold Medal). (See another Fair photo on Page 11)

(Principal Boynton ~ Continued from Page 1)

Leadership and Legacy of Anne Boleyn", and qualified to advance to National History Day. She also won a National Archives Award for Outstanding Use of Primary Sources. You can check out her project here: <http://98576117.nhd.weebly.com/>.

In April, 7th graders attended the Castleton State College program "Your Journey Starts Here." This program introduces students to the experiences and possibilities at the college level. It aims to get middle school students to think about their future and to think about what track they want to take in their lives.

The Wonderfeet Science program visited EEE-2nd grade this month. Students engaged in an activity that incorporated all the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) standards. During the program, students were challenged to create a creature or a safe home for a creature, using giant foam blocks. They used planning, communication, and higher order thinking skills. We thank and are happy to partner with Rutland's newest science museum for children.

## From Rutland Town Clerk and Treasurer Donna Zeller

**Happy Spring to all Town Residents!** Warmer weather means that the third and final installment of **Property Tax is due on or before May 10, 2015.** Because the due date falls on a weekend, the Town Treasurer will accept taxes brought in to the Town Treasurer's office on Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> as on time. Tax payments with a valid U.S. Postal Service postmark of May 10<sup>th</sup> will also be considered on time. Please do NOT drop your tax payment in the outside mailbox after hours, as doing so is illegal by federal law!

The Town Clerk and Treasurer's Office is now open Monday through Thursday, 8:00 - 4:30 pm, and Friday 8:00 until Noon. We are using Friday afternoons to transition to the NEMRC accounting system on our computers. Once the new system is in place, it will make paying taxes and tracking accounts easier and more accurate. This will also make paying taxes more efficient when you include the barcode stub with your payment. With a wave of the wand, your tax payment will be recorded! So don't forget to include the barcode payment stub from your tax bill with your payment! Thank you!

### **THE NEW MAILING ADDRESS For all Rutland Town Departments:**

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**Have a Great Spring & and Enjoy Life!**



**The RTS team with Coach Hunter Berryhill**

### **RTS Climbers are State Co-Champions By Principal Aaron Boynton**

The RTS Rock Climbing team led by coach Hunter Berryhill are the Scholastic Indoor Rock Climbing League Vermont State Co-Champions for 2015! Coach Berryhill reports: "Climbing against fellow SIRCA West teams Mill River and Rutland Middle, RTS also squared off against the best SIRCA East had to offer: Sharon Academy, Woodstock, and SIRCA East Champion, Richmond.

Despite climbing without the SIRCA East's top male climber, RTS climber Dylan Roussel, the RTS climbers attacked an onsite competition with intensity and dedication, racing the clock to complete challenging climbs they had never before attempted. Led by Lily Duboff, the top climber of the SIRCA State Finals, and the inspired climbing of Tyler Robideau, who set a personal record at an onsite (an unheard of accomplishment), the Big Horns left the gym thinking they had fallen just short of first place as they had earned 19,225 points to Richmond's 19,275. However, upon review of the scorecards, it was found that RTS had unwittingly cheated themselves of 50 points on a climb! Once the 50 points were added, and the Richmond score verified, the scores stood even at 19,275 points, making the RTS Bighorns and Richmond the Co-SIRCA Champions of 2015!

Please celebrate the accomplishment of this year's RTS Bighorns, the best and most accomplished team in our school's emerging history. The RTS Bighorns are: Lily Duboff, Owen Massie, Tyler Robideau, Brenton Beers, Thomas Watson, Mariah Crossman, Kelsey McCullough, Alex Stute, Julian Downey, Dylan Roussel, and Hannah Solimano."

(Town News ~ Continued from Page 1)

barracks on McKinley Ave. The proposal would also close the Derby, VT center and consolidate operations at the two remaining sites in Williston and Rockingham. Dicton said that although the date is not set, and in fact was delayed until September, closing of the local dispatch branch is inevitable. "The Select Board feels the action will impact us both in fire and police protection. In preparation, the Board and officers of the police and fire departments will meet jointly starting this month to address concerns and keep communication lines open. Meetings may later involve other agencies and communities if need be."

Recent news of the sudden passing of Anthony 'Tony' Flory March 23 shocked and saddened town residents. He was at the Transfer Station as usual on Saturday, two days before. It was a normal day where Tony greeted all who came through and bantered with them about town news, more personal headlines, and of course the weather.

Chairman Dicton at the Select Board meeting the next day called for a moment of silence in honor of Tony. He then shared a long list of the offices and positions Flory held during his 40 year career in service to the town.

First Constable  
Second Constable  
Landfill Operator (Dump Master) 1978 to 1994  
Transfer Station Operator 1994 to Present  
Member of Town Planning Commission  
Member of Town of Rutland Recreation Commission (Charter and former Chairman)  
Member of Town of Rutland Fire Department (Charter)  
Winter snow plow driver  
Town Highway crew  
Town Tax collector (The only person to ever beat Richard "Dick" Lloyd in a race for Tax Collector)

Dicton said the Select Board will contemplate how best to pay tribute to Tony's memory. Please see Don Chioffi's remembrance of Tony on page 2.

The BJ's Wholesale Club store south of the Holiday Inn is moving closer to reality. On Friday, April 3, the District #1 Environmental Commission ruled that the project complies with new Act 250 criteria discouraging strip development. The Commission found that the project is being built in an area that is already heavily developed with commercial uses, and that recent modification to the project actually decreased strip development characteristics. Dicton said that the Select Board, Planning Commission and local House and Senate leaders "support the project very strongly."

Development of a large scale Cold River Road solar farm was approved recently by the Vermont Public Service Board. The Town's objection to the Hearing Officer's initial ruling favorable to the developer was denied. Residents in the vicinity of the proposed solar installation may decide to further appeal the ruling on their own, but the town has taken no position on a future course of action related to the decision.

## 60 PLUS

### 3SquaresVT

From Heather Baker, SVCOA

3SquaresVT is a USDA funded program that can help seniors to purchase nutritional foods and stretch their monthly food budget. According to Hunger Free Vermont 6,600 senior struggle with food insecurity.

Originally called the Food Stamp program, it has changed a lot over the years. Seniors 65 and over can have their benefits directly deposited into their checking or savings account unless they request an EBT card. Anyone who receives the benefit and is 60 or older but not yet 65 will receive the benefits in the form of an EBT card. This can be used at the grocery store or local Farmers Markets like any other debit or credit card.

The amount of the benefit is based upon income, expenses, and household size. If your medical expenses are more than \$35 a month and not covered by medical insurance they can be deducted from your gross income, resulting in a higher benefit for you. For example, copayments for medications and doctor's appointments, and premiums for health insurance are all allowable deductions. According to AARP the average a senior spends \$5,000 a year on medical expenses; \$3,200 on medical insurance, \$935 on medical services, \$800 on prescription and over the counter drugs, and \$200 on medical supplies.

Feeding America reports that food insecure seniors are at increased risk for chronic health conditions, even when controlling other factors such as income:

- ◎ 60 percent more likely to experience depression
- ◎ 53 percent more likely to report a heart attack
- ◎ 52 percent more likely to develop asthma
- ◎ 40 percent more likely to report an experience of congestive heart failure

The number of food insecure seniors is projected to increase by 50% when the youngest of the Baby Boom Generation reaches age 60 in 2025.

Many Vermonters do not know that they qualify for 3SquaresVT or that they may also be eligible for Fuel Assistance if they apply for these programs.

If you would like to request more information, receive an application, or have help filling out an application, please call the Senior Helpline at 1-800-642-5119. You may also stop by our office at East Ridge Professional Building, 1085 US Route 4 East, Rutland.

## From the Rutland Town Fire Department

By BJ Hathaway



Hello again from the folks at the Rutland Town Fire Department. It would appear the spring has sprung, finally! With the coming of spring and the melting of snow we are now approaching grass fire season. The Fire Department would like to take this opportunity 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: Nick Denardo (802)-773-6064

Assistant Fire Chief: Mike Carlson (802)-775-2686

As always: **To report a fire or any other emergency dial 911!**

The Fire Department sincerely thanks the community for its continued support by passing our budget on Town Meeting Day. We look forward to serving you for another year. The department would also like to pass along its thanks for allocating some of the surplus town monies for the removal of the buried oil tank and installation of new propane tanks at the McKinley station.

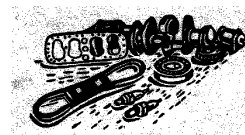
In closing, the department would like to acknowledge the passing of charter member Tony Flory. He served on the department for many years, beginning with its formation in October of 1967. Tony also served his community in many other respects including working with the town highway department doing summer road maintenance and winter snowplowing, serving as a town constable, operating the town landfill and then the transfer station, as well as many other contributions too numerous to list here. Tony will be missed by many!

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## NEWS FROM THE REC

By Director Mike Rowe

Spring has finally sprung and that means baseball and softball season. We will be fielding a Majors team and two Minors teams for this spring. Majors and Minors coaches will call their players to schedule practice times.

We will have the Mighty Mites program (grades 1/2) as well as T-Ball (preK - K). We need coaches for these two programs. Mighty Mites program will meet Mon. and Wed. from 5 - 6:00 at Northwood park. T-Ball (day / time to be determined) still needs a coach to help run the program. Both of these will start the first week of May.

Swim lesson sign-ups are June 3 and 4 from 5-7:00 pm right at the pool. Sign up for swim lessons and get season passes at that time. We will open the pool (weather permitting) on June 6 for the first couple of weekends, and open for the season on June 19. Pool info can be found on the town webpage. If you have any questions please contact Michael Rowe at 779-2518.

## Red Clover Day Parade is May 15<sup>th</sup>

By Theresa Czachor, RTS Librarian

Students in Grades K-4 are narrowing down the choices and getting ready to vote for their favorite Red Clover book this year. Mrs. Czachor has been reading the ten nominees for the award to the students during their library class. Beth McReynolds, Art teacher, has also been sharing a few of the titles that go with the Art curriculum. Books like The First Drawing by Mordicai Gerstein, The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt and A Splash of Red: the Life and Art of Horace Pippin have produced wonderfully creative results from students in Art! The program correlates nicely with Common Core English/Language Arts Standards \* as reflected in the standards referenced below.

The Red Clover Award is a children's choice book award and students in grades K-4 in Vermont participate in the program. Ten nominees vie to be the favorite of the children! The winning title is announced at RTS on "Red Clover Day"! Each class represents a Red Clover nominee and a "book parade" and award ceremony is held to announce the winner. Students wait with anticipation to learn which book has won the award. Fingers are crossed as each student wants their favorite to win! This year's Red Clover Day parade and Award Ceremony will take place on May 15 at 9:00 a.m. in the circle in front of the school. All members of the community are invited to attend as students dress according to the book they are representing in the parade. It is rewarding to see the excitement exhibited by students for this program. The Red Clover winners are some of the best loved picture books in the library!

We hope you will be able to join us on May 15th for our **NINETEENTH** annual Red Clover Day!

**Here is a list of the winners from the past ten years:**

2014 - The World's Greatest Lion - Helfer



## RTS Grade 5/6 Girls Have Great Basketball Mentors By Paul Gallo, Coach

The MSJ Girls Division 4 state championship basketball team have been so gracious in allowing the 5/6 grade RTS girls basketball team to practice with them this season and have been wonderful student athlete role models. In trade, the 5/6 RTS girls team went to Barre to watch the championship game against rival Proctor. The MSJ girls also had an ice cream social for the RTS girls at the end of the basketball season.

Pictured above from left to right are RTS grads and MSJ team members Sophia Duffy (Freshmen) and Bethany Garrow (Sophomore).

**Back row from left to right:** RTS students Isabella Racine, Isabelle Ladabouche, Tessa McLaughlin, Taya Lehouillier, Lucy Gallo, Katelynn Regula and Emma Notte. Missing are: Elaina Kearney, Ashley Brown, Louise Wu, and Laurel Baker.

- 2013 - The Princess and the Pig - Emmett
- 2012 - Born Yesterday - Solheim
- 2011 - Let's Do Nothing! - Fucile
- 2010 - Owney the Mail-Pouch Pooch - Kerby
- 2009 - Scaredy Squirrel Makes a Friend - Watt
- 2008 - Flotsam - Wiesner
- 2007 - The Great Fuzz Frenzy - Stevens
- 2006 - Knuffle Bunny-Willems
- 2005 - Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! - Willems

\* Common Core ELA Standards addressed through the Red Clover Program:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.1-Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.2 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.



## **Spring Towards Summer at RTS Tapestry**

**By Lori McNeil, Director**

It has been a very busy winter for the Tapestry Afterschool program. The students have worked on a variety of community activities including our Tapestry Community Heroes Fair hosted by Rutland Intermediate School. Our group made hats for each student to decorate to represent "What Hat Does Your Hero Wear!" Everyone had a wonderful time meeting and talking to our community heroes. It has also been a wonderful winter for outdoor fun. Students have been sledding and enjoying playing in the snow. We have also had Friday afternoons of Yoga! It was so relaxing but I think everyone is ready for spring and some warmer temperatures.

Recently I had the opportunity to travel to Washington, DC to attend the NAA National Convention. This conference was attended by thousands of professionals in afterschool. We attended workshops, listened to outstanding guest speakers, and collaborated with other program leaders. Afterschool representatives from all over the country spent a day at the Capitol visiting with our Senators about the importance of afterschool care for our children. The Vermont group was thrilled to meet with associates from Senator Welch and Leahy's office. What a wonderful experience!

Now that spring is here older students are doing team building activities. They have worked hard on crocheting scarves the last few months and now have started sewing pillows. Younger students have been working on letter shapes and sounds. They made a cute little project to go with each letter. Everyone is anxiously waiting for the snow to melt so we can head out to the field and play kickball, baseball, or just play tag.

Soon we will begin some early planting for summer. Students will partner with staff from Garden Time for gardening tips and suggestions. They will help us plant and get an early jump on our garden. Each year we hope to expand our gardening skills more and more! Spring is such a great time of year!

### **Students playing a game called Fibber!**



### **Tapestry students playing with Kinex**

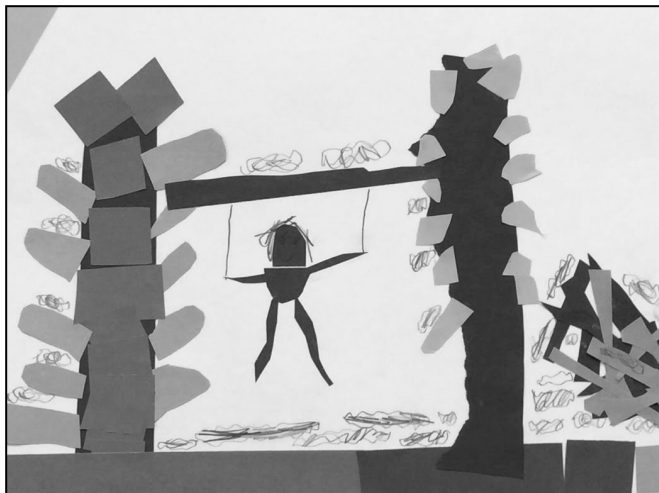
Summer Tapestry plans are already being made. The staff have been working hard to make this the best summer ever! Our theme this year is "Around the World in 35 Days!" We will travel the world and stop off and explore some very exciting countries. All kinds of exciting activities, field trips, and days at the pool are being planned. Details and enrollment forms are now available. Sign up soon to reserve your spot for the summer.

There is still time to sign your children up for the Tapestry Afterschool Program. The program runs Monday - Friday from school dismissal until 5:30 each day. Summer applications have been sent home so please sign your child up as early as possible. If you are interested in sending your child or would like more information, please contact Lori McNeil at 779-6102.

### **Have YOU checked 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's 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](http://www.frontporchforum.com) and sign up today.



**Collage by Sydney Gile, Grade 1**



**Collage by Amelia Jakubowski, Grade 1**

## ART Work

**By Beth McReynolds, Art Teacher**

As part of this year's Red Clover Book program, Kindergarten and First grade students are working on art projects inspired by some of this year nominees. The collages in *The Circle* were inspired by "Mr. Tiger Goes Wild" by Peter Brown. See the other collage on Page 3 and read Mrs. Czachor's article about Red Clover on page 8.

### **From the RTS Weekly Newsletter: Summer Camp Opportunities**

**ROSIE'S GIRLS** is a 2-week summer day camp that helps build strong, confident girls through exploration of the skilled trades. Girls entering 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> grades get hands-on instruction in STEM activities, carpentry, welding and auto repair. They also participate in creative arts, games, swimming and self defense. It's a safe, supportive, girl-centered environment that emphasizes leadership, team work and healthy body image, with tons of fun woven in! Rosie's Girls Rutland will be held Mon - Fri at Stafford Tech Center July 20 - 31 as a day camp from 9-4:30. Camp fees are \$279 for the two week program which includes all materials and snacks. Scholarships available. For more info, visit <http://staffordonline.org> or call 802-459-2758.

**YOUNG HACKS ACADEMY CAMP** Students ages 9-14 learn how to code, develop creative ideas as a team, and present work to others as they explore technology. YHA's mission is to create video games that make the world a better place. Campers, known as agents, learn to build games that explore real problems like climate change, homelessness, and endangered wildlife. There are also unplugged activities outside like treasure hunts, relay riddles and chain tag. Young Hacks Camp will be held July 27-31 at Christ the King School. Cost \$295. For more information or to register, please visit [www.younghacks.com](http://www.younghacks.com).

## **Rutland Free Library**

**From Randal Smathers, Assistant Director**

### **SPEAKER, SPEAKER**

Due to a postponement for our April First Wednesday program, we will be having a run of talks in the next couple of weeks. First up is the April First (now Fourth) Wednesday speaker, author **Martin Weinstein**, professor emeritus at William Paterson University. He examines the foundations of Pope Francis' philosophy, the history of the church in Latin America, and the rise of liberation theology. That's **7 PM on April 22**.

On **Wednesday, May 6**, also at 7 PM, architectural historian **Curtis B. Johnson** will illustrate the richness of Rutland's architecture with a slide talk. Then on Saturday, May 9, Johnson will also lead a walking tour of "the hill" neighborhood in Rutland City, 1 to 2:30 PM, meeting at Rutland Free Library's main entrance.

### **SCIENCE PUB ~ DR. HARRY CHEN**

**Sunday, May 3 at 4 PM is the final Science Pub** of the season. Dr. Harry Chen will be at the Holiday Inn, Rutland, to discuss public health: How we make decisions and how we can make better ones? Before his statewide appointments, Dr. Chen worked as an emergency physician at Rutland Regional Medical Center for over 20 years through 2010, serving as Medical Director from 1998-2004, so he brings a unique background to a discussion of the science behind public health.

### **LEGO BUILDING CHALLENGE**

The latest addition to RFL's children's programming is the Lego Building Challenge, in partnership with Boys & Girls Club of Rutland. Thanks to a generous donation, we have some 10,000+ Lego blocks for kids to build with. Each month they are given a different challenge, and the finished creations go on display in the Library. The next meeting is **Wednesday, May 13 at 3:45**.

### **KARAOKE**

After a huge response during our Mini-golf event, we are bringing Family Karaoke to RFL on the second Saturday of each month. That's **May 9 at 4 PM**. This is a low-stress, group singing event with the emphasis on fun!

## **FOUR WINDS**

### **BLOWING**

**By Kirsten Marsh**



Have you ever been 'flagged' by a deer? If you've been spotted by a deer you may notice that they'll stand there, the only movement being twitching ears and flaring nostrils, trying to determine how big of a threat you are. If one decides you might be a predator the 'flag' goes up, i.e. the tail is raised exposing the white fur underneath signaling to the rest of the herd to race for shelter.

In March we learned a lot about the giant herbivores that call Vermont forests home. The Four Winds Institute does a fantastic job of supplying us with various kits for our units of study. We were actually able to handle various deer parts (FWNI uses road-kill animals for science study, no animals were harmed for these activities!) We examined a deer foot (who knew these animals walked around on tiptoes?), antlers, skull and jaw. The students played games showcasing how hard it is to make it through the winter for these animals. They fought over food sources and played predator tag... even though it's just a game, it made the 'prey' nervous!

April finds us outside again listening for the lovely spring songs of our forest birds. Our diverse landscape here in Vermont hosts an amazing number of bird species that come here to nest, somewhere around 200. The mix of hardwood and coniferous forests provides a range of habitats for birds of all types. The forest habitats are categorized into four layers (canopy, understory, shrub & floor), it's amazing how life in all layers works to support each other and the health of the forest itself. We are also learning how to identify some of



**Alexa Cary displays her third place winning science fair project, titled Sound Experiment. (See more about the 4th Grade Fair on page 5)**

these species by their specific 'field marks and bird songs. Patience is key!

In May we will learn about 'Stream Life'. With all the snow melt it'll be the perfect time to get our hands, and maybe our shoes, wet as we study the amazing animals that call a stream 'home'. We'll answer questions like 'how do stream animals find food and shelter, and keep from getting swept away', and 'what roles do they play in the stream ecosystem'? Stay tuned for the results!

To learn more about Four Winds, contact coordinator Kirsten Marsh at [kirsenklett@hotmail.com](mailto:kirsenklett@hotmail.com) or at 773-5381.

## **PTO News**

**From Jen McNeil, President**

Supermarket Bingo was a great success! Thank you to everyone who contributed by supplying the groceries, baked goods, crock-pot dishes, and salads. Also, thank you to our event volunteers, and to those who came out and played bingo! Grateful thanks to our bingo callers, Mr. Boynton and Mr. Dewey.

There will be a Middle School Spring Dance Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 7 - 10 p.m. in the RTS Gymnasium. We hope to see you there!



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## Rutland Town School . . . Where Futures Begin!

### RUTLAND TOWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

#### APRIL\*

- 21 Select Board meets – 6:30 pm Town Hall
- 27 School Board meets – 6:30 pm RTS Library
- 29 **Town Clerk/Treasurer's office closed for training. Town Hall open**
- 30-5/8 Scholastic Book Fair at RTS
- \* **Note:** Beginning in April the Town Clerk's office will close at noon on Fridays. Other Town offices remain open.

#### MAY

- 2 Green Up Day
- 3 Loyalty Day Parade - 1 pm, Rutland City
- 5&19 Select Board meets - 6:30 pm Town Hall
- 5&6 Kindergarten Registration - 8 am RTS
- 5 Four Winds workshop - 8:45 - 11  
Barstow Elementary School
- 6 VT All State Parade - 6 pm, Middlebury
- Family Fun Night - 5:30-7:30 pm, RTS
- 9&21 Planning Commission meets - 7 pm Town Hall
- 10 **3<sup>rd</sup> Property Tax payment due**
- 11 School Board meets - 6:30 pm RTS
- 13 Friends of Music meets - 4 pm, Chorus room



- 14 PTO meets - 6 pm, RTS  
Middle School Chorus & Band Concert  
1:30 - run thru, 6:30 pm concert, RTS
- 15 Red Clover Day Parade - 9am, RTS
- 19 Senior Lunch - Noon, Seward's Restaurant
- 20 Grades 3-5 Vocal & Band Concert  
1:30 run thru, 6:30 pm concert, RTS
- 22 Early release day – 11:55 am
- 25 **Town Hall closed – Memorial Day  
No school**

#### JUNE

- 2,16,30 Select Board meets  
6:30 pm Town Hall
- 4&18 Planning Commission meets - 7 pm, Town Hall
- 5 Article deadline for June issue of **The Circle**
- 8 School Board meets - 6:30 pm, RTS
- 10 Friends of Music meets - 4 pm, Chorus room
- 11 PTO meets - 6:30 pm, RTS
- 16 Last day of school at RTS  
Senior Lunch - Noon, Seward's Restaurant
- 19 Northwood Pool opens for the summer
- 22-26 Jazz Camp at RTS

TOWN AND SCHOOL WEBSITES: [rutlandtown.com](http://rutlandtown.com) and [rutlandtownschool.org](http://rutlandtownschool.org)