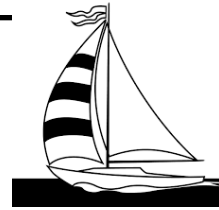


The Circle



Rutland Town's Link between School and Community

June 2015

TOWN NEWS

By Carol Bam

Select Board Chairman, Joe Dicton reports that the Board has approved price increases at the town Transfer Station as of July 1, 2015. When a resident's current card runs out, the price of a new 20 punch card for 33 gallon bags of household trash will increase from \$40 to \$50, an increase of 50 cents per bag. Prices for larger household items and truckloads will go up as well. The new prices are comparable or lower than at nearby towns. Page 4 shows the price list and what can be recycled.

The building was recently named the Anthony Flory Transfer Station in honor of Tony Flory who passed away in March. Tony had been facility supervisor since it opened 23 years ago. The Board discussed replacing some panels of the Transfer Station doors that do not work well, and for easier disposal, lowering the center rail on the compactor to the OSHA minimum of 42". Station supervisor Dick Lloyd is currently soliciting bids for door panel replacement and door maintenance.

The Transfer Station committee is also investigating whether becoming a "zero sort" facility is an option that might save some money for townspeople and for the Town. In addition to being easier on the user, fewer dumpsters would be required, and in their place, the Town might gain some premium storage space for the Recreation and Highway Departments. The committee welcomes your input on the issue. If you have zero sort experience or a suggestion, please tell Dick Lloyd, Joe Dicton or Don Chioffi.

Josselyn Brothers Construction of Cuttingsville

(Continued on Page 9)

FROM PRINCIPAL AARON BOYNTON

Greetings from Rutland Town School! Another successful year is concluding and we are very proud of all of the progress our students have made. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our graduating 8th grade class. You have made us proud! We have seen you grow and learn, some of you since Kindergarten. You are now ready to spread your wings as you head to high school, a new and exciting transition and a new chapter in your life. It will surely be memorable. Stay strong, we know you will make Rutland Town proud.

As we look to next year, we plan to build on the curriculum and instruction work that we have engaged in over the last few years. We now have a consistent science curriculum K-8 and also a writing program that aligns with Common Core Standards. We have better implemented reading programs as we have spent more time looking at data and assessment to inform and adjust instruction. Next year, we will be implementing a new and exciting math program in grades K-5. This program is called "Bridges." A web link is provided on our webpage if you are interested in learning more. The program is researched-based, aligned to the

(Continued on Page 3)

THE VIEW FROM HOUSE SEAT 101

By Tom Terenzini, State Representative, Rutland Town

The legislative session ended a little after 11pm on Saturday, May 16. As I left the chamber that night, the light rain felt wonderful on my face. I felt relieved knowing that I had completed a most difficult five month session. The session might be over, but there is plenty to still do next January.

Following are some of the highlights of this session:

The philosophical exemption was revoked by law makers when it comes to vaccinations. The feeling was that children in the state need to be immunized and protected.

Also, House Bill 35, the cleanup of Lake Champlain and other Vermont water ways passed by a wide majority.

Starting in 2017, you will be able to register to vote in Vermont on the same day of the election, because the Legislature passed same-day registration. Most town clerks were opposed to this bill for fear that it would add confusion and extra work on Election Day. I am also concerned about voter fraud in the state.

Vermont now has its first gun law in place. It was a law not needed, as federal law is already in play. Criminals and mentally ill will always be able to acquire a fire arm if they

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Randy Dewey, Glendon Ingalls and Paula Townsend

Retiring Staff Bid Farewell

Rutland Town School says farewell to three amazing teachers this year who are retiring: Randy Dewey, Paula Townsend, and Glendon Ingalls. They have taught at RTS for 41, 18, and 12 years respectively. Our thanks go out to them for their dedication, collegueship, and professionalism. We wish them all the best as they begin a new chapter in their lives. ~ Aaron Boynton, Principal.

RANDY DEWEY

I decided that I wanted to teach after spending the day at Johnsburg Central School in North Creek, NY, while on a skiing trip. After student teaching at Rutland Town and Castleton Elementary Schools, I was extremely fortunate to be offered a job as a fourth grade teacher here. That was in 1974. During those early years, I coached girls' basketball and softball, in addition to my teaching duties, and helped out officiating soccer and boys' basketball, as well as umpiring baseball, all for Rutland Town.

In 1991 I "graduated" to teaching sixth grade in the middle school as well as spending nine years as the school's athletic director. With my two daughters very active in their high school careers, I resigned as AD in 2000 and since that time have devoted my efforts to the classroom.

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 during the school year, in October, December, February, April and June.

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

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

When I started my career in teaching, I had no idea that it would become a nearly lifetime endeavor. Helping your kids and being a part of their journey has provided me with lasting satisfaction and incredible memories. I've been blessed to be a part of the Rutland Town community for so many years.

PAULA TOWNSEND

Teaching at RTS has been a fulfilling and joyful experience. I am fortunate to live in the same town that I have taught in for 18 years. I was able to be with my children who attended the town school. After starting at RTS as a part-time literacy teacher and teaching 5th grade for a few years, I have been a first grade teacher, my favorite grade ever since.

As a parent and teacher I have been involved in many activities such as the Tapestry program, Camp Invention Summer Camp, PTO, Friends of Music, Girl Scouts, and Wonderfeet Museum. It has all made a very rich and rewarding experience, one in which I have learned as much as I've taught and one that I am going to miss. But it's time for new adventures and challenges.

GLENDON INGALLS

After 39 years of teaching music in Vermont public schools (the last 12 at Rutland Town), I have decided to explore what other adventures life has to offer. I am technically "retiring" from teaching full time in a public school, but I plan to continue being very active performing and teaching music at various levels including my adjunct work at Middlebury College. I hope also to expand my private lesson schedule, teaching all band instruments with a specialty on bass instruments and stringed bass type instruments. As an officer of the executive board of the Vermont Association of Jazz Educators I will be working to develop assessment opportunities for Vermont students including those of Rutland Town.

I feel very fortunate to have taught in school districts in Vermont that place a great emphasis on a well rounded student and that consider music education to be essential. These school districts are Windsor N.W. Supervisory Union, Barre schools, as well as Rutland Town.

RTS and community are populated by talented and dedicated students and parents. The Rutland Town Friends of Music are as dedicated as Music Booster groups in Vermont come, and I thank them individually and as a group for their support. The teaching staff is highly competent, compassionate, and committed to Rutland Town students. I feel very fortunate and privileged to have worked with the staff and students of RTS. My wife, Dinah Stafford, and I will continue residing in Rutland Town and look forward to following and attending RTS events including Jazz Bistro 2016.

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Under the Golden Dome

A Report on 2015 by Senator Kevin Mullin

The 2015 session is over and once again the Legislature and governor have kicked the can down the road when it comes to a sustainable budget. Even with over \$30 million of new taxes being raised, the Legislature used \$25 million in one-time funds to balance the budget. The new revenue will be raised largely through changes enacted to the VT income tax code. Taxpayers will no longer be able to deduct state and local taxes. This was proposed by Governor Shumlin and adopted by the Legislature. It raises roughly \$15 million per year. Itemized deductions will be capped at 2.5 times the standard deduction (about \$31,000 in deductions for a couple filing jointly) but exempts medical and charitable deductions from the cap. An alternative minimum tax of three percent of federal adjusted gross income will be imposed on filers with incomes of \$150,000. It will raise about \$1 million. Soda will no longer be considered "food" and thus will be subject to the sales tax. The change raises approximately \$5 million. The Tax Department will now have authority to garnish wages for unpaid tax debts. This raises approximately \$2 million.

If we are ever going to put our fiscal house in order, we will need to work on growing the Vermont economy. The state as a whole has recovered from the Great Recession but if you take out Chittenden County, the rest of the state has fewer jobs today than in 2007 at the start of the downturn. I am proud to have introduced and passed an economic development bill for the second year in a row. While the bill will not solve everything, it is a meaningful step in the right direction. It includes meaningful changes to the Vermont Economic Growth Incentive program that will retain and create good-paying jobs. It creates a down payment assistance program for first-time homebuyers that will help young professionals around the state. It increases the threshold to become a licensed lender from \$75,000 to \$250,000. It includes a Quebec initiative to lure Canadian businesses into expanding into Vermont. The bill creates an economic development branding and marketing initiative to complement and supplement our tourism marketing efforts. The sales tax on prewritten software accessed remotely (often referred to as the cloud tax) is eliminated. An effort is made to remove some of the benefit cliffs for people with disabilities to reenter the workforce without facing heavy penalties.

Another bill that I am proud to have introduced and passed this year is a consumer protection bill that will protect Vermonters from bad business practices. While there is much to be proud of this year the fiscal failure will be what this year will be remembered for. Now that the governor has announced his intention to not seek another term it will create an interesting political landscape in 2016.

I look forward to the challenges ahead and will push again next year to get us on a sustainable path forward. Thank you for giving me the privilege to serve you in Montpelier. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at kimbjm@aol.com or give me a call at 802-353-6770.

RUTLAND TOWN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Rutland Town is proud of our high school graduates and we are committed to their future success. Voters have approved \$10,000 in scholarships to help our students attain higher education. This year, we honor 15 Rutland Town graduates with scholarships ranging from \$450 to \$1,000.

Winners of \$1,000 Scholarships:

Haley E. Andrulat
Olivia C. Lyons

Winners of \$800 Scholarships:

Leann M. DeFelice
John T. McCarroll

Winners of \$600 Scholarships:

Shannon E. Adams
Stephen K. Anderson
Molly E. Turgeon

Winners of the \$450 Scholarships:

Evan M. Abatiell
Hannah J. Dicton
Jenna C. Elliott
Kiernan J. Lackney
Maria Kaleigh Rowe
Benjamin M. Smith
Brandon M. Westburg
Charles L. Wright

Congratulations to all 2015 graduates!

(Principal Boynton ~ Continued from Page 1)

standards, and engages students at a deeper level than other programs.

Furthermore, we are excited to continue all of the great things Rutland Town School has traditionally offered to students in order to provide a well rounded education. Budget cuts are always hard to work with but we plan to make the very best of our resources. Thank you for your support this year.

Our Solar Powered School

In 2008, Rutland Town School installed solar panels on the south side of its roof. We are happy to report that at this time we are seeing an average yearly savings of about \$12,000. That is a significant amount. To put it in perspective, that amount covers our K-5 classroom supplies! Currently, we are reestablishing a way for the community to see energy status information via the internet. When this is established we will have a link on our web page.

ANTHONY J. (TONY) FLORY TRANSFER STATION Rate Increase Effective July 1 By Don Chioffi

Recently, Joe Diction and I, as your Transfer Station Committee, met with Dick Lloyd, our new station supervisor, to review a number of significant issues including increases in the disposal fees charged to the Town and reduced recycling revenues due to market conditions. Since we have always tried to have the transfer station operate on a revenue neutral basis and keep our costs of disposal covered by user fees, and since there has been no increase since 2004, we have recommended to the full Select Board and they have approved rate increases to take effect July 1.

(See page 1 for station improvements in the works.)

Please give your valuable feedback to either Dick or Bill Bauer, Joe Diction or me. A recommendation on "Zero Sort" will be ready shortly. We feel that this change, if adopted, will save our residents untold hours and will be a welcome convenience.

PRICES: Beginning July 1, 2015

- \$50.00 PUNCH CARD Good for 20 punches.
Maximum bag size 33 gallons
- \$10.00 MEDIUM HOUSEHOLD ITEMS - Mattress,
box spring, sofa, desk, recliner, hideaway bed,
rug, etc.
- \$15.00 LARGE HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES
Stove, sink, refrigerator, washer, dryer, etc.
- \$20.00 SMALL PICKUP TRUCK (No racks)
OR UTILITY TRAILER - Building material or
debris
- \$30.00 LARGE PICKUP TRUCK (No racks):
Building material or debris

PLEASE:

SLOW DOWN when approaching Transfer Station area
STOP at the attendant's location
TEAR DOWN all cartons!

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Wednesdays: 4:00 - 7:00 pm
Saturdays: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

WE RECYCLE:

EMPTY METAL AND AEROSOL CANS
(aluminum, tin and foil)

GLASS BOTTLES (beverage and food jars)

PLASTIC CONTAINERS (#1 - #7)

LARGE RIGID PLASTICS (5 gallon pails and laundry baskets)

CARBOARD / PAPER

Corrugated Cardboard (wavy center layer)
Boxboard and Paper Cartons (dry-food boxes,
cores, paper bags; egg, milk and juice cartons)
File Folders and Office Paper (all colors)
Newspaper (all sections and inserts)
Mail and Greeting Cards (junk mail and envelopes)
Magazines and Phone Books (catalogs and soft
cover books)

SCRAP METAL

YARD TRIMMINGS



Computer altered photograph By Lilly Krupp, Grade 8

(Rep. Tom Terenzini ~ Continued from Page 1)

so choose.

Also passed was a stronger child protection law. We need to protect our most vulnerable citizens.

The Vermont Economic Growth Incentive Bill passed as well. This is a program designed to support the job growth in economically distressed parts of the state. I supported this bill.

House Bill 61 is a new education bill that attempts to control the rising cost of education. It forces small school districts to join forces and share resources. The jury is out on this piece of legislation. It will take time to see if this will really save the taxpayers money.

This is just a small sampling of what took place since January. I want to once again thank the voters of Rutland Town for reelecting me to represent you in Montpelier. It is a truly humbling experience.

THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

THE CIRCLE HAS AMAZING ADVERTISERS whose contributions help keep publication costs to both Rutland Town and Rutland Town School stable.

These longtime advertisers supported **The Circle** again this year: **A&J Auto Parts, Rob Stubbins Electrical, Hathaway Farms, and David Pezzeti Property Management, Neighborworks Heat Squad.** As of this issue we welcome **Dr. Blane Nasveschuk, DMD.**

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE BUSINESSES because THEY support YOU, and consider advertising your business in the next *Circle* newsletter in October. Contact Carol Bam at carolbam@aol.com for prices.

From the Rutland Town Fire Department

By BJ Hathaway

With the arrival of longer days and nicer weather, members have been doing more outside training, including flushing out our numerous dry hydrants, and practicing with various pieces of equipment.

Many newer members have been diligently learning the equipment and preparing themselves for future emergencies.

The department has had numerous calls to traffic accidents in the past couple of months. Remember, it is much easier for all emergency services, ambulance, police, fire and the other folks who work to remedy these situations if the motoring public can cooperate by being patient, heeding all warning signs and traffic control devices, and staying off cell phones and other mobile devices. Public cooperation makes these incidents safer and is much appreciated by first responders.

The new station in Center Rutland is nearing completion. The Fire Department intends to have an open house by this fall. Watch for an announcement of a date later this summer. We look forward to showing you our new building! We wish all a safe and happy summer!



Abenaki Drummers Visit RTS

By Peter Patterson,
Middle School Teacher

It is with great pleasure that we report that the Nulhegan Abenaki Drum Group performed for the entire school on the afternoon of June 5 in the school gym. During this hour, the group performed pow-wow style on the drums, sang various tribal melodies, demonstrated typical dances, and told traditional stories of the Abenaki nation. They interacted with the audience while story-telling and singing. The power and beauty of the performance was breathtaking. To read more about the group and listen to a sample of their performance, visit their website: http://abenakiart.org/abenaki_art_directory/nulhegan_abenaki_drum

Vermont Reads:

A Statewide One-Book Community Program

By Theresa Czachor, Librarian

Rutland Town teachers, Erin Hanrahan, Beth McReynolds, and Theresa Czachor were excited to learn recently that their application to participate in the Vermont Reads Program was accepted by the Vermont Humanities Council. As part of the application, and in order to qualify, at least two other organizations or partners are necessary to join the project and help develop and carry out the program plan.

RTS will partner with the Rutland Free Library, the Godnick Adult Center, the RTS PTO, and the Rutland Herald to develop activities that support community wide reading and discussion of Haroun and the Sea of Stories by Salman Rushdie, the title selected by the Vermont Humanities Council for the Vermont Reads Project this year.

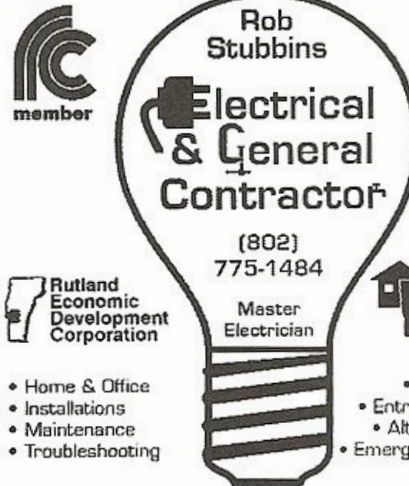
As a result of the approved application, RTS will receive 75 copies of Haroun and the Sea of Stories along with discussion guides, stickers and bookmarks, program ideas, and materials for promoting special events.

Our first special event will take place in October at the Rutland Free Library! Joe Citro, Vermont author and folklorist, will entertain us with ghost stories and hauntings of New England. Mr. Citro will engage the audience with his "out of the ordinary" readings and encourage questions along the way. This event will be free and open to the public. OMYA Inc. and the Killington Resort have made generous contributions towards the cost of Citro's visit.

Other events planned for Vermont Reads at RTS will include a Visual Artist who uses puppetry to tell stories. We will apply for a grant from the Vermont Arts Council to fund this event. In addition, the Godnick Senior Center will host a community wide "Moth" style storytelling event in December. Students, parents, and community members will be encouraged to participate and tell stories on the theme of "Pitching in," as Haroun himself has to do when his family begins to unravel. This event will be co-sponsored by the Godnick Center, a division of the Rutland Recreation Center.

We hope you can join us for one or more of our Vermont Reads events in the fall!

Why do we wish to participate in Vermont Reads? It's because we see the value in reading good literature and forging community connections by talking about the importance of stories in our lives. RTS participates in several other state wide reading programs, including the DCF (Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award), and Red Clover Award. We have seen those programs motivate students, helping them recognize the value of reading beyond the school walls. We are excited about the possibility of being involved in another statewide program, especially one that fosters more community connections.



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Road Notes

from Byron Hathaway,
Road Commissioner

The plans for a Highway Department maintenance facility are almost completed. A storm water permit, an extra step we were not originally aware of, is nearly done. When this permit is received, the Act 250 permit will be complete. In the meantime, construction of the facility has been put out to bid. Area general contractors were solicited for a design build project. The Highway Committee met on June 2, before the regular Select Board meeting, to review the three proposals that were received. All of the plans were \$100,000 less than the amount of money voted last March to be set aside for this facility. The lowest bid from Josselyn Bros. Construction of Cuttingsville was recommended to the full Select Board. Josselyn's proposal was unanimously accepted subject to voter approval at a **special election to be held sometime in July**. Watch for an announcement of the special election in the paper. A notice will also be posted on Front Porch Forum. As always, for your convenience, absentee ballots will be available for this election. Please feel free to contact me should you have questions about this much needed project. My email is rthighway@rutlandtown.com or call me at 773-8128.

Summer paving has started with reclaiming done on Seward, Stratton, and Gleason Roads, and a section on the East Pittsford Rd. The base coat of asphalt has been applied with the top coat to follow. After the top coat is applied the Highway Dept. will be finishing shoulders and driveway aprons as needed.

As part of our Complete Streets study underway, the Complete Streets committee has recommended that the East Pittsford Rd. and Stratton Rd. be line striped as a test with a fog line to help delineate a paved shoulder for joggers, walkers, and bikers to use. Public engagement will help us determine its effectiveness.

Two studies are currently underway. Both studies involve the Town of Rutland and West Rutland jointly. The first study is a "Small Communities Better Connections" initiative. This study, funded by a grant from

PTO NEWS

By Jennifer McNeil, President

The Rutland Town School PTO had a very successful school year. We sponsored the following events: Back to School Ice Cream Social, Scholastic Book Fairs, Middle School Dances, Duct Tape the Principal, Breakfast with Santa, and the Teacher / Staff Appreciation Luncheon, and Supermarket Bingo.

The PTO would like to thank all of our members for their support this year. We would also like to thank all of our volunteers. Without you many of the events would not have been able to occur.

PTO monies were used to bring the Imagination Playground from Wonderfeet to RTS and to pay for the bus transportation to many field trips. We were also able to support many donation requests from teachers.

The PTO is always open to new ideas to add to our event calendar! Please contact a PTO officer or join us at a meeting if you have an idea to share! Thanks again for all of your support this year!

Visit our new website at: <https://sites.google.com/a/rcsu.org/rutland-town-school-ptol>

Senior Corner

By Theresa Kulig

Rutland Town Seniors meet at Seward's Family Restaurant on the 3rd Tuesday of each month for lunch and fellowship. In June, the group went to the Woodstock Senior Center for a chef prepared dinner of macaroni and cheese with ham. The group enjoyed their trip on The Bus, the cost of which was provided by the Council on Aging.

There are a little less than 20 who now come to the monthly lunches. To join the folks for lunch at a cost of \$7, please contact Pat Tucker at 776-1066 by the Sunday before the lunch date to place your reservation. It's a wonderful opportunity to socialize and enjoy lunch out. Consult the Calendar on Page 11 for the summer lunch dates.

VTrans and Economic Development, will study land uses, transportation infrastructure, and possibilities for redevelopment along Business Route 4 between our Town Office and the Whipple Hollow Rd. in West Rutland.

The second study, funded by a grant through the VTrans bicycle/pedestrian program will study the feasibility of connecting the park and ride at our town office to the park and ride on Thrall Ave. in West Rutland. Both grants will hold public work sessions to gather public input. Watch for announcements of these sessions. We need to know what you think.

I am applying for an engineering/construction grant through the bike/ped program for the proposed sidewalk on Post Rd. This will be the third time we have applied for such a grant. Hopefully the third time will be successful and not a strike out.



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ANN GLAGOLA Receives the GOLDEN CANE By Carol Bam

Ann Glagola, age 98, is the new custodian of the ceremonial Golden Cane. She is the 5th recipient which town seniors have awarded to a Rutland Town citizen who, if not a native, has lived most of his/her life in the Town. Length of residency in the town trumps age for the cane honor, and community mindedness is another factor. Ann succeeds Lillian Billings who died in October, 2013 at age 103.



Ann Glagola receives the honorary Golden Cane from Jim Hall on behalf of Rutland Town Seniors

Ann is as close to a native as you can get. Born in Proctor in February, 1917, her parents Michael and Helen Livak moved the family to Rutland Town two years later after buying a dairy farm on Blueberry Lane. Ann grew up there with 6 brothers and attended nearby Cheney Hill School. At age 16, she was valedictorian of the RHS class of 1933 and went on to UVM where she earned a degree in education 4 years later. She taught in North Bennington for a year before marriage to John Glagola. His work during the WWII years and after took them to several different parts of the country before the family settled in New Jersey where they raised three sons.

Eager for further education, Ann obtained a masters in Library Science in 1967 (at age 50, the same year she got a driver's license!) from Columbia University and employed her skills for 15 years as an elementary school librarian.

Retirement in 1982 allowed the Glagolas to come back to Blueberry Lane. In the years since, Ann has made significant contributions to the community, in addition to looking after her husband until he died, and a disabled son. Active in the senior group, for 25 years she coordinated their weekly lunches at Cheney Hill, and was a 20 year volunteer with the Rutland Historical Society.

The Golden Cane was first presented to Vera Fish in 1996 in recognition of her dedication to the town, including being one of the founding members of the senior citizens group. The head of the cane unscrews revealing a compartment in the body of the cane that traditionally,

Kindergarten Writing for Understanding From Tina Ronn, Reading Interventionist

As mentioned in prior issues of *The Circle*, teachers at RTS have been implementing a writing approach called "Writing for Understanding." These pieces are by kindergarten students explaining how they will take care of the earth. On page 8 please see the essay composed by a Grade 5 student, Samantha Merrow.

The Earth by Corlei Daub

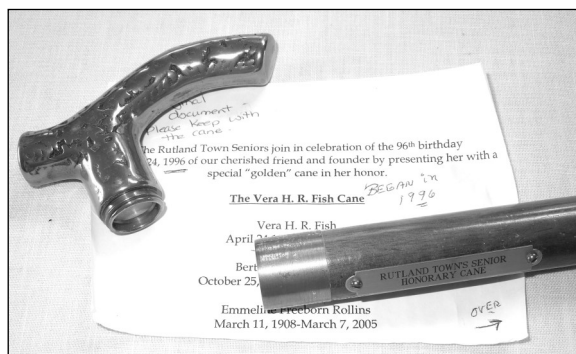
The earth is my home. I can bring my own bags to the store. I can throw garbage in the trash. I can eat every bite. I love the earth.

The Earth by Gradyn Bellomo

I love the earth. I can use both sides of the paper. I can ride my bike. I can turn off the lights. I take care of the earth.

The Earth by Logan McKenna

There are many things I can do to take good care of the earth. I can recycle glass, paper and plastic. I can write on both sides of the paper. I can ride my bike to school to save on gas. There are many things I can do to take good care of the earth.



Ann says, might hold a vial of snake bite "anti-venom" (or "medicinal" alcohol). The town cane instead holds a scroll listing all the honorees since Vera in 1996. Vera held the cane until she died in 1999, followed by Polly Phillips until 2004, Emmeline Rollins until 2005, and Lillian Billings until 2013. Now Ann Glagola will carry on the tradition.



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**More Student Writing from Tina Ronn,
Reading Interventionist:**

John Todd

By Samantha Merrow, Grade 5

John Todd is an environmental engineer. He is famous because he invented an eco-machine that purifies contaminated water. The eco-machine is unique because it uses natural resources instead of chemicals to filter the contaminated water. In John Todd's childhood home in Canada there was a school that had a problem with recycling their toilet water. The students asked John Todd for his help. John Todd's solution for the water problem in his community was to build an eco-machine that would purify the raw sewage and recycle the toilet water to be used again.

John Todd combined creativity with science to build his eco-machine. He used materials and the power of nature to create something that would purify raw sewage. He used 17 glass tanks that were arranged in a spiral pattern. The largest tank was 14 ft. tall and the smallest tank was 4 ft. tall. After John Todd finished building the tanks, he went to swamps and wetlands to find what he needed. Sometimes when he went to the swamps and wetlands he took students with him. What do you think he was looking for? With or without students he looked for different species of plants, bacteria and organisms that would digest or trap harmful bacteria and cancer-causing chemicals. The text explained that John Todd used a combination of species of aquatic plants and organisms to make a mini ecosystem.

I bet you're wondering how an eco-machine works, right? Most people think machines use gas or fuel of some kind, but the eco-machine uses the power of nature. The process begins with the raw sewage getting digested by microorganisms in non-transparent pipes. That is because as the book states "No one wants to see poop!".

Next, the partially purified sewage is pumped into a series of 17 glass tanks that are connected by pipes. As the water flows from tank to tank it gets cleaner and cleaner, and as the impurities are eaten by the algae, bacteria, fish and snails. Lastly the almost clean water that flows out of the last tank is pumped through a marsh outside the school, then collected in a pond and finally recycled back to the toilets. Technically, at that point, the water is clean enough for drinking. But nobody wants to think about drinking water that originally came from the toilet!

In conclusion, the eco-machine has many benefits for John Todd's community. It uses no chemicals to filter the water but only nature. It also recycles the contaminated water and reduces the smell of the polluted waste water. I think that the eco-machine is a better way to clean contaminated water than using chemicals because some chemicals are harmful to people. That is why the eco-machine is better for everybody's life.

See Kindergarten Writing on Page 7.

FROM THE GABLES AT EAST MOUNTAIN

By Randi Cohn, Associate Director

Gentle Chair Yoga Offered to the Public

Lina Hanson, RYT, certified professional level Kripalu Yoga instructor, will offer Gentle Chair Yoga classes at The Gables beginning mid-July. The class is primarily designed for those wishing to increase their wellbeing through gentle stretching, strengthening, slow movement, and balance improvement. The class is open to the public and Lina will charge \$8/class for non-Gables participants. For more information visit www.YogaPranaShakti.com.

Resident Roy Pilcher Honored

Gables resident Roy Pilcher was the recipient of the annual GMP - Zetterstrom Environmental Award. This award recognizes those who epitomize the dedication and perseverance exhibited by Meeri Zetterstrom to better Vermont's natural resources. Roy helped found the Rutland County Audubon Society in 1974 and led the effort to designate marshes in West Rutland Marsh, Lake Bomoseen and Hubbardton as important bird areas. Said Mary Powell, GMP's president and CEO to the Rutland Herald, "He has devoted nearly half his life to creating and improving bird and other wildlife habitat, introduced hundreds of people to birds and nature, and created awareness of and the tools to ensure good stewardship of important ecological sites."

Partner News

The Meadows, the Gables companion community for assisted living, is expected to open its newly expanded special care unit in July. This addition will allow The Meadows to better meet our area's increased need for memory care.

The Gables is also happy to report that its partner, Rutland Regional Medical Center, received high marks for patient safety and common care by three national groups that rank hospitals, including U.S. News and World Report. U.S. News ranked 4,600 hospitals and Rutland Re-



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Rutland Town's Daring Duckling Rescue

By Joseph Zingale Jr., Town Administrator

As a wise sage once said, "Life is like a box of chocolates; you never know what you're gonna get." And so was Thursday June 4, 2015. My phone rang at around 9:00 A.M. I answered the phone and was informed that a number of small ducklings had fallen into a storm water manhole in the Home Depot parking lot. The woman making the call appealed for help from the Town to get the baby ducklings out of the manhole.

I contacted Mr. Walter Tripp, a member of the Town Highway Department, and requested his assistance in removing the iron manhole cover. When I arrived at the Home Depot I found Town Police Captain Ted Washburn on the scene. Ted, Walt and I quickly agreed that the best plan of action would be to remove the cover and using an improvised bucket taped to the end of a long pole, scoop the ducklings out of the manhole.

While we were discussing our plan the ducklings one by one made their way out of the manhole and into the underground pipe connected to the next manhole about 200 feet away. By the time the cover was removed we could hear the ducklings chirping but could no longer see them floating in the manhole. It soon became apparent that we had frightened the ducklings and that they did not plan on entering the manhole so we could scoop them out. At this point the Rutland Town Fire Department was called for rescue assistance.

Upon arriving at the scene, which had now grown to include several concerned onlookers, Fire Department Captain Mr. David Ricard took control and directed rescue personnel who had also arrived on the scene. When the Rutland City Fire Department declined to send a man certified for confined space rescue, Captain Ricard made the decision to attempt to flush the ducklings from the underground pipe by filling the manhole with water from a Fire Truck.



Assistant Chief Nick Denardo realized the pipe leading out of the manhole, into which the ducklings would be flushed, needed to be blocked off. So, once again responders on the scene improvised and used a screen found lying on the ground along with some rope scavenged at the scene by me, and quickly lowered the screen in front of the pipe leading out of the manhole. Town Police officer Jim Gamble drove to the nearby Allen Pool business and borrowed a pool skimmer on a long pole.

After several hundred gallons of water were poured into the manhole, the ducklings dropped into the receiving manhole and were scooped up one by one until all seven had been removed from the manhole. The ducklings chirping grew louder and louder as each was gently placed in a cardboard box found on site. Because the mother left the scene prior to Town responders arriving the ducklings were taken home by a Home Depot employee, who lives on a farm and has raised ducklings. She said the first thing she

planned to do was put the tiny ducklings under a heat lamp.

One responder informed me that the ducklings seemed much more appreciative of the Department's efforts than their last animal rescue, which involved a raccoon stuck in a chimney.



(Town News ~ Continued from Page 1)

has been selected through the bidding process for construction of the Highway Garage which voters gave preliminary approval for in March. A proposal for supplementary work related to the project, i.e. settling ponds, aprons, site clearing, etc., is being prepared as well. Voters will have the opportunity to decide on the entire project in a special election most likely to be held in August. The date of the vote will be warned in the Rutland Herald, posted on Front Porch Forum, and on the town website. Voter Information as well as absentee ballots will be available at the Town Office. See Highway report on Page 6.

The Select Board wants to recognize Town Clerk Donna Zeller's diligence in saving money for the Town. She recently reported that all of the Town phone bills have been changed to electronic delivery, saving \$42 per month. She brought to the

Board's attention that phone service at Cheney Hill, at \$40 per month, had not been used in over a year. Monthly janitorial service at the site cost an additional \$70 per month. Upon her report, the Board voted to discontinue phone and regular cleaning services and contract with the Town Hall maintenance person for the facility as needed.

Marty Wasserman has been appointed to the Emergency Management Planning position for the Town, an office formerly combined with the fire chief position. He will compile information from various state and federal emergency response agencies. In the event of a local disaster, he will establish a command center and coordinate communication between different emergency agencies such as local police and fire departments, state police and rescue services.

HOME SAFETY CHECK IS VITAL

By Heather Baker
Southern Vermont Council on Aging

Conducting a home safety check can go a long way to prevent future problems. Spend some time walking through your home. Look at your entrances and exits, steps and stairways, bathrooms, the kitchen, living and dining rooms, bedrooms and finally the exterior. David Reville of AARP Vermont offers these tips on how to conduct a home safety check:

Getting Started

Sometimes it is difficult to know where to begin to create a safer, more comfortable home. Start simply. Many home updates that increase home comfort and safety can be made at little to no cost. Some of our favorites are included, and most items can be purchased at your local hardware or home improvement store.

- Set the hot water heater to 120° to prevent scalding and reduce energy costs.
- Remove clutter from stairways and passageways to help prevent trips and falls. Check carpeting on stairs to make sure it is firmly attached.
- Arrange furniture to allow for easy passage.
- Remove all scatter and throw rugs; they often slide and can cause falls.
- Place exposed electrical cords along a wall where they can't be tripped over.
- Remove all cords from underneath furniture or carpeting to lessen the risk of fire.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on all levels of the house, especially outside bedrooms.
- Replace traditional toggle light switches with easy-to-use rocker panel switches.
- Consider illuminated switches in bathrooms.
- Install easy to use lever handles on all doors and faucets.
- Install a hand held, adjustable height showerhead for easier bathing.
- Replace knobs on cabinets and drawers with easy to grip D-shaped handles.
- Remove debris from outdoor walkways.
- Trim shrubbery to provide a clear view from doors and windows.

Create a Home Emergency Exit Plan

Emergencies, such as fires, can happen quickly and unexpectedly. Whether you live alone or in a house full of people, everyone needs to have an emergency exit plan in place so the home can be evacuated quickly. In developing a home emergency exit plan you should:

- Investigate all possible exits and escape routes and develop a plan for all levels of the home and all bedrooms.
- Know the details of the plan and make sure all family members, including young children, grandchildren, and overnight visitors know it too.
- Select an agreed upon meeting place, such as a

Rutland Town School Band News

By Glendon Ingalls, Director

Rutland Town School Bands and Jazz Bands have offered several excellent performances this semester. Semester concerts by the 4th Grade Band, 5th Grade Band, Middle School Band and M and T Jazz Ensembles were well attended and received. The RTS marching band performed our adaptation of the "Armed Forces on Parade" service medley for the Rutland Loyalty Day Parade. The marching band also performed our arrangement of "Gonna Fly Now" (theme from the first "Rocky" movie) in the Vermont All State Parade in Middlebury. The RTS band was one of the bands featured in a parade photo in the Addison County Independent the following week. Drum major Lilly Krupp did a fine job of leading the band in parades.

Our thanks as always go out to the many parents whose volunteer efforts enabled the band to participate in parades.

It has been a privilege to have had the fine young students of Rutland Town School in my classroom over the course of the last 12 years. The Rutland Town School community is a very special place. Though I will be moving on to other endeavors and adventures, I will forever carry rich and fond memories of the people, and the wonderful music that was made. Thank you.

neighbor's house, mailbox, streetlight, or other location outside and away from the home where everyone can meet after exiting.

- Practice the home emergency exit plan every six months to make sure everyone can exit quickly and safely.



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- Have a \$100 Home Energy Check-up
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- Have a more comfortable home

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**Computer altered photograph
By Zach Aiken, Grade 8**

Rutland County Stream Team Volunteers Needed

**From Nanci McGuire, Manager
Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District**

The Rutland Natural Resources Conservation District (RNRCD) has openings for volunteers to form a "Stream Team" to address water quality issues in the upper Otter Creek watershed. The team will be a hands-on group concerned with and acting to preserve and improve the quality of various streams.

To get started, the Team will focus on Moon Brook which has been declared an impaired stream by the State of Vermont. As membership grows, the activities of the team will expand to other areas of the upper Otter Creek watershed where action now can prevent future impairment. It is likely that opportunities to make a real difference on a stream in your area will arise, no matter where you live in or near Rutland County.

Did you know that there are Brook Trout in Moon Brook? Not just in the wilds of Mendon but in the backyards of Rutland City as well. The native "brookies" are very sensitive to environmental degradation and in fact are used by scientists as an indicator of a healthy ecosystem. If we see brook trout, we know that the stream is doing well. While they are present, the existing population in the lower reaches of Moon Brook is under stress and needs some assistance to develop the healthy numbers that are possible. Are you willing to help?

As a member of the Stream Team you can help by assisting activities such as stream clean up, tree planting, and storm drain stenciling. You will also be involved in monitoring water quality and educating others as to the benefits of a healthy Moon Brook Watershed.

This is your chance to make a difference. Please sign up now. If you are interested in being part of the Stream Team, contact RNRCD Manager, Nanci McGuire at 802-775-8034 ext. 117 or email nanci.mcguire@vt.nacdnet.net.

Rutland Town Community Calendar

JUNE

30 Select Board meets – 6:30 pm, Town Hall

JULY

2 PTO Meets – 6:30 pm, RTS

2 & 16 Planning Commission meets - 7 pm, Town Hall

3 **Town Hall Closed – Fourth of July observed**

4 Fireworks at dusk – Northwood Park

5 Rain date for fireworks if needed.

13 School Board meets – 6:30 pm, RTS Library

14 & 28 Select Board meets - 6:30 pm. Town Hall

21 Senior lunch – noon, Seward's Restaurant

AUGUST

6 PTO Meets – 6:30 pm, RTS

6 & 20 Planning Commission meets - 7 pm, Town Hall

10 School Board meets – 6:30 pm, RTS Library

11 & 25 Select Board meets – 6:30 pm, Town Hall

18 Senior lunch – noon, Seward's Restaurant

SEPTEMBER

3 & 17 Planning Commission meets - 7 pm, Town Hall

8 & 22 Select Board meets – 6:30 pm, Town Hall

7 **Town Hall closed – Labor Day observance**
No School

10 **1st Property Tax Payment due**

14 & 28 School Board meets – 6:30 pm, Town Hall

15 Senior lunch – noon, Seward's Restaurant

26 **Hazardous Waste Collection – 8-11:30 am**
Transfer Station

2015 NORTHWOOD POOL SCHEDULE

The Pool is open for the season

SEASON PASS FEES

Resident Single \$ 35

Resident Family \$ 60

Non-resident Single \$ 65

Non-resident Family \$120

Lessons are included in the family pass. If there is room, each level will be capped at 10 swimmers

POOL HOURS

Mon. - Fri. 9 - 12 Swim Lessons every ½ hour

6 - 6:30 Night Lessons

12 - 1 Adult Swim (Mon - .Fri.)

1 - 7 Open Swim

Sat. & Sun. 11 - 7 Open Swim

DAILY FEES

Resident Adult/Child \$2 / \$1.25

Non-resident Adult/Child \$4 / \$3

Resident Senior (55+) Free

SWIM LESSONS

One 4-week single session. Mon.– Fri., 6/22 - 7/17

Northwood Pool Phone 775-7301

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

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Congratulations to the RTS 8th Grade Class of 2015 !

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Shanna Marie Alexander
Joshua Andrew Paul Alger
Zachary Allan Arsenault
Brenton Matthew Beers
Skyler Elizabeth Bird
Paige Alexandra Bohlig
Liam Kyle Burditt
Seth Thomas Corey
Eric Matthew Coughlin
Casey Thomas Coughlin
Michael Francis Daley
Tristan Alexander Dotson
Lily Bryn Duboff
Vanessa Ann Dumas
Angelina Marie Elliott
Connor James Heaton

Haleigh Nicole Hubbard
Lucas Joseph Hubbard
Jensen W. Kelley
Tara Lynne Kellogg
Gabriel Anthony Knapp
Lilly Carol Krupp
Taylor Mary Krupp
Conner Charles
Ladabouche
Rachael Denise Lee
Emelia Rea Lovko
Owen Scott Massie
Kelsey Granahan
McCullough
Alexa Michelle McPhee
Ethan Joseph Notte
Mason James Patten

Dakota James Peters
Carl Vincent Pratt, III
Tyler Aaron Robideau
Tyler Michael Shanahan
Ian Fredrick Smith
Johnathan Michael Springer
Madeline Rose Thompson
Jackson Ryan Washburn
Jeremy Michael Welch
Bailey Renee Wilson

