The Circle



Rutland Town's Link between School and Community

October 2023

TOWN NEWS By Mary Ashcroft Select Board Chair

It's been a busy summer for our town. Our old fire station at McKinley Avenue has been demolished to make way for the new fire and police facility approved by voters in May. Next steps will be grading and site work, installation of the underground water cistern and prepping the foundation for the November arrival of steel framing for the building.

Thank you to Fire Chief Chris Clark and fire department members for hauling out decades of material and equipment from the old building, and to Highway Commissioner Dave Sears who found room in the Highway garage for the McKinley fire trucks. Kari Clark and I have been gathering information for the Select Board on options for borrowing the \$2.5 million needed to complete the public safety building once the ARPA funds are used up. Options include the Vermont Bond Bank and convention financial institutions. Later this fall, the Select Board will be deciding which route is best for the town.

The Select Board has met with old and new owners of the Cortina Inn to discuss the problems caused by this impromptu, unpermitted homeless housing facility. The Vermont Environmental Court agreed with us that the inn needed to amend its Act 250 permit for this new use. But that hasn't occurred. Nor has the new owner picked up the monthly payments to the town to reimburse us for the cost of increasing police patrols in the south end of town.

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RTS UPDATE

From Principal Sarah Tetzlaff

We hope everyone had a fun and restful summer! We are happy to welcome 353 students to the 2023-2024 school year at Rutland Town School. Along with our students, we are excited to welcome new teachers and staff to our team:

Joe Bertelloni- Technology/Library Media Specialist Erin Bourne- Pre-K Teacher Sally Hogan- Art Teacher Mike Lamarre- Assistant Principal Jackie Walker- Pre-K Paraeducator

Our Summer Academy, Extended School Year, and Boys and Girls Club summer programs were well-attended by our students.

Continued on pg. 2

From the Rutland Town Planning Commission

By Barbara Noves Pulling

Over the summer, the Planning Commission worked with the Select Board to offer some conservation and other energy-related information and displays at the Town Wide Celebration on August 19. On hand that day were BROC, Efficiency Vermont, and NeighborWorks' Heat Squad with information about their programs for homeowners (BROC also showcased its electric company car); GMP brought an electric car and a pickup truck for folks to test drive; the local Ace Hardware store set up an assortment of battery-powered yard equipment including a snowblower; and the Vermont Energy Education Program (VEEP) was there with a variety of interesting displays including a bike and a hand crank hooked up to light bulbs to give people a better firsthand idea of the energy needed to power lights. The Planning Commission hopes to feature similar displays at the Town Wide Celebration next year.

Now that it is fall, the Planning Commission has a full slate ahead of it. On our list is a review of the town's flood regulations. One option is to include what are called river corridors for many of the town's rivers, creeks, and streams. River corridors are a relatively new concept. The goal is to allow rivers to have room to move and meander so that their flows are slower and less erosive.

Continued on pg. 11

RTS Preschool

Greetings from Mrs. DuBois, Mrs. Bridgmon, Mrs. Walker and our preschool classroom!

We are having such a great start to our preschool year! We have been super busy in preschool taking hikes, making applesauce cake and learning about what it means to be a friend!

This is what we know about friends:

- 1 They are nice
- 2 A friend plays with you
- 3 They dance with you
- 4 They share
- 5 They go outside and play
- 6 They say sorry
- 7 They want to play when I want to play

As you can see, playing was a big theme! Have a HAPPY FALL! Please Remember to have FUN, be safe and be kind to one another!

RTS Update continued from pg. 1

Our maintenance staff was extremely busy deep cleaning and completing projects, so we were ready for the first day of school on Wednesday, August 30th.

Currently, our 7th grade students are on a field trip to Camp Chingachgook. We are fortunate to be able to bring this amazing experience back to our 7th grade students after a few years of hiatus due to COVID. Thank you to the Rutland Town School Board and community for supporting this trip.

The Boys and Girls Club after-school program started on Monday, September 11th and our middle school sports teams are well underway.

The school year is off to a great start! Teachers and students are getting to know each other, establishing routines that will be used throughout the year, and already jumping into academics. We are always looking for substitutes and volunteers. If you are interested in being a substitute, please contact Ellen Coyle, GRCSU Substitute Coordinator, ellen.coyle@grcsu.org, (802) 775-0566 ext. 2126. We are also looking to hire a special education teacher, two paraeducators and a full-time custodian. Please give the school a call if you are interested in these positions.

We would like to welcome any community member to come visit our school. We are happy to give you a tour so you can see the wonderful teaching and learning that is happening. Please call (802) 775-0566 to make an appointment. Please also check out our Facebook page, Rutland Town School - Facebook, and our website, https://rts.grcsu.org, for school-related updates, student events, and general school news.



THE CIRCLE is a publication of Rutland Town and Rutland Town School. The newsletter informs the community about issues of local interest. Each year five issues are published every other month from October through June. The Circle is not a public forum. The principal and Select Board have the authority to exercise editorial control over style and content of the newsletter. Newsletter staff include Janelle Faignant. For more information, mailing list changes, to advertise or contribute, email rutlandtowncircle@gmail.com, call the RTS office at 775-0566 or mail items to: The Circle, c/o Rutland Town School, 1612 Post Road, Rutland, VT 05701

Welcome to First Grade!

By First Grade Teachers Mrs. Ettori & Mrs. Alderman

First Grade is off to a great start with practicing classroom routines, procedures, being kind citizens, and kicking off our learning adventure together. Currently students are reviewing short vowel sounds in our phonics lessons, basic addition in math, choosing just right books in reading, and becoming authors and illustrators during writing. We are reading fun books to guide us in creating our classroom community.

Mrs. Alderman's first grade class is pictured below and Mrs. Ettori's first grade class is pictured at the bottom.





From the Town Administrator

By Bill Sweet

There have been several projects in the works which are coming together and are being released as they are ready. Recently we have launched an online interactive tool giving access to Lister Cards. This has been in development for some time, and we are happy to make it available.

To make submitting permit forms easier, two versions of each form are being created. When they are ready, they will be posted and identified as an online form, or a fill and print version. Soon, there will be an option to pay any associated permit costs online! Until then, if a permit has an associated fee, it will still need to be brought to the office regardless of the type of form used.

We are bringing an option to pay most fees, including recreation registration, online. This has been a request over the last couple of years and we are making sure the process works as we intend before launching it. Even more online resources are planned to make things easier for town residents!

I have been working with the State E-911 Board to identify issues in town relating to addresses. The good news is, largely, we have very accurate information. There are some addresses which have been identified as incorrect. On the recommendation of the E-911 Board, and with Select Board approval, letters will be mailed to affected addresses in the next couple of weeks with information and the timeline on the changes. You can see your address on the map at https://vcgi.vermont.gov/maps.

A directory for town businesses is under development. We need information from town businesses to be able to populate it. Please fill out our form if you would like your business included, and feel free to share the link. The form is available here: https://www.rutlandtown.com/business-inforequest-form/

We use our Facebook page to send out notices of meetings, press releases, events, Town news and more! Follow us at: https://www.facebook.com/townofrutland. Is there something you would like to see added to our site? Please reach out using the contact page on our website and let us know!



A MESSAGE ABOUT DELINQUENT TAXES

From Don Chioffi Delinquent Tax Collector

First of all, thank you to the board for the appointment and to you voters for your support of me in this past election to do this job. The transition has not been easy as your board has a rather jaded view of this position and I have had a rather difficult time getting access to town equipment and software but I will not bore you with those details.

I want all of you to know just what my views, policies, and procedures as Delinquent Tax Collector are so that we are all on the same footing. Our town has always had one of the lowest delinquency rates around and that is due to two factors. First, we have a very reasonable tax rate on our properties so we are a very affordable town to live and work in. And second, we have always had very responsible collectors of delinquent taxes who took their jobs very seriously and did them well. I intend to follow that model.

There are many reasons (not excuses) why individuals end up being delinquent. It is my intention to work with those of you in this situation to resolve the situation. But everyone should understand this - all delinquent taxpayers are shifting their responsibility to pay their fair share on to the rest of the townspeople who are meeting their obligations. This is neither fair nor tolerable. The burden to be current in tax obligation is not on me as the collector - it is on those of vou who are delinguent. I will be patient but only to a point and I will not hesitate to use every legal means of collection, up to and including tax foreclosure sale. Delinquent taxes become instantly subject to an 8% penalty and a 1% interest fee for the first 3 months and 1.5% per month thereafter. This accumulates significantly so it is both wise and prudent to clear this debt quickly.

If you find yourself in this situation, it is your responsibility to contact me and to make arrangements to become current as soon as possible. You may drop off any payments at the Town Offices during business hours and your payment should be secured and addressed to D. Chioffi, Delinquent Tax Collector and made payable to Town of Rutland.

Cash payments must be verified by the staff there before being sealed.

The most preferred method of payment would be by check or money order payable to the Town of Rutland and mailed to: Don Chioffi, Collector of Delinquent Taxes, 1812 McKinley Ave. Rutland, VT 05701. Always make sure that the Property ID # is on the check or order. Your ID # is on your tax bill. If you choose to meet me at your convenience, I will do so and the location will be the secure and video monitored spot at the Municipal Parking lot outside Town Hall.

For those of you who need to contact me on tax matters, I can be reached at 802-683-7920 or you may e-mail me at either DChioffi@rutlandtown.com or at delinquenttaxcollector@rutlandtown.com.

Thanks once again and it has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as chairman of our board the past year and I look forward to achieving a zero tax delinquency as your new tax collector. Have a great autumn, everyone.

Bio for Mike Lamarre, Assistant Principal

Mike Lamarre is the Assistant Principal at Rutland Town School. He grew up in Pike, New Hampshire and earned a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and English (literature) from Keene State College in Keene, NH and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Castleton University. As the Assistant Principal, Mike oversees supervision and evaluation; hazing, harassment, and bullying (HHB) procedure; discipline; multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS)/educational support team (EST); school-wide schedules (e.g. master schedule, early release); and transportation.

He joins RTS after having been a 5th grade classroom teacher at the Waits River Valley School in East Corinth, VT teaching both departmentalized and all subjects to admirable students. Mike also traveled to Pretoria, South Africa one summer on a mission trip for several weeks to teach English to high school students. Those students, both at WRVS and South Africa, their supportive families, and the remarkable staff Mike has worked with, including those that impacted him as a student, inspired him to pursue leadership to have as much positive influence as he can. Mike believes in leading and teaching with an equitable mindset, meaning that everyone has what they need in order to learn, our community is understanding of these needs, and our structure is based upon these principles. In this environment, every person gets to learn, grow, dream, and achieve success.

In addition to teaching, Mike enjoys spending time with family, especially his nieces Cecelia and Madelyn, and nephews Oliver and Levi. Mike likes to run, cycle, hike, read, and take road trips, often to locally-owned coffee shops. He enjoys traveling as well, and so far has been to Costa Rica, South Africa, and France, and hopes for many more destinations. Mike is thrilled to join the RTS family!

From the Rutland Town School Board

By Board Chair Tina Keshava

Greetings Rutland Town residents! Hope you all enjoyed the summer despite the rain and cooler temperatures. The intention of the board this year is to move Rutland Town School (RTS) from good to great. At our retreat in July, we created some goals to achieve that, and they are:

- 1) Explore the needs for and costs of finishing the second floor of RTS, and if reasonable, getting it on the ballot for voter approval in March 2024
- 2) Look into re-introducing Lifetime Sports at RTS
- 3) Increase student growth academically using multiple pieces of data, and providing resources and professional development to support that growth
- 4) Increase community connection by adding student and staff highlights to the agenda for all monthly meetings

With a waiting list every year for pre-K, lack of available space at the school for growth, and enrollment numbers that have been steady and poised to increase, we feel that finishing the second floor space sooner rather than later may be the best decision going forward. We will continue keeping you informed as we figure out costs and weigh the risks vs. benefits. If you have any concerns or thoughts, please join us at our meetings. They are held the second Tuesday of every month in the RTS library at 6 p.m. You can also join virtually by using the link found on the monthly agendas. We look forward to hearing from you!

Highway Happenings

By Road Commissioner Dave Sears

It is hard to believe that September is here. As usual, where did the summer go? First off, we brought a new employee to the Highway Department. We welcomed Chris Howe to the town. Chris is a resident and brings an added dimension and depth to the department. We look forward to breaking him in during the upcoming winter season.

As I stated above, the summer seems to have flown by. Quite a bit of paving was completed since our last article. Townline Road was paved this spring following the installation of a concrete culvert last fall. That was just over a mile of paving.

Just under a mile of East Pittsford Road was paved along with a substantial portion of Barrett Hill Road, all of Flory Heights and Travis Terrace. The Town was very fortunate to have avoided any major damage from the terrible flooding events of June and July. We did have several trees down that needed cleanup and more than a few minor washouts but all in all we fared well.

We began a sidewalk project that will connect the sidewalk on Post Road at the school to Chasanna Drive. I am happy to inform everyone that the Select Board funded the purchase of two "new to us" plow trucks. With the plow trucks and one more staff member we are in good shape for what lies ahead.

At the Town Wide Celebration we invited people to "Name the Plows". We had many great entries. Thank you to all that participated. The Select Board and the Highway Dept. voted, and the winning entries are:

"Salt Licker" submitted by Karen
"Scarlett Rose" submitted by Scarlett
"Rusty Red Dumper" submitted by Craig
"Fireball" submitted by Lance

Once I get the signs made up and installed I will contact all of the winners to hopefully get everyone together for a group photo.

Be Safe!!



From the Town Clerk 7TH & 8TH GRADE SCIENCE

By Kari Clark

YOU ASKED, WE LISTENED!

It's been a very productive summer here in the Clerk's office. We've been hard at work to offer some new services to our tax-payers, with more coming in the near future!

Two significant pieces of information are now available online. A link to current property tax bills is now on our homepage at www.rutlandtown.com. Property tax bills are considered public information and therefore can be available as such online. Please note that these bills are redacted and do not contain sensitive information such as State Payments.

Additionally, we also have our Lister Cards available online! Navigate to the Lister page on www.rutlandtown.com and scroll down past the photo of our Head Lister, Marcia, there is a toggle button for the link to the property cards. I suggest you take a look. It's quite interesting to read a little bit about your property.

Having these two items available at the touch of a button is huge. It's always available to you, the taxpayer, in case you lose your bill or just need these for reference. It's a huge deal for us in the office as well. It saves us an enormous amount of time during heavy times of request.

In addition to this, we are so excited to offer another way to pay your taxes! You asked, and we listened. We are rolling out ACH payments for the January tax installment! To save you time, your tax payments can be taken out of your bank account automatically. If you're interested, we've posted the link to the form online on the Clerk and Treasurer page. The form must be printed, filled out and brought into our office with a voided check. More information about this can be found on the consent form online.

We have more planned for later in the year. Be on the lookout for even more enhancements. But, for now, enjoy these exciting updates. As always, let us know if you have any questions. You can email kclark@rutlandtown.com or call the office at (802)773-2528.

TO START OFF THE SCHOOL YEAR, STUDENTS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE ARE LEARNING ABOUT SCIENTIFIC VARIABLES.

PICTURED BELOW, STUDENTS IN 7TH GRADE USED PAPER AIRPLANES TO IDENTIFY HOW DIFFERENT DESIGNS AFFECTED THE DISTANCE TRAVELED, ACCURACY AND HANGTIME.

AND STUDENTS IN 8TH GRADE USED BUBBLE SOLUTIONS TO DETERMINE HOW DIFFERENT TYPES OF SOLUTIONS AFFECTED THE DIAMETER OF THE BIGGEST BUBBLE BLOWN, NUMBER OF BUBBLES BLOWN AND HEIGHT OF SINGLE BUBBLES.





Wonderfeet Kids' Museum

By Executive Director Danielle Monroe
Since Wonderfeet opened our doors on
Merchants Row in May of this year, we have
welcomed over 10,000 visitors to our new space!
We hosted six weeks of preschool summer camp,
over 20 field trips, and participated in a
summer full of community events. Wonderfeet is
open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through
Sunday, and is now booking field trips and
birthday parties for the fall.

Save the date for a brand-new family tradition

Wonderfeet's Truck-or-Treat on Sunday, Oct. 22 from 12 to 4 p.m. This event will combine elements of a Touch-a-Truck and Trunk-or-Treat. Kids will be able to check out all kinds of cool vehicles and collect Halloween treats from the trucks and downtown businesses. Food trucks will be on hand to keep everyone fed and happy! If your business is interested in participating, email WonderfeetEvents@gmail.com

Truck-or-Treat is a free event - but we are inviting families to participate in a coin drop that day. All of the change collected will be matched by our business partners! Families who bring their change will receive a free raffle ticket and additional tickets will be available for purchase. Follow the event on social media to see more details and all of the great prizes up for grabs! Santa will be coming to town once again

Wonderfeet will be hosting our Santa's Workshop on Sunday, November 26 and Saturday, December 2. Tickets will go on sale October 25. Follow us on Facebook or Instagram for more details and other seasonal special events!

RTS APPRECIATION



Administration and Faculty at RTS pose for a photo recently.

Town News continued from pg. 1

The Select Board thanks our police officers and constables for their tireless work to keep safe the businesses and patrons in this area. This is a rapidly changing situation, so watch for updates in Select Boad minutes posted on the town website.

Our Town Wide Celebration at Northwood Park on August 19 drew good crowds to view displays and participate in events hosted by town departments and friends. Our thanks to all who participated. The day was capped with the town's annual fireworks display which was rescheduled from the rainy 4th of July weekend. As the town's lifeguards head back to school, we send with them our thanks for keeping us safe through the summer. Mike Rowe and staff do an amazing job to make Northwood Park and Pool a welcoming, friendly place.

The town was fortunate to escape major damage from the July floods that plagued Vermont. The only significant incident was the brief closing of Route 3 and Business Route 4 due to flooding.

The Select Board set the annual tax rate in early August—homestead rate was up 1.89% and the non-residential rate increased by 6.95% - the bills were mailed, and Treasurer Kari Clark reports a 95% payment rate for the first installment due September 10. Thank you, taxpayers!

For the walkers in town: the Post Road sidewalk has been constructed east from the school, and will be put in passable condition for the fall and winter months. Paving is likely delayed until spring, as we could not get paving contactors to bid on the project this past summer. We received a large grant to construct a shared use sidewalk on Route 7 North to connect the end of the city sidewalks to the Post Road sidewalk system. Dave Sears and the highway guys have been working on the shared use path that will connect the trails at Northwood Park to the north end of Chasanna Drive—thanks, highway crew. Speaking of Northwood, kudos to the dog walkers at Northwood who have kept their dogs on leashes and their leavings picked up.

Your Select Board spent the rest of the summer in a haze of meetings on road maintenance issues, a vicious dog complaint, whether and what to adopt as a short-term rental ordinance, stormwater and service road projects - those many issues that go into running a small Vermont town. My personal and special thanks go to fellow Select Board members Joe Denardo, Kurt Hathaway, Matt Getty and Sharon Russell for their hard work and cooperative spirit.

If you have questions or comments about any town issue, please reach out to any or all of us. I am at 802-775-5189 or mashcroft@rutlandtown.com.



From the Rutland Town **Fire Department**

By Chief Chris Clark

We at the fire department would like to thank those who helped pass the vote for the new public safety building. Construction started on September 7th with the demolition of the existing building. We hope to be moved in by next year at this time.

With winter being right around the corner, we would like to remind everyone to get their heating system serviced and chimneys cleaned. Don't forget to check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors as well.

I hope everyone had a great summer!



Mrs. Nortons 2nd grade class

RUTLAND TOWN SENIORS UPDATE

From Secretary Nancy Burgess



The Rutland Town Seniors have been busy going on some wonderful trips this summer. Since our last Circle article, we took a tour of Lake Champlain on The Spirit of Ethan Allen in June. It was a beautiful day with a wonderful buffet lunch. Hospitality from the crew was fantastic. We had a narrative of the history of Lake Champlain which we found very informative.

In July we were served a great cookout by the Rutland Town Recreation Department at Northwood Pool. The food was great with hamburgers, hotdogs, and salads, with ice cream and doughnuts to finish the meal. Mike Rowe and his crew were wonderful hosts and servers. Byron Hathaway was our chef.

August 22nd found us at the Shelburne Museum. Again, it was a perfect day for touring on the grounds. We were met by Bonnie from group tours for a brief orientation and then we were on our own exploring buildings, displays, and gardens. In September we planned to meet at Denny's for lunch on the 28th.

We have had guite a few new members that have asked to join us and that is very pleasing to see. If anyone would like more facts about our group you can contact President Randy Roberts or myself, Nancy Burgess, secretary, or any other board members for information listed below.

> Randy Roberts. President rr1954@comcast.net Mary Ashcroft, Vice President mashcroft@rutlandtown.com Marty Wasserman, Treasurer martin.wasserman@comcast.net Nancy Burgess, Secretary hnburg738@gmail.com



Photo submitted by Nancy Burgess A recent Rutland Town Seniors outing.

Cooperative Learning in Physical Education

By Keith Schneider PreK-5th Grade Physical and Health Education

In Elementary Physical Education we've been cooperatively learning by completing challenging tasks in small and large group settings. Here are some pictures of students working together to get their entire team to 'Cross The River' with limited resources. 4th Grade pictured above, 5th grade below.

These activities allow students the freedom to push themselves outside of their typical comfort zones and step into leadership roles in their small groups. It is always exciting to watch them experience success as they work together and problem solve.





Another Celebration to Celebrate

By Mary Ashcroft

Rutland Town's Celebration on August 19 at Northwood Park was a success! We are grateful to many people for their participation and hard work.

Fire Chief Chris Clark and several FD volunteers displayed 2 fire trucks and chatted with residents curious about what it takes to be a firefighter. Our Police Department once again ran the Speed Cart challenge—highest speed was 17 MPH—on foot! The Sheriff's Department brought their rollover car to demonstrate the importance of wearing seatbelts. The Highway Department had more trucks to name—look for the winning entries in Dave Sears' column.

Mike Rowe and Bill Sweet were the behindthe-scenes guys getting events and displays ready, fetching supplies and generally running the show. Ably assisting them were our lifeguards who kept the pool open for all-day free swimming. Eighth graders from RTS helped with food and running events to raise money for their class trip to Washington DC next spring.

The Town Energy Committee helped line up the energy efficient displays by BROC, The Heat Squad, Efficiency Vermont, the Vermont Energy Education Program, and Ace Noble Hardware Store. Our Planning Commissioners visited with townspeople about planning projects underway.

There was lot for the kids, too, from free books from Rutland Free Library's Book Bike, to rides on Hathaway Farms centipede driven by Select Board Member Kurt Hathaway, to the bounce house provided by Fortress for Fun in Center Rutland.

There was plenty to eat - burgers, hotdogs, and sausages cooked by Select Board grill masters Matt Getty and myself - thanks to our friends at Kamuda's Market for their generous discount. Larry Young stopped by with homemade relish and pickles. And of course, the Happy Cow brought ice cream for dessert - thanks, Mark Foley.

DJ Brett Myhre kept everyone entertained with splash contests, music, and lighthearted patter.

The EMS helicopter not only made an appearance, but stayed on so the crew could visit with townsfolk and enjoy the food. And our own Regional Ambulance Service joined us, too.

The day ended with fireworks at dusk in a display that many townspeople found better than ever

Thank you, everyone, for coming, for participating, and for making our Town Wide Celebration a resounding success!

See you next year.

Construction of Public Safety Building Begins



Left: The Rutland Town Fire Department poses for the last time in front of the McKinley Ave. Fire Station. Photo by Kari Clark

Below: Going, going, gone. Demolition on the old McKinley Ave. Fire Station began in September. Photos by John Paul Faignant









From the Rutland Free Library By Director Randal Smathers

Thanks to the town for inviting us to the annual Town Celebration! We had a blast, handed out stacks of free books to kids and enjoyed a burger! We hope to see you all back next year.

Miss Amanda also scheduled a Stuffed Animal Story Time at Hathaway Farm that was full weeks in advance! Kids got a story or two, made a stuffed animal pig, then got to meet the real thing! Special storytimes like stuffed animals and farm visits require preregistration, so check out the calendar on the website.

Fall programming is back, which means Babies and Toddlers rock Monday mornings at 10 a.m. again!

We have a couple of special musical treats for adults: On November 15, Ray Vega is bringing his quartet for a one-hour review of the great jazz traditions, including swing and bebop, before doing a Q&A with the audience. It starts at 1 p.m. and is presented by Vermont Humanities. VT Humanities is also doing a show called "Finding Inspiration Across the Arts" with artist Julio Desmont and Matt LaRocca from the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. They'll discuss inspiration, then Julio will lead a painting workshop while Matt sets the mood on our Steinway piano. That goes from 1-2:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13. Both events are free, in the Fox Room.

Just a reminder that our building does close on federal holidays, so we're not open on Saturday, Nov. 11. That doesn't mean you can't use the library. All our electronic offerings, including downloadable audiobooks and ebooks, streaming video from Kanopy and music & podcasts via Freegal are free with a valid RFL card and operate 24/7, 52 weeks a year. Check out the offerings at www.rutlandfree.org. It is the fastest-growing way to borrow materials!

Overall, circulation was up 12 percent last year, but downloading audiobooks was up over 30 percent. Don't miss our huge selection on both Libby and The Palace Project apps, free from the Apple and Google Play stores.



The RFL Book Bike on duty!

News from the Rec

By Director Michael Rowe



Hello All,

The Rec Department would like to thank everyone for a great summer at the pool and in the parks. We had a very busy pool season, with a huge thank you to the lifeguards for another great summer.

We also had a great turnout for the senior lunch in July, great to see you all. The back nine of disc golf is finished, thanks to all who helped with making it happen. The new map of the course is on the website and the main sign is getting an upgrade.

We finished the playground at Northwood, so come enjoy the new swings. And finally, soccer and flag football have started for our K-2, U 10 and U12. Please checkout the website for scheduling.

The Rec Halloween party "Trick or Treat on the Trail" will be on Friday, October 27 from 5 to 6 p.m. behind the school.

This can be important with the

Planning Commission continued from pg. 1

Enjoy the fall weather.

increased flooding and high precipitation events that we are seeing more of in recent years. The hope is to avoid a cycle of escalating costs, damages, and risk. This can happen after a flood when property owners want more protection such as the installation of berms, dredging, and armor (such as rip rap). But that can lead to less room for rivers to adjust naturally during future flooding events and reduce the space needed to overflow in a safe manner.

Protection for one property can lead to a higher risk of damage to buildings, investments, and community services downstream.

There are some financial incentives for Rutland Town to have river corridor protection. We could get more State funding for disaster declarations and not require as much from local taxpayers. The Planning Commission is in the early stages of studying the advantages and implications of river corridors. We will be reaching out to property owners in the coming months to explain river corridors. In the meantime, please feel free to contact us.

Rutland Town School 1612 Post Road Rutland, VT 05701 Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage Paid Permit No. 28 Rutland, VT

Deliver to Addressee or Current Resident

Rutland Town School ... Where Futures Begin!

Rutland Town Community Calendar

OCT	10	Select Board meeting - 6 p.m.
	10	School Board meeting - 6 p.m.
	24	Select Board meeting - 6 p.m.
•	26	Planning Commission meeting - 6:30 p.m.
	27	Rutland Town Rec Halloween Party - 5 p.m.
	28	RTS Halloween Parade - 4 p.m.
NOV	7	Select Board meeting - 6 p.m.
<u>.</u>	8	RTS Early Dismissal
<u>.</u>	9	RTS Early Dismissal
	14	School Board meeting - 6 p.m.
	16	Planning Commission meeting - 6:30 p.m.
	21	Select Board meeting - 6 p.m.
	22-24	Thanksgiving Holiday
-		

Town & School websites: rutlandtown.com & rutlandtownschool.org