

# The Circle



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

**April 2014**

## **TOWN NEWS**

**By Carol Bam**

Steve Hawley who was elected Select Board chairman in March, acknowledged Stan Rhodes who lost his bid for a sixth term on the Board. Rhodes was a selectman for 15 years, serving as chairman for 13, and in many other town offices before that. "With well over 35 years of town service, Stan's depth of knowledge and experience in all aspects of town government was a major asset. He led the Select Board with an eye to frugality and persevered to help keep Rutland Town on sound financial footing during the rocky economic climate of the last several years."

Chairman Hawley reports that the Board has reviewed the proposed Solar Siting Standard, and will send the document back to the Planning Commission with recommendations. "What we're trying to do as a Board is to bring a little regulation to a situation that could get out of hand." The standards give the Town a regulatory tool to assess solar projects for their utility and aesthetics. They call for setbacks from roadways and screening of large solar projects. There will be a public hearing on the amended document. Once the Board has adopted the standards, the document will be available for review on the Town website.

The new fire station had just been signed off on for occupancy when a sprinkler main broke and filled the ceiling with water in late March. Hawley said, "The cause was a faulty coupling or

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## **FROM PRINCIPAL AARON BOYNTON**

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Rutland Town School, I would like to thank the Rutland Town community for supporting our school budget. We are now able to focus on preparing for a successful end of the school year while planning for the next school year.

We have made many gains this year as a school and as a community of learners. Teachers have worked a tremendous amount of hours aligning our curriculum to the Common Core standards. More recently, teachers have created assessments that match curriculum learning objectives and have begun creating units that are designed in the way that looks at the learning target first. This is a 'backwards design' method. The journey in this curriculum work has opened the doors to help ensure that students are receiving an education here at Rutland Town School that is relevant to the expectations of 21<sup>st</sup> Century standards. Next spring we will be assessed on these standards using a computer based method. This is the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium or 'SBAC'. We plan on students being well prepared for this assessment.

On a separate note, I would like to thank PTO and all who helped organize and run this year's recent Supermar-

*(Continued on Page 6)*

## **UNDER THE GOLDEN DOME**

### **Report from Senator Kevin Mullin**

The clock is ticking as we are in the final month of the 2014 legislative session. There are many large issues looming over the horizon and they include opiate addiction, GMO labeling, minimum wage, prevailing wage, paid sick leave, education property tax rates, and balancing our state budget. Hopefully we will come to consensus on these and other important issues so that we may adjourn in a timely fashion.

Last issue I wrote about the economic development bill that I was working on in committee. I am proud to report that S.220 has passed the Senate and is moving quite well in the House. Several of the bills that I introduced look like they will be passed into law this session. They include stopping predatory lending practices aimed at our seniors on pensions, allowing our local visiting nurse association to use telemonitoring to improve care and reduce costs, and being the first state in the nation to create a legacy insurance management system.

I am continuing to work with a bipartisan group of legislators to try to deliver a plan for property tax relief. I am

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## College Day at RTS

By Melissa Theis, Guidance

On Wednesday, March 19th, Rutland Town School celebrated it's second annual "College Day". "College Day" is meant to bring awareness to students about Higher Education and Careers. Many faculty and staff wore apparel from a college or university (This includes military, trade schools, community colleges, four-year colleges and universities) that they attended, or that someone in their family attended. Students were encouraged to ask the faculty and staff lots of questions about their career journey and what college was like.

Students in Grades 6-8 participated in a College and Career facts Scavenger Hunt during lunch. Students were asked to find answers to questions about higher education and careers from the facts posted around the cafeteria. One lucky student was drawn at random to win an Apple Apps Gift Card!

## 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 from October through 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](mailto:carolbam@aol.com).

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

## From The School Board

Thank you, Voters

Assessing H.833, the School Governance Bill

From Lynette Gallipo,

School Board member and former Chair:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the residents for their support at the poles for both myself and the school budget. Your School Board members are dedicated to ensure the best education for all the students while keeping the financial burden as low as possible for all residents.

Bill H.883, The Governance Bill, has passed the House of Representatives. This Bill will drastically change school governance, Vermont's town meetings and ultimately the democratic process that we cherish as citizens in Vermont. The Bill eliminates supervisory unions by July 2020 and creates an estimated 45-55 new K-12 school districts. This allows local districts and SUs until Spring 2017 to figure how best to create a new district. Districts that do not voluntarily combine will be assigned by the State Board by 2020.

There is no guarantee of increased student learning opportunities with consolidation of governance, nor does it answer the question if this governance saves money at any level. There is strong "political will" in Montpelier to move this Bill through before the session ends. There are a lot of questions surrounding this Bill and we are being told that these issues will be worked out after the Bill passes.

We agree we must find solutions to our educational needs and challenges and that there needs to be a change. Our concern is that this issue is too large to push through without the proper footwork being completed. Committee rooms in Montpelier are not the only place for this discussion. Your School Board has voted to hold a Public Informational Meeting in the near future. We will keep you informed as this bill moves through other House committees, the House floor, and perhaps the Senate.

The complete bill can be accessed on the Vermont Legislature's Website.

From Bill Franzoni, School Board Chair:

I would just like to take this moment to thank my fellow board members for electing me Chairman. I want to acknowledge Principal Aaron Boynton and Assistant Principal, Sarah Tetzlaff, for their continued strong leadership at the school. A huge thank you goes to the voters for supporting our school budget. Speaking for myself and fellow Board members we will continue to support our staff and teachers in any way we can. We have a great school and our goal is to give the best education we can to the children of this community.

## Front Porch Forum Comes to Rutland Town By Charlotte Gerstein, Town Resident

There's a new tool in town for communicating online with other Rutland Town residents, called Front Porch Forum (FPF). FPF started in Burlington in 2006 and, with the help of sponsors and grants, is now available for all Vermont towns. You can learn more and sign up at <http://frontporchforum.com/>.

### How does it work?

After you sign up on the website, you will receive email digests of postings, or you can go to the website to read them. The number of emails depends on how much activity there is, but since you receive a group of postings at once, it's never more than a few emails a week. It is moderated by FPF staff, so there are some standards to keep it positive. You can submit a post from a link in the emails, or through the website.

### What do people post about?

Members post on just about any topic that neighbors discuss. Common topics from other FPF towns include lost pets, announcing local events, Select Board meeting agendas, block parties, yard sales, break-ins, helping neighbors in need, group buying, elections, buy/sell/give away items, wildlife sightings, recommendations for mechanics/contractors/plumbers, and much more.

### Why use Front Porch Forum?

It wouldn't be economical to publish and mail *The Circle* every day, and it's often too cold or we're too busy to chat on real front porches with our neighbors, but with this free service using technology many of us have easy access to, we can share even more information and build our sense of community byte by byte. (To anyone read

## RTS Kindergarten Registration For 2014 - 15 School Year May 5 and May 6

Registration for Kindergarten children for the 2014 - 15 school year will take place at Rutland Town School on **Monday, May 5** and **Tuesday, May 6, 2014**.

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. **Your child must attend this screening with an adult.**

- As per our School Board policy, all Kindergartners must have reached their fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) birthday on or before August 31, 2014.
- The adult accompanying the Kindergartner 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 call Mrs. Pam Mock at Rutland Town School at **775-0566, ext. 2001** to schedule an appointment as soon as possible.

ing this who doesn't have access to the Internet at home, you can get online at the Rutland Free Library, and their staff or volunteers can show you how to create a free email account and sign up for Front Porch Forum.)

**See you on Front Porch Forum!**



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## RUTLAND TOWN TEACHERS' SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS NOW MAY 5, 2014

Each year, four awards of \$250 or five awards of \$200 (to be determined by the Scholarship Committee) are presented to college bound seniors from the teachers of the Rutland Town Education Association. Applications are available at all local high schools through the Guidance Office as of March 1.

Applicants must have graduated from Rutland Town School. They must return a completed application (including an essay, course work completed, final grade point average, SAT/ACT scores, class rank, extracurricular activities and community service) to their high school Guidance Office by the new deadline of **May 5, 2014**.

The application deadline for Rutland Town Scholarships approved by voters in March has not changed. **They are due in the Town Office by April 30.**

## A Paradox: Protecting AND Educating Our Children About Drugs and Alcohol Abuse

By Linda Mullin, Kindergarten Teacher

There has been a constant stream of reports about drug and alcohol abuse in our communities. Drug and alcohol abuse are the impetus for many other social ills including domestic violence, depression, and theft. A tragic consequence of abuse is the effect it has on children. What can be done to target abuse and protect our children?

Police cannot “arrest (their) way out of the problem,” according to Rutland Police Chief James Baker. He addressed the community as part of an area focus group, Project Vision, that is meeting to bring the problem of drug and alcohol abuse to the forefront. He added that fighting drug and alcohol abuse “will require the efforts of other organizations focused on prevention and treatment along with a newly unveiled initiative to collapse the thriving drug market in the city to bring about real change.” (Rutland Herald, 3/28/14).

How are we at school supporting the important work of drug and alcohol abuse prevention? We are implementing a social and emotional learning program called **Lions Quest** that has several components including abuse prevention. At the K-5 level, the program is called “Skills for Growing,” and at the 6-8 level it is called “Skills for Adolescence.” A social emotional learning program such as **Lions Quest** provides for common language among students, teachers, and parents to promote positive youth development and prevention “to cultivate capable and healthy young people of strong character.” (<http://www.lions-quest.org/mission.php>)

At the K-5 level, the program is comprised of five developmentally appropriate units: Building a School Community, Growing as a Group, Making Positive Decisions, Growing Up Drug Free, Celebrating You and Me. For program fidelity, students must discuss and practice lessons from all areas; however, Unit 4, Growing Up Drug Free, focuses on drug and alcohol abuse prevention and discusses ways to:

- ⊙ Reduce risk factors that encourage drug use
- ⊙ Engage the home, school and community in developing assets for young people within a unified school-community initiative



Painting by Ava Rosa, First Grade

- ⊙ Promote the protective factors that discourage drug use
- ⊙ Establish normative beliefs that drug use is not the norm among young people, and provide a clear “no use” message
- ⊙ Address internal and external pressures to use drugs and teach peer pressure strategies
- ⊙ Teach resistance and other social skills, as well as emotional competencies
- ⊙ Provide accurate, age appropriate information about the short and longterm impact of drug use on a young person's health, friendships, interests and future goals
- ⊙ Encourage students to be healthy role models through service learning projects in the school and community
- ⊙ Provide evaluation instruments to measure the effectiveness of the program.

At RTS we are trying to protect students while making them aware of pressures that can negatively affect their health and wellbeing. Spending a few minutes every day discussing and practicing the social and emotional learning lessons in **Lions Quest** pays off in dividends. Students are given vocabulary and strategies to build their social competencies with regards to responsible decision-making, self awareness, self management, social awareness, and relationship skills. When students and teachers put these social competencies into practice, they can get down to achieving at high levels of academic learning.

At RTS, we always strive to help students achieve at high levels of learning and realize the importance of having open lines of communication with families to achieve that goal. We are looking at ways to better communicate the content of the **Lions Quest** program with families.

Please contact the school with any questions or comments about this social and emotional learning curriculum. We are working to do our part to develop students who can resist negative pressures and be happy and productive citizens. For more information see the links: <http://www.lions-quest.org/> and <http://www.casel.org/social-and-emotional-learning/core-competencies/>.

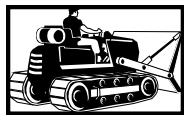
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## Road Notes

from Byron Hathaway,  
Road Commissioner

Green Up Day is just around the corner on the first Saturday the May, which is May 3. Bags will be available at the Town Clerk's office in Center Rutland or at the Transfer Station (ask Tony or Dick) sometime in late April. When bags are available, an announcement will be made on Front Porch Forum. Sign up for Front Porch Forum (read more on Page 3) if you haven't already—it's free, and watch for other Highway Department announcements this summer.

The Post Road sidewalk study is in its final stages. A draft final report is due out the middle of the month. The Steering Committee will review this report and tweak it where necessary. The final report will be presented to the Select Board in late May for acceptance. The next step will be to apply for a transportation alternatives grant for final engineering and construction.

A draft capitalization plan for the next six years was recently submitted to the Select Board for review. A capitalization plan provides the Select Board a description of equipment, facilities, bridges and culverts, and the paving plan as well as any deficiencies that may exist. After the review, projects will be prioritized and a work plan established for the next six years. Having a well thought out plan allows the Town to meet its needs while stabilizing budget expenditures. A new larger salt shed that can hold a year's supply and a garage for the Highway Department equipment are a couple of things being considered.

## May Book Events at RTS Library

### Rutland Town Community is Invited

By Theresa Czachor, School Librarian

Mark your calendars for two upcoming events at Rutland Town School that celebrate reading and children's literature. **Our annual Red Clover Day Parade will take place on Friday, May 16th.** Grades K-4 participate in this Children's Choice Award state reading program and will be dressing up for the parade based on a favorite Red Clover book nominee. The winner of the 2014 Red Clover Award will be announced following the parade. Parade time is 9:00 a.m.

**On Friday, May 30th, we will meet Jason Chin,** author and illustrator of several acclaimed books for children. He will visit our school and talk with students about his writing, illustrations, and the research he does for his books. Presentation times are as follows: 8:30-9:15a.m., 9:30-10:30 a.m., and 1:30-2:30 p.m. These presentations will take place in the cafeteria and adult guests will join students to meet Jason Chin.

**Community members can also attend a Jason Chin presentation to adults from 10:45-11:40** in the school library. This presentation includes an autograph session. We ask that adults "reserve" a spot for the presentation at 10:45 -11:40 by calling the library at 775-0566 ext. 2030.

I hope that you are able to join us for one or both of these exciting events! To learn more about Jason Chin, please visit his website at [jasonchin.net](http://jasonchin.net)

This author visit is generously sponsored by the Rutland Town PTO.

(Sen. Mullin ~ Continued from Page 1)

disappointed that I don't believe we will be successful this year. The House has passed a bill that would raise property taxes for residents by 4 cents. This is 3 cents less than the original proposal from the tax department. In order to do that, non-residential property taxpayers would see a 5 cent increase. Rutland County has seen the worst grand list change in the state over the last two years. This course has to be changed but there seems to be little willingness in Montpelier to either reduce education costs or to find alternative funding sources that would move us away from our heavy reliance on the property tax. Our group will continue to push as hard as we can on this important issue.

Senators Flory, French, and I are serving on the seven member senate panel looking into state policies following the death of Dezirae Eastman. We are finding holes in the system and will continue to work on recommendations after the legislative session. We are hopeful that we can suggest improvements that will improve the way we handle children in state custody.

I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve as your senator in Montpelier. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at [kjmbjm@aol.com](mailto:kjmbjm@aol.com).

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## PTO NEWS from Samantha Racine, President

PTO would like to thank all the volunteers and bakers who helped make the Staff Appreciation Luncheon such a success. Everyone enjoyed their meal and had a great time. Thank you to Jim Pritchard for grilling our main course. We would especially like to thank Sandra Billings for all her hard work to make this a memorable time for the staff.

The Supermarket Bingo was a tremendous success! The gym was packed and everyone had a great time. Thank you to all who came out to the event, and to all who donated, baked and volunteered. A huge thank you to Big Lenny for coming and calling the numbers for us. The kids were excited to see you.

To see any upcoming events and our meeting schedule please visit <https://sites.google.com/site/rtsppto/>.



## Rutland Town Police Dept.

From Selectmen Don Chioffi and Joe Dicton

First of all, Joe and I sincerely thank the citizens of Rutland Town for your strong support for our Police Department. Our department is working with our Board as a team to provide the finest and most professional police coverage for our town that a reasonable budget can support. In the present local conditions of increased property crimes, most of which are drug related, our force has had to devote ever increasing amounts of time to such issues. Pursuit, investigations, arrests, and following administrative time has increased by a factor of at least 2 or 3 over the last year. But you should know this: We along with our city and state counterparts are making significant progress and presenting a firm deterrent to those who would do us harm, and they know it. Though it seems to be a never ending battle, vigilance and attention to detail by a very well trained and capable police force is what serves us best.

With the voters' approval of our budget item for Purchase/Lease of two cruisers in FY13/14, we intended to keep one of these vehicles after the 3 year lease term was up. Fortunately for us, not only did we have some funds left in our "Vehicle Reimbursement Fund" on the current budget due to very frugal usage by our officers, but also the City had a vehicle with relatively low mileage (50,000) and fully equipped in excellent condition that they recently put out to bid. Our department was the successful bidder

on this late model "Black & White" and for \$17,500 now has this vehicle in service and on the road as "Town of Rutland Police". A comparable vehicle, so equipped, would retail for around \$37,000, and with proper care we feel this unit can last the Town for probably three years, minimum. That will mean that come July when we operate on FY14, we will have three fully owned or leased vehicles in town service, accelerating our long range plan by two full years and within a budget that is no greater than last year's.

We intend to use the third vehicle mainly in speed control enforcement and you will definitely see a more visible presence on all our town arteries. We know that you are always mindful of speed, but we do caution you to be especially careful as spring and summer approaches. The kids will soon be out and about on bikes and foot.

Finally, all of us can be proactive in assisting our officers and preventing crime before it happens by simply operating as a townwide Neighborhood Watch. If you see anything that looks out of place, irregular, or in any way illegal in your opinion, or anything that looks like it is developing into something potentially illegal— **please use the phone and report it.**

**Call 911 or the State Police dispatch at 773-9101** to report your concern. It WILL bring a response, and may prevent a much more serious situation, and/or save lives and property. We wish you all safety and security during the spring and summer seasons.



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(Principal Boynton ~ Continued from Page 1)

ket Bingo. The event was wonderfully attended. Every seat was filled and a tremendous amount of fun was had by all.

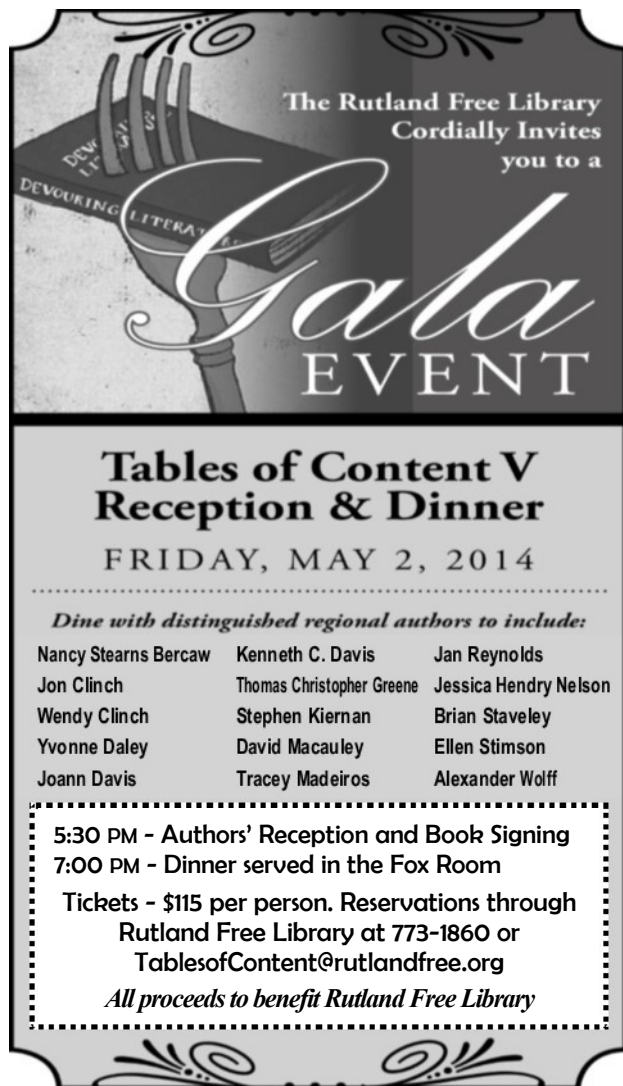
We were honored by Rutland Town's very own Big Lenny (photo above), who did a wonderful job calling the numbers. In the end the event brought in over \$900 for PTO to support students. Thanks to all who attended and hopefully we will continue this as an annual event. Thank you everyone who donated food for the baskets and contributed gift certificates and other prizes.

## THE GARDEN GROUP AT RTS From Marcia Barron

The Garden Group includes interested Rutland Town citizens and school personnel whose mission is to maintain the Iris Ferraro Perennial Garden located in front of the school cafeteria. We currently have a small group of volunteers. Anyone who would like to join is welcome. If you are interested, contact Marcia Barron at [barron-55@comcast.net](mailto:barron-55@comcast.net) or 775-2166.

This spring we will repair the grass surrounding the gardens, the beautiful mosaic plaque, replace the underlining of the rock walkway between gardens, and add mulch. Plans also include student grown annuals and their spring planting, and a setting calendar for summer weeding and watering of garden.

Many thanks to PTO for their support. For their upcoming contributions, we thank Jason Swett (Lawnmaster) for his donation of lawn care, to Karen Sinex for her repair of the Iris Ferraro garden plaque, and to Al Roberge for help with mulch.



**The Rutland Free Library  
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Gala  
EVENT**

**Tables of Content V  
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FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014

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5:30 PM - Authors' Reception and Book Signing  
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*All proceeds to benefit Rutland Free Library*

## Writing for Understanding By Tina Ronn, Reading Interventionist

As mentioned in a prior issue of *The Circle*, teachers at RTS have been implementing a new writing approach called "Writing for Understanding." Throughout this school year, teachers have been taking part in "Writing for Understanding" training sessions with Diana Leddy, a writing consultant from the Vermont Writing Collaborative.

Below you will find writing pieces composed by some of Mrs. Coughlin's and Mrs. Townsend's first grade students. The topic of their research and writing is one of our new Next Generation Science Standards concerning the behavior of animal parents and how these behaviors help their offspring to survive. As you read these writing pieces, you will see that first graders gathered plenty of evidence to support their topic.

### Protective Parents by First Grade Authors

#### By Caden Fredritz

Animal parents do many things to protect their babies.

Bobcat parents will use their sharp claws and teeth to defend their kits if they are frightened. A bear parent tells its cub to climb the nearest tree while its dad or mom stays to fight. A moose will defend its baby if their babies are threatened. Animal babies would not survive without their parents.

#### By Julia Labate

Animal parents do many things to protect their babies.

A bear teaches its babies to climb trees while it stays on the ground to fight. Moose parents protect their babies by attacking. Ducks hide the eggs in thickets. A baby needs its parents.

#### By Lauren Choiniere

Animal parents do many things to help their babies survive.

Musk oxen get in a circle and their young is in the middle. Swallows dive bomb anyone who is too close to their nest. Bears train their young to climb a tree that is close and their mom attacks. I now know that baby bears climb trees to be safe.

#### By Riley Rodrigue

Animal parents do many things to protect their babies.

Bobcats protect their babies with sharp claws and teeth. Bears smell enemies that are going to attack their babies. Moose can smell their enemies, too. They will attack. Protective parents protect their babies.

#### By Ava Moran

Animal parents do many things to protect their babies and help them survive. Swallows dive bomb anyone who gets close to their babies. Musk oxen form a protective circle around the calves. Bobcats use their sharp claws and teeth. Now I know that animal parents keep their babies safe.

#### By Erin Geisler

Animal parents do many things to protect their babies.

Giraffe parents use their sharp hooves to kick attackers. Moose parents attack if they sense danger. Killdeer parents pretend it is injured to lure predators away. Animal babies would not survive without their parents.

## NEWS FROM THE REC

By Director Mike Rowe

Our basketball teams played into the month of March with two of our teams winning tournaments this season and the other teams also doing well at the end of the year. I would like to thank all our coaches who gave lots of their time during this past winter. I would like to congratulate Coach Jeremy Baker and Coach Butch Goulette for each winning a tournament with their 5/6 boys teams this year.

Spring has come which means baseball is starting! You may continue to sign up students in grades K-2 for our T-ball program and our Mitey Mites program at Town Hall.

It won't be too long before warm weather and the pool season. Swimming lesson sign-ups are during the first week of June, more info to follow.

## SENIOR CORNER

By Theresa Kulig

The Seniors have not begun their Tuesday lunches as yet. Mrs. Glagola told me that weather and temperature have been a setback. Now that the snow and ice have mostly gone, and it is easier for them to get around, many of them are catching up on doctor and dental appointments. They hope that by the next issue of *The Circle* they will be gathering for Tuesday lunches. To check their status, call Ann Glagola at 775-1302.

(Town News ~ Continued from Page 1)

fitting and now the repair is in the hands of the insurance company." Once repairs are complete the public will be invited to an open house to tour the facility.

The Town is making progress on requirements to mitigate the impact of run off into Moon Brook, which the State has designated an impaired waterway. Chairman Hawley said that over the next six months, "the consultant, Watershed Engineering, on the MS4 permitting and mitigation process, will put together projects in the areas of Randbury Rd. and Victoria Ave. to capture pavement runoff and decrease water flow from culverts directly into Moon Brook."

Work is in the final stages on the permit application to the State to establish a "slip lane" onto Farrell Road just south of the entrance to Green Mountain Plaza. Hawley explains, "This will make it easier for southbound truck traffic going to Farrell Distributing to exit Route 7 directly onto Farrell Road. The Town is working with RSG Engineering on planning for this project."

## NEWS from The Gables

By Randi Cohn, Associate Director  
at The Meadows and The Gables

### New Knitting Group

The Gables just added a new club to its wide array of activities offered: The Knitting Group. Open to both residents and guests from the surrounding community, the knitting group was started by Gables "pioneer" Carol Freeman who saw it as a way to involve some of The Gable residents who did not always participate in a weekly activity. It's an informal group," says Carol. "No one's in charge and we have knitters with all different levels of experience. It can be a personal thing you are working on or a piece to benefit a group."



**Marybeth Bloomer (left) and Natalie Thomas  
work on their knitting projects**

Approximately eight knitters get together each Monday morning to work on their projects. Carol is working on a family of five snowmen for this year's Gable's craft fair; Natalie Thomas is making a prayer shawl for her church; Ann Drake is working on a hat, as is Joan Hogenkamp who donates them to schools; Lorraine Healy just finished a sweater for a new great-grandson; and Lucie Anderson is a novice still developing her stitches. Helen Stanley, who is knitting a sweater states, "I hadn't knitted anything for three years, so I thought I'd start on something simple."

Experienced knitter, Marybeth Bloomer, is presently working on a hat, and along with Ann, has knitted caps for premature infants at the hospital. "I have been knitting for 80 years. My mother taught me as a little girl."

If you or anyone you know wants to join the knitting group, it meets on Monday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Drop-ins are welcome and members of the group are willing to help beginner knitters and crocheters get started.

### From Exercise Classes to Reading Groups

A wide variety of activities for Gables residents meet diverse interests, including resident run Bone Builders classes (a morning and afternoon class to choose from), chair aerobics, card playing get togethers, two reading groups, a memoirs group, Sunday night movies, and resident socials. Not only do the activities help form friendships between residents—but they are a lot of fun!



## FOUR WINDS BLOWING



By Kirsten Marsh

Do you ever wonder where the water you're brushing your teeth with came from? Was it rain in the Amazon? Trapped in a glacier for 10,000 years? Evaporated from an alligator swamp in the Everglades? In March we explored "The Water Cycle." All the water on Earth has always been here, constantly moving through the water cycle. Besides learning about this cycle, we explored the physical properties of water. To see how much water likes to stick to itself (cohesion) we counted how many drops of water would stay on a penny and were fascinated to see the 'bubble' the water formed on top of the penny. To see how water likes to stick to other things (adhesion) we dragged drops of water around some waxed paper with a toothpick. We also experimented with surface tension (trying to 'float' a paper clip in a cup of water) and capillary action, which is how plants counter gravity to get water to their tips. Water is an amazing substance and without it, life on Earth could not exist!

April brings us melting snow, the chorus of robins and red-winged blackbirds, and the hope that spring is upon us. It's the perfect time to study 'Winds Aloft'.... our unit about wind and clouds and what they can tell us about the weather. We'll use several activities including making our own weather vanes, and 'weather permitting' we'll lie on our backs outside and study the clouds.

In our last unit in May, we'll explore how animals, including humans, use cues from their surroundings to orient themselves in the natural world. 'Finding Your Way' will teach us how sounds, smells and natural landmarks help us recognize where we are and allow us to create a mental map of our environment. If you have taken a detour on an unknown road, or gotten lost on a hike, and suddenly recognized where you were... what cues from your surroundings told you that you were back on track? We'll also learn how to use a compass to locate the cardinal directions.

Volunteers and students have had a wonderful year studying 'Earth and the Environment' in this hands-on classroom program. Volunteers, parents and friends of learning, are trained each month by Four Winds Nature Institute staff. Then they team teach an hour long program in the K-5 classrooms. Experiments, workstation projects, and outdoor scavenging are among the fun activities. New volunteers are always welcome. No experience is necessary and most materials are provided. If you'd like to join us or for more information, call or email Kirsten Mars ([kirstenklett@hotmail.com](mailto:kirstenklett@hotmail.com), 773-5381).

## FROM THE RUTLAND FREE LIBRARY

From Meg Horrocks, Town Representative

**Thank you Rutland Town Voters for supporting your local library!** Please come to the library, or access it online, to take advantage of the many services, events and products offered. Beyond the expected collection of books, DVDs, magazines... explore the unexpected: Kindles, Tablets and E-books; on-site technology classes; online resources for entry-level or continuing education... and so much more. Access your library at **RutlandFree.org**.

Additionally, we invite you to our **Tables of Content V** gala event, Friday May 2 at the Rutland Free Library. The evening begins with a reception where guests can mingle with distinguished regional authors, purchase their recent publications, and request a book signing. A plated dinner follows in the Fox Room where guests are seated at a table with an author, creating an atmosphere where lively conversation and literary discussion abounds. With each course the authors move to a new table allowing guests to converse with several writers during the evening.

Seating is limited; please make reservations by calling the Library at 773-1860 or emailing [TablesOfContent@rutlandfree.org](mailto:TablesOfContent@rutlandfree.org). Ticket prices are \$115 per person, with all proceeds to benefit the Rutland Free Library. (See ad page 7)

## From the Rutland Town Fire Department

By BJ Hathaway



Hello from the Rutland Town Fire Department. With the coming of spring and melting snow we are now approaching grass fire season. The Fire Department would like to remind everyone that **there is no open burning allowed in Rutland Town without 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: Ben Hogan (802)-773-3855

### Dial 911 to report a fire or other emergency

In the past couple months the Fire Department has been settling in to its new space in Center Rutland. Department members have put in many hours unpacking boxes, building store room shelving, learning all the new building systems and all the other little tasks that go along with a new space. Unfortunately in late March there was a failure of a sprinkler pipe connection above the apparatus bay portion of the building. Many members spent many hours that Sunday evening doing their best to minimize the damage. There are already plans for all the damage to be repaired and details of how and when that work will be done are currently being sorted out. Also with the coming of spring final landscaping and paving of the yard should be completed **soon!**

In closing, the 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!

Thurs. May 15 - Mon. May 19

## PTO's BOGO\* Book Fair

**Family Event Thursday 4-7 pm**

**With Contests, Door prizes & Books!**

**Book Fair (on the gym stage) Hours:**

**Thursday 3 - 7 pm**

**Friday 7:45 - 1 pm**

**Saturday 9 - 1 pm**

**Monday 7:45 - 3:30 pm**

**\* Buy One Get One FREE**

### How Do You Stay Healthy? From Mrs. Mullin's Kindergarten

**Go to the doctor for a check up.**

**Eat healthy foods like carrots  
and broccoli.**

**Sleep and rest well.**

**Drink lots of water.**

**Exercise!**

**Brush your teeth.**

**Spend time with family and  
friends.**

Stubbins

## 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL BISTRO MAKES VPR NEWS

**By Marlene Lederman Allen**

This year's Jazz Bistro at Rutland Town School, named "Parti-Gras" for its New Orleans theme, got a boost when reporter Nina Keck came to a rehearsal to record a segment for VPR News. Bistro sponsored by the RTS Friends of Music, was held March 28. It was a spectacular night of music that featured performances from the school's M-Jazz and T-Jazz Band, as well as an Alumni Band comprised of former students and other area musicians, all under the musical direction of Glendon Ingalls.

Bistro 2014 was a rousing success, raising nearly \$1,200 for the music program and enjoyed by all. We thank the tireless team of parent volunteers for producing the event.

Excerpts follow from the VPR segment that aired the day of the event. The full piece, as well as a sample of music from the Alumni Band rehearsal, can be found on the web at: <http://digital.vpr.net/post/middle-school-alumni-return-make-music>.

*"Some people might prefer to forget middle school. But for many graduates of Rutland Town Elementary, middle school was the first time they picked up a trumpet, trombone or drum sticks. And many have wonderful memories of playing with the school band, so much so that dozens of Rutland Town alumni come back to the school every year at this time to make music together again. About 20 alumni will raise their instruments Friday evening at this year's Jazz Bistro concert at the Rutland Town School.*

*At a recent rehearsal, Proctor resident Rachel Fillioe set down her saxophone to belt out a solo while more than a dozen fellow alumni backed her up. Fillioe graduated from Rutland Town Elementary School in 2006 and says playing in the band room again is a kick. "It's like a flashback. It like makes me feel young again and it just brings back a part of me that I sometimes lose in daily life." Over in the trombone section, 29-year old Tracey Stubbins nods. She lives in Pittsford now, but graduated from Rutland Town in 1999. "I've played music all along," says Stubbins, "but this is the first year I've come back for bistro."*

*The annual Jazz Bistro is a fundraiser for the school's music department and was started 21 years ago by the late Reeta Coughenour, a long time music teacher at the school. Stubbins says it was Coughenour who first encouraged her to play an instrument. "She's impacted so many students throughout the years and many who are still playing music because of what she instilled in them," she says. Those include former students like Kristen Chapman and Dan Alcorn, self described band geeks who graduated from Rutland Town School in the early 1990s. "We're like family," says Chapman. "It's like time hasn't gone by at all. It's awesome."*

*Glendon Ingalls has taught music at Rutland Town School for 11 years, and says his predecessor Reeta Coughenour was a dear friend of his. Ingalls says he's touched by how many former students come back and how much that inspires the kids he's teaching now.*

### Upcoming Band News from Mr. Ingalls

The 51st Rutland Loyalty Day Parade will be held on Sunday, May 4 at 2 pm. The RTS Band will be performing the trio to John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever" featuring five, count them, **five** piccolo solo artists! Eighth grader Meghan Hamilton will be Drum Major for the parade.

## 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

### Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling

By Jessica Furman 4th Grade Teacher

RTS students have demonstrated that they are enthusiastic about reducing, reusing, and recycling. Over a three week period, students and teachers participated in environmentally responsible activities designed by the school's new Conservation Committee. The first week, students learned from the first graders who produced, starred in, and distributed an iMovie about what goes in the trash can compared to our new blue zero-sort bins.

The first graders then donned their "Recycle Police" hats and visited classrooms throughout the week. They distributed green ribbons if the classroom had properly followed the recycling guidelines! On week two, the Middle School students gave presentations to elementary students about making choices to reduce their overall consumption, thereby reducing waste. For the final week, elementary students were provided with a collection of disposable items such as plastic bags, toilet paper rolls, and white paper. They were tasked with upcycling the items given one week's time. Some of the projects included turning plastic bags into jump ropes or beautiful beads, constructing white paper into castles and wreaths, and crafting toilet paper rolls into binoculars and pencil holders. This partial list of projects hints at the creative effort made by our students!

Please stop by the display case or the lower lobby to see all the items created by students from upcycled materials. In the future, the Conservation Committee is looking forward to implementing a system to increase recycling and composting in the lunchroom. If you have interest in joining the Conservation Committee, have ideas to share, or want to volunteer time, please contact Jessica Furman or Wendy Lozyniak--we'd love your help in continuing to green Rutland Town School!

## A & J AUTO PARTS

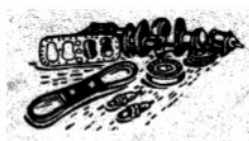
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## 2<sup>ND</sup> TRIMESTER HONOR ROLL

### MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS GRADES 6-8

#### HONOR ROLL

Madison Abatiell  
Islam Abdraboh  
Michael Alexander  
Zachary Arsenault  
Gordon Ashcroft-Billings  
Jamie Ashcroft-Billings  
Dylan Atlas  
Robby Beattie  
Colt Billings  
Dylan Blanchard  
Charlotte Chamberland  
Ethan Coarse  
Madison Colton  
Carter Colwell  
Casey Coughlin  
Eric Coughlin  
Kyle DelBianco  
Julian Downey  
Vanessa Dumas  
John Foley  
Willie Goulette  
Garrett Hathway  
Nikki Hathaway  
Billy Hemenway  
Anna Hubbard  
Hunter Hubbard  
Lucas Hubbard  
Ean Kearney  
Tara Kellogg  
Gabe Knapp  
Laura Macpherson  
Savannah Malosky  
Ally Martin  
Owen Massie  
Kayla McCoy  
Ariel McCullough  
Kelsey McCullough  
Aiden McDonnell  
Eric McDonnell  
Makenzie McMullen  
Ethan Notte  
Austin Patch  
Mason Patten  
Carl Pratt  
Luke Ragosta  
Josh Ray  
Aris Sherwood  
Ian Smith  
Cody Stanowski  
Katie Sunderland  
Lilly Williams  
Bailey Wilson

#### HIGH HONORS

Ashleah Adams  
Taqdees Ahmad  
Shane Alercio  
Trey Alercio  
Leah Allen  
Miles Allen  
Tommy Baker  
Kiernan Beattie  
Skyler Bird  
Paige Bohlig  
Julia Celentano  
Leah Chase-Bigelow  
Lily Duboff  
Sophia Duffy  
Callon Fish  
Meghan Hamilton  
Jensen Kelley  
Tommy Kenosh  
Lilly Krupp  
Taylor Krupp  
Conner Ladabouche  
Rachael Lee  
Emme Lovko  
Will McCullough  
Amy McGee  
Megan McGee  
Alexa McPhee  
Dylan Moore  
Sean Olsen  
Dilan Patel  
Margot Pultar  
Megan Randall  
Tyler Regula  
Eileen Rounds  
Austin Roussel  
Dylan Roussel  
Kaitlin Rowe  
Ethan Schmitt  
Megan Smith  
Connor Solimano  
Alex Stute  
Kaylee Tavares  
Maddie Thompson  
Sydney Veilleux  
Willy Wright



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

### RUTLAND TOWN COMMUNITY CALENDAR

#### APRIL

- 22 Select Board meets - 7 pm, Town Hall
- 28 School Board meets - 6:30 pm, RTS Library
- 30 Grade K-2 Concert Rehearsal - 1:30 pm  
RTS Gym  
Concert - 6:30 pm, RTS Gym  
Rutland Town Scholarship applications due  
at Town Hall

- 14 Grade 3-5 Concert Rehearsal - 1:30 pm  
Concert - 6:30 pm - RTS Gym
- 15-19 Scholastic Book Fair (see Ad Page 10)
- 20 Grade 6-8 Concert Rehearsal - 1:30 RTS  
Concert - 6:30 pm, RTS Gym
- 23 Early release day - 11:55 am
- 26 **Memorial Day - Town Hall closed  
No school**
- 30 Author Jason Chin visits RTS, See page 5

#### MAY

- 3 Green Up Day
- 4 Loyalty Day Parade - 1 pm  
Rutland City
- 5 PTO meets - 6 pm, RTS  
RTEA scholarship applications due (See pg 3)
- 5&6 Kindergarten Registration - RTS
- 6,13,20,27 Senior lunch - noon, Cheney Hill Ctr.
- 6&20 Select Board meets - 7 pm, Town Hall
- 7 All State Parade - 6 pm, St. Johnsbury
- 10 **3<sup>rd</sup> Property Tax payment due**
- 12&26 School Board meets - 6:30 pm, RTS Library  
*Meeting 5/26 may change due to holiday*
- 13 Friends of Music meets - 4 pm, Band Room



#### JUNE

- 2 PTO meets - 6 pm, RTS
- 3,10,17,24 Senior lunch - noon, Cheney Hill
- 3&17 Select Board meets - 7 pm, Town Hall
- 4 Four Winds training - 8:45-11 am, Barstow
- 5 Discover Jazz - Jazz Bands, Burlington
- 6 **Article deadline for June Circle newsletter**
- 9&23 School Board meets - 6:30 pm, RTS Library
- 10 Friends of Music meets - 4 pm, Band Room
- 20 Last day of school.
- 23 Summer Tapestry begins
- 23-27 Friends of Music Jazz Camp at RTS

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