

Hello Rutland Neighbors:



Election November 5 - From the desk of Dawn George:

Please see our website (town.rutland.wi.us) for sample ballots and notices for the general election on Nov. 5.

If you wish to get an absentee ballot, the easiest way is to go to MyVote.wi.gov. Otherwise, send a *written request to the clerk stating your name and address and include a copy of your photo ID*. You can also register to vote at MyVote.wi.gov. I cannot mail an absentee ballot after the Thursday before the election. If you receive a registration application in the mail, please check with your clerk or on Myvote.wi.gov to see if you are already registered.

You may receive an absentee ballot application in the mail. This is not from the Town, but from outside groups encouraging voter participation. If you choose to send in the application received in the mail, be sure to include a copy of your photo ID.

Although we are required to provide the return postage, you do not have to mail your absentee ballot back. You can hand deliver your ballot to the clerk (call 608-455-3925) or email the clerk at clerk@town.rutland.wi.us to make arrangements to deliver your ballot. You cannot deliver to the clerk on election day. Do not mail it if it is close to the election as we cannot count it if we do not receive it by 8:00 p.m. on election day. The postmark does not count! You may also bring it to the town hall on election day and deliver it to an election inspector. For security reasons, there is no drop box.

Our long-term Patrolman Nels Wethal retired at the end of August after more than 2 decades of service, 2 am calls for a tree down, and 4 am snowplow runs before the commuters and school buses hit the road. I spoke with Nels and he truly enjoyed his job. Every day was something different. Thank you for all that you did, Nels, your knowledge and expertise will be missed. But from time to time we may need to call on you to help us out.

Chester Ace will now be the lead Patrolman for the Town of Rutland. He has some pretty big shoes to fill and he is a fast learner. One thing I have learned about Chester, you don't have to tell him more than once. He and I recently met at Fahey Heights at 6:45 am to go over the road conditions in that area. By 7:30 he had met with the Town of Oregon to discuss the work that needed to be done on our adjoining road. Chester, we have high expectations.



Dave Mikkelson is Rutland's new Patrolman. We had a number of applicants, we went through our interview process, and Dave was offered the position. Dave has a lot of mechanical skills that we are hoping to tap into. Welcome aboard Dave.



The new Rutland Town Hall is beginning to appear! Groundbreaking Tuesday, October 1st at 5 pm. Please join us for refreshments and a celebration of this important milestone for the town.

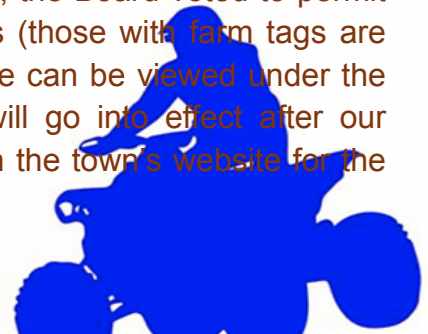
Site preparation has begun for the new Town Hall and Garage. The pre-engineered steel building components have arrived, foundation work will begin, and potentially some steel erected in October! From Mark Porter: "I'd like to thank our residents for supporting the town and agreeing to help us build this new town hall. I'd also like to thank our residents who participated on the Building Committee over the past year: Norm Arendt, Tim Wood, Geoff Hutchinson and Supervisor Sue Williams. Special thanks to those residents who attended meetings, provided feedback and those who assisted National creating specifications for this new facility. This is the largest project in the Town's history and we are very happy to finally begin to move forward. The Town would like to thank all the local contractors for submitting bids."

The Old Stone Mothers Club celebrates 100 years: Sunday, October 27th

The Stone Mothers Club was formed in 1924 to help support the children and families of the one-room schools in Rutland – an early version of a PTA. It has evolved over the 100 years since then into a neighborhood organization that participates in activities such as Adopt a Family and food collection at the holidays, road cleanups, and contributing funds to local schools and senior centers. It celebrates its Centennial on **Sunday, October 27th, 1:30 – 3:30pm** at the Stoughton Public Library, 304 S. Fourth St., in the Carnegie Room. Refreshments will be served. **From 3:30 – 4:30** stop by the Rutland Center Church on Rt. 14 (access on Rome Corners Rd.) and drive by the old Stone School at the corner of Center and Old Stone Rd. All graduates are invited, and tell your out of town classmates. Bring pictures since we have so few. We would love to hear stories of attending the Stone school.

ATV/UTV Routes come to Rutland:

After requests from ATV/UTV riders in and around the Town, the Board voted to permit these vehicles to use Town roads for recreational purposes (those with farm tags are already allowed on Town roads). The guidelines for their use can be viewed under the Ordinances tab on the Town's website. The ordinance will go into effect after our attorney has reviewed the town's documents. Please watch the town's website for the effective date.



Volunteers needed: Cleanup of our historic Graves Cemetery

A number of us will be doing some cleanup this Fall at Graves Cemetery, on the corner of Old Stage and Center Road. Supervisor Nancy Nedveck will be organizing a TLC cleanup and is looking for people to work 3 to 4 times to clear weeds around the trees and stonework and load brush from the west end of the cemetery. The patrolmen would be using chain saws while we could use loppers or pruning shears. After it gets cleared it will be seeded with grass. Some can be done on the weekend while the brush removal needs to be during the weekdays. Please contact Nancy at supervisornedveck@town.rutland.wi.us to help keep our historic cemetery looking orderly.



In an ongoing effort to improve road safety in Rutland, this past April and May the Town Board worked with WisDOT to evaluate the heavy traffic and speeding that takes place on a few heavily travelled roads. The WisDOT Traffic Safety and Field Recommendations can be found on the town website under the **ROADS** tab. Here you can also find some of the daily speed and traffic counts, from our town speed board that has been moved around the past few months. Keep in mind when the speed board shows more than 1,100 vehicles in one day on Old Stage Road, it only captures vehicles heading in one direction.

As of September 1st the speed limit on the following roads has been reduced to 35 MPH:

Old Stage Road from Highway 14 to North Union Road
Old Stone Road from Center Road to Old Stage Road
All of Biglow Road
All of Center Road
All of Oak Lane Road

The comprehensive plan tax force is currently analyzing the visions, goals and objectives collected from Rutland residents from the two public surveys and Town Hall open house. We will have a draft of the comprehensive plan update mid-October for the Rutland planning commission and Dane County to review. Once all feedback is implemented, we will have a public open house in January for all to review and discuss.

Closure to the Open Book: An additional Open Book and a BOR session was held and the assessor determined that the assessments as set would not be further reduced due to any quarry operations. A number of property owners appealed their assessments to the Board of Review. The Board held hearings on August 21, 2024. Based on the evidence presented, the Board voted to affirm all assessments with one adjustment due to a recording error.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the Chair.

Thank you. Kent Knutson, Chair, Town of Rutland.
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