

Hello Rutland Friends and Neighbors:



New Town Hall - Open House Saturday, Sept. 20 8am - noon



Rutland has finally entered a new era! We've now officially occupied our new Town Hall and Garage building. The new building has much larger spaces for meetings, actual office space a very large shop area for our vehicles and to perform maintenance. The new meeting room has microphones for the Board, three 85" TVs in the audience area and a camera to allow us to stream the meetings with Zoom. The new building has very energy-efficient and comfortable radiant floor heat and yes, finally, the front offices and meeting room have air conditioning! The office furniture will be installed at the beginning of September, providing ample desk, filing and storage space for up to three staff. We'll also hopefully have room for a smaller huddle meeting area in the office. There is a fire-proof storage room off the office area for our critical town documents. And two bathrooms with functioning doors so no one will ever be trapped inside! The garage area has four stalls for our trucks and other equipment along with an office area for our patrolmen. There is a two ton jib crane to allow them to safely work on equipment in the shop area. Ample parking around the building will accommodate our residents for meetings and extensive landscaping has been installed by some of our resident volunteers and board members.

Please join us for an Open House on Sat., Sept. 20 from 8 – 12 noon, with refreshments and a ribbon cutting at 8:15. This will also be the opening of **an exhibit of Rutland artists** in the public spaces of the Town Hall. The Town of Rutland is known for its rural character and natural beauty, but did you know that there is a sizable community of working artists here? In addition to celebrating the new Town Hall we're showcasing the work of our local creatives in glass, paint, fiber, sculpture, photography, and mixed media. Ten artists will be featured in this exhibit, which will be up until December 18.



And stop in at the new “Paddle Badfish Creek CTH A Canoe Landing” on County A:

The development of the “Paddle Badfish Creek CTH A Canoe Landing” marks a significant step in enhancing public access to the scenic Badfish Creek in southern Dane County.

The acquisition of the property represents a collaborative effort between town officials, the Friends of Badfish Creek Watershed conservation group, and the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District (previous owners), all recognizing the potential of this location as a gateway for recreational activities. The Friends of Badfish Creek Watershed saw an opportunity to turn the land into a public resource, enhancing the area's appeal for outdoor enthusiasts while preserving its ecological integrity and moving creek access away from the CTH A right-of-way. A circular driveway, a small parking area, a short recreational trail, and an informational kiosk and signage have all helped improve this river access point, making it easier for paddling enthusiasts to safely launch their vessels. A grant was received from Dane County Land & Water Resources for native plants, which were planted last spring by FBCW. The development is designed with a low environmental footprint, ensuring that the creek's natural surroundings remain undisturbed while encouraging responsible use of the waterway. Volunteers worked for several months clearing brush, invasive species, and removing damaged trees from the property in the spring of 2024. Badfish Creek, a tributary of the Yahara River, is known for its consistent flow and scenic views, making it a favorite for paddling adventures. This canoe landing will serve as an entry point for both seasoned paddlers and beginners, providing them with an ideal launch spot to explore the variety of the ditched (Dane County) and natural (Rock County) stretches of the creek. The project reflects Rutland Township's commitment to promoting outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship, creating a sustainable and enjoyable space for the community and visitors alike. Contact the Friends of Badfish Creek Watershed Facebook page or website for more information & volunteer opportunities.



Rutland Drivers – please be aware of the Hill Road closure due to bridge structure failure. During an inspection the culvert was found to have serious failures in the concrete and rebar. The culvert is being replaced soon. Currently the road can be used for one lane passage only over the culvert area.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the Chair.

Thank you.

Kent Knutson, Chair, Town of Rutland.
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