

# THE RECYCLER

Newsletter of Recycle Rutherford, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Winter 2020

## Fall Meeting Features Speaker and Contest Winners

Melissa Cross first learned about Habitat for Humanity ReStores as a producer for television shows on Home & Garden TV and the DIY Network. She would often need to procure items for the show and would get them at Goodwill and ReStore. Rather than trashing items no longer needed, she would donate them to ReStore. Now she is director of Marketing and Development for the Rutherford County Area Habitat for Humanity and eager to highlight all the benefits Habitat provides.

“People know us for home construction using volunteers and helping families achieve home ownership,” observes Cross, who says that people learn how a home is made as they build bungalows. But she wants people to know the important role in the process ReStores play.

It is the profits from the sale of donated items that pay the administrative costs for Habitat, making it possible for all monetary donations to go toward construction. Not only can customers buy furnishings and items to build and renovate homes, but they can also buy items for crafts and creative repurposing.

Cross gave many examples, including converting a large entertainment center to a bar, linen closet, pantry, or even a home office; an old chest of drawers became a pet center with food and supplies stored at the top and bowls at the bottom; doors become tables; windows lend themselves to creative displays and decor.

She wants people to know that Habitat offers classes for homeowners and that the ReStore has events and classes on various creative projects for both children and adults. “Some-times we make something; sometimes we take things apart for recycling,” she says with a smile.

“We have lots of lumber and crown molding and will offer ‘how to’ sessions if there is a need.” Cross also told the audience that the ReStore receives quite a few antiques and will sometimes conduct a silent auction to allow time for people to bid.

She is proud to point out that the ReStores keep more than 560 tons of materials out of landfills annually.

### Postcard Contest Winners

Winners of the 2019 postcard contest were special guests at the meeting. The theme for the contest, which garnered 49 entries from 20 participating educators from county, city, and private schools, was Recycle Rutherford. Several past winners participated again, and some won.

Teachers of first-place winners received \$100 for their classrooms; those of honorable mention received \$75. First place students received \$50 gift cards from Barnes and Noble; honorable mention students received \$25 gift cards. Four participating teachers were selected in a drawing to receive \$50 checks.

**Congratulations and thanks go to all the participating teachers, parents, and students. Recycle Rutherford is grateful to the MTSU preservice educators who served as judges.**



*President Rachel Cornett, back right, is seen with winners present at the meeting: front left to right, Danika Lee and Tessa Bontrager; back left to right, Cianna D’Accursio and Daisy Vasquez. The winning cards are shown on the next two pages.*

## 2019 Postcard Winners



### Winner of K-2

**Autumn Wilson**, Second Grade, McFadden School of Excellence;  
**Emily Thompson**, teacher



### Honorable Mention K-2

**Tessa Bontrager**, Second Grade, Barfield Elementary School  
**Rae Ellyn Kelley**, teacher



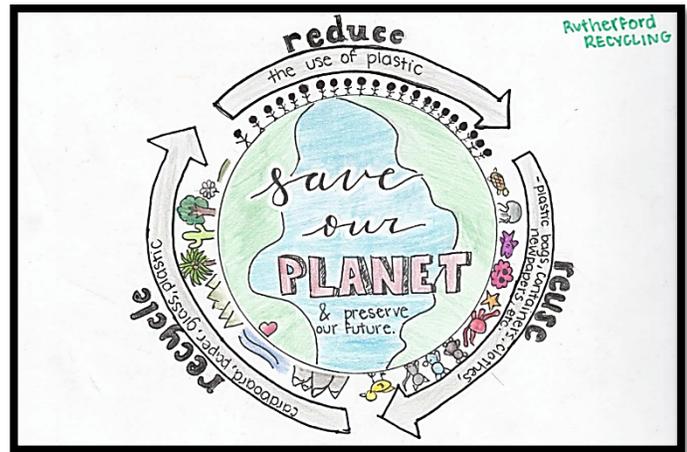
### Winner of Grades 3-5

**Danika Lee**, Fourth Grade, Discovery School;  
**Mary Dobbs**, teacher



### Honorable Mention Grades 3-5

**Sarah Cate**, Fourth Grade, Brown's Chapel Elementary;  
**Tammy Anselmo**, teacher



### Winner of Grades 6-8

**Daisy Vasquez**, Eighth Grade, Smyrna Middle School;  
**Paula Fletcher**, teacher



Seen with President Cornett, left, are two of the winning teachers: **Laura Schlesinger**, Smyrna West, and **David Landry**, Rockvale Middle. The other two winners are **Lauren Lane**, Central Magnet, and **Evelyn Burnette**, Bradley Academy.

2019 Postcard Winners, Con't

Actions to Take to Protect Birds



Honorable Mention Grades 6-8

Cianna D'Accursio, Eighth Grade,  
St. Rose Catholic School;  
Sharon Truax, teacher

Congratulations and thanks to all participants!

Although it's still winter, this is a good time to do some things that will protect birds now and to plan some changes that will help keep these wondrous creatures safer when spring arrives.

- **Make your windows visible to birds to prevent collisions.** Stick multiple decals on exposed windows, ideally two to four inches apart. Put up screens; close draperies and blinds.
- **Reduce or eliminate pesticide and herbicide use.** That helps everyone, not just birds!
- **Create or protect water sources in your yard.** Keep birdbaths clean and change the water at least three times a week in mosquito season.
- **Let your yard get a little messy!** Leave protected areas for nesting places, and stack downed tree limbs to create a brush pile, making a great place for birds to shelter.
- **Identify the non-native invasive plants in the area,** and work to remove them from your yard. They don't provide as much good food or habitat as natives do and can threaten healthy ecosystems.
- **Plant native plants.** They provide food in the form of fruit and seeds and homes for tasty creatures that birds feed on.
- **Close your blinds at night and turn off lights you aren't using.** Some birds use constellations to guide them and bright lights can disrupt their migrations.
- **Attract hummingbirds with sugar water:** combine four-parts hot water to one-part white sugar, boiled for one to two minutes. Never use honey or artificial sweeteners or coloring.

Recycle Rutherford Membership Form

I enclose my annual dues to support Recycle Rutherford and receive the newsletter.

- \$25.00 supporter                       \$15.00 student                       \$100.00 patron
- I am contributing \$\_\_\_\_\_ in addition to dues.       I prefer the newsletter to be emailed.

PLEASE PRINT:

name \_\_\_\_\_ amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_

telephone: day \_\_\_\_\_; evening \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_; volunteer interest \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable and mail to Recycle Rutherford, P.O. Box 1804, Murfreesboro, TN 37133-1804

## 4 The Recycler, Winter 2020

### Recycle Rutherford Thanks ...

- **Sprouts Grocery**, off Memorial Blvd., for allowing shoppers to bring their own containers to purchase bulk items, of which they offer quite a variety. Customers take their containers to a check-out station and ask the person there to weigh and mark the container before it's filled. Then after shopping is completed, the checker deducts the weight of the container and charges only for the product. Sprouts also encourages shoppers to bring their own shopping bags.
- **Young Living Essential Oils** for restoring Monarch butterfly habitats by planting milkweed on their farms and distilleries in various U.S. locations, including Lehi, Mona, and Duchesne, Utah; Naples and St. Maries, Idaho.
- **Vanderbilt University** for signing an agreement to buy solar-generated power through Nashville Electric Service and Tennessee Valley Authority with the goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. One of the sources of power will be a 35-megawatt solar farm planned in Bedford County. The agreement was made through a wholesale power arrangement known as Green Invest.

### Dates to Remember

#### Household Hazardous Waste Collection:

Saturday, April 4, 2020 8 a.m. – 12 noon  
Murfreesboro Solid Waste Department  
4765 Florence Road, Murfreesboro

#### Earth Day Celebration:

Saturday, April 25, 2020  
Historic Public Square, Murfreesboro

#### Spring Meeting—Recycle Rutherford:

Monday, April 27, 7:00 p.m.  
Heritage Center, 225 W. College

### 2018-20 Officers and Board

*Recycle Rutherford holds elections each April at the annual meeting; in general, officers and part of the board are elected in even years for two-year terms, and approximately half the board is elected in uneven years, providing for staggered terms.*

*The officers are listed below with the board members, who are elected each April and serve staggered terms. The date indicates when the term of each ends. The board meets monthly on first Mondays at 6:15 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 210 N. Spring Street.*

Rachel Cornett, president  
Bonnie Black, vice president  
Suma Clark, secretary  
Rick Racker, treasurer  
Glenn Himebaugh, past president

#### Board Members:

Linda Hardyman, 2020  
Beth Spivey, 2022

**Reminder: To renew your membership, please see the form on page 3.**

**Dues are only \$25 per year.**

***We don't want to lose you!***

**For more information, go to [www.recyclerutherford.org](http://www.recyclerutherford.org)**

**Like us on Facebook!**

*This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.*



P.O. Box 1804  
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-1804