

THETFORD ACADEMY NEWS AND NOTES

*Once again thoughts turn to the new school year, and that means increased traffic on the hill. **Sports practices** at Thetford Academy **begin Monday August 22**, so please be extra cautious while adjusting to new road routines.

***New student orientation tours for students and their families** will be offered on **Thursday, August 25**. Meet in Anderson Hall in the new gymnasium at **6:30 pm**.

***Monday, August 29, is the first day of the 2011-2012 school year for Thetford Academy**. We wish everyone a safe and productive year. Welcome to all our new and returning students and families.

Submitted by Wendy Cole

THETFORD'S 250TH BIRTHDAY

Friday, August 12 at Thetford Academy

2:50 p.m. - BELLS: a town-wide bell-ringing to mark the moment the Town Charter was signed. (And you can see the document itself at the evening's festivities.)

5:00 p.m. - PICNIC: bring your supper, a blanket, and chairs, and enjoy the evening, the friends, and the conversation.

6:00 p.m. - PHOTO: to be taken of all present. Wow!

7:00 p.m. - PAGEANT: a very entertaining play with 13 scenes taken from the events of "our fair town's" history, starring you and your neighbors.

The cost is \$2.50 for all 250 years. The TA theater holds 190, so come early. There will also be **performances on Saturday, the 13th at 7 p.m., and Sunday, the 14th at 4 p.m.**

Dusk - FIREWORKS!! A great finale to a special evening.

Kids, families - get your PASSPORT stamped!

Please save these dates for more 250th events:

Sunday, August 14 - the celebratory opening day of the HUGHES BARN MUSEUM, Thetford Hill. These will continue every Sunday from 2-5, the last being Sept. 11.

Monday, August 29, 7 p.m. - a presentation on GUSTAVUS LOOMIS, by Army Chaplain Ken Lawson. General Loomis was born here in 1789. Come and learn about a remarkable citizen.

Monday, September 5, starting at 11 a.m. - LABOR DAY PARADE, in Post Mills. Floats and participants welcome!

Friday, September 16, Thetford Hill Church - TOWN MEETING 2061. What lies ahead for the town, and all of us? Your sweet 10-year old will be 60 that year.

Submitted by Sally Dunston

TREASURE ISLAND LAKEFEST!

We have a wonderful day planned for you at Treasure Island on **Saturday, August 13 - LAKEFEST**, and admission is free!

You can take a historical tour of Lake Fairlee on a pontoon boat, try a stand-up paddleboard, kayak or canoe from a local retailer, attend outstanding nature education workshops by land or water. There will be organized games led by campers

and counselors from camps around the lake - hilarity! You can make your own craft from recycled materials, and bring it and sail in the recycled regatta. Your food and drink needs for the day are taken care of - volunteers from the Thetford Fire Department will serve lunch on the island, along with other vendors' adding snacks and sandwiches (small charge for food).

What a wonderful day, and many more events!

See you at LAKEFEST! Saturday, August 13, 10-4pm. Raindate is Sunday, August 14.

www.LakeFest2011.org

Submitted by Scott and Ann O'Hearn

THETFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT LABOR DAY PARADE AND BBQ

The Thetford Volunteer Fire Department will hold their annual **Labor Day Chicken BBQ and Parade on Monday, September 5th** at the Post Mills Fire Station. The parade will begin at 11:30 from Kinne field and travel down Rt 244 past the fire station. Chicken BBQ to follow the parade.

The cost is \$10 for 1/2 chicken, beans, coleslaw, roll, homemade pie, and soda.

Please come support your local fire department! Come early to browse the flea market and the fire department educational displays, as well as enjoy a day with your Thetford neighbors! Don't forget to purchase raffle tickets including a gift certificate from Top Hat Chimney, handcrafted Pompanoosuc Mills furniture, a hand-made quilt, and greens fees for Lake Morey Country Club and Bradford Golf Course. Also, if you are interested in helping TVFD with this event, we are always looking for willing volunteers to assist with breakdown and clean-up.

For parade information please contact Jeff Sirjane -785-4405. If you would be willing to help, please contact Robin Pettingell at 333-9882.

Submitted by Robin Pettingell

THETFORD RECREATION - FALL PROGRAMS

YOUTH SOCCER: grades K, 1/2 co-ed, 3/4 & 5/6 girls and boys soccer teams, visit our web site for days and times.

KARATE: grades K - 12, Wednesdays 9/7 - 10/12, 3:00-4:00pm. Marshall Van Norden of Green Mountain Dojo. \$35

HOME ALONE COURSE: 8 yrs and up. Jude Powers will teach how to behave and handle being home alone after school.

Saturday, 9/17, 9:30am - noon at TES. \$40

BABYSITTER TRAINING: ages 11 - 16, Saturday 10/8, 9:30am - 1:00pm at TES. Learn safety, basic care, first aid, safe play, professionalism and leadership. Handbook and certificate provided. \$50

BUILDING BONES: adults over 30, come exercise to aid in the prevention of bone loss. Tues/Thur 9:00-10:15 at TCCA

COACHES AND REFEREES NEEDED: please contact the recreation office if you can spare a few hours a week or even monthly. The more volunteers we have the less time each needs to contribute. Volunteerism is what keeps our program costs low.

FALL CONCERT on the beach: keep an eye out for the announcement of our concert at Treasure Island.

Submitted by Kathy Meyerson, Thetford Recreation Director (www.thetfordrec.com)

NATURAL ART HIKE

Natural Art Hike in Zebedee Wetland on Saturday, August 13th, from 10 AM to 1 PM

Please join us for a fun and inspiring morning of making earth sculptures and fairy houses at the Zebedee Wetland! We'll look at the work of other environmental artists at the Latham Library before walking along the trail to explore and make our own natural object artworks. Afterwards, we'll return to our meeting room for a snack and an indoor craft. This program is for children in elementary school, but parents and caretakers are welcome to attend! Stop by on your way to Lake Fest! This program is brought to you by the Upper Valley Land Trust through the Thetford Recreation Department.

To reserve a spot for your child, please visit the Thetford Recreation website (www.thetfordrec.com). If you have questions, email Ally Bernstein at uvlt.intern1@uvlt.org or call 603-643-6626 x121. There is a \$3 suggested donation to cover the snack and craft supplies. Visit the UVLT website at <http://www.uvlt.org> for information about other Upper Valley art hikes."

Submitted by Ally Bernstein

ENERGY SAVING TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR HOME COOL WHEN IT'S HOT

It's much cheaper (and uses less energy) to prevent heat build-up in your home than to artificially cool it using air conditioning. To keep your home cool in the heat of summer, close doors and windows when the temperature outside is warmer than your home's interior. Prevent the sun from heating your house by closing curtains or shades - insulated are best.

When the outside temperature has cooled off, open up the house and let the cool air in. (If heat builds up inside your home during the day, use a window fan or box fan to pull hot air out and cool air in.)

Reduce sources of interior heat (and use less energy) by using the microwave or toaster oven instead of the regular oven. Cover pots when cooking and use the fan above the stove to pull hot air out. Turn off your computer, printer, and other office machinery when not in use.

A well-insulated house keeps the day's heat out and low-E windows reduce solar gain in the summer. If you are considering some home improvements this year, check <http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=tax_credits.tx_index> for tax credit information related to energy efficient windows, doors, and insulation. Tax credits are good until December 31, 2011.

Submitted by Alice Stewart, Thetford Energy Committee

THETFORD DOOR2DOOR WEATHERIZATION OUTREACH AND EXPO

Home weatherization reduces energy use, saves homeowners money, and increases home health, comfort and safety. SERG (Sustainable Energy Resource Group) is organizing a major effort with the Thetford Energy Committee to promote home weatherization in Town.

This September and October, volunteers from organizations, neighborhood groups and individuals throughout the Town will deliver energy-saving information and resources to every home in Thetford. Canvassers will hand out free compact fluorescent light bulbs and coupons for a \$150 discount off home assessments and improvements from Efficiency Vermont. They will provide homeowners with lists of contractors available to perform this work and information on financial resources to help pay for it. And they will help homeowners calculate the energy efficiency of their homes.

The Thetford Weatherization Expo, taking place Saturday, November 5th at the Thetford Academy gym, will allow interested homeowners to meet service providers and funders, attend workshops, see demonstrations of weatherization measures being installed, and talk with Thetford residents who have had this work done on their homes.

Later in the fall, we will hold an open house at the home of one or more Thetford residents whose homes have been weatherized in order to learn more about how these services have reduced energy use, saved money and improved the comfort of their homes.

To accomplish this we need the help from folks throughout Thetford. If you want to help others in Thetford use less energy and save money or want to learn more about this effort, please contact Bob Walker at 802-785-4126 or SERG@valley.net.

Submitted by Bob Walker

THETFORD OFFERS RESIDENTS WEATHERIZATION INCENTIVES

Beginning in August, Thetford will offer town homeowners financial incentives to make weatherizing their homes much more affordable through the Thetford Home Weatherization Incentive Program (THWIP).

THWIP will provide incentives matching those from Efficiency Vermont, up to a total of \$5000 for home weatherization projects – up to \$2,500 from EVT and \$2,500 from THWIP – depending on work performed. These combined incentives can pay for up to 75 percent of energy-saving home improvements.

THWIP funds will be reserved on a first-to-qualify basis as long as funds last through Oct. 15, 2011. All work must be completed and paper work submitted to THWIP by Nov. 28, 2011 in order to receive reserved funds.

This does not leave much time. So homeowners, including those who have already had home assessments but have not yet made their home improvements, should contact THWIP as soon as possible to get started. Complete details on the THWIP, including a downloadable application form, can be found on the town website at <http://www.thetfordvermont.us/weatherization-incentives/> or by contacting THWIP Manager, Ellen Blumberg (elblumberg@gmail.com, PO Box 359, Thetford Center, VT 05075, 802-785-9883).

Submitted by Bob Walker

FUTURE OF THETFORD - 300

2011 – Our Town's 250th Year

2061 – Our Future 300th Year

Meet **Third Thursday of Each Month** at Latham Library

7:00-9:00 PM

Hosted by Thetford's Communiversality of Vermont

Submitted by Peter Blodgett

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION INFO

The deadline for submissions is around the 24th of each month. Send news including contact name and telephone number to Sheila Fifield at sheilafifield@aol.com. Please list Thetford Town Newsletter in subject line. Thanks!