

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Amnesty For All Local Pets!

Thetford has a new Pet Ordinance, putting more teeth into its provisions requiring people register their dogs. Residents must register their dogs or wolf hybrids by April 1 of each year and failing to pay will result in additional fines, and ultimate the revocation of the owner's driver's license. The Town is starting the enforcement of the new policy with a one-time amnesty program for existing unregistered animals. The town will waive past penalties for people registering dogs prior to April 1, 2011. After that time an automatically increasing series of penalties (\$50, \$100 and \$300) will be imposed until payment and after the fifth month of non-compliance, the Town will refer the owner of the unregistered animal to the Judicial Bureau for proceedings to revoke their driver's license. To register your dog, visit Town Hall during the Clerk's business hours (Monday 6-8pm, Tues-Thurs 8-4, Friday 8-noon). You will be required to show proof of rabies vaccination from your vet. Call the town Clerk's office for more information, 785-2922.

Rabies Clinic – rabies and other vaccinations available for cats and dog (for a fee) by Oxbow Clinic on **March 12, 2011 10-noon** at the Town Garage, licensing will be available at Town Hall.

ELECTION REMINDERS:

Absentee Ballots are available, contact the Town Clerk's office at 785-2922

Town reports to be mailed mid-February

Town Pre-Town Meeting – Monday, February 21, 2011, 7:30 pm, Thetford Town Hall

School Pre-Town Meeting - Tuesday, February 22, 2011, 7-8:30 pm at TES – daycare provided

Town & School Meeting – Saturday, February 26, 2011, 9:00 am, Gymnasium, Thetford Academy

Anticipated meeting schedule: School Meeting 9-11 then Town Meeting at 11:30

Voting by Australian Ballot - Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at Thetford Town Hall

Polls open 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

Submitted by Tracy Borst, Town Clerk

THETFORD ACADEMY NEWS AND NOTES

* The Thetford Academy Counseling Office will sponsor a **College Night** for Juniors and their families on **Tuesday, February 1**. The evening will start at 6:00 pm in the Martha Jane Rich Theater in Anderson Hall.

* Next year, Thetford Academy will enroll 5-8 **international students**. This exciting new program will bring students from around the world to learn in our vibrant community. These students will also bring cultural diversity and provide current TA students the opportunity to broaden their educational perspectives.

International students will be housed in home stay accommodations. On **Thursday, February 3**, we will be holding an information session **at 6:30 pm in the TA Library**. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, please contact Stacy Barton, International Student Program Coordinator, at stacy.barton@thet.net or 802-785-4805 ext 228. Hope to see you there!

* Thetford Academy will commemorate its 192nd year with the 67th annual **Founders' Day Celebration on Friday, February 4 (snow date February 3)**. Festivities begin at 7:40 am in the gymnasium; and folks are invited to attend the morning's activities, including skits, songs, class competitions, and more. Please call TA at 785-2600 for more information.

* The **TA Board of Trustees** will hold its **monthly meeting** on **Thursday, February 10, at 7:00 pm** in the TA Library. The public is invited to attend.

*Thetford Academy will be closed **February 21-25 for winter recess**. We hope everyone stays safe and warm and doesn't have to shovel too much!

Submitted by Wendy Cole

THETFORD ENERGY COMMITTEE, WARMTH IN WINTER SERIES

FILM: The Thetford Energy Committee's Warmth in the Winter Series continues with the film Extreme Ice (PG), a 2009 NOVA production focusing on photojournalist John Balog's efforts to document the runaway melting of glaciers. Join us at **7:00 p.m. Sunday, February 13 at Thetford Hill Church**. This event is free and open to all. Refreshments provided.

ENERGY TIP: Ever wonder how much electricity that appliance is really using? With a Kill-A-Watt meter, you can measure electricity use, helping you identify wasteful appliances that should be replaced or that use energy when turned off. The Thetford Energy Committee has acquired two more watt meters for Latham Library. Stop by the library and ask at the desk to borrow one of the watt meters -- and don't forget to request the instructions. You can also get a copy of the instructions on the Energy Committee's webpage on the town website at thetfordvermont.us/energy.htm.

Submitted by Alice Stewart for the Thetford Energy Committee

THETFORD COMMUNITY GARDEN

Have you always wanted to garden but... You have a black thumb? Your yard is shady, hilly, or rocky? You can't do it alone? Then this is for you!

Our Community Garden:

- Makes less work for everyone.
- Some things, like tilling and soil improvements, can be done together.
- Offers a team of experienced local gardeners to help those who need growing tips.
- Features a series of FREE gardening workshops throughout the season (open to all) with Cat Buxton, courtesy of Cedar Circle Farm and Education Center.
- Is a great way to spend time with your community.

Where is the garden? On the Common (across from Town Hall)

How does it work? 12 plots available for Thetford residents! Rental Fee: \$10 plus a refundable deposit (waivers are available) ~If there are too many sign ups we'll choose by lottery~

Sign up by March 31!

To sign up or for more information, contact:

The Garden Committee Chairs: Marilyn Cook, 333-4103 or Jim McCracken, 802-356-9996

By Email : ThetfordCG@gmail.com

OR stop by the Town Hall and leave your contact info and we'll be in touch with you!

Submitted by Lori Harriman

ACADEMIC TUTORING

Private tutorials for students in grades K-8. Enrichment and remediation

Contact Jane Friedlander at 785-4455 or visit: www.uppervalleytutor.com

Submitted by Jane Friedlander

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION INFO

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month. Send news including contact name and telephone number to Sheila Fifiield at Sheila.fifiield@aol.com. Please list Thetford Town Newsletter in subject line. Thanks!