

THETFORD TOWN NEWSLETTER

No. 101

SEPTEMBER 2012

THETFORD ACADEMY

*The 2012-2013 school year started on Tuesday, August 28, and Thetford Academy welcomed more than 70 new students in grades 7-12 to campus. We are delighted to have all the new students and their families as part of TA's community.

*Welcome Night for 7th Grade parents and Guardians is Thursday, September 6. Meet at 7:00pm in the TA Library in the White Building.

*The TA Senior Class will sponsor a Welcome Dance, "NEON," on Friday, September 7. The dance runs from 7:30-9:30pm for students in grades 7-12.

*The TA Board of Trustees will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, September 13. The meeting starts at 7:00pm in the TA Library, and the public is invited to attend.

*Mountain Day will be held on Friday, September 21. All students climb one of the area mountains with their respective classes. The rain date is Thursday, September 20.

*Parents' Back to School Curriculum Night will be Thursday, September 27. Meet in Anderson Hall at 6:30pm

*Friday, September 28 will be a Half-Day of School. School will be released at 11:30am

*It's never too early to think Cross Country. The annual Woods Trail Run, with upwards of 2000 runners, takes place on Saturday, October 6. The Vermont State Championship races will be held on Saturday, October 27. Mark your calendars now, and contact Meet Director Karen Heinzmann to volunteer. karen.heinzmann@thet.net

*The school year is off to a great start, and we look forward to sharing our campus and activities with all our families, friends and community members throughout the coming year. It most definitely takes all of us to help our students achieve our very best!

Submitted by Wendy Cole



WANT TO HELP BUILD A BEAUTIFUL TRAIL IN MEMORY OF A WONDERFUL PERSON

Want to Help Build a Beautiful Trail in
Memory of a Wonderful Person?

When beloved Thetford naturalist, author and educator Linny Levin died in November 2000, scores of community members contributed to the Linny Levin Fund of the Thetford Conservation Commission to commemorate her lively interest in the natural world, and her devotion to environmental education in the Upper Valley.

In keeping with Linny's beautiful work and in view of local schools' use of wetlands for natural sciences study, the Conservation Commission can think of no better site for a Linny Levin Memorial Trail than the Upper Valley Land Trust's Zebedee Brook Wetlands on Houghton Hill Road, conserved in late 2009 with a tremendous outpouring of support from this community.

UVLT and TCC have scheduled trail-building workdays for Friday 8:00 AM Sept 21st and Saturday 9:00 AM Sept 29th (one week later). We want to formalize the present trail - make it less damaging to the environment and more user-friendly for a wider range of citizens, construct an educational kiosk and fix up a couple of spots for people to relax and enjoy the richness of this reserve. Then, in October, we'll dedicate it all in memory of Linny..

If you would like to help, and we earnestly hope you do, please contact:

Thetford Conservation Commission - Connie Snyder 785-2729
or Li Shen 785-4950

Upper Valley Land Trust - (603) 643-6626 - Jason Berard ext. 110
Pete Helm ext 104

We will provide snacks and beverages. Bring a lunch, work gloves and, if you have any: shovel, pick mattock, rock bar, hand pruners, loppers, pruning saw, coarse-toothed hand saw, heavy hammer (for spikes). If you don't have tools, just bring your helpful self and we will help you find work.

Submitted by Connie Snyder

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

The Hartford Div. for Children and Families is recruiting foster parents. We need long term and short term foster parents. We provide training and a stipend for caring for our kids. Thetford is one of the many Upper Valley towns served by the Hartford division. Please contact Deanna Rounds, Resource Coordinator at 802-295-8840.

Submitted by Deanna Rounds

LAKEFEST 2012

Lakefest 2012 would like to thank the hundreds of lake enthusiasts who attended this year's celebration of Lake Fairlee. Your exuberant participation in the arts offerings, history and wetland guided boat tours, the new Lake Fairlee Rangers' game, shore-exploration of the lake environment, the kids' swim relays, the Recycle Regatta, the wholesome local food, and the kayaks and stand-up paddle board demos was very heartening.

There were 97 volunteers who gave their time, talent and energy to show up and help the day run smoothly. We are indebted to them for their boundless goodwill and community spirit.

In addition, we would like to thank the 6 local enterprises, without whose generous lake-centric raffle prize donations, we would not have the ability to fund this free community event. We send out hearty thanks to:

The Aloha Foundation, Fairlee Marine, The Fairlee-Orford Lions' Club, The Farmway, Post Mills Airport, and the Post Mills Soaring Club.

Witnessing the enjoyment people of all ages had at Lakefest is a testament to the value of this precious resource. Please support the efforts to help keep Lake Fairlee's water clean, and the natural habitat along its shore protected.

Submitted by Libby Chapin

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DISCOUNTS ON LED LIGHTING

Light-emitting diode (LED) lighting is more efficient, durable, versatile, and longer lasting than incandescent and fluorescent lighting. LEDs emit light in a specific direction, whereas an incandescent or fluorescent bulb emits light—and heat—in all directions. LEDs are energy-efficient lights and have a generous light output for the amount of power they need to operate. The high initial cost of LEDs is offset by the amount of power they save you over time.

In partnership with Efficiency Vermont, some Vermont lighting retailers offer discounted pricing on LEDs, or an instant coupon good for \$10 off the regular price of ENERGY STAR LED downlight products (Note: Only products listed on the [LED Downlight Eligible Products List](#) are eligible for incentives from Efficiency Vermont).

For Thetford residents, the closest retailer offering LED discounts and coupons is CED Twin State Electric Supply in Wilder. You can find other retailers by searching on [encyvermont.com](http://www.encyvermont.com) -- click on the **For My Home** tab and look for the link on the left for **Ways to Save & Rebates**.

You can purchase LED bulbs to replace existing ones in your home. If you're building a new home or addition, ask your electrician about installing LED lighting inside and out -- LED lighting is known for reliable operation in cold temperatures.

Submitted by Alice Stewart

LABOR DAY BBQ AND PARADE

And a LAST reminder! The Thetford Volunteer Fire Department will have their annual Labor Day Chicken BBQ and Parade on Monday September 3rd in Post Mills. The parade will begin at 11:30 followed by our famous BBQ.

THETFORD HEAT STARS!

Over the past year, many of your Thetford friends and neighbors have weatherized their homes in order to Save Energy, Save Money and Increase Home Comfort. The Thetford Energy Committee has summarized the results of these Thetford Home Energy Action Team Stars and will share them with you over the coming weeks and months.

This month's Thetford HEAT Star is:

Manohar Grewal, 1099 Rte 244, Post Mills

Air sealed attic penetrations and wall penetrations
Insulated attic

Air Leakage Reduced by – 12.5%
Projected Heat Energy Savings – 21.69%

Cost of Job – \$8,731.80

Incentives - \$1,647 from Efficiency VT

Net Cost to Homeowner - \$7,084.80

Projected Annual Dollar Savings - \$880.62

Years to Payback Through Savings – 8.05

My motivation was to conserve energy and to save our environment. We owe that to future generations.

These home weatherization measures are free from income qualifying homeowners (for details contact (877) 919-2299 or (802) 476-2093 or visit <http://www.cvcac.org/index.php/weatherization/about-weatherization>). Efficiency Vermont provides up to \$2,000 per household to help all other Vermonters pay for home energy efficiency assessments and improvements completed by a participating Home Performance with ENERGY STAR contractor. For more information, contact Efficiency Vermont at 888-921-5990 or www.encyvermont.com/homeperformance. For local assistance and information, contact SERG@serg-info.org or 802-785-4126.

Submitted by Bob Walker

Sometimes it's important to work for that pot of gold.

But other times it's essential to take time off and to make sure that your most important decision in the day simply consists of choosing which color to slide down on the rainbow. “

~Douglas Pagels,

These Are the Gifts I'd Like to Give to You



LABOR DAY - WHAT IS IT?

Excerpt taken from the US Dept. of Labor Website - "Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

A Nationwide Holiday - The form that the observance and celebration of Labor Day should take were outlined in the first proposal of the holiday (1882) — a street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations" of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. This became the pattern for the celebrations of Labor Day. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday."