

UPCOMING TOWN ELECTION DATES

Town reports mailed mid-month

- Pre-Town Meeting: Town Hall, 7:30pm February 27, 2017
- Town Meeting: Thetford Academy, 9am, March 4, 2017
- Town Voting: Town Hall, 8am-7pm, March 7, 2017

Tracy Borst

THETFORD LIBRARIES

LATHAM LIBRARY

Friday Afternoon Movie Series: Feb. 3 and 17 at 3:15 pm. All ages are welcome to a special family movie series to be held during the TES ski program. Movies will begin at 3:15. Popcorn will be served.

Endangered Alphabets, Cultural Erosion, and the Future of the Written Word: Thurs., Feb. 9 at 7:00 pm. What does the age of digital convergence, Facebook, and globalization mean for the future of the written word? Writer-carver-painter Tim Brookes offers remarkable and thought-provoking perspective on this question by looking at a range of forms of writing from all over the world that are in danger of extinction. He displays a carving of a piece of text in each script, leading a discussion on how technology will help—and always has helped—define the nature of communication, and shows how the story of a culture can be seen in its writing, even if that writing is (as in these examples) beautiful, utterly unfamiliar, and disappearing.

Valentine's Day Tea Party Sat., Feb. 11 at 11 am. Please join us for a special story time session to celebrate Valentine's Day, complete with tea and treats. Wear something fancy and bring a special doll or stuffed animal, if you like!

Winter Book Discussion Series at Latham Library Feb. 13: *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson. Books are available to borrow at Latham Library. Please contact Peter Blodgett for more info at 785-4361.

Magic Card Night Thurs., Feb. 16, 6:30-8:00 pm. Come play Magic, the card game, with friends. All ages welcome.

ONGOING PROGRAMS AT LATHAM LIBRARY

Tales and Tunes with Tots: A playgroup for babies and toddlers and their caregivers. Wednesdays from 10:00-11:00 am.

Preschool Storytime Fridays at 10:30 am. Stories, songs, and an occasional craft for preschoolers.

Knitting Group Thursday evenings from 6-8pm. Beginners and experienced knitters welcome.

Afterschool activities on Fridays for Grades 4-6 will not be held during the TES ski program. Please see above for info on a special children's movie series to be held during the ski program.

PEABODY LIBRARY

Annual Chocolate Indulgence Wed., Feb. 8 at 7:00 pm. Get in the mood for Valentine's Day by indulging yourself at our annual potluck for chocoholics. Please bring a chocolate based dish to share. Copies of recipes are encouraged!

Afterschool Activities for Grades K-3 are held every Wednesday that Thetford Elementary School is in session through the school year, unless noted. Children in grades K-3 (please note, this is a change from last year) are welcome to ride Bus #2, with a note from home, from TES to the Peabody Library on Wednesdays. Stories, crafts, games, and other activities will be offered, and a snack will be served. Pick-up time is 4:30 pm.

For more info, including lists of new books and movies, please visit thetfordlibrary.org.

THETFORD ELDER NETWORK

MIDWINTER TEN LUNCHEON

Winter's half-over! To celebrate, February's delicious midwinter TEN Luncheon will be held Thurs. the 23rd starting at 11:30 at North Thetford Church. Bring a family member, neighbor, or friend to enjoy with you a menu of Pam's famous roasted chicken thighs with savory rice, mashed squash, roasted green beans, beverage, and bread pudding--comfort food that's also nutritious! (Our chef may adjust the menu depending on availability of some ingredients.)

Along with a tasty lunch, we'll hear from a representative of a spirited local program, recently expanded, that could bring you a fun new perspective.

Senior Solutions sponsors our monthly TEN Luncheons on fourth Thursdays with occasional exceptions. Donations are greatly appreciated. To volunteer for a specific task, call Cathy at 785-3136.

Thanks to everyone who helps to make these fun events possible--and to those who participate!

Susan Rump

SENIORS' COFFEE KLATCH

Come warm up and join in some conversation! The Seniors' Coffee Klatch will take place on Wed., Feb. 8th from 10-11:30 at the Thetford Center Community Center. This event is held on the second Wednesday of each month and is sponsored by TEN and the Community Nurse of Thetford, Inc. Seniors of all ages are welcome for coffee, tea, hot chocolate, treats and community. There is no charge. Drivers and caregivers are welcome too. If you need a ride, please call Pril Hall at 333-4077.

COMMUNITY NURSE

Cindy Grigel, RN BSN is our Community Nurse, and is available to you and your family. She can assist with questions you might have about your health or care, to provide some guidance navigating the health care system or communicating with your doctors, to talk over an issue related to someone in your family, to be a support if you are a caregiver, and more. Many in Thetford have already appreciated her help. Email her at communitynursethetford@gmail.com or call her at 738-9006. If you call from your home phone, you need to use the 1, as this is a cell phone. communitynurseofthetford.weebly.com

Priscilla Hall

PARISH PLAYERS

Come join The Parish Players at the Eclipse Grange for a fun and entertaining journey through seven short slices of life in their 11th Annual Ten Minute Play Festival. Laugh, be touched, be surprised, and expect the unexpected. Opens Feb. 9th and runs through Feb. 17th. Tickets for the festival are \$10 for students, \$12 for seniors, and \$15 for adults and can be reserved online or by phone. For show times and additional information, call 785-4344 or visit parishplayers.org.

Will Giblin

THETFORD ENERGY COMMITTEE

WEATHERIZATION: A COMMUNITY EFFORT

Feb. 7, 6pm, Thetford Center Community Building

Your home can be cooler in summer, and warmer in winter, with lower energy bills. You can solve moisture problems, eliminate drafts, and improve the performance of your home through weatherization.

If all that sounds good, where to start? Your neighbors are ready to help you get started, and to support you each step of the way. Maybe you have already done some weatherization and have stories and advice to share, or want to know

what you can do next?

Attend our Kick-Off Event, Tues., Feb. 7th, 6-8 pm, at the Thetford Center Community Association building, across from Town Hall. Door opens at 6:00, presentation starts 6:30. Meet the volunteer team and our partner contractors, and learn about costs, benefits, incentives, and how you can participate and benefit. Refreshments will be served.

Weatherize is run by a team of volunteers from the Hartland, Hartford, Norwich, and Thetford energy committees, with support from Vital Communities and Efficiency Vermont. Our four Weatherize partner contractors, Building Energy, Solsaa Building and Energy Solutions, Van de Ven Construction, and Vermont Foam Insulation, are offering FREE professional consults, home visits, and energy improvement quotes for residents in our four towns. Anyone who signs a contract with one of our partner contractors by May 31 will be eligible to win up to \$2,500 toward the cost of their home energy project, in addition to Efficiency Vermont rebates.

Most weatherization projects focus on air sealing and insulation. According to Efficiency Vermont, the average cost of weatherization improvements in our region is \$7,800 (before rebates, which average around \$1,500), resulting in increased comfort and 26% average energy savings annually. Learn more at vitalcommunities.org/weatherize or contact Mike Kiess at 299-5864 or MichaelKiessVT@gmail.com.

Michael Kiess & Alice Stewart

NONFICTION BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The next meeting of Thetford's informal nonfiction book discussion group will take place at Latham Library on Thetford Hill on Tues., Feb. 28th at 7 pm.

We will be discussing *The Undoing Project* by Michael Lewis: How a Nobel Prize-winning theory of the mind altered our perception of reality. Forty years ago, Israeli

psychologists Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky wrote a series of breathtakingly original studies undoing our assumptions about the decision-making process. Their papers showed the ways in which the human mind erred, systematically, when forced to make judgments in uncertain situations. Their work created the field of behavioral economics, revolutionized Big Data studies, advanced evidence-based medicine, led to a new approach to government regulation, and made much of Michael Lewis's own work possible. Kahneman and Tversky are more responsible than anybody for the powerful trend to mistrust human intuition and defer to algorithms.

You can find the book at your library; via interlibrary loan; as an audio or e-book via the Green Mountain (gmlc.overdrive.com) or New Hampshire (nh.overdrive.com) library consortiums; from your bookseller; or at bookfinder.com.

All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

E D M Landman MD

GOT NEWS?

Is your news of general interest to Thetford residents? Send it to thetford@pendane.com or by calling me at 356-4542 by the 29th of the month. I generally enter news in the order in which it is received, and may need to edit for space. There may not be room for late submissions (but I do my best). Feedback is always welcome.

Susanna French