

EXPERIMENTAL BALLOON AND AIRSHIP MEET

The Experimental Balloon and Airship Meet runs Fri., May 19 to Sun., May 21 at Post Mills Airport. Balloons will be flying at 6am and 6pm, weather permitting. Last year, 48 aircraft flew. Parking and admission is free. There will be a pancake breakfast Saturday and Sunday, and burgers and hot dogs Friday evening and Saturday midday and evening. Everyone is welcome!

Brian Boland, 333-9254

OPEN FIELDS MEDIÉVAL FESTIVAL

Sat., May 27, 11am to 4pm, on the Thetford Hill green, rain or shine.

The No Strings Marionette Company will perform "Handsome and Gretel." Other entertainment includes dancers, traditional songs, a mummers play, and a maypole dance. Meet Glenfiddich, a 12-year-old gelding Highland pony, or visit our hair braiding and face painting booths. Come try felting, milling, weaving, calligraphy, candle-making, and beading. Kids will love maneuvering their steeds through the horse course, digging for treasures in the bran bucket, trying a bit of swordplay, and getting lost in the hedge maze.

We are seeking artisans and craftsmen from the Thetford area to demonstrate their talents during the festival. Traditional arts preferred. There is no booth fee or commission required on artisan sales; we only ask that you enhance the festival by demonstrating your art and by answering questions about how you create your products.

Please consider volunteering to ensure the day is a fun, exciting, and inspirational experience. We rely on donations from individuals and sponsorship from businesses to make the festival a success. Call Open Fields at 785-2077 or contact Nellie Pennington

at nellie.pennington@openfields.org.

Admission is \$7 per person. Children ages 4 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased online at VTMedFest.com or at the gate on festival day.

Linda Neubelt

PARISH PLAYERS

The Parish Players' upcoming production is Steel Magnolias, starring Thetford's own Kim Meredith in the leading role of Truvy. Performances are June 2-18. For more information call 802-785-4344, email pancho@parishplayers.org or visit parishplayers.org.

Linda Neubelt

THETFORD ELDER NETWORK

SENIOR COFFEE KLATCH

The Senior Coffee Klatch meets every month on the second Wednesday, 10-11:30 at the Thetford Center Community Center. Here is the schedule for the next several months - add them to your calendar now! May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9. Join us for a morning of community, conversation, and refreshments. There is no charge.

The Coffee Klatch is sponsored by Community Nurse of Thetford and TEN. Many thanks to our volunteers who help make it happen! Call Pril Hall at 333-4077 if you need a ride.

Pril Dorman Hall

MAY LUNCHEON

Come with your friend, neighbor, or family member to enjoy a delicious spring luncheon to be held at the classic Yankee church in North Thetford at 11:30 am, Thurs., May 25. On the menu: Country-style ribs or pot roast, potato salad, applesauce, a veggie, gingerbread and whipped cream. Program is still being planned, plus we always have a good time catching up with each other.

Senior Solutions sponsors our monthly luncheons, usually held the fourth Thursdays. We welcome your donation if you can give it.

If you'd like to volunteer for a specific task to help make this event a success, call Cathy at 785-3136.

Many thanks to all who make the TEN Luncheon happen every month!

Susan Rump

THETFORD LIBRARIES

LATHAM LIBRARY

Teen Open Mic Night returns Thurs., May 4, 7:00 pm. Show off your talents: sing, dance, play an instrument, tell jokes, etc. All teens in grades 7-12 are welcome to perform or watch. Refreshments will be served!

The **Spring Book Sale** will be Sat., May 27, 9:00-3:00. Great books for both children and adults, movies, music, Magic cards, puzzles, and more! \$2 for hardcover books (except for selected rare and special books), \$1 for paperbacks, half price for children's books. After 1:00 everything will be discounted further.

ONGOING PROGRAMS AT LATHAM LIBRARY

Tales and Tunes with Tots is a playgroup for babies, toddlers and caregivers. Wednesdays, 10-11 am.

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

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

Afterschool activities on Fridays for Grades 4-6 run every Friday that Thetford Elementary School is in session through the school year. Children are welcome to walk to the library from school to participate. Stories, crafts, games, other activities and a snack will be offered. Pick-up time is 4:30 pm.

PEABODY LIBRARY

Peabody Library's **Annual Spring Fling Dance Party Fundraiser:** Cinco de Mayo Style! Fri., May 5, 7-10 pm at the East Thetford Pavilion. Music, food and family friendly fun, all to benefit the oldest continually operated library building in Vermont. Thetford/Norwich band Loco Parentis will play rock and roll favorites, so come ready to boogie for books! \$15/person, \$25/family suggested donation includes snacks and non-alcoholic drinks. BYOB.

Afterschool Activities at Peabody Library are held every Wednesday that TES 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. Stories, crafts, games, other activities and a snack will be offered. Pick-up is 4:30 pm.

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

Emily Zollo

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., May 30th at 7 pm.

We will be discussing *The Invention of Nature; The Adventures of Alexander von Humboldt, The Lost Hero of Science*, by Andrea Wulf. This New York Times bestseller combines biography, history, geography, science, and adventurous explorations of distant countries.

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.

EDM Landman MD

TA's seventh grade on its field trip to Washington, DC.

THETFORD ACADEMY

Last month, **TA 7th graders traveled to Washington D.C.** to learn about the Nation's capital. The five-day trip was jam-packed from start to finish, including a visit to Arlington National Cemetery, a show at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and visits to many historic monuments and museums.

TA Spanish students spent 8 days in Spain last month as well. They visited Madrid and Barcelona, and their trip included visits to museums, cathedrals, markets and even a bullfighting lesson at a local ranch. Wonderful adventures for many TA students!

TA's **April Student of the Month is Malcolm Silver-Van Meter.** Read about Malcolm's many accomplishments at tiny.cc/ta-may17. Congratulations, Malcolm.

Every year, TA participates in **Operation: Days Work**, which helps students practice democracy in their schools and make an important difference in the world. This year, ODW is raising funds for the Livelihoods Program, supporting orphaned families in the Democratic Republic of

Congo. On May 10, TA students will go into the community and work for a day. All money raised will be donated to the Livelihoods Program.

On May 5, TA Student Council will be sponsoring a **Red Cross Blood Drive** at TA from noon to 5 p.m. If you are interested in donating, visit redcross.org, click Donate and enter 05074 in the zip code.

The **TA Board of Trustees** monthly meeting is on Thurs., May. 11, at 7 p.m. in the TA Library in the White Building. The public is welcome.

Bridget Dugan-Sullivan

GOT NEWS?

Is your news of general interest to Thetford residents? Send *brief* submissions 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

