

THE THETFORD NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

DECEMBER 2017 NO. 163

SENIOR COFFEE KLATCH

Don't forget the 2nd Wednesday Senior Coffee Klatch coming up on Dec. 13th at the Thetford Center community center, 10-11:30. Free coffee, light refreshments, and lots of good conversation! Call for a ride: Pril Hall 333-4077.

Pril Dorman Hall

TEN HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Join the festivities that begin at 11:30am Thurs., Dec. 14, at the North Thetford church. Come promptly, as the seats for this luncheon fill quickly!

On the menu: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, peas with red peppers, applesauce, and brownies with ice cream. The beloved trio Serenata will treat us to a musical program.

Senior Solutions sponsors our monthly TEN Luncheons, usually held on fourth Thursdays. Your donation (\$5 if you can) will be gratefully accepted.

Would you like to volunteer for one specific task? Call Cathy at 785-3136.

We're grateful for all who make these fun events possible, including the fine company at every meal!

Susan Rump

THETFORD LIBRARIES

LATHAM LIBRARY

Thetford author Dean Whitlock will give a talk for teens and kids ages 10+ about his new book, *Finn's Clock*, a middle-grade novel set in 1853 Boston. Thurs., Dec. 7 at 6:30 pm: Reading, Q&A, & Conversation: People and Plot Twists in Finn's Clock.

Family Movie Night Sat., Dec. 16, 6:30 pm. "Elf" starring Will Farrell, rated PG. All are welcome! Popcorn will be served.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Tales and Tunes for Tots is a playgroup for babies, toddlers and their caregivers. Wednesday mornings at 10am.

Storytime Fridays at 10:30am. All ages are welcome.

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

Afterschool activities for kids in grades 4-6 run every Friday that Thetford Elementary School is in session, unless noted. Children may walk to Latham Library from school for stories, games, arts and crafts, and other fun activities.

WHAT'S NEW AT LATHAM LIBRARY

Two **new art shows** in the Latham Art Gallery (bottom floor)! Come see works of art on skateboard decks and grip tape completed by Thetford children and teens during our recent Skateboard Art Workshops. Also "Vincent Van Gogh's Cat", a show of art work by students at TES.

Latham Library is now offering **Sunday hours** (10-1)!

Latham Library now has a **senior resource shelf!** It includes books exploring issues relevant to seniors, and a senior resource folder. The folder is chock full of information; please feel free to make photocopies of anything inside.

PEABODY LIBRARY

Vermont Vs. Hollywood: 100 Years of Vermont in Film Tues., Dec. 5 at 7:00 pm. Vermont has been a featured location in movies for nearly a century. Examining those films provides interesting and fun insights into the hold Vermont has had on imagination in the media age. Amanda Kay Gustin of the Vermont Historical Society will provide background and share clips ranging from 1919's Way Down East to 2005's Thank You for Smoking. A Vermont Humanities Council event sponsored by Latham Memorial Library.

Holiday Readings Wed., Dec. 20 at 7:00 pm. A holiday tradition! Come hear Peter Blodgett read holiday

stories from many cultures and traditions. A special evening by candlelight in the loveliest room in town. Refreshments will be served.

Afterschool activities for children in grades K-3 will begin on Wed., Sept. 6 and run every Wednesday that TES is in session, unless noted. Kids may take the bus from TES to the library for stories, games, crafts, and other fun activities! Pick-up time is 4:30.

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., Jan. 30th at 7 pm. We will be discussing *Birds, Beasts and Relatives* by Gerald Durrell.

This book is the second volume of the Corfu Trilogy, about Durrell's childhood years on the island of Corfu in the 1930s. He became a renowned animal collector and conservationist and a pioneer of breeding endangered species in captivity, having founded his own zoo on the island of Jersey.

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

THETFORD ACADEMY

Congratulations to the 2017 Div. III **Girls Soccer State Champions!** On Nov. 4 the Thetford Academy Varsity Girls Soccer team beat undefeated Green Mountain, the first for girls soccer in 23 years! We congratulate

them all on a fantastic season!

TA Robotics Team qualifies for NH/VT Vex State Championship: TA robotics teams 4886B and 4886C faced 29 other teams from eight schools on Nov. 4. Team 4886C, with senior Clay Goodling and freshman Alex Holzer, finished first in the qualifying rounds with the best record of the day. Both teams advanced to the semifinals, with our Team C's alliance defeating our own Team B's alliance to advance to the finals. In a well-played best of three final round, our Team C was defeated by a strong alliance from Kennett High School (the host) and Pembroke Academy, a perennial powerhouse. By reaching the finals, Clay and Alex earn an invitation to the NH/VT VEX State Championship in February at Manchester Community College. The State Championship is where the five best teams from NH/VT can earn an invitation to the VEX World Championship.

Jennifer Gernhard's Cooking for Health class is sponsoring a **Food Drive for the Thetford Food Shelf** through December 20. If you would like to donate, please bring nonperishable food items to the main office at Thetford Academy.



Robert Bacon teaches the Thetford Academy class of 1958's James Crowley, Carolyn Kelley Porter and a classmate a valuable skill in Vermont: putting chains on tires.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The **Mr. TA Pageant** will take place on Sat., Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Martha Jane Rich Theater. This spoof on a beauty pageant features choreographed dances, a talent show, and a Q&A session with some of TA's finest to raise money to send Rwanda children to school. Keep your eye out for when tickets go on sale, they sell out quickly!

Winter sports seasons began on Nov. 27 and both basketball teams will open at home. The girls take on Windsor on Sat., Dec. 9 with JV at 1 p.m. and varsity at 2:30 p.m. with a rematch of last year's championship game. The boys play Rivendell on Mon., Dec. 11 at 5:30 and 7 p.m. The schedule will be posted on the TA website.

The **TA Board of Trustees** monthly meeting is on Tuesday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. in the TA Library in the White Building. The public is welcome.

Bridget Dugan-Sullivan

PARISH PLAYERS

Proudly presenting *Scooter Thomas Makes It to the Top of the World* by Peter Parnell.

Parnell, now a successful playwright,

television writer, producer, and author, wrote the play in 1975 as his senior project while attending Dartmouth College. His television credits include *The West Wing*, *The Guardian*, and *Six Degrees*; his plays have been produced at the Public Theater and Playwrights Horizons in New York and the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles. To think that it all started right here in Thetford!

Scooter Thomas stars Eric Gaetz and Will Moore, and is directed by Kay Morton of Thetford. This full length, one-act, memory play unfolds the bonding of true friendship, and the difficult stages of grieving. We are reminded through humor and poignancy, that friendship, trust, love, and grief are human entanglements and remain timeless.

The holidays are a reflective season. People often feel separated from those they want to be in loving relationship with. Hoping to make a difference, we at Parish Players feel the importance of donating a portion of the proceeds from the production to West Central Behavioral Health, which serves Sullivan County and the Upper Valley.

Dec. 7-10 and 14-17. Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm. Sunday matinees at 3:00pm.

General admission \$15; Seniors \$12; Students \$10. Reservations and directions at parishplayers.org or (802) 785-4344.

Kay Morton

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