

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

OCTOBER 3, 2018 7PM AT TES

Thetford voters are being asked to vote yes or no about whether to vote on Nov. 6, 2018, for a change of government structure (the addition of a Town Manager) for the Town of Thetford.

The Oct. 3, 2018 vote is *not* a yes or no vote concerning a change in our governmental structure. It is a vote about whether to have a ballot vote during the upcoming mid-term election on that subject: the change in governmental structure.

The Selectboard will devote time on its regular Monday night agendas to this vote starting Mon., Sept. 17, 2018. If you'd like to learn more about this vote or the potential vote in November, please attend upcoming Selectboard meetings.

*Cathee Clement
Thetford Selectboard member,
Town Manager Committee*

*Tracy Borst
Thetford Town Clerk, Thetford Treasurer,
Town Manager Committee*

COMMUNITY NURSE

In addition to phone and home visits we are offering office hours at Upper Valley Pediatrics in East Thetford, Wednesdays 1-3.

Blood pressure checks, medication review, caregiver resources, education to assist with following medical care plans as well as communication with primary care providers. Please call or email for an appointment.

A presentation with a panel discussion for caregivers in the community is in the works for Sun., Oct. 14th at 3 PM. Details to follow.

*Cindy Grigel RN, Community Nurse
802-738-9066; fax 802-785-4709
communitynurseofthetford@gmail.com
communitynurseofthetford.weebly.com*

THETFORD ENERGY COMMITTEE

Our Town is Going Solar!

A ribbon cutting for the Thetford-Strafford Community Solar Array will be at 5pm on Sept. 11 next to the closed Post Mills landfill site. Our town will be buying its electricity from this project at 90% of the normal utility rate. Several residents of Thetford and Strafford and a Thetford business are the owners.

Contact Mike Kiess at 802-299-5864 or MichaelKiessVT@gmail.com if you would like to know more.

Michael Kiess

UNITED CHURCH OF THETFORD

We want you to know about an important decision reached after many thoughtful and prayer-filled meetings by the Administrative Council of the United Church of Thetford (UCT).

On Aug. 26, the Council voted that going forward we will use our resources for two purposes: to worship and to give to our community. The Council instructed the UCT Trustees to divest ourselves of our two buildings: the Timothy Frost Methodist Church (TFMC) in Thetford Center and the North Thetford Federated Church (NTFC) in North Thetford. We would like to donate these facilities to a public or nonprofit entity with the hope that they will be of even greater service to Thetford.

The UCT was formed when congregations in two of Thetford's villages combined in 2008. For the past ten years, we have worshipped together and cared for our buildings. Over time, we have learned that our resources simply are not sufficient to both maintain a worship community and be good stewards of those buildings.

As the Trustees explore how to best

repurpose the TFMC and the NTFC, we welcome your thoughts. To contact us, please reach out at unitedchurchofthetford@gmail.com.

We also welcome your prayers as we begin a new and exciting chapter in the life of the United Church of Thetford. You are welcome to join us in worship and community giving. In the immediate future, worship will take place at the TFMC on Sept. 2 and, after that, at the NTFC. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers!

Michael Kiess

THETFORD ELDER NETWORK SENIOR COFFEE KLATCH

The Senior Coffee Klatch is back! We'll see you on the 2nd Wed., Sept. 12th, 10-11:30 at the Community Center in Thetford Center. It will be good to reconnect after our summer off! Call for a ride.

Pril Hall, 333-4077

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON

What to do with a fridge full of just-harvested veggies? Why, Pam's scrumptious stir-fry, of course! Come to the North Thetford Church Thurs., Sept. 27, at 11:30am, for a delicious lunch of stir-fry on rice, fresh green salad, beverage, and a homemade cookie with pineapple—YUM!

We'll talk about news of upcoming events that you may find worth your while, and of course there'll be your friends and neighbors to share updates with, plus a new friend, perhaps.

Our monthly TEN Luncheons, usually the fourth Thursday, are supported by a grant from Senior Solutions and by a suggested donation at the door—\$5 if you can, to help fund future meals.

If you would like to help with one task, please call Cathy at 785-3136.

Warm thanks to everyone who makes the Luncheons so successful—our generous donors, our volunteers, and our guests!

Susan Rump

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., Sept. 25th at 7 pm. As none of us had finished the book, we decided to continue to discuss it at our next meeting.

We will be discussing *Guns, Germs and Steel* by Jared Diamond.

In this "artful, informative, and delightful" (William H. McNeill, *New York Review of Books*) book, Jared Diamond convincingly argues that geographical and environmental factors shaped the modern world. Societies that had had a head start in food production advanced beyond the hunter-gatherer stage, and then developed religion—as well as nasty germs and potent weapons of war—and adventured on sea and land to conquer and decimate preliterate cultures. *Guns, Germs, and Steel* chronicles the way that the modern world came to be and stunningly dismantles racially based theories of human history.

EDM Landman MD

THETFORD LIBRARIES

LATHAM LIBRARY

Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate

Sat., Sept. 15 at 11:00 am. Just in time for International Talk Like a Pirate Day, come see award-winning musician Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate perform a concert for the young and the young at heart! The singer describes his style as "Sesame Street meets Monty Python" and has released three albums for children, most recently "The Flying Pirate Circus." All are welcome! Free.

Musical Storytime for Babies and Toddlers Wed., Sept. 19 at 10:00 am. Gary Barton, Librarian from the Howe Library in Hanover, joins Latham's baby/toddler playgroup (Tales and Tunes for Tots) for a special music and movement

storytime. All are welcome, including siblings!

ONGOING PROGRAMS AT LATHAM LIBRARY

Storytime Fridays at 10:30am, unless noted. Stories and songs for preschoolers and their siblings. All ages are welcome!

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

Afterschool activities for students in grades 4-6 start on Sept. 7 and run every Friday that TES is in session, unless noted. Children may walk to Latham Library from school for stories, games, arts and crafts, and other fun activities. Students younger than grade 4 must be accompanied by an adult or high school student while in the library.

Tales and Tunes For Tots is a playgroup for babies, toddlers and their caregivers. Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am.

PEABODY LIBRARY

Afterschool Wednesdays will begin on Wed., Sept. 5 and run every week that TES is in session. Students in grades K-3 may take the school bus from TES to the Peabody Library for stories, activities, and a snack. Pick-up time is 4:30 pm.

For more information, including lists of new books and movies, please visit thetfordlibrary.org or follow us on Facebook.

Emily Zollo

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). I welcome your feedback.

Susanna French

SCHOOL'S BACK IN SESSION ...BUT NOT HERE

Until TES opened in 1962, Thetford students attended neighborhood schoolhouses. Some you know. These, maybe not.



The 1803 schoolhouse in East Thetford sat on the eastern side of Route 5. It was East Thetford's second schoolhouse; the first operated as early as 1773.



In 1900, the school superintendent claimed that Rice's Mills' first schoolhouse was "not a fit place for cattle, and it is not as good a building as many barns. It is cold, unhomelike and barren." When the town tried to move this one in 1931, it collapsed. Its replacement is now the Rice's Mills Community Center on Route 132.



The tiny Cream Street school, on Route 132, closed in 1894 because of its poor condition and lack of students.