

E. KINGSTON EDITION



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What to do with 50lbs of Squash?

by Sharman Cohen

On October 9th, residents of Maplevale gathered in the driveway of Bob and Sandy Courchesne for the carving of this MASSIVE squash! This squash, a Boston Marrow squash, was planted in the Maplevale Community Garden and grew to be 50lbs! Bob, an avid gardener, shared pieces of the organic squash with his neighbors and was kind enough to include a recipe for Boston Marrow Squash Pie should they not know what exactly to do with it. He even recommended that swapping pumpkin for squash to make a "pumpkin pie" was just as delicious. The seeds from Bob's squash will be dried and saved for next year's planting season.

Library Director of the Year

By Zoe Sucu

On October 24th, at our monthly Trustee Meeting, Tracy was presented with the New Hampshire Library Director of the Year Award.

The Library Director of the Year award is given to one (or two this year!) library professional in the state of New Hampshire every year. Trustees who feel their director is worthy of the award put together a nomination and submit it to the NH Library Trustee Association (NHLTA). The winner is announced in September, and awards are presented anytime after.

The Library Director of the Year award is given to those who exhibit leadership, outstanding performance, and who has made notable contributions towards fulfilling the missions and goals of the library. The nominee needs to have demonstrated initiative in developing programs and services to meet community needs as well as try to enhance the quality of life for said community.

Our trustees felt that Tracy demonstrated all those factors and more over her 28 years working for the East Kingston Public Library. She was nominated and won in a tie alongside Goffstown's Library Director, Dianne Hathaway.

We'd like to give a huge congratulations to Tracy in winning this award! It's a massive accomplishment and we couldn't be more proud.



East Kingston Edition

Town of East Kingston
www.eknh.org

Town Clerk & Tax Collector

(603) 642-8794
Monday: 8am - 5pm
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:
8am - 2:30pm
Wednesday: 5pm - 7pm

Town Administration

(603) 642-8406
Monday: 8am - 4pm
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:
8am - 2:30pm
Wednesday: 11am - 7pm

East Kingston Police

Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: (603) 642-5427

East Kingston Fire

ekfd.org
Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: (603) 642-3141

East Kingston Public Library

eastkingstonlibrary.org
(603) 642-8333
ekpublib@comcast.net
Monday & Wednesday:
9am - 5pm
Tuesday & Thursday:
11am - 7pm
Friday & Saturday:
9am - 1pm

E. Kingston Elementary School

(603) 642-3511
EKES on the web: eks.sau16.org
SAU16 on the web: sau16.org

Newsletter Deadlines

Submissions for the following month must be submitted by the 17th of each month. Send submissions to newsletter@eastkingstonnh.gov

Please be aware that the pandemic may affect normal business hours. It may be best to call before attempting a visit.

Conserving and preserving New Hampshire's open spaces – one piece at a time.

By Matt Freeman

Kudos to the East Kingston Conservation Commission, Town Library and the Southeast Land Trust for a thought-provoking presentation on the protection of one of New Hampshire's most precious commodities – open space.

Their presentation on Wednesday 10/12 was fascinating. Jeremy Lougee from (SELT) held our attention with an informative, straightforward presentation about conservation easements (C.E.'s).

As someone who moved from a small out-of-state town that dramatically failed to protect open space, I know too well how quickly the character and tranquility of a community can be lost forever. More building equals more people, more traffic, more demand on the community's services, increased pollution, less wildlife habitat and higher taxes.

Many areas in New Hampshire, including ours, are already protected by C.E.'s. Once in place, non-profits like SELT, monitor the properties on a yearly basis to ensure that everyone are abiding by the terms of the agreement. A popular misconception, the monitoring is done on prescheduled visits with the property owners, no surprise inspections, no drone over-flights – just a friendly SELT representative taking a walk around the property.

As Jeremy pointed out, each C.E. is largely tailor-made to suit each property owner's wishes providing that, once in place, the C.E. remains with the land into perpetuity. The property owners can decide what portions of the land are included and excluded within the C.E., and what can and cannot be done with the land in the future. SELT actually encourages property owners to take time and consult with their own attorneys to ensure that everyone is on equal footing – there are no secrets, surprises or fine print.

It was enlightening to learn about the various tax benefits that exist by placing a C.E. onto your property and how it can also help the community to keep the taxes down at the same time. Various funding through public and private grants, along with grass-roots donations, help to make conservation easements a reality, and they are actually in demand as SELT has a backlog of requests to enter into C.E.'s from around the region.

Apparently, there are many people who believe that organizations like SELT are anti-development. As Jeremy put it, "SELT is not anti-development, we are for smart development". This includes helping to protect public water supplies, wildlife corridors and habitats, protecting farms and scenic and rural areas. I, for one, can't think of a more worthwhile endeavor.

To be sure, a conservation easement is a process. Jeremy shared that it can take as little as six months and as long as three years or more, depending on the size and complexity of the C.E. Working with the landowner, appraisers, title and hazardous materials searches, land surveyors and attorneys can seem daunting but the long-lasting benefits for the property owner, the community and environment far outweigh the effort.

No property is too large or small to be considered for preservation. Given how important these protections are, a C.E. can even cross over town boundary lines if a parcel straddles two communities.

If you would like to preserve your legacy and help to preserve your community's rural look and feel, consider reaching out to the Southeast Land Trust. We only have one chance to work together to preserve open space before it is lost forever – will you help?

East Kingston Friends Update

By FoEKPL

Happy November! As you make your end-of-the-year plans for 2022, keep in mind there are still many opportunities to support the EK Public Library.

Friends Social Friday, December 2nd 4:00-6:00 - for the whole family!
Check our webpage for more information soon

November Specials at the USB (Used Book Store) at the Pound School - Fridays 10-5 & Saturdays 10-1

- Cozy Mysteries (think Hallmark movies - intrigue without the marked violence)
- Photography and Framing
- Dolls and Miniatures
- Religion
- Christmas Books for all ages
- Fishing
- Albert Terhune's novels featuring Collie dogs
- Vintage books

Grumpy Whales Star Quilt Raffle Drawing at Friends Social!
Tickets are still available at the library and the Used Book Store.

Charitable Gaming Nights November 18th & 18th
FoEKPL receives 35% of the profits from Oceanfront Gaming Casino on Hampton Beach

Make your holiday shopping dollars go a little further

Log into your Amazon account on smile.amazon.com and set the "Friends of the East Kingston Public Library" as the charitable organization associated with your account.

Friends Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 25th 5:00-7:00

2023 Membership Drive

The Friends membership drive is our most important fundraising period. The support we receive during this drive allows us to budget and plan for the year ahead with confidence that we can continue to support the library's ability to offer the kinds of programming and opportunities to help enrich the lives of our community. 2022 support included:

- Solar panels for the Library
- Free and reduced passes to more than eight museums
- Shelving and storage system for the Library
- Turkey weathervane for the library by local artist Jeff Whittum
- Summer Reading program

If you have already sent in your 2023 Membership donation -THANK YOU! If not, please consider renewing, or joining us, for 2023. Current FoEKPL have been sent renewal forms. New members: please stop in at the library for a membership form or email us at friendsofekpl@gmail.com for more information.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to join us as a volunteer with the Friends. If you would like to learn more, please reach out to us via email or indicate your interest on your membership form.

As always, thank you for your support! Please follow our new FaceBook Page "*Friends of East Kingston Public Library*", visit our webpage or email us at friendsofekpl@gmail.com for more information.



East Kingston Brick Fundraiser: Be Part of a Forever Memory

by Julie Ostopchuk, East Kingston Conservation Commission

With thanks to the Blaisdell, Hobson, Cammett, Nadeau, Newcomb, Riddell and Davis families, East Kingston is nearing the \$1,000 mark in funds raised for the town beach project.

Purchase a brick with your name, company, organization, or in memory of a person, pet or special event at <https://4everbricks.com/donors/ekcc/>. Your donated brick will be part of a permanent installation on the town beach patio (following project completion in 2023-2024).

Everyone can play a part in this, and every donation makes a difference.

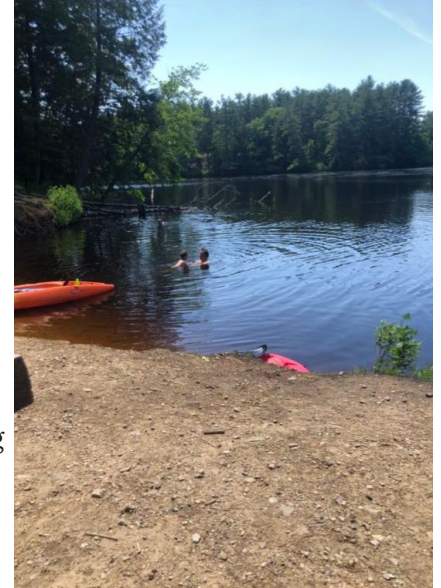
Donations for the brick fundraiser start at \$75. Order yours at

<https://4everbricks.com/donors/ekcc/>.

The Powwow Bank Restoration Project will address the erosion that has occurred and prevent future erosion with retaining structures, providing easier access for residents. Native plants and trees will be added, providing food for wildlife as well as aesthetic beauty.

You may also make a monetary donation in any amount; send your check to the East Kingston Conservation Commission at 24 Depot Road, East Kingston NH 03827. Please write Powwow Project on your donation.

Thank you for helping us make this area a beautiful parcel for the enjoyment of all residents.



Interested in protecting your land with a conservation easement?

by Vicki J. Brown, East Kingston Conservation Commission

Learn about the process for and benefits of a conservation easement at www.youtu.be/cp0YLxwOEqM

The program, "Protect Your Land: Preserve Your Legacy," was hosted by the East Kingston Conservation Commission (EKCC) at the East Kingston Public Library on October 12, 2022. Presenter Jeremy Lougee (starting at 7:30) discusses the process for and benefits of a conservation easement. Jeremy is a Senior Conservation Project Manager & Farmland Coordinator at Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire (SELT), which has conserved tens of thousands of acres, including Bodwell Farm and Monahan Farm. To start, East Kingston Conservation Commission Chair Dennis Quintal shares the town's goal to conserve more land in East Kingston, referencing the Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). Find conservation resources on the web page at www.eknh.org/conservation-commission. Questions and answers start at 38 minutes in.

Please send queries and comments to EKCC at EKconservation@gmail.com.

Important Dates

- **November 14th @ 5:00pm - East Kingston**

- **Conservation Commission**

- In-Person. Meetings will be held at the Town Offices. More information can be found at www.eknh.org/conservation-commission.

- **November 14th @ 6:30pm - Selectmen's Meeting**

- In-Person with Zoom Option. Meetings will be held at the Town offices. The agenda, Zoom link, and more can be found on eknh.org/selectmen.

- **November 17th @ 7:00pm - Planning Board**

- In Person. Meetings are held at the Pound School. More information can be found at www.eknh.org/planning-board.

- **November 28th @ 5pm - EKPL Board of Trustees**

- In Person with Zoom Option. Meetings will be held at the EK Public Library. The agenda, Zoom link, and more can be found at www.eastkingstonlibrary.org.

- **November 28th @ 6:30pm - Selectmen's Meeting**

- In-Person with Zoom Option. Meetings will be held at the Town offices. The agenda, Zoom link, and more can be found on eknh.org/selectmen.