

E. KINGSTON EDITION

Happy One Year Anniversary!



IN THIS ISSUE

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

IMPORTANT TOWN DATES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

CANDIDATE INTRODUCTIONS

VOTING IN EAST KINGSTON

First EK Edition Anniversary

by Zoe Sucu

It's our birthday! Our very first issue of the East Kingston Edition came out on March 1, 2021. We've been grateful for the amount of support that we've gotten in restarting this newsletter. While our reach is still small compared to the amount of people in our town, we are moving forward in getting as much information out as possible.

Looking back, we were able to spread positive information about so many things. The East Kingston Conservation Commissions efforts to keep our town the beautiful place that it is. The Fire Department holding their vaccination van and the Police Chief introducing some of his officers to the town. The Library was able to keep patrons up to date on COVID-19 changes and challenges, and introduce the town to a few new databases to help families with learning from home. The Friends of the Library broadcasted their most popular events and have gained lots of new members because of it.

Remember, if you'd like to read previous editions, they're all on the Library website under community: eastkingstonlibrary.org/community

A GARDEN FOR POLLINATORS AND WILDLIFE MARCH 15

by Vicki J. Brown

Your yard can provide critical habitat for birds, bees and other wildlife. Learn some simple ways to bring nature home in "A Garden for Pollinators and Wildlife," on Tuesday, March 15 at 7pm.

By Zoom or in-person in Brentwood, you'll learn how to:

- Increase wildlife variety, including birds, in your yard
- Decrease time spent on mowing and other yard chores
- Reduce or eliminate watering



Please register for the program by calling 603-642-3355 or emailing director@brentwoodlibrarynh.org; indicate if you'll be attending via zoom or in-person at the Mary E. Bartlett Memorial Library in Brentwood. At this time, and subject to change, masks are required for in-person attendance. Please call or email with any questions.

This Speaking for Wildlife program, hosted by Brentwood Gardeners and Pollinator Pathways NH, will be presented by East Kingston resident Vicki J. Brown, a NH Natural Resources Steward and co-founder of Pollinator Pathways NH.

EKPL Plastic Update

by Zoe Sucu, Library Staff

We'd like to thank everyone who has participated so far in our plastic recycling program. As of March first, we have well over 300lbs! You wouldn't BELIEVE what 300lbs of plastic even looks like. In a minute example, a regular household trash bag holds approximately 2-3lbs of household plastics. Now, think about how many trash bags it would take for 300lbs!

We've got an amazing head start, but please note that our project runs until June, so now is your chance to get into the habit of recycling those sandwich or cereal bags.

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.

EK School Board Update

by Andy Herum, EKES School Board

EKES Operating Budget on the Ballot Tuesday March 8th:

On January 12th the School Board voted 3-0 to approve a budget for the East Kingston Elementary School.

Here are the main items that have changed within that budget:

- A Math Specialist has been approved for the 2022-2023 school year. This has been done to help improve overall math performance at the school.
- There was a decrease in IDEA federal funding (grants) given to the school. Previously these funds were consolidated at the SAU level, but they are now broken down by individual districts.
- With the addition of a Math Specialist and loss of IDEA federal funding, the budget increase was held to 1.98%, an increase of \$60,952.
- With the increase in enrollment this year, and the expected continued increase next year, the cost/student will decrease with this latest budget. Based upon current numbers this is expected to be a decrease of \$1500 to \$2000/per student.

This budget will be on the ballot to be approved by the voters of East Kingston on March 8th. We appreciate the community's continued support of the children and the school.

Jen Ranz - Outgoing Chair:

Melissa Lyons and I would like to thank Jen Ranz for her service to the school and the community these last 6 years. Her hard work, professionalism and leadership will be difficult to replace and will be greatly missed.

School Play - Beauty and the Beast:

The EKES 4th and 5th graders have been hard at work since December practicing 2-3 times a week on the 2022 play, Beauty and the Beast, which will be performed at EKES on March 25th and 26th (times TBD). Please mark your calendars and come see the kids in action.

School Board Meeting March 9th:

The next East Kingston School Board meeting will be held Wednesday, March 9th at 5:30 in the East Kingston Elementary School Gym. Along with welcoming in our newest School Board member (good luck to both Abby Mills and Tiffany Dabrieo), the board will also be discussing the matrix used to determine when masks are required or recommended within the school building. It is expected that any changes to the policy will be implemented immediately and effective Thursday, March 10th.

Natural Resources Stewards Program Now Accepting Applications for Sept. 2022

by Vicki J. Brown

Do you love spending time outdoors learning and caring for the natural world? Become a Natural Resources Steward! You don't have to have prior experience or a biology or environmental science degree – just an interest and in nature.

UNH Cooperative Extension is currently enrolling for the 2022 Natural Resources Stewards Program that begins on Friday, September 2, 2022 at Canterbury Shaker Village. This year's class marks 30 years of the program.

Apply early as the class size is limited to 25 each year. For more information about the program, visit nhstewards.org.

The NH Stewards program offers a comprehensive education and volunteer support network for all who want to learn, explore and share the nature of NH.

Participants share their knowledge by volunteering: they create pollinator gardens; share their knowledge with their communities; identify big trees; prune and plant; create wildlife habitat; build trails; and serve on their town's conservation commission and planning boards.

Questions? Ask me. I became a Natural Resources Steward in 2017. It was one of the best decisions I've ever made! EKconservation@gmail.com

Apply at NHStewards.org.



Protecting Our Soil Via Regenerative Techniques

by Julie Ostopchuk, East Kingston Conservation Commission

In my prior article addressing healthy soil, I touched on the topic of regenerative growing techniques. Many organic farmers promote these techniques to not only improve soil health, but also to improve the water cycle, increase organic matter in soil structure, and transfer carbon from the atmosphere to the soil. These systems are applicable to all gardeners.

Plants are the best way to remove excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. As plants die back each winter, they drop leaves and branches. Over time this debris decomposes, adding more nutrients and carbon to the soil.

The alliance between plants and soil organisms helps lock in carbon, producing dark organic matter called humus. Soil rich in carbon feeds mycorrhizae, a vast network of fungi that releases glomalin: a sticky substance that binds together particles of sand, silt, and clay, creating a soil structure that conserves moisture and holds onto nutrients. Plants raised in favorable conditions like this, with easy access to moisture and nutrients, grow sturdier and more resilient.

The following are basic regenerative growing principles:

1. Reduce the use of artificial fertilizers. Synthetic fertilizer is not conducive to regenerative systems because it creates an imbalance of microbes in soil, impeding the natural processes by which plants absorb nutrients. This results in an agroecosystem with weak plants that become dependent on artificial fertilizer.
2. Eliminate or decrease tillage. Decreasing tilling is one of the best regenerative practices for improving soil. Tilling simultaneously causes soil erosion and releases substantial amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.
3. Compost and mulch. Adding compost and mulch, which you can make yourself or buy from a garden supply store, means your garden won't need as much water, pest management, or other caretaking. There's no need for food scraps to enter landfills when they can be used to provide extra nutrients via composting. Do be cautious of your mulch supply, as many commercial brands are treated with herbicides and can harm young seedlings.
4. Rotate crops. Cover crops such as legumes and crop rotation are two of basic principles of sustainable agriculture for annual plants that lead to greater biodiversity. Bare soil is vulnerable to weather erosion, which causes beneficial nutrients to dry out and wash away or blow away. By growing a different type of crop in the same location each growing season, nitrogen-fixing plants like legumes can add nutrients to the soil that other plants absorb.

For gardeners wanting to try a no-till approach, this "lasagna bed" is one of the most popular. It can be placed directly on top of the ground, or used in a container. For more information on these techniques, visit rodaleinstitute.org

For more in-depth information, Jim Kovaleski is an inspirational farmer you can find on YouTube who has mastered regenerative agriculture on his farms in Maine and Florida.



Town Clerk Update

by Barbara Clark, Town Clerk

Absentee ballots for the March 8, 2022 Town election will be available by February 23, 2022 in the Town Clerk's Office. An application for an absentee ballot may be transmitted by facsimile or email to the town clerk.

Our office will accept completed absentee ballot requests in person by the voter until 5:00 pm the day before an election or until 5:00 pm on Election Day (March 8, 2022) if received through the mail. If a family member drops off an absentee ballot with the town clerk, an Absentee Ballot Return Form must be completed by the person returning the absentee ballot.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Town Clerk's Office at (603) 642-8794, x 2.

Dog Licensing Reminder

As is required by RSA 466:1, all dogs must be licensed by April 30 each year.

Friends of the Library Update

by Cara Gray, FoEKPL

2022 Membership Drive!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2022 Friends Membership drive! As we've mentioned before, this is our most important fundraising period. If you would still like to donate, it is not too late! Pledge forms can be found at the library, the Used Book Store, or please send us an email at friendsofekpl@gmail.com.

Weathervane Purchased by the Friends of EKPL

Here's a sneak peak. More information on this beautiful weathervane and details for displaying it will be shared soon.



Used Book Store at the Pound School

Open Friday 10-5 and Saturday 10-1.

New volunteers are always welcomed. Email us for more information.

Specials for March include:

- USA Presidents - half price on historical biographies
- Artist John Gray - Beautiful book of frame worthy prints
- Overstock Sale - buy one/get two free of popular authors
- Cookbooks - buy one/get one free of large selection

Mark Calendars!! Next 5th Saturday Children's Sale April 30

Charitable Gaming Dates

FoEKPL has eight Charitable Games of Chance dates in 2022. The Friends will receive 35% of profits from Oceanfront Gaming Casino on Hampton Beach.

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| • April 5 | • September 8 |
| • April 6 | • September 9 |
| • May 20 | • November 18 |
| • May 21 | • November 19 |

Quilt Raffle

The beautiful quilt, made by local Diane Sheckells, is currently on display in the library by the front door and comes with a matching accent pillow. Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets. The quilt raffle will be taken on the road on March 8th. Stop by the East Kingston Elementary School during Voting hours to purchase your raffle tickets. Please check it out!

Spring Garden Clean-up Day

Our annual Spring Clean-up Day is scheduled for Friday, April 22nd (Earth Day) @ 9:00. Volunteers are welcome. We'll be pulling weeds, mulching, and trimming shrubs, roses, etc... Please email us if you plan on attending.

Book, Bake & Plant Sale @ EKPL May 21st.

More details to follow.

2022 Quarterly Meeting Dates – Please mark your calendars!

We would love to have you join us at our upcoming meetings. They are held at the EK Public Library and begin at 6pm with a Zoom option.

- Thursday April 21st
- Thursday July 22nd
- Thursday October 20th

If you have any questions or would like to be involved, please check out our webpage www.eastkingstonlibrary.org/friends-of-ekpl on the EKPL website or email the Friends at friendsofekpl@gmail.com.

As always, thank you for your support!

March Programs at the Library

by Zoe Sucu, Library Staff

March is going to be a fun month!

We will be hosting our February vacation Mystery Bag Art Challenge where kids take a bag of supplies, and make something out of it! Each participant gets the same supplies, submits their creation to the library, takes part in a contest, and the winner receives a prize! The contest will be online, so keep your eye out and vote!

On March 15th, at 7pm, we will be hosting the New Hampshire Healthcare Workers for Climate Action group. They will be giving a Zoom presentation on the health effects of Climate Change and what we can do to prevent them. Sign up is REQUIRED. Please call or email the library to add your name to the list!

On March 24, at 7pm, we will be reviving our Discover DIY group! For this DIY, we'll be making four different types of homemade household cleaners. We'll also be learning about what chemicals to look out for when buying cleaners at the store. This program pairs perfectly with the program on March 15th. Space is limited. Sign up is REQUIRED

As always, we have virtual story hour on Fridays at 10am. If you'd like to join, please give us a call.

Important Dates

VOTING

- **Tuesday March 8th @ 8am - 7pm**
 - In-Person. Voting will take place in the Multi-Purpose room at EKES
 - East Kingston Elementary School: 5 Andrews Lane

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS

- **March 7th @ 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.
- **March 14th @ 5:00pm - East Kingston Conservation Commission**
 - In-Person with Zoom Option. Meetings will be held at the Town Offices. More information can be found at www.eknh.org/conservation-commission.
- **March 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.
- **March 21st @ 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.
- **March 28th @ 5pm - East Kingston Public Library 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

Voting - March 8th - 8am to 7pm at EKES

by Zoe Sucu, Library Staff

Voting in East Kingston will take place on Tuesday, March 8 from 8am to 7pm at the East Kingston Elementary School. We reached out to every candidate on our ballot and asked them to write an introduction about themselves, as well as answer three questions, all to help our voters decide who their vote should go to.

Below you will find a chart of those on the East Kingston town ballot, the Exeter Regional Cooperative Board, and the ERCSD Budget Advisory Committee.

****Please note** We reached out to everyone on the ballot. The ones included are the ones that have responded.**

East Kingston Town Ballot

<u>Selectmen</u> Robert Nigrello David F. Sullivan
<u>Moderator</u> Keri Marshall
<u>Town Clerk/ Tax Collector</u> Barbara A. Clark
<u>Treasurer</u> Barbara K. Smith
<u>Library Trustee</u> Louise Y. Barsalou
<u>Cemetery Trustee</u> Barbara A. Clark
<u>Trustee of the Trust Fund</u> Ronald F. Morales
<u>Supervisor of the Checklist - 4 yr.</u> Sherry Castle
<u>Supervisor of the Checklist - 6 yr.</u> Gisela Lloyd
EK SCHOOL BOARD
<u>School Board Member</u> Tiffany Dabrio Abby Mills
<u>School Moderator</u> Peter Dervan

E.A. "Ted" Lloyd	East Kingston
Kim Casey	East Kingston
Robert Hall	Kensington
Jennifer Marr	Kensington
Katherine B. Miller	Exeter
Kimberly Meyer	Exeter
Joseph Cahill	Exeter
Melissa Hanlon	Brentwood
Melissa Litchfield	Brentwood
Scott Dennehy	Brentwood

Exeter Region Cooperative Board

Robert Delorie	Exeter
Margaret (Meg) Batement	Exeter
Heidi Hanson	Stratham
Patrick Gillis	Stratham
Patricia (Trish) Cox	Newfields
Donald Cardinali	Newfields

ERCSDS Budget Advisory Committee

East Kingston Town Ballot

On your ballot, you will vote for one person under each category. Only the Selectmen and the School Board are contested races.

For the Town Ballot, we asked three different sets of questions, one set for Selectmen, one set for School Board, and one set for general town positions.

Below are the answers to our questions. You can find which position the candidate is running for in the title next to their name.

We asked the general candidates on the East Kingston ballot three questions:

Why are you interested in serving our community?

What are your goals for this position?

What positive change could you bring to the board you are running for?

Candidates for Selectmen were asked these questions:

What skills do you bring to this position?

How would you go about building a good relationship with town departments and residents?

The state of New Hampshire and the town's insurer, Primex, both hold informational sessions for selectmen to be equipped to do their job. Can we hold you responsible for attending these sessions?

Candidates for School Board were asked these questions:

What skills do you bring to this position?

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing the school/school board?

How would you balance work life, home life, and school board responsibilities?

East Kingston Town Ballot

<u>Selectmen</u> Robert Nigrello David F. Sullivan
<u>Moderator</u> Keri Marshall
<u>Town Clerk/ Tax Collector</u> Barbara A. Clark
<u>Treasurer</u> Barbara K. Smith
<u>Library Trustee</u> Louise Y. Barsalou
<u>Cemetery Trustee</u> Barbara A. Clark
<u>Trustee of the Trust Fund</u> Ronald F. Morales
<u>Supervisor of the Checklist - 4 yr.</u> Sherry Castle
<u>Supervisor of the Checklist - 6 yr.</u> Gisela Lloyd
EK SCHOOL BOARD
<u>School Board Member</u> Tiffany Dabrio Abby Mills
<u>School Moderator</u> Peter Dervan

Sherry Castle - Supervisor of the Checklist, 4 yr. term

I've been an East Kingston resident for 4 years since purchasing my first home in 2018. As a first-time homeowner, I'm naturally interested in the success of my town and being a part of the community. I've been disappointed to see the decline of local volunteerism, which resulted in no one running for some town offices on the 2021 ballot. I vowed to run in 2022 to support East Kingston.

My background is in analytical science and business. I'm organized with attention to detail, technically apt, and have a desire to know my neighbors. As Supervisor of the Checklist I'll serve the town by continuing to enforce our voting laws - ensuring every voter is legally qualified to vote and every legal voter is able.

Gisela Lloyd - Supervisor of the Checklist, 6 yr. term

My name is Gisela Lloyd and I have been living in East Kingston since 2004 with my husband Ted. I was born in Nürnberg, Germany and came to this country in 1970. The main reason I became a naturalized citizen was that I would be given the right to vote. Voting has been a very important privilege for me. That said, with all the controversy around voting integrity, I put my name on the ballot for Supervisor of the Checklist.

I believe in giving back to the community. East Kingston is a small town and it relies on citizen support. Volunteering for The Friends of the East Kingston Public Library has been a large part of my East Kingston life. I have been the President (although not my favorite job) and then the Treasurer for about 10 years. I also volunteer at the Friends Used Book Shop once a month.

Working in business for over 20 years afforded me with many skills, such as computer, financial and general business practices. If elected, I will take this position very seriously. I will attend classes and workshops, learn the RSA's and keep the voter list updated.

I would very much appreciate if you vote for me on March 8th to become a Supervisor of the Checklist. Thank you!

Louise Y. Barsalou - Library Trustee

I love libraries! Ever since I was in grade school, I have had a library card and spent a lot of time pouring over books. High school and college years were spent in libraries studying because I didn't have a computer to do research. I lived in a very rural community in northeast Maine where the closest library was 50 miles away. I was introduced to the Maine State Library and there was nothing more satisfying than receiving their monthly catalog to order books that were delivered right to your door.

I have always been involved in volunteer work in my community so when I relocated from Maine to East Kingston two years ago, I immediately visited East Kingston Library and signed up for the monthly newsletter. The library was looking for an alternate Trustee and then a Board Trustee. I was hooked after the first meeting.

My goal is to help support the programs offered by the library keeping it relevant to the community not for just the love of books but as a source of educational and informational needs.

Barbara K. Smith- Town Treasurer

Hello! I am Barbara Smith and I have been the Treasurer for the past six years and am seeking another term. I have lived in East Kingston with my husband and three daughters for 27 years.

My background is in accounting primarily working in the utility industry at all levels up to and including the Controller position. I started my career as a CPA certified in New York State. I have brought my expertise to the town by actively investing short term cash, implementing electronic banking services and assisting with the implementation of upgraded accounting systems.

I hope to continue to support the needs of the town as we explore additional ways to improve the town's cash systems. Thank you.

Abby Mills - East Kingston School Board

Hello fellow East Kingston residents! My name is Abby Mills and I am running for the East Kingston School Board. I am a mom to three children, a sixth-grader at CMS and twin - third-graders at EKES. I work for the City of Portsmouth in the Finance Department and also head up the City's records archive. I have my Bachelors degree from Allegheny College and am currently working on my MBA through the University of New Hampshire, which I will be finishing in July. I love spending time with my kids on trips, playing board games, fishing, hiking, and caring for our small menagerie of pets. My favorite season is Baseball/Softball season, and can be found enthusiastically cheering on my kids from the side of the field. In my spare time I love to tend to our small flock of chickens, photography, put up numerous bird houses/feeders and plant gardens to attract pollinators.

I am fortunate to have some education in government finance (I completed the certificate program from the NH Government Finance Officers Association last year) and would bring to this position the ability to understand budget and governmental processes. Part of my work-related skills include translating budgets into a more graphic and approachable format. I hope to also utilize my knowledge to more effectively make changes within SAU 16 - to help tighten the budget and strengthen our academics back to a level at which we can all be proud. I have been in the EK community for over 14 years, giving me insight into the school through the eyes of a taxpayer, a parent and through those of my children.

I believe the biggest issue facing the school board is effective communication:

- Many parents have expressed that although they have spoken up, they rarely feel that their concerns are addressed by SAU 16, illustrating the communications breakdown that needs to be addressed. All members of the community should feel heard, understood and informed. EKES should lead the way in introducing more effective methods to take in and address public questions in an attempt to curb much of the frustration from residents.
- Although EKES is working to better communicate its budget to the residents, SAU 16 struggles to answer questions effectively for residents on the school's finances.
- EKES needs to better illustrate academic successes and struggles through a change in the report card system.
- The SAU 16 administration must improve its communication consistency and format, especially from the central office.

As a working mother of three children, I am more than capable of juggling multiple schedules, duties and responsibilities. The position of School Board Member carries a time commitment and a responsibility that will be respected and honored within my current schedule. I am very fortunate to have a husband to share in my parental responsibilities so I may be available to dedicate my time elsewhere. I conclude my MBA studies in July, and I would love to dedicate some of that time to serving my town/school.

Tiffany Dabrieo - East Kingston School Board

My name is Tiffany Dabrieo. I have lived in East Kingston for 7 years with my husband Brian and our four children Paeton (20) Ava (15) Zoey (11) and Zach (9). East Kingston is a very special community, I love it here! It is a great place to raise a family. I have three children in the SAU 16 school district. I have two children at East Kingston Elementary, a sophomore at Exeter High School and a 2020 graduate who is now a sophomore in college. I have been a Hair Designer for the last 20 years, and successfully ran my own business for 14 years. In the Spring of 2021, I decided to step back from my career and focus on my children's education.

I am running for school board because, for me, it's all about the kids in our community. Kids are our future, and a great education is key! I will focus on our students' unfinished learning that has occurred due to the pandemic. I am for budgets that enhance our students learning, responsible spending with transparency and accountability. I support our teachers and paraprofessionals. I have concerns about an administration that leads from behind. This is something that I will strive to improve. Great communication is first and foremost.

I am very familiar with East Kingston Elementary having worked as a paraprofessional and a substitute. This experience gave me great insight, I understand what is needed and what is not. I also served on the East Kingston PTO as chair and co-chair. I not only attend EK school board meetings, but also co-op, joint board, and budget advisory meetings to be informed. I also speak with community members to share thoughts and ideas. I believe it is important to honor and listen to all taxpayers in our community. Strong, academically sound schools are an investment for all. I will be a voice for the residents of East Kingston. I am happy to speak with anyone interested in learning more about me. You can reach me at tdabrieo@icloud.com or via Facebook at Tiffany Dabrieo for School Board-East Kingston <https://www.facebook.com/groups/517086626407473/>

I ask for your vote on Tuesday, March 8th!

David Sullivan - Selectmen

Hello fellow residents of East Kingston. My name is David F. Sullivan. I would like to thank the hardworking folks at the East Kingston Library for this opportunity to contribute to the Town Newsletter.

My wife Cindy and I have lived in East Kingston since 1984. Since then we adopted our son Nicholas and our daughter Kara. They both attended East Kingston Elementary School. Nicholas and I donated a lot of time to the school Playground Project. We also donated time to the Fire Department, helping out with work on town property.

At one time I had a business partner, Richard Cook from East Kingston. He and I donated the land where the East Kingston Police Department building now stands. I then donated machine time for preparation of that land prior to the building construction. This time and energy were donated with the town's best interest at heart.

Since the age of 10, I worked construction with my father. It involved, asphalt paving, concrete work, masonry and building houses. If elected, I would bring this knowledge to the Board of Selectmen.

I also have 23 years of part-time law enforcement experience in the state of New Hampshire. Ten years of this time I worked in the town of East Kingston, with five years as Deputy Chief of Police. These many years of service have given me the skills to deal with all kinds of people and problems.

In addition, I served on the East Kingston Planning Board, with part of that time as Chairman.

I believe

- The ability to find common ground and compromise is a must. Every problem has a solution, if one works hard enough to find it.
- Respect for All is essential I commit to make sure that every resident is heard. I hope to bring harmony and availability to the Board.

I stand aligned with sensible School Policy and our dedicated First Responders.

Thank you and I ask for your vote on March 8th

Robert Nigrello - Selectmen

My family and I have been residents of East Kingston since 1995. My wife Morna works at EKES as a paraprofessional.

Our children Amanda, Elizabeth, and Gregory all attended EKES the Co-op middle and high school.

My involvement in the town includes being a member of, Recreation Dept, Planning Board, School Board, State Representative, Energy committee, Old Town Hall committee, Police Chief search committee and currently Selectmen.

My skill base stems for my engineering education BEEE, and 35 years at Sylvania lighting in management positions. Skills include, employee relations, contract negotiation, financial responsibility, issue resolution using 6 sigma techniques and long-range planning. Planning is a key element to meet current and future resident and employee needs and reducing the number of crises of the moment management situations.

Listening to the needs/wants of residents, coworkers, department heads, etc, is essential to the Selectmen position. My phone and door are always open to have a discussion. As Chairman of the BOS, the bimonthly selectmen's meeting has continued with a virtual Zoom option to ensure all voice are heard.

Below is a list of projects i have advocated for or helped deliver solutions to the East Kingston community

Planning board – Cluster housing regulations

Town paid trash collection for 55 and old communities.

EK Elementary- Replace multipurpose floor with moisture resistant flooring.

60KW Solar array paid for with \$400,000 grant, reducing utility costs \$30,000yr. (more with Until increase)

State Representative - fought to stop the downshifting of services/costs from the state to the town

Served on Ways and Means and Children and Family Law Committees

Selectmen- replacement outdated IT infrastructure, and financial software. Planning to replace core town website to meet the communication needs of residents. Exploring opportunities to organize and digitize written files for easier access by town employees, businesses, and residents.

Member of planning committee of Johnnen estate that has led to repairs made to old town hall.

Updated Town Human Resource manual with comprehensive employee handbook, reviewed and approved by all department heads.

Electronic speed signs are being explored to encourage safe conditions on our roads for pedestrians and drivers.

One of the primary duties of the Selectmen is to provide oversight to all town functions. The current Article 11 on the March 8th town ballot removed selectmen's oversight at the Deliberative session from an ambulance revolving fund. The Board of Selectmen unanimously voted against the removal of oversight.

I respectfully ask that a no vote be cast on Article 11 to restore Selectmen oversight of the funds.

I also as for your vote on March 8th to serve another term as Selectmen, to maintain our safe, secure, and peaceful environment while preparing the town for future challenges.

Exeter Regional Board

EXETER REGION COOP. SCHOOL BOARD

Governs Cooperative Middle School, Exeter High School, Seacoast School of Technology and Adult Education.

We asked the Exeter Regional Cooperative Board three questions:

What skills do you bring to this position?

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing the school/school board?

How would you balance work life, home life, and school board responsibilities?

On your ballot, you will vote for a Exeter Regional Cooperative School Board member from **EACH** town up for election.

Below are the answers to our questions. You can find which town the candidate is from in the title next to their name.

E.A. "Ted" Lloyd	East Kingston
Kim Casey	East Kingston
Robert Hall	Kensington
Jennifer Marr	Kensington
Katherine B. Miller	Exeter - Moderator
Kimberly Meyer	Exeter
Joseph Cahill	Exeter
Melissa Hanlon	Brentwood
Melissa Litchfield	Brentwood
Scott Dennehy	Brentwood

Exeter Region Cooperative Board

Robert Hall - Kensington - Exeter Regional Board

I am a lifelong resident of SAU 16!

I was born, raised and lived in Exeter until 1979 when my wife and I had the opportunity to buy a home right over the Kensington Town Line.

I am a graduate of Exeter High School Class of 1966!

I also taught at Exeter High from 1975-2009.

Currently I am finishing up my 5th year on the COOP School Board and would like to continue to serve our communities and the students from all communities.

I bring with me the knowledge of the schools a lifelong dedication to education and students and the willingness to move SAU 16 Education forward in the 21st century.

The biggest issues facing the COOP Board are moving our schools forward dealing with pandemic in a safe cautious manner and the unfortunate reality that some put politics ahead of students with demands to the COOP Board.

I am fortunate to be a retired educator. I certainly can give back time to the district that employed me for 35 years. I no longer have children or grandchildren in the public school system, but it certainly does not mean I don't care because I certainly do.

I am a taxpayer and I assure you I want the taxpayers to get the "best bang for the buck."

If you agree with my thoughts, please vote for Bob Hall, candidate for COOP Board from Kensington.

Thank you!

Jennifer Marr- Kensington - Exeter Regional Board

My name is Jenn Marr from Kensington, NH. I am writing to announce my candidacy for the Kensington SAU 16 Co-Op School Board. My husband and I moved to this community 20 years ago because we knew we wanted to start a family and have our children go to a school that was one of the top schools in New Hampshire. We have a 9-year-old who attends a private school and a 14-year-old who is a freshman at Exeter High School.

SAU 16 used to be one of the top districts in New Hampshire. People moved to this district so their kids could attend a school district with an excellent reputation.

However, with a significant decrease in the rankings in SAU 16 over the past couple of years, and the decrease in education in our district, we need to focus on bringing back "traditional education" to our children. My goal as a member of the school board will be to make sure that every student receives the quality of education they deserve.

We need a School Board that understands their role and represents the children, parents, and teachers. We need transparency, communication and above all respect from the school board and administration. I want to be the voice for the children, parents, and teachers!

I am very passionate about my children and every child's education. My family and I have discussed as a family the commitment if I am to get elected to school board, and I have their complete support. I am a very hardworking individual who can manage what I take on, so I won't let you down.

If anyone would like to make a donation to my campaign, put a sign in your yard or help hold signs, please message me or you can Venmo me at @jennifer-Marr-326. Thank you for your support.

Please get out and vote on March 8th! We need your votes so we can make a change for our children and their future! Spread the word to all your friends and family in the district.

Katherine B. Miller - Moderator - Exeter Regional Board

If re-elected as Moderator of the Exeter Regional Cooperative School District, I will continue my efforts to run the Deliberative and Balloting sessions of the District fairly and efficiently. Participating in local government is an important part of our responsibilities as citizens. I pledge to do my best to ensure that voters who want to participate in the process can do so.

I have lived in Exeter since 1999. I have an undergraduate degree from Brown University and a law degree from Northeastern University. I am a partner with the law firm of Donahue, Tucker and Ciandella, in Exeter. My practice areas include telecommunications law, advising non-profit organizations and representing individuals, especially in the area of trusts and estate planning. I previously served two terms on the Exeter Elementary School Board and one term on the Coop School Board. I also serve as Moderator for the Town of Exeter. Thank you for your consideration!

Scott Dennehy - Brentwood - Exeter Regional Board

My name is Scott Dennehy, and I am running for the Brentwood seat on the Exeter Regional Cooperative School District Board in March. For the past twenty years, I have lived in Brentwood with my wife Tina and our three children, all a product of the SAU 16 school system. We continue to choose Brentwood for its small-town charm and access to the superior education of SAU 16 schools. I served on the Swasey Parent Faculty Group for numerous years in several roles including President for multiple terms. I then served faithfully for two terms elected as a member of the Swasey School Board. During my time on the board, I was always an advocate for what was best for the students at Swasey. I had the pleasure to be elected Vice-Chair of the board for several years by my fellow board members. I served on the SAU 16 policy committee for several years, a job that was important in understanding the policies put forth by the administration, as well as how those policies impact the community on a local level. I also served on the committee for teacher contract negotiations in the last round. I have practical knowledge of how SAU 16 operates, who the key stakeholders are, and who to go to to get the answers when needed. For the past 6 years, I have been able to balance work life, home life, and school board responsibilities giving each the dedicated focus they need.

We need someone who will represent not just Brentwood, but all six towns in the Exeter Regional Cooperative School District Board (ERCSD), in a fair, common-sense way. Someone who can focus singularly on the tasks at hand and remain objective. We need to come together with a common-sense approach for our schools, one rooted in data, facts, student welfare, and fiscal responsibility with students and staff in mind.

If elected, my focus will be on the academic experience for ALL students, regardless of race, gender sexual orientation, most gifted to the most vulnerable. Only by working together can we build upon the stellar educational system we have come to expect here in SAU 16. We need to rebuild our school community together and create an infrastructure that students, staff, parents, and educators are all proud of. I will try to bridge the gap with those that don't see my focus with full transparency and I will always listen. It's important to note the administration and staff of the SAU 16 are not some unwieldy enemies, they are family, friends, neighbors who, like us, are doing the best they can in unprecedented times. We all want what's best for our children. I believe if we can have a civil discourse of empathy and understanding, we can all move forward and do what's best for our children.

I welcome your thoughtful questions and the opportunity to get to know you better. Please see my website dennehy2022.weebly.com or email me at dennehy-scott5@gmail.com

Melissa Hanlon - Brentwood - Exeter Regional Board

I am seeking your vote for ERCSD School Board (Brentwood). I have lived in SAU 16 since 2004 with my husband (Dan, a 5th grade teacher in Exeter) and our daughters Amelia (9th grade at EHS) and Nora (7th grade at CMS). Since moving to Brentwood, I have been very involved in the community, serving on the committee that brought full day kindergarten to Swasey, and as an elected member of our Municipal Budget Committee. I am an attorney at Sulloway & Hollis in Concord, NH where I represent hospitals and healthcare providers in NH and ME. In addition, I am a super fan for my daughters' soccer, hockey and lacrosse teams!

I have been very involved in our school community as a concerned parent and advocate for the past few years. I publicly advocated for a return to full-time in person education in early 2021 when it was clear there was no plan in place to do so. Together with another parent, I also organized a grass roots widely attended virtual town hall with mental health professionals to discuss the mental health impacts on the children in our community from COVID. I have attended the majority of school board meetings since 2020 and am extremely familiar with the issues SAU 16 is facing, as well as the appropriate role of the school board.

There has been a loss of learning experienced by our students due to remote learning and the emotional impacts on our students of the pandemic. We need to thoughtfully assess both issues and create a measurable plan to address each in tandem. Other issues such as declining test scores, rankings and enrollment will follow once we focus on improving academic outcomes for all children – those at the top, and those struggling.

While I am certainly busy as a full-time attorney and Mom to two great kids, I have made time to attend the Board meetings for over two years now, and look forward to having a seat at the table to positively impact our schools and students. And I have a very supportive and wonderful husband who will help out!

E.A. "Ted" Lloyd - East Kingston - Exeter Regional Board

My name is Ted Lloyd. Since moving to New Hampshire in 2004 I've made my home in East Kingston along with my wife Gisela. I am running for the remaining term of the East Kingston seat on the SAU 16 Co-Op School Board, which I've been holding since last September under an interim appointment.

I've always believed in service to the community and I've held a number of public offices since my retirement from The Gillette Company: I have served on the Salary Review and New Library Building committees; I've been elected as a Library Trustee, serving from 2005 to 2014, and I'm currently a Trustee of the Trust Funds, a position I've held since 2012.

I volunteered for the appointment to the Co-Op School Board because I feel that the Exeter school system has lost its way: Academic excellence, once among the best in the state, has declined dramatically; yet the cost per pupil has risen steadily. Parents and other taxpayers feel like they've lost control of their children's education.

Joining the Co-Op Board in September, I quickly learned that together with only a couple of like-minded members I was in the minority. But with your help that's a situation that we can change. Please vote for me and other School Board candidates like me who will work to return the focus on academic excellence at a reasonable cost. We can change our School Boards from "part of the problem" to "part of the solution."

I will be on the ballot in all six SAU 16 towns (Exeter, Stratham, Brentwood, East Kingston, Kensington and Newfields). To win I will need your help. Tell your friends and neighbors about me. Pass this announcement around. Contact me to sign up for my mailing list and stay informed about my campaign.

With you we can succeed in taking back control of our educational system. I greatly appreciate your support! ted@onepinewoods.us, (603) 479-7073.

Kim Casey - East Kingston - Exeter Regional Board

Name: Kim Casey

Age: 67

Address: 109 Giles Rd. East Kingston, NH

Occupation: Retired

Education: 2 years college,

Public Service/Public Offices held:

State Representative, 4 terms (8 years)

Cooperative School Board, 3 terms (8 years).

Building Committee Exeter High School

Virtual Learning Academy Charter School,
Board of Trustees

Great Bay Charter School, Board of Trustees

NH Judicial Council

East Kingston Selectboard (1 year)

Rockingham County/UNH Extension Service

Board of Directors (6 Years)

I feel that I can bring my prior experience as a board member and elected official to further the educational goals and mission set by the district. The ongoing pandemic has brought new challenges for our students, administrators, and teachers. We all need to work in a cooperative and inclusive way to take on what I consider to be the most important job in our democracy, public, free and accessible education for every student.

During my prior service on the board, we were a relatively newly formed cooperative district. We had built the new middle school and were actively reviewing and studying our existing high school facilities. The high school was overcrowded, and demographic trends showed continued growth in student population. I am very proud of the board's administrators, and citizens for their efforts and support in that regard, and the new high school bond issue passed with an unprecedented margin of victory. We were able to complete on time, and on budget, a beautiful new facility that we knew would serve our district for years to come.

Today's children need the academic tools, creativity, and persistence to be successful, and I feel that this is possible if we continue to prioritize public education.

My first priority would be to change the current tone and tenor of the board meetings, which has been corrosive, counterproductive, and unacceptable. I am a good listener and work well with others. I would bring levity to the board to lighten everyone's load and lower the level of animosity which seems prevalent.

Secondly, I think it's important for the board to resist the temptation to micromanage the schools. By law, the boards have three duties, to hire a superintendent, to make school policy, and to write a budget. School boards don't "run" the schools. School boards make sure the schools are running.

We have good people in our schools who have dedicated their professional lives to education. It's important to allow them to exercise their expertise while working collaboratively with the board, parents, and community.

Lastly, I think it is critical that we make sure our district is supple, adaptable, up-to-date, and ready to meet the challenges of the 21st century and whatever new surprises it has in store.

The best decisions are often the collaboration of all stakeholders, with an emphasis on data, research, and current best practices to guide our decisions.

ERCSD Budget Advisory Committee

ERCSD = Exeter Regional Cooperative School District
Governs Cooperative Middle School, Exeter High School, Seacoast School of
Technology and Adult Education.

We asked the Budget Advisory Committee three questions:

What skills do you bring to this position?

What do you believe is the biggest issue facing the schools?

How would you balance work life, home life, and Board responsibilities?

On your ballot, you will vote for a Exeter Regional Cooperative School Budget
Advisory Committee member from **EACH** town up for election.

Below are the answers to our questions. You can find which town the candidate is
from in the title next to their name.

Robert Delorie	Exeter
Margaret (Meg) Batement	Exeter
Heidi Hanson	Stratham
Patrick Gillis	Stratham
Patricia (Trish) Cox	Newfields
Donald Cardinali	Newfields

ERCSDS Budget Advisory Committee

Patricia (Trish) Cox - Newfields - Budget Advisory Board

I am running for the Newfields seat on the SAU 16 Budget Advisory Committee. We moved to Newfields, NH in 2006, but my great grandfather delivered mail by horse in Etna, NH, where my mom was born. My grandfather met my grandmother when she was working at Dartmouth and he was a student there. We love to ski, hike, and travel together with my husband Chappy and our son, who is 16 and goes to the High School as a Junior.

Given my lifelong commitment to public education as a certified special educator, child life specialist, and licensed and certified school social worker, I believe my experience is well suited for this role. With extensive experience in the educational field, as well as a background in handling finances for large non-profits and my local community, I am confident that my perspective will be an asset to the BAC.

I have worked as an educational consultant in New Hampshire for a variety of different organizations and institutions. Prior to my current Faculty position at UNH, I was employed as a Special Education Coordinator and Social Worker for Portsmouth School District in New Hampshire. I have worked as a child life coordinator at a pediatric cancer center for nine years. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from Trinity College in Connecticut, a M.S.Ed (Early Childhood with a specialization in child life) from Bank Street College in New York, and a MSW from the University of New Hampshire, Durham. I know how to ask hard budget questions and am committed to being fiscally responsible while, at the same time, ensuring our students have the resources they need. My professional and personal commitment is to make the lives of families better, I know through work on this committee I can help in this mission.

I have a strong history of leadership within NH and National non-profits. I have held the position of Board Director from 2008-2010 of Association of Child Life

Professionals (ACLP) and served as a Treasurer of this National Organization overseeing a large budget, I have served on the New Hampshire chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NH-NASW) for six years and was President for 3 of those years. I was appointed to the NASW National Board two years ago.

My other local volunteer leadership efforts include serving on the board of the Richie McFarland Children's Center Board for six years, and President of the Friends of Newfields Public Library for five. I am currently serving as a Trustee of the Trust Funds for Newfields.

I look forward to serving our school district in a way that I can provide oversight on a budget that will enhance the lives of the children and families in our communities.

Teacher retention and job satisfaction. Due to the pandemic and increased hostility towards the education system there is a dire need to show our teachers our support in whatever ways we can.

I have always served on a board in my professional life; at one point I was on four boards and deemed that too much. Now I serve on one board at a time and aim to have only one night out in meetings since I do teach too.

Robert Delorie - Exeter - Budget Advisory Board

I am a New Hampshire native, and long-time resident of Exeter. My wife and I have two boys in SAU 16 schools, and we are proud supporters of our district. I have served on the Budget Advisory Committee for six years, and was recently asked by my peers on the committee to be the Chair.

I have worked as a finance and accounting professional for more than 30 years. I have spent half that time working in the educational travel industry, and have extensive experience working directly with high school and middle school teachers, students, and parents.

In recent years, our schools have faced increasing costs and increasing demand for specialized educational programming. At the same time, student enrollment at EHS and CMS has been declining. We need to support teachers and maintain high educational standards at our schools, while also being responsible in terms of budgeting.

Another area the Budget Advisory Committee focused on this year was communication with members of the community. As Chair, I emphasized the importance of communication between the community, the BAC, the SAU 16, and the School Board in pursuit of the best possible outcome for our schools. If elected to serve again, I would continue to make improvements in these areas.

The Budget Advisory Committee meets weekly during the budgeting process, and I am happy to make time for this important job. In addition to the BAC, I serve as Treasurer for the Exeter Elementary PTO.

Patrick Gillis - Stratham - Budget Advisory Board

My name is Pat Gillis and I am running for the SAU 16 Budget Advisory Committee. I have been a financial professional for 14 years. For the last 8 years, I have been an independent running my own practice. I work with business owners and individual's financial plans and budgets every day.

My wife and I have lived in Stratham for 21 years and all three children will have gone through the SAU from K-12 by Spring of 2022. We chose to live in Stratham when we started our family because of its school system.

I am concerned that the budget continues to increase but the ranking and enrollment of the SAU is decreasing. I believe I can help uncover ways to combat this from a financial perspective. I will ask the questions that will hold the people crafting the budget accountable for the spending line items. I believe the purpose of the BAC is to understand and determine where the taxpayers' dollars are being spent and make suggestions to the board the reasons why it is supported or not. The BAC meets at night over several weeks in the fall. Balancing the time with work and life will not be an issue.

I ask for your support by giving me your vote on March 8th.

Heidi Hanson - Stratham - Budget Advisory Board

I'm Heidi Hanson and I am running for the open Stratham seat on the Exeter Region Cooperative School District (ERCSD) Budget Advisory Committee (BAC).

A little bit about me:

- Married with two high school-aged students
- Education: M.A. in Administrative Management
- Small business owner
- Chair, Board of Directors, Seacoast Women's Giving Circle
- Member, Stratham School District Finance Advisory Committee
- School Board Member & Chair, Stratham School District, 2012-2015
- SAU16 Joint Board Member, 2012-2015
- SAU16 Joint Chairs Member, 2012-2015
- SAU16 Policy Committee Member, 2012-2015

Budget advisory committee members represent the taxpayers in all six ERCSD towns. They are the eyes and ears of taxpayers and as such have a duty to ensure that proposed school budgets are fiscally responsible and operationally sound. When Lucy Cushman asked me to run for the seat she is vacating, I did not want to let down someone I so greatly respect and admire for her dedication to SAU 16 schools. Like her, I have been deeply involved with local school boards and school finance committees for the past 10 years. I have a nuanced understanding of the many factors and stakeholders involved when developing and reviewing public budgets. School budgets are not like the budget of a business; they must be developed in accordance with state regulations and must balance operations needs with scarce resources.

Having observed the Budget Advisory Committee in action over the last several years, I would propose a few changes to their processes and procedures:

- Heavily publicize the Budget Advisory Committee meeting schedule in all six ERCSD towns via town newsletters and social media to engage more community members in the budget process
- Communicate early and often with the school board so that questions and concerns are addressed prior to the school board setting an initial proposed budget
- Provide orientation to all Budget Advisory Committee members, as some may be new to understanding how public budgeting works and how NH state Department of Revenue Administration rules affect the budgeting process
- Manage Expendable Trust Funds and Capital Reserve Funds more strategically to better serve the goals of tighter annual school budgets and controlling annual discretionary expenses

I am well-versed in public budgeting processes, have experience navigating the various RSAs that govern school districts and school budgets, and would be a respectful, collaborative, and responsive voice on the Budget Advisory Committee. I have an excellent attendance record for the various boards and committees that I have been part of over the past 10 years, missing no more than three or four meetings, due to family obligations, over the 100+ meetings where I have been expected to attend and actively participate.

I ask for your vote - on the Exeter Region Cooperative School District Ballot - on March 8, 2022.

Feel free to contact me at HeidiHansonBAC@gmail.com

Margaret (Meg) Bateman - Exeter - Budget Advisory Board

My name is Meg Bateman, my husband Tim and I moved to Exeter 10 years ago with our two sons, now ages 15 and 13, specifically for the SAU 16 school system. I have been a corporate finance attorney for 20 years and currently work as in-house counsel for a renewable energy company. I have been involved with this community since we moved here - I have served on the board of Great Bay Kids' Company, was the Treasurer of the Children's Museum of NH, was on the board of the Exeter Seahawks Youth Football program, and currently am on the EHS Football Boosters.

I bring critical thinking and negotiation skills developed over my 20-year career as a lawyer. I am not afraid to ask hard questions, but will work collaboratively with the rest of the committee members to review the budget proposals and determine the best recommendations to the School Board. I have experience with financial statements from my work as a corporate finance attorney and as the treasurer of the Children's Museum of New Hampshire. I bring the desire to be involved with making sure that the district spends the taxpayer money on areas that will benefit students and that will give them the best education possible.

There is community divisiveness in determining and addressing what is causing the drop in ranking of our schools. It has become a contentious situation that has fallen across perceived political lines. I believe everyone wants the best for our children, teachers and community, and everyone needs to take a step back, listen, educate themselves and all work together to get the schools back on track.

My husband and I both work from home and share all of the parenting and home responsibilities. My job is very flexible, and I'm able to adjust my schedule to volunteer in the schools, watch my sons' sporting events and do other volunteer work. I am eager to be involved at the school board level. The Budget Advisory Committee is the perfect forum for me to share my experience and skill set to benefit the students and families in this District.

REMINDER

Voting day is on Tuesday, March 8th from
8am to 7pm.

Location: East Kingston Elementary School
- 5 Andrews Lane, East Kingston

If you have any voting questions, please contact Barbara or Judy over at the
Town Clerks office - (603) 642-8794 x2

****Please note****

As stated before, we reached out to every candidate for an opportunity to
submit something to the newsletter.

The ones included are the ones we heard back from.