

E. KINGSTON EDITION

Welcome to our new EK town newsletter!



IN THIS ISSUE

**AN INTRODUCTION TO
THE NEW E. KINGSTON
NEWSLETTER**

**IMPORTANT TOWN
DATES AND CONTACT
INFORMATION**

**IT'S GIRL SCOUT
COOKIE SEASON!**

**RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT
AND MORE...**

Why we're bringing the newsletter back

by Zoe Sucu, Library Staff

East Kingston is a beautiful town and is host to an amazing community. Yet as time goes on, our town-like so many others-suffers from a disconnect; information doesn't seem to get around just as well as it used to anymore. It is especially important during this seemingly endless pandemic to offer support to each and every person and organization of this community, because without our community, we are nothing.

This newsletters mission is to do just that. We want to bring the towns information to its people; for the community to hear from their leaders or meet the people behind the scenes. It's our hope to rekindle that love for this town while reuniting our community. This newsletter is our first big step towards that goal. We hope you'll join us on our journey and maybe just learn something about our town that you didn't know before.

Town Clerk Information

The Town Office building remains closed; however, an intercom system has been installed in the front of the building. If you need to come into the building for town clerk/tax collector transactions, calling ahead of time is advisable. Please note, appointments are required for Wednesday evenings.

Election News

- The Town of East Kingston and East Kingston School have postponed their deliberative and March 9th election to a later date, which has yet to be determined.
- There will still be an election on March 9th at the East Kingston Elementary School, 8:00am - 7:00pm, for the Exeter Regional Co-op School District only. Absentee ballots will be available soon in the town clerk's office.

Dog Licensing Reminders

The State of New Hampshire requires all dogs to be registered by April 30th of each year. Please note you can register your dogs as early as January.

- **How to Register Your Dog in the Town of East Kingston** - You can register online, www.eknh.org, under Town Clerk/Taxes, scroll down and click on the dog icon. You will need the previous year's license number or you can go to the East Kingston Town Clerk's Office, 24 Depot Road, during office hours.
- **Necessary Documentation** - Current rabies certificate from Veterinarian, which should have date of vaccination, expiration and tag number as well as proof of neutering/spaying, if applicable.
- **Fees:**
 - \$9 - Male or Female, non-neutered or spayed
 - \$6.50 - Spayed or Neutered
 - \$6.50 - Puppy (dog must be under 7-months of age at time of registration)
 - \$2 - First dog of Senior Owner (to qualify seniors must be over the age of 65 and only one discounted dog per senior)
- **Late Fees & Penalties:**
If fees are not paid by June, the following extra fees may be applied:
 - \$1 - Monthly Late Fee
 - \$25 - Civil Forfeiture Fee
 - \$5 - Cost of Service (for any Civil Forfeiture)
- **Puppies** - Puppies need to be registered by the time they are four months old, when they have had their first rabies vaccination. Proof of neutering/spaying is not required.
- **New Residents** - If you have a current NH registration for your dog, bring your license or receipt from the previous town into the Town Clerk's office and the license can be transferred to an East Kingston license for a \$1.50 fee. If you are from out of state, please bring in the documentation specified above.

Annual Rabies Clinic - April 24th at the Town Offices from 12pm - 2pm.
Vaccinations done by the Amesbury Animal Hospital - \$15 per shot.
Call Town Clerks office for more information.

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: 6pm - 8pm
by appointment

Town Administration

(603) 642-8406
Monday: 8am - 4pm
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:
8am - 2:30pm
Wednesday: 10am - 2pm

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 - 3pm
Tuesday & Thursday:
3pm - 7pm
Friday & Saturday:
9am - 1pm
By Appointment

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.

Each box of cookies is \$5!
Which ones are your favorite?



lemon-ups®



trefoils®



do-si-dos®



samoas®



tagalongs®



thin mints®



girl scout s'mores®



toffee-tastic®
GLUTEN-FREE

A Cold Weather Reminder:

New England weather is definitely not for the faint of heart. Constant changes in temperature and precipitation can be the cause of lots of frustration.

Please remember to clean your car off entirely, as per NH's Jessica's Law.

It's also illegal to plow (or snow blow) snow from the driveway into the road. Our road agent works really hard to keep our roads clean, so please do your part and help him out.

It's Girl Scout Cookie Season!

By Girl Scout Troop 59300

It's Girl Scout cookie season, and East Kingston's own Girl Scout Troop 59300 is selling cookies! We haven't been able to take any trips this year, so the girls would like to donate all of their profits to local charities this year. We're at about 20% of their goal to donate \$1000 to charity, and we need your help! If you haven't already purchased Girl Scout cookies this year, join us at our booth sale in March:

When: Saturday, March 13, 2021

10:00 am-1:00 pm

Where: The Maker's Post, 14 Main St, East Kingston

To minimize contact, we are strongly encouraging customers to pre-order cookies through our online website: DigitalCookie.GirlScouts.org/scout/troop59300-126 by March 7th. Select "Girl Delivery," and we'll have your order ready to go when you arrive. (Plus you won't be affected if we run out of cookies that day!) We will still have some extra cookies on hand for those who want a more traditional booth sale experience, but we require masks to be worn at all times and for appropriate social distancing to be maintained as much as possible. You can also order cookies through this link to be shipped directly to your house for a contact-free experience. If you have any questions, email us at gsgwmtroop59300@gmail.com. (We can email you the link from there too.)



Room to Roam: Wildlife Corridors Program



by the East Kinston Conservation Committee

Is your property on or near a prioritized wildlife habitat block? Or regionally significant wildlife corridor? What about your neighbors'? You can download a detailed map of wildlife blocks and corridors connecting them from the East Kingston Conservation Commission web page. Wildlife corridors are critical connections between protected places which are essential to support the long-term sustainability of healthy wildlife populations. Currently, only 19% of regionally significant wildlife corridors in the Great Bay and NH seacoast area are conserved.

To inform and inspire residents to protect wildlife corridors, the East Kingston Conservation Commission (EKCC) held a Zoom program with more than three dozen attendees on Feb. 9th. You can watch the recording at www.eknh.org/conservation-commission. Use the passcode *Wildlife9!* Guest speaker and report co-author Pete Steckler of The Nature Conservancy of New Hampshire said communities can protect wildlife corridors in three ways:

1. Via proactive town planning, including incorporating it into the town's Natural Resources Inventory, master plan, site plan review regulations and zoning regulations.
2. Via Road crossing improvements. Read about the culvert for critter crossings at Lubberland Creek in Newmarket. [Link below.](#)
3. Via land protection and conservation (e.g., easements).

Please contact the East Kingston Conservation Commission at EKconservation@gmail.com to help update our town's Natural Resources Inventory, a necessary step toward protecting wildlife corridors.

The wildlife map is part of the landmark Connect the Coast project, which was authored and supported by leading NH organizations, including The Nature Conservancy, Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, NH Fish and Game, NH Audubon, UNH Extension, Southeast Land Trust of NH (SELT) and many others.

EK Rec. Department

SAU 16 Softball

Exeter, East Kingston, Stratham, Brentwood, Newfields, Kensington
A Division of Exeter Junior Softball

LET'S PLAY SOFTBALL!!



"Never let the fear of striking out, keep you from playing the game."

- Ages 5-16 (6U-16U)
- Low registration fees with family discounts
- Season starts April
- Make new friends
- No experience necessary
- Uniforms, socks, and headbands included
- 10 game schedule with practices
- Playoffs

****Registrations close February 28th, or once teams have been filled.**

www.sau16softball.com

SAU16 SOFTBALL LEAGUE

For more information please contact:
Chrissy Leonard (SAU16 Softball Registrar) @ 603-394-5828 or chrissyv1019@yahoo.com

SAU 16 Softball

Exeter, East Kingston, Stratham, Brentwood, Newfields, Kensington
A Division of Exeter Junior Softball

Registration is open to players 5-16 years of age in the SAU 16 area.

6U:	Birthdate in 2015/2014
8U:	Birthdate in 2013/2012
10U:	Birthdate in 2011/2010
12U:	Birthdate in 2009/2008
14U:	Birthdate in 2007/2006
16U:	Birthdate in 2005/2004

Register Online January 1, 2021 at
www.sau16softball.com

Registration Checklist

- Register (online before 2/28/21)
- Submit Payment (Pay by CC online)

Fees (2021):

8U, 10U, 12U, 14U and 16U Softball	\$120 (ages 7-16)
6U Softball	\$70 (ages 5-6)

(Sibling discount: First player pays full fee, then \$10 off per child thereafter)

IMPORTANT: ALL players (9-16) must attend placement evaluations.

EVALUATIONS: Location, date, and times are TBD. All evaluation information will be posted on the website, www.sau16softball.com by March 1st.

For more information please contact:
Chrissy Leonard (sau16 Softball Registrar) @ 603-394-5828 or chrissyv1019@yahoo.com
E.JBSL is a non-profit organization.

EKES Book Fair



Usborne Books and More Virtual Book Fair

East Kingston Elementary School will be holding an Usborne Books and More Virtual Book Fair, including 2000+ titles for babies through high school. This is the perfect place to find Easter, birthday and "anytime" gifts for the children in your life! The book fair will be held **Wednesday, March 3 through Tuesday, March 16.**

Here's how it works:

- Join us for a LIVE online preview on Wednesday, March 3 at 7:30pm to see the books outside AND in. You will find us as: www.sqweee.com and enter event code EKES
- Prefer to just shop? Visit www.ubamjunkies.com/virtual during the sale and Books will ship directly to your home and proceeds benefit East Kingston



Questions or need recommendations? Contact our Usborne Books and More representative
Beth Paiva * beth@ubamjunkies.com * 603-918-1647

By the EKES PTO

Great news! EKES is holding the annual book fair *virtually* this year! The book fair has been a successful fundraiser for the school; we are excited to make it happen despite COVID and to invite the community to participate. Usborne books make wonderful gifts for children of all ages and are known for their excellent quality! Please see the flyer and thank you for your support!

EK Recycling Schedule

Trash is picked up every week. Please place your black and/or green trash bins at the edge of your driveway facing outward.

Recycling weeks are as follows for 2021:

- **March** 1st, 15th, 29th
- **April** 12th, 26th

Resident Spotlight: EKES's New Principal, Brandon French

Questions put together by the Community Engagement Committee

Name

Brandon French

How long have you been a resident of EK?

7 years

What do you do for work?

Principal-East Kingston Elementary School

What do you enjoy most about our town?

Our community school and the friendly people

What is your favorite local outdoor pastime?

Spending time at the lake or beach with my wife and two boys

Favorite Seacoast restaurant?

Phat Cats-Amesbury



Do you have any hobbies?

Hunting, fishing, kayaking

Something that you discovered in the past year (or two) that you'd like to share with readers?

Kayaking at the Powwow Pond

Most recent books/movie/music that you'd recommend.

Paul Revere's Ride-David Hackett Fischer

Favorite treat to pick up from one of our East Kingston businesses

Berry picking at Monahan Farm

One word to describe yourself

Collaborator

One word to describe East Kingston

Neighborly



What's Happening at the Library

by Tracy Waldron, Library Director



After the evaporating relief of having 2020 behind us, we are faced, at least in the beginning of 2021, with the same issues. The library has returned to appointments. We understand that this is not the way you usually use the library; it is cumbersome, annoying and requires lots of thinking ahead. Please know that we are unhappy with the current situation too, but we feel strongly on keeping our community safe. If you happen to be driving by, pull into the parking lot. If there is no one using the library we are happy to let you in, just ring the

doorbell. We will always try to be as flexible as possible, while staying within our safety guidelines. Please know that masks are required, as stated by the Board of Trustees. If you do not have one, one will be provided for you.

There are still so many ways to use the library! Here are some highlights:

- Call to make an appointment to come in and browse (appointments are on every hour and half hour).
- Curbside pickup! Call us and request specific books/movies, or tell us what you like and let us pick for you!

On our website eastkingstonlibrary.org you will find:

- Our Catalog
 - Here you can search and reserve books right from your phone or computer. If you don't have a username or pin, give us a call and we can set it up for you: (603) 642-8333.
- Links to
 - Kanopy for streaming up to 10 movies a month!
 - Libby for downloading ebooks, audiobooks and magazines
 - EBSCO for academic resources, articles and Novelist to help suggest new authors
 - Heritage Quest for genealogy

You will need your library card number to access these services. If you need your library number, just give us a call!

- Newsletters
 - Wowbrary - Sign up for Wowbrary and receive an email in your inbox every Wednesday morning that highlights the new materials we've added to the collection that week.
 - EKPL Newsletter - Our monthly newsletter shows you just what is happening at the library each month.
- Programs!
 - Story Hours via Zoom - Story hour is on Friday mornings at 10am. Sign up to get the Zoom link and pick up each months crafts that go along with the stories.
 - We have alternating programs each month. Check the website for announcements!

Friends of EKPL News

Our next meeting is March 11, 2021

Keep updated of our events on our new webpage! You can visit the website at eastkingstonlibrary.org/friends-of-ekpl

Follow us on Twitter @friends_public

Visit the Pound School Used Book Store!
Fridays from 10am - 5pm
Saturdays from 10am - 1pm

We are also looking for a 28 inch twin drawer filing cabinet.

A Dictionary of Terms

Elections in East Kingston

It's election time in New Hampshire and it can sometimes be confusing.

This time of year, we vote on three different budgets:

- Town budgets and warrants
- East Kingston Elementary School budgets and warrants
- Exeter Regional Co-Op School District budgets and warrants

• **Deliberative session:**

- East Kingston is an SB2 (Senate Bill 2) town, meaning that we have two voting periods. The Deliberative session—usually held in February—is where amendments are made to budgets and warrant articles. Any towns member can voice opinions, ask questions, and vote on changes to the warrant articles. Here's the tricky part, there are deliberative sessions for each of the three budgets found on our ballots, all occurring (usually!) in February. Once everything is approved during the deliberative sessions, then it goes to voting, which happens in the voting booth (usually) on the second Tuesday in March.

• **Voting:**

- Townspeople vote on the decisions made at the deliberative session (usually) on the second Tuesday in March. Voting occurs at the East Kingston Elementary School or by absentee ballot. As previously stated, EK residents vote on three budgets, town budgets and warrants, EK Elementary School budgets and warrants, and the Exeter Regional Co-Op budgets and warrants.

• **Absentee Ballots:**

- Absentee ballots can be given if the voter will not be in town on the day of election. To obtain an absentee ballot, call the Town Clerks office; the ballots can be requested up until the day before voting. If done ahead of time, the ballot will be mailed to you. If done too close to day of voting, you have to go to the Town Offices and pick up the physical ballot. Please note that only the registered voter can pick up their absentee ballot, and an ID is required. Your ballot must be in the post office by or before the day of voting to be counted. It can also be returned to the Town Clerks office directly by 5pm on the Monday before voting day. If a child or spouse returns your ballot, they will be required to sign an affidavit form.

On March 9th, voting will be held in the Elementary School multi-purpose room. Ballots at this time are only for the Exeter Regional Co-Op School District. The deliberative sessions and voting for the Elementary School and the Town have been postponed, and the date has yet to be decided at this time.

Important Dates

- **March 8th @ 6:30pm - Selectmen's meeting**
 - Via Zoom. The agenda & Zoom link can be found on eknh.org/selectmen.
 - **March 9th from 8am to 7pm - Exeter Regional Co-op School District Voting**
 - Voting will be held in person at the East Kingston Elementary School.
 - Contact the Town Clerk's office for more information.
 - **March 11th @ 7pm - Friends of the Library Meeting**
 - Via Zoom. Zoom link will be emailed out to all Friends, and can also be found at eastkingstonlibrary.org/friends-of-ekpl.
 - **March 17th @ 5:30pm - E.K. School Board Meeting**
 - Via Zoom. Links will be publicly posted to eks.sau16.org and can be found under the "School Information" tab.
 - **March 22nd @ 6:30pm - Selectmen's Meeting**
 - Via Zoom. The agenda & Zoom link can be found on eknh.org/selectmen.
 - **March 22nd @ 7pm - Library Trustee Meeting**
 - Via Zoom. Links will be publicly posted at the Library, and on the library website at eastkingstonlibrary.org.
-

A Thank You From Us

And thus concludes our first newsletter!

We'd like to thank our volunteers, who painstakingly put this edition together and proof-read until their eyes bled. We'd also like to thank all the organizations who took the time to submit articles to help East Kingston residents get the information they need.

Please know that anyone can send us information to include in the newsletter. If you have something you'd like to include, you can email us at newsletter@eastkingstonnh.gov.

All submissions to the newsletter must be turned in to newsletter@eastkingstonnh.gov by the 17th of each month.

An archive of all newsletters will be available at eastkingstonlibrary.org/east-kingston-edition. You can also visit the previous link to sign up to receive the newsletter in your email inbox. A select number of EK Edition hardcopies will be available at the Library and the Town Offices.

Until next time!

Zoe - East Kingston Edition Volunteer