



ESSEX NATIONAL
HERITAGE AREA

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Essex Heritage Announces 2008 Pioneer in Partnership Awards

ENHC Elects New Officers and Commissioners at October Meeting

November 3, 2008 (Salem, MA) ... Over 100 regional dignitaries and constituents filled Emerson Hall (Topsfield) as Essex Heritage (Essex National Heritage Commission or ENHC) appointed a new slate of officers, elected eleven new commissioners and announced the winners of its Pioneer in Partnership and Special Recognition awards at its annual meeting, held on October 21, 2008. Also awarded were three National Park Service Recognition Awards presented by Patricia Trap, Superintendent of Salem Maritime & Saugus Iron Works National Historic Sites, and Curtis White, Lead Park Ranger.

“It was especially gratifying to have so many of our elected officials to attend and show their support for the Essex Heritage mission,” said Annie C. Harris, Executive Director. “My thanks go out to Congressman John Tierney; Rep. Ted Speliotis; Rep. Anthony Verga; Mayor Thatcher W. Kezer, Amesbury; Wayne Marquis, Town Manager, Danvers; Neil Harrington, Town Manager, Salisbury; Jerry Klima, Board of Selectman, Salisbury; Richard Gandt, Board of Selectman, Topsfield and Boyd Jackson, Chair, Board of Selectman, Topsfield for their valued participation.”

Appointed as Officers for the Commission were: President, Nancy H. Stager, Executive Vice President, Eastern Bank; First Vice President, Kevin Tierney, President & CEO, Saugus Bank & Trust; **Second Vice President**, David T. Hildt, Adelante Youth Center; **Treasurer**, John Meserve, President & CEO Merrimac Savings; **Assistant Treasurer**, Sean Flynn, Principal,

Commonwealth Financial Network; **Clerk**, Frederic Winthrop, Former Executive Director, The Trustees of Reservations; **Assistant Clerk**, Richard A. Yagjian, W. B. Hunt Company, Inc.; **Immediate Past President**, Laurence C. Harrington, Senior VP Bank of America; **Trustee-at-Large**, Lori R. Foley, Director of Field Services, Northeast Document Conservation Center; **President Emeritus**, Thomas M. Leonard, Essex National Heritage Commission; **NPS Liaison**, Patricia Trap, Superintendent, National Park Service.

New commissioners appointed for a three-year term were: Anita Blackaby, New Director of House of Seven Gables; Isa Cann, Media Architects, Essex Heritage Explorer; Frederic Detwiller, Architect and Preservation Planner; Dennis DiZoglio, Executive Director, Merrimack Valley Planning; Wayne Eisenhauer, Treasurer, Danvers Historical Society; John Goff, President, Salem Preservation; David Goss, Assistant Professor of American History, Gordon College; Brian Gregory, President of Boxford Historical Society, Senior Vice President and Manager of Boston Private Bank & Trust; Dr. Stephen Matchak, Professor, Salem State College; Stuart Saginor, Executive Director, Community Preservation Coalition; Barbara Warnick Silberman, Independent Non-profit consultant.

ENHC Pioneer in Partnership awards, given to individuals and/or organizations that have taken a leadership role in encouraging regional cooperation to preserve and promote the historical, cultural and natural resources of Essex County, were presented to: Karen Van Welden-Herman, Chairperson, Andover Preservation Committee; Richard Paganelli, Past Chairman of the Georgetown Recreation Path Committee; Donald Bade, Founding volunteer member of the Parker River Clean Water Association and former Controller at Phillips Academy in Andover; Julie Lederhaus, Manager of the historic Hawthorne Hotel in Salem.

The ENHC Special Recognition Awards recognize individuals and organizations that have contributed to the heritage and vitality of the Essex National Heritage Area. This year, the ENHC recognized: Michael Costello, Executive Director, Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce; Joseph M. Gibbons, President and Chief Executive Officer, Salem Five Bank; Nelson Benton, Editorial Page Editor, Salem News; Anthony Verga, State Representative, Gloucester/Rockport.

The National Park Service Recognition Awards recognized individuals that contributed significantly to the grand re-opening of the Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site. These awards were presented to: Kevin Tierney, President & CEO, Saugus Bank & Trust; Annie Harris,

Executive Director, Essex National Heritage Commission and Barbara McGowan, Marketing and Communications Manager, Essex National Heritage Commission.

In addition to a “State of the Heritage Area” report by Executive Director Annie Harris which documented all the organization’s milestones for the year, a featured presentation on the Border to Boston Trail was given by David Read, Executive Director Department of Medicine for North Shore Medical Center and long-time advocate of the project. The Border-to-Boston Trail is envisioned as a nearly 30-mile multi-use pathway utilizing abandoned railway corridors and quiet roads extending from the New Hampshire border in Salisbury south through Newburyport, Newbury, Georgetown, Boxford, Topsfield, Wenham, and into Danvers. As Chairman of the Border of Boston Coalition, Mr. Read provided both the healthful benefits and recreational opportunities the trail will offer.

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ABOUT ESSEX NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA AND ESSEX HERITAGE COMMISSION

The Essex National Heritage Area is comprised of the 34 communities of Essex County and designated by US Congress in recognition of the important role that this region played in American history and the significant heritage sites still extant in the region. Essex Heritage is the non-profit management entity for the Area, working in collaboration with the National Park Service to promote public/private partnerships, and develop programs that enhance, preserve and encourage regional awareness of the Area’s unique historic, cultural and natural resources. For more information, experience Essex Heritage at essexheritage.org or call (978) 740-0444.



ABOUT BORDER TO BOSTON TRAIL

The Border to Boston Trail is a proposed, 30-mile rail-trail linking eight Essex County communities in the Essex National Heritage Area. Together, the eight communities contain over 3,100 properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places as well as four National Historic Landmark properties. Within close proximity of the trails lies a national wildlife refuge, three state parks, three state forests, two state wildlife management areas, and properties owned by The Trustees of Reservations, Essex County Greenbelt, and other land conservation organizations. For more information, visit Border to Boston Trail at essexheritage.org/bordertoboston