

Local historian Tom Ragusa will give an illustrated talk, Following Knox's Footsteps: Mapping the Trail Through Otis and Sandisfield, on Tuesday, November 17, 2026 at 6:30pm at the Lee Senior Center, 21 Crossway Street, Lee. General Knox was commissioned by General Washington in December 1775 to bring captured artillery, including 59 cannons, from Fort Ticonderoga, located on the south end of New York's Lake Champlain, to Boston. Washington desperately needed this artillery to defend Boston against the British. During this presentation he will share his extensive research to rediscover the seven-mile segment of the Knox Trail which runs through the Otis State Forest in Sandisfield and Otis. This section is the longest surviving original stretch of the one-time colonial "military road" that connected Boston and Albany.

Tom Ragusa, a retired DCR parks employee and longtime member of the Otis Historical Commission, started this quest in 2008 and worked part time on the project since then. He is also one of the co-authors of the recently published book, *Ye Trodden Path: A History of the Knox Trail.*

This presentation is free and open to the public and is part of the Lee Historical Society Speaker Series. Look for the lanterns near the Senior Center entrance. Parking is available along the North entrance to Crossway Village as well as on Academy Street. Refreshments will be served.