



Savannah sparrow in its favorite habitat

Community strength brings back a woodland

Back in the day, farmers used to save everything. After all, an old barrel or appliance part might have a use again. Even after their useful life had ended, farmers would “store” such items on a part of the property that wasn’t visible. Over time, these areas became the farm dump.

This was the case on Fuller Farm, when Barnstable Land Trust purchased the 22-acre field and adjoining forestland on Route 149 in Marstons Mills. The beautiful 10-acre woodland had lovely trails, and tons of junk, which made it unsafe for public use. For many years, the woods and fields remained neglected. Our hope in conserving Fuller Farm was to make the fields and woods accessible and productive again.

Over six years, community volunteers joined to help BLT in three clean-up efforts.

This February, BLT Land Stewardship Coordinator Will Holden led AmeriCorps volunteers and numerous BLT regulars including Ken Ridley and his truck, and Bob Pearson and his Sawzall, to complete the job.

Volunteers filled an enormous dumpster with tires, car parts, and debris. “It was just so satisfying,” said volunteer Donna Starr. “When I saw the size of the job, I didn’t think we could do it, but we did!” Thanks to you, Donna, and many others, a new trail is on its way.

Will’s next step is to redirect the trail to make it safer and respect neighboring properties—a project that will happen later this spring. By summer, the Fuller Farm Woodland will be a beautiful, safe place for wildlife and walkers.

If you’d like to learn more about Fuller Farm and provide input to our developing plans for opening the fields for productive use, e-mail Will Holden at will@blt.org or call 508-771-2585 x 102.

In the spirit of community and nature

The 1717 Meetinghouse is an iconic sight, recognized by all driving down Route 149 to West Barnstable.

A beautiful building, it has played a critical role at the heart of the community for centuries, housing town meetings, church services and the high school in the 1700s. Townspeople voted on participation in the Revolutionary War in this building.

But time and weather wreaked havoc on the building, requiring new windows, heating, fire suppression, electrical systems, roof, among other needs. Three hundred years of history and a community jewel was at risk of being lost.

Meanwhile, a beautiful nearby woodland was also at risk. Elizabeth

Crocker Jenkins had bequeathed a 3.5-acre woodland further down Church Street to the Meetinghouse Foundation, to be sold to fund the Church's needs; the Foundation considered subdividing the property for development.

After discussions with the Barnstable Land Trust, the Foundation realized it could meet two goals at once: raising funds for the building and conserving a natural treasure. The parcel hosts a key link to the Cape Cod Pathways trail and abuts public and private conservation lands.

Barnstable Land Trust was pleased to purchase the land, and support

the renovation of an important community building. We pulled together funds from the town Community Preservation Act funds, private foundations, and local individuals like you.

Thanks to our community, a critical link in the Cape Cod Pathways trail is preserved forever.

A home to wildlife will remain natural, rather than be lost to development. And the 1717 Meetinghouse will maintain its role as a centerpiece in the character of the village.

Cape Cod Pathways trail at BLT's new Church St. property

“Right down the street from the Meetinghouse, there's this land where you can take a walk, just like you could 300 years ago!”

*– Georgia Lonkart,
President of the
1717 Meetinghouse
Foundation, Inc.*





The AmeriCorps team at Bell Farm

Perpetuity means forever

Volunteers join hands to replace a fence protecting Bell Farm

When the 152-acre Mary Barton Land Trust entrusted its Eagle Pond Sanctuary properties to BLT, we committed to caring for Bell Farm forever. A core group of volunteers visits the properties on a daily basis—chain-sawing and moving downed trees, removing invasives and trash.

This past fall, Will Holden organized this group, together with our Cape Cod AmeriCorps members, to replace over 100-yards of split rail fence at Bell Farm along Putnam Avenue—more than a football field in length!

Is volunteering part of who you are? Would you like to join a volunteer team? We'd love to have you work with us on the land or with programming. Please e-mail Lillie at lillie@blt.org or call us at 508-771-2585 x 100.

New truck leverages hundreds of volunteer hours

Last fall at Feast in the Fields, many of you raised your hands to support the purchase of BLT's first truck.

Your generosity—and that of Ken and Nancy Ridley, who made such a generous offer on the 2010 Toyota Tundra—has already paid off many times over.

We purchased the truck in November and it has been the workhorse for 300 hours of volunteer service at Bell Farm (see this page), Fuller Farm (see front cover) and Coombs Bogs (see last issue).

In January, Bill Keto donated his trailer, making the many trips from the Fuller Farm woods to the dumpster much quicker and saving hours of time and energy. Thanks to people like you, we are doing a better job of maintaining our land.

If you are doing any spring cleaning, we always have needs for specific tools:

- Small garden tools
- Weed-wackers, brush cutters, and hedge trimmers
- Circular saw and saw horses
- Wheelbarrow
- Basic tools: Screwdrivers, pliers, socket wrenches, etc.

—if you have something to donate, please e-mail Will at will@blt.org.

Wave if you see the BLT truck!



The Barnstable Land Trust Conservation Center is within reach

Bringing it home

Imagine if you could walk a trail in the beautiful Great Barnstable Marsh, seeing blue herons, ducks and hawks—and maybe a coyote—and then stop in to the Barnstable Land Trust Conservation Center to pick up a book on salt marsh life, drink a cup of coffee, talk with land trust staff and volunteers and sign up for a forthcoming walk and talk? Thanks to you, the vision is close to becoming reality.

Last October, BLT staff moved out of our offices in Hyannis, where we had been for two decades. We needed more space for programs and volunteers and a physical location on the land that better reflected our mission. Believing that we could raise the funds to ultimately purchase the building and land, we took the leap and moved into 1540 Main Street as renters. In November, we launched the campaign to raise \$675,000 to fund the office and land.



©Doug Lyon.

Welcome to the neighborhood

Before we even unpacked the first box, supporters were coming by to visit the new office and look at the beautiful view out to Barnstable Harbor and Sandy Neck. Since then, there's been a steady stream of visitors. As staff, we are pinching ourselves every day that we can look out at beautiful conservation land, walk the trails to a pond, and watch the hawks hunting over the marsh.

Six months later we know that you heard us and believed in our vision for Barnstable Land Trust and our community. Thanks to many donors from the community, we are just \$100,000 away from our goal!

Would you like to help us reach our goal? Please come visit us at the office and get a sense of this beautiful spot. Or call Janet Milkman or Jane Harvey at 508-771-2585 to let us know of your interest.



View over the Great Barnstable Marsh from 1540 Main Street

©Andrew Borgese.

Thank you for honoring those you care for and supporting their love for nature.

In honor of

All Land Trusts
From Frank & Mary Wojciechowski
Nancy Colbert
From James Colbert
Neil Coughlin
From Mary-Gaines Standish
Alex Eleftherakis
From Frederick Peter Phillips
Quincy & Waylon Ellis
From Michael & Ann Lloyd
Kay Berthold Frishman & Ron Hilbink
From Andrew Frishman &
Leigh Anne Needleman
Andrea Anne Kolacz
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From Maureen McPhee
Elizabeth C. Pearsons
From Elizabeth Nill
Fletcher & Forrest Wartig
From Susan Klaiber & Molly Bidwell

In memory of

Vaino Ahonen
From Daniel & Janet Mullen
Red Bansfield
From Brendan Annett & Anne Reynolds
From Jay & Barbara Baldwin
From Matt Bansfield
From Thomas & Pieter Burgess
From Leonard & Kristine Clark
From Joanne Collins
From Robert Curran
From Pamela Danforth
From Cassandra Datena
From David & Andrea Faugno
From Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts,
Troop 76112
From Jim & Anne Gould
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From John Ieni
From Farley Lewis
From Olivia Miller & Ken Kevorkian
From Jane Register
From Holly Rogers
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From Mary-Gaines Standish
From Title Examiners & Employees of
the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds

From Richard & Katharine White
From Marilyn Wightman
From Nancy & Roland Wigley
From Nancy Willets
From Mark Wirtanen & Terrie Reilly
From John & Wendy Zarella
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From Ida Little
Malcolm B. Burrell
From John Skowronski
Andy Carothers
From Virginia Carothers
Ginger Carothers
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From Charles & Martha Dewey
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From Carter Townsend
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From Daton & Virginia Fleury
From Arthur Hughes
Logan Weill
From Norman Weill & Lee Connolly-Weill
Lincoln & Lucille White
From Andrew Felper

3/15/18

A couple of conservationists...

This year, Barnstable Land Trust is celebrating our 35th year. And some of our longest-term supporters were saving land before BLT was born.

Starting back in the fifties, it was clear that the community cared deeply about conserving the village feel and character, remembers Anne Gould, one of the founding conservationists in Cotuit. That's why Anne, husband Jim and other leaders in the community invested so much time and effort in pursuing land conservation.



Jim Gould emcees a boat tour around Grand Island



Anne Gould at Eagle Pond

Eagle Pond, Cordwood, Galloway, Almy Swamp, Lowell Park—you name it, Cotuit leaders were there raising money to protect these lands. As Anne and Jim tell it, when fields and woodlands were at risk for development, no one hesitated; there was always someone to take the lead in fundraising. As a result, the community has retained its iconic landscapes that define its character. “When you saw Ropes Field, you knew you were home,” says Anne, “and that is still true.”

Anne went on to chair the Barnstable Land Trust Board of Directors and initiate the merger of the Mary Barton Land Trust lands into Barnstable Land Trust. Thank you, Anne and Jim, for your initiative and perseverance in ensuring the future of our town.

Leave a lasting legacy for future generations

Legacy giving to the Barnstable Land Trust (BLT) is making a gift so that future generations will experience and enjoy the lands and character of Barnstable that we all cherish today.

The more land we protect, the greater our long-term stewardship commitment. A legacy gift ensures BLT has the resources to honor that commitment to protecting and stewarding the land under our care forever.

If you'd prefer to make a gift dedicated to a particular project or area, we will be glad to talk with you about how to transform your passion and priority into a long-lasting legacy.

To learn more, contact Barnstable Land Trust Executive Director Janet Milkman at 508-771-2585, x 101 or janet@blt.org.

We would like to thank those who have already included Barnstable Land Trust in their estate planning.

There are many ways to include BLT in your estate plans:

- Bequests
- Gifts of Retirement Plans and IRAs
- Gifts of Life Insurance Policies
- Gifts of Real Estate
- Gifts of Land

A beautiful day at Cummaquid Marsh



Run and ride to make a difference

Boost your training and fundraise for the land

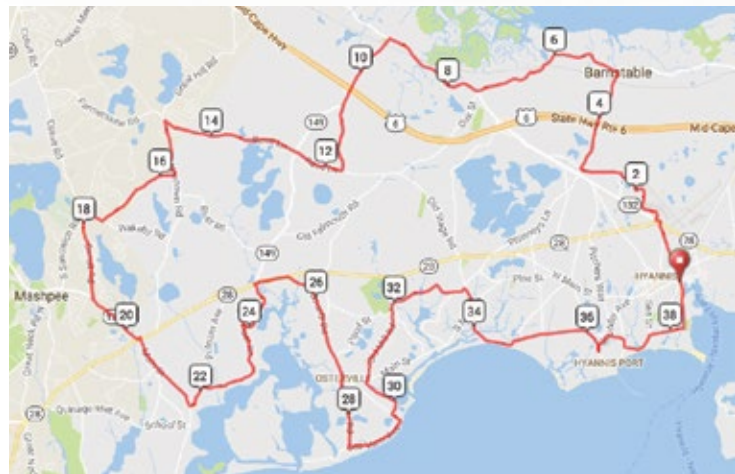
Tour de Barnstable

Sunday, June 10th 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Aselton Park, Hyannis

Barnstable Land Trust is partnering with SeaSports Cyclery and Calmer Choice to host the Tour de Barnstable.

Bring your friends to ride this scenic 38-mile route through all 7 villages of Barnstable. You'll ride past many Barnstable Land Trust-protected properties, enjoying lovely views and gentle terrain. Water stops are at Barnstable Land Trust's new office (see p. 4) on Route 6A and on our beautiful East Bay Road property in Osterville. You'll end the ride rewarded with food, beer and music!



Riders and volunteers needed—sign up to ride here

www.bikereg.com/tour-de-barnstable; to volunteer, please e-mail Lillie at lillie@blt.org or call 508-771-2585.

Falmouth Road Race

Here's your chance to run the iconic Falmouth Road Race and raise funds for land conservation!

BLT has 7 bibs and is offering them to the first 7 people who commit to raising \$1,000 by running for BLT.

We'll provide you with lodging (if desired), a ride to the bus, and a picnic at the end.

Call Lillie at 508-771-2585 x 100.

Don't wait—bibs are going fast!

Learn more about the event here: www.falmouthroadrace.com

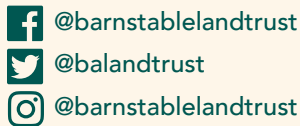




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BLT.org



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Your gifts are tax deductible within the extent of the law.

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The mission of the Barnstable Land Trust is to protect the special places people love for present and future generations.

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UPCOMING WALKS & TALKS

You're invited...

Eagle Pond – A Swamp Walk

Monday, April 16 | 9-10:30am | Cotuit

Join Land Stewardship Coordinator Will Holden and the LAPC on an exploratory 2.5-mile hike through the Eagle Pond Sanctuary.

Presentation: The Cape Cod Shoreline

Wednesday, April 18 | 3:30-5pm | Osterville

Join us to listen to a presentation on the Cape Cod Shoreline from Professor Gil Newton, ecologist and author! We will learn about the ecology of the diverse shoreline that is so unique to Cape Cod.

Spring Crocker Neck Walk

Saturday, May 12 | 10 am | Cotuit

Join Professor Gil Newton, ecologist and author, on an interpretive walk through the diverse ecosystems of the coastal 97-acre town-owned conservation area.

Learn How to Shellfish!

Wednesday, May 23 | 12:30pm | Barnstable

Join Barnstable Land Trust and the Town of Barnstable's Natural Resources Department for a family-friendly class on shellfishing! Bring the kids along to learn about what it takes to clam, when to do it, and why.

Annual Meeting

Thursday, July 19 | 5-8pm | Osterville

Members are invited to Barnstable Land Trust's annual meeting to learn about our work and elect Directors. Enjoy a drink and light refreshments with us at the Wianno Club.

FOR MORE PROGRAM INFO: Call 508-771-2585 or visit our website blt.org



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