

RESTORATION UNDER WAY FOR RIVER BEND CONSERVATION AREA

The 300 Committee is now in the process of implementing its plan to convert the River Bend Farm Kennels property into permanently protected open space. T3C initially purchased this 10.1 acre property in 2007 for \$1.2 million as part of a long-term effort to permanently protect lands along the entire Coonamessett River corridor. The kennel continued to operate through a lease agreement with the owners until October 2010. In this past year since the kennel closed, The 300 Committee has been working on plans to remove the structures from the site and restore and protect the riverfront. As part of the Town's six-month demolition delay process, we worked with the Historical Commission and several interested parties to have many of the historic materials removed from the buildings. T3C was able to donate many of the materials so that they

could be preserved elsewhere. Several structures, with the exception of the ceramic silo, will be removed from the property in the coming weeks. The 300 Committee's Board of Directors is reviewing a number of considerations related to the silo to determine whether or not it is feasible to keep the silo on site.

The lovely 10-acre parcel overlooks a wooded and winding section of the Coonamessett River; it will be protected in perpetuity as publically accessible open space. The preservation of River Bend provides key linkage of open space as part of the Town's, and T3C's, goal to create a major "greenway" along the river, one of three greenways identified in Falmouth's Open Space and Recreation Plan. The greenway along the Coonamessett will form a wildlife corridor and adds to a potential walking



The River Bend Conservation Area has 1,550 feet of frontage along a wooded, winding section of the Coonamessett River.

trail along the length of the river. Securing River Bend's 10 acres helps protect Falmouth's only remaining free-flowing river and its adjacent wetland and upland wildlife habitat. It also provides a beautiful, tranquil buffer of green space on an increasingly busy roadway.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS FUEL CAMPAIGN FOR TEATICKET PARK

The 300 Committee's plans to purchase Joe's Driving Range are in full swing. With help from the Teaticket Civic Association, several events have raised important awareness for the project and have brought in additional funding from community members.

Bob and Paula Crane, of Crane Appliance and Sound & Vision, hosted a cocktail party on Thursday, August 25 at their deluxe showroom on Teaticket Highway. Aimed primarily at business owners in Teaticket and East Falmouth, the event drew an interested crowd who learned more about the Teaticket Park concept plan. This event was co-sponsored by Chef Roland's Catering, which supplied savory treats and service, and by Teaticket Market, which donated all the beverages for the event.

From 10 am to 2 pm on Saturday, September 10, Joe's Driving Range owner Bill Vieira hosted a "last hurrah" event, inviting members of the public to visit the driving range, play mini-golf, shoot a bucket or two of balls and learn about The 300 Committee's plans to

purchase the land and convert it into a natural open space park before the driving range closed for business. Bill then donated the proceeds from this event to the Teaticket Park project. It was a beautiful day, and we were really pleased to see folks who came to reminisce about the "old days" at Joe's and to join in T3C's enthusiasm for the coming changes. Thank you, Bill & Donna Vieira!

A fabulous pasta supper, co-sponsored by the Teaticket Civic Association and The 300 Committee, was held at the Navigator Club on Friday evening, September 23. By all accounts, the event was a huge success. All tickets were pre-sold and more than 200 people enjoyed delicious homemade spaghetti and meatballs, ziti and broccoli, salad and a huge assortment of desserts. Other highlights of the evening were dancing to music by DJ Paul Gavoni, the 50/50 raffle and great auction baskets. Tremendous thanks go to chefs Mary Bishop and Fernanda Lopes, Paul Affsa and Mary Little, co-presidents of the Teaticket Civic Association, and their

amazing corps of volunteers, all the wonderful bakers and Susie Goodman Hallstein for organizing the auction items.

As of press time, contributions and pledges to Teaticket Park approach \$1 million, with about \$200,000 remaining to be raised to meet The 300 Committee's \$1.2 million goal.



Eddie Marshall, Principal at Stephen Stimson Associates, discusses elements of the Teaticket Park concept plan at the Crane Appliance and Sound & Vision event. Paul Affsa, president of the Teaticket Civic Association looks on.

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF...

- ♥ Tom Abbott from David Bennell
- ♥ C. John Berg from Elizabeth Berg
- ♥ Stephen Clark, Jr. from Stephen & Joan Clark
- ♥ Mike Connolly from Anne Connolly Saganic & Family
- ♥ Betty & Bill Eaton from Edward & Linda Orciuch
- ♥ Tom Kramer from Betty Craig
- ♥ Michael A. Moloney from Jane Moloney Wittreich
- ♥ Marion S. Ratliff from Joan Ratliff
- ♥ John & Anita St. Clair from Francis Lovell
- ♥ H. Elaine Tripp from Bruce Tripp

GIFTS IN HONOR OF...

- ♥ Mark H. Dooley from Peter & Marion Dooley
- ♥ Leonard W. Johnson from Carolyn Partan
- ♥ Leonard & Patty Johnson's 50th wedding anniversary from Helenann Dixon, Susanne Goodman Hallstein & Bill Hallstein, Vicky & Pete Lowell and Fran & Sue Smith
- ♥ My grandson Henry's birth and my grandson Oliver's 2nd birthday from Mary Mathers Daigle
- ♥ Sue Smith from Judy Fenwick
- ♥ Marsha Zafiriou from Dorothy & Duncan Aspinwall

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The 300 Committee is a private, non-profit land trust dedicated to preserving natural places in Falmouth for everyone to enjoy now and in the years to come.

Since 1985, The 300 Committee has taken a lead role to acquire treasured open space for conservation, recreation and water protection. In the last 26 years, more than 2,300 acres have been permanently protected through our efforts.

Leaves

fall 2011

KEALEY CONSERVATION AREA—T3C'S NEWEST ACQUISITION

We are pleased to announce The 300 Committee's recent acquisition of 2.24 acres on Wild Harbor Road! The land trust purchased this property from the Kealey family in June 2011 for \$50,000 with funding support from our Opportunity Fund and the Massachusetts Conservation Partnership Fund.

The 2.24 acre Kealey Conservation Area will be permanently protected as public open space with a conservation restriction to protect its sensitive wetland and wildlife habitat. The property includes a freshwater shrub swamp, brackish marsh and a wooded upland area that provides the potential for a public walking path.

The 300 Committee's purchase of this property was made possible through our Opportunity Fund which is supported by our donors. Since the availability of parcels for acquisition is unpredictable, the Opportunity Fund is very helpful



A new, two-sided sign, installed this fall at the Kealey land on Wild Harbor Road, marks this conservation land that protects important wetlands and habitat.

in allowing us to be flexible and take advantage of important land purchase opportunities. The Massachusetts Conservation Partnership program provided a matching grant to fund \$25,000 of the acquisition cost.

LOCAL TEENS DOCUMENT FALMOUTH'S OPEN SPACES

This fall, The 300 Committee is collaborating with students and teachers at Falmouth High School on a project to document Falmouth's conservation lands through artwork and oral history. The project, called "This Land is Your Land," (the title of which was inspired by the well-known Woody Guthrie folk song) was conceived by Falmouth High School studio art teacher Jane Baker and funded by a generous grant from the Falmouth Education Foundation.

Nearly 90 students, representing visual arts, graphic arts and an oral history independent study project, visited Peterson Farm, Wing Pond Woods, Sea Farms Marsh and the Bartolomei Conservation Areas on the Coonamessett River to see

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LOCAL TEENS DOCUMENT OPEN SPACES

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the beauty of some of Falmouth’s open spaces. Lucy Helfrich from T3C’s office accompanied Jane and her students to each parcel; on the trip to Peterson Farm and Wing Pond, board member Beth Schwarzman and half a dozen professional artists from Falmouth and from down Cape came along as well. These artists, friends of Jane’s in the Cape’s art community, attended to help inspire and encourage the students while they worked from nature to create landscape art.

The majority of the students are working to document their visits and personal experiences artistically with photographs, drawings and paintings, while the graphics students will create posters to support The 300 Committee’s work to acquire land for open space. The students in the oral history program are researching long-time Falmouth family ties to the land, with plans to interview community members who can share a “living history” of some of these open spaces. They have visited the local NPR-affiliate, WCAI Cape & Islands Radio, to get some training in how to conduct interviews. These interviews will be videotaped and edited for later viewing.



An autumn afternoon at the Bartolomei land on the Coonamessett River provided FHS students with artistic inspiration. Many of them were surprised to learn that this beautiful, public conservation land exists, right off busy Sandwich Road.



Paul Schulenburg, an artist from Eastham, comments on FHS senior Mike Mosher’s Peterson Farm painting.



At Peterson Farm, a group of students sketch the view across the field to Beebe Woods.

The project will culminate in an art show and multi-media event at the high school on February 9, showcasing Falmouth’s conservation lands and celebrating this broad and dynamic collaboration. The community will be invited to view the artwork, posters and interviews generated by the students. The 300 Committee is thrilled to be part of this project. Stay tuned as plans for the February event develop!

AMERICORPS MEMBER ASSISTS T3C EFFORTS

Hello! It is a pleasure to be writing this mini ‘biography’ for The 300 Committee as a new AmeriCorps Volunteer. I should start by introducing myself; my name is Matt LePere. I am originally from Florida and I came to the Cape last year as a member of AmeriCorps Cape Cod. This is my second year in the program as well as my second year in a climate that has regular frosts. I joined AmeriCorps because I needed something to do after I graduated from Florida State in 2010, and giving back to the community and serving its environmental needs was the perfect fit.



AmeriCorps Volunteer Matt LePere will be joining Jessica and Lucy in the office on Wednesdays until July 2012.

For the next nine months or so, I will be serving as an intern for The 300 Committee. I am in the office once a week on Wednesdays doing research on Land Bank parcels and working with volunteer land stewards.

More specifically, I will be researching parcels and properties that were purchased with Land Bank funds and finding out whether or not they have Conservation Restrictions. For the properties that do not have CRs, I will be putting together a listing that The 300 Committee will present at a future Town Meeting, with the intention of securing CRs on these parcels to ensure their protection in perpetuity. In the spring, I will be coordinating some volunteer work days to support the land trust’s stewardship program.

I am looking forward to my time here and all the knowledge and experience I will gain!

ANNUAL MEETING ROUND-UP 300 COMMITTEE LAND TRUST ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT, HONORS VOLUNTEERS

At the July 7 Annual Meeting of The 300 Committee Land Trust, held at The Navigator Clubhouse of the Portuguese American Association of Falmouth, **Emily Kellndorfer** of Falmouth was elected to replace retiring president **Leonard Johnson**, who has led the land trust’s board of directors since 2005. Emily is an attorney with Hilton & Bishop, a local law firm specializing in estate planning, trust administration and charitable planning. Before joining the board in 2008, Emily served on the organization’s Outreach Committee and chaired that committee for two years. Outreach activities have included The 300 Committee’s Spring Speaker Series, Astronomy Night, the 2010 BioBlitz and other public events that promote the land trust’s work to preserve and protect natural places in Falmouth. “The 300 Committee is a vibrant organization with strongly committed members and supporters. I am honored to serve as the new president, although Leonard has left some big shoes to fill,” remarked Emily. “We have accomplished a great deal, but there is still more we can do to preserve land in Falmouth.”



T3C’s new president, Emily Kellndorfer

Officers returning to The 300 Committee’s board of directors include **Gary Walker** as Vice President and **Richard Payne** as Secretary/Clerk. Newly elected board members are **Thomas Stone**, senior research associate at the Woods Hole Research Center, and **Jeffrey Hamilton**, owner of Hamilton Tree & Landscape, Inc.

Sue Smith, outgoing Treasurer and life-long resident of Falmouth, was honored at the meeting for her outstanding contributions and “out-of-the-box” thinking that has helped lead The 300 Committee board to many successful land transactions in its 26-year history. Retiring board member **Cheryl Holdren** was also recognized for her 11 years of service and her key contributions to the work of the Land Acquisition and Outreach Committees.

Special Place Awards were presented to **Cheryl Williams** and **Ed Jalowiec**, both of Teaticket, for their leadership, courage and dedication to the Save Little Pond effort. The 21-acre Little Pond

parcel, which at one time was the site of a proposed 168-unit 40B development, was acquired by the town last year, with T3C’s help, and includes 9.7 acres of permanently protected conservation land on the shores of the pond. Invaluable Volunteer Awards were given to former Associate Town Counsel **Carol Kenney**, for her pro-bono legal work on T3C’s behalf over nearly 20 years, and to **Nancy Smith** of North Falmouth, our committed office volunteer who has undertaken critical documentation work.

The Mel Miller Stewardship Award, for outstanding work in land stewardship, was presented to long-time volunteer **Bob Butcher**, a former board member who has been instrumental in the annual process of monitoring lands protected with conservation restrictions.

Highlighting the meeting was the talk, “Land Cover Changes on Cape Cod since the 1950s,” presented by new board member **Tom Stone**, which illustrated research results showing dramatic land use change during the last half century.

Several local businesses donated refreshments for the annual meeting: **Chef Roland’s Catering, Dana’s Kitchen, Molly’s Tea Room, Roche Bros., Shaw’s Supermarket, Stop & Shop** and **Windfall Market**. The 300 Committee is grateful for their delicious contributions!

MORE ON VOLUNTEERS...POST-IRENE AND OTHER PROJECTS

Many hands make light work.

This old adage has certainly proved true in our efforts to clean up after Hurricane Irene roared through Falmouth in late August. Numerous projects have taken place, some of them undoubtedly quiet neighborhood undertakings. The end result is that many trails that were blocked by blow downs from the storm

are now clear, and other hazards—dangling branches and limbs, for example—have been removed from Falmouth’s conservation lands.

HIGHLIGHTS:

An idea for a **work party at the Mares Pond & Spectacle Pond Reservation** was conceived by 300 Committee member **Julie Bannister**, who lives nearby,

and was taken on in earnest by volunteer land steward **Kathy Catanach**. Kathy walked all the trails of the reservation and mapped the location of the numerous trees that had fallen across them. With help from T3C’s office, Kathy coordinated a team of 7 other volunteers (and their tools...including 4 chainsaws!) on a Sunday afternoon in early

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MORE ON VOLUNTEERS...POST-IRENE AND OTHER PROJECTS

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October to cut and remove these fallen trees and make the trails navigable once again. In just over 2 hours, the group cut and removed portions of 12 oak trees, some of them quite large, to clear the blocked trails. For those of you unfamiliar with this conservation area, the trails are quite extensive and beautiful, with many ups and downs and splendid views of both ponds. It is well worth a visit! Special thanks to **Kathy** and **Rod Catanach, Ralph Herbst, Hal Leeds, Tom and Ginny Gregg, Dick Payne** and **Lucy Helfrich**, T3C director of program services.



Volunteers who helped clear blow-downs along the trails in the Mares Pond & Spectacle Pond Reservation, and all their nifty equipment (from left): Rod Catanach, Kathy Catanach, Tom Gregg, Ralph Herbst and Ginny Gregg.

Another work party took place on Thursday morning, October 6, and by a stroke of good luck, the DPW had a bucket truck and crew of two men who could help. This project removed a couple of huge tree limbs at the “big tree” on the Coonamessett Reservation—one of which was an enormous “dangler” that was an accident waiting to happen. Thank goodness for the DPW fellows and their great equipment, who made fast work cutting down and chipping these huge limbs. Another portion of this clean-up involved cutting and discarding a section of invasive black swallow-wort. This invasive removal process is ongoing; please stay tuned for news of an upcoming work day to continue the effort! We are grateful to **Hal Leeds, Day Mount, Pam Polloni, Frans Rowaan**, the two DPW crew members

(and their boss, **Rocky Gomes**) and **Jessica Erickson**, T3C administrator.

Both **Mel Miller** and **Bob Butcher** deserve recognition for their quiet but steady work at parcels all over town. Peterson Farm, Coonamessett Reservation (the wisteria arbor, in particular), the Sandwich Road Preserve (with wonderful help from **Hal Leeds**), and Collins Woodlot all have received some much needed attention from Mel. Bob spent time at Peterson Farm as well, with visits to the Garland parcel on Palmer Avenue, the Lakeview Avenue parcel and the new Punch Bowl trail in Beebe Woods. We wish we could clone these two volunteers!

Kudos to **Gary Walker**, T3C VP, who took his chain saw to the Hanson-Powell parcel in Waquoit and to the trails around Peterson Farm, to cut fallen trees and clear the trails in these two areas. Also, we are grateful to **Dick Payne**, T3C Clerk, who lives near the Mock Moraine Trails in West Falmouth and who spent nearly eight hours clearing fallen limbs and debris in this conservation area. **Ed Orciuch**, who also lives nearby, cleared blow downs with his chainsaw after Dick did his work with hand tools. Thanks to all!

We credit **Bruce Lancaster**, who cleared six or seven fallen trees along a half-mile trail in the Long Pond Watershed/Brick Kiln North area, between Falmouth High School and Fire Tower Road. This trail gets a lot of use by the high school cross country runners and residents in the adjacent neighborhood, and before Bruce and his chainsaw arrived on the scene, it was virtually impassable. (Thanks, too, to **Tom Stone**, volunteer steward for this parcel, and neighbors **Kelle and Jeff List**, who got this project started!)

Members of the Falmouth Jewish Congregation participated in a “Day of Mitzvah” at River Bend last May, a day of volunteering to demonstrate their commitment to social action and their identity as a caring community. Under sunny skies, with the world greening

around them, a dozen volunteers removed fencing and helped clear trees and bushes from an area we hope to keep as meadow. River Bend steward **Barry Good** and T3C volunteer **Will Clarke** assisted with this project.

Last, but not least, we are enormously grateful to **Mike and Todd Duffany**, who spend about 40 hours each year mowing the fields at the Coonamessett Reservation and Cardoza Farm.

We also know that many friends, neighbors and other do-gooders, who are unnamed here, helped clear other trails in town. We truly appreciate everything anyone does to help! If there are areas that need work, please let us know, and we will try to direct volunteers there to keep trails open and navigable.

If you are interested in helping The 300 Committee with outdoor work projects, please contact the office by email: saveland@300committee.org. We are happy to keep our volunteer list growing!

WAYS TO GIVE

- Annual membership contribution
- Gift in honor/memory of – friends, relatives, special occasions
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- Estate Planning *
 - Life Insurance
 - IRA (through 12/31/11)
 - or other retirement plan
 - Trust instruments
 - Bequests

If you would like to talk about giving, please call The 300 Committee office at 508-540-0876. Your support is appreciated. Thank you!

* Consult your attorney or estate planner for advice as to what’s best for you.