





*continued from page 1*

Farm has offered locals and tourists alike the opportunity to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables since its establishment in 1927. During the height of strawberry farming in the 1930's, Tony Andrews maintained 23 acres of strawberry plants, which thrived due to the Farm's coarse, highly acidic and sandy soil. Today, the Farm parcels span nearly 36 acres and include two houses and a farm stand, in addition to some sheds and outbuildings. The farm stand has continued to be open to the public during the spring, summer and fall seasons.

The Andrews Farm together with the adjacent pond front parcels will provide farmland, riparian corridor, and wooded buffer to Pond 14 and the Coonamessett River. Keeping these parcels undeveloped will protect water quality as well as important fish and wildlife habitat, as the Coonamessett River is Falmouth's most important herring run. Protection of water quality is particularly important as the Coonamessett watershed influences both Great and Green Ponds, "impaired" coastal embayments which are negatively affected by excess nitrogen from septic systems.

Furthermore, this project complements the Town's planned restoration of the Coonamessett River, which has begun at Lower Bog to the south. Preservation of the Andrews Farm will

## More Land News

We are delighted to report that the closing on the **Shallow Pond Woodlands** went off without a hitch as scheduled on March 31. With wonderful, generous support from a handful of key donors, the fund raising for this land acquisition was very successful. Assisting this effort was a significant contribution for open space mitigation from Falmouth Woods Golf (FWG), LLC, which resulted from their Cape Club redevelopment project. The Shallow Pond Woodlands, located south of Thomas Landers Road, is the largest undisturbed parcel left in Falmouth. Its 70 acres connect to both the 68-acre Breivogel Ponds Conservation Area to the west and the 46-acre Wald & Fender property to the north to create a 183-acre linked expanse of open space. This acquisition forever preserves significant upland, wetland and wildlife habitat, frontage along Shallow Pond, and magnificent stands of tall white pines.

**Public access improvements, including parking and trails** will be coming soon to both the **Shallow Pond Woodlands** (see description above) and the **Kelly Woodland** off Sippewissett Road, which provides first time public access to Beebe Woods from the west. We are excited about these plans and are eager to open up new exploration and recreational opportunities for Falmouth residents and visitors.



*A view of the Shallow Pond Woodlands from the north, across the pond.*

help to protect the restored river by preventing additional development. The naturally vegetated pond front parcels to be acquired by T3C will help to maintain habitat and the health of the water in Pond 14.

Scenic and aesthetic values of the combined project are high; visitors will be able to enjoy both farm and water views. As the farm is level, it affords easy public access for families with children as well as for seniors.

It is the Town's intent to plan for the continued agricultural use of the Farm. From April to November — the time between Spring Town Meeting and Fall Town Meeting — the Town and the Andrews Farm Working Group, which includes members of the Falmouth Agricultural Commission, Falmouth Preservation Alliance, and T3C, will solicit input from the community to develop a plan for the Farm properties.

Clearly, many details need to be worked out by the November 2017 Town Meeting when the funding for the remainder of the Town's portion of the land purchase will be voted, including Community Preservation funds. The Town and T3C will seek funding from two state grant programs. T3C will also be undertaking a fund raising campaign to support the land acquisition. We hope we can count on our members' support for this exciting project!

### Kelly Woodland Trail Connection Map

Date Created: 6/15/2015



*From the Kelly Woodland (outlined in yellow), trail connections are in the works to existing footpaths in both Beebe Woods (to the east) and the Flume Pond (Peterson) Conservation Area.*

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## Upcoming Dates for your Calendar

### Pedal to Parcels...A Bicycling Adventure Sunday, June 11, 9:30 am to noon

Grab your bike, your helmet and plenty of water for this enjoyable group ride. Volunteer leaders will guide riders to and share highlights about 14 parcels of protected open space over approximately 14 miles. The bike tour will begin and end at the Chapoquoit Beach parking lot in West Falmouth. Fun and educational, with a poker game along the way and refreshments at the finish, this cycling event has become an annual T3C activity. Groups of about 8 riders each will focus on safety and fun.

RSVP to [lhelfrich@300committee.org](mailto:lhelfrich@300committee.org); we hope to get a head count ahead of time so we have enough "leaders" and "sweeps." Our fingers are crossed for good weather as we have not scheduled a rain date. Hope you will join us on your bike!

### T3C Annual Meeting Thursday, July 13, 6:30 pm

Falmouth Navigator, Ashumet Road, Hatchville  
Guest speaker Betsy Gladfelter, member of the Falmouth Conservation Commission, will present "The Coonamessett Greenway: a very simple secret."



*Along the 2015 Pedal to Parcels route, participants stopped to learn about the new protected land at the Oyster Pond Headwaters in Quissett.*

### Falmouth Road Race Sunday, August 20, 9:00 am

T3C has several guaranteed race bibs reserved through the Numbers for Nonprofits program for runners who wish to raise funds to support our land preservation mission. Visit [300committee.org](http://300committee.org) for more information.

## Fall-Winter-Spring Stewardship Activities

### Pollinator gardens

Working with the Town of Falmouth Conservation Department and the Friends of the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge, T3C has supported the planting of more than two acres of pollinator meadows at Sea Farms Marsh in East Falmouth and the Dupee Parcel in Hatchville. Fields were tilled and hand seeded with flowering plants and shrubs native to Barnstable County. A pollinator meadow at Teaticket Park will be coming soon, with planting to be completed this spring. Mary Kay Fox, president of the Friends group, has led this amazing effort and we truly appreciate her initiative and dedication.

### Wildlife stewards

T3C's Wildlife Stewards program is up and running! Twenty-two stewards are helping to monitor 9 kestrel boxes and 12 wood duck boxes. Both kestrels and wood ducks have been spotted early this season scoping out potential nesting spots and we are hopeful that breeding pairs have a successful season.

### Eagle Scouts

T3C continues to assist local Boy Scouts with conservation projects. Congratulations to FHS juniors Hale Thomas (son of T3C board member Adam Thomas) and Zack Bowerman on earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

### Winter trail crew led by Charlie Peterson

Twelve work days took place and involved 15 volunteers for a total of 113 hours of work. Trails tackled this year spanned the central sections of the Moraine Trail, including Collins Woodlot and the Kettle Holes Area, the Hanson-Powell Parcel off Central

Avenue, Donald Whelden Preserve and Sea Farms Marsh off Davisville Road, the Bartolomei Conservation Area on Sandwich Road and the Mock Moraine Trails in West Falmouth. Huge thanks to Charlie Peterson and the trail crew for all their terrific work sprucing keeping trails open and friendly to hikers.

In March, twelve AmeriCorps Cape Cod members conducted a work day at the Coonamessett Reservation, removing a hedgerow between the old riding ring and the larger field to create a continuous field area for ground nesting birds. This included selectively removing trees and shrubs while leaving perch trees. The group also worked on the removal of invasive plants.

T3C extends a special thank you for continuing stewardship volunteer work to Jeff Hamilton who has provided wonderful support at Teaticket Park!

## T3C Bids Adieu...

...to our wonderful Stewardship Coordinator, Jack Sidar, whose hard work and dedication over the last two and a half years have moved the stewardship program forward in many ways. Jack launched new initiatives in wildlife conservation, habitat management and restoration, and advanced existing efforts to remove invasive species at several conservation areas. Working closely with the Town, Jack developed productive new partnerships with other nonprofit organizations, with volunteers, and throughout the community.

T3C is currently looking to fill Jack's very large shoes and hopes to announce the arrival of a new Stewardship Coordinator in a few weeks' time.



*T3C friends gathered to celebrate Stewardship Coordinator Jack Sidar and his fine work on behalf of our land trust. The group biked the new Angel's Mirror trail at the Swift-Clute Preserve next to Long Pond.*



*T3C president Tom Stone, director of program services Lucy Helfrich and administrator Jessica W'brenouer thank Jack Sidar with a framed Craig Gibson photo.*

## Walks, Talks and other Outreach Events

Members of T3C's Outreach Committee continue to enthusiastically and energetically promote our land trust's work through a variety of activities. Highlights of the last six months include:



*The elusive river otter*



*The Atlantic white shark*

**Nature and Bird Walks:** Special thanks to our devoted volunteer walk leaders Molly Cornell, Alex Lancaster and Marcy Klattenberg who continue to trek all over town, sharing their love of Falmouth's many and varied conservation lands with dozens of friends and outdoors aficionados. The fall cycle included a hike at Long Pond along the Moraine Trail, an exploration of fall bird migration at Salt Pond Area and along the Shining Sea Bikeway, and a Thanksgiving Stuffing Stroll in Beebe Woods. Getting outdoors to scope out birds in winter meant visiting the ponds of West and North Falmouth for the winter bird count and scanning Vineyard Sound from various shore points for the Winter Waterfowl Safari. Other cold-month adventures explored Flax Pond, Middle and Lower Bogs and the Breivogel Ponds Conservation Area. (This is a recurring seasonal walk to investigate the plants here and how they change. Check out [300committee.org](http://300committee.org) to see when the next visit is scheduled.) The spring focus has included two woodcock walks at dusk,



*Walk leaders Marcy Klattenberg and Alex Lancaster have fun identifying a pine branch during a winter walk at Breivogel. (photo by Alison Leschen)*

**Annual Winter-Spring Speaker Series:** in partnership with Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries, Inc., our 2017 talks covered a wide range of topics. Offered on Thursday evenings once each month, January through May, audience members learned about: creating habitat in a home landscape; winter moths and other invasive forest insects and progress made to curb these insects' damage to our trees; river otters and their elusive behaviors; efforts to conserve bird populations in Massachusetts (especially the American kestrel and the grasshopper sparrow); and insights about the North Atlantic white shark. We are grateful to all our presenters for sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm with T3C members and friends: Theresa Sprague, Blue Flax Design (January), Joseph Elkinton, Ph.D., UMASS-Amherst (February), Liz Baldwin, BioDiversity Works (March), Andrew Vitz, Ph.D., Massachusetts DFW (April) and Cynthia Wigren, Atlantic White Shark Conservancy (May).



*Creating habitat in your home landscape*



*Restoring bird populations in MA*



*Gypsy moth, an invasive forest insect*

**Live music, dancing and fun** were all part of a special Outreach **friend raiser at Grumpy's Pub** on Friday evening, March 24. Featuring the local band, Puffy Elvis, which is made up of nearly a dozen teachers from the Falmouth public schools, the event sported high spirits and a packed house. More than \$1,700 in proceeds were donated to T3C by individuals and by Anejo (the Mexican restaurant that sold burritos at the event) to support our work to preserve open space in Falmouth. A great time was had by all!



*Local band Puffy Elvis rocked T3C's friend raiser event at Grumpy's Pub in March.*



*T3C outreach volunteers Dina Pandya, Kathie Mount and Andrea Harvey pose with Joel Pickering of Grumpy's.*

**Sea Turtles in our Backyard!** This free family program was sponsored by T3C and NOAA's Stellwagen Bank National



*Ali Clark, an intern with the National Marine Life Center, shows a youngster how to take a heart rate on a stranded sea turtle.*

Marine Sanctuary and Northeast Fisheries Science Center. Held at the Gus Cauty Community Center in downtown Falmouth on the afternoon of April 9, numerous hands-on activities helped kids of all ages learn about these fascinating creatures. Close to 150 people attended the event and were greeted by eager and informed volunteers, with lessons ranging from how to assess sea turtle health and process a cold-stunned turtle to identifying sea turtle species and traveling on a sea turtle migration.