

*Protecting open space in perpetuity through acquisition, stewardship, education, and advocacy*

## Unveiling the Mountain Spring Nature Trail

About a year ago the Farmington Land Trust board of directors agreed to fund the development of a nature trail and signage on a group of adjoining Land Trust parcels located off Mountain Spring Road near Farmington Avenue. That trail is now complete and threads its way from Mountain Spring Road to the top of Talcott Ridge and back down again. Along the way, it passes through or near the contiguous Carey, Barney, Rauch, Lidgerwood, Yellin, Moore and Anderson Ridge parcels, to be known collectively as MSNT (Mountain Spring Nature Trail). Included in the efforts were trail enhancements creating an additional switchback to provide easier access to the ridge, and the placement of a blind for birdwatching on the southeast corner of the property. The blind was designed and built by Farmington resident Chris Moreno, who earned his rank of Eagle Scout through completion of the project.

The signage, which details topographic and other information about

**THAT TRAIL IS NOW COMPLETE AND THREADS ITS WAY FROM MOUNTAIN SPRING ROAD TO THE TOP OF TALCOTT RIDGE AND BACK DOWN AGAIN.**

the trail, will be posted near the parking area that accesses the trail.

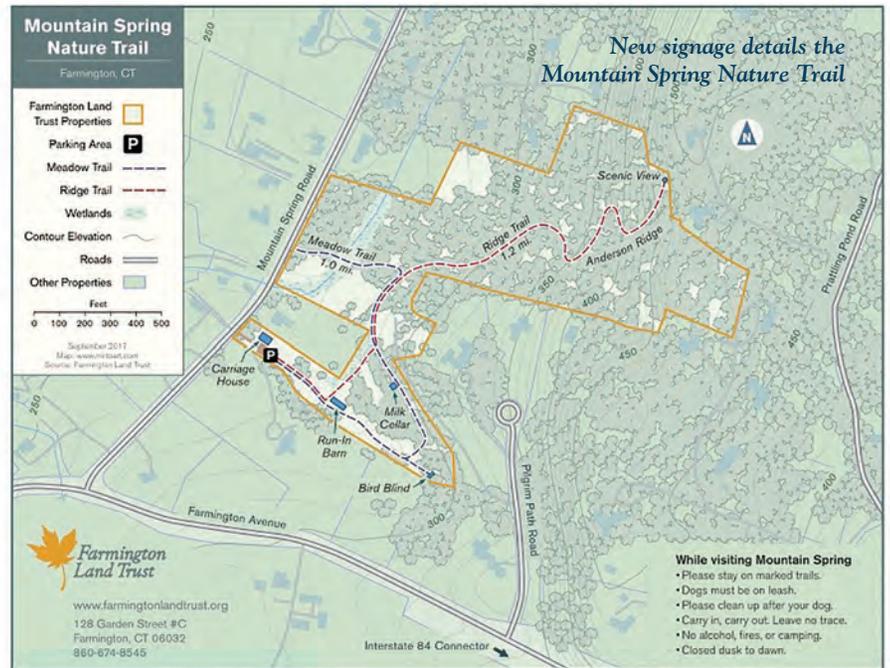
In October, ProHealth Physicians became the first corporate sponsor in our Adopt-A-Parcel program. They are providing the funds for three years of

maintenance on the parcels comprising the new Mountain Spring Nature Trail.

ProHealth Physicians has already provided the Land Trust with two events called Walk with a Dietitian. Healthy eating tips from registered dietitian Diane Lombardi, combined with the expertise of naturalist and FLT board member Diane Tucker made for great events and demonstrated simple ways to be more healthful. Earlier this year, Diane used MSNT for two other events, Meet the Moths and Creepy Crawlies.

At the September's Celebrating Our Volunteers fundraiser, one of the auction items was an outdoor dinner hosted by Land Trust committee chair Mary Louise Wadsworth with assistance from several board members. The winning bid was placed by Land Trust members Richard and Ellen Babcock, who, along with six of their guests, will enjoy their repast in the run-in barn on the MSNT.

Restoration of the Carriage House on the property is a project we have targeted for completion by our 50th anniversary in 2021. This will require major support, but is already underway.



*Farmington resident Chris Moreno earned the Eagle Scout through his service project of designing and building a birdwatching blind along the Mountain Spring Nature Trail.*

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year our membership increased 18%, with over 320 households and businesses participating. We offer programs on the land each month throughout the year, and provide environmental research and artistic activities for students from their early school years through university level.



Many of you attended our very successful fall fundraiser in September, *Celebrating Our Volunteers, Preserving Our Legacy*. It was a wonderful spirit-raiser and friend-raiser for the Land Trust, and an opportunity for all to celebrate the many contributions of Sallie Norris. The event and our membership campaign are the essential elements which sustain our strong financial position, enabling us to provide enriching environmental programs and to care for the lands we protect. Some of the many activities we are engaged in were on display at the event.

One, which was started this year and has been very successful, is our *Adopt-A-Parcel* program. The Land Trust protects 65 different properties in Farmington. Some require little maintenance. Others have meadows, hiking trails, riverfront exposure and dams, while still others are new, with initial management, planning and surveying activities ongoing. All require our resources and attention. Seven of the more demanding parcels were selected to initiate the Adopt-A-Parcel program, a brainchild of Mary Louise Wadsworth and Cate Grady-Benson.

Some of the seven are groupings of contiguous parcels. An example is the six adjacent parcels near the beginning of Mountain Spring Road, all donated to the Land Trust at various times from

1976-2010: Carey and Barney Pastures, featuring wet meadows and springs; Rauch Parcel with its hardwood forest; **Lidgerwood** and Yellin Parcels of upland grasses; and Anderson Ridge, located on the Metacomet ridgeline. We have named this grouping of parcels the *Mountain Spring Nature Trail*, for the two beautiful trails the *Meadow Trail* and *Ridge Trail* that traverse these parcels.

Other properties selected for the program are: the Boulder Brook and Clatter Valley Road Parcels, the Cowles Parcel, the Douglas-Mount Parcel (Handicap Fishing Pier), the Wadsworth Memorial (Will Warren's Den), and the Canal Aqueduct, which is another grouping of four individual connecting properties: Canal Aqueduct, Riverwalk Easement and the Thomson and Walker Parcels.

All of these Adopt-A-Parcel properties, except for the Cowles and Douglas-Mount Parcels, have been adopted by generous donors, providing funds to cover their maintenance over the next three years. In addition, thanks to a grant from the Mortensen Foundation, the stone dust trail to the Handicap Fishing Pier has been resurfaced this summer.

We are creating new signage for many of our parcels. One of the first is the *MSNT*. We will be installing a new trail map there this fall highlighting the Meadow Trail and the Ridge Trail. The Ridge Trail, which was re-blazed with new side-hilling added this year by a crew of volunteers under the direction of Peter Dorpalen, leads up to Anderson Ridge. When you look at the new MSNT map on our website or visit the property, you will notice the new *Bird Blind* which was an Eagle Scout project contributed by Chris Moreno.

The magnificent stucco garage at the entrance to the Carey Pasture, which served the Barney Estate from the early 1940s, is in phase one (exterior) of a renovation program organized by and underwritten by the Metro Realty Group. The garage was a part of the donation of this 5.5-acre pasture by Anne Carey in 1996. We hope to have the first phase completed in the next 12 months. When completed, the renovation will provide significantly better accommodation for visitors, thus enriching our environmental programming at the MSNT.

These are only a few things that are happening at the Land Trust. Be a part of this great adventure on the land and get outdoors and appreciate all we have in Farmington, its history, the river, meadows, hills, ridges and most of all, its people!

**Save the Land, Share the Responsibility**

Send in your 2018 membership envelope today!

~Richard Kramer

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## Restoring the Boulder Brook Lot

Farmington Land Trust's Boulder Brook Lot, which is located at the westerly side of the southerly entrance of Mountain Spring Road, was donated by Harriet Barney Lidgerwood in 1985 as part of an historic lawn connected with her family home at 11 Mountain Spring Road.

At the time, Harriet, "Hatty," requested that the existing landscaping, the effort of several generations of landscape professionals, be maintained and the plantings replaced as needed. Dunny Barney, Hatty's cousin who assisted with the donation, wrote in 2003, "her desire was... to have it kept as a lawn area, with the hedge maintained, for maintenance of a sense of refuge and quiet and to maintain the integrity of the vistas that it afforded to the western hills."

This lawn, once the lawn of the Barney homestead, also known as the Barney House, is now owned by Tim and Portia Corbett. It is flanked by a number of specimen trees, including American beech trees, one of the state's largest pin oak trees, chestnut, dogwood, magnolia, black oak, tamarack, sycamore and a variety of conifers. Time and storms have taken a toll in the intervening 30 years.

So, several years ago, the Land Trust began exploring the possibility of a grant to restore the property. In 2016 Reno Properties Group with assistance from Mountain Spring neighbors, replaced 75 hemlock trees, a pin oak and sycamore tree, and installed a fence in a style keeping with the Barney homestead. This restoration project is now nearly complete and the Farmington Land Trust expresses its appreciation to Reno and the neighbors.

### Rerouting the brook

Another feature of the property is Boulder Brook, which serves as the parcel's southerly boundary. As part of the reconfiguration of Route 4, the State of Connecticut's efforts included temporarily rerouting the brook, which is also known as Pope Brook, and purchased the southeasterly corner of the property in 2015 to accomplish this. At the Land Trust's request, a new stonework abutment was built to replace the old stonework around the culvert.

### Site of an historic home

As a note of interest, it is thought that a small, red house located near the large bolder on the property, was the birthplace, in 1745, of John Treadwell. Treadwell was Governor of Connecticut from 1809 to 1811, the last Puritan governor of the state. Prior to becoming governor, he served in the Connecticut General Assembly and became involved with the sale of the New Connecticut Lands (the Western Reserve in present Ohio.) He encouraged the use of the proceeds of the sale for education and is considered the father of the common school system in Connecticut. The house was destroyed around 1820.



*The nearly finished culvert at Boulder Brook*

## Strategic Stewarding at Clatter Valley Road

When the Farmington Land Trust acquires a new piece of land, the new parcel is not just dropped into a grab bag of protected spaces and left there. It needs a plan. How will we as an organization maintain this addition to our treasury of open space as a meadow, a woodland, a wetland or whatever it may be, on into the future? We expect to be active partners with that land, to understand it, to care for it, and to steward it for generations to come. At the same time we must honor the site's past by endeavoring to preserve its heritage. And in the future, we plan to develop trails onsite and open the area to the public. What does that sort of stewardship entail? Our recent acquisition of the Clatter Valley Road Parcel offers a case in point.

First we need to understand how this new puzzle piece fits into a larger mosaic. The 13.8-acre FLT Clatter Valley Road Parcel and the abutting 13.0-acre Clatter Valley Easement contain wetlands and a vernal pool area, all of which is part of a larger, contiguous 45-acre parcel held — outright or by easement — by the Farmington Land Trust. It encompasses part of the Talcott Mountain, as the towering ridge on Farmington's eastern brow is known, and includes land both atop and at the foot of the ridge.

Cutting right through the parcel is the historic Clatter Valley Road, unused for generations, but once the primary conduit connecting the Connecticut and the Farmington River Valleys. As such, it was used since time immemorial, first by animals, then by the region's first prehistoric denizens, and finally by early Colonial era settlers migrating west from Hartford.

The road's long history of use may provide a rich window into our past. Preliminary visits by archaeologists have identified a number of natural shelves which may be the site of ancient campgrounds, a tiny settlement, or colonial era homesites. An arrowhead estimated to be 4,000 years old was found on the site, confirming early human presence. During part of the 19th century, some of

*(continued on page 7)*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 14 to January 5**

## **The Audubon Christmas Bird Count**

<http://www.audubon.org/join-christmas-bird-count>

**Sunday, January 14 at 1 p.m.**

## **Archaeological Sites in the Farmington River Valley Stanley Whitman House, 37 High Street**

Learn about the discoveries of storied settlements which once were rooted in our own backyards. CCSU Archaeology professor Ken Feder will educate and entertain us with true tales from our ancient past.

**Friday, February 2 at 5:30 p.m.**

## **Blue Moon Snowshoe Outing Mountain Spring Nature Trail (MSNT) 16 Mountain Spring Road**

Get your snowshoes or cross country skis ready for this short trip to a bonfire area for an evening of stories and fellowship under the light of a full moon.

**Sunday, March 4 at 1 p.m.**

## **Bears In CT**

### **Farmington Community and Senior Center, 321 New Britain Avenue**

Join bear expert Paul Colburn, Master of Wildlife Conservation, for a fascinating presentation and discussion of our ubiquitous neighbors. He'll discuss the natural history of black bears in CT, and provide an overview of black bear habitat, diet, behavior, and current research efforts. You'll also hear some recommendations for optimum coexistence with our black bear population.



**Thursday, April 19 from 5:30 to 9 p.m.**

## **Farmington Land Trust Annual Meeting and Potluck Porter Memorial, 75 Main Street**

Speaker TBA



**Sunday, April 29 at 1 p.m.**

## **Wildflower Walk**

### **Canal Aqueduct and Henry Mason Trail**

Steve Grant, nature writer, leads the way in search of woodland wonders in an area with a rich variety of ephemeral spring wildflowers. Meet at the parking lot opposite Aqueduct Lane, just south of the Avon Town line.

**Saturday, May 5 at 7:30 a.m.**

## **Birding along the Pequabuck Cowles Parcel off Meadow Road**

Milan Bull of the Connecticut Audubon Society will lead a hunt for early season migrating species, including raptors. Bring binoculars to get an up close and personal view of some of these winged wonders. This popular event documented 26 bird species last year.

**Sunday, June 3 at 9 a.m.**

## **CT Walk Day**

### **Shade Swamp Wildlife Sanctuary**

This 800-acre state-owned site is the perfect setting for a 90-minute wildlife hike. Back in the day, there was a zoo located here. Although its denizens are long gone, there is still plenty of flora and fauna for Farmington Land Trust naturalist Diane Tucker to point out along the way.

**Thursday, July 12 from 9 a.m to 3 p.m.**

## **Archaeological Dig**

### **Clatter Valley Road Parcel off Mountain Spring Road**

CT state archaeologist Brian Jones and Jeremy Pilver, steward of Yale's Walpole Library Archaeological Site, will lead an on-site exploration of the Clatter Valley Road Parcel, where there may be several promising sites for archaeological evaluation. Join us!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, August 26 at 1 p.m.**

## **What Lies Beneath**

**16 Mountain Spring Road (MSNT)**

Diane Tucker examines the mysteries of life underfoot. Early in spring, she places wood covers over patches of ground to attract a myriad of insects, worms, and other native crawlers. Get there early for the unveiling.

**Saturday, September 15 at 1 p.m.**

## **Birds of Prey — Live Demonstration**

**West District Nature Preserve**

**119 Coppermine Road**

Mary-Beth Kaeser from Horizon Wings returns with several of her favorite feathered friends to introduce us to birds of prey native to our area. Bring your cellphone or camera to take plenty of photos during this popular crowd pleaser.

**Thursday, September 20 from 5:30 to 9 p.m.**

## **Preserving Our Legacy Fundraiser**

**Farmington Gardens**

**999 Farmington Avenue**

We're back again with our annual fundraising event, bigger and better than ever. This is your chance to honor one of Farmington's own and contribute to an evening that helps sustain the FLT.

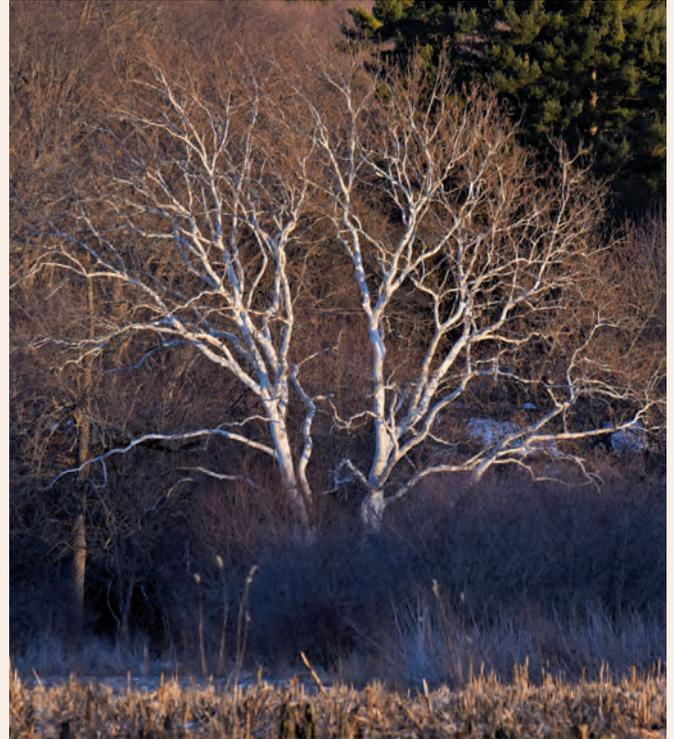
**Sunday, October 14 at 3:30 p.m.**

## **Camera? But I Don't Own a Camera**

**Mountain Spring Nature Trail (MSNT)**

**16 Mountain Spring Road**

Oh yes you do. If you've bought a smartphone in the last few years you already own a great camera. Board member and photojournalist Steve Silk will lead an outdoor workshop focused on learning how to get the most out of it. Depending on the interest of the group, we will



learn about applying creative controls to the cameras just as you would on a real DSLR, how to mimic the look of different film stocks, making HDR exposures, slow shutter speed trails, creating time lapses, and more. The emphasis will be on capturing images rather than editing them afterward. RSVP early to get the apps you will need to prepare for this limited participation event.

**Sunday, October 21 at 1 p.m.**

## **Hike to Will Warren's Den**

Join John Vibert on a medium exertion hike to the cave home of Farmington's famous hermit, Will Warren. A few spots along the way entail scrambling over uneven rocky areas, though slight detours may yield a somewhat easier route. After visiting the cave and rock formation Warren called home, the walk will continue a short distance to a ridge top affording a panoramic view of the valley below.

**Friday, November 23 at 11 a.m.**

## **OptOutside — FLT's Annual Black Friday Hike Pinnacle Ridge and Hospital Rock**

Liz Dolphin will guide us to the site and local historian and physician Charlie Leach will tell us the fascinating history of this late-18th century site on the flank of Rattlesnake Mountain where parents saved their children from a devastating smallpox epidemic. All that remains of what was once a hospital is the rocky ledge where patients inscribed their names.

***For questions and to register, call 860.674.8545***

***or email at [farmingtonland.trust@snet.net](mailto:farmingtonland.trust@snet.net).***

***Please, no pets on hikes.***



## Preserving Pachamama

A few of you know that I recently joined three friends on a trek in Peru. It was a bucket list adventure sponsored by REI. Lest you think we were roughing it, I had been sold on the idea because it involved daily treks, trailside inns, and promised the opportunity for a cross-cultural appreciation of land preservation.



On our first day in Cusco we met our guides, Guido and Saul, who gave us a history of the ancient Incan capitol and the cultural sites we would visit during our trek to the Sacred Valley, Lares, and, seven days later, to Machu Picchu.

Guido set a tone early. We were there to learn about Peruvian cultures, interact with local populations and understand the ancient threads that make Andean life relevant to the world. While Incan and pre-Incan history framed the trip, echoes of the past inform a dynamic modern life. Past Spanish “heroes” were now viewed differently, their statues removed from the Cusco city center (sound familiar?). Guido’s admonition that “we’re all mestizos” reflects the bifurcated DNA of Peru. Studying ancient cultures in the context of this beautiful and unforgiving geography informed the importance of the land as a common cultural thread. A world away, we in Farmington share the universality of growth of community from land and landscape, and through FLT we are able to preserve and protect that legacy.

Peruvians we met are struggling with forming what we have in the Land Trust. Guido and I spoke about this several times on the trail. I told him about private local, state and national conservation efforts setting aside almost 20% of landmass. He thought that beyond our national parks, there was no land preservation in the US. He wished there was a land trust movement independent of the government in Peru, where Pachamama, Mother Earth, is celebrated in every toast and prayer.

This veneration of the land and antiquities in Peru has fueled an economic boom around tourism. But embracing the boom is not so simple. A history of government corruption makes protectors of ancient sites wary. While some hope the influx of money from tourism will spur progress and innovation, others fear it will inevitably encourage further corruption and destroy an irreplaceable past. Newfound wealth is quickly channeled into government. We arrived to find school children at home due to a national teacher’s strike that was solved by a 100% salary increase — this following the 100% raise recently enjoyed by the police and military. Public money is fluid. The plan for a tramway to a newly discovered archeological site is displayed on billboards along the Lares Valley. Development and preservation are conjoined and mistrust one another. A private preservation organization, such as a land trust, could serve to protect those sites and allay some of the fears about corruption.

The gold and wealth that were the catalysts for Incan culture to become world famous are now gone. What remains of Peru’s storied past are its epic landscapes and its cultural patrimony: 400 ancient Incan settlements, 360 of which were looted by the conquistadors. Machu Picchu and 39 other sites were largely looted by locals.

The mysticism surrounding Machu Picchu, the so-called lost city of the Incas, has been replaced by forensic archeology depicting the site as an Imperial mountain retreat. As CCSU archeologist Ken Feder states, “think more Camp David and less space alien outpost”. Lost city or royal retreat, its allure is undiminished. Newly discovered settlements are analyzed as archeological sites in the hope they will find the “next Machu Picchu”.

These conversations about place and Pachamama affirmed that land preservation allows people to connect across all of human experience. Our own town has a rich pre- and post-colonial history, remnants of which are preserved on Land Trust properties. In the coming year we will explore this history. Join us on an archeological and cultural landscape adventure here in Farmington.

## Remembering Jorge Delano

We are saddened by the loss of Farmington Land Trust board member Jorge Delano, who passed away September 13. Jorge was a part of our governing body for about a year, but he has been a long and loyal supporter of the Land Trust and we will miss his ready smile, positive attitude and passion for preserving land in Farmington.

Richard Kramer, president of the Farmington Land Trust, says “I’d like to remember our friend, colleague and board member Jorge Andres Delano — an incredibly gifted individual who joined our board to help organize a history of the Land Trust for our upcoming 50th anniversary. What a remarkable life! Jorge was accomplished

in so many areas: military, scholarship, business, and adventure, as a daring balloonist with his wife Kathy. We extend our care and comfort to her. We will miss him! Please join me in a saluting a friend, gentleman, and citizen of Farmington!”

Known for his unique and daring approach to business and his imaginative marketing style, Jorge Delano pioneered hot air ballooning in Venezuela in the early 1980s. Floating through the spectacular landscapes of Venezuela, he helped produce films and books which have been shown and shared in many countries. He became a helicopter pilot; earned a Master’s Degree in American Studies from Trinity College in Hartford, started up a niche market ceramic manufacturing facility

in Quito, Ecuador, and served 11 years as President of Club de Campo, playing polo there as a member of the team Sebucañ for over three decades. An avid skier and sailor all his life, Jorge and his father were founders of the Club de Yates in Higerillas, Chile.

Needless to say, a man of such protean talent brought something special to everything he touched, and we are thankful his reach extended to the Farmington Land Trust, however briefly.

He is survived by his wife Katherine Wadsworth of Farmington and his large family. Donations in his memory can be made to The Hill-Stead Museum, 35 Mountain Road, Farmington, CT 06032 or the Farmington Land Trust, 128 Garden Street, Farmington, CT 06032.

## Why I Belong

I am a member of the Farmington Land Trust (FLT) because I feel strongly that we need to preserve the natural and man made landscapes of Farmington (and beyond). Farmington and the Farmington Valley is a changing and dynamic place where developers can find many financial incentives. For those who seek a counterbalance to those incentives, it is difficult to find the financial



and historical structures, the FLT provides a critical voice and tangible counterbalance. I grew up in the Farmington Valley in the 70s and 80s and have witnessed its incredible

and organizational resources to do so. By promoting the values of conservation and green space and by physically preserving natural land

development. The FLT serves and promotes a community and sense of place that I have loved since childhood. While it is easy to regret all of the lost forest and fields, it is important to focus on developing the resources to preserve what we love about Farmington, its beauty and historic charm. FLT provides the financial and community resources needed to protect and maintain our special sense of place.

~Jay Bombara

## Strategic Stewarding *(continued from page 3)*

this land was owned by John Treadwell Norton (builder of the Barney House), an engineer and surveyor who helped construct the Erie Canal and who later returned to Farmington for work on the Farmington Canal. Several unusual earth- and stoneworks on the Clatter Valley Road parcel may represent prototypes for the feeder canals he designed. In any event, there's no doubt Clatter Valley Road is a parcel with an exceptional past, one that, we hope, will be further clarified by archaeological study. If you're interested, the Land Trust is hosting an archeological tour of the site Thursday, July 12. See our events page or website for more information.

The old road may serve as the primary route for a footpath planned to thread through the parcel. To help in our efforts developing it, we are thankful for an anonymous initial donation of \$5,000 received through our new Adopt-A-Parcel program in memory of Jack Emery and Burgess Smith.

Clatter Valley Road, though abandoned after the road cuts along present day Farmington Avenue eased the way into town, still serves as a thoroughfare for many of the area's mammals. And the more we can know about them, the better. The Land Trust is engaged in a cooperative agreement with Central Connecticut State University, and biology students there under the direction of Professor Barbara Nicholson and Associate Professor Paul Hapeman conduct field studies beneficial to students who need a place to conduct fieldwork, and the Land Trust benefits because the results of those studies provide useful data for developing stewardship plans.

Hapeman and his students are in their second year of

investigating mammalian presence in the Clatter Valley Road Parcel. They use motion-triggered cameras, GPS technology, and live trapping to provide a window into what happens along the old passageway. In the process, the students learn practical application of fieldwork techniques.

"If you don't have somewhere to practice your skills, it's very hard to learn," says Brenna Cianci, a graduate student from Bolton who has worked on an elephant conservation project in Sri Lanka. "It's important to get out in the field to understand the animals."

Hapeman says their studies have revealed red fox, deer, raccoons, bear, a family of bobcats and more, all seeming to use the area as a major corridor for traveling west, moving downhill from the small pond on the parcel toward and across Mountain Spring Road. Ultimately we hope their studies will round out a mammal census for the present and, as the study continues in future years, provide a way to understand the impact of an increased human presence once trails are developed on the parcel.

Meanwhile, Barbara Nicholson's students are opening a window onto the plant and pond life onsite, by taking an inventory of the indigenous woody plants, including species diversity and light levels in the woodland. It revealed high numbers of ash saplings-four times as many as their nearest, most prolific competitors the black oaks and sugar maples. Also, that a die-off of hemlocks has created an opening in the forest canopy allowing more light to penetrate into the forest. The die-off is driving a change in the distribution and frequency of other species, thus accounting for all the ash and sugar maple saplings, more white pines, and increased moss and grass.

This past fall, they studied the site's vernal pool, its inhabitants and the presence of invasive Asian earthworms. The seasonal pond proved a prime breeding ground for several native salamander species and hosted a rich population of tiny herbivorous diatoms and insects. And the extra moisture it provides the immediate surrounds somewhat reduces the numbers of invasive earthworms.

There are more studies to be conducted, and much more to learn about the Clatter Valley Road Parcel and its surrounds. We have yet to dig deeply into its archaeological past. And we don't know yet, exactly, where a footpath may lead and what the impact of more people on the site may be. Landscapes are not static, and understanding the dynamic changes they may undergo is a vital part of developing an effective stewardship plan.

*CCSU grad student Brenna Cianci rigs a motion-triggered camera to a tree as part of a research study of mammals on the Clatter Valley Road Parcel.*





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**Our September “Celebrating Our Volunteers, Preserving Our Legacy” fundraiser netted the Land Trust more than \$45,000.**

That includes funds from our new Adopt-A-Parcel program, which exceeded expectations in the adoption of four of the seven parcels with receipts exceeding \$10,000 to date.

**Do You Shop at Amazon.com?**

Then you have one more way to support FLT! Just visit [farmingtonlandetrust.org](http://farmingtonlandetrust.org); at the bottom of the home page you’ll see the logo for AmazonSmile. By clicking on the logo you can designate the Farmington Land Trust as your “charity of choice.” Amazon.com will then automatically donate one-half percent, 0.5%, of each purchase to the FLT when you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com>.



**KEEP COMING BACK**

to our once-a-month, warm-weather outdoor activities.

**Yoga on Main**

**Second Sundays May-September at 9 a.m.**

**Main Street across from the Farmington Bank**

Guided yoga sessions offer something for everyone from beginner to devotee. Be sure to bring a pad or blanket to spread on the grass.

**First Fridays with Diane**

**Monthly early morning nature walks hosted by FLT naturalist Diane Tucker**

**April-September**

Every nature outing has the potential for uncovering marvels. Each of our open spaces has endless potential. FLT’s naturalist Diane Tucker will pick a location she thinks likely to yield exiting ephemeral discoveries such as birds, spring peepers, or emerging wildflowers. We will take walks on different Land Trust properties hoping to see our quarry. Every walk is different, the possibilities unlimited. We’ll visit someplace new each month. Watch our website.

