

watermark

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Ocean Drifters Follow Lobster Larvae

On June 25, our lobster scientists, Jason Goldstein and Ben Gutzler, released 24 “ocean drifters” offshore to track surface currents in the southern Gulf of Maine. They’re using the drifters to get a better idea where newly hatched lobster larvae go when they float as plankton during the first month of their lives.

What’s a Drifter?

Ocean drifters are buoys that are used to study movement of particles near the ocean’s surface. The reserve’s drifters have cloth “sails” to catch sea currents and are balanced with weights and a small float to maintain stability. They are meant to hang just below the ocean surface except for their float and a GPS unit that is raised above the water. The GPS unit reports its position every 30 minutes, and those reports are posted to an online NOAA Fisheries map.

Floating Like Larvae

Fishermen and scientists have a good idea where egg-bearing lobsters are found in the Gulf of Maine, so Jason and Ben

released their ocean drifters at four locations (from near shore to about 16 miles off shore) at

a time when lobster eggs were due to hatch. Drifters are much easier to track than microscopic lobster larvae.

The research team will track drifter positions for 30 days,* which is the typical period that lobster larvae float as plankton. This will help them understand where larvae are likely to be carried, and how egg-hatching location affects lobster dispersal.

They will also use the collected GPS data in oceanographic models to determine where larvae are likely maturing into postlarvae, the growth stage when they become active swimmers rather than passive drifters. Where larvae metamorphose influences where they will settle on the sea floor to grow into adults.

Above: Ocean drifters afloat in the Gulf of Maine. Inset: Ben Gutzler, George & Eleanor Ford Postdoctoral Research Fellow, prepares to deploy a drifter.

*Where are they now? Track their movements at wellsreserve.org/drifters.

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A newsletter for members of
Laudholm Trust and supporters of
the Wells National Estuarine
Research Reserve

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flotsam

No September Events, No Concerts

For the first time in 33 years, we will not be hosting a crafts festival on the weekend after Labor Day. After consulting with exhibitors, volunteers, and supporters, we decided to put safety first and wait until September 2021 for the next event.

We also canceled the three concerts scheduled for this summer and, before the pandemic, pressed pause on Punkiniddle. It will be a quiet stretch at your reserve.

Maine Climate Council Stays on Task

In mid June, working groups of the Maine Climate Council presented a framework for the Maine Climate Plan due to the legislature in December. The reserve's Coastal Training Program director, Dr. Christine Feurt, serves on the Coastal and Marine Working Group. She remarked on her experience: "Our group's representatives value Maine's coast and marine areas in very different ways. The essence of the challenge and the quality of our collaboration have been inspirational."

Big Barn Gets "Assembly Hall" Status

After a year of significant upgrades, the hay-and-horse barn has qualified for the label Assembly Hall. The designation indicates it meets safety and accessibility requirements for gatherings such as weddings, concerts, and events. The extensive work was made possible thanks to a generous donation from



Visitors following the Pilger Trail Story Walk this spring found a series of suggested yoga positions to try along their way.

long-time supporter, founder, and honorary trustee Rebecca Richardson and her family.

Story Walks Enhance Trailside Fun

The Pilger Trail became a bit more entertaining this spring with the addition of a Story Walk provided through the 5210 Let's Go York County healthy lifestyle campaign.

A story walk mounts pages of a children's book along a path for reading one stop at a time. For April and May, we hosted *At One: In a Place Called Maine*. This summer, we present a new book: *Hold This*.

Trust Supports Black Lives Matter

For many people, science, education, and conservation lead to truth, wonder, and beauty. But for too many, for too long, the paths to truth, wonder, and beauty have been blocked. Laudholm Trust believes environmental issues are inseparable from social issues; to achieve progress in one we must support progress in both. So the board of trustees marked Juneteenth by committing to support and sustain a safe and welcoming Wells Reserve for all, to recruit more diversely, and to partner with organizations addressing social justice and access to nature for underrepresented peoples.

A new ramp and stone-dust path improve accessibility to the Laudholm barn.



nik's notebook: [Still] Between Two Worlds

A salt marsh floods twice a day, yet its denizens still thrive. Glaciers covered half our hemisphere many times in the past, but plants and animals returned to blanket the land. What was once a globe of molten rock is now our solar system's brilliant blue-green jewel. Nature is adept at finding ways to adapt and to recover. Life is meant to live.

That's not to say that the past four months haven't been difficult. Our world feels profoundly different from the one we left behind a mere 120 days ago. Now we're standing at the edge of a new one, where familiar habits, businesses, and relationships will all be adjusted as the plagues of coronavirus and racial and economic inequality continue to spread. We will likely look back on the summer of 2020 as a bifurcation point: that spot in a curve where a trajectory changed and we took a different path from the one we were on.

I constantly tell my children that the future is what we make it. It doesn't just happen; it's the collective sum and consequence of billions of continual choices. As we move forward, we can't focus solely on the bad news, the setbacks, the carnage. While they're important to note, and work to minimize, they're too often the only story we hear. Progress, like life, grows on, all around us. Spring is our annual reminder of that; summer, the celebration of life's bounty. In these pages, you'll see your Wells Reserve continuing to develop, to work, and to plan. It's what we do. It's what it means to hope.

In the rubble created by this year's disruptions and dislocations, treasures can still be found. For me, working from home and homeschooling were initially a mess, but ultimately I've discovered extra time for family, food, even exercise. Driving 90% less feels great and responsible. Professionally, it's been deeply satisfying to see staff adapt to new ways of working and to see Science, writ large, rise to the challenge of the virus. For all the news of naysayers, deniers, and fatalists, most people have done their part, listened to the experts, and helped to flatten the curve.

Our resilience is an encouraging sign for the larger problems still to come. There will always be problems, but there will also always be solutions to them. That's how we move forward (and, alas, sometimes backward). We slosh between freshwater and salty, surplus and deficit, liberal and conservative, safety and danger, old and new. We are continually between two worlds: the now and the next. In that kind of cycle, it's never a bad idea to keep a reserve.



Nik Charov
President, Laudholm Trust
Chairman, Wells Reserve Management Authority

wellsreserve at laudholm

A PLACE TO DISCOVER

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Reserve System
Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

*What's happening now at the
Wells Reserve at Laudholm?*

facebook.com/wellsreserve
instagram.com/wellsreserve

Email: wellsreserve.org/signup

The Wrack: wellsreserve.org/blog



The Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve is one of 29 reserve sites throughout the country. All reserves require local funding to match federal grants from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Wells Reserve is the only reserve that receives its match from a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Each year, Laudholm Trust contributes private funds and in-kind services to support Wells Reserve operations and capital improvements.

The National Estuarine Research Reserve System is a network of protected areas established for long-term research, education, and stewardship. This partnership program between NOAA and the coastal states protects more than one million acres of estuarine land and water, which provides essential habitat for wildlife; offers educational opportunities for students, teachers, and the public; and serves as living laboratories for scientists.

The 29 Sites in the NERR System

ACE Basin, South Carolina
 Apalachicola, Florida
 Chesapeake Bay, Maryland
 Chesapeake Bay, Virginia
 Delaware, Delaware
 Elkhorn Slough, California
 Guana Tolomato Matanzas, Florida
 Grand Bay, Mississippi
 Great Bay, New Hampshire
 He'eia, Hawai'i
 Hudson River, New York
 Jacques Cousteau, New Jersey
 Jobos Bay, Puerto Rico
 Kachemak Bay, Alaska
 Lake Superior, Wisconsin
 Mission-Aransas, Texas
 Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island
 North Carolina, North Carolina
 North Inlet/Winyah Bay, South Carolina
 Old Woman Creek, Ohio
 Padilla Bay, Washington
 Rookery Bay, Florida
 San Francisco Bay, California
 Sapelo Island, Georgia
 South Slough, Oregon
 Tijuana River, California
 Waquoit Bay, Massachusetts
 Weeks Bay, Alabama
 Wells, Maine

"Open Every Day" More Important than Ever

In a state of civil emergency (March 15), with emergency measures passed unanimously by the state legislature (March 17), and with coastal state parks closing (March 26), and a Stay Healthy at Home mandate (March 31), the prospects for the Wells Reserve at Laudholm remaining open "7am to sunset" seemed dim. But this sprawling landscape holds ample opportunity to ambulate. That meant the world to people pursuing "essential personal activities" by "engaging in outdoor exercise activities such as walking, hiking,..."

So while our restrooms were closed (March 16) and the beach was placed off limits (March 30), our trails remained open for short visits by individuals and families. During these trying months, we have been rewarded with gratitude.

It is so nice that the reserve is open for a peaceful moment with nature.

Way to go Wells Reserve!

Best place to renew your soul!

Each and every time I go into the woods and stand at the edge of the marsh, I am utterly and totally filled with gratitude.

Thank you for giving a safe spot for a little nature break.

So many trails and I didn't cross anyone's path.

I was laid off last week and need a zen spot.

Business as usual, with adjustments, shows strength in our mission of science and serving the public.

Thank you for keeping it open we need this to survive with sanity.

Perfect place to soothe the soul.

Appreciate your wanting to protect our sweet world. Tough times all around. We will get thru.

Be Well.

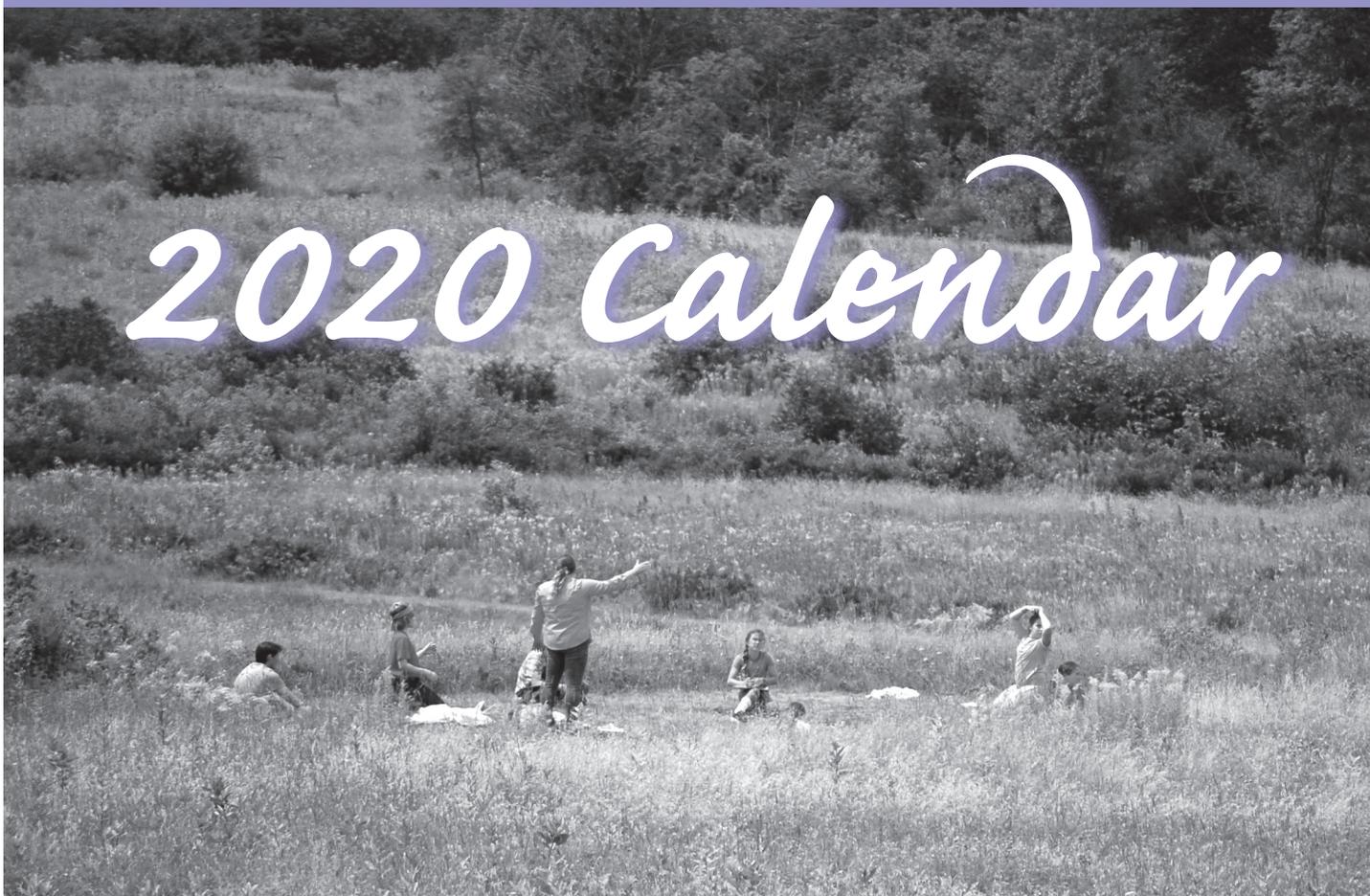
Waterline Replacement Will Close Trail Temporarily Next Winter

This coming winter, access to the reserve's most popular trail will be disrupted for several months as the Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Wells Water District replaces the waterline serving Drakes Island. The new waterline is expected to be operational before spring 2021.

The 80-year-old, 4,200-foot, 10-inch diameter waterline that now runs beneath the Wells Reserve's fields and the Webhannet River Marsh to Drakes Island is undersized, prone to leaks, and difficult to service. The new 3,900-foot, 16-inch waterline will be installed under an old farm lane referenced on our trail maps as the Barrier Beach Trail. During construction this trail will be closed and visitors will be directed elsewhere. As part of this project, a public fire hydrant will be installed at the crest of the hill on the Laudholm campus, bringing emergency water closer to our historic buildings.

Once the new waterline is operational, the old line will be retired and abandoned in place. The easement that the water district holds on the line will be relinquished. The Barrier Beach Trail will be graded, and adjacent areas reseeded, so the path/road will be brought to a condition similar to its pre-construction state.

2020 Calendar



Everyone seeking a semblance of normalcy may take heart: The Wells Reserve education team has scheduled a slate of public programs for this summer. Obviously, things will be different. But with much deep thought and many consultations, our educators have arranged an excellent set of workshops, walks, and talks. Here are some of the precautions that are permitting these activities to proceed:

- Indoor public programs, such as workshops, lectures, trainings, and yoga, will be held online.
- Trail-based and kayak programs will be limited to 5 participants and reservations are required.
- Participants must supply their own face covering, sanitizer, sunscreen, and insect repellent.
- Summer day camps were limited to 6 campers (all camps were filled).
- Preschool Story Hours, Discovery Backpacks, and certain other programs will not be offered.

COVID-19 Notice The Wells Reserve at Laudholm operates in accordance with orders from the Governor of Maine and instructions from the Maine Center for Disease Control. We monitor, evaluate, and adapt as needed to ensure all programs operate safely and effectively. We will be maintaining safe physical distance during on-site programs. Participants are expected to bring a face covering and hand sanitizer in addition to water, sunscreen, insect repellent, and any other needed items. Those traveling from out of state should visit maine.gov/covid19 for current guidance.

real-life nature programs

Flying Jewels

Wednesday, August 5, 1-2pm

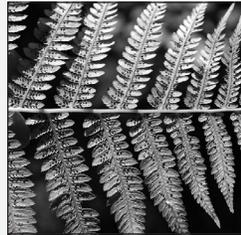
Dragonflies and butterflies are appealing aerial animals that are a great introduction to the world of insects. Learn about their biology, ecology, and identifying characteristics, then go into the field to watch them up close. **\$5/member, \$7/nonmember, \$15/family plus site admission.** Reserve your space at 207-646-1555 ext 116 or suzanne@wellsnerr.org.



Fern Walk

Friday, August 7, 10am-12pm

Aren't ferns fascinating? Several species are found at the reserve, so come on over to learn about their various parts, their life cycle, and how to recognize what ones you will encounter on our trails. **\$5/member, \$7/nonmember, \$15/family plus site admission.** Reserve your space at 207-646-1555 ext 128 or linda@wellsnerr.org.



Nature's Night Shift

Wednesday, August 19, 10-11am

The Center for Wildlife introduces you to nocturnal animals. Bats, opossums, porcupines, and owls are among the creatures that are active while most of us are asleep. How have they adapted to life in the dark? **\$5/member, \$7/nonmember, \$15/family plus site admission.** Reserve your space at 207-646-1555 ext 116 or suzanne@wellsnerr.org.



Mingling with Monarchs

Thursday, August 27, 9:30-10:30am

Home in on milkweed, monarchs, and migration on this focused walk. We will stay active searching for monarchs, eggs, and chrysalises. **Free with site admission.** Reserve your space at 207-646-1555 ext 110 or caryn@wellsnerr.org.



virtualworkshop

Intro to Online Mapping

Tuesday, July 21, 1-3pm

Use Survey123, ARCGIS, and Storymaps to gather data, map it, and create interactive stories to share with others. Presented by Sue Bickford.

Sign up: wellsreserve.org/calendar

virtualtalk

Marine Invasive Species

Wednesday, July 29, 11am-12pm

MIMIC is an early-detection program that gets volunteers involved in monitoring coastal sites for invasive species.

Presented by Jeremy Miller.

Sign up: wellsreserve.org/calendar

virtualgardens

Yardscaping

Sunday, July 26, 4-5:30pm

Reduce the time, energy, and resources spent on your yard and gardens while also improving the environment. Presented by Master Gardener Volunteers.

Sign up: wellsreserve.org/calendar

Garlic Growing

Sunday, August 16, 4-5:30pm

Learn garlic types and how to prepare, plant, nurture, and harvest your crop. Presented by Master Gardener Volunteers of the UMaine Extension, York County.

Sign up: wellsreserve.org/calendar

virtualyoga

Gentle Hatha Yoga

Tuesday mornings, 8-9:15am

Increase your strength, flexibility, focus, and concentration with guidance from Leslie Fiore, who has been practicing and teaching yoga for nearly 20 years.

Sign up: suzanne@wellsnerr.org or 646-1555 ext 116



zoomtips

- You do not need a Zoom account to join a Zoom meeting.
- If you miss one of our presentations, don't panic. We post many to our YouTube channel.
- Sign in a few minutes early to test your audio and video.
- Mute your microphone when you are not speaking.

discover the reserve

WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE LEADERS

These walks will start at the gazebo at 10am (or 11am) and last 1 to 2 hours. They are free with site admission. Reservations are required: 207-646-1555 ext 110 or caryn@wellsnerr.org.*

Explore the Shore

Discover what the beach reveals about land and sea.
July 10, 27; August 11, 26

Secrets of the Salt Marsh

Discover the beauty and benefits of estuaries.
July 6, 21; August 4, 20

Laudholm's Farming Past

Discover a rich past from farmland to reserve.
July 16, 25*, 30; August 10, 22*, 28

Nature Walk

Discover seasonal changes in flora and fauna.
July 2, 14, 23; August 6, 17

This walk will be held off site at 10am. It is free. Reservations are required: 207-646-1555 ext 128 or linda@wellsnerr.org.

Estuary Discoveries Walk

Enjoy a peaceful meander along our flat, accessible trail at Wells Harbor Park.
July 24

This program runs on Tuesdays from 7 to 10am, weather permitting. It is free with site admission. Reservations are not required; stop by any time.

Bird-banding Demonstration

See birds up close, learn about their lives, and find out how banding adds to science. Meet on the Laudholm campus.
Tuesdays through August 18

explore the estuary

WITH A MAINE KAYAK GUIDE

2020 TOURS

JULY 8	12:30pm
20	10am
23	12pm
31	9am
AUG 3	10am
6	12pm
18	9am
24	1pm
31	9am
SEP 2	10am
8	1pm
16	9am
21	12:30pm
30	9am
OCT 5	12pm

Our small groups spend about 2½ hours on the water. Tours fill fast — reserve your spot soon. For ages 12+. We use single-seat kayaks. Restrictions apply.



wellsreserve.org/kayak

World in Your Library

MADE POSSIBLE BY THE MAINE HUMANITIES COUNCIL



Values and Worldviews on Nature and Its Uses

Thursday, August 13, 12-1pm

People define and value nature relative to their cultural worldviews. Moving beyond typical Western notions of environmental study calls for incorporating local and indigenous peoples' ways of knowing. Understanding ecosystems across global-to-local valuation scales can help scientists and advocates collaborate to protect biodiversity through a wider range of scenarios and solutions.

Presenter Dr. James T. Spartz is a scholar, teacher, and writer living in mid-coast Maine. He has been a worker-owner at an organic whole-grains bakery cooperative, a hardware store sales associate, a social services staffer, and a performing songwriter — but not all at once. Spartz earned his doctorate at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and is professor of environmental communication at Unity College.

World in Your Library, a program of the Maine Humanities Council, brings speakers on current events and relevant issues, both local and international, to Maine communities. Free to Maine organizations, World in Your Library gives small rural communities access to experts and the opportunity to explore complex topics, gain insight, and broaden perspectives.

Ted Exford Climate Stewards Lectures

MADE POSSIBLE BY DAVE & LORETTA (EXFORD) HOGLUND



Coastal Distancing

Wednesday, July 22, 6:30-8pm

Sea level rise and storm surge threaten coastal infrastructure and put ecological pressure on coastal communities. Hear the story of Vunidogoloa, a Fijian village that in 2014 collectively moved inland to escape severe coastal erosion. This case study raises some difficult questions: When is relocation a viable response to climate change? How do communities ensure equal representation of all people in relocation efforts? What are the sociocultural barriers to relocation?

Presenter Dr. Amanda Bertana is assistant professor of sociology at Southern Connecticut State University, where she studies the political economy of global environmental change, environmental governance, and climate change adaptation.



A Mussel's View of Climate Change

Monday, August 17, 6:30-8pm

How do intertidal organisms experience their shifting world? Discover—through computer modeling, field instrumentation, and virtual reality technology—how climate change is affecting coastal ecosystems from the perspective of marine invertebrates. Can many of the most significant effects of global climate change be predicted only if we step outside of our biased perceptions of how weather and climate affect natural ecosystems?

Presenter Dr. Brian Helmuth is a professor at the Marine Science Center at Northeastern University, with appointments in the Department of Marine and Environmental Sciences and the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs.

Adapting for Success in a Global Pandemic

Accept the unexpected. So many details! True dedication.

How directors of the reserve's three core programs addressed challenges imposed by COVID-19.

research

Even as we respond to this pandemic, nature keeps going—seasons change; animals, plants, and tides go on with their ancient rhythms—and as scientists we are obligated to keep up. This has inspired some outside-the-box strategies.

I never thought I would be building ocean drifters in my basement at midnight on a Friday but I did, and on more than one occasion. Holding a data-analysis meeting using Zoom, at home, with a beer, was a new way to connect with colleagues and made our outcomes that much better! Science moves on. We find creative ways to adapt and overcome adversity, while remaining cognizant of the gravity of our situation. —*Dr. Jason Goldstein*

education

This spring I needed to look at our entire public program calendar through a new lens. How many people could we have on guided walks or kayak tours? How many kids could attend each summer camp? How do you achieve hands-on learning when physically distant? How many people fit in Mather Auditorium when six feet apart? Above all, how would we ensure everyone, pre-K through gray, would be safe in our programs?

I am so grateful for the education team's enthusiasm and courage in moving forward despite the changes in routine. I'm pleased we can help our community of learners expand their minds and experience the wonders of the reserve, especially during this time of increased stress and uncertainty. —*Suzanne Kahn*

stewardship

Our greatest challenge this spring was planting 3,000 bare-root shrubs during a brief window of opportunity. This project was designed to be done by large groups of volunteers, such as those we see during United Way's Day of Caring or an Americorps team deployment. Instead, we had to complete the task with just a handful of staff and an incredible, devoted team of local volunteers.

Our shrub warriors worked together during the height of uncertainty surrounding virus spread and quarantine. They showed their true dedication to the Wells Reserve. —*Sue Bickford*



Shrub Warrior with a Dibble

Volunteers and staff planted 3,000 bareroot shrubs in a field near the Muskie Trail during late May. The planting was part of a years-long effort to improve early-succession habitat for specialists like the New England cottontail.

This group of amazing volunteer "shrub warriors" earned our gratitude by planting a huge patch of native species like bayberry, hazelnut, and arrowwood:

Allan Amioka
Gary Nettleton
Su Lachance
Chris Ring
Howard Wineberg
Ginger Laurits
Andy Laurits
Tomas Dundzila
Susan Rafferty
Grace Vachon
Leo Vachon
Tristan Kay
Travis Kay



We deeply appreciate gifts made in celebration of

Jim Buck and Norma Fox
Patrick De Filipp
Maribeth Dubay-Betters on her engagement
Rhoda Frederick on her 84th birthday
Paul Littlefield on Father's Day
Brenda Malloy-Fiorini
Dorothy Stephens
Elisabeth S. Sweet on her birthday
Jeffrey R. Sweet on his birthday
Hans Warner
Earth Day

in memory of

Beth Allen
Robert Bolduc
Patricia Gillette Claxton
June Ficker
Stuart Flavin
Patricia Frost
F. Virginia Marcuri
Margrete & Gordon Paulsen
Anthony Stathoplos
Aristides (Harry) Stathoplos
Anita Grant Stephens
Dr. Paul & Mary Sweet
Claire Therrien
Tony Viehmann

as in-kind contributions

L.L.Bean—kayak packages and personal flotation devices
Hancock Lumber Co.—material for barn renovations

A Warm Welcome to These New Members of Laudholm Trust

Doug, Cindy & Dylan Adamsky
Walter & Mary Atigian
Elizabeth Bard
Nathaniel & Nicole Barnes
Ann Bartheld
Petra Bauer
Becky Bauman
Charlie & Kathryn Baumer
Rich Boardman
Deborah Bordeau
Kathie Bourret
Linda Brassil
Jayme Brown
Tom Bryant & Connie Sonn
Caroline Byrne
James & Margaret Calder
Carolyn & Ray Cardin
Cory Carlesimo & Carrie Shumway
Robert & Sally Carpenter
Karen G. Carpenter
Donald & Patricia Carter
Emily Case & Brett Bentson
Gregory Cedrone
Joyce Chandler-Smith
Donald & Susan Chapin
Marilyn Claxton, the Claxtons,
Francischiellos & Mullin
Donna Clement
Shelley Cohen
Timothy & Brooke Cole
David Costello
Jennifer Cote
Emily Cummings & Kelly Whittaker
Christy & John Dailey Family
Sara Denning-Bolle
John DiTommaso
April & Preston Dortch
Danielle Dubay-Betters
Eliza R. DuBois
Brenna Dubois
Beth & James Duggan
Thomas, Marcy & Ben Dzamba
Laura & Graham Eddleston
Danielle & Sloan Eddleston
Alexander Ellis III

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Bruce Field
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Connor McGrath
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Tanya, Ed, Tyler & Cassidy O'Dee
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Susan Richard
Judith Rogas
Traci Roloff & Adam Yothers
Richard Romeo
Val Romoser
Nicole Rubino
Nancy Russell
Robert Rymeski

Tom Schmeelk
Abby Schweigart
Margaret Serus
Gordon Shannon
Kristen Shea
Tom & Dodie Sheffield
Glenn Shinner
Robert & Linell Slaktowicz
Katrina & Paul Smith
P. Christopher & Hanna P. Smith
Cindylee Snell-Hamilton
Chris Sorrentino & Eileen Foley
Miriam Stevens
Judy Straub
Kelly Elizabeth Sullivan
Caleigh Taye
Dr. Ricky A. Thomas, MD
Jim & Nancy Totton
Joan Totton
Christine Tremblay
Bill & Elaine Trench
Laura Troisi
Susan Turpin
Steven & Debra Weber
Nancy Welch
Andy West
Bill & Alison Whiteman
Jerilyn & Scott Wilson
Elizabeth Winter & Dan Massoro
Michael & Margrit Woldenberg
Kimberly Young
Halya Zadoretzky
Suzanne Zimmer

Business

Webmeadow

thankyou

for gifts received
November 2019
through June 2020

choices**choices**choices

SO MANY WAYS TO HELP

Switch to Monthly Giving

wells**reserve**.org/moon

Ditch that Beater

wells**reserve**.org/cars

Make a Gift of Stock

wells**reserve**.org/stock

Place a Chair, Bench, or Tree

207-646-4521 ext 144 (**Nik**)



Have you thought of leaving a gift to Laudholm in your will?

We would be honored. And we would welcome the opportunity

to thank you now. Please call Nik to explore possibilities.

207-646-4521 ext 144 wells**reserve**.org/planned-giving

Finding New Ways

Resilience and adaptation are bywords around here. Have been for a while. Especially since we started helping folks prepare for climate change.

Turns out they fit the present emergency too. Seems like spring and summer have sung a steady refrain of "Okay, let's try another way."

In part it's just letting ourselves get used to something new. Here and now it's face masks for scientists as they deploy datasondes on the salt marsh, and for our first day campers of the summer hamming it up in the drizzle, and for



curious naturalists stopping to smell the flowers six feet apart on a guided tour called Wonderful Weeds. It's also one-way walks on the busier trails—an imposition that visitors have taken in stride.

It's working from home for most of the staff most of the time and diligently keeping our distance despite our friendlier tendencies.

With your help, we'll keep making it work. Have to. But we sure look forward to seeing your smiling faces when we all come back out from under our masks.

