



The Heron

SPRING-SUMMER 2016

ISSUE NO. 34

The Newsletter of the Mattapoissett Land Trust, Inc. • www.mattlandtrust.org • E-mail: info@mattlandtrust.org

Bike and Ice Cream Extravaganza

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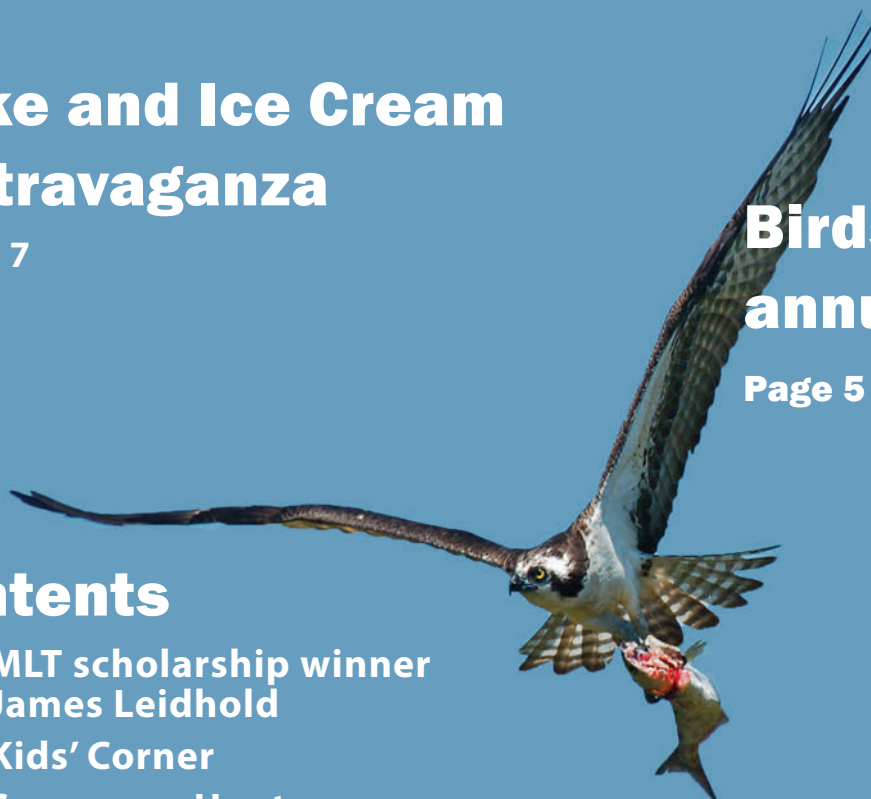


photo: Bill Field

From small town Mattapoisett Harbor to big city Boston Harbor

Mattapoisett Land Trust Scholar James Leidhold shares his first semester success story

Ellen P. Flynn, Chair, MLT Education Committee

JL Although most of my time in Boston is divided between classes on campus, my apartment, and playing baseball, I have visited some of the more recognizable sites. It's spectacular having such a busy and amazing place just ten minutes away by train. The JFK Museum is a shared campus landmark on the University harbor walk. Being right next to the water reminds me of walks on the beaches of Mattapoisett.



EF What in your high school experience points to your first semester success? How has FSC helped?

JL The main reason behind my success this past semester came from skills I learned at Old Rochester Regional High School. From these skills, I am able to plan out and execute an effective schedule. The “Freshman Success Community” here at UMass Boston is designed to keep people with similar majors together, and help connect them in classes.

EF As a role model for students, can you advise on the right college choice?

JL Finding the right college comes from a person's values, weighing pros and cons, taking in every aspect of what your experience will be. My criteria in comparing schools were academics, financials and athletics. My awards helped my decision to choose UMass Boston. It offered Sciences, which was big for me, and Division III conference. Currently I am placed in the Honors College of Science and Mathematics.

EF What events and other activities have you experienced?

JL I am honored to play baseball at the collegiate level here. Great friendships with fine opportunities have been part of my success. Our Monan park complex is an exact replica of Fenway Park with full press box. It includes two turf fields and varsity/game field. I follow an extraordinary structured fitness program with coaches and trainers. The athletics department assists with academic schedules, conflicts of classes, and weekly study hall hours. I have seen men and women's hockey and soccer teams' play on campus. I took two meaningful and very

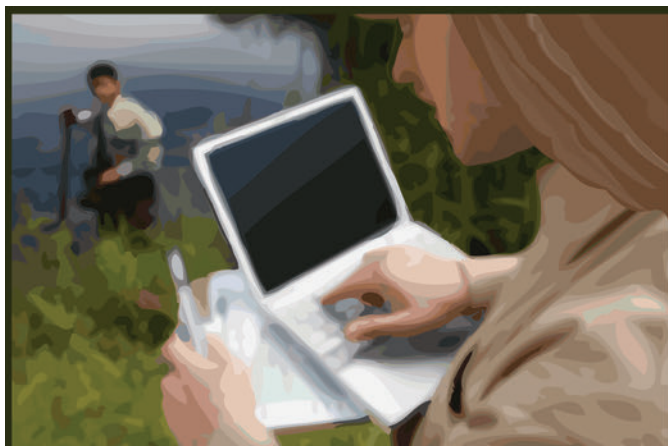
enriching workshops offered by the “Freshman Success Community”. One was Time Management and the other Global Student Voices.

EF Do you have classes in the newly opened Integrated Science Complex?

JL Sadly, no, I spend time in the comfortable study areas. Currently the new constructed buildings are great, with the Campus Center, ISC, and most recently, first day of spring semester the University Hall opened. It is a very beautiful four-story building and will offer interactive learning, a theatre complex, with digital media, and more.

EF With all the famous and distinguished Alumni like Biz Stone, co founder of Twitter, Jennifer Flanagan, a Senator, and Joseph P. Kennedy, Former Congressman, do you think being affiliated with UMass Boston, the college of your choice, has served you well with the excellence you anticipate for your future?

JL I believe that even though UMass Boston already has a strong history and has produced great alumni, the University is much better than it ever has been. From my understanding of the school, it has not really changed much since it was Boston State. However, new buildings and updated state of the art facilities with resources being put into the University; it attracts stronger professors and stronger students. I think the school has a very high potential, and in 10 years into the future, a degree from this school will be worth much more than it was 10 years in the past.



The Mattapoisett Land Trust

Blanche B. Perry Scholarship

for a resident graduating from secondary school pursuing an education in environmental studies or a related field.

Scholarship application details and forms

<http://www.mattlandtrust.org/education/blanche-b-perry-scholarship/>

Kids' Corner

Raptors in Mattapoissett

At our May annual meeting Marla Isaac from New England Reptile and Raptor Exhibits will make a presentation on Birds of Prey or Raptors. That raises the question : “What, exactly, is a Raptor?” The term “raptor” comes from the the Latin word rapere (meaning to seize or take by force) and is used to describe a type of bird of prey. Ornithologists (scientists who study birds) use the term only for birds that have certain qualities: 1) they have exceptionally good eyesight, 2) they have strong feet, usually with sharp talons, for holding their food, and 3) they have curved beaks for tearing it. Many birds prey on other animals. Robins, for example, eat earthworms but they aren't raptors.

The pictures below show birds that live in or visit Mattapoissett. Can you tell which are “raptors”?



(a) Turkey Vulture



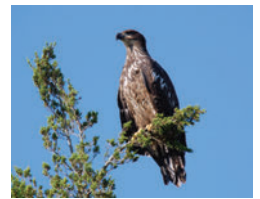
(b) Roseate Tern



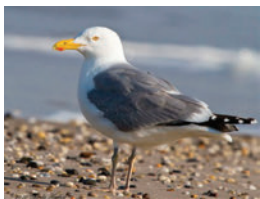
(c) Osprey



(d) Great Horned Owl



(e) Young Eagle



(f) Herring Gull



(g) American Crow



(h) Red-tailed Hawk



(i) Turkey



(j) Great Blue Heron

If you would like to see live examples of raptors, please plan to visit our annual meeting on Saturday, May 14, where you can meet Marla Isaac and her raptor “friends.”

Ans: Raptors: a, c, d, e, h.

(Photos c, e, i and j courtesy Bill Field; others from The Cornell Lab of Ornithology website)

Scavenger Hunt

Ellen P. Flynn, Chair of MLT Education Committee, and Jennifer McIntire, President of Mattapoissett Historical Society, collaborated to offer a vacation time, First Annual Scavenger Hunt for children on February 18.

The goal was to create a fun learning atmosphere with clues, clipboards, maps, buried treasure, and treats. Fifteen children with high school helpers and parents were on the local village streets searching MLT Munro Property, the Town Wharf, the Property outside of the Library and back to the Historical Society for clues and fun results, with prizes and refreshments.

Photo by: Ellen Flynn



Honor Your Loved Ones

The following individuals or groups have chosen in the last six months to honor their loved ones through donations to the Mattapoisett Land Trust.

In memory of Ruth Perry Bates:

*Richard Bates
Mattapoisett, MA*

In memory of Jack Musser:

*Pamela Pierce & Thomas Jackivicz
Mattapoisett, MA*

In memory David Olney:

*The Charles E. Olney Jr. family
Anne Anderson & Ken Olney
Marion, MA*

In memory of Ester Zeimetz:

*Lynn Meier
Fredericksburg, VA*

In memory of Sean Michael Perry:

*Richard Bates
Mattapoisett, MA*

*Pamela Pierce & Thomas Jackivicz
Mattapoisett, MA*

*Pamela Pierce & Thomas Jackivicz
Mattapoisett, MA*

*Brad & Priscilla Hathaway
Mattapoisett, MA*

*Gary P. Johnson & Luana Josvold
Mattapoisett, MA*

In memory of John McGrath

(memorial bench and tree at the Munro Preserve):

*Alice and Alison McGrath
Mattapoisett, MA*

*Diane & Martin Hudis
Mattapoisett, MA*

Thank you for your generous contributions which will be used to further our mission of protecting the land and the environment of Mattapoisett for generations to come.

Help us save trees



For several years, every spring and fall, we have mailed *The Heron* to more than 500 households that have an interest in our land protection efforts. Changes in the media marketplace, increased mailing costs and our desire to reduce our carbon footprint have convinced us that it is time to rethink how we communicate with our supporters. We would like to know if you would prefer an electronic edition to replace the paper you have received in the past.

We currently produce a full-color version of *The Heron* as a pdf file which we can send to your email account thereby avoiding printing and mailing costs. If you would like to receive it in your electronic "inbox", we would ask you to send an email message to info@mattlandtrust.org. We will update our records and you will receive the current issue in an electronic version for your perusal. You can also download a copy by visiting our website, www.mattlandtrust.org, where you can also renew your membership. If you are not happy with the electronic version, we will be happy to renew your paper subscription.

We hope that this change will permit us to extend our message to more residents of and visitors to Mattapoisett. If you have any ideas as to how we can do a better job, please send a message to info@mattlandtrust.org. We look forward to linking the digital world with the real world we protect.

Get your rubber boots!

Mattapoisett is fortunate to have a large number of vernal pools, vital breeding habitat for resident amphibians and invertebrates such as wood frogs, spotted and blue-spotted salamanders, and fairy shrimp. On April 16 we will make our annual exploration of one of these natural wonderlands.

We will supply the Commonwealth's certification forms so you can learn what is required for "certifying" a vernal pool. In the past we have certified pools in the Old Aucoot District, on the Woodcock Preserve and, last year, on the Shoolman Preserve (formerly Oldfield Farm) in Rochester. We are uncertain as to what will be available this year, so our exploration will begin with assembling at Dunseith Gardens (the Salty the Seahorse Park) at 12:45 p.m. followed by a short drive to the chosen site.

Tadpoles, salamander eggs, caddisfly larvae, waterboatmen, etc. — a vernal pool provides a collection of life's diversity. This is fascinating for both young and old. Bring the whole family to celebrate the coming Spring.



Egg masses

Come meet the raptors at our annual meeting

Saturday, May 14 at 1:15 P.M.

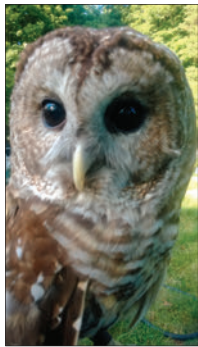
Marla Issac of New England Reptile and Raptor Center in Taunton will be introducing us to some of her rescued raptors after our pot luck lunch.

Bring your family to meet Uncle Festa (Turkey Vulture), Dan (Red tailed Hawk), Babe (Barred Owl), Rachel (Barn Owl), and maybe Nanook (Snowy Owl),

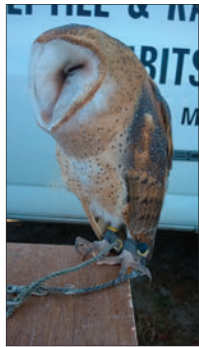
Learn how these wonderful birds live and contribute to the balance of nature in our area and Marla's efforts to rescue injured raptors.



Marla Isaac and Mack, her Great Horned Owl



Babe



Rachel



Dan

Mattapoisett Land Trust Annual Meeting Schedule

May 14, 2016

**Mattapoisett Congregational Church
Reynard Hall**

10:00 AM	Visit new trailhead on Prospect Road
11:30 AM	Presentation by ORR students on Eel Pond water sampling
12:00 PM	Pot luck lunch. Bring a main dish to share. MLT provides drinks and desserts
1:00 PM	Annual meeting. Annual reports and elections
1:15 PM	Presentation on Raptors by Marla Isaac

We would like to hear from you!

MLT is an all-volunteer organization, and your support matters! Whether you help by volunteering your time and skills, or contribute to our finances (all contributions are tax-deductible), or both – we can't do it without your help. Annual membership fees and contributions support operating expenses such as mowing, inspections, legal and accounting advice, trash pick-up, printing and mailing this newsletter, and others. And there are many opportunities to volunteer your time and services in whatever manner and amount you would like.

Please help us keep MLT vital and growing. To renew your membership, learn about upcoming events and stay in touch check out our website (www.mattlandtrust.org), like us on Facebook, or email us at info@mattlandtrust.org. We would like to hear from you and welcome your suggestions and comments!

THE HERON is published bi-annually by the Mattapoisett Land Trust.

The MLT, formed in 1974, is a non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Its purpose is to preserve open space for the enjoyment of current and future residents of Mattapoisett, as well as to educate the public about the sound use of natural resources, and to work with other organizations having the same goals.

Our membership consists of annual contributors — our primary source of revenue — and a volunteer Board of Directors: Marc Anderson, Charles A. "Skip" Bedser, Raymond Cebula, Don Cuddy, Ellen Flynn, Sandra Hering, Gary P. Johnson, Luana Marie Jøsvold, Paul "Ozzie" Osenkowski, Charles Radville, Jeffrey P. Sanders, Esq. and Michael Huguenin, President.

The MLT is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. All contributions are fully tax deductible.

Mattapoisett Land Trust, Inc.

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Layout and Design by Charles Radville

Stewardship report

MLT's stewardship crew stays busy. Last fall we demolished the old, falling-apart shed at the Dunseith Preserve (home of Salty the Seahorse) and repaired the concrete slab foundation. Then a new shed was installed to provide a secure home for our mowers and other stewardship equipment. Volunteers are working on other repairs at Dunseith and more trees recently were pruned, in part to improve the visibility of Salty from Rt. 6 and North Street. At the waterfront Munro Preserve we are preparing for installation of both water and electric service in the spring, and planning further enhancements to the gardens.

We also completed a major cleanup of Styrofoam debris washed ashore over many years along the Brandt Island Cove shoreline at the Walega-Livingstone Preserve. And we worked with Rochester Land Trust volunteers to build a new trail to a holly grove at the jointly owned Shoolman Preserve (formerly Oldfield Farm) in Rochester. As spring approaches we have staked and cleared a new parking area to serve our Old Aucoot District preserves and we are improving the hiking trails there. In addition, volunteers are building new kiosks and larger signs for installation at selected preserves once the weather warms up.

Hearty thanks to all stewardship volunteers! New folks always are welcome to join the fun!



Volunteers clearing a trail in the Shoolman Preserve



Volunteers weeding at the Munro Preserve



New shed at Dunseith Gardens Preserve



Trail clearing in Old Aucoot District



Clearing trees for Prospect Road parking



New parking area at Prospect Road trailhead



Arthur and Ozzie hauling flotsam out of the marsh in the Walega-Livingstone Preserve



Trailer load of flotation to be hauled away

Mattapoisett Land Trust and Friends of the Mattapoisett Bike Path Introduce "Tour de Crème"

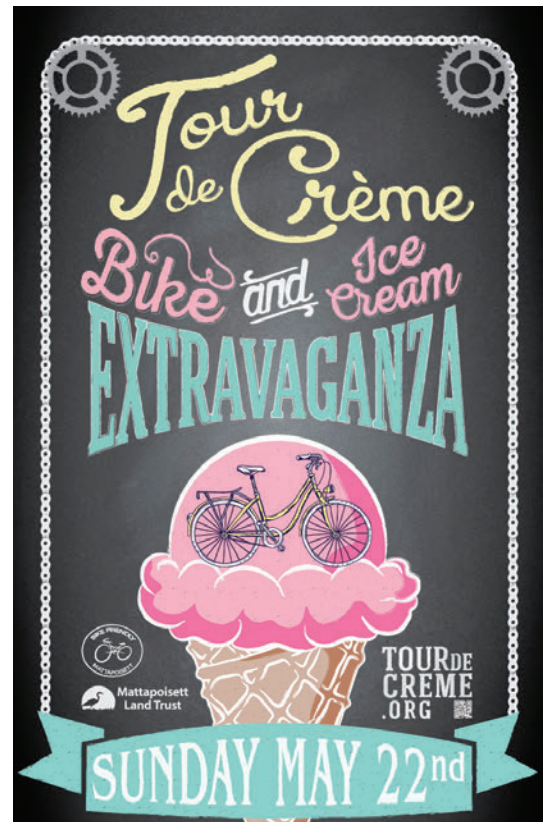
Away from the main routes connecting Mattapoisett and surrounding towns, one discovers mile after mile of idyllic cycling on lightly-travelled roads that snake their unhurried way past lakes, orchards, and cranberry bogs. Searching online for "ice cream" reveals that SouthCoast boasts a whole summer's worth of creameries serving the stuff. Mix the two, add a terrific bike path, and – if you plan the route just right – you get the biking equivalent of a grand-slam homerun. You get great scenery, flat terrain, quiet roads, AND you get to visit the area's best ice cream spots. You get a veritable Tour de Crème!

On Sunday, May 22, if you can ride a bike and enjoy ice cream, there's a creamery tour for you. Starting from Mattapoisett Town Beach, there's a 13-mile family-friendly ride to Mac's Soda Bar in Fairhaven and back; there's a 3-stop, 25-mile ride through Acushnet and Rochester; and for hearty bike-and-ice-cream aficionados, there's a 48-mile ride to Acushnet Creamery, Country Whip, Annie's Ice Cream Shack, Robin's Nest, and Captain Bonney's! All rides finish back in Mattapoisett by the harbor at the land trust's Munro Preserve where there will be hot food, cold beverages, live music, and more ice cream from the Seaport Slip and the Oxford Creamery.

Participation is limited to 50 per tour, so sign up before it's too late at www.tourdecreme.org.

If biking is not for you, you can still get in on the fun by volunteering to check in riders, hand out ice cream, set up the party, take pictures, drive SAG wagons, and help out wherever else help is needed. See the website's volunteer page for more info.

Poster artwork generously provided by First Citizen's Federal Credit Union.



Pony Rides at Harbor Days

Be sure to visit our booth at Harbor Days for MLT gear, maps and information — we'll be in the same place as always.

And this year we'll have pony rides on Saturday afternoon, July 16, at the Munro Preserve next to Shipyard Park.

The pony on the left is Roo, an eight year old white Shetland pony that loves peppermint cookies and dressing as a unicorn, and Duncan, a dark bay pony in his mid 20's that loves to eat apples and carrots and sun bathe. Both ponies love to give children rides.

They were both rescued by Curry Woodland of "Equines for Events".

They now live on a farm in Rochester, MA.



Enjoy The Great Community Picnic!

Begin with a summer sunset by the harbor, friends and neighbors, and your own delicious picnic fare. Add great live music by Grace Morrison, Huxster and Glowbox. Throw in hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar by the Inn at Shipyard Park, and fresh Coot Cove oysters from Mattapoisett's Copper Beech Farm. Result? The Great Community Picnic on Thursday evening, August 4th (6 to 9 pm) at MLT's Munro Preserve west of Shipyard Park!

Mattapoisett's Historical Society and Land Trust will provide tables and chairs, tablecloths, and festive lighting. You rent a table and bring a picnic, utensils, napkins and table decorations. Tables for eight people are \$160, six are \$120 or four people are \$80. Tickets will be available after June 1st and space will be limited, so don't delay. Plan now to join us for this festive and memorable evening! More information: www.mattlandtrust.org or www.mattapoisethistoricalsociety.org.



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Calendar — 2016 Spring and Summer activities

All Mattapoisett Land Trust events are free and open to the public

Check mattlandtrust.org or facebook.com/mattlandtrust for up-to-date information

April 16	12:45 PM	Vernal pool exploration	See page 4 for information	Dunseith Gardens
May 14	1:00 PM	Annual meeting	See page 5 for full schedule	Reynard Hall Mattapoisett Congregational Church
May 22	Start times vary. Register at www.tourdecreme.org	Tour de Crème bike and ice cream extravaganza	See page 7 and www.tourdecreme.org	Mattapoisett Town Beach
July 16 and 17	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Harbor Days	Visit our booth. See page 7	Shipyards Park
August 4	6:00 - 9:00 PM	Great Community Picnic	See page 7 and www.mattlandtrust.org or www.mattapoisethistoricalsociety.org after June 1st	MLT Munro Preserve

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