

2015 BARRY CONSERVATION CAMP WINNER

The Conservation Commission awarded its first camp scholarship to Patric Dupere of Brown Road. He spent a week at the Barry Conservation Camp in Berlin, NH during the summer of 2015 and reports that he had a great time. He loved being outdoors and participating in activities like hiking to Rodgers' Ledge. Tuition for the week at camp was provided by a camp scholarship fund established in memory of Deb Levesque, a former member of the Conservation Commission. The fund is supported by donations and by sales of the Conservation Commission Calendar. (See page 2 for further calendar details.)



Patric Dupere

The camp scholarship recipient is chosen from entries submitted by interested students. The deadline for applications is mid February of each year. Applications may be downloaded from the CCC website, www.candiaconservationcommission.org.

PICTURE POST

What is a picture post? It is literally a post situated in a strategic location. It has an 8-sided platform for cameras. Photographers take a series of pictures from each side of the platform, producing a 360-degree view of the area. They then upload the pictures onto the picture post web site. Anyone can take these pictures.

The posts are part of the Digital Earth Watch network, (<http://dew.globalsystemscience.org/>), which supports environmental monitoring by citizens and community organizations through digital photography and satellite imagery.

The Conservation Commission is investigating the possibilities of installing one at the western end of the trail network in the Deerfield Road Town Forest. This would be an intriguing location because it is on a promontory that overlooks the North Branch River, which winds around it from the northwest into wetlands to the south. The east side

of the promontory is surrounded by upland forest.

The Deerfield Road Town Forest is held in conservation easement by Bear-Paw Regional Greenways. They would be facilitating the installation of a picture post on the property. Look for more information in coming months about this project.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WEBSITE

Those of you who surf the web may have visited the Conservation Commission web site. If you haven't logged on recently, you're in for a pleasant surprise. Candia's town web master, Catherine Sangillo, has done a wonderful job as web master for the Commission's web site. She has upgraded the site, added some new features and has been keeping the site up-to-date with our latest information and calendar happenings. Check it out at www.candiaconservationcommission.org.

TRAIL WORK

The Commission has been working on trails in our Town Forests. With the help of volunteers, we were able to spruce up trails in the Deerfield Road Town Forest and the Hemlock Drive Town Forest. Webelo scouts helped chairperson Susan Wilderman clear debris from the Deerfield Road Town Forest trails. They had such a good time, they asked to do more trail work for the Commission!



CCC chair Susan Wilderman demonstrates proper use of bowsaw to Scouts.

HERITAGE/CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS' JOINT PROJECT

Candia's Heritage and Conservation Commissions will be working together to produce recreational maps of Candia. Diane Philbrick, Heritage Commission Chair, proposed the project to the Conservation Commission. The maps will include points of interest around town, such as our old school houses and other structures of historical interest. Information about these sites will be provided by the Heritage Commission. The maps will

JOINT PROJECT, CONTINUED...

also have trails for hiking, snowshoeing, etc. The Conservation Commission will provide information about the natural environment along the trails.

The maps will be produced in parts, starting with the section of town from the Main St. Depot along the rail trail to the Abe Emerson Marsh on Patton Hill Rd. The finished portions of the maps will be available at the library, the town office building and on line. The first segment is expected to be available in the spring of 2016.

WILDLIFE CROSSING SIGNS

In early summer CCC members posted yellow signs near the town's wetlands, bringing drivers' awareness to warm weather wildlife crossings. Our unscientific poll indicates they may have had a positive effect on the number of critter fatalities in these areas. The Commission thanks Candia drivers for their vigilance. We also wish to thank the volunteer "sign stewards" for posting the signs in the summer and storing the signs for the winter.



Wildlife crossing sign

As we noted in previous newsletters, spring and late summer are especially busy times for critters to attempt these crossings. If you help a critter cross the road, always move it in the direction it is heading. It is going that way for a reason!

A Note From The Chair...

Sometimes we forget just how fortunate we are to live in a town rich with natural resources. This past April after the close of the maple sugaring season, I had a chance to join several students on a trip to Haiti. From a natural resource perspective Candia and Haiti are completely different. Years of deforestation and soil erosion add to the challenge of recovery in Haiti. Yet experiences like this cause me to pause and consider what we must do here in Candia in the face of change to protect and care for our environment so we do not face an ecological crisis

similar to Haiti's in the future. To that end the Conservation Commission is focusing on three main areas: stewardship, education, and a joint project with the Heritage Commission (see above).

In addressing stewardship and education, the commission is working to make sure our current conservation land and town forests have well marked trails for the public to enjoy. As you can imagine, this requires time and volunteer effort. We have enjoyed two work days - one on the Deerfield Road Town Forest and another on the Hemlock Drive Town Forest. More than just keeping the trails open, these days have allowed for community development as people meet and work along side one another. I love that these work-days have been multigenerational. There is no better way to help grow environmental stewardship than when children and adults work together! We hope you get out and enjoy these properties, for they belong to all of us!

~ Susan Wilderman, Chairperson

CALENDARS!

The CCC has created 2016 calendars featuring photographs of Candia's natural resources. The calendars were produced with seed money donated by conservation commissioners. All proceeds go toward the Levesque scholarship fund. Calendars may be purchased for \$10 at the town office building, at the library, or from commissioners. We invite everyone to email photos for next year's edition to Donna DelRosso at DDelRosso@TownofCandia.org. Be sure to include the location and name of the photographer.

The CCC apologizes to Christine Dupere for crediting her 1/2017 photo to J. Lindsey and to Mark Giuliucci for omitting his name on the cover photo. We thank you for your contributions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The CCC holds monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office Building. The public is welcome to attend. Visit our web site for more information and to confirm meeting times and dates.

E-mail: info@candiaconservationcommission.org

Web: www.candiaconservationcommission.org

Help us keep track of wildlife you see by filling out sighting reports on our web site.

Consider joining us for a walk. Our 2016 Walks/Snowshoe hikes are scheduled for **January 16th to Kinnicum Pond**; **May 21st to Deerfield Road Town Forest** for a walk and trail clean-up; and **August 20th to the Fogarty Road properties**. All will be from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Details will follow on the CCC website and the local newspaper.

Remember to vote on Tuesday, March 8, 2016.