

TJ BUCK, 2017 BARRY CONSERVATION CAMP SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Sixth Grade student TJ Buck was the 2017 scholarship winner of a one-week session at the Barry Conservation Camp this past summer. He came to the September Conservation Commission meeting to share his experiences.



CCC chair Susan Wilderman, TJ Buck and CCC vice-chair Judi Lindsey

Among TJ's memorable activities were canoeing, attending campfires, learning new songs, shooting a 22 rifle and fishing (his favorite). He said the food was "better than expected."

TJ had a great time and wants people to know that Barry Conservation Camp "is a really fun camp, where you can learn a lot about the out-of-doors, so people don't stay inside and play video games all the time." He would highly recommend that other students apply for the scholarship.

Tuition for TJ's week at camp was provided by the Debra Bell Levesque Scholarship Fund established in memory of a former Conservation Commission member. It is supported by donations and by sales of the Conservation Commission Calendar. The camp is operated by NH Fish and Game in partnership with 4-H through UNH Cooperative Extension. More information about the camp can be found at <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/barrycamp/>.

The camp scholarship recipient is chosen from entries submitted by interested students. We encourage all Candia students between the ages of 10 and 16, who like the outdoors, to consider applying for the 2019 scholarship. Applications may be downloaded from the CCC website, www.candiaconservationcommission.org. **The deadline for applications is January 15 of each year.**

ANONYMOUS EASEMENT DONATED

An anonymous donor family has made a major contribution to protecting some of Candia's natural resources. They have donated an easement on over 100 acres abutting other conserved land which helps protect the headwaters of the Lamprey River. These parcels in turn lie in an unfragmented block of undeveloped land that extends to Bear Brook State Park and totals more than 20,000 acres! The block includes areas of highest ranked habitat, according to the NH Wildlife Action Plan, and shelters endangered wildlife species which rely on these habitats. A local land trust will hold the easement. The transaction costs were funded entirely by grants and no cost was incurred by Candia.

The Commission extends its sincere thanks to the family for their generosity and concern for the future of Candia's natural resources.

IS CLIMATE CHANGE REAL?

With all the recent severe weather events, we have heard much discussion about climate change. Is it real or just a figment of scientists' imaginations? Are humans solely responsible, is it just a natural cycle or are we contributing to a phenomenon that occurs periodically? Join us in the library conference room at **7pm on Thursday, March 29, 2018** for a presentation by Sherry Godlewski, from NH Department of Environmental Services. Sherry will give an informative presentation and be available to answer your questions. Refreshments will be served.

CALENDARS!

Every year the CCC creates a calendar to generate funds for the Debra Bell Levesque camp scholarship fund. It features photographs taken exclusively of Candia's natural resources. The 13-month calendars may be purchased for \$10 at the town office building, at the library, or from commissioners. 100% of the proceeds go to the scholarship fund.

This year we had many wonderful photos from which to choose. We try to choose a mix of landscapes and wildlife profiles for each edition. We invite everyone to email photos for next year's edition to us by August 30. Please check our website for guidelines for submitting photos, (www.candiaconservationcommission.org). Be sure to include the location and name of the photographer.

**Remember to vote on
Tuesday, March 13, 2018
at the CYAA Field House!**

TOWN FOREST WALKS AND WORKDAYS

The CCC has been leading walks and trail work days in our town forests and other special places. They are a great way to enjoy our open spaces and help maintain the trails for everyone to enjoy. This spring we held a trail work day at the Flint Rd. Town Forest. We also had some folks replace the planks in the New Boston Rd. Conservation Area bridge. We extend our thanks to Judi and Jim Lindsey, Susan Wilderman and John and Andy Soha for their efforts.



Jim and Judi Lindsey on spring trail work day

time plan to protect the natural resources we rely upon. It requires a joint effort of various groups to assess the available resources and develop wisely with our neighbors in mind. If this issue interests you, we invite you to come and learn more about your Conservation Commission. See below for contact information.

~ Susan Wilderman, Chairperson

AUGUST 12, 2017 OLD HOME DAY

The Conservation Commission shared a booth at Old Home Day with representatives from Bear-Paw Regional Greenways. It was a good day with lots of activities and many visitors to our booth. We were happy to share our knowledge about conservation and provide information for folks to take. We raffled off two items (pictured below): a gazing ball donated by our Administrative Assistant, Donna Del Rosso and a birch reindeer donated by Commission Vice-chair Judi Lindsey. We also took orders for the 2018 Conservation Commission Calendar. All proceeds were added to the Barry Conservation Camp Scholarship fund.



Old Home Day booth: Bear-Paw rep Sam Demeritt, visitor Tom St. Martin, and CCC member Ellie Davidson

A Note From The Chair...

Recently, while speaking about potential conservation projects, I was asked "What value is there for us in protecting this land?" What a challenging question to answer, given we are not able to see all the benefits of the land around us. Nearly seventy years ago this question was being wrestled with by Aldo Leopold in his 1949 essay "Land Ethic". Consider his quote:

A system of conservation based solely on economic self-interest is hopelessly lopsided. It tends to ignore, and thus eventually to eliminate, many elements in the land community that lack commercial value, but are essential to its healthy functioning - Land Ethic

Often, we do not realize the economic benefit of land and or species until they are lost. However, when we neglect to consider the value of forests and wetlands and convert them for development, we may be weakening our defense of a healthy functioning land community, such as was evident this fall in the wake of the 2017 hurricane season. But there is still hope and there are ways to develop and at the same

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 website for more information and to confirm meeting times and dates:

Web: www.candiaconservationcommission.org.

E-mail: info@candiaconservationcommission.org

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