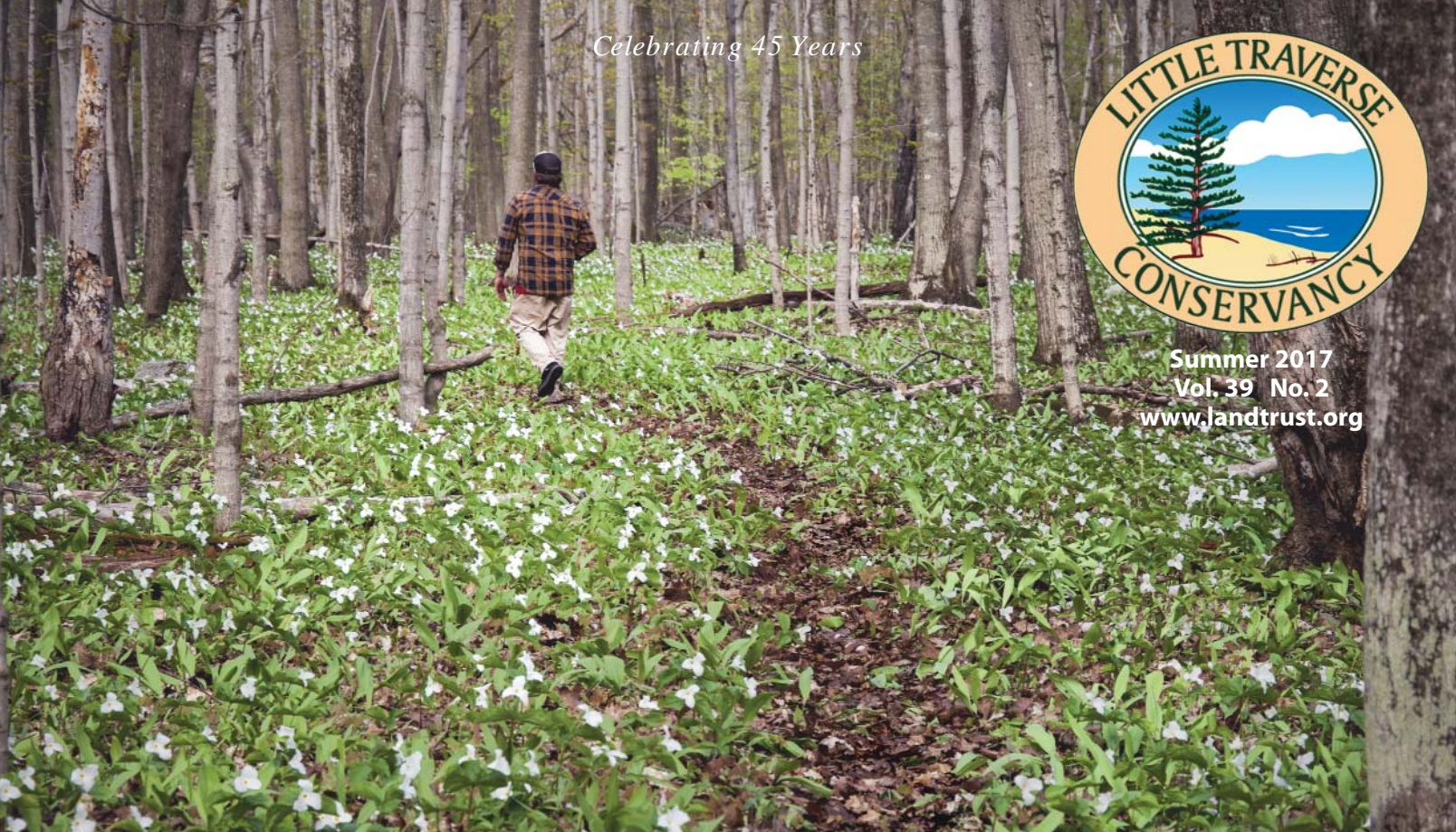




Summer 2017  
Vol. 39 No. 2  
[www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org)



## The NEW Hoogland Family Nature Preserve

One hundred acres of pristine, classic northern Michigan oak forest with nearly 3,000 feet of M-119 frontage was gifted to LTC as a nature preserve thanks to the Hoogland Family Foundation. "Located at the base of what is known as Wasson's Grade, this preserve epitomizes the magical beauty that lies along the Lake Michigan shore from Harbor Springs northward," said Kieran Fleming, LTC's chief operating officer. "It opens up a fantastic property for enjoyment by anyone who loves this special part of Emmet County."

Keith Hoogland describes his family's connection to northern Michigan as relatively new, but for nearly 60 years, the Hooglands have summered around Harbor Springs with most of their time in Wequetonsing or farther up the Lake Michigan shore at Seven Mile Beach. "Since the 1960s, we have had so many fun times along the lakeshore with friends and family and, more recently, discovering the North Country Trail," Hoogland says, noting that he and his wife Susan are now avid hikers and just returned from hiking beyond the Mt. Everest base camp.

Over the years, the beach property the Hoogland family enjoyed fell into private ownership and was no longer accessible. Fortunately, his father, Charlie, purchased land at the Surfwood Association so

the family could continue to enjoy the lakeshore.

"We have long admired LTC and recognize it has such a great reputation not only locally, but really across the country," Keith explains. "Our love of this land prompted us to approach their staff a few years ago to see if we could protect a piece of this area that means so much to all of us. When this particular property came available, it made a lot of sense because it lies adjacent to Surfwood and the beaches and lands we hope can remain undeveloped forever."

Hoogland credits his parents, Charlie and K. Hoogland, who first established the family foundation that enabled them to make the gift. He also gives credit to the seller who was willing to negotiate the price to ensure the land's protection. "All of the pieces just seemed to come into place with this project, even when a few glitches arose. It feels really good to know this land is open not only for our family but for anyone," Keith says.

A small parking area is now available at the new preserve and trails are being developed. Currently, a 1.5 mile loop is available, partially following old logging roads that already existed on the property. For directions or a map to the preserve, call the office at 231.347.0991 or visit [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org).



Photos by The Wandering Fawn







*This original oil painting by Kevin Barton will be raffled.*

*28th Annual  
Save the Trees*

Thursday, July 27, 2017  
6-8:30pm

Walstrom Marine Showroom  
Harbor Springs  
Silent Auction

Flowers by A.R. Pontius  
Music by Younce Guitar Duo  
Small bites by Carol Costello  
Simply Sweet by Jessica  
Mawby Bubbles  
Short's Brewery

Call 231.347.0991 or  
register at [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org)

*Mark your calendars for these not-to-be-missed events!*



Black Lake Moonrise by Dave Trapp

## LTC's 45TH ANNUAL MEETING

**Tuesday, August 1, 2017**  
**UAW Conference Center, Black Lake**

Join us at the far eastern end of our service area as we gather at this unique Michigan facility on beautiful Black Lake in Cheboygan County.

**9:30 am coffee**

**10:00 am meeting**

**12:00 optional lunch buffet (\$15/person)**

**Facility tours after lunch**

Members will receive an invitation in the mail, but this event is open for all. Registration is also available at [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org) or by calling 231.347.0991 by July 21.





Todd Parker

## Les Cheneaux Preserve Complex Expanded Significantly Along Search Bay

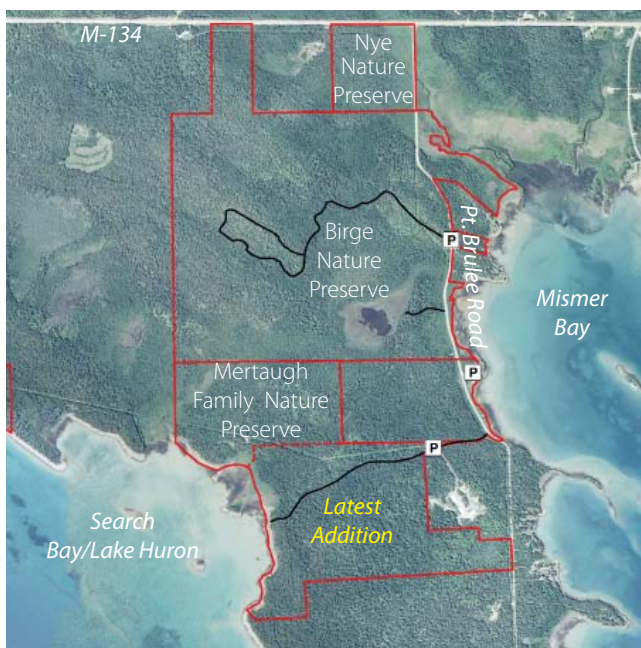
More than 150 acres and 3,000 feet of northern Lake Huron shoreline have been added to the Birge/Mertaugh/Nye Nature Preserve complex in Clark Township. “For many years, we have been working with the Mertaugh family to figure out the best way and the right timing to protect this land,” said Ty Ratliff, LTC’s director of donor relations. “It is such a significant piece of the land protection puzzle in that region, and we are thrilled to have it completed.”

The Search Bay shoreline is known for its high quality habitat and significant shoreline for migratory birds and a multitude of marsh plant and animal species. Long considered among the world’s “Last

Great Places” as designated by The Nature Conservancy, the northern Lake Huron shoreline is exceptional in its quality, sensitivity, and diversity. Protecting this shore has long been a high conservation priority. All told, the preserve complex now protects more than 772 acres and more than two miles of Lake Huron frontage (both Mismar and Search bays). An adjacent conservation easement to the west and the Search Bay Nature Preserve to the far west protect an additional 245 acres and 1.5 miles of shore.

The Mertaugh family members who sold the land are all 3rd and 4th generations to have owned it. “Our family first came seasonally to this area as there was really no industry other than the lumbering,” said Jim Mertaugh. “My father started in the boat business in 1923 and he accumulated property as he went along because it was very reasonable.” Mertaugh added that his family was very pleased to sell the land to LTC to keep it from being developed. “I feel very good about it. I am within 10 minutes of it and can still use it,” he said. “There is an awful lot of history in that area. When the Indians would portage from Mackinac to the mainland at Rabbit’s Back, they would strike out across St. Martin’s Bay and portage across Point Brulee. That portage is still visible today.” Jim’s niece Kerri Mertaugh, who still owns adjacent property with her sister Margo, is also happy to see the land protected. “It really is a wonderful respite place,” Kerri said. “There is always a dark sky, and it will now continue to be the kind of place where hearing a car or boat is really foreign. It has always been, and will continue to be, a sanctuary.”

A small parking area and trail leading to Search Bay are now available through the new addition, following an old family path known as the Mertaugh Camp Trail.





## Martin and Reinhardt Jahn Nature Preserve



Late in 2016, Randy Jahn sold 165 acres with 1,350 feet of Lake Huron shoreline to LTC at a significant bargain sale. The new land is now known as the Martin and Reinhardt Jahn Nature Preserve, named after Randy's father and uncle.

In the early 1900s Randy's grandfather, Reinhardt G. Jahn, would drive from the Chicago area to the Straits of Mackinac like so many who sought relief from hay fever. During one of those visits, he met his future wife, Clara, while she was walking to town from her farm near Munro Lake. Since that time, the Jahn family has had a strong connection to the Cheboygan area, and particularly to Pries Landing about 12 miles east of Mackinaw City and a few miles outside of Cheboygan. A tradition of summering there began with all three of Reinhardt's sons and their families.

Two of the boys, Martin and Reinhardt, became involved in acquiring land on Bois Blanc Island with a particular interest in the Bois Blanc Lighthouse, which was decommissioned in 1924. Eventually, the brothers purchased the lighthouse and converted it into a summer home, devoting much energy to restoring the building, which had been built in 1867. To this day, the families split time between their cottages at Pries Landing and the

lighthouse every summer. "Spending time up there is my favorite thing in the world," Randy said.

The new preserve property was first acquired by the Jahn family as part of a land swap between the Jahns and the State of Michigan. From the beginning, Reinhardt and Martin had much of the land enrolled in what was known as the Open Space Development Rights Easement program, run by the state in the 1970s. This program was developed before LTC began its own conservation easement program, but had the similar intent of protecting private lands from future development.

In early 2000, Randy began to take over managing some of the lands, and continued working with the state. He created an LLC for the families that pooled all the lands and was able to look at the whole picture more clearly. "I realized that this new preserve land was not meant to be developed, and

we needed to complete the discussions that my father and uncle began with LTC years ago. It made the most sense to ensure the land was held for perpetual care by the Conservancy," he said. "I don't think there is a prettier lakeshore view than from the new preserve and the property we own nearby."



## Addition to Elbert Family Nature Preserve



A 22-acre addition to the Elbert Family Nature Preserve was purchased in late 2016 and added to the Black Hole Nature Preserve Management Unit. (See blue highlighted portion on map to left.) This complex, found along the shores of Crooked Lake, now includes 214 acres

These Sandhill Cranes were photographed at the Black Hole Nature Preserve by Lynn Walters Frazee.





# Snider Conservation Easement

“Growing up around here, you could almost count on one hand how many houses were on our road,” Jacob Snider recalls as he looks around the more than 100 acres of land that were pieced together by his family beginning in 1948. Today, while Emmet County’s Brutus Road could still be considered a relatively rural travelway, many changes and new developments can be seen along the picturesque hills and valleys. Yet what is important and comforting to Jacob is knowing that his 40-acre property will always remain a woodlot, thanks to the conservation easement he donated to Little Traverse Conservancy in 2016.



Downy rattlesnake plantain/Joshua Mayer

A lifelong student of nature, Jacob studied what was known at the time as The Naturalist Curriculum at the University of Michigan and, later, received a second degree in Geology. His career reflects his broad interest in natural resources with summer seasonal jobs at Tahquamenon Falls, the Forestry Division of the Department of Natural Resources, and then fisheries work in Mt. Clemens and the Oden Fish Hatchery, the latter from where he retired. Over the years, Jacob has brought people from his church

or birding clubs to his land to show them special features such as the downy rattlesnake plantain, the great blue heron nest halfway up a tree in the middle of the woods, or the “Bear Claw” tree (pictured right). An active member of Petoskey Audubon, he enjoys canoeing, kayaking, or hunting in his free time.

“Working with Jacob on this project was such a pleasure because of his pure intent to simply protect land he loves,” said Caitlin Donnelly, LTC land protection specialist. “Even when unanticipated red tape arose with this project, Jacob persevered, keeping the best interest of the land in mind the whole time.”



Jacob Snider stands next to a large beech tree that features claw marks from a black bear. When a sustainable harvest was planned for the land, he made sure the tree was left alone.

## Purchis Addition to McCune Preserve

A four-acre addition to the McCune Nature Preserve was recently donated to LTC by Ira and Ann Purchis. The Purchis family has longtime connections to the Epsilon region near the preserve. Ira’s parents, Allen L. and Pearl Moser Purchis, both grew up in the region, and Allen’s family at one time owned a grist mill at the nearby Silver Creek (see photo to right). Silver Creek, along with the Minnehaha that flows through the preserve, are both tributaries flowing to Crooked Lake.

“Both of my parents had a great love for this region and were always happy when they were living in or visiting northern Michigan,” Ira said. “As a kid, we spent time up there at family property whenever we could.” A trail sign in honor of the Purchis family is found near the Maxwell Road entrance to the preserve, and will soon be updated.

The McCune Preserve has now grown to 172 acres and lies across Maxwell Road from the 236-acre Tanton Family Working Forest Reserve.





A portrait of a man with short brown hair and a beard, wearing a brown button-down shirt over a grey t-shirt. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a dense green forest.

Stepping into the stewardship director role, I am excited to take on the mission-critical task of stewarding the lands under our care with some of the best colleagues and dedicated volunteers in the business. More than 42,000 acres of land spread across five counties with a regular supply of dead ash and beech trees falling across trails, along with caring for signs, parking areas, trail markers, trash piles, invasive species, grassland restorations, forest inventories, boundary monitoring, biological surveys and management planning. Phew, it can seem like a tall order! But I am sleeping well at night because we get to do this together. Each and every person in our community, even those just visiting, has the opportunity to make a vital contribution to the stewardship of our lands. The commitments don't have to be grand. Even individual nature observations, when combined with hundreds of others, are helping us know what is on our lands. One EcoStewards study, or one community group's service, combined with several others occurring all year long are helping us achieve and exceed grand expectations. I want to invite you to be part of this business of caring for the land. I suspect that you will find it meaningful and find a sense of belonging. You are as essential to us as natural areas are to our community. To learn more about volunteering, please contact us at 231.347.0991.

We offer a big thank you to the 2017 Leadership Charlevoix County class whose project was to help stop the spread of invasive plant species by placing sponsored boot brushes at several trails in Charlevoix County, including several LTC preserves. *See below for a list of LTC boot brush locations and their sponsors.* “As a class we chose ‘Wipe Your Feet!’ as our project because we felt it could have the widest geographical and social impact for our region,” said Emily Selph from the 2017 class. “The health and vitality of the local environment contributes to the area’s economic success and is a big part of why many of the area’s residents chose to live here. We felt that building awareness of invasive species and helping limit their spread would make a lasting impact across the area. It was really rewarding to see the tremendous community support for the project and we are thrilled with the results: 24 boot brush stations with informational signs to be installed across the county.”

BOOT BRUSHES AT  
LTC PRESERVES





# BioBlitz

## 2nd Annual BioBlitz

July 1, 2017

Philip J. Braun Nature Preserve, Pellston

Join us for our second annual BIOBLITZ!  
A BioBlitz is a one-day blitz to identify as many plants and animals as we can at one location! Last year we identified more than 230 species at Susan Creek Preserve. The BioBlitz is a great opportunity to learn from experienced naturalists, expand your own identification skills, and grow in wonder at our natural world!  
Call 231.347.0991 for more details!

## Recent Pics from the Field



Within hours after this illegal dump was left at the parking area of the Birge Preserve, volunteers from the Les Cheneaux community had the entire site cleared out. Fantastic community spirit!



Stephanie Campbell Sean Hollowell Melissa Selva

## University of Michigan Graduate Students Tackle Working Forest Reserve Monitoring

In response to LTC's need for a long-term ecological monitoring program for the Working Forest Reserves (WFR), we welcome the help of a graduate team from the University of Michigan this summer. In the broader sense, the questions being addressed in this project are of critical importance in a time of limited budgets and institutional resources by helping land conservancies navigate how to best balance sustainable timber harvest with adaptively managing for ecological health within their parcels while using local citizen scientists.

"The overarching research question that we are trying to answer is what the most effective metrics are for determining total forest health that can be achieved using a citizen science program," said Stephanie Campbell. "Once these metrics of forest health (specifically in regard to forests that are being managed, not simply conserved) are researched and established, our team will be able to formally organize them into an ecological/biological monitoring program. Baseline data to act as a control is necessary for the new land acquisitions intended for the new WFR program in order to properly assess any changes in ecosystem health," she added.



The Meir Family spent part of their Earth Day planting new trees at the Offield Family Nature Preserve at locations where sustainable forestry had occurred earlier in the year.



Volunteers from Harbor Light Church cleaned up a large dump at the Tanton Family Forest Reserve in mid-May.



## MEMBER PROFILE

### Greta Jankoviak

*"LTC demonstrates the perfect balance."*

I support LTC because northern Michigan has been where I call home for 30 years. I love this area because of the open spaces, trees, blue water, trails, wildlife, and fresh air. Now is the time to protect the lands from development so there are places for people to go and enjoy nature and for wildlife to live.

**Learning about LTC:** I vaguely knew about the Little Traverse Conservancy growing up here in northern Michigan, but it wasn't until I moved back to the area in 2013 that I truly discovered LTC. As a college graduate in environmental sciences with recent experience in conservation work, I tried to work for LTC any way that I could. First, I became a volunteer preserve monitor and trail steward for the Gauthier Nature Preserve in Cheboygan. Then, I had learned about their AmeriCorps position through Huron Pines and knew I just had to apply for the 2014 season. After interviewing with Kieran Fleming, it seemed like the position was the perfect fit for me; not only would I be learning firsthand about land conservation across northern Michigan, but I would be working in a community atmosphere with some amazing people as well. I was offered the AmeriCorps position that season, which led me to become the stewardship assistant the following summer. Now I am a full-time farmer and have transitioned to be a member and supporter of the Conservancy.

**Favorite preserves:** Overall, I simply enjoy visiting the preserves as each one is unique and different in so many ways. I can choose to explore the lakeshore, hardwood forests, marshes/wetlands, or open fields; it is quite the treat! In the winter I enjoy snowshoeing on the trails, specifically at the Andreae Agnes Nature Preserve, or looking for animal tracks in the snow. Springtime, there's nothing better than seeing the trilliums bloom at the Goodhart or Bubbling Springs preserves. Summer is when I look to cool off at some of the preserves along the lakeshore or while trail monitoring. And in the fall I enjoy all the colors of the hardwoods or the blaze of the tamaracks! I had never been to Beaver Island before and was able to make a trip out there and visit all the preserves. I thoroughly enjoyed it; Barney's Lake is gorgeous! When I was looking across the lake, a bald eagle soared in, and I thought, "Awesome!" but sure enough - two more bald eagles flew onto the lakefront and they were all after a dead fish. It was a pretty remarkable sight!

**Favorite field trip:** One of my favorite experiences and memories of LTC is when I led a field trip at the Derby Preserve

in the Les Cheneaux area. It was my idea for the field trip as I love that preserve due to the history, glacial erratics, view of Lake Huron, large cedar trees, and the long winding trails. I was able to guide attendees through the beauty of the preserve and share my knowledge of the land and LTC; it was great!



Greta Jankoviak and organic lettuce from her CSA, Harvest Thyme Farm & Vineyards.

**Why are you a member of LTC?** I love this area because of the open spaces, trees, blue water, trails, wildlife, and fresh air. Now is the time to protect the land from development so there are places for people to go and enjoy nature and for wildlife to live. LTC demonstrates the perfect balance of land protection and educating the public through their field trips and school programs.

**Where should a first-time visitor go?** There are so many great preserves to send a new visitor! I think it is a tie between two: the Agnes Andreae/Banwell Preserves and the Woollam Family Preserve. The Andreae preserve is its own quiet sanctuary along the Pigeon River, with an old cabin, a bridge that crosses the river, and dense evergreen trees. Then it leads into a vast trail system, linking with the Banwell Preserve, which is great for mountain bikers, hikers, or cross-country skiers. On the other hand, the Woollam Family Preserve features the ultimate Lake Michigan shoreline. There is a longer trail that crosses moderate terrain through the hardwoods; simply breathtaking!



## Technical and financial assistance available to help you control invasive plant species!

"We have several thousand dollars available for landowners in a cost-share program that will lower the amount interested landowners need to pay to treat invasive species, like Japanese knotweed, which is damaging property with its ability to grow through home foundations and pavement," explained Thomas Clement, Antrim Conservation District Manager and C.A.K.E. partner. Contact the C.A.K.E. invasive species collaborative to learn more: <https://www.stewardshipnetwork.org/cake-cisma>.



Japanese knotweed. Credit Antrim Conservation District



## Memorials

### G. Robert "Bob" Adams

Mr. and Mrs. Richard V. Dusenbery  
Charles and Barbara Lindsey  
Don and Jean Shely  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis N. Simon

### Patricia Aiello

Ms. Joanne Bosco  
Marvin and Dolores Constanzer  
Ms. Marylou Gasiorowski  
Hugh Gregg and Becky Failor  
Mr. Michael Harrington  
Aritomo and Yumiko Komori  
Hans and Carol Kuhn  
Jerry and Sally Kuhn  
Mr. Jason Lenard  
Greg Radeke and Family  
Mr. James Shieh  
Joseph and Joanna Shieh  
Jay and Sharon Stout  
Ms. Colleen Sweeney  
Paul and Kelly Tyma

### Dr. Charles Clyde Anderson

Mr. and Mrs. Ian Bund

### Carrington Beach Day

Mrs. G. Robert Adams  
Richard and Barbara Baker  
Ms. Ann Joslyn Burrows  
Dennis and Mary Beth Ciesla  
Mr. Billy Dick  
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Friesen  
Mr. David D. Green  
Louis and Vera Hanisko  
Ms. Martha Harris  
Roy and Betty Hunt

Robert and Tena Lechtanski  
Ms. Joan Westall Messer  
Lin and Mary Nash  
James and Cathryn Peterson  
Susan Scot  
Lawrence and Linda Sims

### David S. Ecker

Edward and Jane Terrill

### Donna Fisher

Dr. and Mrs. John Hutto

### Walter Fisher

Mr. Tom Fairbairn, Sr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Sellers  
Mr. and Mrs. G. Sheldon Veil

### Annie Ford

Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. FitzSimons  
Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Hightower  
Ms. Virginia McCoy

### Robert and Eunice Hendrix

Scott and Anne Fitzgerald

### George and Lyda James

Gib and Jennifer James

### Lloyd Edward Jones

Mr. Peter Block, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Degrazia  
Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Efimoff  
Mr. Richard Elton  
Jeff and Jackie Jones  
Mr. and Mrs. William MacPhee  
Ms. Catherine L. McGrath  
Terry and Marilyn Stocker

Dr. Kirk and Linda Swabash  
Ms. Leslie Whitfield

### Richard A. Kjoss

Mrs. Lorraine Edwards

### Jane Lent

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Melzow

### William McKinstry

Mr. Frank M. Proulx

### Dr. Lloyd Mrstik

Bob and Sue Fles  
Ms. Catherine Loniewski Girdler  
Dr. and Mrs. Edward and  
Joanne Loniewski

### Bill Owen

Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Smith

### Alan Peters

Menonaqua Beach Cottage Owners  
Association

### Arthur Roy Ranger, III

Emily Robison

### Adelle C. 'Date' Renton

Bruce and Nancy Dunn

### Donovan L. Royal

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Royal

### Virginia Spencer

Ms. Diane Breitenbecher  
Dennis and Jane Chandler  
Pete and Linda Cleaveland

### SPECIAL GIFTS

Dennis and Debbie Cline  
Ms. Kathryn Cohee  
Mr. Harold Heintz  
Mr. Robert Kiefer and Family  
Greg and Camille Krot  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walker  
Mr. and Mrs. James H. Wilber

### Gene Steele

Mary Lou Supernaw

### Sandy Zietz

Ms. Inbal Arie  
Royce and Margie Beers  
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Braun, II  
Richard, Rena and Laura Brodtkin  
Chuck and Lucy Caldwell  
Ms. Susan Corcoran  
Tommy and Patricia Morrison  
Mrs. Ann Swayze  
David and Carol Trogan  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen F. Turkal

## Honorariums

### George Morse Covington

#### *in honor of his birthday*

Sarah Covington

### Charles E. Letts, Jr

#### *in honor of his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday*

David and Genny Letts  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Swanson  
Anne and Pete Whitelaw

## Thank You...

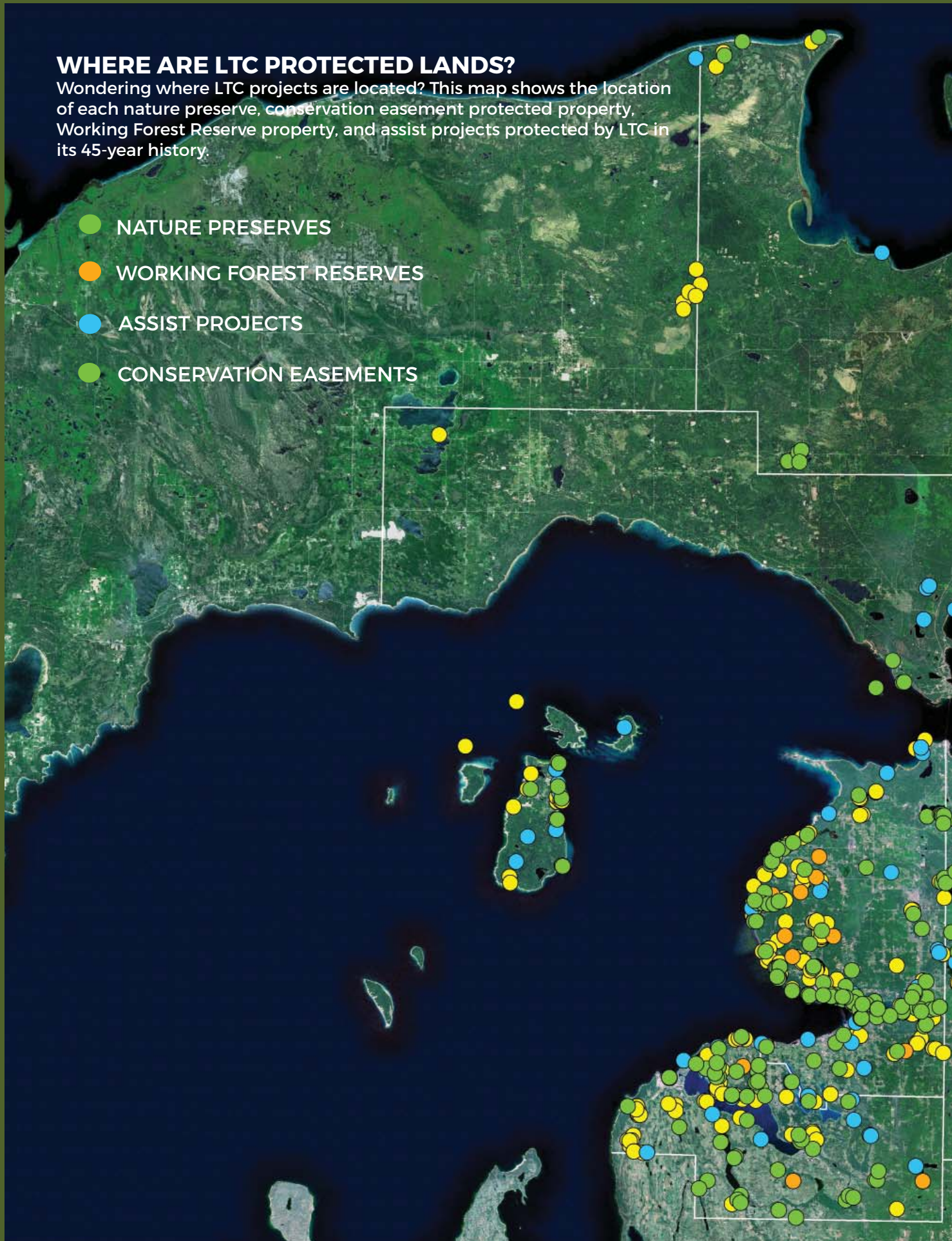
- Jim and Wendy Bean for donating field guide books.
- Trail blazing volunteers John Baker, Richard Jenkins, Ron Oesterreicher, Dave Penniman and Mary Trout.
- Harbor Light Chapel volunteers for cleaning up trash at the Tanton Family Working Forest Reserve on their Day of Service.
- Community Reformed Church of Charlevoix Volunteers for planting trees at the Schulz Nature Preserve on their Day of Service.
- Cindy and Bob Alexander, Scott Autore, Monica Cady, Marie and Scott Keyser, and James Odom for cleaning up illegally dumped trash at the Birge Preserve parking area.
- Earth Day volunteers Susan Esser, Scott Greig and family, Brenda Haskill, Dale and Jeannette Lewis, Courtney McGeorge, the Meir Family, Dave McVicker, Carolyn Stark, and Paul Van Klaveren for planting trees at the Offield Family Nature Preserve.
- James Dake and Duke Elsner for sharing their knowledge of butterflies at our EcoStewards Kick Off Event
- Mary Trout for leading the After School Birding Program at Sheridan Elementary.
- Field trip leaders Doug Fuller, Eric Hemenway, Darrell Lawson, and Mary Trout.
- Phil and Amber Munday and David and Terry Parsons for a wonderful and educational maple syrup processing field trip and for the goodies that were served from Harwood Gold Café.
- Mary Jane Clayton and Ellie Fleming for trail camera data work.
- Glen Matthews for wildlife habitat consulting.
- Barb Bechhold for help with a spring mailing.
- Bill Hodges for helping to restore the log landing at the Offield Family Preserve.
- Mike Turnbull and volunteers from Gaylord Family Fellowship for fixing the roof on the Andreae Cabin and for clearing downed trees from the access road.
- Mark Halsted for donating snow grooming equipment.
- Todd Petersen, Gary Osterbeck, Todd Parker, Elly Oom and Bill Warner (The Wandering Fawn) for volunteer photography.
- Mackinac County Sheriff's Office for helpful and supportive involvement in the illegal dumping case.
- Bruce Dawley for helping put tracking equipment together.
- Thanks to John Bailey, Heather Rawlings, Matthew Kowalski, Perry Smeltzer, Steve Handler, and Maureen Stine for their input to the stewardship of the Jack and Tucker Harris WFR.



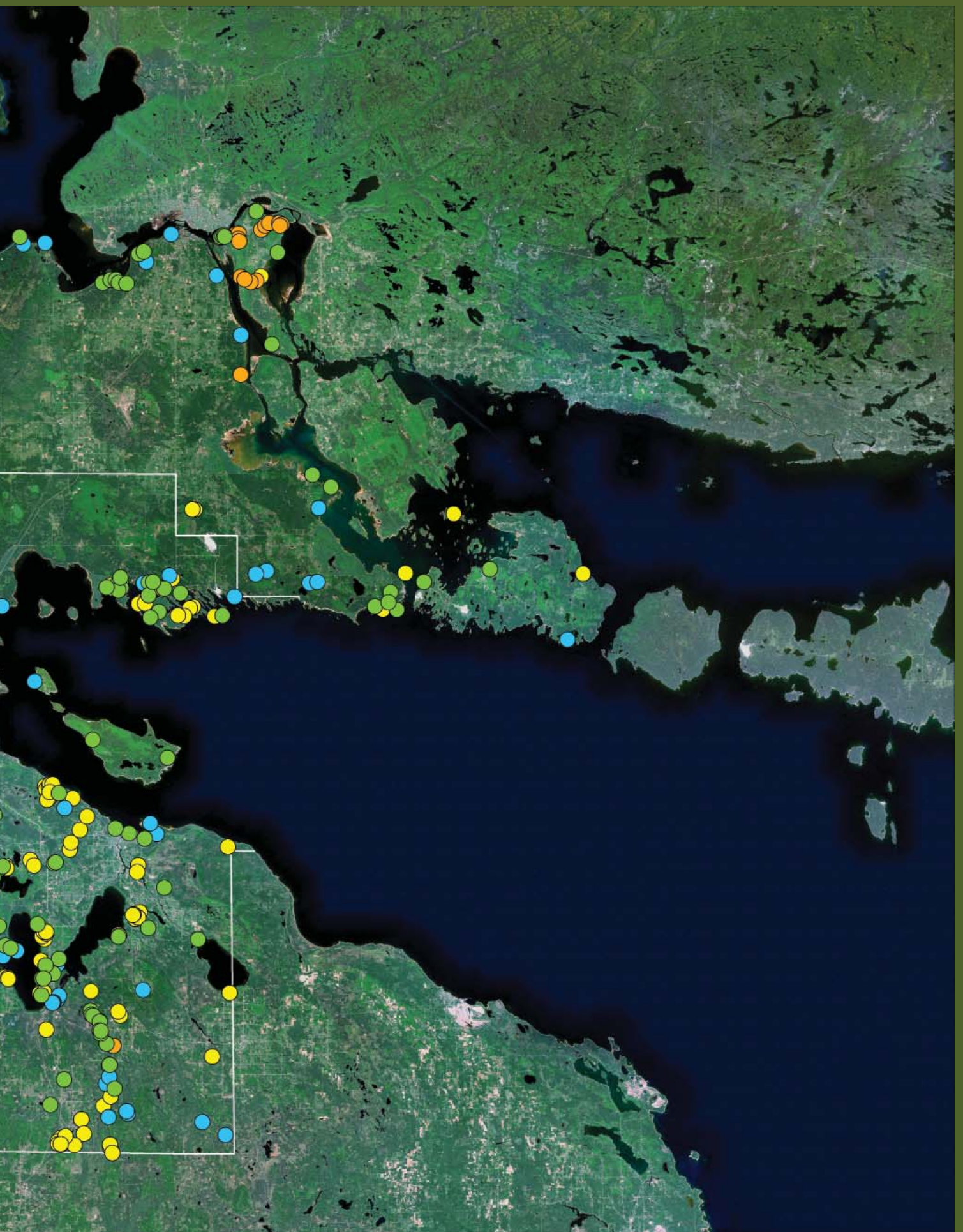
## WHERE ARE LTC PROTECTED LANDS?

Wondering where LTC projects are located? This map shows the location of each nature preserve, conservation easement protected property, Working Forest Reserve property, and assist projects protected by LTC in its 45-year history.

- NATURE PRESERVES
- WORKING FOREST RESERVES
- ASSIST PROJECTS
- CONSERVATION EASEMENTS









# SUMMER 2017 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

## KNEE HIGH NATURALIST PROGRAMS

AGES 3-5 TWO SESSIONS MOST WEEKS

*Please register for this program by calling 231.344.1004.*

Programs typically include a story and a combination of hands-on activities, songs or finger-plays, exploration, crafts or a short hike. Take-home activities are often provided. Parents are asked to stay with their child during the program and siblings are welcome.

### **A Pond Life for Me**

*Tuesday, June 27 2 sessions 10-11am and 1-2pm Spring Lake Park*  
Ponds are teeming with life and fun to explore. Participants will make a pond-themed craft to take home.

### **A Meadow Life for Me**

*Thursday, June 29 1 session 10-11am Resort Township East Park*  
Knee high naturalists will explore a meadow to find out what plants and animals live there, where they hide and what makes them special. Nets will help capture some of the smallest of critters for observation before being returned to their grassy home. Participants will make a meadow-themed craft to bring home.

### **Summer Senses**

*Tuesday, July 11 2 sessions 10-11am and 1-2pm Spring Lake Park.*  
*Thursday, July 13 1 session 10-11am Resort Township East Park*  
There are so many smells, sights, sounds and textures to discover! Fun activities will engage your knee high naturalist's senses, get them using their observational skills and have them learning about some animal senses too.

### **Feathered Friends**

*Tuesday, July 18 2 sessions 10-11am and 1-2pm Spring Lake Park*  
*Thursday, July 20 1 session 10-11am Resort Township East Park*  
Summer is the time for baby animals! LTC volunteer Mary Trout will guide learning about the family life of birds, especially their nests and what they build them with. She'll help identify birds at this beautiful park and lead the participants in a fun craft to take home.

### **Monarch Magic**

*Tuesday, July 25 2 sessions 10-11am and 1-2pm Spring Lake Park*  
*Thursday, July 27 1 session 10-11am Resort Township East Park*  
Butterflies delight us with their beauty and whimsy. We'll explore the journey of these beautiful creatures, learn about their life cycle and what their role is in the natural world. A story and fun activities will help us discover the wonder of Monarchs.

### **Fairy Houses & Gnome Homes**

*Thursday, August 3 2 sessions 10-11am and 1-2pm*  
*Resort Township East Park*  
Let's use our imagination to create a special home from natural materials for the forest fairies and gnomes. These houses will be left in the woods for the magical creatures they are built for, but we will make a special project to take back to our own homes.

### **Creative Kids**

*Tuesday, August 8 2 sessions 10-11am and 1-2pm Spring Lake Park*  
*Thursday, August 10 1 session 10-11am Resort Township East Park*  
The colors, patterns and beauty of nature inspire creativity. This program will begin with an artsy nature scavenger hunt to engage the senses and get creative juices flowing. After the hike, your child will create several fun art and craft projects made from natural materials.

## JUNIOR NATURALIST PROGRAMS

AGES 6-8 WEDNESDAYS 10-11:30AM

*Please register for this program by calling 231.344.1018.*

### **Wild Homes and Hideouts**

*Wednesday, June 28*  
*McCune Nature Preserve, Petoskey*  
Animals need homes too. Where do they eat, play, and sleep? Let's explore some different habitats and where these woodland friends find shelter. Where would you hide? Let's build a shelter of our own!

### **Insect-o-Mania**

*Wednesday, July 5*  
*Highland/Helstrom Nature Preserve, Conway*  
Lift a log, sift through mud, and follow the buzz in search of those fascinating bugs! This nature preserve provides the perfect variety of habitats for a wide range of insects and their kin. Your little bug lover will be sure to have a good time! Sweep nets, bug jars and I.D. books provided but feel free to bring your own!

### **Bike Path Cruise and Nature Preserve Tour**

*Wednesday, July 12*  
*Spring Lake Park, M-119*  
Come for a leisurely ride along the paved bike path leading from Spring Lake Park. Riding north, we will pass several LTC nature preserves along the way. Parents are encouraged to come along. Helmets and extra water are recommended. This is an easy paved trail; however, children are expected to have an intermediate level of riding experience. Please bring your own bike. Meet at Spring Lake Park pavilion.

### **Cool Camo**

*Wednesday, July 19*  
*Watson Nature Preserve, Harbor Springs*  
Come out, come out wherever you are! Camouflage helps animals blend into their surroundings and avoid being someone else's lunch. We will build on our own observations skills while learning different predator and prey adaptations through a fun hide-and-seek activity along the trail.

### **EcoART**

*Wednesday, July 26*  
*McCune Nature Preserve, Petoskey*  
Join local LTC staff and local multi-media artist Katie Brines for a creative exploration into the art of found objects. This program will begin with a short walk into the gorgeous McCune Nature Preserve. Following our walk, children will create a unique found object work of art using a variety of materials and techniques.

### **Explore-A-Shore**

*August, 2*  
*Woollam Family Nature Preserve, Cross Village*  
Located just south of Cross Village along the famed Tunnel of Trees, this spectacular piece of property is a must-see! This 62-acre preserve features rolling hills of hardwoods, mixed conifers, sensitive dune habitat and 2,450 feet of gorgeous shoreline! Come explore all of the wonders that make this place so special!



# ADVENTURE NATURALIST PROGRAMS

AGES 9-12 THURSDAYS 10AM-NOON

**No charge. Registration required by calling Sarah Mayhew at 231.344.1018.**

## Mountain Biking

Thursday, June 29

Offield Family Nature Preserve, Harbor Springs

Do you like mountain biking? Join our mountain biking staff for this fun introduction to a great sport to enjoy in northern Michigan. The Offield Nature Preserve offers well maintained trails through rolling hardwoods. The trail is not extreme and hill climbing is minimal. Designed for children with little to no mountain biking experience up to intermediate. A mountain bike is recommended. Extra water, appropriate footwear, and helmets required.

## Adventure in Nature Photography

Thursday, July 6

Resort Township's East Park

Interested in photography and love being outdoors? Grab your camera for a photo adventure at this beautiful park near Bay Harbor. This program's focus is to improve your photography skills and expand your creativity while providing an opportunity to photograph unique and exciting subjects in nature. All abilities and cameras welcome.

## Trailblazers

Thursday, July 13

Five Mile Creek Preserve, Harbor Springs

Take a walk on the wild side of the creek. With no established trail, this hike is for the adventurous child. Be prepared to have some fun getting muddy and wet! Although the walk is not extremely difficult, it is not as easy as walking a maintained trail and will require maneuvering over logs and through branches. Dress for hiking.

## Wilderness Survival 1: Navigation

Thursday, July 20

Ransom Nature Preserve, Charlevoix

Knowing how to use a compass is an important skill to have if you enjoy exploring in nature. The Ransom Nature Preserve is home to our popular orienteering course. Come learn the basics of orienteering as we navigate this beautiful property. Parents are encouraged to participate, as one adult will be needed to accompany each group. Long pants and sturdy shoes are recommended.

## Wilderness Survival 2: Shelter Building

Thursday, July 27

McCune Nature Preserve, Petoskey

This second program in our survival series focuses on shelter building, the ten essentials and the mindset needed in survival situations. We'll cover the importance of being prepared and informed before venturing out into the woods, as well as addressing strategies for a survival situation. Sturdy shoes are recommended as we will also be taking a short hike.

## Adventures on the Pigeon

Thursday, August 3

Andreae Nature Preserve, Cheboygan County

This preserve offers some of the most remote and unique views in northern Michigan. It's a must-see! We'll be hiking to a gorgeous lookout and splashing our way back as we get up close and personal with the spectacular Pigeon River. If tromping through the woods and playing along a river sounds like fun, then this is the program for you! Dress for hiking and clothes you won't mind getting wet.

## TEEN OUTDOOR SKILLS SERIES

### Tuesdays at varied times

**4 weeks** / June 27 – July 25 (no program July 4)

*No charge. Registration required by calling*

*Sarah Mayhew at 231.344.1018.*

**June 27** 10am–1pm

### Outdoor Survival Skill Basics

Offield Family Nature Preserve, Harbor Springs

This course is an introduction to basic skills and mind-set needed in a wilderness survival situation. An introduction to the following skills will be covered: Ten essentials, shelter building, intro to wild edibles and water collection/filtration, the importance of attitude, self-reliance and sound decision making.

**July 11** 10am–2pm

### Fly Fishing on the Maple Maple River, Brutus

If you've ever wanted to learn how to fly fish, join us as we explore the beauty of the Maple River while casting for trout with members of the Miller-Van Winkle chapter of Trout Unlimited. We'll cover basic fly-tying, stream reading, and entomology before casting for brown trout and rainbow trout in one of the area's most scenic rivers.

## FOR TEENS 13+ TUESDAYS

**July 18** 10am–1pm

### The Art of Fire Building

Tanton Family Working Forest Reserve, Petoskey

Harness one of the most powerful forces on Earth: fire. Fire building is a traditional skill passed down through countless generations as a way to thrive. Fire allows you to create heat to stay warm and dry, cook and dehydrate food, and provide light in the dark. This workshop will allow students to practice the art of fire building with the goal of mastery. Those who succeed will enjoy a well cooked meal of bread-on-a-stick. Those who struggle may be eating raw dough!

**July 25** 10am–1pm

### Kayaking the Pigeon River

Reed's Pigeon River Nature Preserve, Cheboygan Co.

Paddling one of the most wild and pristine rivers in northern Michigan is a must-do summer outing! Join LTC staff and BrassWind Landing of Indian River for this wonderful day of kayaking instruction and river paddle. This gorgeous river passes through several protected nature preserves and is gentle enough for inexperienced kayakers. No experience necessary. Kayaks are available. Space is limited.



## BURT LAKE AREA SUMMER SERIES 2017

*Ages 7-12 Fridays 10-11:30am*

A special Cheboygan County series offered through the Little Traverse Conservancy. Registration is required. To register contact Sarah Mayhew at 231.344.1018. All programs are offered at no charge. Wear appropriate footwear and clothing for hiking in the outdoors. Bring extra water, sunscreen and/or insect repellent if needed.

### **Creatures of Colonial Point**

*Friday, July 14*

Chaboiganing Nature Preserve, Brutus

### **Nature Photography**

*Friday, July 21*

Andreae Nature Preserve, Cheboygan County

### **Creatures in Disguise**

*Friday, July 28*

Seven Springs Nature Preserve, Indian River

### **Adventures on the Pigeon River**

*Friday, August 4*

Andreae Nature Preserve, Cheboygan County

## LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY NATURE & LIBRARY PROGRAMS

### **Frogs and Friends**

*in partnership with Petoskey Library*

*June 15 from 11-Noon.*

Meet at the Petoskey Public Library.

*No registration required.*

### **Books and Bugs**

*in partnership with Charlevoix Library*

*Wednesday, August 16, 10:30-11:30am*

*Driggers Nature Preserve (Boyne City Rd. across from Camp Seagull, approximately 6 miles east of Charlevoix)*

Hear bug stories and explore the field and woods in search of insects and their cousins. Observe some of these tiny critters up close and learn about their fascinating lives and role in the natural world. Bug catching nets, temporary holding containers and identification materials provided. Bring a water bottle, sunglasses, sunscreen and your sense of wonder!  
*No registration required.*

## BOYNE DISTRICT LIBRARY OUTDOOR CLUB PROGRAM SERIES WITH LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY

Wednesdays in July (4 sessions). 10-11:30am. For ages 6-11. Registration required. Participants will be transported from the library to The Hill Nature Preserve. FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP, CONTACT THE BOYNE CITY LIBRARY AT 231.582.7861.

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Theme</b>
Wed. 7/5	10-11:30am	LTC Hill Nature Preserve	Bug Safari
Wed. 7/12	10-11:30am	Boyne River Natural Area	Boyne River Explorations
Wed. 7/19	10-11:30am	LTC Hill Nature Preserve	Nature Games
Wed. 7/26	10-11:30am	LTC Hill Nature Preserve	Map Madness



## Pedaling with a Purpose

LTC partnered with Top of Michigan Trails Council, Latitude 45 Bicycles and Fitness, and the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians this past spring on their new "Pedal with a Purpose Program." With grant funding from the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation, Women Who Care, and Blue Cross Blue Shield, the Trails Council and a host of volunteers held multiple sessions with Petoskey 4th grade students. Beginning at Spring Lake Park, the group biked to the Oden Fish Hatchery, where they enjoyed a tour and had lunch before pedaling back. The program is a great way for local youth to learn about land and watershed protection and to enjoy the beautiful trails of our region.



*LTC Trustee Eric Hemenway explains the role that fishing has played for the Odawa and why the quality of water - and the quality of fish - has literally been a life-saving matter.*

## More Than A Fish Story: The Importance of Fishing to the Odawa

by Eric Hemenway

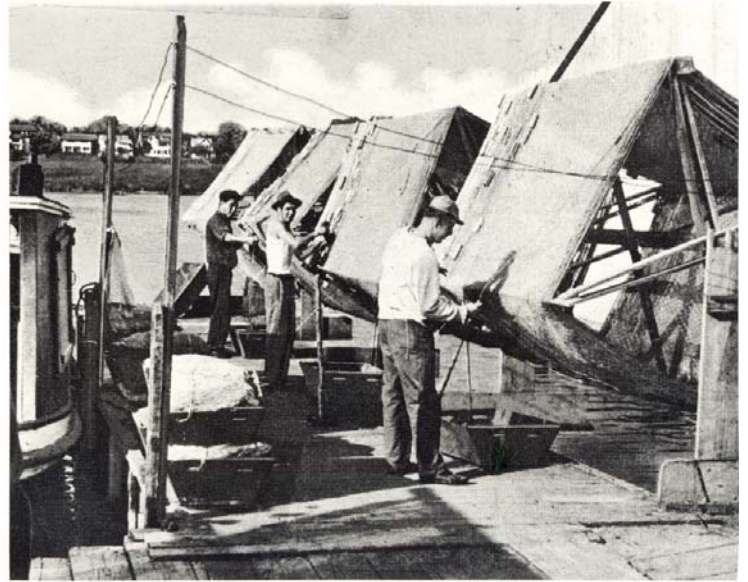
Fishing has been, and continues to be, a vital resource for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. Not only have fish fed the tribe for centuries, fishing has been a critical right the Odawa have fought to retain through treaty negotiations with the United States. To add to the importance that fish have for the indigenous people of northern Michigan, fish are also part of the cultural fabric of the Odawa, such as clans and oral traditions that have fish play a vital role.

The Odawa have fished the waters of Gitchi-Gummeek (Great Lakes) for thousands of years. Using their birch bark canoes, Odawa would cast nets to collect whitefish, trout and sturgeon. These nets were made of basswood bark and used stones to anchor them. Spearing was also a method used to take fish from rivers and streams, as well as hook and line. The Odawa would trade with Ojibway from the Keewenaw area to obtain copper spears and hooks. These copper artifacts go back well over a thousand years in Michigan and show the continuity of fishing within Anishnaabek communities.

Fish was the main source of protein for the Odawa well into the 1800s. Odawa men providing for their families would supplement their protein source with game such as deer, moose and beavers but fish was the go-to source to feed their families. Whitefish, trout and sturgeon were the major species taken from the lakes. With Michigan being in the center of the Great Lakes, the Anishnaabek had constant access to food.

The apparent value of fish in terms of diet is readily known but fish also played a role in legal battles for the Odawa of Michigan. The Odawa, Ojibway and Potawatomi were threatened with forced removal from their homelands in Michigan during the 1830s by the federal government under its removal policies. The government wanted the tribes to relocate to Kansas and Oklahoma. The tribes fought back to stay home and one of the major reasons was access to the lakes. The Anishnaabek knew if they were by the lakes, they could feed themselves. Relocation to Kansas could spell starvation for the people.

Finally, in the 1980s, fishing became a hotly contested issue between tribes and non-tribal fishermen in the Great Lakes. Great Lakes tribes claimed they reserved the right to fish, with nets, in the Great Lakes under treaty negotiations with the United States. The State of Michigan and non-native sports fishermen claimed that treaty right was null and void. Tensions rose to the point of violence, when native fishermen would have their equipment vandalized and some Anishnaabek fishermen were the victims of assaults. Protests were held for and against native rights. The issue made its way to federal court and in 1979, the court ruled that federally recognized tribes had the right to fish the Great Lakes. Today, LTBB Odawa has its own natural resource department to help manage fishing by tribal members, as well as its own hatchery to restock the lakes with fish.



Odawa fishermen mending nets on Mackinac Island, circa 1920s.







Barbara Eckstein

## NEW MEMBERS

*Thank you to the following members who newly made or increased their commitment to the Little Traverse Conservancy between February 17 and May 17, 2017*

Jenny and Bruce Abel  
Mrs. William Barnes, III  
Tonya and Norman Baumhardt  
Mrs. Betty Benson  
Drs. Mark and Frances Berg  
Mr. and Mrs. Julia and Jim Borgmann  
David and Carol Chauvin  
Ms. Marty Cheney  
Clifford and Linda Clark  
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James and Donna Earhart  
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Mr. and Mrs. Glenn P. Ernst  
Douglas and Ann Phillips Fertuck  
Mr. James Forse  
Judy Allen and Patrick Ginley  
Mr. and Mrs. James Gracy  
Ms. Rosemary A. Green  
Patrick and Kathleen Haas  
Brenda Haskill  
Brandon and Katy Hill

Kathleen Davis and David Immonen  
Dee Irwin  
Terry and Patti Jackson  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Jones  
Mr. William J. Jordan  
Steven and Bonnie Katz  
Michael and Helen Lambert  
Mr. David Lamparski  
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher L. Lee  
Mr. Rik Lobenherz  
Ms. Laurie Lowrance  
Mr. Matthew Marske  
Anthony and Mary Ellen Mazurek  
Mr. and Mrs. Valerie and Mark McKenna  
Jeff and Tracy McMath  
Robert and Barbara McTaggart  
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Frank and Susan Wagner  
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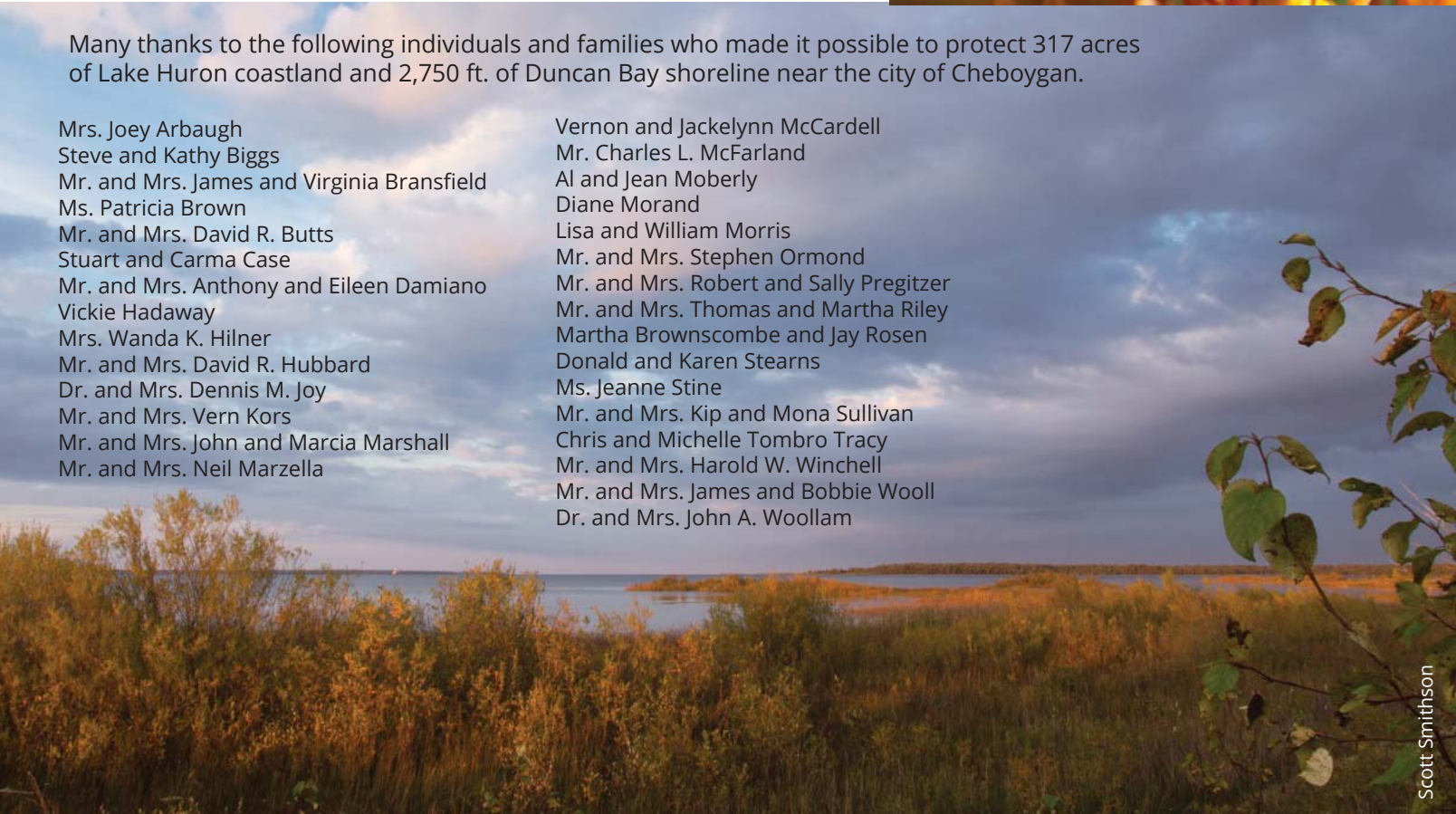


David Marvin

Many thanks to the following individuals and families who made it possible to protect 317 acres of Lake Huron coastland and 2,750 ft. of Duncan Bay shoreline near the city of Cheboygan.

Mrs. Joey Arbaugh  
Steve and Kathy Biggs  
Mr. and Mrs. James and Virginia Bransfield  
Ms. Patricia Brown  
Mr. and Mrs. David R. Butts  
Stuart and Carma Case  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony and Eileen Damiano  
Vickie Hadaway  
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Martha Brownscombe and Jay Rosen  
Donald and Karen Stearns  
Ms. Jeanne Stine  
Mr. and Mrs. Kip and Mona Sullivan  
Chris and Michelle Tombro Tracy  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. Winchell  
Mr. and Mrs. James and Bobbie Wooll  
Dr. and Mrs. John A. Woollam



Scott Smithson



# Summer Staff



## Sarah Sloan: Communications Intern

Northern Michigan is in Sarah Sloan's blood and in her heart. Raised in Petoskey until middle school with many years of summer camping trips in Canada, Sarah spent her high school and college years in Ann Arbor. But the call back north was loud. Recently graduated from the University of Michigan with a B.S. in Environmental Science with a minor in Earth Science, Sarah is exploring various career options before returning to graduate school. She is interested in everything from aquatic insects to the intersection of the environment and business (favorite college class was Mineral Economics). "An internship with LTC has been my first opportunity in my field of interest and I look forward to learning as much as I can about land trusts."

**Personal Quote:** "The Universe is under no obligation to make sense to you." -Neil deGrasse Tyson

## Alan McTaggart: Stewardship Assistant

As a recent graduate of Central Michigan University with a Biology concentration in Natural Resources and a minor in Geology, Alan is also exploring career opportunities before returning for an advanced degree. This is his second summer in land trust work, holding an internship with HeadWaters Land Conservancy last summer. "I've thought I wanted to be a wildlife biologist, but admittedly



I went into college thinking my career could lead me in a couple of directions and came out of college with about eight different ideas." A native of Houghton, Alan is no stranger to the outdoors and enjoys fishing, kayaking, and camping. He spent two summers on the MooseWatch project on Isle Royale under the guidance of famed wolf biologist Rolf Petersen. His work at LTC will be primarily in the field as he helps the summer crew complete numerous tasks at preserves throughout the LTC service area.

### Personal Quote:

"The ability to speak does not make you intelligent."  
- Qui-Gon Jinn

## Brandon Harner: Stewardship Intern

This year's intern joining us from Austin College is Brandon Harner, a rising junior at the liberal arts school located north of Dallas, Texas. Although he was born in Ohio, Brandon spent his childhood living in Florida, the Bahamas, and Houston following his father's ocean coastal work. Currently, Brandon is studying Pre-Law with a double major in Environmental and Political Science.

"Growing up in the Bahamas fueled my love for nature," he explains. The Abacos Islands are his favorite place he has lived. A college soccer player, Brandon hopes to take a gap year after college to play professionally. He also likes to snowboard, hike, fish, hunt and has a dog named Chelsea. Although he had never been to Michigan before, it has lived up to his expectations. "I assumed there would be a lot of trees and that it would be cold, but I was surprised by just how much water there is."

### Personal Quote:

"The world is changed by your example, not by your opinion."  
- Paulo Coelho



AND...we are pleased that Graham Peters has returned to help us out in the field again this summer. Graham is a new Fish and Wildlife Management graduate from Lake Superior State University and just returned from spending the last three months at a research station in Costa Rica.



## Reflections...by Tom Bailey

## Politics, Again, Threaten the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

My first close encounter with politics came more than 45 years ago when, as a teenager, I worked to ensure the integrity and sanctity of wilderness and natural areas in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. I joined a citizens' group working to afford Isle Royale National Park appropriate recognition in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and to protect wild places at the state level. That required working on legislation, so I found myself writing to elected officials, visiting them in the home district and also visiting them in Lansing and Washington, DC.

I learned that most people in politics are public spirited and well-intentioned, especially when they start out in public office. I also learned about how easy it becomes for politicians to say one thing in their home districts and another in the state capitol or Washington, DC. I watched the legislative process in action and came to understand first-hand why it is often referred to as "sausage making." I learned about vote-trading, partisan pressures, favors for campaign donors and friends, the influence of lobbyists and the fixation of most politicians on what I quickly recognized as the Holy Grail of politics: re-election.

The 1970s saw tremendous progress in environmental protection, and also in land conservation. In Michigan, controversy over oil and gas drilling in the Pigeon River Country State Forest resulted in a compromise that created the Kammer Land Trust Fund, which would eventually become the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, unique to Michigan and the envy of outdoor recreationists and state park and resource management agencies across the USA. For the first time in Michigan history, revenue from oil, gas and minerals on public land would not be squandered by one generation in a boom-and-bust frenzy of "finders, keepers," but would be invested in a trust fund to produce income that present and future generations can use to purchase land and develop facilities for public recreation. State and local parks and open spaces have been created or expanded thanks to

this fund, enhancing our communities, our economy and our quality of life. The dedication of revenue from non-renewable resources to the long-term benefit of generation after generation was a stroke of genius and a work of political wisdom.

Unfortunately, politics being politics, the wisdom faded quickly. Tempted by the Trust Fund's "pot of money," the legislature tapped the fund for other purposes. The people of Michigan came to the rescue on two different occasions, enacting constitutional amendments to protect the fund from legislative raids and ensure that the money from non-renewable resources would be wisely managed over time: a capital resource providing capital for the people of Michigan in perpetuity. Two constitutional amendments, we thought, would do the trick.

But they're at it again. Legislators just can't keep their hands off the Trust Fund and can't bear to see it managed by the board appointed by the governor in accordance with the constitutional provisions we voters approved by wide margins. In a classic political tug-of-war, the legislative branch wants for itself what the constitution reserves to the executive branch, and every now and then they find a loophole of some sort to exploit against the expressed will of the people.

It's all rationalized by politics: Gotta hold to the party line. Wanted to vote my conscience but need to protect political capital. And so on. But what, really, is "protecting political capital," other than a convenient rationalization for doing something wrong? What is it that brings a formerly well-intentioned person to do this? Is this about representative government, or more about political self-perpetuation?

I once defended Congress and our state legislature, noting that the process was often pretty ugly but that eventually they came up with good public policies and programs. It wasn't perfect, I'd say, but it was usually a fair compromise. Lately, however, compromise has gone out the

window and I can't defend them anymore. Our basic infrastructure is falling into disrepair, the cost of a college education is rising well above the rate of inflation, our federal government spends money that comes only from the printing press, and because they are forced to balance the budget some in our state legislature are preoccupied with undermining the will of the voters, upsetting the balance of powers and getting their hands on money that the people have tried to protect for public recreation. They treat our precious public land like surplus property in the 19th Century. We hear about "safe seats," primary challenges in gerrymandered districts, political orthodoxy and polls. Future generations be damned; it's all about the next election cycle. I can't remember the last time I heard politicians speak meaningfully of conscience, of principle, of cooperation. "Compromise," once a noble pursuit, has become a dirty word.

So again we sound the clarion's call. Again we appeal to our elected officials to think not only of the short term, but of our grandchildren generations hence. We call upon them to recognize the importance of natural land to our economy, our community and our souls. We ask them to vote their conscience rather than the party line. But partisanship seems to overshadow conscience, and the all-important quest for re-election eclipses everything else. Term limits haven't helped as had been hoped. Appeals to higher levels of statesmanship are lost in the fog of political orthodoxy and the mire of managing "political capital."

The politicians seem deaf, and their record of late is abysmal. They justify votes for bad policy as enabling them to "live to fight another day," but those of us who depend on them to do the right thing are left wondering: if our representatives can justify voting against the dedication of funds from non-renewable resources to be wisely invested and managed to benefit our grandchildren and theirs and theirs and theirs, what are they fighting for?





# Thorne Swift Nature Preserve

## Summer Programs

The 30-acre Thorne Swift Nature Preserve offers a full nature center and beautiful trail system on the shores of Lake Michigan, just north of Harbor Springs. Parking fee is \$5 for non-township residents (no charge for Conservancy members). Season pass available for \$15. Call 231.526.6401 to register for a program. If fee is not mentioned, there is no charge.

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

### Kids Camp

**Tuesdays, 10:30-2:30, July 11 & 25, and August 8.**

Our Kids Camps have been lengthened to four hours, giving us more time to explore and have fun. We will still listen to stories around the fire circle, work on craft projects, but we will now be able to spend more time on the trails and at the beach. BYO Lunch.

### Fairy House Workshops

**Saturdays, July 22 and August 12, 7pm**

Our Fairy House workshops have been so popular, we are offering them again this season. We combine a wide variety of natural materials to create magical little dwellings. Our fairy houses are at home inside as well as outside in the garden. \$10 materials fee.

## OTHER PROGRAMS

### Medicinal and Edible Plants Hike

**Saturdays, July 8, August 5 10-11:30am**

This program will include gathering methods, preparation, and some taste testing.



### Celestial Observation

**Fridays, July 14, July 28 10pm**

**Monday, August 7, 9:30pm. Call for rain dates.**

In this program, we will explore different kinds of telescopes and how they work. We will also describe the motions of the heavens, how to read star charts, and simply view the night sky.

### Terrariums

**Monday, July 17 7pm**

We will create little worlds, very low-maintenance container gardens, using native plants. \$10 materials fee.

### Lighted Twig Chandelier

**Tuesday, August 1, 7pm**

Lighted twig chandeliers are as beautiful outdoors as they are indoors. They blend simple wiring with the natural grace of branches, forming artistic expressions of lighting. \$20 materials fee.

## Saturday, August 19 10am-2pm

Now in conjunction with the Petoskey Festival on the Bay. A family-friendly water festival at Bayfront Park with hands-on activities for kids and an opportunity to learn from Northern Michigan's environmental experts on wildlife, water quality, stewardship, and recreation. Crafts, demonstrations, and much more. Free admission.

*The mission of the Little Traverse Conservancy is to protect the natural diversity and beauty of northern Michigan by preserving significant land and scenic areas, and fostering appreciation and understanding of the environment.*

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## Leave a Legacy

**Consider including LTC in your will or revocable trust — Advanced and thoughtful planning offers you an opportunity to help us protect the special places you love.**

**For more information or to share that you have included the Little Traverse Conservancy in your estate plans, please contact Ty Ratliff, Director of Donor Relations: [tyratliff@landtrust.org](mailto:tyratliff@landtrust.org) or 231.344.1005.**

Little Traverse Conservancy, Inc.  
3264 Powell Road  
Harbor Springs, MI 49740-9469  
231.347.0991  
[www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org)

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## Community Field Trips

*Pre-registration is requested for all field trips at [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org) or by calling 231.347.0991 unless otherwise indicated.*

### Women's Mountain Bike Ride

**Thursday, June 29 6-7:30pm**

*Offield Family Nature Preserve, near Harbor Springs*

Join the Little Traverse Conservancy's Membership Coordinator, Emily Hughes, for a summer mountain bike ride at our Offield Family Nature Preserve. Women of all ages and abilities are invited to join us. Bring your sister, daughter, mother, and friends. No charge, but please bring your own bike and helmet. Meet at Quick Road parking area.

### BioBlitz 2017

**Saturday, July 1 6am-midnight**

*Philip J. Braun Preserve, Pellston*

Little Traverse Conservancy will partner with students at the University of Michigan Biological Station, professional biologists, and area citizens to document the diversity of plants and animals at the Philip J. Braun Nature Preserve on the Maple River in Pellston. Through an all-day BioBlitz, participants will be engaged, inspired, and challenged to help LTC create a long list of the species found in the preserve. Participants will develop an understanding of local wildlife and gain first-hand experience in how biological recording works. Guided hikes will be offered throughout the day, free of charge.

### Coffee with LTC's New Director of Stewardship

**Thursday, July 13 6:30-8pm**

*North Perk Coffee, Petoskey*

Bring a laptop to the coffee shop for an evening of hanging out with nature lovers talking about iNaturalist.org and nature gossip such as, "What plant did you see at the McCune Nature Preserve?" and "Check out this photo of a palm warbler I took at the Rogers Family Nature Preserve!" LTC's new Director of Stewardship Derek Shiels will facilitate a get-together to talk about iNaturalist, how you can participate and then spend time together identifying observations from the iNaturalist community. Bring your favorite field guide if you'd like and enjoy an evening to be as freely geeked about nature as you like!

### Yoga in Nature

**Sunday, July 16 1-2:30pm**

*Spring Lake Park Pavilion, near Petoskey*

Salute the sun, look up to the sky, and breathe deeply in the summer air. Join LTC Volunteer Coordinator and certified yoga instructor Cacia Lesh for a rejuvenating yoga practice. This 11-acre township park was designated for public use in 1991. Little Traverse Conservancy helped Bear Creek Township apply for

three Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grants, and worked with landowners, to acquire the property and develop the park. It is a wonderful place to walk, look for birds, and stop for a picnic along the Little Traverse Wheelway. Space is limited. All ages and levels welcome, but children must be with an adult. Bring your own mat and water.

### Hike the Hindle-Ross Trails

**Saturday, July 22 10am-2pm**

*Cross Village, Emmet County*

There are many ways to conserve property, one of which is to leave it to LTC in your will, as Debbie Hindle and Ken Ross have done with their 80-acre property in Cross Village. Join a guided walk at 10am or independently explore the two miles of well-maintained walking trails along rolling meadows and woodland. Debbie and Ken can accommodate people of all abilities in experiencing this magical place. A new feature this year is an analemmatic sundial, a three-year endeavor!

### Kayak the Maple River

**Wednesday, August 9 6-8pm**

*Brutus, Emmet County*

Enjoy a summer float down the Maple River as you look for rising trout and enjoy the wonders of this pristine riverine habitat. LTC staff will discuss land conservation efforts along the Maple River and the float will be about 1½ hours on the water. You must provide your own kayak and PFD. Kayak rentals are available through Ryde Marine of Alanson, The Outfitter in Harbor Springs, or Big Bear Adventures in Indian River. Group size is limited.

### Kayak to Leopold Landing and the Aldo Leopold Preserve

**Saturday, August 12 10am-4pm** *Special Registration*

Experience an Upper Peninsula guided kayak trip through some of the most biologically diverse islands in the Great Lakes region led by sea kayak instructors and an LTC staff member. Tour the boreal forest and limestone shoreline by kayak and explore Marquette Island by foot where we will stop for lunch. A new dock will be placed at Duck Bay this summer, giving much easier access to the township's Leopold Landing and LTC's more than 1600-acre Aldo Leopold Nature Preserve. No experience is necessary. Pack a lunch, binoculars, and your personal bird checklist. Cost of \$70 includes guides and paddling gear. Reservations required. Trip is limited to 14 people with children over 10 welcome. Please contact Woods & Water Ecotours at 906.484.4157 or [info@WoodsWaterEcotours.com](mailto:info@WoodsWaterEcotours.com) to register.