$360K Raised in Our 60th Year!

The LLCT was the beneficiary of extraordinary generosity from long-time Lincoln residents Bob Davoli and Eileen McDonagh this past year. LLCT raised $360,000 from more than 300 donors during a matching campaign in December 2017 and January 2018 given by Bob and Eileen. Additionally, more than 150 LLCT Members and friends enjoyed a wonderful evening of music and community at a benefit concert given by The Bob Davoli Band on January 6 at Bemis Hall. All of the proceeds were rolled up into the larger match.

The largest gift came from an anonymous donor who stepped forward with a check for $100,000! LLCT’s trustees and membership base showed their dedicated support in helping to raise more than $71,600 during the matching campaign period.

Bob and Eileen have long supported conservation values and were very pleased with the campaign’s success. “We purchased our land in Lincoln over 25 years ago because Lincoln is a community that clearly shares our deeply held belief in the preservation of open space and in the protection of natural areas,” said Eileen. “The LLCT and RLF are the organizations that have successfully secured for over sixty years Lincoln’s open, protected, and rural-feeling, despite Lincoln's location in the midst of a major metropolitan area. It seemed to us that one way to express our appreciation of Lincoln and to support LLCT’s mission, was to give back!”

The funds raised have had an impact on LLCT’s stewardship and (continued on page 2)
The Power of Partnership

The Lincoln community saw in 2017 the continuation of one of the largest conservation and recreation initiatives in the Town’s history. Through a partnership that included the Rural Land Foundation, Lincoln Land Conservation Trust, Lincoln Conservation Commission, Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department, Lincoln Youth Soccer and the Birches School, nearly 10 acres of land have been permanently conserved, a new athletic field is close to completion, and Birches School has a new facility for their independent K-8, nature-based school in Lincoln.

The success of this project was made possible through the generosity of the Wang Family, Town approved Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, private donations from nearly 100 Lincoln residents, a grant from the Ogden Codman Trust and a contribution from the RLF and LLCT.

From Plan to Protection: Six More Acres Added

Long identified as “Land of Conservation Interest” on the Town’s Open Space and Recreation Plan, over 6 acres of the former Bradley property off Tower Road was protected in 2017. This land is part of a much larger swath of conserved land stretching from Beaver Pond south to the Stony Brook and Twin Pond conservation areas. Working with the developer for the 80 Tower Road property, an agreement was reached to deed nearly 6 acres of land to the LLCT with a permanent conservation restriction to be held by the Town.

A ‘Watershed’ Moment

In 2015, the RLF and LLCT worked with the City of Cambridge to protect the 55-acre Rando/Stankard property off of Winter Street. This project was made possible because of the generosity of the landowners, contributions from the City of Cambridge, Lincoln Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds and the RLF and LLCT. This model was repeated in 2017 with the protection of the Dean property, a 4 acre parcel off of Old Conant Road that is adjacent to the Rando/Stankard property. Long-time owner, Marybelle Dean, approached the RLF and LLCT with her desire to permanently protect the property. Through the use of existing Conservation Commission CPA funds and small contributions from the RLF and LLCT, as well as the City of Cambridge, this important watershed land was deeded to the Town for permanent conservation.

educational goals already, and funds are being earmarked for future acquisition projects. There are still more than 200 parcels in Lincoln that remain of conservation interest, ranging from less than 1 acre and up to 80 acres.

“We are humbled by the breadth and depth of support given by Bob and Eileen,” said Meghan Lytton, LLCT and RLF board chair. “It was a very special moment for all of us at the LLCT to experience the overwhelming support we received from the Lincoln community at the benefit concert and during our membership campaign. As we celebrate this awesome philanthropic success, we remain ever grateful to our many supporters and grounded in our responsibilities to acquire and protect land of conservation value in Lincoln, and to cultivate a conservation ethic among all.”

Above: Wang Project partners from left to right: Geoff McGean (RLF and LLCT), Cecily Wardell (Birches School), Patty Donahue (Parks & Recreation and Lincoln Youth Soccer) and Dan Pereira (Parks & Recreation). Bottom Right: Birches School families participate in a fall clean up day at the new site.
Stewardship & Land Management

LLCT partnered with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) Trail Services to steward several trails in Lincoln, including a new segment of the Bay Circuit Trail that opened in July.

THANK YOU to all LLCT volunteers and helpful neighbors!

LLCT cleared invasive plants from conservation land.

Our stewardship intern, volunteers and staff attended to our trails.

2017 Overview

Volunteers and staff pulled water chestnuts from Beaver Pond. LLCT partnered with Lincoln’s Conservation Commission in the Sudbury River.

LLCT installed signage and an informational kiosk at the People for Pollinators meadow.

Volunteers helped maintain the meadow by clearing invasive plants.
Established in 1957, the LLCT celebrated its 60th anniversary year with several special programs. For the annual meeting, Nobel Laureate, Dr. Eric Chivian, spoke to a gathering of more than 80 members and friends about human health and the environment. In the fall, LLCT held two panels that spoke to the importance of spending time in nature throughout one’s lifespan. “Aging in Nature” was co-sponsored with Lincoln’s Council on Aging, The Commons in Lincoln, and Newbury Court and Deaconess Abundant Life Services. Featured panelists were Sophie Wadsworth, Executive Director of Nature Connection in Concord; John Calabria, Wellness Educator and yoga teacher; and, Ellie Horwitz, certified wildlife biologist and tai chi instructor. John also led a series of three noticing walks on Lincoln’s trails designed for seniors. The “Kids in Nature” panel featured Jeffrey Perrin, Associate Professor of Psychology, Lesley University; Jill Canelli, Director, Mass Audubon Drumlin Farm Community Preschool; Mairead Curtis, Science and Engineering Curriculum Coordinator, Lincoln Public Schools; Wendy Matusovich, Executive Director, Farrington Nature Line; and, Katherine Parisky, Ph.D., Associate Head and Science Teacher, Birches School.

New Nature Themed Backpacks at the Lincoln Public Library

Research shows that adults who demonstrate a commitment to the protection of the natural world developed a foundation of knowledge and responsible environmental behavior in their childhood. The middle years, between ages 6 to 12 years old, are a critical time period for when one’s sense of wonder transforms into a sense of exploration. Four new nature themed backpacks, designed by LLCT and funded with the Friends of the Lincoln Library, are available to checkout in the Children’s Department at the Lincoln Public Library: Birding, Trackers, Insects and Trees, Plants and Flowers. The backpacks contain guides for identifying animals and plants, tools to assist with exploration, activities to record observations and engage in hands-on learning, and reference materials to help plan outings and for general awareness.

Walks, Talks, and Movie Nights

Year-round the LLCT provides a panoply of programming that in 2017 reached more than 500 participants. Movie audiences saw a film about the world’s first climate change refugees called, “Sun Come Up,” with guest commentary by Jennifer Haugh, a member of Lincoln’s Green Energy Committee and founder of Iconic Energy Consulting. “Queen of the Sun” took an alternative look at the global bee crisis through the eyes of beekeepers, scientists, and philosophers. In April and May, Trustee Gwyn Loud, along with local birders Vin Durso, Nancy Hammond, and
Norman Levey, and Trustee Nancy Soulette, led the Spring Birding Series at various locations around Lincoln. Matt Burne, herpetologist and Conservation Director at The Walden Woods Project, led the annual vernal pool walk to a spot off the trails at Codman East to explore the wildlife and ecology of this important woodland habitat. Sara Lewis, professor of biology at Tufts University, led an early summer firefly walk at the Smith-Andover Field. Local naturalist, Norman Levey, wound down summer with a night-singing insect walk along the trails at Bergen-Culver. Tom Gumbart, Conservation Director for the Town of Lincoln, guided a September outing at the People for Pollinators meadow with support from LLCT Outreach Director, Jane Gruba-Chevalier, who showed people how to use the iNaturalist App to record observations. Finally, LLCT hosted two informative and fascinating talks by area academics during the year. Joe Elkinton, professor of entomology at UMass Amherst, gave an update on the status of gypsy moths and the progress of biological controls to manage damaging populations of winter moths. Lincoln resident, Julie Dobrow, Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies and Senior Lecturer in the Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and Human Development at Tufts University, shared the untold stories of the fascinating influences of Mabel Loomis Todd and her daughter, Millicent Todd Bingham. Dobrow explored the women’s work of making major land purchases in both Massachusetts and Maine, and their efforts to have the land preserved in perpetuity.

We welcomed aboard new LLCT staff members Jane Layton (left) and Bryn Gingrich (right).

LLCT Trustee, Andy Falender, helped coordinate the opening of a new spur of the Bay Circuit Trail through Drumlín Farm and on through Pine Hill. At the ribbon cutting ceremony pictured above are (from left to right): Renata Pomponi, Director, Drumlín Farm Wildlife Sanctuary; Kristen Sykes, Director of Conservation Strategies, Appalachian Mountain Club; Gary Clayton, President of Mass Audubon; Andy Falender; Meghan Lytton, LLCT and RLF Board Chair; and Buzz Constable, LLCT Board President.

We replaced single-use plastic bottles with reusable water bottles and gave them to every Scarecrow Classic 5K race participant!

We hosted a reception for the volunteer photographers who make our annual Open Spaces of Lincoln Calendar possible — and very beautiful!

LLCT staff and Birches School science teacher, Katherine Parisky, designed and held a six week investigations class for grades 2-3 at the People for Pollinators meadow in the fall.
2017 Scarecrow Classic 5K
5 Years & Running Strong
Look How We’ve Grown!

Registrants

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We couldn’t do this without you!

Whether you walk or run ~ are BIG or small we hope you’ll...

Join Us Next Year!
October 14, 2018

Thank you all!!!

Plastic water bottles...

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2017 Goal!

Zero plastic water bottles used this year!
Each registrant received a free gift of a reusable stainless steel water bottle & a shirt.

Join the Fun!

Infographic designed by Lindsay Clemens.
2017 Membership

Total Number of Members
320

Leadership Level ($1000+)
27

Friend ($500-999)
18

Sustaining ($250-499)
39

Supporting ($100-249)
135

Family ($75-99)
25

Individual ($35-74)
75

Other
1

Thank you for your continued support!
The owners of Premier Cleaners & Tailor, Ed and Jenny, are originally from South Korea. They came to the United States in 1983 with their son, Kiok, when he was 2 years old and lived with Ed’s sister. After time spent in different professions in the Cambridge area, they opened a Korean Restaurant in 2002 in Medford and remained there until they retired in 2015.

Jenny said Ed became restless after retirement and wanted to go back to work. This time, however, they were going to find an opportunity that was not as time-demanding as the restaurant business. They discovered Premier Cleaners & Tailor, purchased the business, and are pleased with this new venture at Lincoln Station.

Ed and Jenny say they enjoy Lincoln and the people they meet here. They take delight in the students that come to Lincoln Station on Wednesdays for lunch, when they have early release from school, and offer lollipops as a treat — and the kids like it too! They are firm believers in good “customer service,” making sure their patrons are always satisfied.

Ed and Jenny are a welcomed addition to the retail component of Lincoln Station. Stop by to say hello, and bring your items in to dry clean and have altered with expert care.

Locally Owned, Operated, and Invested

The heart of any community is its town center, often described as the crossroads of shopping, transportation, and social gatherings – it is a destination, where a community comes together to meet as neighbors and friends. Lincoln Station is Lincoln’s town center.

Lincoln Station emerged out of a Rural Land Foundation vision to protect the small-town, rural nature of Lincoln. In 1972, the RLF acquired more than 70 acres of the Codman Estate placing 55 acres into conservation and recreation, and developing 16 acres to help create low-to-moderate-income housing, retail space and business offices.

In 2009, together with input from Town leaders and residents, RLF undertook an $8 million renovation of the property. The project not only expanded and improved retail space for two anchor stores, Donelan’s Supermarket and the Post Office, but also increased the overall number of retail offerings, improved parking, and created more community spaces.

Today, with the assistance of property manager William Jackson Associates, Lincoln Station continues to operate for the benefit of the community with the net proceeds of the RLF’s commercial real estate efforts invested directly back into conservation.