



Essex County *News* Trail Association

Volume 26 Number 1

Winter-Spring 2007

From the President

Don Curiale

25th Year Anniversary

Celebrate! Sing out! Felicitate! The Essex County Trail Association is celebrating its 25th birthday. It's true. It has been 25 years since a group of neighbors came together at a friend's home to discuss trail and landowner issues.

Trail problems, concerns, and complaints were plaguing our local communities and landowners were reacting. Some voiced their concerns about riders being abusive, rude and non-caring of the land; others simply threatened to close off the property; and some did just that. It could have escalated to a general policy of private property closed to all.

Instead, our ECTA Founders decided to band together and address the problems head on. They met regularly and consistently, contacted their neighbors for help, visited the landowners and tried their best to solve the issues and maintain the trails. In the late '80s, ECTA became a non-profit organization with bylaws, officers, area reps, and annual meetings. By the '90s, advisors were brought on board to



afford professional and legal help with fundraising, easements, donations, corporate giving and many other issues a growing organization faces as it matures.

By the '00s, ECTA membership, workload and agenda had grown so much that many volunteers were overloaded and the fear of burnout was real. An Executive Director position was created to assume many of the towering projects ECTA was developing: mapping,

easements, Hamilton Conservation Commission Plan, corporate development, beaver deceivers, and trail and landowner issues.

As I write this, ECTA has revised its bylaws, created a Finance Committee, extended to West Newbury, added many new Advisors, revised its job descriptions, established a Membership Committee, hosted the annual Equestrian Expo, and is simply facing the future the best it knows how...only now,

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The Essex County Trail Association is dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of open trails in our local communities for the purpose of passive recreation and the benefit of the environment. The ECTA works to build coalitions with national and local associations, to serve as liaison between membership and landowners, and to encourage responsible trail use.

Visit www.ectaonline.org

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Newsletter	Pam Mansfield

we have more help! The Essex County Trail Association has the professional organization to continue to maintain and preserve open space in the next 25 years...and beyond.

We truly hope we have become a model and that we live up to your expectations. It is you, our supporters and landowners, we must please.

Trail Updates

The following trail projects are completed or are in progress:

- ✿ New trail will be opened this spring near the Hay Scales from Bradley Palmer to Peter and Bea Britton's in Hamilton (Blackbrook Trail)
- ✿ Trail repair behind the Doyon School leading to Willowdale into Bradley Palmer in Ipswich – new grading, culvert and beaver deceiver
- ✿ Trail causeway repair in Willowdale in Ipswich to eliminate dangerous sink holes
- ✿ Negotiations with landowners to repair and reopen trails near and around Chebacco Lake
- ✿ Beaver deceiver tune-ups in various locations
- ✿ Easement negotiations in West Newbury
- ✿ Trail clearing new Pipestave trail in West Newbury
- ✿ New updated trail map for Hamilton
- ✿ Management Trail Plan with Hamilton Conservation Commission
- ✿ Repairs on a major trail link to Ledyard behind Myopia Golf Course in Hamilton
- ✿ Repairs on a major trail from Myopia Schooling Field to Pingree Reservation in Hamilton
- ✿ Grading and new culvert on trail in Bradley Palmer

Save the Date

The Essex County Trail Association will be celebrating its 25th anniversary with a Cocktail Party on November 17, 2007.

There will be delicious appetizers, a silent auction, cocktails, and a good time! Please save the date.

Plan to attend the party of the year on the North Shore. Hamilton ECTA landowners have donated their beautiful home for this joyous occasion.

Upcoming Events

Annual Meeting

Monday, April 23rd, 2007

7:15 p.m. Social

7:45 p.m. Business Meeting

Appleton Farms Carriage Barn

ALL ARE INVITED!!!!

Equestrian Expo

Saturday, April 21, 2007

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Topsfield Fairgrounds Arena

Day at the Races

Suffolk Downs – June 9th, 2007

ECTA 25th Anniversary

Cocktail Party

November 17th, 2007

www.ectaonline.org

Visit ECTA's newly updated website for the latest trail updates, and a new feature, a tribute section especially for

Classified ads are now online. Check the new website at www.ectaonline.org for the latest items or services for sale by other ECTA members, or post your own

Trail Association Marks Quarter-Century *Steve Landwehr-The Salem News*

Appleton Farms and Bradley Palmer State Park were natural playgrounds for Susanna Colloredo when she was growing up on Winthrop Street in Hamilton. She and her family rode their horses over miles of trails there.

Colloredo moved away in the 1950s, and when she returned in 1970 to start her family, she was alarmed by the changes that had taken place.

“Motorcycles and off-road vehicles were all over the state park,” she said, and they weren’t the only problems. Even on private land accessible only by equestrians, trails were not being maintained, and thoughtless riders were trampling through gardens and across lawns.

She talked to neighbor Fred Winthrop about it, bemoaning the fact that her childhood Eden was being destroyed, but his advice was succinct: “He told me to stop complaining and do something about it.”

What she and neighbor Ann Getchell did about it was form the Essex County Trail Association, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2007.

The network of trails the association now manages stretches from West Newbury to Wenham and Topsfield to the sea. Horseback riders, walkers, joggers – even dog mushers – can pass through thousands upon thousands of acres of countryside without ever leaving association trails except to cross roads.

The group has several fundraisers throughout the year. The money is used to hire professional landscapers and others to repair and maintain trails, but the most valuable work it does might be education.

When the Essex County Trail Association formed, most large landowners welcomed the group. They had a history of riding over each other’s properties and wanted to continue, but so many riders were abusing the privilege that some

landowners were starting to chain off their trail entrances.

And the challenges only mounted when new owners bought land.



One of many privately-owned trails that ECTA members enjoy.

“They don’t understand the history,” Colloredo said. “Everybody wants to fence it off and say, ‘This is my property.’”

One such person was raw recruit Don Curiale. When he moved to his Waldingfield Road home, across the road from Appleton Farms in Ipswich he was a city boy from New York, Colloredo said.

“He didn’t even like to walk,” she joked.

So when he encountered horses and riders coming up his driveway and crossing his lawn, he couldn’t understand but decided to “do what the Romans do.”

“He said, ‘Maybe I’d better start riding,’” Colloredo said.

Curiale has been president of the organization for the past 10 years.

Colloredo says it’s time for the group to concentrate on its future by attracting new members and reinforcing the message that it isn’t just for equestrians.

Executive Director Carol Lloyd is

also working on a groundbreaking program that could make trail maintenance easier and cheaper.

Trails often cross through or near wetlands, which means any maintenance projects require approval by the local conservation commission, a time-consuming and costly process.

“The soft costs (permitting fees, etc.) for a \$300 project might be \$1,500,” said John Hamilton, Chairman of the Hamilton Conservation Commission. “We have about 100 miles of publicly-available trails in town, and 200 spots a year might require repair.”

The association has developed a

three-year plan for trail maintenance in Hamilton, which it will present to both the local wetlands agency and the state Department of Environmental Protection. If approved, the association could undertake any repairs needed by simply telling the Conservation Commission they’re going to be doing it, provided they stay within the boundaries of the maintenance plan.

If they get approval in Hamilton, the plan would become a model for the other five towns in the association.

Hamilton can’t comment on the merits of the plan because the commission will have to determine whether it meets state and local wetlands standards, but he’s impressed with the work the Association has done in the past.

“Were it not for ECTA these trails would be in terrible condition,” Hamilton said.

It’s also likely many of the trails on private land would be gated. Landowners are encouraged to contact the association about any problems they’re

New Push Made to Clear Trails

Felicity Beech

Outdoors enthusiasts are making trails on both town-owned and private land more accessible to nature lovers, countryside hikers, cross-country skiers and equestrians.

A trail that had been blocked by brush and fallen trees for several years has recently been cleared to allow access from the Pipestave Hill area into the River Bend property that spans the wooded hillside from Route 113 to the Merrimack River.

This trail was cleared with help from West Newbury's Department of Public Works and the funding came from the Essex County Trail Association and volunteers.

Don Bourquard, a member of the town's Open Space Committee and a trail advocate, has been instrumental in mapping and marking both existing and potential trails across town.

"This is a particularly important route," said Bourquard, "because although there is access into River Bend from River Road, via Coffin Street and from Way to the River, parking is quite limited in both of these locations.

"But there is plenty of parking at Pipestave Hill," he said, "and from there it offers a new way into the property. The trail starts close to the water tower next to the Page School, and from there you can walk right down to the river."

The trail is not for the faint of heart. Members of the Essex County Trail Association who walked it last Sunday found it quite muddy and steep, especially near the top of the hill.

Ellen Alden, who was one of the walkers and a board member of the association, said she was very pleased that the trail association had started to help in clearing and maintaining trails.

"We plan to concentrate on connecting trails in this part of town as a first step," said Alden. "This is



Members of the Essex County Trail Association Carol Lloyd, Ellen Alden, George McGown, Nancy McGown on the newly-cleared trail in West Newbury.



Don Curiale, President of the ECTA, and Don Bourquard, Member of West Newbury's Open Space Committee on the trail that had been blocked by fallen trees.

such a beautiful property. The town owns it, and we want to make it more accessible to everybody."

Don Curiale, president of the trail association, a nonprofit organization that has long been active in five other nearby towns, also walked the trail.

"We're very happy to be here," said Curiale. "There's a very keen nucleus of people in West Newbury. It would be great to have more people involved as subscribing members or participating in our fundraisers.

"Our organization has the experience of working with landowners, both

public and private," he said, "and I believe we'll be able to help establish a wonderful trail network in this town."

The Association maintains trails throughout Essex County. Its mission is to "Preserve, Maintain, Respect," and members work with landowners, conservation organizations, town officials and trail users to ensure that access to natural places and open spaces remains part of Essex County's rich heritage.

Cohabiting with *Castor Canadensis*

A winter's walk to look for beaver lodges

Even in winter, the trails are active and alive if you know where to look and how to listen. The paths you may know well in warmer months reveal the quiet side of survival in winter through the tiny footprints of birds and small mammals. Leafless trees expose the abandoned nests of birds, modified with roofs to shelter the new inhabitants— mice. Ice locks the river life until spring thaw, but blowholes confirm that creatures still come to the surface for air. In the distance, the slapping of beaver tails can be heard if the beavers are aware of approaching danger.

On a recent walk along the edge and on the ice of the Miles River, Susanna Colloredo, who has known the trails in Hamilton all of her life, was stirred by what she experienced with the guidance of two naturalists, Carol Decker of the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary and Skip Lisle. He invented and builds the Beaver Deceivers (pipe systems) that ECTA has successfully implemented in recent years. Wildlife is all around us, and cohabiting with it is one of Susanna's deepest pleasures. When a problem with wildlife such as beavers (*castor canadensis*) arises, she looks for a humane solution.

Now the towns of Hamilton and Wenham may issue 100 permits for trapping the beavers, in an effort to eliminate them, not co-exist with them. The beavers are being blamed for flooding the Miles River basin. Susanna, Skip, and Carol were walking that day to see what exactly was happening in the area of the river.

"We could not really find any evidence of beavers causing flooding problems," Susanna said.

Some of the homes near the river have been experiencing septic problems as a result of the river overflowing the banks. Susanna says

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Photo of Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld next to beaver lodge in Ipswich. Beaver lodge and beaver habitat illustrations courtesy of MassWildlife; artist Nancy Haver.

Benefits of Beaver Habitat

The recolonization of beaver in Essex County is directly responsible for the increase in Great Blue Heron nesting (there were none nesting in the county 15 years ago and it was on the watch list for rarity), increase in Spotted turtles (recently delisted from the rare list) and other aquatic reptiles, increases in Least Bittern (rare species), increased sightings of Common moorhen (rare species). And that is just the vertebrates. The increase in flooded areas helps recharge the groundwater and maintains sources of water during the summer months for wildlife to drink. The diversity of aquatic plants increases in a beaver pond as it gets older (Increases biodiversity). The water chemistry of a stream is improved during the growing season because the beaver pond acts as a magnet (sink) for nitrates and sulfates and is a source of ammonia, iron and manganese, this chemical action helps the stream cope with acid rain. Those are just a few of the many positive effects that beavers have on our county. - Jim McDougall - ECTA Advisor and naturalist

having, and the association also regularly monitors trail use.

The next step the association is looking to take is getting easements, granting private trail access in perpetuity.

One of Colloredo's fears 25 years ago was that her children would not be able to enjoy the countryside she loved as a child. Her son Franz is proof of a job well done – he's an active member of the Trails Association.

The biggest threat she sees in the future is encroaching housing projects.

"Our trail system is more and more marginalized by development," Colloredo said. The increased rainwater runoff, along with a burgeoning beaver population, is inundating many trails.

While a map of the trail system shows an impressive, interconnected network, Colloredo is cautious.

"it could all be a series of islands," she said, where visitors drive and then walk or ride only on that island.

But Hamilton said as long as Colloredo is around, the trails have a powerful ally.

"ECTA has done many wonderful things over the years," he said. "And it's mostly because of Susanna Colloredo's boundless energy – I sometimes get tired just looking at her."

Get Ready for the 12th Annual Equine Expo/Sale

Saturday, April 21, 2007 (9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) in the indoor arena at the Topsfield Fairgrounds, Topsfield, MA. We need the support of everyone in our six communities, members and businesses alike, to make a success of this year's event.

Costs increase every year to put on this large fundraiser. You can help: Advertise in our program given to the over 1500 attendees, be a sponsor or patron for this year's event. Please donate in any way you can to the ECTA tables, either used items such as saddles, blankets, bridles, riding apparel, books, stable equipment or gift certificates and new or antique items for the silent auction. All items will be picked up.

Our demonstrations are in place: The New England Miniature Horse Society, The Gypsy Vanner Horse Society, Yankee Donkey and Mule Society, Dog Agility and Obedience Performance, and Equine Sports Massage Therapy.

We still have a few vendor spaces available – some with

electricity. Please contact us soon for a contract and further information.

We also have a number of volunteer jobs available. The week before the event, we need help sorting, cleaning, and pricing all the used tack we have collected. Friday, April 20, we need help after 4 p.m. in set up and pricing last minute donations. Saturday, April 21, we need volunteers for morning and afternoon to man the ECTA tables and the entrance collection. We also need help on Sunday to pack up all leftover donations. If you have any time to help please contact us at:

Kay 978-768-6275 kljoreo@aol.com
or Sue 978-468-7715.

P.S.....

*Hold the date for the Poker
Ramble Trail Ride at Bradley
Palmer and Willowdale State
Parks Sunday, October 14, 2007.
More info will be printed in our
summer newsletter.*

Dear Appleton Farms Equine Permit Holder,

As this year's riding season is winding down, we would like to provide a year-end update on equine happenings at Appleton Farms.

In addition to finishing the Carriage Barn, 2006 was a fantastic year on the farm. With the help of ECTA, we added 2+ miles of new trails in Mrs. Appleton's former private area and on Sunset Hill and were thrilled to see the amount of use they received. The new Sunset Hill trail, which was created to avoid the busy farmstead area, has improved safety and farm management significantly. The Myopia Hunt had another terrific year on the farm and built 2 new jumps in the Great Pasture. The Myopia Carriage Club organized a formal Carriage Classic event in June which we hope will become a new tradition on the farm. And, our new trailside public restrooms with our Black

Oak Farm-inspired mounting block now provides a much needed break during those long trail rides!

This year also brought some changes regarding the committee structure at the farm. Now that the farm's Management Plan is well underway and the startup phase completed, we have reduced the number of volunteer committees at the farm. One of these, The Equine Committee, who advised us on all phases of equine-related issues at the farm, is now called our "Equine Advisors" and will continue to represent the Equine community into the future. On behalf of The Trusetees, we would like to thank the committee members for their service in helping to make Appleton Farms the wonderful place for equestrians that it is: Susan Adam, Lois Cheston, Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld (Chair), Al Craig, Don Curiale, Ann Getchell, Patrick Keough and Diana Rowan. Thank you!

Finally, as indicated in our July letter to you, we would like to remind you of the new procedure regarding the Appleton Farms permit program previously administered on our behalf by our friends at ECTA. Beginning next season, we will ask that Appleton permit renewal applications be sent directly to the farm instead of ECTA to reduce the administrative burden on them. ECTA has graciously offered to continue mailing the Appleton permit forms with their annual renewal packets, so look for it in the mail and send it to the farm directly in the envelope provided. Thank you ECTA!

As usual feel free to contact us regarding any equine related issues or suggestions you have. See you on the trails!

Sincerely,
Wayne Castonguay, General Manager
Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld, Equine Advisor

Enjoy the Trails - Explore Maudsley State Park

Courtesy of West Newbury Riding & Driving Club

The former Moseley family estate on the Merrimack River, now Maudsley State Park, features rolling meadows, towering pines, exquisite 19th century gardens and one of the largest naturally-occurring stands of mountain laurel in Massachusetts. The ornamental trees and masses of azaleas and rhododendrons that bloom in May and June just simply take your breath away. It is a wonderful place for walking, biking, horseback riding and picnics.

Indeed, walkers, joggers, dog walkers and equestrians can all enjoy this beautiful place in harmony. Here is some information to help everyone achieve that harmony:

As a rule, mountain bikers should yield to walkers and horses and walkers should yield to horses. The park has beautifully maintained trails, so please no off-trail bicycle or bridle use.

Bikers or joggers: Animals can startle when hearing noise behind them, so please announce yourself when you come up behind a horse or dog. Let them move to the side so you can pass safely. When meeting horses face on, please stop your bike and say hello. The horses will be less afraid if they know you are a person.

Walkers: Let mountain bikers and horses pass. Make sure you stay in view because if you hide behind a tree or bush you could scare the horses. There is a portion of the park open to walkers only on the west end side of Maudsley.

Equestrians: When it is safe, move to the side to let mountain bikes go by. If you approach other trail users from the rear, announce yourself and ask for permission to pass. If you are passing other trail users, please do so at a walk. Please park in the field unless the conditions are extremely muddy, in which case parking in the car lot is allowed. Please clean up any manure or hay in the parking area.

Dog owners: Please keep your



dog leashed as a lot of people are afraid when a dog comes running up to them. Please clean up after your dog; baggies and a disposal barrel are provided in the parking area for your convenience.

Maudsley State Park is one of the few winter roosting areas for bald eagles in the Northeast. During the winter a portion of the park along the Merrimack River is closed to protect the eagles. There is no fence, but the trails are clearly marked as closed from November 1 through March 31. Throughout the park, there are signs to designate which trails are open to bicycles or horses.

Enjoy your walk or ride!

Here are a few more pointers for any trail use

- * If you are riding in a hay field, please stay on the edge of the field unless otherwise marked.
- * If you are leaving hoofprints or tire marks, it is too wet to ride there.



* When passing a horse on the road, please slow down until the rider signals it is ok to pass.

* Riders, thank motorists who slow down or stop.

Please respect the property and privacy of abutters.

Equine Expo an Inspired Annual Event & Fundraiser

What started as a way to sell some used tack and maybe make a little money for the trail association has become a carefully orchestrated event thanks to the tireless efforts of Kay Joseph, Sue McLaughlin, and the many dedicated volunteers who help in preparation for the annual Equine Expo.

“Thirteen years ago we had this brilliant idea that we should do something like a yard sale and sell tack,” Kay recalls. “We had it at the Hamilton-Wenham community center, and at the end of the day, we made a thousand dollars.”

A year and a half later, people were still talking about it and a bigger tack sale was planned, this time at the 4H building at the Topsfield Fairgrounds. This year will be the eighth that the Expo has been held in the arena, which is big enough to house the more than 100 vendors.

Fortunately, Kay and Sue, and Area Reps Rolanda Dane and Augusta Macrokanis are behind the scenes, securing sponsors, donations, presenters, and facilities throughout the year, not to mention taking care of whatever is left at the end of the expo by hauling it out to an auction. The end result is a professionally run fundraiser for ECTA and an annual favorite event for ECTA members and riders far and wide.

Probably the hardest job is getting a crew of volunteers to help with all aspects of the Equine Expo, both leading up to it, which requires help with pricing and cleaning, and setting up the event the day before and very early in the morning. Then there is cleanup afterwards. Volunteers are very helpful throughout the busy day, making sure vendors know where to set up, making announcements over the loudspeaker, and helping out with all the last minute details.

For two weeks after the sale, “we



Susanna Colloredo, Sue McLaughlin, Kay Joseph, and Judy Gregg at a past Equine Paraphernalia Sale.

take some time off, then we start planning for the next one,” Kay says. The annual spring event gets some of its inspiration from Equine Affair, held each fall in Springfield, Mass. Kay and Sue go each year for four days. They often line up new vendors and demonstrations for the Equine Expo, and come away happy with new ideas and some new finds for themselves and their horses.

What’s the reason the Expo brings in increasingly more funds for the ECTA?

“People like the bargains the best – they look for lightly used items and look very carefully because they have to find the right size to fit either them or their horses. They’re not running around just buying anything.” The new silent auction has boosted the amount of money raised in the past year, and new demonstrations such as Gypsy Vanners and dog agility will entertain those who come for the fun of the event, regardless of bargains.

“The Expo creates a lot of public awareness as to what ECTA is and the work that we do,” Sue adds.

Kay joined ECTA about 17 years ago, at the suggestion of long-time friend Sue, who became Hamilton Trail Representative after Ginny Mann left the position. Sue joined the Chebacco Woods Management Committee after

the land was purchased by Hamilton and Manchester-by-the-Sea with the help of Greenbelt, ECTA, Biolabs, and private donations. Sue is also vice president of the Chebacco Lake and Watershed Association. She now leads a walk each month along Chebacco Woods trails. She has lived on Chebacco Lake most of her life.

Kay has served as ECTA Essex Trail Rep for many years. She grew up riding near her home, with the help of neighbor Sally Soucy. She had her first horse, an Appaloosa named Oreo, for many years and often rode at GMHA in Woodstock, Vermont, on the trails. Her current horse, Gem, is also an Appaloosa, who she rides mostly at Appleton Farms, Willowdale, Bradley Palmer, and Biolabs. Sue rides her horse Zuie, a Selle Francais, in Chebacco Woods, as well as other favorite ECTA-maintained trails and Crane Beach.

When they can ride together and enjoy the trails, they do, but they’re pretty busy. Kay and Sue don’t just focus on the spring Equine Expo each year. They are the driving force behind the very popular Poker Ramble each fall, and in summer they staff the ECTA tent and make sandwiches at the Myopia Driving Club event.

See you at the Equine Expo!

Advisor Profile - Peter Campot

ECTA Advisors bring unique experience and knowledge to the organization and help shape the future of the trail system in our area. In this issue, we spotlight Advisor Peter Campot, whose support and vision are exemplary.

With a true love of the outdoors, and a passion for horses, Peter frequently rides on the trails when weather permits, before heading to work at his company, Willam A. Berry and Son in Danvers. He joined ECTA and discovered the network of trails here upon moving to the area from the South Shore in 1988.

“I moved from where there were almost no trails, to the North Shore, and thought I was in heaven,” he says. “It’s an unbelievable privilege to use the trails we can use.”

Even after riding in different areas throughout the United States, and having owned a ranch in Montana, he still finds nothing compares to the trails around Topsfield, Ipswich, and Hamilton, except for GMHA (Green Mountain Horse Association) in Woodstock, Vermont, a non-profit organization dedicated to equine education and providing a unique location for people to enjoy their horses and horse competitions. There is a trail network of hundreds of miles surrounding the site. Peter serves on the board of GMHA, where his business acumen and involvement in cross-country eventing help that organization as well.

“One of the reasons I believe so strongly in the trails is that the trail system keeps the horse community alive and well,” he says. And the benefit of a horse community is open space. “If you support the trails, you support open space.” Furthermore, “Horse people don’t typically subdivide.” Losing trails, however, can alter the community and demographics. With the North Shore trails, horse community, and open space, Peter “has found a place I like to live. I’ve watched other areas of the country become fenced and gated off.”

Growing up on the South Shore,

Peter learned to ride Western and bought his first horse while in his early 20s. Upon moving to the North Shore, he took up riding English, and now competes up through intermediate at eventing, and enjoys showjumping and foxhunting when time permits. He has achieved his dream of owning a New England farm complete with horses, chickens, and dogs, and he lives close to his business, though his work takes him to various locations, managing construction projects for healthcare, educational, and life sciences facilities.

Perhaps coming from a community where open space was at a



premium to the North Shore and Vermont’s Green Mountains has given him the determination and diligence needed to support the trails. “We have to be vigilant to protect the trail network and not lose vital links. Yes, we have Bradley Palmer and other open land, but we need the links between them. When we see large tracts of land sold and broken up, we have to work with the new owners to ensure we preserve the open space.”

Co-habiting with Castor Can.

cont’d from page 5

“These homes are very close to the river, the use of lawn fertilizer is causing too much vegetative growth, and we’ve had a pretty wet year. Now the water levels are up around the countryside and in the Miles River basin, the flooding is being blamed on beavers.” If the beavers are causing problems, Susanna would like to have the pipe systems be considered first before trapping and killing them.

Essex County Trail Association
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