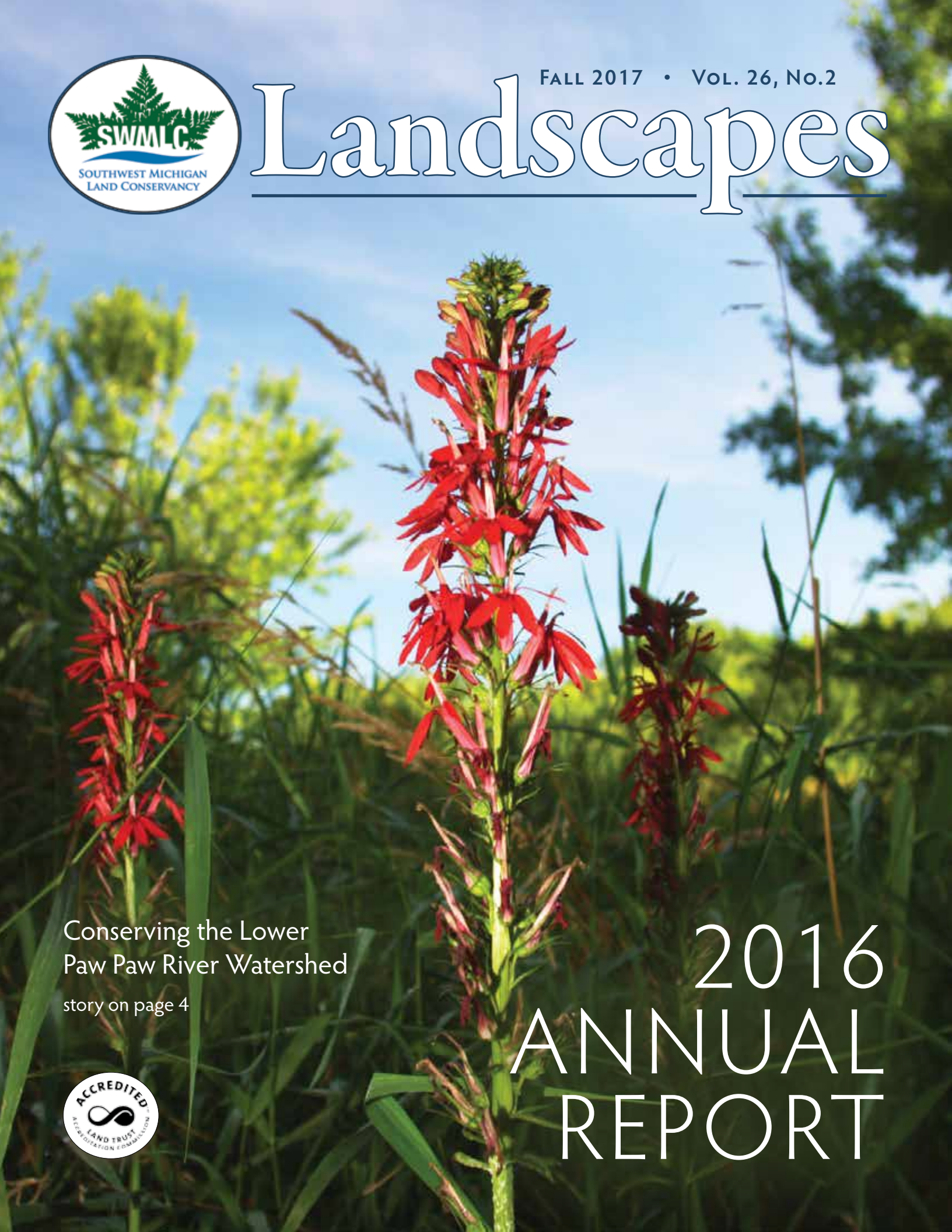
SWMLC
Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy

Fall 2017 • Vol. 26, No.2

Landscapes



Conserving the Lower Paw Paw River Watershed

story on page 4

ACCREDITED LAND TRUST ACCREDITATION COMMISSION

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

A Word from the President

Peter D. Ter Louw, SWMLC President & Executive Director

2016 was a year of celebration and great achievement!

It tested our limits as a staff in many ways, but it is so rewarding to share all of the conservation successes SWMLC has enjoyed *because of all of you!*

Between moving into the Chipman House in January 2016 and purchasing the Portman Nature Preserve in January 2017, and amidst the 25+ events we held to celebrate 25 years of conservation, SWMLC purchased the Augusta Floodplain Forest property along the Kalamazoo River, acquired the Fair Lake Preserve in Barry County, protected the Big Marsh Farm in Calhoun County, and protected over 300 acres in the Lower Paw Paw River Watershed.

We continued improving public access at our preserves, including Pilgrim Haven, Black River and Wolf Tree, we launched our new website, and redoubled our social media presence to help connect people with nature and each other.

And all this work is only possible because of amazing people like YOU — our faithful volunteers, members and donors who give from their hearts to help SWMLC protect places like the Portman Nature Preserve, and create access for kids and families to natural places like Pilgrim Haven and Bow in the Clouds.

As I look back on 2016, I'm humbled by the passion and love for conservation shown by so many people in southwest Michigan. It is that enduring conservation ethic that ensures these special places will be here for countless generations to come.

THANK YOU!!!

A selection of 2016 stewardship highlights

Stewardship by the Numbers

423
hours were contributed by
141
different volunteers on Saturday workdays in all 12 months of the year.

229
garbage bags filled with invasive garlic mustard were hauled out of SWMLC preserves by our crew and volunteers!

264
The number of Mitchell's satyr butterflies tallied by SWMLC staff and partners throughout conservation lands in Southwest Michigan!

100
The number of breeding pairs of field sparrows that Dr. Maarten Vonhof and Dr. Sharon Gill of Western Michigan University estimated were using prairie and savanna habitats in just the 227 acres of Chipman Preserve!

The **Wednesday Workday Warriors** cut brush, fixed trails, collected seed, pulled weeds, and **enjoyed the outdoors** on **25** workdays across **16** SWMLC preserves!

With the grand opening of Black River Preserve and Wolf Tree Nature Trails,
5
MILES OF NEW TRAILS
are now fully accessible to the public!

PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN 2016!

We are very lucky to have had so many friends give so freely of their time, wisdom, energy, and expertise to accomplish a multitude of tasks.

THANK YOU — WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

2015 - 2016 SWMLC Board Members
Larry Case, Thom Coder, Dave Coleman, Erwin H. Doerschler, Thomas Georgeoff, Mary Houser, Jennifer Haywood, Susan Housman, Jack Keiser, Jennifer Lau, Robert O'Boyle, Betty Lee Ongley, Janice Varney, Gail Walter

Agriculture Committee
Alex Bozymowski, George Burgoyne, Don Gilmer, Henry Miller, Brooke Wilke

Arcadia Brewing Company
Donation of tap sales from Drink One Down Benefit

Aubree's Pizzeria & Grill
Providing food at the Stewardship/ Land Protection Year End Celebration.

Susan Badger
Painting demo during Art Walk

Bangor / South Haven Heritage Water Trail Association
Black River Paddle event support

Bookbug
Providing books for Storybook Hikes.

Amanda Bunch
Our smart, enthusiastic intern who does so much around here that she seems like family!

David & Mary Lou Butkovich, owners of Cody Kresta Vineyard & Winery
For hospitality support at the Portman Wine in the Wilderness event, fall 2016

Kristi Chapman & John Chenault
Organizing and managing weekly Wednesday Warrior projects

Laura Christensen
Photography

Julie Collard, Jen Lau, TJ Wilkinson
Tike Hike leaders extraordinaire!

Kathleen Crane
Donation of her painting *Pond at Wau-Ke-Na* for Art Walk giveaway

Earth Day Workday Volunteers
For enthusiastic stewardship contributions at Wolf Tree Nature Preserve (still called KL Avenue Nature Preserve at the time)

Al Gemrich
For his well-informed legal opinions

Jeff Fleming
Developing a volunteer seed collection program at SWMLC

Friends of Black River Preserve
Sam Ewbank, Kevin Haight, Don and Ronnee Harrell, Tom Mears, John Mitchell, Chuck Moore, Janice Varney

Ilse Gebhard & Joyce Leppard
Monarch Butterfly Info Table and seedling giveaway during Art Walk

Dr. Sharon Gill & Rachel Stiening
Soundwalk leaders

Greenspire Apartments
Donation in support of Annual Members' Meeting.

Riley Hallett
Photography and general support during multiple public events

Sassafras Havilar
Support during the 25th Anniversary Jubilee event.

Richard Jordan
Organizing PAAWM Preserve Paint Outs, calendar design, event coordination and setup

Jean Ketchum
Instruction for Yoga on the Preserve.

Land Protection Team
Ralph Babcock, Frank Ballo, Alex Bozymowski, George Burgoyne, Larry Case, Thom Coder, Becky Csia, Greg DiGennaro, Kevin Haight, John Lerg, Cheryl Lyon-Jenness, Philip Micklin, Lynn Steil, Gail Walter

Landscape Forms Employees
Staff Workdays at Chipman Preserve.

Jen Lau
Presentation of the book *Miss Rumphius* for a Storybook Hike.

John Lewandowski
Pedaling in support of SWMLC's farmland initiative.

Carrie Lin
Hidden Sanctuary calendar promotion.

Paul MacNellis ("P Mac")
Handmade kiosks, barn improvements, & witty euphemisms

Josh Manning
Repair & advice on maintaining the SWMLC vehicle fleet

Jamie McCarthy & Kalamazoo River Watershed Council
Support during Kanoe the Kazoo

Bill McNulty
Creating a strong partnership between SWMLC and Mattawan Consolidated Schools.

Kenneth Nesbitt ("Kayak Ken")
Black River Paddle leader / coordinator/ kayak provider

Bob O'Boyle
Donation for work to improve Chipman office parking

***Painted Sanctuary* Selection Committee**
Coby Chalmers, Cheryl Lyon-Jenness, and Janice Varney

Carrie Pearson
Presentation of her book *A Warm Winter Tail* for a Storybook Hike.

Ken Peregon
Art Walk support

Pfizer Employees
Staff workdays at Wolf Tree Nature Trails and at Rands Property

Plein Air Artists of West Michigan

Portman Preserve Committee
Bill Buhl, Thom Coder, Bill McNulty, Dave Lemberg, John Paquin, Ken Peregon, Tom Springer, Dave Wendling, Rich Wyrwa

Preserve Stewards

Bakertown Fen
Bob and Connie Hay

Bow in the Clouds Preserve
Sean Speegle and Shawn Messenger

Chipman Preserve
Barbara Boven, Jason Cherry, Greg Petty, and Bob Pleznac

Christiana Lake
Evie Kirkwood

Coon Hollow Preserve
Ron Johnson

Dayton-Willard Wildlife Preserve
Ryan Fouty

Jeptha Lake Fen
Michael and Barbara Dittlinger

Kesling Nature Preserve
Berrien Birding Club, Berrien County Parks

Myers Nature Preserve
Ryan, Erin, Otis, Ophelia, and Obediah DeRamus

Paw Paw River Preserve
Harold Gleaves and Ryan Fouty

Pilgrim Haven Natural Area
Paul Kiry, Jim Montgomery

Sand Creek Preserve
Russ Schipper, Ilse Gebhard, and Larry Saunders

Sora Meadows
Roark Consolatti

Spirit Springs Sanctuary
Lynn Steil

Topinabee Lake Preserve
Paul and Ann Kolloff

Wau-Ke-Na, William Erby Smith Preserve
Marcel Turveen, Jackie Ladwein

Wolf Tree Nature Trails
Jordan Semark

Stan and Connie Rajnak
Hosts of the Wednesday Workday Warrior potluck

Lynn Sagar & Jeff Spoelstra
Shuttle service and takeout during Kanoe the Kazoo, 2016

Todd & Kurt Sanford
Generous support of public access at Black River Preserve

Saturday Workday Warriors
For hard work restoring preserve habitat and trails

Buffy Silverman
Presentation of her book *Bat's Night Out* for a Storybook Hike

Stewardship Team
Ralph Babcock, Chuck Benner, Kristi Chapman, John Chenault, Jeff Fleming, Harold Gleaves, Paul MacNellis, Paul Olexia, Stan Rajnak, David Riggs, Gail Walter

Three Rivers Area Fall Color Tour Info Tables
Ralph Babcock, Alex and Kathy Bozymowski, Tom Krol, Becky Shank

Carol Trembath
Presentation of her book *Water Walkers* for a Storybook Hike

Two Rivers Coalition
Black River Paddle event support

Dennis Tyson
Oil painting demo during Art Walk

Cheryl Van Engen & her class of 4th graders
Enthusiastic promotion of Portman Nature Preserve during Art Hop.

Wedel's Nursery, Florist and Garden Center
Tree donation for 25th Anniversary Jubilee event

Brian Wolfe
Photography

Wednesday Workday Warriors
Stalwart stewardship of thousands of acres of nature preserves while enjoying each other's company

"We will be known forever by th

The inspiring story of those who work to conserve

The chaos and consumerism of our modern times sometimes make it seem like the world is going to hell in a handbasket. Then along comes a group of passionate, forward-thinking people whose energy and commitment to the common good blows away the cloud of doom. Peter Boerma and the board and staff of Sarett Nature Center are examples of these rare and special individuals who study the long game, strategize, and then willingly stick their necks out for the benefit of us all.

In this case, their goal was to ensure that water quality and wildlife habitat in the Lower Paw Paw River River Watershed would be protected so that everyone in the region would have clean, safe water to drink and recreate, and our native wildlife would have a place to thrive. They set out to accomplish this ambitious goal by conserving hundreds of acres of natural lands in the Lower Paw Paw River Watershed.

The entire watershed covers 446 square miles of land and includes 145 miles of flowing water. All along the Paw Paw River, good-sized chunks of property have been protected through conservation easements and preserves, and many families have already generously protected their land through one of these conservation vehicles (see the next page for easements created in 2016). Two more protected properties are Sarett Nature Center's original 500+-acre property and their 250+-acre Brown Sanctuary. Both properties directly border the Paw Paw River and provide valuable habitat for migrating and nesting birds, but the problem is that they are not contiguous — and environmentally sensitive land lies between and around them.

Peter Boerma has been a long-time supporter of Sarett Nature Center and SWMLC, a believer in both missions of environmental education and land conservation. He has helped Sarett expand its properties over the years, working to protect habitat and build connections between parcels. Peter recently saw an opportunity to not only expand Sarett's Brown Sanctuary, but create a trail linkage to the main core property of Sarett. He purchased a property that included great wildlife habitat along Blue Creek and makes it possible to develop a roughly 3-mile hiking trail between Brown Sanctuary's extraordinary marsh viewing blinds and Sarett's headquarters.

But would the land be permanently protected from being sold and developed? Sarett Nature Center has a long track record as an excellent steward of the land, but their mission is focused on environmental education and, technically, they are under no legal obligation to not sell any of their land for any potential use.

"We believe that Sarett Nature Center is a conservation jewel whose land and mission should be protected forever", stated Sarett's Executive Director Dianne Braybrook. "Sarett's board of directors and staff all agreed that placing conservation easements, and putting permanent legal restrictions on our land, was the right thing to do".

By working with SWMLC's former Director of Land Protection, Geoffrey Cripe, Peter Boerma devised an ingenious plan in which SWMLC was able to not only protect the property with conservation easements, but leverage their donation to protect more land along the river. The value of giving up future development on Sarett's property was used to secure a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) grant. That grant paid to place conservation easements on additional land, including the land Peter purchased along Blue Creek, which he then donated — protected forever — to Sarett Nature Center.

A nuts-n-bolts kind of philanthropist, Peter's vision didn't stop there, because another opportunity had arisen to protect a 2-mile stretch of the Paw Paw just three miles upstream from Sarett's main property and adjacent to another Sarett gem called Black's Woods. Black's Woods is a 33-acre forest along the river that includes a stand of old growth white pine – one of the few examples remaining in southern Michigan. Right next door was John Nelson, a man who had been conducting his own private conservation efforts,

e tracks we leave." — Santee Dakota proverb

the Lower Paw Paw River Watershed.

acquiring land along the river for decades with the sole intent of keeping it wild and beautiful. Peter and John hit it off from the start and Peter helped John navigate the challenges of estate planning. Again, they applied for MDEQ grant funding, which facilitated the purchase of two conservation easements on John's land, putting permanence to his vision for the land only a few weeks before his death.

"Conserving land to create connections and expand Sarett Nature Center has been an on-going goal for me for the past decade, and meeting John Nelson and discovering his parallel conservation efforts was inspiring," stated Peter. "Sarett's donation of a conservation easement on Black's Woods to complement the conservation of the Nelson property, along with the protection of Brown Sanctuary and Blue Creek, protects over 5 miles of river and streams in the Lower Paw Paw River Watershed. Completing this work has been extremely fulfilling and I am proud to be a part of this legacy."

And Sarett Nature Center continues to work with SWMLC toward protecting more land in the near future.

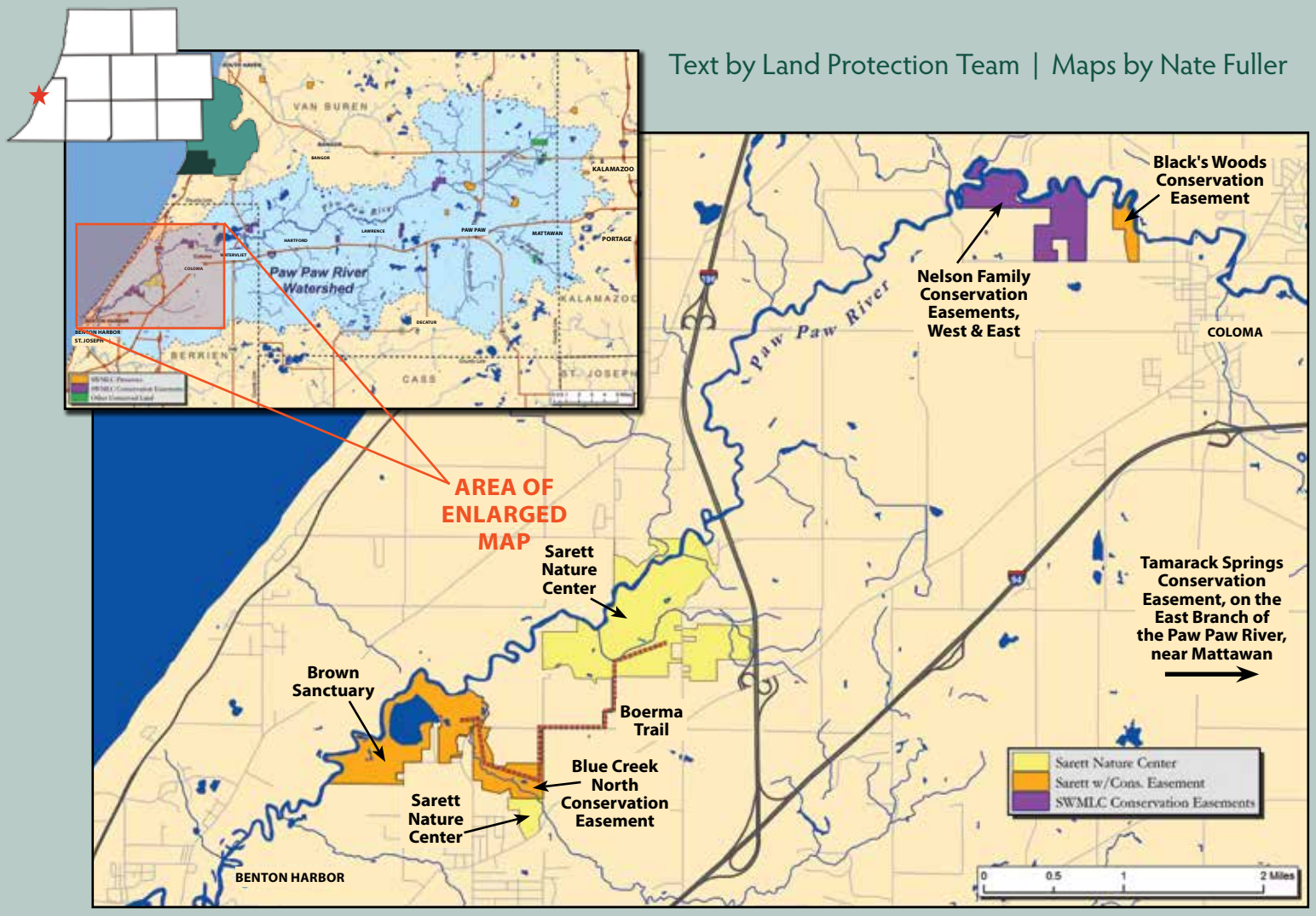
So the next time you're feeling overwhelmed by negative news stories or the many problems that we face, remember the altruism and forethought of so many landowners who have protected their land over the years to ensure that it will be here in its natural state for future generations, the visionary conservation ethic of people like Peter Boerma, and the trust and foresight demonstrated by groups like Sarett Nature Center. In these real-life examples, it's easy to see the enduring, positive impact that real people can make in the lives of others. It's awe-inspiring to look at a map and behold the entirety of land that has been conserved along the Paw Paw River — the virtual footprints of people who leave the world just a little bit more sparkling in their wake.

— Miko Dargitz, Nate Fuller, & Amelia Hansen

Blue Creek Conservation Easement | Peter Ter Louw

Private Land Conserved in the Lower

Text by Land Protection Team | Maps by Nate Fuller



Peter Boerma near Blue Creek, photo by Peter Ter Louw

Blue Creek North Conservation Easement

BERRIEN COUNTY

The Blue Creek North conservation easement was a partial purchase of development rights from Peter Boerma with funding from a MDEQ Paw Paw River Watershed grant. The 81-acre property is just south of Sarett Nature Center's Brown Sanctuary, which SWMLC conserved in 2015, and is primarily a forested ravine with steep banks containing pockets of fen wetlands along the creek. The easement protects a mile of frontage on Blue Creek, one of the highest quality tributaries to the Paw Paw River.

r Paw Paw River Watershed in 2016

SWMLC

Tamarack Springs Conservation Easement

VAN BUREN COUNTY

The Tamarack Springs conservation easement was donated by Edward and Kathy Knox and contains a large spring-fed pond, high quality wetlands, high groundwater recharge, and has been identified as a priority parcel for conservation. The property has nearly a half mile of frontage on the East Branch of the Paw Paw River, which is extremely high quality and has numerous rare plants. The adjacent upland areas are a mix of forest and oak savanna with a prairie opening that also contains numerous rare plants. Find out more about Tamarack Springs Conservation Easement in the Spring 2017 edition of *Landscapes.*

SWMLC

Nelson Family Easements, East & West

BERRIEN COUNTY

The development rights for these two adjacent conservation easements were purchased from the family of John Nelson using funding from a MDEQ Paw Paw River Watershed grant and assistance from an individual donor. The easements protect 160 acres on a 2-mile stretch of the lower Paw Paw River, and are a mix of high-quality forested wetland, riparian oak-hickory forest, farmland, and clay bluffs populated with mature hemlock and oak. They lie along a wide stretch of the river which flows through a ravine of steep clay bluffs. One of the bluffs contains a rare limestone outcropping that supports an unusual plant community containing ferns, mosses, and lichen normally found only in northern Michigan.

SWMLC

Sarett's Black's Woods Conservation Easement

BERRIEN COUNTY

The Black's Woods conservation easement was a partial purchase of development rights from Sarett Nature Center with funding from a MDEQ Paw Paw River Watershed grant. Sarett has owned the undeveloped, 33-acre Black's Woods for several years and welcomed this opportunity to doubly conserve the spectacular property. It contains an old growth white pine forest, large oak trees, and about ¾ mile of frontage on the Paw Paw River, just upstream from the Nelson Family Conservation Easement.

Also Protected in 2016!

Find out more about these two properties in the Spring 2017 edition of *Landscapes.*

Big Marsh Farm Conservation Easement

CALHOUN COUNTY

The 476-acre Big Marsh Farm conservation easement was a partial purchase of development rights from Larry and Jerrilyn Holcomb with funding from a MDEQ Battle Creek River Watershed grant. The property is located just south of Michigan Audubon Society's Baker Sanctuary in Calhoun County, and is a mix of wetland, former agricultural fields restored to grassland, and oak-hickory forest. The area is best known as a stopover site for migrating sandhill cranes in the fall. Somewhere between 6,000 and 10,000 cranes will roost in the large open wetland known as The Big Marsh at night, and forage during the day in the surrounding agricultural fields.

Larry Holcomb

Fair Lake Preserve

BARRY COUNTY

SWMLC's new 66-acre Fair Lake Preserve was generously donated by long-time supporters Larry & Noel Hayward. It lies at the headwaters of the Augusta Creek watershed, one of our highest conservation priority areas, and consists of over 1,500 feet of frontage on the north side of Fair Lake. The preserve contains species such as Pitcher plants and Grass-pink orchids that are indicative of the highest quality wetlands in Southwest Michigan. The lake is home to the southernmost nesting pair of common loons in the continental United States, which have been nesting there for years. We are grateful to the Haywards for their commitment to helping us protect the ecological health of this special natural area.

SWMLC

2015 - 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

ASSETS ($)	
Current Assets	1,766,430
Office & Equipment	304,982
Preserves	18,730,687
Conservation Easements	2,026,975
Assets Held for Sale	326,000
Other Assets	500,906
TOTAL ASSETS	**$23,655,980**
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	121,637
Long Term Liabilities	42,648
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**$164,285**
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted Operating	607,284
Temporarily Restricted	1,399,913
Property & Equipment	304,982
Endowments	268,000
Preserves, Easements & Improvements	20,911,516
TOTAL NET ASSETS	**$23,491,695**
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	**$23,655,980**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

REVENUE ($)	
Contributions	730,476
Grants	515,453
Membership	70,483
Special Events	3,694
Investments	128,619
Donated Assets	621,400
Disposal of Property & Equipment	104,958
TOTAL REVENUE	**$2,175,083**
EXPENSES	
Program Services	831,219
Management & General	57,524
Fundraising	53,408
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$942,151**
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	**$22,258,763**
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	**$23,491,695**
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	**$1,232,932**

Amelia Hansen

CELEBRATE AUTUMN IN THE PRESERVES!

with SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN LAND CONSERVANCY

Saturday, October 7, 1 - 4 pm
Trail Prep at Portman Nature Preserve
Please join us in the excitement of cleaning, pruning, and marking Portman's trails before its coming Grand Opening!

Sunday, October 8, 12 - 5 pm
Three Rivers Area Fall Color Tour
Enjoy Spirit Springs Sanctuary in its full, fantastic fall foliage finery, then take in Coon Hollow Preserve's marsh color!

Sunday, October 8, 3:30 pm
Fluffernutter Tike Hike at Spirit Springs Sanctuary
You and your little ones can burn some calories out on the trails, then enjoy sticky treats on us. Hosted by the Little Adventurers' Club.

Saturday, October 14, time TBD
Black River Paddle
Experience this big, gorgeous preserve from the comfy seat of your kayak or canoe while floating through the woods and past stream-filled ravines.

Saturday, October 21, 1 - 4 pm
Portman Nature Preserve Grand Opening
It's been a long time in the making, but Portman Nature Preserve will finally open to the public! Save the date and please join us in celebrating the unspoiled beauty of YOUR newest public preserve!

Saturday, November 4, 1 - 4 pm
Removing Invasive Plants at Wolf Tree Nature Trails
Make an impact: fight invasive plant species!

Autumn is an awesome time to hike! SWMLC's Hike Our Preserves (HOP!) program encourages kids to get fit and have fun outdoors — while earning medallions! Find out more at www.swmlc.org/hop

PRESERVES ARE ADMISSION-FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC EVERY DAY FROM DAWN TO DUSK

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DIRECTIONS & DETAILS! • WWW.SWMLC.ORG

PLANNED GIVING

Our promise in conserving southwest Michigan's most wild and scenic places is not only for today, but **forever.**

One of SWMLC's greatest challenges is achieving long-term organizational sustainability and developing the resources needed to ensure that our mission is fulfilled in perpetuity.

Planned giving is one way that you can help us keep our promise to ensure that these spectacular natural areas that we have been blessed with will be here for endless generations to come.

There are many types of planned giving options including wills and trusts, real property or development rights, personal property, retirement accounts, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, life insurance, cash or donor-advised funds.

Planned gifts provide many benefits, not only to SWMLC, but to donors as well. Such benefits include:

- **Major tax advantages**
- **Ability to designate where funds are allocated (e.g. endowment funds, community foundations, special programs, etc.)**
- **Creating a lasting legacy**

If you would like to find more information about which planned giving option might be right for you, please contact our office at 269-324-1600.

A Planned Giving Story . . .

Retired elementary school teacher and SWMLC board member Thom Coder has been a driving force in SWMLC's newly invigorated efforts to engage children, families and young adults at our preserves. Thom is passionate about educating younger generations about land conservation and protecting the environment.

"During the years that I taught, fewer things brought me as much pleasure as spending time outdoors with my students. Whether it was working in the school's native prairie garden, wading in a stream, or simply turning over logs in the woods to find woodland creatures, I found it incredibly rewarding knowing that I may be playing a small part in my students' interest in the natural world."

Thom has been involved in leading storybook hikes, creating the Hike Our Preserves (HOP!) program, and creating partnerships with local schools to use SWMLC preserves as "outdoor classrooms."

To support these efforts into the future, Thom has designated SWMLC as a beneficiary in his estate. By doing so, he helps to ensure that SWMLC will be able to continue to connect children and families with nature for years to come. SWMLC is incredibly grateful to Thom for his service on the SWMLC board, and for his commitment to supporting SWMLC's mission into the future.

OAK LEGACY

The Oak Legacy is a gift to our future and to the permanance of land conservation in southwest Michigan. Members of this elite group have arranged through their legal or financial advisor for planned gifts to support Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy.

Thank you to all of our generous Oak Legacy members!

Judy Mayo and Sid Aaron
Paula M. Allred
Joan Orman and Eric Bekker
Susan Bond
Sherwood and Sharon Boudeman
Kristi and Stephen Chapman
Amy and Jason Cherry
Thomas Coder
Susan Gray
Jack O. Haeger
Mary and Daniel Houser
Joel and Barbara Huber
Kensinger and Alice Jones
W. Jack and Nanette M. Keiser
Patricia Smetana and Thomas Krol
Sandra Kuhn
George H. Lauff
Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Maxey
Jennifer Schwab and Tom Miller
Alan G. Mueller
Diane Murphy
Stan and Connie Rajnak
Todd and Amy Sanford
Lawrence J. Sehy
Thomas H. Seiler
Roger Taylor
Peter D. Ter Louw
Philip Willson

Please consider making a commitment to SWMLC as part of your estate plan and you'll become a member of the Oak Legacy Society. By planting small seeds, you will provide the resources needed for the success of our ongoing land conservation efforts. Like the mighty oak that starts as a small acorn, your gift over time will grow. By acting together, we can choose to leave a healthy forest for our children and their children to enjoy. If you'd like to learn more about the Oak Legacy, call our office at 269-324-1600 or visit our website, www.swmlc.org.

Mrs. Cripe's Pre-K Class from Greenwood Elementary School (Kalamazoo Public Schools) visited Wolf Tree Nature Trails (Oshtemo Township) last May. Photo by Sarah Cripe.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 DONORS . . .

The following individuals, businesses, groups, and organizations made membership contributions in 2016.
We apologize for any omissions!

BLUE GREEN SOCIETY

The health of natural lands is critical to cleanse and protect our inland waters. In a real sense, to save the blue, we must protect the green. The donors listed here have made a significant financial commitment to our organization through their participation in our Blue Green Society. And thank you to all of our Blue Green Society members who wish to remain anonymous. **We appreciate you all!**

Richard Atwell and Elizabeth King
Catherine and Dan Augenstein
Frank D. Ballo
* Chuck and Jan Benner
Carole Birch
* Jim and Patti Birkes
Peter R. Boerma
Carol Lyn Boudeman
Sharon Boudeman
Sherwood and Sharon Boudeman
Marisa and Michael Burghdoff
George and Pat Burgoyne
Larry and Barbara Case
John and Lynne Chipman
Patti Chipman
Thomas C. Coder
* Dave Coleman
Maggie Coleman
Kalman and Becky Csia
Erwin H. and Debra Doerschler
Larry and Sherry Edris
Howard and Gussie Farris
Elisabeth R. French
John and Sharon Garside
Alfred and Jean Gemrich
Dana and Teresa Getman
* Florence F. Goodyear
Fred and Jeane Groos
Nick and Hanna Groos
Tom and Lisa Groos
Keto and Kathryn Gyekis
Henry B. Hawk
Larry and Noel Hayward
Larry and Jerrilyn Holcomb
* Susan Houseman and Curtis E. Hall
* Mary and Daniel Houser
Joel and Barbara Huber
Phil Johnson and Mary Baggerman
Kensinger and Alice Jones
W. Jack and Nanette M. Keiser
Rob and Donna Keller
Kenneth and Marlena Kirton
George H. Lauff
Charles and Phyllis LaVene
Dave and Bridget Lemberg
Robert and Joyce Leppard
Bill and Kathy Main
* Tom and Pam Mansager
Jerry and Betty Mason
Hugh and Connie Mehaffie
Philip Micklin
* Verne and Cindy Mills
Charlotte Mittler
Russell and Cleora Mohney
Gail Walter and Tom Nehil
* Bob and Kay O'Boyle
Betty Lee Ongley
Michael and Cindy Ortega
Karen and Tim Pederson
Melanie Perry
Stan and Connie Rajnak
Patrick Sage
Todd and Amy Sanford
Carol and Robert Scallan
* Mrs. Donna Schumann
Richard Shaw and Shirley Sutton
* Joel and Jennalie Shepherd
Bruce and Kathy Shurtz
Lynn and Mike Steil
Peter D. Ter Louw
Steve Tomashefsky and Rebecca Sive
Maren and Christopher Uggen
Christine Valentine
Bo and Mel Van Peenan
Dave and Janice Varney
Bradley and Cheri Weller
Dave and Joan Wendling
TJ and Julia Wilkinson
Philip Willson
Jack N. Wykoff
Arno and Pam Yurk

* Indicates a Blue Green Member who renewed March 1 - July 15, 2017

MITCHELL'S SATYR BUTTERFLY ($1000+)

Rebecca Brock
Samuel Qualls and Adriana Pardave Meija
Mrs. Donna Schumann
Dennis and Patricia Stelzer
Robert Swaney and Mary Stephenson-Swaney

EASTERN MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE ($500+)

Dana Buoscio and John Szewezyk
Kristi and Stephen Chapman
John R. and Barbara A. Chenault
Roark Consolatti
Donald Cummings
Susan M. Dennis, D.D.S.
Christopher M. Flynn
Dave and Sharon Groendyk
Barbara and John Guinness
Matthew Kuiper
Helen McCauslin
Russell and Connie McFee
Fred and Teresa Morris
Wayne and Karen Moss
Robin and Nancy Nott
Anne and Paul Pancella
Jeffrey and Emily Pearson
Lynda Pelkey
Ralph Pernice and Nancy Englander
Kathy Pullano
George and Louise Robeck
Lynn Sagar
Craig L. Shumaker
Roger and Jeanne Turner
C. Glen and Edite Walter
Jennifer Lau
Rachel L. Woodard
Richard and Julie Wyrwa
Laurie Young

CERULEAN WARBLER ($250+)

Jill Allread
Carol and Bernard Baker
Alex and Kathy Bozymowski
Dan and Stacy Burton
Ruth Caputo
John and Sally Carton
Robert and Elizabeth Code
Terry Coleman
Eileen Coscarelli
Karen Halsted and Patrick Cronin
Tamara Crupi
Alica N. Cummings

. . . we couldn't do it without you!

Michele Cudahy and Dave DeBack
Gregory A. DiGennaro
Brian and Maureen Dobbie
George Dunn
Bruce and Martha Edger
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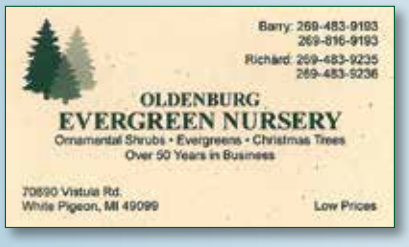

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Paul Gilbert for his work at the church
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IN-KIND DONATIONS

Mike and Carol Klug
Donation of a flat and a half of swamp milkweed.

Fred and Sandy Frederick
Donation of gloves, techno, and first aid supplies to Earth Day Workday group.

Charles and Jan Benner
Donation of work gloves at our Earth Day Workday at Bow in the Clouds Preserve.

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The following gifts were made by:

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In memory of Annette Bacehowski:
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"This donation is made in the memory of Annette Bacehowski. We are so sorry to hear of Annette's passing. We remember her fondly from St. Gilbert's School. You are in our thoughts and prayers. The Kohler Family — Ann, Scott, Keri, Bill and Beth."
Peggy A. Meyer
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"We know how much Michigan and conservation meant to our great friend Annette Bacehowski. My family learned so much from her and this donation is in memory of her, because we will never forget. Tom, Laurie, Kelly, Heather, and Dan."
Frederick and Patricia Walenga, and family
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"This gift is being made in memory of my beautiful aunt, Annette, who loved nature, and and would like to see the beauty of South Haven preserved."

In memory of Mark MacKay:
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Thank you all!

White turtlehead (Chelone glabra), photographed at Bow in the Clouds Preserve (City of Kalamazoo) by Mitch Lettow

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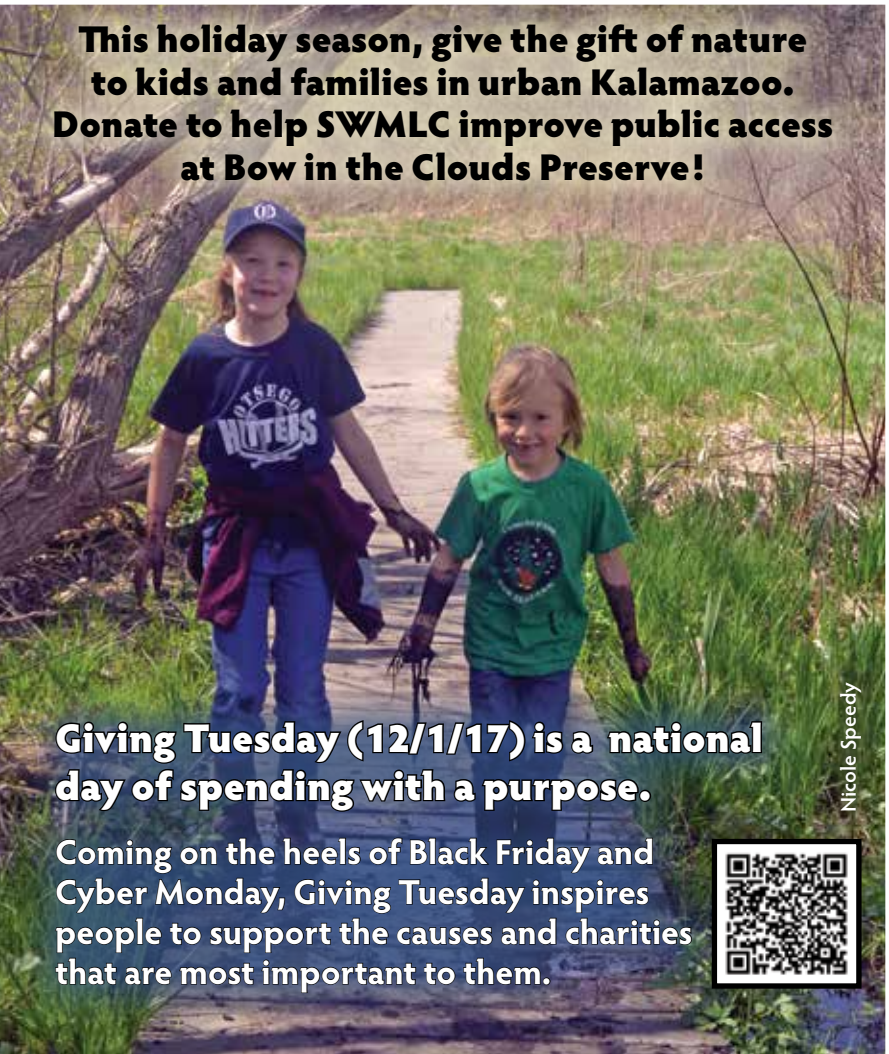
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