



# SOUTHBOROUGH OPEN LAND FOUNDATION

*Preserving and protecting open land and rural character in the Town of Southborough*

## Catching Up On SOLF News

March 2024



### Beals Preserve

Beals Preserve is getting some valuable maintenance done thanks to the generosity of SOLF supporters Kevin Sanford and his brother Mike. Kevin has a long-time love of both the Beals Preserve and the Beals family. He promised his friend Whitney Beals, who died this past September 14th that he would take care of the fall mowing, but his enthusiasm is now providing so much more! Thank you Kevin and Mike.

### Children Donate to SOLF

The Bancroft family of Southborough recently showed their support for local causes! During the fall, the children: Paxton, Asher, and sister Flora held a sale of gourds, donuts, and cider and decided to give half their profits to SOLF! We were so touched by their interest and generosity that the board of trustees invited them to present the generous donation of \$100.00 in person!

Upper photo: Paxton, Asher, and a helpful friend, plus little Flora (peeking) – and lower photo, at the meeting: SOLF treasurer, Larry Samberg; Paxton with sister Flora, helpful neighbor Maya Nikhil, and Asher. On the right is SOLF President, Destin Heilman.

Thanks to these thoughtful young people for helping our mission of preserving and protecting open space in town for the benefit of all!



## Templeman Woods and Bigelow Wildlife Refuge

SOLF trustees have taken advantage of unseasonably warm weather to do trail maintenance at additional SOLF properties. As we gear back up to do property maintenance on Saturday mornings, there will be opportunities for continued work on stewardship projects at Clark Grove, Beals Preserve, Big Oak Woods, Templeman Woods, and other SOLF properties. For more info including programs and volunteer opportunities go to [www.SOLF.org](http://www.SOLF.org).

## SOLF Articles in [mysouthborough.com](http://mysouthborough.com)

SOLF trustees have been sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm about several nature and environmental topics. Bluebirds, Japanese knotweed, beavers, and walking in the woods are among the subjects that have been covered so far. View at <https://solf.org/mysouthborough-nature-columns/>.

### Making Maple Syrup

SOLF sponsored an informative talk by Tony Willoughby, hosted by the library and SOLF. We hope that now we are in the midst of maple syrup making season, people can put what they learned to use. View at <https://solf.org/the-maple-syrup-making-presentation-is-available/>.



### Art on the Trails

We are delighted to share the news that the 2024 Art on the Trails theme will be *Legacy*, in honor of the memory of Whitney Beals. The call for art opened February 15. We thank Catherine Weber for her leadership of this popular event. The Southborough Community Fund helps make AOT possible with its generous support. For more information, go to: <https://artonthetrails.com/>



### Native Pollinator Garden at Beals Preserve

In an event co-sponsored by the Open Space Preservation Commission and the Southborough Open Land Foundation, people learned about the importance of native pollinator gardens and how to collect seeds. During the event, the garden was named the Whit Beals Garden, in honor of the late president of the Southborough Open Land Foundation, who was a huge supporter of planting native pollinator gardens. Thanks to all the volunteers who help maintain the garden.

Save the Date:  
SOLF Annual Meeting  
Wednesday, May 8  
Include a presentation from  
Raptor Rescue Tales