

Belmont Heritage Commission salutes three local initiatives

BELMONT — A Main Street municipal garden, 1792 Meeting House and community-connecting trail on Lake Winnisquam are all being recognized by the Belmont Heritage Commission for Arbor Day, all with funds for purchasing trees and shrubs.

Penstock Park, which overlooks the Tioga River and remnants of the historic waterways system, features a seasonally changing and colorful entry to the Village – designed and overseen with volunteers led by Master Gardener Ginger Wells-Kay.

The Province Road Meeting House is a decades-long Belmont Historical Society project, spearheaded with major effort from Belmont Historical Society president and Town Historian Emeritus Wallace Rhodes, including two Land and Community Heritage Investment Program grants and a recently completed exterior restoration.

Work on the Winni Trail, founded as Belmont Recreational Alternative Trail Team (BRATT) about 15 years ago and chaired by Ron Mitchell, is nearing first phase completion of a multi-use trail at the Laconia-Belmont town line on Daniel Webster Highway to just northeast of the Mosquito Bridge.

Announcing the gifts, Heritage Commission Chairman Linda Frawley said, "Landscapes are a living heritage and help define community. We hope this investment literally grows for the enjoyment of future Belmont generations." Arbor Day is celebrated nationally on April 29 and founded, first observed in Nebraska 144 years ago.



Ginger Wells-Kay, Wallace Rhodes and Ron Mitchell, all with longstanding contributions to their community as volunteers, are ready to plant trees and shrubs as a result of an Arbor Day initiative by the Belmont Heritage Commission. (Courtesy photo)

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