



Audubon Community Nature Center

The connection begins with you.

March – April, 2022
Volume 66, Issue 2

The bi-monthly newsletter of ACNC,
featuring upcoming programs and events.



Mission

Audubon Community Nature Center builds and nurtures connections between people and nature by providing positive outdoor experiences, opportunities to learn about and understand the natural world, and knowledge to act in environmentally responsible ways.

Vision

Audubon Community Nature Center envisions a future where every child within our community has a real and healthy connection to nature.



Nature Center Newsletter

The free, bi-monthly publication of Audubon Community Nature Center, Inc.

Kim Turner, *Newsletter Editor*
Cover: *Wood Frog*, photo by Brian Gratwicke.

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Jamestown, NY 14701
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auduboncnc.org

*Hosting a chapter of National Audubon Society
Serving Chautauqua and Warren Counties*

Nature Center Hours

10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Saturday
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., Sunday
Trails are open from dawn to dusk.

Building Admission

\$6 Adults • \$2 Children • \$15 Max per family
*Free admission for Nature Center Members.
Free admission for SNAP/EBT cardholders.
Free admission for non-members on Sundays.*

Visit auduboncnc.org
by scanning this code.



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on these platforms:



Executive Director's Desk

Leigh Rovegno

Dear Members and Friends of the Nature Center,
Spring is on its way (we hope)!

Rather than getting bogged down in the 'second anniversary since the start of COVID', we hope that you'll join us in celebrating all that we have to be grateful for.

I recently read an article that included an interview with Psychologist Dacher Keltner, who is the founding director of the Greater Good Science Center at the University of California at Berkeley. Keltner has spent years studying the beneficial effects of awe on our physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

In the article Keltner states: "How do you find awe? You allow unstructured time. How do you find awe? You wander. You drift through. You take a walk with no aim. How do you find awe? You slow things down. You allow for mystery and open questions rather than test-driven answers."

This is what Audubon Community Nature Center is. We are your source for 'awe'. We invite you to slow down, make room for the mystery, and recharge your inner-self. Attend one of the awe-inspiring programs or events this season. Or make time to take an 'awe-walk' where you can stop to listen, smell, and see all of the amazing intricacies of nature. I promise it will be worth it.

I continue to be in awe of all of you. Your support for this year's Thanksgiving Appeal (November through January 1) included **more than \$27,000 in donations**. Contributions ranging from \$5 to \$5,000 were made by 170 individuals who gave to Audubon Community Nature Center because they believe in creating real and healthy connections to nature for children within the local community. Thank you!

Together, we continue to find inspiration and awe in nature and in our generous community.

I look forward to seeing you at the Nature Center again soon.

Sincerely,

Leigh J. Rovegno



ACNC Through the Years

Audubon has changed a lot since it was founded in 1957 around a kitchen table. The following excerpts are from past March – April newsletters.

1962

“Great Horned Owl: This owl, which has been on the protected list since 1948, is in the process of being removed (from the list).”

1972

“April 15 is reserved for the annual Spring trip to the Oak Orchard area to observe the extraordinary concentration of Canada Geese. (maximum estimates of 100,000+.)”

1982

“Short courses offered at the Jamestown Community College give plant enthusiasts something to look forward to in May and June... Jim Yaich will teach his course — “wildflowers” from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.”

1992

“This Great Gray Owl, rare visitor from the north, has been frequenting the Jamestown Airport.”

2002

“As part of a re-tooling of our preschool programs... we are delighted to co-sponsor two events to help you re-think the concept of a playground.”

2012

“Several volunteers from the south county received the Presidential Volunteer Lifetime Service Award, given to a volunteer serving more than 4,000 hours within their lifetime... Those achieving the award included two who are well known to Audubon: John Whittaker and Madelyn Wellington.”

Audubon Community Nature Center’s Board of Directors, Chairs, and Committee Members are volunteers.

Thank you to those listed above who contribute time, thought, and energy to help ACNC run smoothly and effectively.

*This Great Gray Owl was seen at the Jamestown Airport in 1992.
Photo by Dave Cooney.*

Board Officers

<i>Board Chairman</i>	Brittany Wilcox
<i>First Vice Chair</i>	Andrew Harrington
<i>Second Vice Chair</i>	Linnea Carlson
<i>Secretary</i>	Willow Fodor
<i>Treasurer</i>	Greg Lyle

Board of Directors

Louise Boutwell, Dave Burlee, Tina Downey, Elisabeth Hall, Laurie Korb, Netta Lindell, Tim Piotrowski, Piper Van Ord

Nature Center Staff

<i>Executive Director</i>	Leigh Rovegno
<i>Administrative Assistant, Volunteer Coordinator</i> ...	Tina Preston
<i>Public Engagement Specialist</i>	Jeff Tome
<i>Education Coordinator</i>	Sarah Hatfield
<i>Senior Nature Educator, Exhibits Manager</i>	Katie Finch
<i>Nature Educator</i>	Chelsea Jandreau
<i>Nature Educator</i>	Emma Roth
<i>Designer, Animal Care Specialist</i>	Kim Turner
<i>Gift Shop Manager</i>	Joanne Miller
<i>Receptionist</i>	Claire Certo
<i>Building and Grounds Manager</i>	Terry LeBaron

Volunteer Chairs

<i>Eagle Care Taker</i>	Thom Armella
<i>Fundraising and Development</i>	Brittany Wilcox
.....	Linnea Carlson
<i>Garden Committee</i>	Janet Forbes
<i>JEDI Committee</i>	Willow Fodor
<i>Land Use Management</i>	Jane Conroe
<i>Mailing Committee</i>	Leah Bullock
<i>Membership</i>	Sandy Fletcher
.....	Linda Trostle
<i>Publicity</i>	Pat Bringer



Birdseed

Conewango Blend is a specially-mixed seed that was created by a team of local birders to attract many different birds. It is rich with black oil sunflower seeds and also includes canary seed, millet, corn, safflower seed, and sunflower hearts. The goal is to attract many different birds without wasting seed. This mix is available in the Blue Heron Gift Shop at ACNC.



You can also find Conewango Blend at:

- Anderson's Produce, *Jamestown, NY*
- Ashville General Store, *Ashville, NY*
- Chautauqua Book Store, *Chautauqua, NY*
- Everydays True Value, *Jamestown, NY*
- Howe's True Value, *Warren, PA*
- Lakewood Apothecary, *Lakewood, NY*
- Lighthouse Point Grocery, *Mayville, NY*
- Oneida Lumber, Ace Hardware, *Warren, PA*
- Wegmans, *Jamestown, NY*



Grants

Recorded between September 4, 2021 and February 27, 2022

Carnahan Jackson Foundation

\$18,000 — Operating and Programmatic Support

Hultquist Foundation

\$18,000 — Operating and Programmatic Support

Jessie Smith Darrah Fund

\$10,000 — Operating and Programmatic Support

Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation

\$28,670 — Increased Access — Paved Path Replacement and Extension Project

Memorials and Honoraria

Recorded between September 12021 and December 31, 2021.

In Memory of:

Rick Berg

C.V. Bush Elementary School
Faculty and Staff

Eula Boylan

The Toby Leddy Family

Michael D Brake

Janette Coleson

Beth Brunelle

Aimee Brunelle

Barbara Case,

Monarch Mama
Elaine Crossley

Kurt E Coleson

Janette Coleson

Meagan Danielson

Susan Lampo

Kay L. Elder

Beth and James Barnes

Dave Forsberg

Rick Rupprecht

Jeannie Griffin

David and
Margaret Nelson

Jack Hanson

Barbara and David Chall

Bill Hill Jr.

Ruth Lundin and
Paul Hedberg

John M. Lundin

George S. Lundin

Alison Wells Ney

Lillian V. Ney

Betty Stewart

Parinella Family

Robert Taylor

Garrett Taylor

In Honor of:

ACNC amazing volunteers

Tina and Rhys Preston

Amy Anderson

Kristen Rodgers

Sarah Hatfield

Evan Kirchhoff

Russ and Lisa Lawrence -

Merry Christmas!

Tom and Julie Lescynski

Penny Lester

Mark and Pat Evans

Ruth Lundin and Paul Hedberg

Anonymous

Daniel and Susan Wahlgren -

50th Wedding Anniversary

Cal and Sharon Cederquist

Programs and Events

March

Pie Auction (Adult)

Friday, March 4 – Wednesday, March 9

Pick-up: Saturday, March 12, noon – 4:00 p.m.

See page 6 for more info.

32auctions.com/ACNC2022

First Friday (Adult+)

Bluebirds and Other Cavity Nesters

Friday, March 4, 11:00 a.m. – noon

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members and Children 9 – 15



Little Explorers (Ages 3 – 8 with an adult)

Backyard Birds

Saturday, March 12, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members and Children 3 – 8

Developing with Nature Play Day

(Children 2 – 3 with one adult)

Friday, March 18, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

\$8 Non-member Adults and Children 2 – 3

\$6 Member Adults and Children 2 – 3

Audubon Lights (All)

Friday, March 25 and Saturday, March 26

8:00 – 10:00 p.m. (*Reserve a time slot*)

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members and Children 3 – 15

Free 2 and under

See page 6 for more information.



April

First Friday (Adult+)

Topic to be Decided

Friday, April 1, 11:00 a.m. – noon

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members and Children 9 – 15

Audubon Lights (All)

Fridays and Saturdays, April 1 – April 9

8:15 – 10:00 p.m. (*Reserve a time slot*)

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members and Children 3 – 15

Free 2 and under

See page 6 for more information.

Natural Egg Dyeing (Adult+)

Saturday, April 2

Session 1: 10:00 a.m.

Session 2: 1:00 p.m.

\$10 Adults • \$7.50 Members and Children 9 – 15

Little Explorers (Ages 3 – 8 with an adult)

Food Chains

Saturday, April 9, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

\$8 Adults • \$6 Members and Children 3 – 8

Mud Camp (Children 4 – 12)

Monday, April 11 and/or Wednesday, April 13

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

\$40 Children 4 – 12 • \$30 Member children

\$5 Sibling discount

Developing with Nature Play Day

(Children 5 – 7)

Thursday, April 14, 9:00 a.m. – noon

\$16 Non-member Children 5 – 7

\$12 Member Children 5 – 7

Animals of the Earth Day (All)

Saturday, April 16, Noon – 4:00 p.m.

\$8 Non-member Adults and Children 3 – 15

\$6 Member Adults and Children 3 – 15

Free 2 and under

Volunteer Day (All)

Saturday, April 23, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Free, registrations appreciated

Birdathon (Adult+)

Friday, April 29 – Sunday, May 8

Free to participate

go.rallyup.com/birdathon

Bird Banding Demonstrations (All)

Nature Center Pavilion at West Entrance

Saturday, April 30

Also happening May 7, 14, and 21

7:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Free; donations encouraged

Blue Heron Legacy Society Spring Get-together (Adults)

Sunday, May 1

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Free for all current and potential Blue Heron Legacy Society Members



Intended Audience Key

Adult = designed for adults

Adult+ = designed for adults, mature, and interested children 9 and up when accompanied by an adult.

All = Something for everyone, but children must be accompanied by an adult.

Children/Ages = designed for kids — drop them off and pick them up later.

Program Registration

• Online at auduboncnc.org

• Phone: **(716) 569-2345**

• By mail with credit card information or a check payable to ACNC

Audubon Community Nature Center

1600 Riverside Road,

Jamestown, NY, 14701

Refund Policy

- If Audubon Community Nature Center cancels the program, participants receive full refunds.
- If a participant cancels **before** the deadline, a refund, with \$5 withheld as a processing fee, will be made.
- If a participant cancels **after** the deadline, no refund will be made, but ACNC still needs to know of your cancellation.

Registrations required for most programs. Programs may be cancelled if there are not enough registered. Register early to ensure the class fills. Some programs have limited enrollment.

Please Note:

For the most accurate information about ACNC programs and events, please visit auduboncnc.org or call **(716) 569-2345**.

ACNC will continue to take into consideration regional data from both Chautauqua and Warren counties to make COVID-19 related decisions. In addition, ACNC will continue to follow CDC recommendations at minimum. Check auduboncnc.org for any updates.

Nature Notes – A Big Night

Chelsea Jandreau



Spring peepers spend most of their adult lives in the woods.

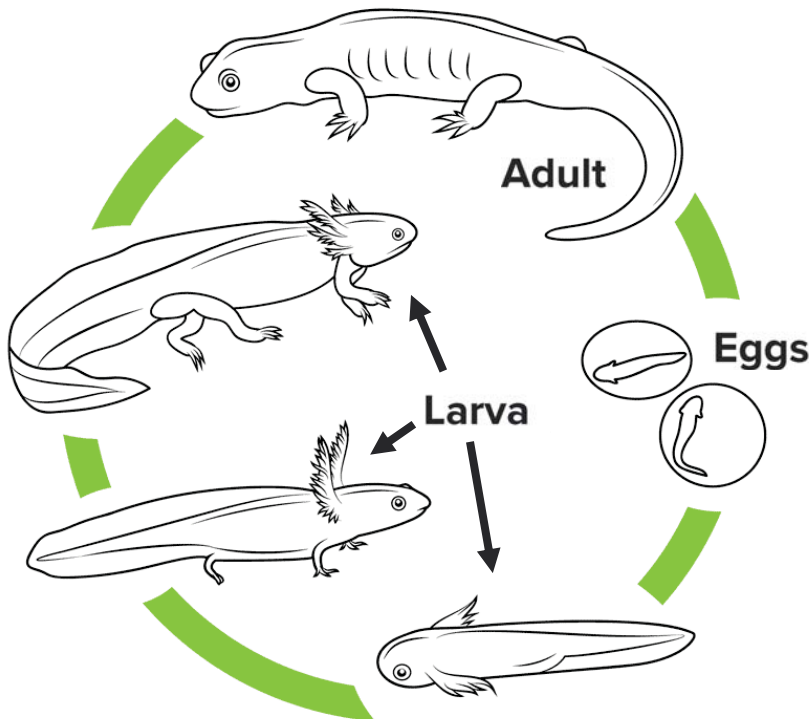
Birds are not the only animals migrating in the spring. Amphibians emerge from their winter hiding spots and get ready to mate and lay eggs each year in the spring. Since they lay their eggs in water, forest-dwelling amphibians such as Spotted Salamanders, Wood Frogs, and Spring Peepers must migrate from their forest homes to a pond or vernal pool.

Once they arrive, the male frogs begin calling (salamanders don't vocalize) and the amphibians choose mates and lay eggs. Then the adults migrate back to the forest. The eggs will hatch into larvae and spend the beginning of their lives in that same pool of water until they become adults and head into the forest, too.

These annual migrations are dependent on temperature and precipitation, which means they do not occur at exactly the same time every year. These small animals migrate at night, making them harder for predators to spot. They wait until a warm (generally above 40°F) and rainy night to make their move to and from their egg-laying spots.

A night when frogs and salamanders are on the move in large numbers is known as a "Big Night" and there may be several in a season depending on the populations, location, and weather. In some places, hundreds of salamanders and frogs can be found travelling, courting, and calling all in one night.

Life Cycle of a Salamander



Coloring sheet from supercoloring.com



Eastern Newts spend two stages of life in the water before moving onto land. They migrate back as an adult to lay eggs. The land dwelling stage of their life is also referred to as a Red Eft. They're easily identified by their bright orange color and vibrant red-to-yellow spots circled in black on their back. Photo by Nicholas A. Tonelli

Pie Auction

Auction:

Friday, March 4 – Wednesday, March 9

Pie Pick Up:

Saturday, March 12, Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Celebrate Pi Day (March 14), Audubon's favorite mathematical holiday, by bidding on a homemade pie baked by an Audubon staff or volunteer baker. The bidding will start on March 4, 2022 and continue through March 9 on these amazing pies.

Bid on your favorite baker, or bid on your favorite pie! Bid on multiple pies to increase your chance of winning \$50 cash, or one of two \$25 gift cards to local businesses including Allegheny Outfitters. Prizes will be attached to the bottom of three of the pies. Winners must pick up their pies at the Nature Center.

For more info and to bid, please visit:
32auctions.com/ACNC2022



Audubon Lights

Friday, March 25, 8:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 26, 8:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Friday, April 1, 8:15 – 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 2, 8:15 – 10:00 p.m.

Friday, April 8, 8:15 – 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 9, 8:15 – 10:00 p.m.

\$8 Adults

\$6 Nature Center members

\$6 Children 3 – 15

Free 2 and under

*Paid reservations are encouraged by the night before the date.
 Time slots are available for a total of 50 people every 15 minutes.*

Welcome spring with a walk through a wonder-filled trail of lights at Audubon. Trailside forests and ponds will glow with lasers, spotlights, rain lights and more to create an illuminated trail around the Nature Center. A warm fire will greet visitors in the backyard and the Nature Center will be partially open for visitors to explore.

The self-guided walk is just under half of a mile. The Blue Heron Gift Shop will sell small LED lights at the entrance for fun, as well as glasses that refract the light to make the trail even more amazing!



Annual Fund Donors

Donations made between September 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021

\$5000

David and Marty Carnahan

\$1000 – \$3000

Anonymous
Charles Conaway
Peter Stark
Jeanne E. Wiebenga

\$251 – \$500

Anonymous
Dianne and Peter Brown
Theodore and Deborah First
Oliva E. Sechriest
Lewis A. Stockhausen
Bob Ungerer

\$151 – \$250

Larry and JoAnne Brickley
Janet Forbes and Alan Brown
Patricia Brown
Jane and Doug Conroe
Melvin L. Feather
Nadia Geleil, MD
Doreen Gould
Kim E. Jaggi
Gary and Kay Johnson
Michael Hill and Peter Kornis
Dr. Ranjit Laha
Gary and Penny Lester
Pamela Littlefield
Judy B. Luensman
Thomas Mooney
Becky and Steve Nystrom
Jean Prechter

\$100 – \$150

Anonymous
Dave and Sharon Albrecht
Nancy Allen
Larrie and Norma Anderson
Todd and Linda Anderson
Wendy and Bill Bale
Kathleen and Robert Barber
Bonnie Bowen
Janet S. Boyle
Dave Cooney
Bob and Barb Crowley
Tina and Ray Downey
Tammy Lee Emerson
Bruce Erickson
Tom Erlandson
Pat and Mark Evans
Keith and Jean Fairbank
Priscilla Fairbank
Tom and Karen Greto Firth

Katherine and Jack Frank
Ross Gardner
Betty Glatz
Robert Klebacha
Mike and Barb Lyons
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Robert and Camille Guinnane
Mary Anne Harp
Susan H. Hedberg
Paul and Beth Higby
Marty and Pat Idzik
Joe and Jan Johnson
Nancy Lahnen
Ann Luce
Judith Lundin
Joan M. Marcello
Jerry Mathewson
Michael McEntire
Heather Joy Morrison
Jill O'Brien
Betty Jean Otander
Donald Rexford
Lynette R. Rexford
Dixie and Rocky Siegel
Dave and Cate Stimson
Mel and Mary Swanson
John Taylor
Craig D. Thompson
Carter and Mary Ann Town
Denny and Linda Trostle
Rosse Van Volkenburg
Jean and Robert Walker
Don and Beth Watts
Diana Zubrzycki

\$50 – \$99

Anonymous
Shauna and Dan Anderson
Chris Baglia
James and Beth Barnes
David Bernhardt
Jim and Mary Berry
Sally Black
David Lee Bragg
Pat and Chuck Brininger
Bruno Bruni
Bill and Diana Burbank
Sharron Burak
Linnea Carlson
The Chandlers
Kate Ebersole
Bonnie Engberg
Sandy and Lee Fletcher
Lois T. Galloway
Diana Goulding and Family
Joe Grice

Marty Grunzweig
Samantha Hale
Diana Hatfield
Peg Hite
James and SueAnn Holler
Terry and Kathy Horner
Vince and Barb Horrigan
Kimberly J. Johnson
Gary and Lyn Kell
Andrew Kleinert
Kiwanis Club of Falconer
Kevin and Mary Laumer
Jennifer Leister
Frances P. Marchiando
Richard and LuAnn Marzka
Thomas and Cheryl Mawhinney
Jared McMaster
Dwane McGee
Priscilla Mckean
Darrell McKee
Kristan McMahan
P. Michael Nielsen
Kent Nordwall
Debra Lynne Nugent
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Helen Peterson
Barbara Prentiss
Lynne Reading
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Priscilla Spencer
George Spinks
Judith M. Stevens
Paul and Becky Swanson
Amy Trask
Lissa and Sherwood Vandewark
Cheryl L. VanHouten
Christine Villella
Richard and Mary Lee Walters
Angus and Anne Watkins
Jonolyn Weinstein
Delia Westerdahl
Loucinda L. Wiedmaier
John Willisie
Kristen Wright
William and Judy Young

\$5 – \$49

Anonymous
Abers Acres
Chris and Amy Anderson
Linda S. Anderson
Sharon Annear
LuAnn Backus

Rita Barton
Kate Baumgartner
Paul Bell
Danielle Bertolini
Laura Bierbower
John Bowler
Don and Elaine Brautigam
Brenda and Howard Brook
Michael Burham
Audrey F. Cable
Ann Carlson
Pati Centi
Elaine K. Conti
Spencer Drake
Ronald Dutton
Katie Finch
Richard J. Fiorenzo
Joseph Lee Franklin
Elizabeth Frederick
Edward and Joanne Freeman
Sharon, Mathew, and
Issac Glover
Joanne and Thomas Goetz
Catherine A. Regis-Green
Sherry Griffiths
Martin D. Hansen
Peter Harrison – Trophy House
Jennifer and George Harper
Brenda Jabcznski
Marilyn Johnson
Mac Mackenzie
Elizabeth McIntyre
Barbara Miller
Shane Monroe
Janice Newcomb
Tim and Kitty Niemi
Jeffrey Norton
David Noves
Evelyn Owen
Midge Peterson
Margaret Piazza
Patricia and John Poignard
David Rigg
Cheryl Ritch
Darlene Roberts
Barbara Sheldon
Robert Siedhoff
John Sixt
Alison A. Smith
Beatrice J. Stark
Kay Stahlman
Evelyn Suchar
Jim Suckow
Geri Swanson
Randy and Chris Voty
Jason Zevenbergen

Do you know a student that could use \$500?

Audubon provides the \$500 Ryan Exline Memorial Scholarship each year to a student going into an environmental field. In early May, ACNC staff are joined by guests and together they raise money through Birdathon. The scholarship raised through Birdathon is awarded to an area college-bound high school senior or college student pursuing a Bachelor's degree in an environmental or related field.

Ryan Exline was an integral part of the Audubon family for many years. He assisted with gardening, eagle care, live animal care, and educational programs. He was pursuing a master's degree at Duke University when he died in a car accident. He is deeply missed. ACNC honors him by naming this scholarship for him.

Scholarship applications are due by March 18, 2022. Applications are available online at auduboncnc.org/scholarships.

If you'd like to join in this year's Birdathon, please call the Nature Center at (716) 569-2345 or visit go.rallyup.com/birdathon.



Former scholarship winner Allison Cramer (right) checks off birds while her friend and fellow JCC student David looks on.



Blue Heron Legacy Society

ACNC strives to ensure that every child from the local community has a real and healthy connection to nature. You can be a part of this vision, make it stronger, and leave a lasting legacy for the future.

ACNC's vision becomes stronger through long-term commitments made by Nature Center members, donors, and friends; those who wish their legacies to be a part of a thriving, educational, nature-based organization. Commitments can include listing ACNC as a beneficiary in your will, IRA account, retirement plan, or designated fund.

What will **your** legacy be? How will you leave **your** mark on the world?

Please contact Leigh Rovegno for more information on becoming part of the Blue Heron Legacy Society at lrovegno@auduboncnc.org or (716) 569-2345.

Community Partners

Thank you for your dedicated support.

**Carnahan-Jackson Foundation
Chautauqua Region
Community Foundation
Curt and Susie Westrom
Holmberg Foundation
Hultquist Foundation
Jessie Smith Darrah Fund
Lenna Foundation
Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation
Whirley-DrinkWorks!**

**Bob Frucella's Tax Service
Bush Industries, Inc.
Hal and Mary Conarro
The Scott Electric Foundation
Univera Healthcare**

Please contact Leigh Rovegno for more information on becoming a Community Partner at lrovegno@auduboncnc.org or (716) 569-2345.



Audubon Community Nature Center

Non-Profit Org.
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14701
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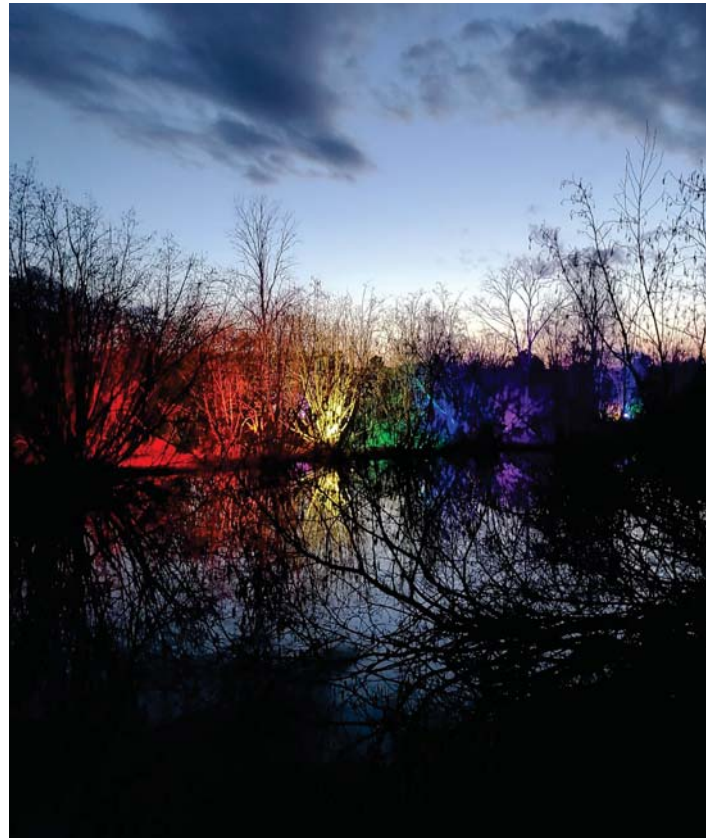
Audubon Community Nature Center, Inc.
1600 Riverside Road
Jamestown, NY 14701

Electronic service requested

March/April ACNC Newsletter

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See the trails in a new light at Audubon Lights.