

THE MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2025 Issue



A very dexterous White-breasted Nuthatch in an Eastern White Pine. Photograph by Kara Coon.

We enjoyed a lovely summer at the Nature Center and along the St. Lawrence River this year. The weather was very warm and we had many visitors. Unfortunately, the lack of rain created extremely dry conditions and the grasses and wildflowers were affected by lack of moisture. However, many did not complain as it allowed for lots of sun-filled, fun-filled days in our area.

As we prepare for autumn and the next change of season, we will certainly welcome quieter days and cooler temperatures. The brilliant colors will once again peak and seem novel as they do at the beginning of each season along the river. Many of our more colorful and vocal birds will eventually leave the area. My personal favorites are the hummingbirds. When they vacate our feeders in September, it is a sure sign that the temperatures will become cooler. In this edition of our newsletter, Minna tells us about the local or “permanent” birds that will stay throughout the fall and winter, and describes their patterns of behavior and food sources. This is a wonderful reminder that while the cooler months are less “colorful”, there are still many wonderful things to enjoy in our area.

Perhaps you will also see some of the purple finches, tree sparrows, chickadees, or woodpeckers out on your hikes along the trails or at our feeders at the Nature Center. Perhaps you enjoy your own feeders and observe the lovely feathered friends at your home.

Wishing you a peaceful and cozy autumn,

Robin Colello-Poplaski
Board President
Friends of the Nature Center

The Minna Anthony Common Series

November Birds Stay Well Hidden

by **Minna Anthony Common**

*Reprinted with permission from the
Watertown Daily Times.*

It is possible to ride the highways for miles during this rather dreary month and never see a bird, but that fact adds zest to the pleasure of discovering any at all. November is really an in-between month in the bird calendar. The summer species, most of which winter in the Tropics, have long since gone south. The last of the migrating dawdlers will all have left before the month is over, and by the last of the month, the winter birds will start coming in from the frozen north.

There are two types of birds to look for in November, - and I mean "look for" because they rarely intrude themselves upon human notice, - those species that are permanent in the locality both summer and winter and those stragglers among the regular migrants, that is, individual birds that for one reason or another did not start southward when most of their tribe did.

Among these permanent residents are the goldfinches, now green-bronze where in the summer they were gold. They flit through the countryside gleaning abundant harvest from tall stalks of aster, goldenrod, pigweed, ragweed, dock and such. They may come into gardens to feed on dried cosmos seed. Seldom is one goldfinch seen alone; flocks may number from a dozen to a hundred individuals.

Their near cousins, the purple finches, are more often heard than seen, for their preferred diet consists of the seeds of hemlock trees. All we can be certain about is the sound of chirping birds and the sight of seed shucks littering the ground beneath the trees. Should we, by any chance, see a finch close up, it would not look purple, not in

the least. It would have a clean-cut V in the end of its tail, and it might sing, a real canary song, long and sweet and rippling, a sound quite surprising in generally dismal November.

Tree sparrows, usually seen four or five in a group, do not seem at all shy. If they are feeding in shrubbery or a weed patch, they will continue to eat undisturbed for a while. They are most likely to be met with water and though they have been known to come into city gardens, it is unusual, since a country road or a creek bank is more to their liking. The tree sparrow may be recognized by a single dark spot worn in the middle of a plain gray breast like a stickpin.

Sometimes it is a favorite food supply that governs the wandering of the November bird flocks. That is particularly true with the cedar waxwing, another permanent resident. Round red berries, much like the blood-red spots on his wings, attract him at all seasons. In summer it is cherries, especially wild pin cherries; in autumn it is the fruit of the mountain ash. Cedarbirds are rather quiet and sedate in their actions, whether they are feeding or merely perching in a tree. They do no fluttering nor quick hopping but just move gracefully from one clump of fruit to another, pluck a berry at a time, peel it in slow motion, drop the skin, eat the pulp, pluck another and so on and on. A bird may sit beside the same bunch of berries for two hours, or until they all are gone. Usually, a flock of about 25 individuals comes to a tree at the same time each day, stays an hour or so, then leaves.

The regular suet-counter visitors are here also in November, chickadees, woodpeckers, and nuthatches, for this is the season when they choose their winter-feeding stations.

The true winter birds have not come in yet. They need zero weather, snow banks, icicles, and frozen streams to send them down from Canada. They have never failed to come yet, and they will be here in good time again this year. Most of them nested up near the Arctic Circle and consider our North Country a mild climate.

From the Director

Dear Nature Center Community,

Summer on the river this year was quite spectacular. The Nature Center team and I have been delighted to meet, or reconnect, with many of you! Over thirteen thousand visitors experienced the natural beauty of this Wellesley Island paradise of public land. We are very fortunate to steward one of the most scenic nature preserves within the NYS Parks system and share its majesty with generations of river visitors. We offered multiple daily programs in July and August. The team created and curated many opportunities to connect with the natural wonders of Wellesley Island and rich heritage of the Thousand Islands region. Daily on-the-water programs, a summer solstice celebration, collaborating with the Friends of the Nature Center on the 10th Annual *Night for Nature* (pgs 3-4), and Youth Fishing Derby were just a few of the highlights. The Voyageur Canoe excursions that I co-led weekly on Thursdays were a personal favorite! We are also very grateful for our numerous guest presenters: primitive bushcrafter Jack Downing (pg 5), Jane McLaughlin of River Yoga, Jean Fahey of the CNY Mycological Society, master falconer Mark Manske, University of Florida biologist Bethan Gillett, carnivorous plant cultivator Dustin Truesdell, and amateur astronomer Tim Abel. Additionally, we would like to generously thank all our volunteers, both new and longstanding, for the outpouring of their time and talent. Last, but certainly not least, a special shout out to our brilliant seasonal team: Anneliese Hardman, Grace Tolla, Colin Withers, Cecelia Thompson, Jack Benoit, and Jim Farrell (pg 6). Thank you all for a memorable summer!

As we now approach fall we look forward to slowing down and enjoying the sights and sounds of autumn. Minna's article this quarter reminds us to stop and look for common November birds hiding in plain sight, empathically stating "and I mean 'look for' because they rarely intrude themselves upon human notice." While our team can certainly assist with noticing the nuances of the natural world (see calendar on pgs 7-11), we furthermore wish you a joyous season of amiable warmth and reflection. The changing season of golden hues and vibrant sunsets ushers in the season of gratitude. Thank you for belonging to our Nature Center community. Whether at Autumn Festival (pg 12) or one of our many other events, we look forward to welcoming you and your families in the coming cooler months.

Gabriela Padewska

Minna Anthony Common Nature Center



A common fall sight: a white-breasted nuthatch meanders down a tree headfirst.

For Your Consideration

I LOVE NY's 2025 Fall Foliage Report

As the landscape transforms into vibrant hues of red, orange, and yellow, I LOVE NY's weekly fall foliage reports track the changing colors across the state's 11 vacation regions to help travelers plan their trip to experience fall in New York State at its peak. Check out the real-time foliage map here: <https://www.iloveny.com/things-to-do/fall/foliage-report/>



Highlights from the 10th Annual *Night for Nature*



Event chair Eileen Price (right) with a guest



Event guests enjoying a Wellesley Island sunset



The Buoy Rockers performing at the Nature Center



President Robin Colello-Poplaski (left) and Nature Center Director Gabriela Padewski address guests



The Wood Boat Brewery featured their Sipper bar



Mark Waterbury (center) rocks out to the Buoy Rockers with other guests

Night for Nature cont.



*Deedy intern Jim Farrell (left)
with SCA member Elijah Schoof*



*Guests wear masks as they pose
in the photo booth*



*The sunset over the St. Lawrence
River was beautiful as always*

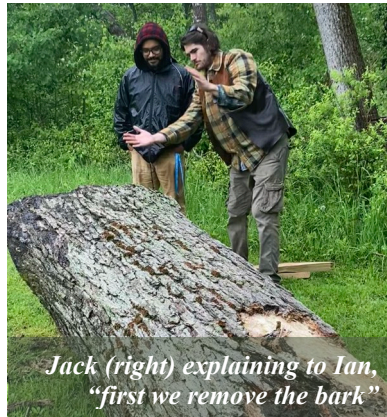
NIGHT FOR NATURE

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

DM Shaver, Inc. • Patricia Constable • Marguerite and Robert Cleary
Watertown Daily Times • Capital Wealth Advisors • Wood Boat Brewery
Watertown Savings Bank • Silver Line Party Rental • Clipper Inn
Northern New York Community Foundation • McKinney, Inc. • Anonymous

Volunteer Spotlight: Primitive Bushcrafter Jack Downing Makes Dugout Canoe

The huge ash tree is delivered for Jack



Jack (right) explaining to Ian, "first we remove the bark"



No measuring tape here. Jack eyes his mark and begins chopping away what will be the stern

We're so fortunate to have had expert Jack Downing volunteering at the Nature Center offering programs highlighting his vast knowledge in primitive bushcrafting and survival skills. Starting with a tree dropped in our upper field, Jack went right to work in the month of June. Grabbing his hand tools, he spent his summer weekends demonstrating to our patrons the lost art of handcrafting a primitive dugout canoe. Jack's generosity, bushcrafting skills, and knowledge brought a documented total of 560 patrons! And that's not counting Jack's pop-up programs or his bow & arrow making, either. We are *very thankful* for our new dugout canoe and for Jack graciously donating his time, knowledge, and skills with the Nature Center!



No waste here, Jack splits pieces for his canoe paddle



Seating is carved out; it's really a skill of controlled burning!



Fanning the flames after a good soak, Jack burns the dugout canoe seating



Cutting through the Eel Bay waters, Jack (left) and Elijah experience the dugout canoe

New Faces at the Nature Center: Jim Farrell, the 2025 Deedy Intern



Jim Farrell, Kenneth Deedy Environmental Steward

Jim Farrell is technically from Syracuse, New York but spent almost every day outside of school from March to November on Governors Island, volunteering for the Thousand Islands Biological Station. Through this experience, he met Ken Deedy multiple times, the namesake of his current internship. Jim grew to love the natural ecosystems around the area, and eventually went to college to get a degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology. He loves being out on the river, whether fishing or just wildlife watching. His career goals include working at a nonprofit to protect the natural places and the species that call them home. Jim believes that advocacy and education are some of the most important parts of conservation.



Jim presents on the fur trade on his last day at the Nature Center.



New York State
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The Kenneth Deedy Environmental Steward assists the Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT), Save The River (STR), and the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center (MACNC) trustees and staff to better serve their missions. The Deedy Intern spends three weeks respectively at each organization immersing themselves in the 1000 Islands region and what it is to be an environmental steward. Envisioned by TILT Founder Kenneth Deedy, this is an opportunity unlike any other – a true environmental internship in and of the 1000 Islands!



This 4H group recently visited the MAC Nature Center, went for a hike, and donated bat boxes! Photograph courtesy of Alicia Dewey.

Fall Calendar

Registration required for some events.
Please call **(315) 482-2479** to RSVP.
*Denotes registration requirements.



Scan to see the
calendar of events
on our website.

All programs meet at the Nature Center and are free unless otherwise stated.
Our calendar of events can also be found on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

☀ Denotes events that fulfill a mission of the New York State Parks 2025 *Wellness Challenge*.

EVENT SERIES *Recurring programs with multiple date options*

FULL MOON HIKES* ☀

Monday, October 6 // 6:00 p.m. *Harvest Moon: RSVP by 10/4*

Wednesday, November 5 // 4:15 p.m. *Beaver Moon: RSVP by 11/3*

Thursday, December 4 // 3:30 p.m. *Cold Moon: RSVP by 12/2*

Join us on the trails for our monthly full-moon hikes! Please wear sturdy hiking shoes, layered clothing for warmth, and bring your own headlamp and/or flashlight. We'll leave the Nature Center promptly to catch a view of the moonrise. Following the hike, we'll host a campfire! Program subject to weather. Limited space, please RSVP no later than 2 days prior to event.

PRIMITIVE SKILLS SERIES *with primitive bushcrafter Jack Downing*

Saturday, November 1 // 10:00 a.m. *Primitive Wool Spinning Demonstration*

Saturday, November 15 // 10:00 a.m. *The Primitive Skill of Bow + Arrow Making*

Sunday, November 30 // 1:30 p.m. *Primitive Fire-starting Demonstration*

Please, see event descriptions on following pages.

OCTOBER

WILDLIFE DAY

Saturday, October 4 // 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Grab your favorite boots, work gloves, warm clothes, and join us here at the Nature Center for our first Wildlife Day event! We will be repairing and rebuilding our bat houses, prepping the grounds for winter, cleaning up from the summer season, and helping the wildlife and the environment prepare for winter as well! Also included will be a brief educational hike about our native animals.

WORLD ANIMAL DAY

Saturday, October 4 // 2:00 p.m.

Join us for *World Animal Day* and discover how we protect wildlife at Wellesley Island State Park. Learn simple ways you can make a difference for animals in your own backyard. Recommended for ages 8+.

BARN QUILT WORKSHOP: FALL THEMED

Sunday, October 5 // 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

This barn quilt workshop is a must for all of you fall-lovers! Today, we'll choose from two 2'x2' options: "Pumpkin & Crow" or "Sunflower & Bee" barn quilts that will make your home beautiful year after year. \$50 fee, and please bring a lunch and water bottle. Register and choose your pattern by 9/28 by calling the Nature Center. Recommended for ages 12+.

MIGRATORY BIRD HIKE

Sunday, October 5 // 1:00 p.m.

Come join us for a birding adventure! We will be going for a guided hike, identifying, and learning about native birds. Binoculars will be provided. All ages are welcome.

FULL MOON HIKE* ☀

Monday, October 6 // 6:00 p.m. *Harvest Moon: RSVP by 10/4*

This is a recurring monthly event. Please, see description on first page.

AUTUMN FESTIVAL *with the Friends of the Nature Center*

Saturday, October 11 // 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Join us at the Nature Center for the 45th Annual Autumn Festival—a full day of “all things autumn” fun for the whole family! Celebrate the season with local vendors, delicious food, entertaining games, live music, a pumpkin patch, an apple cider press, a petting farm, and storytelling by Reggie Carpenter. Don't miss the scarecrow-building contest, raffle prizes, and the amateur talent show! We will also have a harvest swap and a drop off point for local food pantry donations. This is a cash-preferred event. Come enjoy the sights, sounds, and tastes of fall—you won't want to miss it!

TREE ID HIKE

Sunday, October 12 // 10:00 a.m.

Interested in learning more about our forests? Make like a tree and branch out! Join us for a half-mile hike where we test our identification skills on our local trees. All ages welcome.

WORLD FOOD DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 18 // 2:00 p.m.

Food is our future! *World Food Day* highlights the importance of healthy diets, sustainable food systems, and a world where everyone has access to the food they need. Join us at the MAC Nature Center to learn about local food movements here in New York and the ecological effect of food production and consumption.

WORLD PLANTING DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 19 // 2:00 p.m.

In the fall, plants develop strong root systems during the cooler months, leading to better growth in the spring. Celebrate *World Planting Day* at the MAC Nature Center to learn about which native species you can incorporate into your landscape!

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT HIKE

Saturday, October 25 // 7:00 p.m.

Step into the mysterious night and discover the fascinating (and slightly spooky) creatures that come alive on Wellesley Island after dark! This guided hike explores local nocturnal wildlife like owls and bats along our trails, followed by stories and s'mores around the campfire. Ages 10 and up; please dress warmly, wear sturdy shoes, and bring a flashlight or headlamp.

BAT FEST

Sunday, October 26 // 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Did you know there are more than 1,300 bat species? Learn even more fun facts about our favorite flying mammals at Bat Fest! Come join us for some batty crafts and games. Some of the activities will be outside, so make sure to dress for the weather.

NOVEMBER

PRIMITIVE WOOL SPINNING DEMONSTRATION *with primitive bushcrafter Jack Downing*

Saturday, November 1 // 10:00 a.m.

Watch how Primitive Bushcrafter Jack Downing demonstrates the process of cleaning and combing sheep's wool before showcasing the art of spinning with a hand spinner. Evidence has shown that these techniques have been used for 20,000 years!

FALL FOLIAGE HIKE ☀

Sunday, November 2 // 10:00 a.m.

Come experience the crisp air and vibrant color of fall in the Thousand Islands! This picturesque 3-mile hike to our scenic Narrows overlook is the perfect way to spend an autumn day. Expect some inclines and rugged terrain. All ages welcome.

FULL MOON HIKE* ☀

Wednesday, November 5 // 4:15 p.m. *Beaver Moon: RSVP by 11/3*

This is a recurring monthly event. Please, see description on first page.

NATURAL GARLAND + PINECONE WREATH WORKSHOP *with the Friends of the Nature Center*

Saturday, November 8 // 10:00 a.m. –1:00 p.m.

Join us for a crafty morning making beautiful garlands from natural materials and lovely wreaths out of pine cones. These simple but beautiful crafts will be sure to make your holiday home festive! Registration is limited; material fee of \$10. RSVP by 11/5. Please bring a cordless drill with a 1/8" bit if possible.

CSI (CRITTER SCENE INVESTIGATION)

Sunday, November 9 // 12:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. (drop-in) // 2:30 p.m. (hike)

The Nature Center has set up "crime scenes" to work your nature detective skills. Take a look at a clue and try to figure out who ate who! Then take a hike to put those detective skills to work.

THE PRIMITIVE SKILL OF BOW + ARROW MAKING *with primitive bushcrafter Jack Downing*

Saturday, November 15 // 10:00 a.m.

Join us at the Nature Center and experience outdoorsman Jack Downing as he demonstrates the primitive skill of carving a bow and arrow. This lost art was once a survival skill and way of life for Indigenous People. You won't want to miss this!

FULL-SIZE PACK BASKET WORKSHOP

Sunday, November 16 // 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Come learn how to set up and weave a traditional pack basket out of reed! This heritage craft of the Thousand Islands and Adirondack regions can be learned in a day – we provide the materials and instruction for the class. Recommended for ages 10+. Full-size basket workshops are \$100. Payment is due at event. Bring a lunch and water bottle and prepare for a fun day! Class size is limited, so please RSVP early.

BALD EAGLE HIKE ☀

Saturday, November 22 // 10:00 a.m.

The bald eagles are here! Wellesley Island is one of the best places in New York State to eagle-watch. We'll search for these cold-weather visitors along our St. Lawrence River nature trails. Binoculars provided. Please dress for cold, windy weather.

JEOPARDY: FUN TURKEY FACTS

Sunday, November 23 // 1:00 p.m.

Strut your way to the Nature Center and play a game of *Fun Turkey Facts Jeopardy*. From "Wow" to "Funny Things about Turkeys," you'll gobble up the silly findings we've researched about these amusing birds!

BLACK FRIDAY HIKE ☀

Friday, November 28 // 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Don't go shopping... come hiking! You know you want to! We'll be taking on a more demanding 2.5-to-3-mile hike via East Trail, South Bay to the Narrows and returning Middle Trail to the Nature Center for some cocoa and a fire! Wear sturdy boots, dress for weather, and don't forget your water bottle – and your list for holiday shopping in our gift shop following the hike!

ORNAMENT MAKING WORKSHOP

Saturday, November 29 // 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

In this holiday workshop, create three different handcrafted ornaments. Your holiday tree will sparkle with the beauty of nature! Come one, come all, and get your merry going! \$5 materials fee. RSVP by 11/25.

PRIMITIVE FIRE-STARTING DEMONSTRATION *with primitive bushcrafter Jack Downing*

Sunday, November 30 // 1:30 p.m.

Join Primitive Bushcrafter Jack Downing and go back in time to watch how fires were started using flint and steel and other primitive tools.

DECEMBER

FULL MOON HIKE* ☀

Thursday, December 4 // 3:30 p.m. *Cold Moon: RSVP by 12/2*

This is a recurring monthly event. Please, see description on first page.

HOLIDAY BARN QUILT WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 6 // 10:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m.

Our *Holiday Barn Quilt Workshop* is back! Choose from two 2'x2' holiday-themed options for your barn, garage, or just about anywhere. Please note these are more advanced patterns. Material fee \$50. Space is limited so please RSVP by 11/30 to register and choose your pattern (holiday wreath or bird ornaments). Recommended for ages 12+.

HOLIDAY BONANZA

Saturday, December 13 // 10:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m.

Join us for some holiday cheer at the 12th Annual Holiday Bonanza! Come enjoy live music, local craft vendors, raffles, food, hot beverages, holiday craft-making for both children and adults, and more! Bring your family and friends and have fun at this festive community event. It's a great way to have some holiday fun!

WINTER SOLSTICE LUMINARY HIKE

Saturday, December 20 // 5:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

Follow the lighted path to celebrate the coming season of light! Come experience half-mile North Field Loop lit with trailside luminaries on this festive, self-guided, night hike. Then hike back to the Nature Center to enjoy a fire and celebrate with fun and music! (All of you musicians, please bring your instrument!) Please dress for the weather and bring a flashlight/headlamp. Snowshoes will be provided if warranted by weather. RSVP by 12/18.

GUIDED SNOWSHOE HIKE ☀

Friday, December 26 // 1:00 p.m.

We're dreaming of a white day-after-Christmas... and if it snows, the snowshoes are on us! We'll venture out on Middle Trail to Ridge Trail and back to the Nature Center via Northfield Loop. It's about 1.25 miles in total. If we don't have the snow, we'll enjoy a hike. Please dress for the weather, bring a water bottle, and wear sturdy shoes (just in case).

STORYHOUR + CRAFT

Saturday, December 27 // 1:00 p.m.

Come join us for story time! We will read some wintertime stories and then make crafts based off the stories. Great for children of all ages.

YEAR-END BONFIRE

Wednesday, December 31 // 5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Join us at our annual New Years Eve bonfire to discard those burdens that have weighed us down in 2025 and embrace the freshness and positivity of 2026! The Nature Center will provide the fire (outside, if weather allows) and games/crafts throughout the duration of this drop-in celebration! If you have a musical instrument and/or a singing voice, please bring them! Please dress for weather and bring a flashlight/headlamp. RSVP by 12/29.

FIRST DAY HIKE

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Save the Date for this annual state-wide event. Stay tuned for more details.



Scan to see the
calendar of events
on our website:
macnaturecenter.com/calendar

We'll see you out there

Last Call to Participate!

We're excited to conclude the 2025 Wellness Challenge! Throughout the past year state parks and historic sites across the Empire State offered a variety of ways to achieve wellness in the outdoors. Finish 25 activities to win a special edition sticker! Download the full list of 50 wellness-related missions here: <https://parks.ny.gov/documents/wellnesschallenge/OPRHPWellnessChallengeChecklist2025.pdf>



MINNA ANTHONY COMMON NATURE CENTER**Saturday, October 11 | 10:00 AM-4:00 PM****AUTUMN
FESTIVAL****with the Friends of the Nature Center****FREE ADMISSION • PUMPKIN PATCH • FACE PAINTING****AMATEUR TALENT SHOW • BIRDS OF PREY EXHIBIT****STORYTELLING WITH REGI CARPENTER • GAMES****PETTING FARM • SCARECROW-BUILDING CONTEST**

Join us at the Nature Center for the 45th Annual Autumn Festival—a full day of “all things autumn” fun for the whole family! Celebrate the season with local vendors, delicious food, entertaining games, live music, a pumpkin patch, an apple cider press, a petting farm, and storytelling by Regi Carpenter. Don’t miss the scarecrow-building contest, raffle prizes, and the amateur talent show! We will also have a harvest swap and a drop off point for local food pantry donations. This is a cash-preferred event. Come enjoy the sights, sounds, and tastes of fall—you won’t want to miss it!



New York State
Parks, Recreation and
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Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
Wellesley Island State Park | Thousand Islands Region

THANK YOU to the following 49 *Friends* for joining or renewing their commitment recently

John & Kate Johnson	Watertown, NY	Brad & Mary Pat Adams	Wellesley Island, NY
Sandra Geiss	Clayton, NY	John & Marlene Beyers	Wellesley Island, NY
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Norm & Laurie Itjen	Elba, NY		

THANK YOU to the following businesses for their generous support of volunteers at the MAC!





MISSION STATEMENT

The Friends of the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center support environmental education programming that fosters conservation of local ecosystems, encourages outdoor recreation, and inspires our visitors to develop an increased respect for the natural world.

The Friends of the Nature Center, Inc. works in partnership with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.



**New York State
Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation**

THE FRIENDS OF THE NATURE CENTER, INC.

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Gary Phillips, *Maintenance Supervisor*

Darlene Sourwine, *Community Outreach Coor.*

Mark Your Calendars!**AUTUMN FESTIVAL****Saturday, October 11****10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

Join us at the Nature Center for the 45th Annual Autumn Festival – a full day of “all things autumn” fun for the whole family!

- Storytelling with Reggie Carpenter
- Birds of Prey Exhibit
- Pumpkin Patch
- Petting Farm
- Scarecrow-Building Contest
- Amateur Talent Show

See the flyer on page 12 for more information!



Open to all kids!
1st prize \$75
2nd prize \$50
3rd prize \$25

FRIENDS OF THE NATURE CENTER

TALENT SHOW

SATURDAY
10.11.2025

Registration begins at 12:00
the show is from 1-2PM.
Limited number of spots
available! Call the Nature
Center for information and
questions 315-482-2479

at the **AUTUMN FESTIVAL**
Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
Wellesley Island State Park

New York State
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New York State
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**Friends of the Nature Center**

P.O. Box 111

Wellesley Island, NY 13640

HOURS OF OPERATION**October–May (Off-Season):**Nature Center open Wed–Sun

8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.* Closed

Mondays and Tuesdays

*Trails Open Sunrise to Sunset Daily

Thank you, **The UPS Store** of Alexandria Bay,
for your quality printing services.