



Annual Letter

[www.clct.org](http://www.clct.org)

May 2020

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

2020 has been a very different year for the Land Trust as I'm sure it has for all of our members. The Board of Directors has not been meeting in person since early March, but stays in communication through email. Unfortunately, we will not be holding our annual meeting on its traditional date of the third Tuesday in May. We will wait for further guidance from the State before rescheduling.

During these times, our properties have become more important than ever as a place to enjoy some fresh air, exercise, listen to the birds, and relax. Be sure to follow social distancing guidelines.



Deer at Kroll Pasture

Our longtime Director and Treasurer, Jack Frassa, has moved to Plainville, MA to be closer to his grandchild and will be leaving the Board. We are grateful to Jack and for his expertise as Treasurer, and we will miss him dearly.

You will notice a change to your membership donation envelope this year. After more than 20 years without any increase, we have revised our dues and levels of membership to align with surrounding community land trusts and augment our finances to meet the challenges and opportunities of the times.

Sincerely yours,

*Dale Williams*

## Many Uses of Bartlett Park

Bartlett Park was named after and donated by Harriet Bartlett in 1961. Miss Bartlett, a pioneer in the profession of Social Work, loved nature and the outdoors, and it is through her generosity and vision that Chelmsford has such a beautiful resource in the center of the Town.

Over the last few years, the Park has become quite a popular destination for exercise and fitness groups, picnickers, Chelmsford's "Tinkergarten", a children's outside learning program, happy dogs with their happy owners, bird watchers, photographers and people just walking through. During Halloween, Bartlett Park was home to a well-attended Scarecrow Festival, which was an enjoyable afternoon for the many participants and scarecrow viewers.



*Harriett Bartlett,  
winter 1918.*



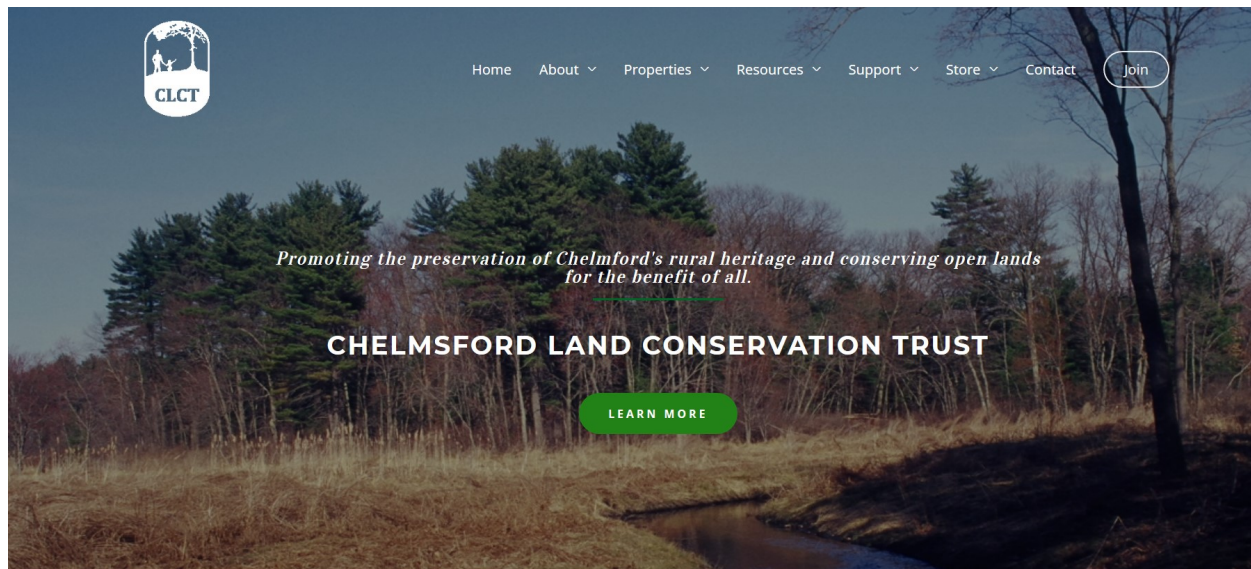
Scarecrow Festival at Bartlett Park



## Revamped clct.org Website

The Land Trust hired Leah Volak, a Chelmsford resident studying Conservation Biology at Bath Spa University (Bath, U.K.), to completely revamp the “clct.org” website. Leah did a terrific job, bringing the website up to modern standards, by adding much visual interest to the site, and making it easier to navigate and maintain.

The website now can be used to send in dues via PayPal or major credit card, or to make a donation. Please visit the website when you get a chance and provide any comments via the “Contact” form.



## Kroll Pasture Frontage Work

The Land Trust benefits from volunteer groups donating their time and energy to help maintain our properties. In July, 2019, the Central Congregational Church summer youth program “Make a Difference Week” spent 2 days with a total of 34 youth clearing the trees and brush along the stone wall adjacent to Proctor Road at the Kroll, Carter, Larter Pasture. The expansive view at the curve in the road will improve traffic and pedestrian safety, and provide a pleasant view of the historic stone wall. Thank you Rev. Dr. Rich Knight for organizing this “Difference Week”.



## Mowing

The Land Trust has two properties that have benefited from regular mowing. Weekly mowing at Bartlett Park began a decade ago, to rid the two fields of invasive poison ivy, without the use of herbicide. Public use has increased greatly as a result, and the Board of Directors has decided to continue the weekly mowing.

Kroll, Carter, Larter Pasture, 44 Proctor Road, has a mowed path around the perimeter of the two fields and down the center cart way, to increase walkability. Also, the areas fronting Proctor Road will be mowed weekly. The fields themselves will be mowed several times a season to keep down the majority of invasive plants, and to promote wildlife habitat. A new lawn tractor was recently purchased for Kroll after the old one passed on after many years of service.