

A PUBLICATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NATIONAL TRAILS SYSTEM



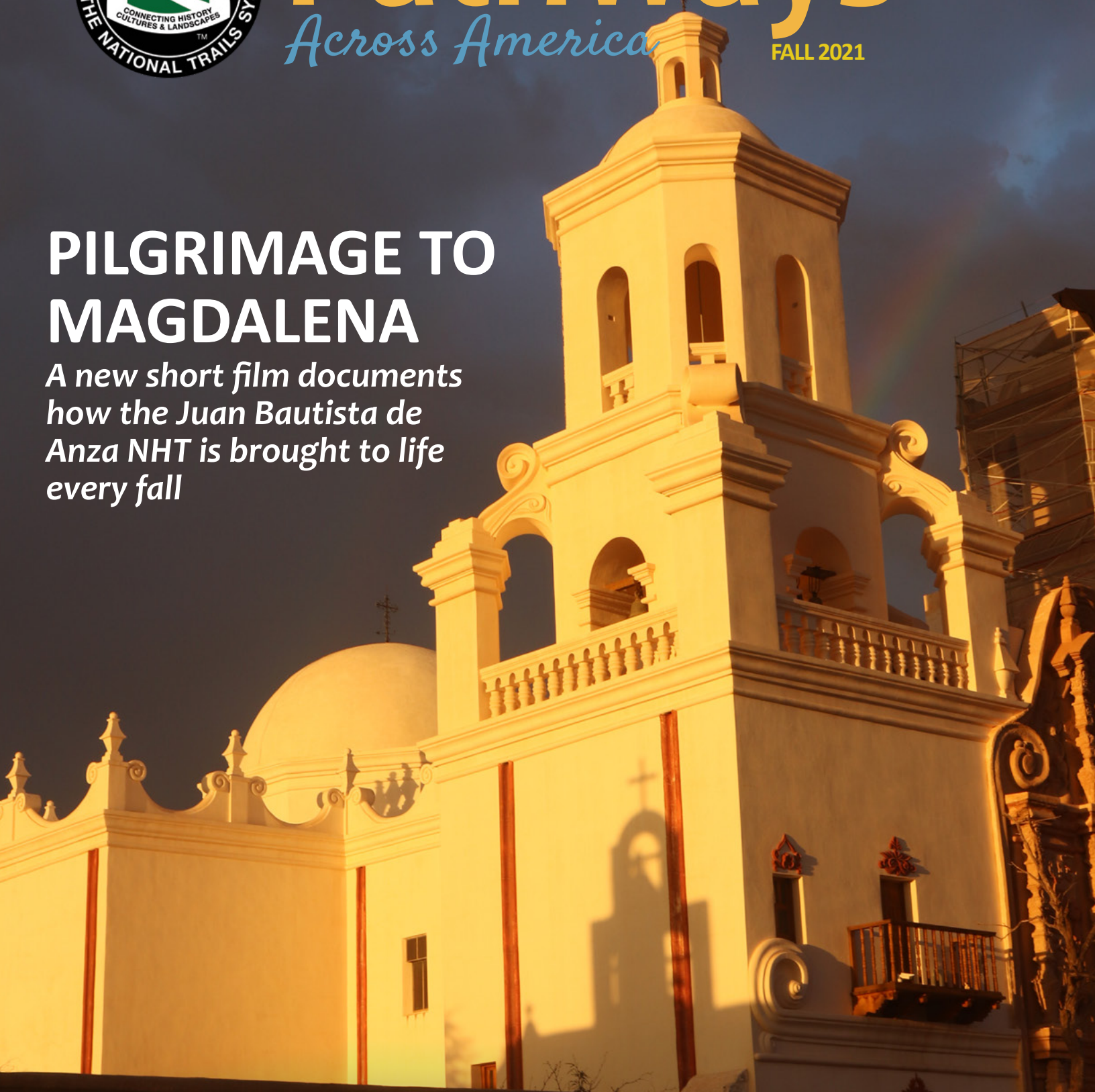
Pathways

Across America

FALL 2021

PILGRIMAGE TO MAGDALENA

*A new short film documents
how the Juan Bautista de
Anza NHT is brought to life
every fall*



20 MILES OF HISTORIC TRAILS CONSERVED IN LOLO NATIONAL FOREST

SANTA FE NHT COMMEMORATES 200 YEARS

'VOLUNTEER VACATIONS' ON TRAILS

BILL INTRODUCED TO COMPLETE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE NST

Pathways

Across America

Pathways Across America is the only national publication devoted to the news and issues of America's national scenic and historic trails. It is published quarterly by the **Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS)** under cooperative agreements with four Federal agencies.

Department of Agriculture (USDA):
U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

Department of the Interior (DOI):
National Park Service (NPS)
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

Department of Transportation (DOT):
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)



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ABOUT US

The Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that connects member nonprofit trail organizations and Federal agency partners to further the protection, completion, and stewardship of the 30 National Scenic and Historic Trails within the National Trails System.

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BUILDING COMMUNITY

National Trails System

Congress passed the National Trails System Act, signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on October 2, 1968. Today, the National Trails System is composed of 11 National Scenic Trails (NSTs), 19 National Historic Trails (NHTs), over 1,300 National Recreation Trails (NRTs) including 33 National Water Trails, and more than 2,000 Rail Trails. These trails provide outdoor recreation opportunities, promote resource preservation and public access, and encourage the appreciation of the great outdoors and America's history and cultural diversity.

PATHWAYS NATIONWIDE FOR DISCOVERY, LEARNING, AND UNDERSTANDING

Strengthening communities through heritage and ecotourism, public involvement, and community collaboration.

Enhancing access to natural areas and historic treasures through innovative interpretation and outreach efforts.

Facilitating public-private partnerships for preservation of history, natural environments, and human health through outdoor recreation.



SCENIC AND HISTORIC TRAILS

- Authorized by Congress
- Stewardship facilitated by the nonprofit Partnership for the National Trails System
- Over 55,000 miles through 50 States and the District of Columbia in wild, rural, suburban, and urban areas, connecting with every distinct ecological area or biome in the country
- Connect and travel through 70 wildlife refuges, 80 national parks, 90 national forests, 100 BLM field office areas, over 120 wilderness areas, numerous State and local parks, trails, and other protected areas, and over 100 major urban areas
- Nearly 1 million hours of volunteer labor help build and maintain annually

www.pnts.org

RECREATION TRAILS

- Designated by Secretary of Interior or Secretary of Agriculture
- Stewardship facilitated by the nonprofit American Trails
- Over 29,000 miles through 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico

www.americantrails.org

RAIL TRAILS

- Part of 1983 amendment to National Trails System Act
- Stewardship facilitated by the nonprofit Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
- Total 22,000 miles through 50 States and the District of Columbia, and 8,000 miles in progress

www.railstotrails.org



KEEPING HISTORY ALIVE



PRESERVING BIODIVERSITY

11 NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS

The National Scenic Trails (NSTs) represent some of the most magnificent long-distance hiking trails anywhere in the world. Virtually every major ecosystem in the country is traversed by a NST, including deserts, temperate rainforests and deciduous forests, tundra, mountains, prairies, wetlands, and rivers. NSTs offer natural corridors for wildlife preservation and unspoiled views, and they create fitness and outdoor leadership opportunities for all ages.

- Appalachian NST
- Arizona NST
- Continental Divide NST
- Florida NST
- Ice Age NST
- Natchez Trace NST
- New England NST
- North Country NST
- Pacific Crest NST
- Pacific Northwest NST
- Potomac Heritage NST

19 NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS

The National Historic Trails (NHTs) may be foot or horse paths, travel routes, roadways, or a combination of several modes of travel designated as a route retracing a part of American history. Many NHTs have interpretive centers and regular events to immerse you in the past. While historic trails may run through urban and suburban settings, they also boast wilderness and hiking opportunities as beautiful and diverse as the NSTs.

- Ala Kahakai NHT
- California NHT
- Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT
- El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro NHT
- El Camino Real de los Tejas NHT
- Iditarod NHT
- Juan Bautista de Anza NHT
- Lewis and Clark NHT
- Mormon Pioneer NHT
- Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) NHT
- Old Spanish NHT
- Oregon NHT
- Overmountain Victory NHT
- Pony Express NHT
- Santa Fe NHT
- Selma to Montgomery NHT
- Star-Spangled Banner NHT
- Trail of Tears NHT
- Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT

Cover Photographs

FRONT

A detail of the San Xavier del Bac Mission on the Juan Bautista de Anza NHT just south of Tucson, Arizona.

INSIDE

Left: Students hike near San Francisco Peak in Northern Arizona. Photo Credit: Arizona Trail Association

Center: Father and daughter walking toward the cannons at Fort McHenry. Photo Credit: John Lam

Right: Barred owl on the Pacific Crest Trail. Photo Credit: Tyler Fox

Contents



4 Message from the Executive Director

5 PNTS Next Gen Spotlight
• 2021 Trail Intern, Lydia Jankowski

Capacity



6 • 'Volunteer Vacations' Bring Work Crews to You

7 • Legislation Introduced to "Complete the Continental Divide NST"



8 • Chesapeake Oyster House Opens to the Public

• Original Pony Express Route Marked in Utah



Protection

9 • 14,800-Acre Land Acquisition Protects Miles of Lewis and Clark and Nez Perce NHTs

10 • Selma to Montgomery NHT's Historic Brown Chapel Awarded \$1.3 Million for Renovations

11 • Historic Iron Forge Discovered on Overmountain Victory NHT



Outreach

12 • Santa Fe NHT Commemorates 200 Years with Events Along Entire 1200 Mile Trail

13 • Arizona Trail Association Trail Skills Institute Videos
• Rethink Outside™ Shared Narrative

14 • NPS Volunteer Traverses Entire Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT

• Comings and Goings

15 • The 'Pilgrimage to Magdalena' on the Juan Bautista de Anza NHT

16 Upcoming Events



View more photos and full versions of each article:
www.pnts.org/new/category/pathways

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This time last year, the Partnership for the National Trails System (PNTS) had just relocated from Madison, Wisconsin to a virtually empty office building in Washington, DC – a building located in the downtown of the nation's capital that would be brimming with activity but for pandemic-related closures.

And what a difference a year makes. Since we relocated, we've welcomed new staff, Board members and committee leaders to increase our programmatic focus and bring new perspectives to our work. We've launched a regular webinar series and working groups on topics important to trails to promote learning, peer exchange, and the sharing of best practices. At our annual 'fly-in' event, Hike the Hill®, held virtually in 2021, and through ongoing advocacy and policy work, we made strides in elevating the profile of National Trails and worked with our Federal partners and legislators to advance National Trails System priorities. For the second consecutive year, our Trail Apprentice Program has engaged its largest cohort yet following its reimagining in 2020 as a virtual, career-exploration-focused program. Similarly, we once again held the National Trails Workshop online with more people registered than ever before. We've forged new partnerships, including one with Bell's Brewery that resulted in an awareness campaign that far exceeded its goal with thousands of hours



being pledged to spend on trails in September and October. Just to name a few examples.

With momentum building and incredible opportunities ahead for National Scenic and Historic Trails, PNTS will begin a strategic planning process this fall to outline long-term goals and chart a course to achieve them. I expect it to be a pivotal plan for PNTS, one that encourages us to reflect on what has been and consider what could and should be prioritized over the next several years.

Over the coming months, we will ask for input and I hope we can count on you to share your open and honest thoughts so the next PNTS strategic plan is a roadmap for the organization and a rallying point for growing a network of champions for a vibrant, world-class National Trails System for all.

And, as we continue to build momentum in 2022 through strategic planning, Hike the Hill®, new or expanded programs and more, I will look forward to revisiting this message about where we stand today and reflecting on what a difference a year makes.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valera Rupp". The signature is fluid and cursive.



Save the Date:
FEBRUARY 14-18, 2021

Registration will open in early December.

Visit pnts.org/new/our-work/hike-the-hill/ for more information.

2021 PNTS Trail Intern: Lydia Jankowski Brings Diverse Talents to the New England NST

This column shines a light on rising leaders in public lands and outdoor recreation who participate in PNTS' Trail Intern Grants or Trail Apprentices Program.

Trail Intern Grants are distributed to help Trails nonprofits hire interns to further their missions and expand their capacities. The Trail Apprentices Program (TAP) is a career exploration program that helps up-and-coming and aspiring outdoor professionals aged 18-28 network and discover pathways to careers in trails or similar fields.



Photo courtesy of Lydia Jankowski.

NENST in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS).

Jankowski was in her third year of studies in a dual major program for Sustainable Community Development and Communications at the University of Massachusetts Amherst when she was hired for a 9-month stint as an Outreach Assistant for the AMC in April 2021. She says that her work with the organization “wonderfully combined (her) academic passions” of outdoor recreation and communications.

In her first six months, Jankowski reached some noteworthy milestones. Serving as the AMC’s interim Communications Manager, she took on the duties of maintaining AMC’s social media accounts and writing the NENST’s bimonthly newsletter. She also coordinated the 2021 NET Hike Challenge to incentivize exploration on the Trail, as well as an initiative to help maximize fundraising efforts from individuals who subscribe to the NENST newsletter but were not members of either the AMC or CFPA.

Jankowski says the most exciting portion of her duties was when she was tasked with section hiking 150 miles of the NENST through the entire State of Massachusetts in order to conduct an Inventory Assessment. “Before this,” Jankowski explains, “we didn’t really have any documentation of how many bridges, water bars, puncheons, or other features (were on the Trail) or what condition they were in.” She said her work on the 19 sections of the NENST in Massachusetts included taking more than 500 data points to identify which sections of the trail were the highest priority for maintenance, as well as which trail sections were in the best shape.

Of her time spent as an intern, Jankowski says “It was a great experience” that helped her connect to the Trail on a personal and professional level. And, since the NENST actually bisects the city of Amherst where she currently lives, that connection to the Trail has translated to a stronger relationship to her community. “After a summer spent traversing the trail from the border of Connecticut to the border of New Hampshire and many more months virtually learning its ins and outs, I feel a much greater connection to the NENST, as well as the surrounding area that I live, work, and recreate in,” she says. What’s more, Jankowski’s work with AMC, CFPA, and NPS also helped her to forge connections with professionals in the outdoor industry, which she says has been “really valuable.”

Though her tenure with AMC ends in December, Jankowski says that her time spent as a PNTS Trail Intern stoked a naturalist fire in her that will continue in her professional life moving forward. She intends to graduate from her undergraduate program next year and immediately pursue a master’s degree in Regional Planning. “After this internship... I can definitely see my career heading into trail planning or conservation management,” she says. According to Jankowski, her work on the NENST has let her “explore different methods of bringing more people into the outdoors, and instilled in me the value of providing unfiltered pathways to adventure,” which is a great quality to see in a future outdoor leader.

“Before working on the New England National Scenic Trail, I will admit, I did not know it existed,” says Trail Intern Lydia Jankowski. Though she had grown up hiking in New England’s White Mountains and had unknowingly hiked on several sections of the New England National Scenic Trail (NENST), Jankowski wasn’t aware of the 215-mile Trail that runs through Connecticut and Massachusetts until she applied to work as an intern with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), one of the two nonprofit organizations along with the Connecticut Forest and Parks Association (CFPA) that co-manage the

About Us



MISSION

To empower, inspire, and strengthen public and private partners to develop, preserve, promote, and sustain the National Scenic and Historic Trails.

VISION

PNTS envisions a world-class system of National Scenic and Historic Trails that preserves natural and cultural values and provides recreational benefits for all.

PURPOSE

To promote and support the efforts of National Scenic and Historic Trail organizations, to secure public and private resources, and to serve as a collective voice for policy and action that supports National Scenic and Historic Trails.

PNTS 2021 Next Gen Programs

Number of Trail Interns: 14 Number of Trail Apprentices: 27

PNTS is connecting more young adults to opportunities to explore careers in trails than ever before. Donate today to support PNTS programs in 2022. Make your gift at <https://bit.ly/2ZABIVD>

'Volunteer Vacations' by the American Hiking Society Brings Volunteer Work Crews to Trails



Above: A volunteer crew works hard and then relaxes after a long day on the Grandstaff Canyon Trail in Moab, UT. Photos by Wesley Trimble; Below: Volunteers stretch and then dig in on the Arizona National Scenic Trail. Photos by Ryan Nelson.



This fall, a group of American Hiking Society (AHS) volunteers laced up their boots and traveled into the Tonto National Forest backcountry for a week of trail maintenance on the Arizona National Scenic Trail (AZNST). These volunteers helped to restore a heavily burned area after over 125 miles of trails were impacted by 2020 wildfires. These volunteer efforts are a crucial part of the recovery and maintenance of these popular hiking regions, especially with staff time stretched thin, trail maintenance projects delayed, and visitation at record numbers. These challenges aren't unique to the AZNST. Volunteer work is an increasingly invaluable component of building, maintaining, and repairing hiking trails across the country.

For over 45 years, AHS volunteers have been traveling on Volunteer Vacations for a week of trail service, camaraderie, and fun to provide much needed trail service to the nation's hiking trails, including National Scenic, Historic, and Recreation Trails. Most projects are one week in length, consist of 6-10 crew members (larger crews can be accommodated in non-COVID times), and involve trail maintenance and building tasks. AHS partners with land managers and trail organizations to host around 35 Volunteer Vacations annually. Volunteers have contributed over 650,000 hours of service that helped to build and maintain almost 5,000 miles of trails and topped \$11.5 million in volunteer labor value. Nearly 100 of these trips have taken place across the National Trails System since 2006 alone!

Volunteer Vacations can involve backpacking into remote areas or day hiking to the project locations. The accommodations range from primitive campsites to bunkhouses or cabins. Each project is rated as easy, moderate, or strenuous and volunteers select which project best fits their skills and experience. Crew members arrive from across the country, ready to work hard and connect with other outdoor enthusiasts. Although these volunteers come from all walks of life, there is one thing that they consistently bring with them—their enthusiasm. When

asked about their favorite experiences from their trips, many volunteers share stories about their fellow crew members' friendly and hardworking attitudes and the opportunities to learn from hosts about the local environment and trail building techniques. Most commonly, the volunteers share the feeling of satisfaction at the end of a week of hard work.

The Appalachian Trail Conservancy recently hosted a Volunteer Vacation Crew, where volunteers worked with staff to monitor and maintain the boundaries of the land preserved for the Appalachian National Scenic Trail which serves over 3 million visitors annually. The volunteers cleared brush with loppers, painted trees, replaced boundary signs, and recorded the condition of metal survey markers called "monuments." The group succeeded in covering 47 monuments and maintained over 9 miles of trail boundary in just one week. Appalachian Trail Conservancy staff Samuel Annabel shared that "[they] couldn't have done it without the help of AHS volunteers—this multi-year effort, completed in 2021, was an important project for which there simply wasn't funding. Without the volunteer crews to do the heavy work of trail reconstruction, it simply would not have happened in the foreseeable future."

With limited resources and increased use, trail building and maintenance needs often get backlogged or remain incomplete. Through the support of and partnership with the National Park Service, US Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management, the Volunteer Vacations program is designed to send a crew leader and crew of eager volunteers, ready to assist with your trail needs. Any Federal land manager, trail organization, State park, or other nonprofit partner group can request to host a Volunteer Vacation. AHS accepts crew requests in the fall, and anyone interested is encouraged to apply.

Founded in 1976, American Hiking Society is the only national nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering all to enjoy, share, and preserve the hiking experience.



Find more information or apply to host a volunteer vacation at:

www.americanhiking.org/volunteer-vacations/host-information/

Legislation Introduced to Mandate the Completion of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail



CDT near Muddy Pass. Photo by Matt Berger; courtesy CDTC.

Standing at the top of Muddy Pass in autumn, the sweeping views of golden grasses, green pine, and yellow aspens delight with all the beauty of Colorado in the fall. Given the idyllic ridgeline views and the stones-throw distance to outdoor destinations like the Medicine-Bow Routt Forest and Rabbit Ears Peak, it's easy to understand why it's the ideal experience for travelers on the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT). However, currently, CDT hikers, equestrians, and others are not able to fully immerse themselves in the beauty of the environment due to a reroute of the CDT that takes trail users onto the highway for 15 miles. Fortunately, this all may change thanks to new legislation recently introduced to Congress.

For the first time in nearly 50 years, managers of a Congressionally designated, long-distance trail are poised to be empowered with new acquisition direction and greater coordination between agencies through new legislation introduced to Congress late this summer. The new legislation has brought new energy to efforts already happening on the ground to complete the CDT, making good on the commitment made by Congress in 1978 to provide a high-quality, scenic, primitive, continuous footpath along the Divide from New Mexico to Montana.

The CDT Completion Act, H.R. 5118, introduced by Congressman Joe Neguse (CO-2) and co-sponsored by Congresswoman Teresa Fernandez (NM-03), will deliver on the promise made by Congress to provide a trail that is accessible, enjoyable, and that preserves the integrity of the scenic, cultural, and historic resources that exist all along the Continental Divide. Under this legislation, the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are directed to create an acquisition team to increase coordination between Federal agencies managing the trail.

The bill also recognizes the tireless work of Gateway Communities, local organizations, partners, and volunteers who have strived for decades to make a completed CDT a reality, while also directing the Continental Divide Trail Coalition (CDTC) to report annually to Congress on the status of the trail's completion, thus demonstrating the trust and strength that exists in the private-public partnerships that make the dream of the National Trails System possible. Combined with the passage of the Great American Outdoors Act, which guaranteed full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the bill would provide a strategic next step to demonstrating that an investment in our public lands is also an investment in communities.

Since the CDT's establishment in 1978, the trail has grown from 64% complete in 2009 to 96% complete in 2021 and now has the

opportunity to prioritize sections for completion by 2028 to reach the goal of 100% completion in time for the Trail's 50th anniversary. Just this year alone, work is being done to fill in minor gaps across the trail in the Gila National Forest and the Big Burro Mountains in New Mexico, and a reroute completed outside of Pinedale, Wyoming transitioned an 8-mile roadwalk to meandering singletrack with iconic alpine views. With the introduction of the CDT Completion Act, many CDTC Gateway Communities, like Steamboat Springs near Muddy Pass, are hopeful that they will see the gap sections near their towns completed, as well.

A completed trail benefits Gateway Communities and recreationists alike. For towns like Steamboat Springs, moving the trail off of a roadwalk creates greater opportunities for locals and visitors to the area. Pinedale has already seen out-of-towners, dayhikers, and other recreationists looking to explore the cliffs, wildflowers, and wildlife the newly completed section of trail has to offer, none of which were able to be seen on the roadwalk into town that previously existed. Filling in the trail gaps creates incentives for new visitors to boost the towns' outdoor recreation industries, which are often the powerhouses of the local economy for many of the rural communities the CDT connects. It also creates greater opportunities for locals to connect with one another in open greenspaces, provides chances for educational experiences for youth and adults alike, and creates a more accessible trail, benefiting the overall public health of the community.

The CDT Completion Act presents a historic opportunity, not only for the outdoor enthusiasts and Gateway Communities that will benefit from a continuous footpath that is safer, more accessible, and more in-line with the nature and purpose of the trail, but for the entire National Trails System, which benefits when the public-private partnership is strengthened through increased opportunities for collaboration and innovation within the shared-stewardship model. As a connector of communities, cultures, and landscapes since 1978, the CDT has transformed the experience of those living and traveling on the Divide. With this bill, there is now the opportunity to chart the trail's path into the future and ensure this world-renowned resource continues to be a place for all people to learn, explore, and heal in the outdoors.



For more information on the CDT Completion Act, visit:
www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5118

Phase One of Construction Complete on Chesapeake Oyster House Project on Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT

The new riverfront park in Delaware is open to the public for recreation

On a beautiful day in July, Chief Dennis Coker of the Lenape Indian Tribe of Delaware offered a land acknowledgment as a celebration began to open a new park along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (Chesapeake Trail).

U.S. Senator Tom Carper (DE), Seaford Mayor David Genshaw, other elected officials, community members, and Chesapeake Conservancy Board Chair Randall Larrimore, President and CEO Joel Dunn, and Executive Vice President Mark Conway gathered at the banks of the Nanticoke River to celebrate this conservation success.

Chesapeake Conservancy partnered with the City of Seaford, Delaware and a Delaware botanical garden called the Mt. Cuba Center to secure the property on behalf of the City of Seaford in 2018. Construction on this first phase of Oyster House Park, located at the site of the old J.B. Robinson Oyster House, began in December 2020. Phase one of the project cost \$1.2 million and took more than two years to complete and now the public is welcome to enjoy the expanded river walk, fishing nooks, performance deck, boat docking facilities, and a kayak launch along one of the most pristine rivers of the Chesapeake. There will be three more



Chief Dennis Coker of the Lenape Indian Tribe. Photo by Kelsey Everett/Chesapeake Gateways.

construction phases before the Oyster House project is finished at an estimated total cost of \$4.5 million.

"I was raised in Seaford and started this project to bring people back downtown and help with the revitalization of the City," said Larrimore. "The project is also personally rewarding. When I was a child, the river was so polluted we couldn't swim in it. Sixty years ago, my father was mayor of Seaford and led the effort to build a sewage disposal plant. I am so proud to be helping provide greater access to the pristine Nanticoke River that my father helped clean up. This park is part of our mission to protect 30% of the Chesapeake Bay, which is now 22% protected, by 2030 to meet President Biden's challenge."

Chesapeake Trail, a 3,000-mile water and land trail, highlights the landscapes of the American Indians who lived in the Chesapeake region, the voyages of Captain John Smith and his crew from 1607–1609, and the natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.



Find more on the Chesapeake Oyster House Project at

www.chesapeakeconservancy.org/2021/07/01/seaford-partners-celebrate-the-opening-of-oyster-house-park/

Utah Division of the National Pony Express Association Installs Signage Along Original Pony Express Route

State Divisions of the National Pony Express Association are in the process of installing route marking signs as near as possible to the original route taken by Pony Express riders between 1860-61. The automotive or auto tour route of the Pony Express National Historic Trail is largely marked across the entirety of the Trail's 2,000 miles through eight States, according to Utah Division Member Patrick Hearty. That route, which follows the original Pony Express route via the closest available paved roads, can be as much as 60 miles from the actual route followed by Pony Express riders in the 19th century, Hearty says.

Today, the Association's annual Pony Express re-ride, which takes place between St. Joseph, Missouri and Sacramento, California every June, follows the original route as closely as possible primarily along a series of rural roads, though that route has yet to be marked in many places.

Hearty, who participated in the installment of 12 signs in Juab County Utah just west of Salt Lake City earlier this year, says that the installation of trail signs involves cooperation by multiple State and Federal agencies. The signs for the Tooele and Juab County projects were designed and produced by the National Park Service office in Santa Fe, New Mexico and placed according to a site plan developed by Madison Vandersee and David Jenkins. Each State division of the National Pony Express Association, however, must supply the posts, hardware and personnel to install the signs. The posts and hardware for the Tooele County project were funded by a Tooele County Tourism Tax Grant,



Patrick Hearty and NEPA President Dean Atkin pose next to a newly installed sign in Juab County, UT; Courtesy Patrick Hearty.

according to Hearty. Materials for the Juab section of the Trail were provided by Juab County. Much of the land on which the signs were installed is managed by the Bureau of Land Management, however, and the roads themselves are usually maintained by State and County offices.

Hearty says he's been impressed with the level of cooperation involved in the signage projects he's been involved with. "It's just such a good partnership," Hearty says, adding, that "it's a real collaborative effort to get these materials in place."

The 12 signs installed in Juab County complete the Trail-marking efforts in the western part of Utah. To date, Hearty says they've covered a total of about 140 miles of Trail in the State, or about half of the length of the Trail in Utah. Other efforts to mark the original route of the Trail are also underway in Nevada, where installations have covered roughly a third of the State's Trail, or about 150 miles, and efforts are already

complete in the 30 or so miles of Trail in Colorado.

"We just appreciate the opportunity to work with our Federal partners and to get their signs out there and do something meaningful for the education of the public and the preservation of our history," says Hearty of his experience with the project. "We're grateful to commemorate this history (of the Pony Express) and to be able to keep it alive for future generations," he says. "If we can help them to understand where they came from and what went before, I think we can give them a chance of seeing where they're going."

Nearly 15,000 Acres Conserved in Montana National Forest, Protecting Miles of Lewis and Clark and Nez Perce NHTs



Aerial view of Lolo Creek and map of the Lolo Trails Landmark Project Area courtesy the Trust for Public Land. On the map, the project area is shaded orange; the Lewis and Clark NHT is indicated by a red dotted line; the Nez Perce NHT is indicated by a black dotted line.

A recent acquisition of 14,800 acres in western Montana will add to the 2-million-acre footprint of the Lolo National Forest simultaneously conserving roughly 8 miles of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and about 12 miles of the Nez Perce National Historic Trail corridors designated by Congress in 1978 and 1986, respectively. The Lolo National Historic Landmark, which roughly traces the route taken by Merriweather Lewis and William Clark and their Shoshone Guides during their westward exploration of 1806 and other historical travels along Lolo Creek, will also be conserved by the acquisition.

The three-year process of acquiring the land began in 2018 when the landowner—a timber and real estate holding company called Weyerhaeuser—was considering divesting its Montana land holdings and so approached the Trust for Public Land about potentially purchasing one or more of their parcels in the State. Using a newly developed GIS Tool called the Northern Rockies Decision Support Tool, TPL identified the Lolo National Forest site as a high priority. Says Catherine Schmidt, a TPL Field Representative based in Bozeman, Montana who was intimately involved with the project, “This Lolo Trail Landmark Corridor really jumped out... (because) the Nez Perce National Historic Trail and Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail just sliced right through this property.”

TPL approached USDA Forest Service (USFS) staff at the Lolo National Forest about possibly working together to acquire the historically significant parcel and found that USFS already had their eyes on the land, as well. “There was a lot of management efficiency to be gained here so we were immediately interested in and identified this (parcel) as a priority for acquisition,” says Patrick Bridegam, a Realty Specialist for the USFS based in Missoula, Montana. Bridegam says it was also clear pretty quickly that the land would meet “all of the criteria of being competitive for LWCF (Land and Water Conservation Fund) funding.”

From there, TPL calculated a rough estimate of the value of the property and realized that it was likely too expensive to be fully funded by a single LWCF request. So, the USFS and TPL went back to the landowner to negotiate a contingency contract that allowed them to break the request up over two years. The Lolo National Forest then nominated the full parcel in two pieces across two separate LWCF

funding years, submitting in both the fall of 2018 and 2019 for fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Fortunately, both nominations succeeded and the USFS was able to purchase the entire 14,800-acre property for a price of \$10.8 million all at once in the summer of 2021.

For those looking to get into land acquisition for their Trails, Bridegam has some advice. “These projects really work best when there is early coordination between the agency, the partners, and the land owner,” he says. In this case, Bridegam says that early coordination “allowed us to really highlight and understand the significance of the overlap between the Historic Trails and the lands that would be coming into Forest Service management. So, the (National Historic) Trail piece was key, but it was part of a larger conversation about whether or not this acquisition was a priority or a good fit.” Still, says Bridegam, “early communication between all the parties and bringing up the significance of these trail corridors early in the process...was really what made this successful.”

Project Quick Facts:

Area secured: 14,800 acres

Trail preserved: 8 miles Lewis and Clark NHT; 12 miles Nez Perce NHT

Funding source: Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund

Land manager: USDA Forest Service

Cost of Acquisition: \$10,800,000

Brown Chapel Is Awarded \$1.3 Million by NPS for Restoration

The award is part of NPS' \$15 million African American Civil Rights Grant program



Members of the Brown Chapel AME Church Foundation Board pose with Alabama Governor Kay Ivey & Rep. Terri Sewell. Pictured from left to right: Aubrey Larkin Sr., Johnny Moss, Jr., Governor Kay Ivey (AL), Juanda Maxwell, Rep. Terri Sewell, Dr. Joy Kinard, NPS, Al Perry, & Dr. Leroy Maxwell, Chairman. Photo courtesy BMB Photography & Associates.

Still a functioning church today, Brown Chapel stands at the Western terminus of the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail as a monument to the sacrifices made by protestors to ensure equal voting rights under the law. It was here that the march from Selma, Alabama to the State capital of Montgomery began on March 7, 1965, led by a 25-year-old future Congressman named John Lewis. Famously, the crowd of 600 peaceful protestors was turned back at Edmund Pettus Bridge by State troopers wielding billy clubs and tear gas. And it was to Brown Chapel that some protestors returned after the harrowing scenes of violence that transpired that day that came to be known as "Bloody Sunday."

A second attempt at the march from Selma to Montgomery took place on March 9 and, on the third attempt which departed from Brown Chapel on March 21, this time under the protection of the National Guard, a crowd that included Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. began to march. By March 25 the crowd grew to an estimated 25,000 protestors or more. This group of pacifist demonstrators made it to the steps of the Alabama State Capitol 54 miles away after four days of marching.

Juanda Maxwell is a member of the Brown Chapel Congregation. She played an instrumental role in helping the church establish a nonprofit foundation in 2009 so that they could apply for grant funding to preserve the historic structure originally erected in 1908 and added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

Maxwell says that the nation "had to come to grips" with the violence they saw unfold on Bloody Sunday and the visceral nature of the imagery from that day. "From there, literally months later, President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act...So out of tragedy sprung something good," says Maxwell.



Photo of the Brown Chapel restoration project groundbreaking courtesy NPS.

Over the 110-plus years the Chapel has been standing, it has experienced wear and tear as a result of termites, leaving the roof destabilized and the balconies unsafe. There is also severe water damage to the structure due to leaks in the roof and windows. Since 2016, the church applied for and received three separate grants totaling \$1.3 million from the National Park Service (NPS) to repair the Chapel through the African American Civil Rights Grant program, established that same year to "document, interpret, and preserve the sites related to the African American struggle to gain equal rights as citizens." Congress set aside \$15 million for this program managed by the NPS for the 2021 fiscal year.

On Wednesday, June 23, a groundbreaking ceremony at Brown Chapel marked the beginning of the much-needed repair project. In attendance were NPS Superintendent of the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail Dr. Joy G. Kinard, Congresswoman Terry A. Sewell, who is a member of the Brown Chapel congregation, and Alabama Governor Kay Ivy. Says Maxwell of the ceremony, "It was a joyous occasion of anticipation of something so great, because Brown Chapel is just such a tremendous part of history."

The first round of funding will help make structural repairs to the Chapel's roof and cupolas, however Maxwell says that the congregation is only about halfway to raising the total funds needed to restore the landmark to its original luster. "We ask for continued prayers and help because the damage we found is so much worse than we thought," she says.



Donate to help with the restoration of Historic Brown Chapel at:
www.brownchapelamechurchfoundation.org

Historic Iron Forge Discovered on the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail

The David Allen Iron Works site may have been critical to America's victory in the Revolutionary War



Left to right: Gabe Mitchell, R.G. Absher, Bill Blackley, Jason Duncan, and Doug Mitchell pose with the David Allen Iron Works interpretive sign. Photo courtesy Jason Duncan.



Doug Mitchell and William Blackley install the new interpretive sign. Photo courtesy William Blackley.

The discovery of a long-lost iron forge on the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail by a grandfather and his grandsons Jonah (age 9) and Phillip Walker (age 6), Eli Swaim (age 11) and Gabe Mitchell (age 16) is indicative of the rebellious spirit of the American Colonists, without which Patriot forces may not have had a chance to secure their independence from Britain.

Doug Mitchell of Elkin, North Carolina knew there was history to be uncovered near the current site of the Elkin Library next to Big Elkin Creek, though he never imagined he would discover something as important as a lost iron forge.

Doug says combing the creek for things like pottery sherds and musket balls is a hobby. And, though his discoveries usually don't carry any financial value, he told Yadkin Valley Magazine that "it's the fun of finding something from bygone days" that motivates him on his quests. Plus, he added, it's "a great way to spend time with my grandsons."

After a storm swept through the area last fall, Doug and his grandson, Gabe decided to head down to Elkin Creek to see if they could find anything that may have been turned up by the flood waters. That day, Doug says, "We found two pieces of something that looked like rocks but I knew there was something different about them." He posted images on Facebook and found consensus that they must be slag—a word for the rock-like bits of material that one gets when removing iron ore from stone through the use of a high-temperature furnace.

Experts knew that the site of North Carolinian David Allen's lost forge was near where the Mitchells made their slag discovery and, with help from local historians Bill Blackley and Jason Duncan, Mitchell was able to zero in on the site near the library with certainty. "I had heard rumors that there had been an old 18th-century forge here...but didn't know much more," says Doug. He and Duncan began pouring over historical

records, deeds, and maps of the area to see if his suspicions were correct. As it turned out, they were. Not only had he found the site of Allen's missing iron forge, but, according to records from Elihu Ayers, a Private in the American Army during the Revolutionary War, the forge likely played a key role in the Patriot victory over the British at King's Mountain in 1780—a victory that marked a turning point in the war.

Similar to the Stamp Act of 1765 and the Townshend Act of 1767, the Iron Act of 1750 banned the production of metal goods in the New World and left the colonies dependent on expensive imports.

Despite this ban, a handful of iron forges remained in operation in the colonies several years before the start of the American Revolution and, without them, it's likely that the United States would not have been able to hold off the British troops sent to quell the American rebellion.

Not only was this iron forge supplying raw materials to American forces, but it is believed that they were also illegally crafting metal goods for farmers and soldiers in the area—goods that would have been necessary for supporting the roughly 1,000 militia members that faced the British at the Battle of King's Mountain.

Enthusiasts rallied to fund the installment of signage about the long-lost forge on the site.

Says William Blackley, who helped identify the site with Mitchell and Duncan, "David Allen's Settlement was a hotbed of patriotism...Through all the history research and documentation... We learned that (our community) can be proud of our major contribution to the success of the Revolutionary War."



More information and historical records can be found at:
webjmd.com/elkin/index.html

Santa Fe National Historic Trail Commemorates 200 Years with Events Along the Entire 1,200-Mile Trail



Henry Crawford plays a 19th century trader during the Santa Fe Trail's 2021 Symposium. Courtesy Joanne VanCoevern. Logo Courtesy SFTA.

Bent's Old Fort, pictured here, was the site of the 2021 Santa Fe Trail Symposium. Photo courtesy Joanne VanCoevern.

The origin of the Santa Fe National Historic Trail (SFNHT) can be traced back to June 10, 1821, when William Becknell published a notice in the Missouri Intelligencer newspaper soliciting participants for a trip "to the westward for the purpose of trading for Horses & Mules, and catching Wild Animals of every description, that we may think advantageous."

At the age of 33, Becknell led five other men from Franklin, Missouri toward the southwest beginning on September 1, 1821. Meanwhile, Captain Pedro Ignacio Gallegos and 400 troops had been sent to investigate the plunder of San Miguel by Comanches. On November 13, 1821, these two groups met just south of present-day Las Vegas, New Mexico. It was then that Becknell's party learned of Mexican Independence from Spain and, hence, of the lifting of trade restrictions.

With Becknell's arrival in Santa Fe on November 16, 1821, successful trading contact was initiated and the first legal commerce with New Mexico took place. With this first successful trading trip from the United States in 1821 William Becknell became known as the Father of the Santa Fe Trail between Missouri and New Mexico and, thus, the SFNHT was born. This set in motion over a half century of commerce and cultural exchange between New Mexico and eastern trade centers and contributed to the acquisition of the region by the United States during the Mexican War, as well as changes for the inhabitants of the region along the historic Santa Fe Trail.

The Santa Fe NHT is commemorating the 200th anniversary of Becknell's original journey with events all along the trail from Kansas City, Missouri to Santa Fe, New Mexico throughout 2021 and beyond. Notable events to date include the release of a landmark tour app listing several important historic sites along the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area in Kansas, special exhibits at Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) chapter sites in Arrow Rock Missouri State Park, the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, guided tours, programs, and performances along the entire length of the trail planned by communities and all 12 SFTA Chapters. According to SFTA Manager Joanne VanCoevern, conversations about the 200th anniversary among SFTA personnel date back to 2007 and planning for events began as long ago as 2015.

The SFTA partnered with several organizations to promote and commemorate the Santa Fe Trail 200th. This included the National Trails Office in Santa Fe, the Symphony in the Flint Hills, the American Solar Challenge, Bike Across Kansas, and Western Writers of America. A *Taste of History* filmed two segments on the SFNHT and featured four historic sites for this 15-time Emmy Award winning PBS cooking series

with Chef Walter Staib. Culminating a three-year project, the SFTA also debuted the "Santa Fe Trail 200th Traveling Timeline" which was jump-started with the award of a "Love Your Park" grant from the National Park Foundation to help create the graphic design files. The 200th Timeline includes historical and modern entries and will be displayed in conjunction with various events along the length of the Trail in a five-State area.

One of the signature events of the Santa Fe Trail 200th took place during a five-day Symposium in September at Otero College in La Junta, Colorado and Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, located outside of present-day La Junta. Reconstructed in 1976, the sprawling adobe complex is an exact replica of the outpost built along the Santa Fe Trail in 1833 by brothers Charles and William Bent with help from an aristocratic Frenchman named Ceran St. Vrain.

The 2021 Santa Fe Trail Symposium included living history displays depicting 19th-century hunters, merchants, and *Ciboleros*, or Spanish colonial buffalo hunters from New Mexico, as well as talks, presentations, and vendor displays. Bus tours of the area showed Symposium-goers to important historic sites in the area. A Mexican buffet was enjoyed in the courtyard of Bent's Old Fort with instructional entertainment and period music provided by musicians and historians Mark Lee Gardner and Rex Rideout.

Western Music Hall of Famer, and Honorary Chair of the Santa Fe Trail 200th, Michael Martin Murphey, provided a personal concert Friday evening enjoyed by all at Kiva of the Koshare Indian Museum. Saturday evening at Bent's Old Fort, following a meal of buffalo steaks, SFTA presented their Awards and Hall of Fame inductions, and the evening ended with a traditional Spanish dance known as a Fandango.

November 12-14 saw 200th anniversary events take place in New Mexico, including programs commemorating the meeting of Becknell & Gallegos near Las Vegas and several speaker presentations at the Historic Plaza Hotel. In Santa Fe, the End of the Trail Chapter hosted a dinner at the Historic La Fonda Hotel, as well as a living history reenactment of Becknell's arrival at the Santa Fe Plaza.

VanCoevern says that it has been "tremendously satisfying" to see years of planning take shape and lead to a wide array of press coverage for the organization and the events across the Trail. "It really got the word out that there is so much more to be learned about the Santa Fe Trail," she says, adding that the SFTA continues to discover new stories to commemorate in the future.



Additional Chapter and Community activities are still being planned across the SFNHT. Find details about those events at:

www.santafetrail200.org

Arizona Trail Association Releases Trail Skills Institute Series

The Arizona Trail Association’s (ATA) Trail Skills Institute video series is now online and available to the public. Each of the eight videos are less than six minutes long and are available for anyone to stream free of charge in order to remove any barriers related to cost, geography, or time constraints. The videos were produced by Outdoor Evolution Media using a variety of filming techniques and modern social media cues to establish a film series that would be informative as well as fun to watch—especially for younger viewers.



Photo courtesy ATA.

Content was developed in partnership with local conservation corps, including American Conservation Experience and Arizona Conservation Corps, to provide professional quality instruction. Quizzes accompany each video to reinforce key points and track progress toward a completion certificate. While this is not meant to replace in-person instruction, the Certificate creates a sense of accomplishment and well-earned pride to even novice trail workers, further encouraging them to stay active on the trail.

The series was a long-standing goal of the ATA that moved up on the priority chain as a result of the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Trail Skills Institute’s hands-on training series paused at the same time trail organizations nationwide experienced an explosion of interest in both trail-related recreation and volunteerism. Being outdoors was a

safe way to recreate and escape the pressures of living in a pandemic, but classroom settings—even outdoors—were not.

The ATA didn’t want to throw something together to fill a temporary hole, however. The aim was to create videos which were accessible and engaging to a more diverse audience and which gave potential volunteers a greater level of comfort for what they might expect from a day spent giving

back on the trail.

The series was developed for the unique challenges related to trail maintenance in the arid landscapes of Arizona, though many of the concepts are universal including proper vegetation pruning techniques and sustainable drain construction.

If you’d like to explore using these videos in your own program, ATA would love to hear more about how they can help your volunteers at volunteer@aztrail.org.



Learn more or check out the series on the ATA website at:

aztrail.org/get-involved/trail-skills-institute/online-trail-skills-institute-video-series/

Rethink Outside™ – It’s Time to Tell a New Story

The Rethink Outside™ Shared Narrative was the subject of the opening session of the 2021 National Trails Workshop

by Berkeley Bryant, Program Coordinator

Blue Sky Funders Forum

Time in nature has often been seen as a ‘nice to have’ and not a critical need for society. However, as research shows and as the National Trails Community knows, access to nature is a basic human need, providing many benefits including mental and physical health.

Through a collaborative, multi-year, inclusive process, Blue Sky Funders Forum launched Rethink Outside™ in 2019, a campaign to lift up the benefits of time spent outdoors from a nicety to a necessity for everyone—regardless of geographic location, race, or economic status.

Two years later, we have connected with hundreds of funders, practitioners, and allied fields, unifying our voices to express the benefits of time spent outdoors and to allocate critical resources to this work. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the elevated prominence of racial inequities and inequitable access to the outdoors in our society only made our cause more urgent. A COVID-19 messaging brief was developed to elevate the importance of equitable access to the outdoors in the context of the pandemic. We have the opportunity to capitalize on that awareness and interest by using the shared narrative to uplift the benefits of time spent outdoors, during the pandemic and beyond. The shared narrative could be a powerful tool when promoting trails as places for community building and strengthening the connections between the outdoors and public health.



Logo courtesy Blue Sky Funders Forum.

As we all work to make the outdoors more accessible and safe, prioritizing inclusive and welcoming language is key – for example, displaying trail signs and promotional materials in different forms to accommodate outdoor enthusiasts with disabilities and in multiple languages.

In 2021, Blue Sky launched the Rethink Outside™ Fellowship, a 6-month capacity and skill-building engagement for leaders and storytellers identifying as Black, Indigenous, and people of color. The 20 fellows will draw on their own experiences,

craft stories, access resources, and co-create the program. All qualified applicants to the fellowship have been invited to join an online community gathering space to be in community, and to share events, resources, tools, and more.

Using this shared narrative as a tool, we can lift up and bring new resources to our work. This narrative is not owned by any one organization—it is the story of us.



For links to more information on the Rethink Outside™ Shared Narrative, the Rethink Outside™ Fellowship, or the COVID-19 messaging brief, visit:

www.pnts.org/new/rethink-outside-shared-narrative

National Park Service Volunteer Rides and Kayaks All 680 Miles of Washington-Rochambeau Trail

Lilienthal is the first person to complete the "Revolutionary Ride"

On Saturday, August 28, National Park Service volunteer Sal Lilienthal completed a 680-mile revolutionary ride at the Yorktown Victory Monument, becoming the first person to complete a full ride of the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail (W3RNHT).

Biking the Trail was no simple feat. At 680 miles, the W3RNHT includes the land and water corridors that follow the routes taken by American and French armies under the commands of General Washington and Comte de Rochambeau to and from the siege of Yorktown, a pivotal event in the American Revolutionary War.

The trail traverses nine States: Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, plus the District of Columbia. Though the Trail is 680 miles in length, his actual journey took him on a distance of over 800 miles. Lilienthal also kayaked areas of the Trail to commemorate the water crossing of French and Continental troops.

"This journey has been a passion of mine, wanting to encourage people to learn more about the history of the Trail and living a healthy lifestyle," said Lilienthal. "I travelled a full 800 miles, visited nine States and the District of Columbia, and just met incredible people at every stop I made."

On August 14, Lilienthal began his two-week ride in Newport, Rhode Island. His most notable stops were Morristown National Historical Park,



Sal Lilienthal completes his 680-mile tour of the W3RUS at Yorktown Victory Monument. Photo courtesy NPS.

where Superintendent Tom Ross, staff, and volunteers welcomed him to the park. He also stopped in the Village of Brandywine, in Wilmington, Delaware, where he performed a bike clinic and led about 30 inner city youth on a ride.

The tour certainly had its setbacks. On the day he departed Newport, Lilienthal's support van experienced a mechanical breakdown and his team had to revert to a rental truck. On the night of August 22, the rental truck, containing virtually everything needed to complete the trip, was stolen from the hotel parking lot. When most would have taken that as a sign to give up, Lilienthal took it as a challenge, bought a new bicycle, rented another car, and got back on the road. This is a testament to his patience, dedication and determination.

This ride was challenging in countless ways and, for that, we are extremely grateful that Sal had the strength and passion to complete it," said Trail Administrator Johnny Carawan. "By completing this ride, Sal has brought awareness to our Trail and its significant role in our nation's history. Not to mention, he now has the distinction of being the first person to bike and kayak the entire length of the Trail!"

This story first appeared on the NPS W3RUS website at nps.gov/waro/learn/news/lilienthal.htm

COMINGS AND GOINGS

We Welcome...

Tracy Stone-Manning to Lead Bureau of Land Management



Logo courtesy BLM.

The Senate confirmed the appointment of Tracy Stone Manning as head of the Bureau of Land Management. Stone-Manning previously ran Montana's Department of Environmental Quality and most recently served as head of the National Wildlife Federation. More than 100 conservation and public land groups supported her nomination. She is the first person to lead the organization since the Obama administration.



Photo courtesy ATC.

Drew Ball was named Regional Director of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's (ATC) Southern Region.



Photo courtesy AMC.

Liam Cregan was appointed as the New England National Scenic Trail Coordinator by the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC). He will be replacing Heather Clish on the Partnership for the National Trails System's Trail Leaders Council.



Photo courtesy ATC.

Rachel Lettre was named Regional Director of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy's Mid-Atlantic Region.

We Bid Farewell to...

- NPS South Atlantic-Gulf Regional Director *Stan Austin* retired on July 31 after 43 years of Federal service.
- Howard Miller* retired from the National Park Service's Land Acquisition Program after 55 years with NPS.

Submit 'Comings and Goings' at your organization for publication in Pathways' print or online versions to: communication@npts.org



Find more 'Comings and Goings' and links to features at:

npts.org/new/fall-2021-comings-and-goings

Short Film Spotlights Pilgrimage on the Juan Bautista de Anza NHT



Images courtesy Border Community Alliance; artwork by Rocío LaPierre.

Every year beginning in late September and culminating on October 4, thousands of pilgrims from all over Mexico and southern Arizona converge on the city of Magdalena de Kino, Mexico, bringing a 120-mile stretch of the Juan Bautista de Anza Trail National Historic Trail (JBDANHT) to life. It's a journey known as the "Pilgrimage to Magdalena", and a new short documentary film produced by the National Park Service and the JBDANHT in partnership with the Border Community Alliance (BCA) of southern Arizona is bringing the story of this little-known yet epic event to audiences around the world.

The pilgrims make the journey on foot or on horseback, beginning at various cities in the region, including one cohort that starts their journey 115 miles north of the final destination at the San Xavier del Bac Mission south of Tucson—the northernmost of the 24 Spanish-style missions established by Father Eusebio Francisco Kino in the Sonoran Desert Region of modern-day Arizona and Mexico during the 17th and 18th centuries—ultimately ending at the Chapel of Saint Francis in Magdalena, which also happens to be Father Kino's burial site.

The tradition of walking through the Sonoran Desert for spiritual and cultural reasons can be traced back to Indigenous peoples of the region in pre-Hispanic times. The Pilgrimage itself, however, began in 1711 when Father Kino passed away in Magdalena, spurring the first pilgrims to make the trek from San Xavier del Bac to honor him and pay homage to his patron saint, Francis Xavier.

The pilgrims walk to fulfill their *mandas*, or promises made to Saint Francis in exchange for favor or protection. The end of the journey includes a moment of prayer and reflection at the Chapel over a reclining statue of the Saint. Legend has it that this statue was brought to the church by Father Kino himself.

Patrick Yoon, Community Volunteer Ambassador for the JBDANHT, points out that the roots of the Trail go back thousands of years, much further back than the trip made by Juan Bautista de Anza that gave the Trail its name. "It's been used by indigenous peoples. It's been used as a hunting network... It's been used as a trade network. It's had numerous uses and, at one point in a 6-month period, it was used by Juan Bautista de Anza and the 240 men, women and children (in his party). But that was only a six-month period in this thousand year time frame."

The Pilgrimage to Magdalena, Yoon says, is just one more example of the "complexity" of the trail, which continues to unite people across cultural and international borders. "This legacy continues today," Yoon says. "People use this trail every single day for major travel and recreation. And, because of this trail, you can see multiple different cultures tied together." He says it was this fact that made it important for the folks at the JBDANHT to highlight the multicultural Pilgrimage on the Trail south of the US border with Mexico. "Even though it begins in another country, it's still a part of the heritage of the United States," Yoon says.

Currently the *Pilgrimage to Magdalena* film is being showcased at film festivals around the world, including the Religion Today Film Festival in Trento, Italy, where it won top prize in the "Migrations and Coexistence" category and was granted a two-week streaming engagement on Vativision, a streaming service developed and operated by the Vatican. BCA is currently looking for additional distribution and screening opportunities and hopes to share the film via Zoom this fall.

Anyone interested in hosting a screening of the film should contact BCA Board Member Sara Martin at smartin@bordercommunityalliance.org.



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Have you recently moved? Changed jobs? Gotten a new email?
 Please contact us at admin@pnts.org so we can keep our database up-to-date. Thank you!

Event Calendar

www.pnts.org/new/events/



Event dates/details are subject to change.

Nov 13 - 14	The Arrival! - La Llegada!	Santa Fe, NM	santafetrail200.org/calendar-of-events
Nov 19 - 22	Tour the Trace Bike Race	Nashville, TN	tourthetrace.com
Nov 26	Fat Turkey Long Distance Hike	Hampton, CT	ctwoodlands.org/cfpa-events/fat-turkey-long-distance-hike
Dec 11	National Pony Express Association Christmas Card Ride	Cozad to Gothenburg, NE; Folsom to Sacramento, CA	nationalponyexpress.org/events
Feb 14 - 18	Hike the Hill®	Virtual	pnts.org/new/our-work/hike-the-hill

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