



CLEAR THINKING

OUR LETTER

WE PRESERVE,
PROTECT,
& MANAGE
THE NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT
WITHIN THE
WATERSHED
AND TOWNSHIP
FOR FUTURE
GENERATIONS.

STRENGTH IN COMMUNITY

Our community increasingly agrees on one thing – the natural beauty of the land and water here is a shared treasure to be protected. This growing sense of community is the thing we are most grateful for as we look back on 2020.

We'll give you five good reasons we are grateful and optimistic.

1. You invested in the future. Almost 200 of you responded generously to the Year End Appeal, including Giving Tuesday. 68 of the donors were first time donors. These funds ensure that the Conservancy's mission, operations, and key projects like Settlers Wetland will flourish in 2021. The Sustainability Fund keeps growing. Thank you on behalf of the entire community. We're in it together!

2. COVID did not slow our mission. We were able to adapt and adjust how we manage land preservation, education, and water quality. Special kudos to Bridget and Tracy!

3. You showed up. The community rolled up its sleeves for projects ranging from the spring "community trash clean-up" to kiosk building at Brennan Woods. Our volunteer base increased. Our committees expanded. The Board was active and forward-thinking. This signals confidence in our future.

4. Our video captured the community spirit. Our first-ever video, *Protecting What We Love*, is only 3 ½ minutes and has been viewed more than 700 times so far. The production was all volunteer. It is a calm reminder every day of the natural beauty we are fortunate to share as a community.

5. We listened. Over 50 community families met with us to share memories, hopes, dreams, and concerns for the Conservancy's mission and work. We called them "Porch Chats" but they were actually Zoom or Yard Chats. These conversations are key to our future and will continue.

This issue of *Clear Thinking* has a new look as we mark the 30th Anniversary of CLTLC in 2021. We'll keep the same focus on land and water quality projects and education. We'll add more photos, volunteer features and quick updates. Our website will always have a full array of Conservancy resources and information. You'll see a more direct link between the two resources. We'd value your feedback.

We love this community and appreciate your support and involvement. We are hopeful that 2021 will allow us to again gather safely as a community to celebrate 30 years of Conservancy progress. Won't that be a joyous occasion! Details to follow.

Karen Horrell, *President* & **Bridget Harrison**, *Executive Director*

clearlakeconservancy.org





PERFECTLY PASSIONATE POLLINATORS

What helps
provide that piece
of chocolate and
that cup of “joe?”

**THE MISSION OF EVERY LIVING BEING,
INCLUDING PLANTS, IS TO REPRODUCE,
THEREBY CREATING OFFSPRING FOR THE
NEXT GENERATION.**

Pollination is the transfer of pollen grains from the male portion (anther) of the flower of a plant to the female portion (stigma) enabling fertilization and the production of seeds. While some plants are self-pollinating, most require some form of “movement” by an outside source – a pollinator. These are transporters of continuing life in the world of plants.

Many of the pollinators are the B “guys” - those beauties that begin with the second letter of the alphabet. Probably the first to come to mind is the good ol’ honeybee. But there are so many more that dwell in that BEautiful realm. There are birds and bats, all sorts of “bugs,” bees, beetles and butterflies. And we can extend the list to some marvelous M’s: moths, midges, mammals (small ones) and oh my, even mosquitoes.

From information from the Pollinators Partnership (www.pollinator.org), we learn that between 75 and 95% of all flowering plants need help with pollination. Pollinators provide this wondrous service. To what? To over 180,000 different plant species and 1200 agricultural crops. Are we affected? Well, one third of every single bite of food that we eat is there because of the diligent work of those busy pollinators.

At least 130 fruit and vegetable crops – including some of your favorites – would not be present without our insect pollinators. Without them there would be no Apples, Blueberries, or Cherries (and that is just at the beginning of the alphabet). In addition there would be no – oh my! - no chocolate and no coffee!



SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW THE FULL ARTICLE ONLINE AT CLEARLAKECONSERVANCY.ORG/NEWS ←

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Anonymous (9)	Fankhauser Family Fund <i>at the Greater Toledo Community Foundation on behalf of Ken Fankhauser</i>	Tom & Susan Kramer	Scott & Bronwyn Pepple	Lynn Wehrenberg	Laurie & Ron Sellers <i>H: Larry Gilbert</i>	Cindy Stovall <i>H: Todd Rumsey</i>
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THE CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP LAND CONSERVANCY ISSUE NO.35

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JANUARY 2021

THIS ISSUE



01. *STRENGTH IN
COMMUNITY*
02. *PERFECTLY PASSIONATE
POLLINATORS*
03. *SUPPORT*

*"A PLACE BECOMES A HOME WHEN IT
SUSTAINS YOU, WHEN IT FEEDS YOU
IN BODY AS WELL AS SPIRIT."*

ROBIN WALL KIMMERER

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