

Winter 2017

# Vermilion Conservationist

Forest Glen

Kennekuk

Lake Vermilion

Heron



**Note from Editor:**

Several years ago, to save printing and mailing costs, the VCCD created an electronic only version of our Winter Conservationist Newsletter. Since such a small percentage of our readers receive the electronic newsletter, we decided to condense the winter newsletter to highlight our upcoming programs. We will be back in the Spring of 2018 with a full newsletter with district news, articles, and more for all our readers, both on our postal mailing list and electronic list, to enjoy!



**Director's Dateline  
Ken Konsis**

We at the VCCD were deeply saddened to hear about the passing of Marilyn Campbell on September 17. Marilyn was the first Director of Education and Programs for the District, hired on February 19, 1969. She began her employment with the title of Chief Naturalist. Implementing the Outdoor School program in 1972, her staff included Brian Baldwin, Mark Pittman, Gary Wilford, and Steve Weller. In 1987, I was fortunate to join her staff and also began teaching Outdoor School. Switching to the education staff enabled me to do more outreach in the community and was the base training for my administrative career.

Marilyn retired from the VCCD in 1994 to become the executive director of the Illinois Audubon Society. During her memorial gathering in October, IAS members credited her with saving the society. She was also the overseer of ten Illinois sanctuaries and spearheaded the acquisitions of many tracts of land for the protection of many threatened and endangered species. Marilyn remained very active throughout her life, while working with therapy dogs and visiting our local Veteran's Administration Medical Center and nursing homes. She was a world traveler that loved to photograph rare birds and the beauty of nature. She will be missed by many people because she touched so many lives.

**"To assure our people permanent access  
to their outdoor heritage"**

# Bunker Hill Historic Area

## Holiday Open House

Sunday, December 3, 2017

2:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Come out to Kennekuk County Park's Bunker Hill Historic Area to take in the sights of an old-fashioned holiday season.

The Print Shop, Atwood Home, Neff Grocery Store, Red Oak School, and Vermilion Chapel will all be open and decorated for visitors to enjoy.

Refreshments, cookies, holiday crafts for the kids, music, and more can be enjoyed at no charge to celebrate the season!



The Holiday Open House is only one day, but the Holiday Lights at Kennekuk will continue every night from December 3 through December 31, 2017 at the Kennekuk Visitor Center and Bunker Hill Historic Area.

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### Sneak Preview of 2018 Events and Programs

Mark your calendars now!

**January 3, 2018** - First day to reserve shelters/buildings for 2018 year. Call 217-442-1691 for Kennekuk and Lake Vermilion reservations, 217-662-2142 for Forest Glen reservations or come into either park's Visitor Center to reserve in person. Reservations in person begin at 7:30am, phone call reservations begin at 8am. For full details on available shelters, including pricing, capacity, and photos, visit [www.vccd.org](http://www.vccd.org).

**March 18, 2018** - Maple Syrup Open House and Pancake/Sausage Dinner; Sugar Bush and Gannett Center, Forest Glen Preserve; Maple Syrup making demonstration; pioneer cabin; maple syrup sales and a pancake & sausage dinner with Forest Glen Maple Syrup is served in Gannett Outdoor Education Center (11-4 p.m.); Dinner prices are \$5.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 and under. Call 217-662-2142 for information.

**May 11, 2018** - Conservation Olympics; Forest Glen Preserve; 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.; 6th graders from area schools compete in athletic events while testing their environmental knowledge; free; call 217-442-1691 for additional information.

For up-to-date information on programs, nature news, events, and more, be sure to visit [www.vccd.org](http://www.vccd.org) and like us on our Facebook page under "Vermilion County Conservation District"

You can contact us at:      **Kennekuk County Park**  
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217-442-1691

**Forest Glen Preserve**  
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