

Another Successful American Kestrel Season

As Summer wraps up, we bid adieu to our feathered friends! This summer, our American Kestrel boxes hosted two families allowing our habitat team to band a total of 8 baby American Kestrels. Since 2007, the team alongside our late friend Paul Karner has banded 102 American Kestrel falcons at Grand Central Landfill. On Saturday, August 5, habitat team members Kevin Kelly and Adrienne Fors presented Paul's wife Marlene and daughter Danielle with an appreciation plaque to recognize Paul's contribution to conservation in Northampton County. The team was joined by Paul's federal bird banding buddy, Jere Schade. We are proud of Paul and Jere's falcon work and thank them both for their support and time spent teaching our team about American Kestrels.



Photos by Lisa Newberry, The Belt and Beyond



The Bee's Find Their Way to Grand Central

A bee swarm was found by the Grand Central Habitat Team hanging on a branch in the parking lot on Friday and knew exactly what action to take ... and it did not involve pesticides. Initially, our site's beekeeper and friend John Stone thought the swarm was from one of his bee hives he is tending to on the Grand Central's property. However, after arriving at the site and inspecting the swarm that had congregated in a tree near the site's parking lot, John spotted the swarm's queen and knew the swarm wasn't from the landfill's hives. "At this time of year, the queen will mate and double the size of the hive," John said. "Likely, someone in the area also has a hive." Bees are fascinating creatures and there's a lot more than honey-making going on inside their busy hives. Queen bees can live as long as five years and can lay as many as 1,000 eggs a day. "Overall, it's a great sign that the bees are doing as they should. This is the key to the bee population reproducing," said John who collected and relocated the 5,000-bee swarm to a new hive.

Slate Belt Regional Celebrates National Night Out

Thank you to the Slate Belt Regional Police for hosting WM and many others during their first National Night Out on August 1. The event was packed full of fun – from the demonstration of Zorro to watching the Chief get dunked in the dunk tank, our team enjoyed chatting with our friends and neighbors!

If you missed Zorro at the National Night Out, you can meet him on September 30 from 11am-2pm at our Annual Chili Cook-off!

