



Conservation News

Protecting Open Space on Long Island's North Shore

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The field at the top of the DeForest Williams property

DeForest Williams Challenge Grant Met - \$330,000 To Go

We are very pleased to report that completion of the *Campaign to Acquire the 32-Acre DeForest Williams Property* in Cold Spring Harbor is drawing near. Our community has done something quite wonderful here and we are so close to the finish line. Among government, foundations and private individuals – WE HAVE RAISED \$8,170,000 TOWARD THIS \$8,500,000 PURCHASE!

Most notably, on May 31st, we met the \$500,000 dollar-for-dollar, matching grant opportunity extended to us in late February by an exceedingly helpful anonymous donor. But, we are not there yet ... we still have \$330,000 to go to complete the entire transaction!

As an added incentive to donors, the Land Alliance has developed a naming rights program which allows generous donors to endow the stewardship of a beautiful tree, install a native pollinator garden, plant a small orchard of fruit trees or purchase a bench to honor a family member or friend. Naming opportunities range from \$10,000 to \$250,000. To date, we have sold the right to name the main trail head, the planting of one of two small fruit tree orchards and a trailside bench.

(Continued on pg. 3)



Dear Land Alliance Friends,

The working group of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recently issued preliminary findings from two of three reports that will be finalized this fall. The first report concluded that “warming of the climate is unequivocal.” The second report confirmed that sea level is rising from melting ice caps, water supplies are coming under stress, extreme weather events are more frequent, coral reefs are dying, the world’s food supply is at considerable risk as are our oceans and forests and we are seeing the extinction of flora and fauna. Further, *the New York Times* in its review of the IPCC reports stated, “the worst is yet to come.”

Long Island, like the rest of the world, is facing very serious environmental challenges. Yet we are different in that we are an “island,” surrounded by saltwater and sitting on top of a sole-source freshwater aquifer, which means we will be forced to face these challenges sooner than many other locations.

Last fall, a week-long series in *Newsday* began on September 24th with “Pollution and LI’s Water: Island’s sole source aquifer lies beneath 254 Superfund toxic waste sites,” documenting the most pressing issues facing Long Island. Issues in subsequent articles included pollution from septic systems, aging sewer plants and storm water runoff, pumping too much water out of the aquifer for irrigation and higher levels of manganese found near facilities processing vegetative waste.

Just as concerning, *Newsday* recently reported that New York City plans to reopen 52 of its 68 shuttered wells in Queens, pumping millions of gallons of drinking water from the aquifer under Long Island -- a move that some policymakers and environmentalists say could harm Nassau County’s access to its only source of water. The City’s plan, known as “Water for the Future,” calls for more than a billion dollars in repairs to its aqueduct system (the tunnels that transport water from upstate reservoirs). While the system is under construction, the City intends to offset shortfalls by pumping 33 million gallons per day from the aquifer system under Long Island. For perspective, Nassau draws about 170 million gallons per day, so the City’s plan would instantaneously compound that strain by withdrawing an additional 20% daily.

Most experts agree that the City’s pumping will cause “increased saltwater intrusion on the county’s north and south shores, a shift in the direction of underground plumes of contamination, and a general drawdown of the aquifer system.” Sarah Meyland, Land Alliance Advisory Board member and director of the Center for Water Resources Management at the New York Institute of Technology, observed, “As soon as those wells come on, you’re going to increase the natural loss of water from Nassau into the Queens part of the aquifer system. The City will be de facto taking Nassau water once they turn those wells on.”

While these issues are dire, it is encouraging that so many people in both the public and private sectors are rallying to find a suite of solutions that will fix the problem before it is too late. In this issue of *Conservation News*, we will highlight some of the good work that is being done and the people who are leading the charge. And you, as land conservationists, know conserving land is an essential part of the solution, which includes providing groundwater recharge areas, filtering harmful stormwater from beaches and bays, hosting trees that cool our houses and clean our air and growing local food that reduces the need to transport food from far away.

We have great hope for the future of our community because we are working with all of you to protect it!

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Carter Bales".

Carter F. Bales, Chairman

DeForest Williams

(Continued from page 1)

Once this property has been acquired, which we expect to happen in August, it will be co-owned by Suffolk County, Town of Huntington and North Shore Land Alliance. The property will be called the Wawapek Preserve and will be maintained by the Land Alliance as a passive use preserve (the Town's most restrictive park designation). Wawapek Farm was the original name of the property occupied by the DeForest and Williams families for more than 100 years.

Wawapek Preserve will be open to our community from sunup to sundown. A split rail fence and gate will mark the entrance to the property, in keeping with its residential location on Spring Hill Road. A plaque listing all donors will also be installed at the entrance. A small pervious-surface parking lot will be constructed inside the gate to avoid street parking. It is our hope that in time (and with a stewardship endowment), the Land Alliance will be able to continuously improve the habitat value of this magical place. Thanks again for your generous, past support and what we hope will be future support in creating a natural place that will bring peace, joy and beauty to the local community.

Once the official closing has taken place, the Land Alliance cordially invites all neighbors and donors to join us in celebration of this community triumph. A workshop with neighbors of the Preserve will also be held to plan for future use.

DeForest Williams Naming Opportunities

Welcoming Entrance/ Fencing and Garden	\$250,000
Main Trail Head (SOLD)	\$100,000
Parking Area	\$100,000
Spur Trail	\$50,000
Tree Stewardship-Evergreens and Specimen Trees	\$40,000
Pollinator/Wildflower Gardens (2 Available)	\$30,000
Small Flowering Tree Orchards (1 SOLD , 1 Available)	\$25,000
Large Garden Benches (4 Available)	\$15,000
Trail Benches (2 available, 1 SOLD)	\$10,000

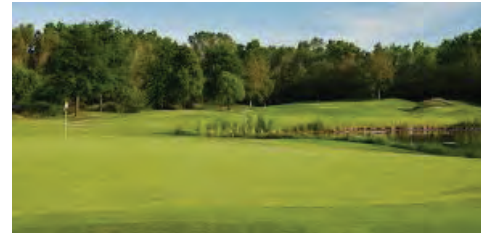
For additional information or to take advantage of a naming opportunity, please contact Lisa Ott at 516-626-0908.



Copper Beech tree at the DeForest Williams property



Protecting Land Protects Water



One of the most important reasons to protect land on Long Island is to protect our water, both drinking water and surface water like beaches, bays and ponds.

Long Islanders are fortunate to have their own drinking water source, underground aquifers created hundreds of thousands of years ago by the glaciers that moved through this region. Permeable surfaces, such as open land, are necessary for rain and snow to be absorbed and make their way downward to replenish the aquifer. Water is cleaned along the way as it passes through layers of silt, sand and gravel before it reaches its destination.

In an effort to protect Long Island's aquifers, unique in New York State, nine Special Groundwater Protection Areas (SGPAs) were designated in the early 80's. These areas, also known as the Deep Flow Recharge Areas, represent the headwaters of the system and are the most important areas to protect. Two SGPAs, North Hills and Oyster Bay, are located in the Land Alliance's designated area and their boundaries represent the heart of the Land Alliance's priority conservation area.

Long Islanders are also very fortunate to enjoy 1,180 miles of shoreline. Our coastal areas provide us with beautiful scenic vistas and extraordinary recreational opportunities. They also support a vibrant fishing industry and attract tourists at a rate of more than five million per year, generating millions of dollars of support for our local economy.

What we do at the surface affects the quality and quantity of the water that lies below. Rapid development and very heavy usage have accelerated the spread of contaminants into the deeper, purer layers of the aquifer. The most serious of those include nitrogen from septic tanks and sewage treatment plants and fertilizers. Excessive population driven water withdrawal has also created saltwater intrusion in certain coastal communities. Dense development has paved over natural recharge areas and increased storm water runoff that pollutes our beaches and bays.

Open lands provide a natural infrastructure integral to the health of our waters.

Two groups have emerged as leaders in the effort to protect this precious resource, the Long Island Clean Water Partnership and Water for Long Island. The Land Alliance works with both organizations to improve our chances for a clean water future.

The Long Island Clean Water Partnership is a coalition of more than 100 individuals and organizations advocating for legislation that will set water quality standards to reduce the amount of sewage pollution in our local waters and improve, upgrade and modernize existing sewer and septic systems.

Water for Long Island is a group of organizations and concerned citizens who work to advance actions for effective groundwater and water supply management in Nassau County.

Teaching a New Generation about Long Island Water

Our educational programming has been building for some time. Through our outreach, educational panel discussions and our *Walks in the Woods*, the Land Alliance has felt the need to have a stronger presence in local schools. At the same time, there is increasing recognition that Long Island's water is perhaps our community's most precious and possibly most vulnerable resource. Still, many Long Islanders are unaware that the source of their drinking water is the aquifer under their feet or that nitrogen is the number one contaminant of our harbors, Long Island Sound and the ocean. For all of these reasons, a generous donor has offered to fund a part-time educator to enter local schools to implement a three-lesson series of programs that will start in the classroom and move outdoors. Students will learn about Long Island's groundwater, surface waters and watersheds and stewardship of this essential resource, while using interactive models, diagrams, maps and aerial photos. Designed for fourth graders, the program can be modified for use with other ages or with after-school students. A selection of follow-up activities participants can do on their own or with their classroom teachers will be included, and state and federal education standards will be addressed.

With an introduction in the classroom, the first lesson will introduce students to the aquifer from which their drinking water comes. Students will learn how water enters and leaves the aquifer and how contaminants and excessive use can threaten water quality and quantity.

The second lesson, to be conducted on school grounds or within walking distance of the school, will identify the concept of watersheds. This will include a discussion on where rain goes and describe storm water runoff and its connection to the health of our streams, ponds, bays and Long Island Sound. Students will assess how their activities can be harmful or beneficial to our surface waters.

The final lesson will take place at a local nature preserve where there is a pond, stream or beach. Students will identify where they are in a watershed and the role local topography plays in shaping the water body at the site. They will also make comparisons between the preserve and nearby developed land and discuss features that may impact water quality. Through any of a number of activities (including water quality or soil testing, a beach exploration, planting native plants, a study of wildlife at the site and pulling invasive plants), participants will become familiar with the preserve and interactions among its inhabitants. This will help students recognize how their actions can affect the quality and quantity of its water for preserve visitors and inhabitants alike.



We hope that implementation of this program in local schools will encourage students, and, in turn, their families, to become stewards of the waters that make Long Island such a desirable place to live.

If your school would like to participate, please contact Jane Jackson at 516-626-0908 or send an email to jjackson@northshorelandalliance.org.

Habitat Restoration Continues at 95 Shore Road



After a long, cold winter, we are delighted to be embarking on habitat restoration at the former ExxonMobil property this spring. Drive by 95 Shore Road in Cold Spring Harbor and you will see activity and some changes afoot. We have selected Scenic Designs, Inc. (from a number of proposals from very talented applicants) as our contractor to launch grassland and wet meadow enhancements in accordance with our habitat restoration plan. As you may have noticed if you visited or drove by the property in summer or fall of 2013, many of the grasses seeded by ExxonMobil prior to transfer of the property were thriving last year. The seeding and planting being conducted this spring will complement and enhance those efforts.

After an early spring mow of the property, native grass and wildflower seeds are being sown via a practice known as “no till” seeding, which preserves moisture in the soil and causes minimal soil disturbance. A blade creates a shallow opening in the soil, seed is deposited, then small wheels press soil back over the seed. A diversity of grass and wildflower species

characteristic of maritime and tall grasslands on Long Island has been planted and a footpath has been designed in accordance with our restoration plan. After seeding, plugs, many of which are from the Long Island Native Plant Initiative, are being planted with the help of volunteers. Among the volunteers participating on planting days are members of the Three Harbors Garden Club, which made a generous donation for the purchase of plant materials for the site, and East Woods School eighth graders.

What’s to come over the next few months? A diversity of short and tall grasses and wildflowers – the vibrant yellow, orange and purple of goldenrods, butterfly weed and asters in summer and early fall. Wet meadow, where the soils are particularly moist, punctuated by stands of blue flag iris, swamp milkweed and cattail. And, thanks to a contribution from Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society (HOBAS), a pollinator garden towards the front of the property, where a variety of shrubs and trees will also be ensconced.



We are grateful for support for this project from a Natural Resources Damage Assessment grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), which has selected it as one of three restoration projects to be funded with monies from a 2003 settlement in a natural resource damage claim against a Superfund Site located in Glen Cove.

According to the USFWS, these funds must be used “to compensate for those injuries by restoring the natural resources, supporting habitat, and/or services provided by the injured resources.” The funding awarded on behalf of the U.S. Department of the Interior, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is being matched by \$35,000 from several sources, including a grant from ExxonMobil.

Many thanks to planting and stewardship volunteers:

East Woods School * Three Harbors Garden Club

Anne Codey * Patrick Crowley

Eric Himelfarb * Rob Katz * Rich Kopsco*

Sahil Massand * Joel Shaw

A selection of species being planted at 95 Shore Road, Cold Spring Harbor

Long Island ecotypes have been used when available. These seeds and plugs are sourced from native plants growing on Long Island so are best suited for local conditions. Thanks to Long Island Native Plant Initiative (LINPI), the Greenbelt Native Plant Center and others, these plant materials are increasingly available for private and commercial use.

GRASSES/GRAMINOIDS:

Dicanthelium clandestinum (Deer Tongue)

Eragrostis spectabilis (Purple Lovegrass)

Juncus effusus (Soft Rush)

WILDFLOWERS:

Asclepias incarnata (Swamp Milkweed)

Asclepias syriaca (Common Milkweed)

Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly Weed)

Baptisia tinctoria (False Indigo)

Eupatorium hyssopifolium (Hyssop-leaved Thoroughwort)

Eupatorium perfoliatum (Thoroughwort)

Euthamia caroliniana (Slender Goldentop)

Eutrochium fistulosum (Joe Pye-Weed)

Pityopsis falcata (Atlantic Golden Aster)

Pycnanthemum tenuifolium (Short-leaved Mountain-mint)

Pycnanthemum virginianum (Virginia Mountain-mint)

Solidago juncea (Early Goldenrod)

Symphotrichum leave (Smooth Blue Aster)

Leaving Your Legacy

How to conserve your land for future generations



The next generation-Steven Searl and son

When I was a small boy, my grandfather sat me on his lap and let me help him drive the tractor as we slowly toured our family's 250-acre farm on the East End of Long Island. Depending on the time of year, we might be looking for the first signs of asparagus or an indication of peach leaf curl, the wrinkled look that the tips of peach leaves have when oriental fruit moths are at work. What I didn't realize at the time was that these tractor rides were much more than they seemed. They fostered in me a connection to both my family's history and our agrarian way of life (the farm has been in my family for 13 generations), and instilled a conservation ethic that would carry through to the next generation. By the time my Grandfather passed away in the late 1990s, he had successfully conserved over half of the farm's acreage and was one of the first farmers in Suffolk County to sell development rights to the County. And by doing so, my grandparents

successfully conserved a working farm and paved the way for my extended family to use and enjoy our land for generations to come.

My work and passion for land conservation comes from my personal experience, and it's precisely this deep and personal connection to the land that inspires many landowners to consider conservation. Land conservation has evolved significantly over the past few decades. It can be tailored to fit the needs and goals of individual landowners. There is no set way to conserve property, but rather a range of options that can fit all manner of family circumstances and property attributes.

One of the most frequently utilized conservation tools is the conservation easement. A **conservation easement** is a voluntary, perpetual legal agreement between landowner and qualified conservation organization, such

as the North Shore Land Alliance, to protect the existing conservation values (eg: open space, wildlife habitat, farmland, scenic viewsheds, etc.) and restrict detrimental future uses of the land (eg: commercial and residential development). Conservation easements are flexible in design. Easements can cover the entire property or only a portion of it, and they can be drafted to accommodate accessory structures, agricultural use, specific land management practices and other existing/future uses so long as the conservation values are not adversely affected. While conservation easements run with the land, they do not prevent landowners from privately owning, using, selling or bequeathing their land as they wish.

The success of conservation easements can also be attributed to incentives that are currently in place for donated easements, including the potential for a 1) federal tax deduction, 2) New York State tax credit, 3) reduction in estate tax liability and 4) reduction in local property taxes. Conservation easements might be the most popular tool, but the land trust community has employed many other strategies such as purchase of development rights, bargain sales, conservation subdivisions, life estates and outright land donations, just to name a few.

To learn more about the tools and benefits of conservation please contact me at 516-626-0908 or send an email to stephen@northshorelandalliance.org.

North Shore Land Alliance Receives National Accreditation



North Shore Land Alliance is pleased to announce it has received formal accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance. The process, which constituted a comprehensive organizational audit, took three years and more than 400 hours to complete. It involved the efforts of both our board and staff. The Land Alliance was one of 17 other land trusts receiving this year's awards and the only recipient in New York. Of the 1,700 land trusts in operation across the country, only 254 have been accredited.

"Accredited land trusts now account for 54% of the 20,645,165 acres currently owned in fee or protected by a conservation easement held by a land trust," said Commission Executive Director Tammara Van Ryn. "Accreditation provides the public with the assurance that accredited land trusts meet high standards for quality and that the results of their conservation work are permanent."

Community leaders in land trusts throughout the country have worked with willing landowners to save over 47 million acres of farms, forests, parks and places people care about, including land transferred to public agencies and protected via other means. Conserving land helps ensure clean air and drinking water, safe food, scenic vistas, wildlife habitat and

places for people to connect with nature.

"The seal of accreditation is a way to prove to their communities that land trusts are worthy of the significant public and private investment in land conservation," noted Land Trust Alliance President Rand Wentworth.

About the Land Trust Accreditation Commission:

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, based in Saratoga Springs, NY, inspires excellence, promotes public trust and ensures permanence in the conservation of open lands by recognizing land trust organizations that meet rigorous quality standards and that strive for continuous improvement. The Commission, established in 2006 as an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, is governed by a volunteer board of diverse land conservation and non-profit management experts from around the country.

About The Land Trust Alliance:

The Land Trust Alliance is a national conservation group that works to save the places people love by strengthening conservation throughout America. It increases the pace and quality of conservation by advocating favorable tax policies, training land trusts in best practices and working to ensure the permanence of conservation in the face of continuing threats.

Trousdell House Sold!



The closing for the Trousdel House in Oyster Bay took place on Friday, March 14th. The new owners signed a conservation easement which will prevent further development on the property and protect its most important trees. Lee Construction did a wonderful job with the renovation and a major landscaping effort is underway. The Board of Trustees of the North Shore Land Alliance wish the Taglich Family many happy years at 198 East Main Street.

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Federal

2014 Farm Bill

President Obama signed the Farm Bill into law this spring and, for the first time in history, it included \$1.3 Billion to help land trusts purchase conservation easements on farms and ranches. This legislation creates the largest single government funding source for land conservation and will be most helpful in ensuring access to fresh, local food across America.

Enhanced Incentive for Conservation Easements

A number of critical charitable incentives included as part of the annual tax extenders package expired on January 1, 2014 along with other provisions. These included the IRA charitable rollover and the enhanced deductions for donating food inventory and conservation easements. These incentives have been critical to supporting the land conservation movement and our important work of preserving natural areas, working farms, ground and surface water and sites of historic and cultural value.

The House Ways and Means Committee voted on May 29, 2014 to make these three charitable provisions permanent, and the full House is poised to consider the legislation in a floor vote very soon. The Senate has looked favorably at these provisions for some time.

The enhanced deduction for donations of conservation easements allows land owners to potentially receive a meaningful tax deduction for permanently protecting their property's natural resources and other conservation values. A survey by the Land Trust Alliance showed that this enhanced incentive helped 1,700 land trusts increase the pace of conservation by a third – to over a million acres a year.

These charitable tax provisions have been allowed to expire four times in recent years. On each of the three previous occasions, an entire package of tax extenders was reinstated retroactively at the end of the following year. While this may be an adequate solution for many provisions in the extenders package, these charitable provisions are different. Without an incentive in place for gifts of conservation easements, property owners will either wait to preserve their land or consider other options. Please help us get these tax incentives passed by contacting your local U.S. Congressional representative!



New York State

Long Island Water Quality Control Act & Long Island Commission on Aquifer Protection

Assemblyman Sweeney and Senator Lavelle have proposed new legislation, A-9788A/S-7804, which would create the Long Island Water Quality Control Act & Long Island Commission on Aquifer Protection - An Amendment to Article 15 of New York State Environmental Conservation Law (NYSECL).

The bill establishes Title 35 of the NYSECL, and requires the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in collaboration with regional health departments, drinking water purveyors and other water quality stakeholders, to regulate ground and surface water resources in Nassau and Suffolk Counties in an integrated way to ensure groundwater's best usage as drinking water, and to protect and restore the ecological integrity of Long Island's surface waters.

Specific actions include:

- Develop a Water Resources Management Strategy
- Provide Local Water Resources Survey and Planning
- Develop and Regularly Update A "State of the Aquifer" Report
- Establish Watershed-Based Water Quality Criteria and Standards
- Wastewater Infrastructure Investment
- Pesticide Evaluation and Restriction
- Pesticide and Nutrient Management Specific Management Actions:
- NYSDEC may delegate authority to regional

GOVERNMENT UPDATES

health departments provided such delegation does not obviate NYSDEC's responsibilities pursuant to the act.

- After 1/1/2016, automatic sprinklers installed in Nassau/Suffolk shall have rain sensors
- After the effective date, Environmental Benefit projects in Nassau/Suffolk shall be prioritized to increase hazardous waste collection days
- After 1/1/2017, all new/substantial reconstruction in county-designated nitrogen reduction areas shall use denitrification systems approved by Nassau/Suffolk Counties.
- No major repairs to cesspools may be allowed in designated priority nitrogen reduction areas. This requirement can be waived by county health departments due to site conditions.
- NYSDEC shall require all closure permits to provide 90 days for USGS, water purveyors and health departments to potentially repurpose such wells for monitoring.

There is a last minute push in Albany to approve this bill before the session ends. While the Land Alliance feels that this bill is far from perfect, we do think it provides a good starting place for addressing the very serious water problems facing Long Island today. The protection of our water, both ground and surface, is far too important to wait any longer.



Suffolk County

Priority Set to Curb Nitrogen Pollution

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone in his State of the County address said "the single most important initiative of his administration is to curb the decades of nitrogen poisoning we have been inflicting on our ground and surface waters here in Suffolk County".

Bellone went on to say, "Nitrogen poisoning is public enemy number one for our bays, waterways, drinking supply, and the critical wetlands and marshes that protect us from future natural disasters. There is no denying the harmful and destructive nature of this problem or the very real danger we, and future generations, face if we do not begin to take immediate and decisive action against this foe".

Suffolk County went right to work and applied for and won an IBM Smarter Cities Challenge Grant, an international competition among municipalities, to help them address nitrogen in surface and groundwater valued at \$500,000. Suffolk was one of 14 municipalities selected worldwide this year and the only county in the United States.

Consultants, who began work in early June, will help identify areas to upgrade to sewer lines or smaller wastewater systems and develop financing mechanisms to pay for it.

Conservation Partnership Program Grants

On April 24th, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced \$1.4 million in Conservation Partnership Program grants for 50 nonprofit land trusts across the State. The grants, funded through the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF), will be matched by nearly \$1.1 million in private and local funding and will support projects to protect farmland, enhance public access and recreational opportunities and conserve open space.

The North Shore Land Alliance is a proud recipient of a \$30,000 grant for closing costs associated with the acquisition of the DeForest Williams Property.

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Nassau County

Nassau Receives \$125 million for Green Infrastructure Along the Mill River

In early June, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan announced that six design proposals had been selected as winners of HUD's Rebuild by Design competition. HUD is allocating approximately \$920 million to New York, New Jersey and New York City to begin implementation of the winning projects that will make the region more environmentally and economically resilient. This funding was included in HUD's most recent allocation of approximately \$2.5 billion in Community Development Block Grants-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) for the Sandy region.

Specifically, New York State will receive \$125 million in CDBG-DR funds to implement the "Slow Streams" element of the plan, which consists of green infrastructure improvements along Nassau County's Mill River. The green infrastructure improvements - which include sluices to reduce surges, neighborhood stormwater swales for infiltration and water storage and publicly accessible greenways that make "room for the river"- offer a comprehensive solution that will help keep Nassau County residents safe from flooding, will improve water quality in the river and in the South Shore's bays and result in new public spaces for recreation.

These inventive proposals are a blueprint for how communities can maximize resilience as they rebuild and recover from major disasters. Moreover, ideas will serve as a model for how we can mitigate the effects of climate change and natural disasters in communities throughout the Sandy region, the United States and the world.



Town of Huntington

Transfer of Density Flow Rights Program

In an effort to continue building on the success of land conservation in the Town of Huntington, the Town Board adopted a Transfer of Density Flow Rights program. This innovative policy allows property owners to transfer density flow rights from one property (sending area) to another (receiving area) for the purposes of permanently protecting sending properties that have open space value and are in Special Groundwater Protection Areas. Sending areas are conserved by conservation easement or similar legal instruments and are restricted in perpetuity for open space purposes. Receiving areas are designated by the Planning Board and Huntington Comprehensive Plan as hamlet centers and downtown areas that promote Smart Growth principles, affordable housing, and other concentrated development that diminishes residential sprawl.

The Town of Huntington joins other towns in Suffolk County that have Transfer of Density Flow Rights and Transfer of Development Rights programs, including the Towns of Smithtown, Islip, Brookhaven and Southampton. These policies and programs will likely continue to be an important part of municipal land conservation efforts since they encourage both natural resource protection and economic development. This kind of legislation also helps promote effective wastewater management and groundwater protection by restricting septic systems and other forms of nitrogen leaching (including managed lawn care) in sending areas and ensuring that receiving areas are located in sewer districts or are approved for connection to sewage treatment facilities.

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Town of North Hempstead Water Quality Improvement Projects

North Hempstead Town Supervisor Judi Bosworth and the North Hempstead Town Board have recently approved funding for several capital projects that will improve the quality of our water. These include restoration projects in North Sheets Creek in Port Washington and aquatic sand removal in Plandome Pond in Manhasset.

Details of the projects include:

Port Washington

- North Sheets Creek Restoration: This project includes the replacement of an existing boat ramp, construction of a concrete seawall, installation of drainage structures, restoration of wetland areas and dredging a portion of the boat channel.
- Essex Court Drainage: This project will enhance storm water drainage in this residential neighborhood off of Port Washington Boulevard, including new drainage catch basins, manholes and interconnecting pipe and road restoration.
- Beachway Outfall Restoration Project: This project will install a catch basin filter insert on the west end of Beachway, which is off of North Plandome Road.
- In addition, an engineering study has been authorized for aquatic sand removal in Hempstead Harbor using grant funding.

Manhasset projects include:

- Plandome Pond Park Aquatic Sand Removal: This project will remove approximately 500 cubic yards of sediment from the pond.
- Whitney Pond Park Pool: This project consists making the necessary infrastructure improvements at the pool.

- Plandome Road Improvements: The goal of this project is to calm traffic on Plandome Road by widening the intersection of Plandome Road and Manhasset Avenue, including traffic signal modifications.

In Roslyn, \$2.5 million in funding was approved to begin water quality improvements for the three ponds that are connected via stream at Gerry Pond Park in Roslyn.

More than \$2.8 million in grants are available for funding for the entire project from Nassau County, the Environmental Protection Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Department of State. Phase I of the project is expected to begin this year and once that is completed the Town will apply for new grants to acquire funding for the remainder of the project.

Calling All Village Officials

WATER QUALITY SYMPOSIUM SAVE THE DATE

If you are interested in learning more
about the current status of your local Long
Island Sound harbors and bays
please join

The Nature Conservancy, The North Shore
Land Alliance and
Long Island University (LIU)
at the LIU CW Post Campus on

October 7th, 2014
9:30am until 12:30pm

Details to Follow!

Save the Monarch Butterfly



A recent study led by Tyler Flockhart, currently a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Guelph, showed that the number of milkweed plants in the U.S. corn belt, where most monarchs breed, has fallen 20 percent over the past few decades. “It’s a massive number of milkweeds — about 1.5 billion milkweed plants,” he said.

If this milkweed loss continues, the study predicts, monarch populations will fall at least another 14 per cent and there is a five percent chance they will be driven nearly to extinction over the next century.

A large proportion of monarch butterflies east of the Rocky Mountains breed in the U.S. corn belt, stretching from Kansas in the west to Ohio in the east, and south to north from Missouri to North Dakota.

The monarch habitat is being destroyed as its migration routes from Mexico through the U.S. and into Canada are being taken over by mega farms growing corn and soybeans where milkweed (*species Asclepias*) once grew. Milkweed is the only plant on which the eggs of the monarch can be hatched and the only plant on which the caterpillars can feed.

Help stem the deep decline in the monarch population by planting milkweed plants everywhere. Plant them as soon as weather permits and act beyond your garden. Encourage your community to try highways, school fields, empty parking lots, industrial areas, parks and even ditches.

If the monarch is to be saved, a massive milkweed planting needs to occur and soon. The Land Alliance started last week with the installation of common milkweed, swamp milkweed and butterfly weed at 95 Shore Road in Cold Spring Harbor and the Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve in Upper Brookville.



Beaver Lake Fish Passage Project Begins

The Long Island Sound Futures Fund, in conjunction with The Nature Conservancy, has begun work to modify the Beaver Brook Dam (located along Cleft Road in Mill Neck) to restore fish passage for alewife, blueback herring, American eel, sea-run trout and other native fish. They will be installing a “fish ladder” between the tidal wetlands of Mill Neck Creek to the north and the fresh water of Beaver Lake to the south. The proposed fish ladder is not an actual ladder with rungs, but a stainless steel ramp with turbulence - producing ridges that allow fish a passable channel to move upstream and beyond the Beaver Brook Dam. Once an upstream corridor is installed, it is hoped that these native species of fish will spawn and that future generations of fish will start reproducing in these headwaters.



Patrick Crowley and Sahil Massand from Friends Academy at Beaver Brook Dam

Land Alliance staff and volunteers were included in a meeting on May 19, 2014, along with representatives from The Nature Conservancy, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Friends of the Bay, North Shore Wildlife Sanctuary, Mill Neck Village Trustees and Trout Unlimited, to review potential design plans for this worthy project. Once the design work is complete, The Nature Conservancy will start working with local and state agencies on obtaining the necessary permits.

More to come on this very interesting project, which we hope will, allow diadromous fish to get back to their traditional spawning grounds.



Alewife



Brown Trout

What are Diadromous Fish?

Diadromous refers to fish that have evolved to migrate between fresh and marine habitats to gain an advantage in survival. This group of fish is commonly called sea-run as most are known to “run” up coastal rivers in the spring to spawn.

Anadromous is the term for diadromous fish that live in marine waters and migrate to fresh water for spawning. Catadromous is the term for diadromous fish that live in fresh water and migrate to marine waters for spawning.

Our 2014 *Walks in the Woods* calendar is chockablock with new locations, partners and activities.



The first part of 2014 took us to:

The Nassau County Museum of Art at William Cullen Bryant Preserve – where a snowy stroll through the Ravine inspired participants led by Philip Asaph to create their own poems.

Clark Refuge and James Preserve – where, through a Sierra Club/Land Alliance partnership, attendees elected to experience the last of a long winter's snow on a brisk walk through these lovely wooded parcels alongside brimming wetlands and Cedar Swamp Creek.



Former ExxonMobil and DeForest Williams properties – where walkers in the capable hands of Peter Martin were introduced to the flora and fauna of two fledgling Cold Spring Harbor nature preserves.

Red Cote Preserve – where participants under Yvonne Berger's guidance celebrated the rain as they photographed expansive fields, emerging white oak tree leaves, flowering dogwood and a tree swallow at a nesting box.

Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve – where Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society President Stella Miller attempted to call in Eastern Screech and Great Horned Owls and attendees took a brief, almost-full-moon night hike under a cloudy sky.



Join us on one or more of our remaining 2014 programs:



Saturday, June 21, 10:00 a.m. with Glenn Richard at Flax Pond State Tidal Wetlands, Stony Brook

- Glenn, Educational Coordinator for the Mineral Physics Institute at Stony Brook University, will introduce us to the beauty of Flax Pond's tidal wetlands, a Long Island Sound Study stewardship anchor site that is home to colonial waterbirds, fish, mollusks and horseshoe crabs. We will explore the relationship of its plants to the physical environment, that is, how the plants affect the environment, how the environment affects the plants and how the system relates the Long Island Sound and nearby land areas.

Thursday, July 31, 6:00 p.m. with Peter Warny at Upper Francis Pond, Mill Neck - On a hot, summer night there's nothing nicer than being pondside. Join naturalist Peter Warny to find out what's living in Upper Francis Pond.

Saturday, September 6, 10:00 a.m. with Don Niddrie, Peter Martin and Stella Miller at Eagle Dock Beach Club and 95 Shore Road, Cold Spring Harbor - Eagle Dock Environmental Education Program Coordinator Don Niddrie will host a Cold Spring Harbor kayak trip co-led by naturalist Peter Martin and Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society President Stella Miller. Learn about the area's wildlife and how protecting open space here preserves the Harbor's quality.

Saturday, October 4, 11:00 a.m. with Andy Greller at Cranberry Bog Preserve, Riverhead - Join Botanist Andy Greller to explore this magnificent community, complete with carnivorous plants, when it is at its most beguiling.

Sunday, October 12, 10:00 a.m. with John Turner at Cordwood Landing County Nature Preserve, Miller Place - This 70-acre hardwood forest is a hidden gem steeped in history. Naturalist and Land Alliance Advisory Board Member John Turner will lead us on a tour of its unusual plants and cliffs above Long Island Sound during the fall migration. And you'll also learn how the property got its name.

Sunday, November 23, 11:00 a.m. with Richard Weir at Cordelia Hepburn Cushman Preserve, Oyster Bay Cove - Long Island's trees bear leaves for just over half the year. If you're interested in knowing how to identify tree species the rest of the time, join plant expert and Land Alliance Advisory Board Member Richard Weir for this enlightening program.



Registration is required! To register and for directions please contact Jane Jackson at
516-626-0908 or
jjackson@northshorelandalliance.org.

Land Alliance 2014 Earth Day Projects

MSC Industrial Supply and Grenville Baker Boys and Girls Club at Iselin Preserve in Upper Brookville



When we got requests from two groups who had volunteered with us in the past about working in one of our preserves on Earth Day, we decided to accommodate both by gathering them all in one place - Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve in Upper Brookville. Land Alliance volunteers have been working for a number of years on managing invasive plants at the field and two years ago we started planting natives there, too – so there's plenty of work to do!

The first group was a crew of 15 hearty souls employed by MSC Industrial Supply Company in Melville. The Land Alliance purchased 20 spicebush and elderberry shrubs to plant at the interface of the field and forest and a tarp to place over an area of the field that needs weed control. MSC showed up with just about everything else – not only shovels, watering cans, insect repellent and sunscreen (which were donated to the Land Alliance) but something else just as important: BRAWN! The group went right to work and cleared far more invasive privet and bush honeysuckle than we had ever attempted before to make ready for planting, which was completed at record speed. After lunch a trench was dug to bury the edges of a tarp which was then placed over a cleared area of the field where invasive weeds are just becoming established. The purpose of covering the area with the tarp is to heat up the soil enough to kill the invasive seeds in the soil. This would have been a very time-consuming task for a small number of people, but with 15+, and brawn, the task was completed in about 20 minutes!

Once the tarp was installed and our volunteers hit the road, it was time for a changing of the guard. Grenville Baker Boys and Girls Club showed up with a dozen middle-school-aged kids and their leader, Stephanie Urio. In just over an hour, these determined volunteers were a force to be reckoned with. They removed a considerable amount of privet, planted the last of the elderberry and spicebush and carefully dug up a small but threatening patch of invasive lesser celandine from the middle of the field.

We are very grateful to both of our Iselin volunteer groups. In addition, we would like to thank Bill Aitken and Davey Trees, who chipped, at a bargain rate, the privet and honeysuckle that had been pulled up before we could figure out how to get it off the site! Davey Trees has donated considerable time toward tree work at Iselin, and this most recent job was carried out on very short notice, so we are particularly grateful!

Roosevelt Middle School Green Team at the Nassau County Roosevelt Preserve in Roosevelt

To accommodate the students at the Roosevelt Union-Free School District, who were still in the process of taking state exams in late April/early May, our annual 2014 Earth Day project at the Roosevelt Preserve was pushed back to a later date.

On May 12th, staff and volunteers from North Shore Land Alliance joined the Roosevelt Middle School Green Team and educator Leslie Pieters at Nassau County's 73-acre Roosevelt Preserve for a stewardship project focused on managing invasive plants and supporting native ones.



The Green Team, who have partnered with us in the past, came prepared with loppers and trash bags to give the Preserve a spring cleaning. We started the day removing debris from along Meadow Brook and on Preserve paths while taking time to discuss the importance of protecting and maintaining these natural habitats, which provide shelter and food for a variety of animals. Students also worked together to pull a considerable amount of lesser celandine, an invasive low-growing perennial plant, which competes intensely with native spring ephemeral wildflowers.

After Superstorm Sandy, Roosevelt Preserve, like many other natural areas, lost many trees which had limited the amount of sunlight reaching the ground and helped to keep many invasive plant species at bay. In 2013, the Land Alliance worked with the Green Team and other local partners to plant a number of oak, red maple and tupelo seedlings to help reestablish the tree canopy in the Preserve where trees had fallen. As part of Earth Day activities, students revisited these areas to observe any changes in the seedlings.

Finally, on their way back to school, the students pulled invasive garlic mustard along the trail.

Thank you again to the Roosevelt Union-Free School District for partnering with us for our 2014 Earth Day project and to our volunteers Anne Codey, Rich Kopsko and Michael Schwartz for giving a helping hand.



Mile-a-Minute



Garlic Mustard



Lesser Celandine



The Value of a Grassland

by Guest Columnist, Stella Miller

“Anyone can love a mountain, but it takes soul to love a prairie.” - unknown

As a little girl I devoured the *Little House in the Prairie* book series by Laura Ingalls Wilder and dreamed of seeing the western prairies one day. It wasn't until 2007 that I was able to do so when I visited Prairie State Park in Missouri with a friend. I tend not to use the word awesome very often because I think it is a word that is used too frequently and lightly. But believe me when I tell you what lay before us was indeed awesome. Tall grasses and wildflowers were gently blowing in the breeze while birdsong filled the air. Grasshopper sparrows, meadowlarks and dickcissels sang together in a splendid chorus. Bison roamed the short-grass areas, snorting and kicking up dust in their path. We had only allotted one day to visit this preserve and knew immediately that it was just not enough. While we stood watching the sunset we were treated to a sight that will remain with me forever - as the blazing red and orange sun descended into the horizon, the silhouette of a deer appeared, surrounded by tall grass and perfectly backlit by the flaming orb behind it. As we stood watching in awe, the deer turned and bounded into the sunset, as if swallowed up by a giant fiery ball of fire. It was pure magic. Thus began my love affair with grasslands. I have since traveled to grasslands in Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and Texas, as well as New York, each time marveling anew at the abundance of wildlife and beauty before my eyes.

Unfortunately, grasslands have been declining faster than any other habitat in the United States, if not the world. Human use and sprawl development have taken their toll on our grasslands, with only about 4% of our prairies remaining. As grasslands decline, so do the wildlife species that depend upon them. Grassland birds are among the fastest and most consistently declining birds in North America; 48% are of conservation concern and 55% are showing significant declines.

Right here on Long Island, grasslands were once a significant feature of our landscape. Now, most have been developed into residential, industrial or commercial real estate or converted to ball fields and other intensely used recreational areas. For this reason it is crucial that remaining grasslands be preserved and this valuable community be restored whenever possible.

There are still scattered grasslands across the Island, but even when protected, they face a grave threat: non-native invasive species. One such already protected area in trouble is Underhill Preserve in Jericho. This 75 - acre preserve, protected as open space in 2002, contains almost 35 acres of grassland, with a mix of native and non-native grasses. Unfortunately, much of it has now been overrun by invasive non-native plant species. Several years ago, I fell in love with this parcel and have watched with concern as each year it has become more degraded by this invasion as well as the encroachment of successional habitat. Thanks to the efforts of Senator Carl Marcellino, I was able to sit down with the property's owners (NYSDEC, Nassau County and the Town of Oyster Bay) to encourage them to create a plan to manage and restore Underhill. We recently learned we will be receiving two grants to implement a comprehensive restoration plan. One grant is courtesy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and other federal agencies and is a result of a 2003 settlement in a natural resource damage claim against a Superfund Site located in Glen Cove. (The Land Alliance, too, received one of these grants, to launch habitat restoration at 95 Shore Road – its former ExxonMobil property - in Cold Spring Harbor. See page 7 for details.) The other is from the Long Island

Invasive Species Management Area. Our efforts will include restoring, creating and protecting shrub and grassland habitat in the preserve for the benefit of wildlife and rare and endangered plant species.

Prairies are often dismissed as monotonous stretches of empty landscape. Far from monotonous and empty, tall-grass, short-grass and mixed grasslands contain a remarkable and diverse number of species, from plants to reptiles to birds to mammals to insects. It is true that anyone can love a mountain ...or a forest or a shoreline. Their beauty is in your face and splendid. It takes soul to look beyond the obvious. A prairie must be understood to be loved, for once you have experienced the subtle grandeur that is a prairie you will never be the same.

That magical landscape will forever be etched in your heart, as it is in mine.

Stella is President of the Huntington Oyster Bay Audubon Society and a popular leader of the Land Alliance "Walks in the Woods" series. She spends countless hours volunteering for many worthy projects including the grassland restoration featured here.



The Land Alliance Honors Our Volunteers

On Sunday, March 16th the Land Alliance hosted a luncheon at the City Cellar Restaurant in Garden City to honor the volunteers who dedicate their time, energy and skills to help us accomplish our mission.

Annually, these individuals, youth organizations, and businesses contribute approximately 1,000 hours of community service to help steward our preserves, lead our *Walks in the Woods* and/or assist staff with projects in and out of the office. Our volunteers are an integral part of the organization and we truly appreciate them for their hard work which contributes so greatly to our conservation successes.

If you are interested in volunteering with North Shore Land Alliance please contact our Volunteer Program Director Andrea Millwood at 516-626-0908.

Orchids Among Us!



A misty May 15th made for an ideal day for *Orchids Among Us!*, a lecture and field trip about orchid species native to New York led by Dave Taft of the Greater New York Orchid Society and Gateway National Recreation Area's Jamaica Bay Unit Coordinator. The program, sponsored by North Shore Land Alliance and the North Country Garden Club Conservation Committee, began with a presentation at Piping Rock Club in Locust Valley. Dave's a master speaker, whose spontaneous wit and intimate knowledge of the topic made for an exceptionally informative and entertaining lecture.

When it was finished, most of the audience made their way from the Club and along Chicken Valley Road to Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve in Upper Brookville. The Preserve, owned by The Nature Conservancy and managed by the Land Alliance, is home to a healthy population of pink ladies' slippers (*Cypripedium acaule*), an orchid native to New York. There had been some concern that this year's late spring would delay their flowering until later in the month, but when the group arrived they were delighted by a multitude of pink moccasin-like flowers.

In addition to taking in the beautiful display, attendees learned that many plants do not flower for their first five years or so – hence the assembly of flower stalk-less leaves at ground level – including many right on the trail and vulnerable to trampling! Another hazard to plants is the attempts on the part of admirers to take them home and transplant them. The ladies' slippers' habitat requirements, including mycorrhizae (resulting from the symbiotic relationship between fungus and plant roots) in the soil, are so site-specific that the plants do not survive the move to a new home. *Orchids Among Us!* participants were more than happy to take in the colony's beauty there at Iselin, reassured that so long as other Preserve visitors do the same, everybody will be able to enjoy them year after year.



Richard L. Kauffman Provides Hope for a Clean Energy Future



Carter Bales, Richard Kauffman and Luis Rinaldini

On Wednesday, May 28th the Land Alliance held its annual New York Lecture Series with more than 90 conservation enthusiasts filling the ballroom of the world-renowned Explorers Club.

This year's talk, titled "Clean Energy – A Realistic Approach," featured Richard L. Kauffman, a noted environmental policy expert. Richard joined the administration of New York State Governor Andrew M. Cuomo in February 2013 as the Chairman of Energy and Finance for New York. In June 2013 he was also confirmed as Chairman of the New

York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). He spoke about his mission to develop and implement a strategic plan to scale up clean energy, enhance New York's competitiveness for clean energy businesses and make energy systems more resilient and reliable.

Richard used New York's Green Bank as an example. The New York Green Bank, a division of NYSERDA, is a \$1 billion initiative proposed by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo in his 2013 State of the State address. A key objective of the Bank is to attract private sector financing for energy efficiency and clean energy projects. New York Green Bank is a central component of Governor Cuomo's strategic statewide vision. It will foster greater private sector investment in projects deploying commercially proven energy efficiency, renewable energy and other clean technologies.

We thank Richard Kauffman for taking time out of his busy schedule to talk with us about this important topic.

Many Thanks to Our Sponsors

Suzy and Carter Bales * Kathy and Peter Bartley * Sally Peters and Hal Davidson

Roberta and Steve Denning * Gibson and Dunn * Tom Franco * Georgia and Don Gogel

Joan and Bill Grabe * Reeta and Clive Holmes * Larry Linden * Bridget and John Macaskill

Avanti and Juno Madan * Cora and Clarence Michalis * Rodman Moorhead * Caroline Niemczyk

Open Space Institute * Barry Osborn * Elizabeth and Douglas Paul * Robins Island Foundation

Victoria Shaw * Maria and Bill Spears * Dorthe and Truett Tate

An Evening in the Jefferson Market Garden Hosted by the Land Alliance Heritage Committee

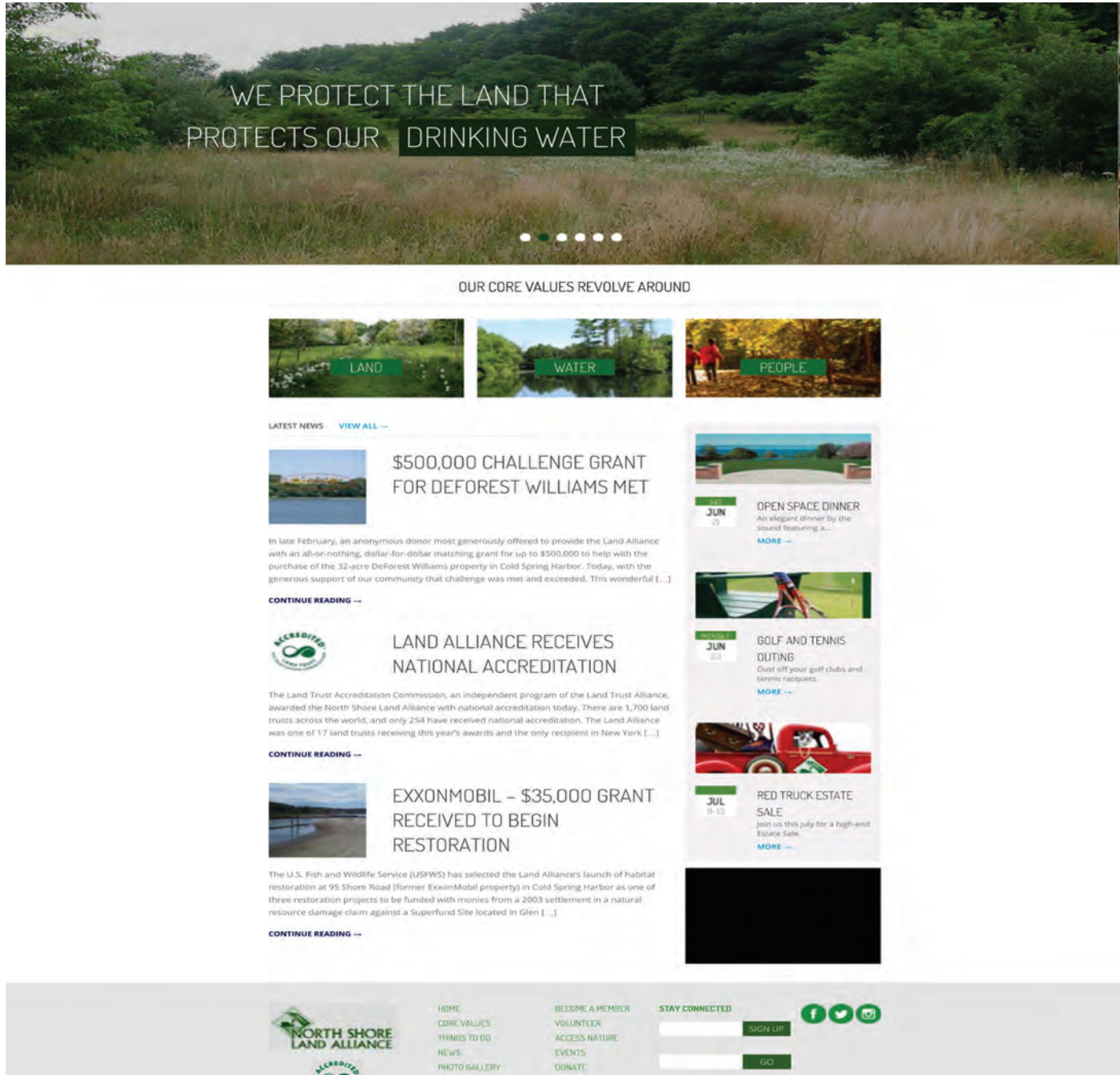


Over 90 people attended the Second Annual Heritage Committee *Evening in the Garden*, held at the Jefferson Market Garden in Greenwich Village on Wednesday, June 11th. Guests in attendance were young professionals interested in conservation and preserving the character and natural habitat of the North Shore of Long Island. The beautiful urban garden, a peaceful oasis in one of Manhattan's great historic neighborhoods, was an excellent setting for individuals to learn about conservation and the mission of the North Shore Land Alliance.

Guests at the event enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and drinks in a green setting that represents the importance of protecting open space. The garden, adjacent to an ornate Victorian Gothic library, originally a courthouse, provides a resting place for migrating birds. There is a variety of flowers including dahlias, lupines, alliums, and roses, which grow on beautiful iron gates donated by Brooke Astor. Although there were concerns about inclement weather, the sun came out just as guests arrived, and it remained clear and comfortable throughout the evening.

Attendees of the gathering listened attentively to Board Chair Carter Bales's introduction to the mission of the North Shore Land Alliance and the importance of protecting open space for future generations. D.R. Holmes, Co-Chair of the Heritage Committee, was impressed by the level of interest in this year's *Evening in the Garden*, saying "this amazing turnout is evidence of not only our committee's zeal to build awareness for future generations, but also the unmet need for conservation that our generation is now witnessing first hand." He looks forward to cultivating a passion for conservation amongst young professionals at future Heritage Committee events.

Land Alliance Launches New Website and Expands Social Marketing Efforts



After months of working with web developer, Karma411, our new website went live on Monday, June 9th. We hope you will peruse our new look at www.northshorelandalliance.org.

We also hope you will “like us” on Facebook: www.facebook.com/NorthShoreLandAlliance; or join us in the Twitter-Sphere: www.twitter.com/LandAlliance

Many thanks to Carol Schmidlapp who spearheaded this project for the Land Alliance.



RED TRUCK ESTATE SALE

To benefit North Shore Land Alliance

Preview Party - Friday, July 11th at 6:30 pm

Tickets are \$100 in advance and \$125 at the door.

Advance tickets can be purchased online at www.northshorelandalliance.org.

Sale continues **Saturday, July 12th and Sunday, July 13th from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm**

Admission is \$5 per person payable at the door.

On Saturday and Sunday, July 12th and 13th the Land Alliance will host its first ever “Red Truck Estate Sale” at the Green Vale School, Old Brookville. The initial idea for the Estate Sale was hatched several years ago by Megan de Roulet, Bridget Macaskill and Julie Rinaldini who were thinking about how nice it would be to simplify their lives, clean their closets, basements and garages and re-purpose unneeded, high quality items. The concept behind the Estate Sale is to promote the principles of Recycle, Renew and Reuse in an effort to help save our land and water. The beautiful treasures to be featured at this event are part of the legacy of the North Shore of Long Island and will soon be enjoyed by a new generation of its residents.

The quality of donations to the Estate Sale has been exceeding our most hopeful expectations with a wonderful array of new objects arriving almost daily from some of the finest homes and businesses in our community. Sealy Hopkinson who is managing the Estate Sale for the Land Alliance adds, “I am AMAZED

at the quality of donations (pure donations) we are getting. Unique items of real antique value. Clocks, porcelain, silver, decorative objects, prints, mirrors, paintings, sconces, loads of good (and some antique) lamps, carriage lanterns, antique beds and top quality, modern headboards of all descriptions. Some collectible items, too – autographed sports memorabilia, Rock and Roll Band memorabilia. LOADS of useful (sturdy) chairs, dining tables, end tables, coffee tables, armoires - for young couples furnishing their first house or anyone furnishing a country house. Entire sets of china, armorial services, serving pieces. Fabrics, pillows, wall paper and rugs. Antique planters, wrought iron (and wire) furniture and gates ... Some amazing contemporary pieces ... really chic and modern. We are also starting to get in costume jewelry and accessories ... Nice things ... We will also have a broad selection of \$10- \$20 items. But fun things – antique beer steins, funny vases, one of a kind things. So truly something for everyone who stops by.”

The organization of this event is epic and we certainly could not do this without the extraordinary dedication of a large number of volunteers and staff including:

Estate Sale Chairs - Megan de Roulet, Julie Rinaldini, Lynda Anderson Busquet who have spent countless hours planning every detail of the three-day event.

Preview Party Chairs - Lisa Schiff and Debbie Doyle and their Committee who are creating a fun, casual, country atmosphere for the Friday Night Preview Cocktail Party.

Estate Sale Manager - Sealy Hopkinson and her Committee of Volunteers who have been busy daily receiving merchandise, evaluating, pricing and packing donations to be delivered to the Green Vale School.

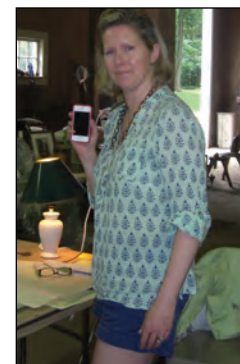
The Green Vale School who has most generously donated the use of their facilities for the weekend event.

Event Sponsors - Daniel Gale Sotheby's International Realty, Crystal & Company Anton Community Newspapers

Donors - Teddy Panebianco and College Hunks Moving, Minute-man Press, Syosset and Whole Foods Market, Jericoh

Advisory Volunteers - Joanna Badami, Brian Stair and Oxford Restorations, David Engel of The Light Touch, John Khalil Collection, Michael Schantz, from the Heckscher Museum and other great friends we will most certainly encounter between now and the sale.

Please do join us at the Tag Sale! And, why you ask the Red Truck? The vintage Red Truck, which you may see driving around soon, is our way of connecting Long Island's rural history with a present day event fueled by the generosity of our community.



ESTATE SALE COMMITTEE

LESLIE ARMSTRONG
LISA ARTHUR
JEFFREY BILHUBER
EVGENIA BLOSSOM
HELEN BONERAKE
MEG BRAFF
MARGI BRENIZER
MAUREEN BRENNAN
HANNAH BURNS
SHERRILL CANET
MARY LEE CITRINO
JULIA COLEMAN
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CATHERINE COLLEY
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SANDY DEMILLE
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MARY SELOVER
SUSAN SHEELINE
MEREDYTH SMITH
DEBBIE SUTHERLAND
MAGGIE TANCHUCK
MARY GAY TOWNSEND

North Shore Land Alliance Elects Six New Trustess



Frank Castagna

Frank Castagna, along with his wife Rita, is a principal of Castagna Realty Company, a third generation 90-year-old company specializing in the development and management of premier properties, many of which are within Long Island communities such as Garden City, North Hills and Greenvale. Castagna Realty's flagship operation, Americana Manhasset, is an internationally recognized luxury shopping destination featuring award-winning architecture by Peter Marino and landscaping by Oehme Van Sweden.

Both Frank and Rita are personally involved in many charitable endeavors. They have received numerous awards for their extraordinary efforts and most recently received the first annual David Taub Award from The Safe Center LI, as well as the Harry Chapin Humanitarian Award for Community Service from the Long Island Association. They have been honorees of Long Island Children's Museum, Tilles Center, Institute for Student Achievement and St. Francis Hospital, as well as recipients of the Sid Jacobson Spirit Award and the Philanthropy Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals. In 2014, Rita and Frank will be the honorees at the Leonard Ugelow Memorial Gurwin Classic.

Frank is Chairman Emeritus of the Council of Overseers for Tilles Center for the Performing Arts and is currently Executive Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Nassau County Museum of Art. Frank is a member of the Board of the American Jewish Committee, New York, and he is a former board member of Friends Academy and Old Westbury Gardens. Long Island University awarded Frank an honorary doctorate degree in humane letters and he has received an honorary doctorate degree of law from Touro College. In 2013, Frank was presented with the Spirit Award by the New York Mets at CitiField on Korean Heritage Night.

Frank and Rita are long-time residents of Brookville, Long Island. They enjoy golf, tennis and traveling as well as spending time with friends and family, which includes their son, Fred, their daughter, Cathy, and four grandsons.



Leland M. Deane

Leland M. Deane, MD, MBA, FACS, is a partner in the Long Island Plastic Surgical Group, the oldest and largest medical group of its kind in North America, with twenty surgeons and six offices throughout Long Island and New York City. With a deep understanding of the shifting healthcare environment, he has also provided consulting services to the financial industry and is now a Senior Analyst at Opico Capital Pty Ltd.

Moving back to Long Island in the late 1980's after a long absence, Leland experienced first hand the extensive and unbridled development of the North Shore and felt the urgent need for oversight, conservation restrictions and land use planning. This led to his involvement with the newly formed Conservation Committee (now a Board) in Lloyd Harbor, and his eventual appointment to the Site and Planning Review Board. For the last seven years, he has been an elected Trustee of the Village of Lloyd Harbor, serving most of it under the excellent guidance of the late Mayor Leland Hairr.

Leland and his wife, Danielle, have two children, Ashby and Galen, who attend the Green Vale School. The family's time seems consumed by a whirlwind of lacrosse, hockey, skiing and sailing, along with travel team activities. As a member of the baby boom generation growing up on Long Island, Leland has wonderful memories of his home's natural beauty, and wants to preserve this legacy for his children.

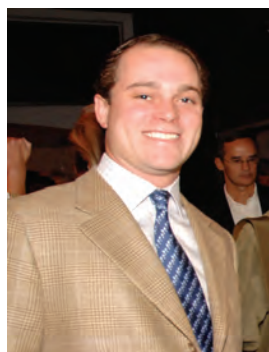
In addition to his civic responsibilities locally, Leland has been involved with many conservation organizations and activities throughout New York and Colorado.



Lynn Gray

Lynn grew up on Long Island and is married to Austen Gray a local architect who also grew up on Long Island. They have two children and two grandchildren. Lynn is a member of the North Country Garden Club having served on the Board and as president. She is also on the Board of the North Shore Wildlife Sanctuary. Conservation and education in science have always been important to her. As a parent and graduate of Green Vale School, Lynn helped start a lower school science program and instituted a paper recycling program. She also served on the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Association Board for 10 years. Lynn splits her time between the mountains of Idaho and Long Island while

learning about water and conservation issues on both side of the country. Protecting and preserving open space has always been a central goal.



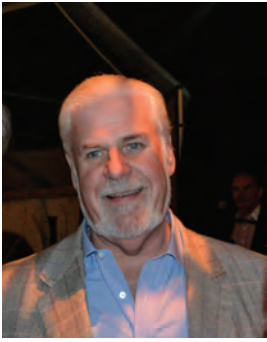
David R. Holmes, Jr.

D.R. has been an active advocate and supporter of the Land Alliance since 2006. Growing up adjacent to the Cold Spring Harbor State Park and having direct access to the trails and open woodlands, he developed a strong appreciation for Long Island's natural beauty and all the benefits it has to offer. After graduating from St. Lawrence University with a B.S. in Economics he quickly involved himself with the Land Alliance and, in 2012, started the Heritage Committee - a group of young professionals that proactively build support and awareness among the younger demographic. D.R. explained, "It was very obvious to me that if the rate of development continued at the pace we've seen over the last decade, it would eliminate the heritage the Land Alliance has worked so hard to conserve for future

generations. Being the fourth generation in my family to have lived in Brookville, I want to preserve what my great grandfather, grandfather, father and I had as children for the generations to come."

D.R. started his corporate career at BNP Paribas's Corporate Investment Bank, working in their Structured Finance, Loan Syndications and Debt Capital Markets groups. Wanting to leverage his skills and experience in a more meaningful way he joined Provista Diagnostics in 2012. Provista Diagnostics, Inc. is a molecular diagnostics company focused on developing and commercializing blood based tests for cancers affecting women. D.R. lives in Glen Head and enjoys exploring the beaches, parks, preserves, creeks and trails of Long Island while advocating for the continued conservation for future generations.

One of D.R.'s favorite quotes is from Sidney Dillon Ripley: *"Ecologists are in as much need for the future of our health as medical researchers. As we toy with the issues of fossil fuels, as we fiddle with fate of our environment, as the planet continues to suffer from overexploitation and gradual degradation, we need the youth of today to focus, focus, focus on the fate of natural history!"*



Patrick H. Mackay

Patrick was born on Harbor Hill, his grandfather's estate, which is now the Village of East Hills. After his family sold the property they moved to Locust Valley in the fifties. Patrick attended the Green Vale School, boarding school and college, after which he decided to move back to Locust Valley. He became a licensed real estate agent at Piping Rock Associates in 1972 and purchased the firm in 1976 when he was 27 years old.

Since buying the company, Patrick has been involved in the acquisition of other high quality residential real estate firms with the intention of blending their agents into the Piping Rock mold. He has been extremely successful in matching the personalities of the agents' with buyers and sellers, as well as having a top agent retention rate.

Patrick is deeply involved in the community, and over the years has been on the boards of numerous charities, various Boys and Girls Clubs, a Brooklyn Charter School, local country clubs, as well as Christie's International Real Estate. He currently is Chairman of the Board of the Grenville Baker Boys and Girls Club and is on the boards of the Beaver Dam Winter Sports Club, the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and the Belmont Child Care Association. Patrick and his wife, Lee, reside in Locust Valley.



NORTH SHORE LAND ALLIANCE PLANNED GIVING SOCIETY

Are you interested in learning more about the many ways in which you can plan for your retirement and also benefit the Land Alliance?

Gift planning vehicles include bequests, gifts from IRAs or other retirement accounts, designating the Land Alliance as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or establishing charitable remainder trusts or charitable lead trusts. It is never too early – or too late – to accomplish your estate planning goals.

This fall, we will formally launch our Planned Giving Society to recognize and honor those individuals who have already made bequests to the Land Alliance.

For more information on gift planning options that are appropriate for you, please contact Julie Davidson at 516-626-0908 or julie@northshorelandalliance.org.

New Staff Members Join the Land Alliance Team



Julie Davidson

Julie joined the North Shore Land Alliance in February 2014 as our senior director of development. Julie has twenty years of experience in fundraising and strategic planning in non-profit settings including university, health care and cultural institutions. Additionally, she has significant experience in public relations, marketing and event planning in corporate and agency environments.

Most recently, Julie served as Executive Director and Chief of Staff to the Senior Vice President of Development at New York Presbyterian Hospital, and immediately prior, she was the Senior Director of Development at the Central Park Conservancy. Julie also worked at Pace, Temple and Villanova Universities in various fundraising capacities. Julie received her bachelor's degree in Journalism, summa cum laude, from Temple University, and completed the Management Development Program at Harvard University. In her spare time, she enjoys yoga, running, playing piano and spending time with her daughter, Jacqueline and her son, Jordan.



Stephen Searl

Stephen became the North Shore Land Alliance's Director of Land Conservation in May 2014. Stephen has seven years of experience in land conservation and non-profit management, and he holds a Master of Science in Natural Resource Planning and Environmental Management.

Stephen was raised on a family farm on the North Fork and has a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University. After graduating from college, he worked as a legal assistant in two New York City law firms for three years, and in 2006 he received his Master of Science from the University of Vermont. Stephen was formerly a land conservation manager at the Peconic Land Trust where he built an expertise in land use management, real estate, agriculture and conservation. More recently, he was Farm Manager at the Golden Earthworm Organic Farm in Jamesport, one of the largest certified organic Community Supported Agriculture farms in the Northeast. Stephen is also a founding Board member of the Peconic Community School, a non-profit independent community school located on the North Fork. Stephen spends most of his free time with his three boys, Owen, Connor and Aidan, and loves spending time outdoors.



Meghan Hagedorn **Development Intern**

Meghan is working on the development team, where she assists with foundations research, social media and fundraising events. She helped plan the Heritage Committee *Evening in the Garden* and is now in full force preparing for the first Red Truck Estate Sale and the 2015 Farm Summit.

Meghan graduated from Hamilton College and Union Theological Seminary, where she earned a Master of Arts degree in Religion and Psychology. As a student, she studied abroad in India and Bhutan, where she pursued her interests in Eastern Religions and photography. Meghan lives in Sands Point with her husband, Chris and their two dogs, Klaus and Wolfie. She has a passion for conservation and enjoys kayaking, traveling, photography, gardening and bird watching.



Rob Katz **Stewardship Advisor**

Rob Katz has been invaluable at our Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve in Upper Brookville. Since 2011, and starting as a volunteer, he has been conducting botanic surveys, establishing and maintaining new planting areas, supervising volunteers and other interns and completing our management plan for the Preserve.

Rob earned a Bachelor of Arts in Geography and Planning from California State University, Chico. His professional background in California includes work with the U.S. Forest Service and the University of California Cooperative Extension. Currently employed by Scarsella's Flowers, Greenhouses & Home in Laurel Hollow, he has also worked locally at Youngs Farm in Old Brookville. He lives in Glen Cove with his wife, Peg, and daughter, Sienna.



Denise Lohser **Social Media Intern**

After having worked for many years in Arts and Education, Denise Lohser is now a member of the Land Alliance team. Thanks to her hard work, we are now active on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest, so kindly follow us there to stay up to date with all of the latest Land Alliance news!

Denise has degrees from Georgetown, FIT, Adelphi and Hofstra Universities. She lives in Woodbury and loves to spend time in her garden "attempting to grow vegetables (lol)." She is passionate about the environment and has been using her social media skills to bring our message to a wider audience.

LONG ISLAND FOOD CONFERENCE...

**Growing and eating for a more
sustainable future.**

April 25, 2015 | Hofstra University

The Long Island Small Farm Initiative, a consortium of partner organizations that have "an interest in promoting local food, land use, the farm-to-table chain and the social interaction between farmers and community residents" has begun planning for another farm summit conference.

It will host innovative workshops and speakers that focus more specifically on growing and promoting sustainable local food on Long Island. If you are interested in learning more or volunteering please contact us at 516-626-0908.

2013 Contributors



The Land Alliance is very grateful to all of our contributors who donated time and money and made in-kind contributions in 2013. Your support has allowed us to purchase the lands that matter most, to steward the spaces we own and manage and host educational programs community-wide.

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