Humes Property Closing Scheduled for Early July

The North Shore Land Alliance is currently in contract to acquire the 28-acre Humes property located in the Village of Mill Neck. As you may recall, we entered into a contract in December of 2014 and have spent the past few months completing our necessary due diligence. With all testing successfully completed, we are pleased to report that we will be closing shortly. Once the property has been acquired, we will work with our neighbors at the North Shore Wildlife Sanctuary and other local experts to formulate a plan for its use.

The Humes property consists of open space (meadow, woodland and freshwater wetlands) along with nine residential structures. It immediately adjoins preserved land owned by Nassau County, which the Land Alliance helped conserve, and the larger Shu Swamp Preserve and Francis Pond conservation areas that consist of over 120 acres of preserved land. These conserved areas and surrounding lands are the headwaters to a series of rivers, lakes and waterways (both freshwater and tidal) that eventually reach the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge and Long Island Sound. Conservation of this

(Continued on p. 3)
Dear Land Alliance Members and Friends:

Someone recently asked me, in the midst of our 12th year, why the Land Alliance has been so successful in its work. I thanked her for having such positive feelings about the Alliance. Then I thought about the factors that have contributed most to our conservation success to date. The primary reason for our success, of course, is that the residents of the North Shore want to protect the natural character of their community from excessive development and overcrowding and have given the Land Alliance the support we need for conservation success. Looked at more closely, however, I see five factors that have made open space protection so successful on Long Island's North Shore in recent years:

1) **Need** - In 2003, when we began operation, there was no single organization in our community that was focused on protecting open space. Moreover, there was no organization that could accept conservation easements on mid-sized and smaller parcels of land. Yet beautiful parcels of land were falling to the bulldozer with houses sprouting like weeds on the landscape, while our roads and schools became ever more crowded.

2) **Mission** - Our mission, “to preserve and protect in perpetuity the green spaces, farmlands, wetlands, groundwater and historical sites of the North Shore for the enhancement of quality of life and enjoyment and benefit of future generations”, resonates strongly with people. They saw our community character changing and our environmental resources being degraded, and they wanted to do something about it.

3) **People** - A knowledgeable and dedicated board and staff have worked together to engage an ever growing community of concerned citizens about why protecting open space is so essential and how, together, we can effect permanent change to protect the natural, rural character of our community. Our group of conservation supporters of all ages continues to grow and grow.

4) **Courage and Commitment** - We have taken chances. We have partnered with elected officials to place ambitious open space bonds on the ballot (all of which have been overwhelmingly successful). We have taken on debt to purchase critical parcels of land to protect them from development. So far, we have had the ability to repay those loans because the community is so supportive of our work. We have learned the “power of many” and how integral that is to effecting meaningful, positive change!

5) **Community** - Our local community of individuals, families, farmers, educators and governments officials has supported us over and over again. From providing financial support to volunteering time, attending our events and advocating for better open space laws, our community has enabled us to complete key projects like Banfi, Wawapek and Humes.

You, our supporters, are the real reason for our collective success. And I want you to feel as pleased as I do about what we have accomplished already this year. So far, we have acquired 60 acres of private land that will now be converted to public preserves. (See articles on pages 1 and 4.) Over the past school year, we educated more than 1,000 school children about the source of their drinking water and what they can do to help protect it. We also transformed a former oil terminal in Cold Spring Harbor into a native grassland, and just last week we installed rain gardens there to prevent harmful stormwater runoff from polluting the Harbor.

Together, we are creating living legacies! The actions you have taken to support the Land Alliance will live on long after us. Please do get out and visit these new preserves and share them with your friends. They belong to all of us!

With super thanks for supporting our Great Cause and Onward to more success in the years ahead!

Yours in conservation,

Carter Bales
Chair
property will help complete one of the most important wetland and open space corridors on the North Shore of Long Island. It is the Land Alliance's number one conservation priority in our 2014-2020 Draft Open Space Plan. In acquiring the Humes property, the Land Alliance will conserve the property's open space values, natural features and scenic viewsheds.

In order to close on this acquisition in early July, we have reached out to conservation lenders and donors alike. Approximately $3 million in pledges and contributions has been raised to date. We will borrow the remaining $2.5 million in funds from The Conservation Fund, a national conservation organization that specializes in bridge loans for land trusts and an anonymous donor over a three-year term.

Once the property is acquired, we will continue our fundraising efforts in earnest and begin the stewardship and property management planning process. We look forward to working with all involved parties to develop a plan that protects the conservation values of the property. If you would like to help, please contact us at 516-626-0908.

We look forward to your involvement and very much hope that in the not too distant future the Humes Japanese Stroll Garden will be added to the mix!

Humes Property Donors to Date:

Botsy and Hoyle Jones * Anonymous Donor

Verena and Rod Cushman * Anonymous Donor

Elizabeth and Lee Ainslie* Sheila and Tom Lieber & the Franklin Fund
Carolyn MacDonald in honor of Robert I. MacDonald * Rosalind P. Walter

Anonymous Donor * Sally Peters and Hal Davidson * Andrew Farren
The Jansing Cook Foundation * Carol and Larry Schmidlapp
DeForest Williams Property Opened as Wawapek Preserve

The North Shore Land Alliance is extremely pleased to announce the acquisition and dedication of the 32-acre Wawapek Preserve, formerly the DeForest Williams property, in Cold Spring Harbor. In partnership with the Town of Huntington, Suffolk County, New York State, The Conservation Fund, The Nature Conservancy and 358 private donors, we were able to acquire and permanently protect this environmentally significant property on March 10, 2015. This complex project took over three years and a combined $8.5 million to complete. Acquisition of this historic property is a momentous achievement, one we couldn’t have done without our partners and the support of the community!

Upon closing, the Land Alliance began working on the improvements necessary to open Wawapek to the public. This passive use preserve provides residents with walkable woodland trails a restored garden area featuring a round of a Yew hedge and beautiful specimen trees. Stewardship work commenced after we finalized our landscape concept plan and our management plan with both the Town of Huntington and Suffolk County. By early May, we began working with Victoria Silverman at Main Street Nursery in Huntington to create an entrance drive and parking area for visitors. We also installed fencing, signage, native plantings, trails, benches and an orchard. Thanks to
our staff and Main Street Nursery, the construction, installation and restoration of Wawapek took only three months to complete!

In the first weekend of June, we celebrated the official opening of the Preserve with a donor party on June 5th and a community gathering and ice cream social on June 6th. Both were very well attended, with over 100 people present at each event. Representatives from the Town of Huntington, Suffolk County and New York State were able to join our community celebration on June 6th. They included Town Supervisor Frank Petrone, County Legislator William Spencer and New York State Assemblyman Chad Lupinacci. Together, we celebrated the collaborative efforts of protecting Wawapek and discussed the importance of protecting our remaining natural lands for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

Wawapek is significant both historically and environmentally. This historic property was once part of a 600+-acre parcel that in 1898 encompassed what the Williams family called Wawapek Farm. The original land purchase from the Matinecock Indians was made in 1653 by early settlers of Wigwam Swamp. More than 60% of the property is comprised of mature hardwood forest, which provides the area with erosion control, protects air quality and provides habitat to a variety of wildlife, trees and wildflowers. Eastern Box Turtles, a New York State watch list species, have been found on the property and at least three state-protected plants have been documented. The property also lies at the edge of the Oyster Bay Area Important Bird Area, one of New York State’s 136 sites designated by Bird Life International and National Audubon.

We urge you to see Wawapek for yourself. We would also ask you to consider donating to the Wawapek Stewardship Fund, which will provide ongoing stewardship and restoration work for the Preserve. We still have naming opportunities available and several ongoing restoration projects, including maintaining/restoring the existing Yew hedge round and Wisteria trellis, planting native wildflower gardens and adding to our existing entrance plantings. If you are interested in supporting our stewardship efforts, including becoming a volunteer, please call us at 516-626-0908.
Wawapek Opening Weekend Festivities
New York State Invasive Species Awareness Week at Wawapek Preserve

Preserve Tour and Invasive Plant Weeding Gathering: Wednesday, July 15th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Learn about native and invasive plant life and take action to safeguard the property’s coastal oak hickory forest. The evening will include a guided nature walk as well as an opportunity to remove invasive stilt grass, mile-a-minute and other species from one or more sections of the Preserve. For more information, please contact Jane Jackson at 516-626-0908 or email jjackson@northshorelandalliance.org.
Changes Afoot at 95 Shore Road Entrance

If you’ve driven, walked or cycled the length of Shore Road in Cold Spring Harbor recently, you have no doubt noticed some improvements to the entrance to our nature preserve. Thanks to a $56,620 grant from New York State to fund a new parking area with additional landscaping and $2,200 for pollinator garden plants from Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society, we have a new look. Transforming a barren lawn, the changes will not only enhance water quality by infiltrating stormwater runoff, it will also provide habitat for birds, insects and bats.

In June, using a design donated by Main Street Nursery, Brett Landscaping completed a new parking area, reducing the width of the existing driveway, installing parking space for four cars and replacing concrete with permeable pavers and pea gravel. The same week, Organically Green created a pollinator garden and two rain gardens and planted additional trees and shrubs alongside the parking area. Over the coming weeks and months, interpretive signage will be installed to identify species planted and explain how these gardens and a permeable parking area help support and protect our natural resources.

Our new entrance seems a suitable gateway to the nature preserve just inside the gate. As a nature preserve containing marshes and grassland the property is helping to:

- absorb runoff from roads and neighboring properties (reducing its contamination of groundwater and Cold Spring Harbor and, in turn, Long Island Sound)
- decrease flooding and other sea level rise impacts
- provide habitat for wildlife including imperiled species
- educate visitors about the important role open space plays in preserving natural resources.

He who plants a tree...Plants a hope.
~Lucy Larcom, “Plant a Tree”
Ownership Transfer of the Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve

We are pleased to announce the transfer of the Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve, on Chicken Valley Road in the Village of Upper Brookville, from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to the Land Alliance, which has been managing the Preserve since 2009. Donated to TNC in the 1970’s by Sidney A. Mitchell and his sisters Mary Dodderidge and Anne Payne, the Preserve was named after a local conservationist who lived nearby. The delightful 42-acre parcel contains exquisite woodland of white pine first planted in the 1930’s along with a diverse understory of native shrubs, wildflowers and groundcovers. It also contains an historic field that was at one time farmed by the Youngs Family and an unspoiled hardwood forest that abuts Planting Fields Arboretum.

Iselin occurs within the Oyster Bay Special Groundwater Protection Area. To top off its merits, Iselin is part of a corridor of several hundred minimally developed acres that lie within the watershed of Beaver Brook, which flows from Upper Francis Pond and through Shu Swamp to Beaver Pond in Mill Neck, so its preservation aids in protecting both groundwater and the quality of Long Island Sound.

Many of our stewardship endeavors are focused on the meadow, where native goldenrods, asters, common milkweed and other meadow species are compromised by an abundance of invasive plants including mugwort, Asiatic bittersweet and porcelain-berry. Intern Amanda Furcall, with help from interns Harrison Tanchuck and Josh Grossman, is dedicated to the property and spends many hours on creating and maintaining native planting areas where invasives have been removed and natives are planted. This summer we are enhancing these efforts by trying a new technique: targeted grazing. Come July, you can expect to see a small collection of goats eating (we hope!) the worst of the invasive plants in one or more sections of the field.

Please contact us at 516-626-0908 for directions and trail maps, or if you would like to volunteer in stewarding our preserves.

Breaking New Trail at Red Cote Preserve

Our land steward, Eric Himelfarb, and his partner-in-crime, volunteer Ken Krumenacker, have been hard at work during the heat of this summer installing a new trail in the forest of Red Cote Preserve. The trail will allow visitors to explore a captivating forest after making their way across the meadow from the parking area. The trail will wind through a lush and peaceful landscape under a dense tree canopy, providing a refreshing contrast from the open fields. Red Cote Preserve (aka Pulling) was protected with environmental bond funding in 2006. Patricia Sands, whose family transferred the property to Nassau County and continues to take part in its stewardship, was impressed by Eric and Ken’s fast work. The trail should be completed and marked shortly and we hope you will see for yourself!
Land Alliance Co-Sponsors the 2015 Long Island Food Conference at Hofstra University

On Saturday, April 25th well over 400 people from across Long Island attended the Long Island Food Conference at Hofstra University. Sponsored by the North Shore Land Alliance, the Long Island Food Conference (formerly the Small Farm Summit) was a full-day event dedicated to educating Long Islanders about the benefits of healthy eating, growing their own food, living sustainably and protecting our existing farms and farmland. The conference included an exhibitors’ hall filled with over 40 exhibitors, nearly 30 workshops on topics such as local food production, raising shellfish, creating school gardens and eating for health, as well as discussions on policies and programs that affect our locally grown food sources and socially responsible investing.

Stephen Ritz, an award winning teacher and founder of the Green Bronx Machine, kicked off the conference with an inspiring keynote address about empowering children to live healthier and more productive lives by growing their own food. By creating community gardens in unused plots of land and installing hydroponic vertical towers in classrooms, Mr. Ritz has helped the children of the South Bronx to grow more than 30,000 pounds of food, improve their academic performance and create jobs right in the South Bronx. His motivating speech reminded the audience that “children are our future and when you give kids positive learning experiences, they are empowered to move into spheres of success.”
The Food Conference also included children’s workshops and interactive programs focused on gardening and food-related topics that ranged from beekeeping to the role of worms as compost makers to the life cycle of plants. The conference concluded with a reception for volunteers, speakers, exhibitors and attendees who had the opportunity to exchange ideas related to protecting and expanding local growing, farming and healthy eating opportunities.

The themes of education, the next generation, community and our local food production system were evident throughout the conference. It’s clear that people throughout our community are starting to reimagine the traditional concept of farming as being rows and rows of verdant crops and are starting to transform our urban/suburban landscape into tiny backyard plots, community gardens and vertical gardens that maximize growing space. We remain optimistic that this year’s Long Island Food Conference will help provide individuals and organizations with the tools and information necessary to effectuate change, whether it be at home and in the garden or in the broader community through sustainable food policies and programs.

A large group of dedicated volunteers and generous sponsors - whose support was invaluable to this event - helped to make the Long Island Food Conference possible. In addition to the North Shore Land Alliance, sponsors included Hofstra University, Sierra Club of Long Island, EcoScraps, Whole Foods, iEatGreen, Slow Food North Shore, Chobani, Sustainable Long Island, Morgan Stanley, Edible Long Island, Anton Media Group, Creations Magazine, Natural Awakenings and New Living Magazine.

North Shore Land Alliance and the Long Island Food Coalition are planning a bus tour of local farms.

The Long Island Food Coalition, the organizing body for the Food Conference, is committed to continuing to host and promote educational events that focus on protecting local farms, growing food, promoting healthy eating and incorporating environmentally sustainable solutions and local food into the fabric of our community. To this end, the North Shore Land Alliance and the Long Island Food Coalition are planning a bus tour of three local farms on the North Shore of Long Island on Saturday, August 8, 2015.

The farms include Three Castles Farm in Old Westbury, Youngs Farm in Old Brookville and Orkestrai Farm, located on the grounds of Planting Fields Arboretum in Upper Brookville.

To learn more and to register, please contact the North Shore Land Alliance at 516-626-0908.
$80,000 in Grants Awarded

In April, the Land Alliance was awarded a $40,000 grant in support of our acquisition of the 28-acre Humes property in the Village of Mill Neck. This acquisition has the potential to be transformative by preserving one of the highest conservation priorities for the Land Alliance. Furthermore, the property’s central location in our designated area and potential community conservation uses – from passive recreation and appropriate public access to agriculture and habitat restoration – will provide the organization with unprecedented opportunities to demonstrate the values of connectivity for both wildlife and people. The New York State Conservation Partnership Program transaction grant will cover the indirect costs and expenses associated with this important acquisition, which will close in July.

We also received $40,000 to cover two years of expenses for our educator, Karen Mossey (pictured at top), and supplies for our Long Island Water Education Program, which launched in elementary and middle schools in the 2014/15 school year. Our three-session program uses hands-on, interactive lessons both in the classroom and at a nature preserve to teach students about Long Island’s aquifer and surface waters. The lessons are designed to enable students to understand how they function and how they’re threatened. The program not only raises awareness about these issues, it encourages a proactive approach to conservation among younger generations. In its first year, the program reached over 1,000 fourth, fifth and sixth graders in nine schools in four school districts in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. In the coming school year we plan to add additional classes in some of these schools and two additional school districts.

This year, the Land Trust Alliance’s New York State Conservation Partnership Program invested in 76 projects totaling $1.8M to increase the pace, quality and permanence of land conservation throughout New York. The Land Alliance received the largest award granted and we are very grateful for this most generous support.
Upcoming Walks in the Woods and Work Days

The North Shore Land Alliance Walks in the Woods nature education program is a series of free, educational and interactive explorations. They are designed to guide visitors of all ages through Long Island parks and nature preserves, many of which are off the beaten path, for investigation while educating them about the plants and wildlife that call them home. Participants also gain an understanding and appreciation of local land conservation and its benefits to our food and water supplies and its connection to the strength and health of our communities.

Wednesday, July 15th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Wawapek Preserve (aka DeForest Williams Property), Cold Spring Harbor for Invasive Species Awareness Week. Learn about native and invasive plant life and take action to safeguard the property's coastal oak hickory forest. The evening will include a guided nature walk as well as an opportunity to remove invasive stilt grass, mile-a-minute and other species from one or more sections of the Preserve.

Sunday, July 26, 11:00 a.m., Hoffman Center, Muttontown with Virginia Dankel. Explore the grounds of this beautiful 155-acre estate in the heat of the summer and learn about its many natural communities.

Thursday, August 13, 6:00 p.m., Humes Property, Mill Neck with Ann Lotowycz and Land Alliance staff. Ann's knowledge of plants and familiarity with this property by the Japanese Stroll Garden will make for a highly educational Walk.

Saturday, September 26, 10:00 a.m., Sayville Grasslands, West Sayville with Dr. Andrew Greller and Polly Weigand. This U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service property is a high-quality example of one of the world's most threatened natural communities.

Saturday, October 17, 11:00 a.m., Dwarf Pine Plains, Westhampton with John Turner. Visit this stunning preserve when not only is it at its most colorful but also when Buck Moths can be seen during their mating flight. It's a sight to behold!

Sunday, November 22, noon, Wawapek Preserve (aka DeForest Williams Property), Cold Spring Harbor with Richard Weir. Richard's plant surveys of this property were instrumental in its protection. Visit after the leaves have fallen for a Harbor view and learn about its special qualities.

To register, please visit our website at www.northshorelandalliance.org or call 516-626-0908.
On April 1st, New York Senators Schumer and Gillibrand and Connecticut Senators Blumenthal and Murphy sent a letter to the Appropriations Committee asking for the repeal of the 2009 Plum Island Law. That law required the sale of Plum Island and the Plum Island Animal Disease Center in order to help with the funding of the new National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility in Manhattan, Kansas. The Senators explained that the original financial reasoning to sell Plum Island no longer makes sense, and it’s in the best interest of the country to conserve this magnificent island.

On April 17th, Congressman Lee Zeldin announced that he reintroduced legislation to protect Plum Island, previously sponsored by his predecessor, Congressman Tim Bishop. The legislation will reverse the law that mandated the public sale of Plum Island by the federal government to the highest bidder.

On June 25th, Senators Schumer, Gillibrand, Blumenthal and Murphy dropped a Senate bill to block the sale of Plum Island. Bill S.1675, the Plum Island Conservation Act, repeals the prior Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Acts that call for the sale of Plum Island.

Further, Bill S. 1675 does the following:

a) recommends transfer of administrative jurisdiction over Plum Island from the Department of Homeland Security to the federal agency most capable of conserving the undeveloped land, habitat, historic, cultural and other environmental resources.

b) calls for an analysis of any remediation possibilities, their costs, the timing of the transfer and the need for any legislative changes necessary to execute the transactions.

We are grateful that elected officials at all levels stand united in trying to preserve Plum Island’s beautiful natural habitat.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Program Authorization Set to Expire on September 30th.

Since 1965, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has been used to acquire and preserve some of the nation’s most iconic landscapes, including the Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine, Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado, Mount Rainier National Park in Washington and Sterling Forest in New York to name just a few. Since its establishment in 1965, the LWCF has provided more than $16 billion to protect land in all 50 states. None of this money comes from taxpayers. Instead, the LWCF is funded mainly by federal revenues from oil and gas drilling. It has also provided more than $4 billion to states to build baseball diamonds, shooting ranges, ice skating rinks, boat ramps, bike trails and golf courses. But the fund expires September 30th, and key lawmakers are sharply divided on how or if to extend it.

Some say land acquisition under LWCF is fiscally reckless when federal land agencies already face several billions of dollars in deferred maintenance projects. They oppose extending the program without reforms that would allow LWCF money to be spent on what they feel are higher land management priorities -- crumbling park roads, run-down bathrooms and leaky water systems.

Others are proposing LWCF be amended so that a greater portion of funds is given to states to invest in urban recreation -- as was originally intended in 1965. But conservation and sportsmen’s groups, the Obama administration and a large contingent of Democrats and Republicans would prefer the program be reauthorized as is, calling it a boon to outdoor recreation and a critical bulwark against the development of diminishing open space.

Each year, $900 million is deposited into the Fund mostly from royalties from offshore oil and gas development. Congress decides how much of that to appropriate and how to distribute it among federal land acquisitions, grants to states for purchases, and for other purposes, such as conserving private forest lands or grants for states to improve habitat for
endangered species. But full funding has only been provided twice -- in 1998 and 2001 -- and in recent years Congress has appropriated LWCF at about one-third its authorized amount.

Surely Congress won’t let our most important conservation program expire!

NEW YORK STATE
Environmental Protection Fund Grows by $15 Million

Governor Cuomo, the New York State Senate and Assembly came to a budget agreement that increases the appropriation for the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) to $177 million. This continues steady progress towards the restoration of the EPF. The $15 million increase in the EPF appropriation is a recognition that New York needs to invest in programs that protect our clean water, create jobs and improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers. Five million dollars of new funding will be allocated toward the development of a plan to protect Long Island’s waters.

While we were successful in increasing the appropriation for the EPF this year, the budget agreement came at a cost to another important environmental program. As you may recall, the Executive Budget proposed to sweep funding from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) into the General Fund. General Fund revenue was then used to fund $18 million of the $177 million EPF. As you know, our needs for environmental funding far exceed available resources. When dedicated environmental funds are swept into the General Fund it compromises the purposes for which those funds were created.

The primary source of funding for the EPF since it was created has been the Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT). As the economy has recovered so has the RETT and it is projected to grow into the future. Going forward, we will continue to support a renewed commitment to using the RETT as the means of ensuring that the EPF will recover and grow for the benefit of New Yorkers in every region of the state, and we should continue to oppose sweeps from the RGGI or any other dedicated environmental funds.

Advocating for Nature:
Help to Save the Monarch Butterfly

The National Pollination Garden Network has launched a campaign to register one million public and private gardens and landscapes to support pollinators. Since pollinators are responsible for one-third of all food sources, their survival is imperative. This campaign encourages the increase of pollinator-friendly gardens. By adding more flowering plants and trees, nectar and pollen will increase, which in turn improves the health of not only Monarch butterflies, but also other pollinators, such as bees and birds.

Here's how you can help:
1. Join the campaign online at www.pollinatorgardens.org.
2. Plant a pollinator garden of any size with continuous bloom, situated in a sunny area sheltered from the wind and with access to fresh water.
3. Purchase native plants and seeds from pollinator-friendly nurseries and garden centers.
4. Plant sustainably – Conserve fresh water and reduce use of pesticides, herbicides and inorganic fertilizers that kill pollinators.
Events at Roosevelt Preserve Continue to Spark a Love of Science and the Environment

The Land Alliance celebrated Earth Day on Wednesday, April 29th, with 25 fifth and sixth graders from the Roosevelt Union Free School District led by Mrs. Catherine Beasley, the science teacher for all the elementary schools, and third-grade teacher Mrs. Linda Boyce. They started their day at the Preserve’s Elizabeth Street entrance where Eric Himelfarb took them on a nature walk. Along the way students learned about the Preserve’s plants and wildlife and pulled invasive garlic mustard. In addition, they collected water samples on the banks of Meadowbrook Creek which they took back to school to determine the stream’s pH level and to better understand the organisms that live in the water and the variety of requirements they need to survive. For example, aquatic insects, catfish and carp can tolerate a wide pH range while other organisms may not. To conclude the event, students prepared a salad with the garlic mustard they’d pulled, then worked in teams to spruce up the entrance of the Preserve, making it more inviting to neighbors and visitors.

The Land Alliance’s partnership with the Roosevelt community has been very positive. Roosevelt Preserve has become a fun, outdoor field trip destination for students and teachers who don’t mind walking there since there is no busing. It also serves the community as a great place to celebrate nature by identifying native and invasive plants, watching birds and planting trees.

Since the fall of 2007, the Land Alliance has partnered with the Roosevelt community to bring awareness of and new life to this beautiful 72-acre forested area adjacent to many backyards. We’ve hosted Walks in the Woods, planted a vegetable container garden, conducted cleanups and held several Earth Day and Arbor Day events at Roosevelt Preserve. We were also successful in winning several grants from New York State that provided critical funds needed to clean up the stream and fund a two-year summer science program for local children led by educator Leslie Pieters. When asked about the program, Leslie said “young scientists love the Roosevelt Preserve. It is the best science lab possible!”

Thank you again to the Roosevelt Union-Free School District for partnering with us for our 2015 Earth Day event and to our volunteer Eileen Rossi who helped to make this event possible.
Volunteer for Open Space Program - 2015 Interns

Amanda Furcall
Amanda completed her Bachelor of Science degree in conservation biology at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in spring 2013 and her Masters of Public Administration, last year. Her skill and experience in designing and conducting research studies, invasive species management, biological surveys and environmental education have made her an ideal fit for both managing native planting areas and invasives in the meadow at Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve and partnering with Becca Robbins to develop a management plan for James Preserve.

Harrison Tanchuck
Harrison came to us almost fresh off the boat from Greece and Norway. He had been WWOOFing with World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms in Paros, Greece this past spring, working independently in an organic garden to build knowledge in sustainable agriculture and soil enrichment. Having now completed his sophomore year at Northeastern University, where he is a candidate for a Bachelor of Science in Civil & Environmental Engineering, his love of travel comes through loud and clear in his resume; in addition to Greece he has studied in Brazil, Spain and Holland. This summer he is helping to manage invasive plants at Louis C. Clark and James Preserves in Old Brookville and giving Amanda Furcall much appreciated assistance at Iselin Preserve.

Josh Grossman
Josh grew up right here on Long Island and is now studying Sustainability Studies at Hofstra University. He will be entering his senior year at Hofstra this fall, and will be receiving his B.S in Sustainability Studies next spring. He hopes to one day be able to live and work on Long Island in order to make his home a better place for the future.

Josh is proficient in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and will be helping the Land Alliance with mapping projects, ordinance review and a variety of stewardship efforts. He knows how to roll up his sleeves and get the job done. He was also tremendously helpful with the opening of the Wawapek Preserve.

Juliette Lee
Juliette just completed her freshman year at Connecticut College where she is majoring in Environmental Studies. Prior to Connecticut College, she attended Deerfield Academy where she was active on the Sustainability Action Plan Committee and was an Environmental Proctor – serving as a liaison between the Environmental Committee and the student body. In addition to her environmental interests, she is a member of the Connecticut College Swimming and Diving team and a member of the Student Activities Council.

Juliette joined the Land Alliance team this past June and jumped right into helping out with the annual Fore the Love of the Land golf and tennis outing. She will continue to help with fundraising events and will assist with the reaccreditation project as well as field work at the Wawapek and 95 Shore Road preserves.
MSC Industrial Supply Company
Gives Clark Sanctuary a Facelift

15 MSC Industrial Supply Company volunteers celebrated Cinco de Mayo with Land Alliance staff and volunteers at our Clark Sanctuary in Old Brookville by planting native plants and removing huge quantities of invasive shrubs and wildflowers. Their dedication and brawn enabled us to tackle weeds that have plagued the Preserve for years.

The first order of the day was a nature walk led by Eric Himelfarb, who demonstrated that Cedar Swamp Creek runs through the eight-acre preserve’s freshwater marsh on its way to Hempstead Harbor. Clark’s diverse wildlife includes wood ducks, green herons and blue flag iris. The walk was followed by planting golden ragwort punctuated by oak and Eastern star sedges in a small area that had been cleared of extremely invasive lesser celandine. It is hoped that the ragwort, which provides dense foliage very early in the spring, will help compete with the lesser celandine. The volunteers also pulled, cut and/or dug up copious amounts of invasive bush honeysuckle, burning bush, Japanese knotweed and garlic mustard. While a one-time removal of any of these species would not be effective, MSC’s contribution was significant enough that we hope to be able to continue where they left off to make a dent in the abundance of these pests with our own staff and volunteers.

Thank you, MSC and Land Alliance volunteers!

Rebecca Robbins
Becca grew up in rural Vermont where she fell in love with undisturbed forests and pristine waterways. She received her Masters Degree in Ecological Landscape Design and Planning from The Conway School and has worked on projects surrounding regenerative design, community planning and conservation. She lives in Brooklyn and works for urban landscape design groups. Becca is working currently with Amanda Furcall on a management plan for the James Preserve.

Ryan Wilk
If you visit our 95 Shore Road Preserve in Cold Spring Harbor one morning this summer you’ll have a good chance of running into Ryan Wilk watering new plantings and keeping invasive plants under control. Ryan graduated last year from Susquehanna University with a Bachelor of Arts in both International Studies, with an emphasis in Sustainable Development, and Creative Writing. His well-rounded background includes research into bald eagle habitats and sustainable farm systems. His completion of an Eagle Scout project in high school is another highlight in his experience.
On Wednesday, April 8 the Land Alliance held its sixth annual New York Lecture Series event at the Explorers Club in New York City. This year’s featured speaker was Jeremy Oppenheim, Program Director of the New Climate Economy Project.

Oppenheim, a distinguished speaker on global resource productivity and sustainability and author of Resource Revolution: Meeting the World’s Energy, Materials, Food and Water Needs, led an engaging and important discussion on how to combine economic growth with the protection of irreplaceable environmental assets. Jeremy presented an overview of The New Climate Economy Project which provides independent and authoritative evidence on the relationship between actions which can strengthen economic performance and those which reduce the risk of dangerous climate change.

For the last five years, Jeremy has led McKinsey & Co’s Sustainability and Resource Productivity Practice. He is on sabbatical from his role as a Director of McKinsey to head up his project. Jeremy has worked with a wide range of private, public and social sector clients in many different countries. He has advised both developed and developing countries on ways in which they can combine robust economic growth with the protection of irreplaceable environmental assets, and has worked with leading corporations across the energy, mining, consumer goods, engineering and finance sectors. Jeremy has also served many of the world’s public international institutions, with a focus on their sustainable development and resource productivity strategies.

We thank Jeremy for coming to New York from the UK to talk to Land Alliance members and friends about this important topic. We also thank those who attended in support of the Land Alliance!

Special Thanks to Event Sponsors:

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More than 40 Heritage Committee members came out on a snowy February day to play in the inaugural paddle party in Locust Valley. Co-chaired by Meghan Hagedorn and Land Alliance Trustee, D.R. Holmes, the event included morning and afternoon round robin style tournaments and lunch and indoor games by the fire in the paddle hut. Prizes were awarded for first place and runner up for both sessions.

The morning winners were Lucy Wallace and Ron Horman and the runner up winners were Whitney Maxwell and Gib Ott. The afternoon winners were Jay Boothby and Peter Wilson and Ashley Eyre and Andrew Foote were the runner up winners.

Guests had a fun day on and off the courts all in support of the Land Alliance.
On June 10th, more than 90 young professionals attended the third Annual Heritage Committee *Evening in the Garden*, held at the Jefferson Market Garden in Greenwich Village. 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, allium and roses, which grow on beautiful iron gates donated by Brooke Astor. Although there were concerns of 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 F. Bales’ 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 firsthand.” He looks forward to cultivating a passion for conservation among young professionals at future Heritage Committee events.

Sign up for Heritage Society emails at [www.northshorelandalliance.org](http://www.northshorelandalliance.org) to stay up to date on this and all Land Alliance events and programs.
A picture-perfect summer morning set the stage for a lively day of sporting activities on Monday, June 23rd, with more than 100 people in attendance at the annual Fore the Love of the Land Golf and Tennis Outing at the Piping Rock Club.

The golf tournament, co-chaired by John Bransfield and Frank Segarra, featured a shotgun start on one of the most highly regarded courses on the North Shore. The course, designed by Charles B. MacDonald, was in prime condition even after a series of rainy days. Golfers began the day with a continental breakfast and ended with lunch and awards at 1:30pm. New this year was a live auction featuring a three-night stay in a four-bedroom cottage at the exclusive Kiawah Island Club as well as a silent auction, which included threesomes and foursomes at Creek, Piping, Meadowbrook and Bethpage Black golf courses among others.

Prizes were awarded to the lowest net winners with a score of 58 to David Powers, Don Cordell, Ricky Calonitia and Issac Eyal. The first place gross winners, with a score of 68, were Richard Cooke, Ryan McArdle, Joe Liana, Jr. and Steve Tambone. The winner of the longest drive in the men's division was David Powers and in the women's division Missy Geddes. Keith Abramson and Claudia Galin won closest to the pin for their respective divisions. There were two hole-in-one prizes this year. On hole #11 was a 24-month prepaid lease on a 2015 Range Rover Sport from Land Rover of Glen Cove. On the 17th hole a $25,000 cash prize was sponsored by Bullen Insurance. Sadly there was no winner on hole #11 or #17.
While golfers enjoyed their outing, Tennis Co-Chairs, Peri Wenz and Mary and Russell Selover, hosted tennis enthusiasts in a warmup with the pros, with three players to one pro on a court, followed by round robin play and courtside lunch. Also new this year was a tennis silent auction which featured a limited edition framed Barbara Prey print and a range of restaurant and spa service gift certificates.

Tennis prizes were awarded to the first and second place tennis players. This year’s first place winner was Jenny Einhorn and second place was a tie between Kenny Friedman and Mary Selover. The Golf and Tennis participants were all given a Land Alliance tote filled with a tennis/golf hat, a reusable water bottle – donated by Wells Fargo - golf balls for the golfers – donated by Frank Segarra, Citi Private Bank - and leather bound tennis/golf note book.

Everyone who competed on this spectacular summer day enjoyed playing on the beautifully manicured grass courts which are some of the few that remain on Long Island. The Land Alliance provides opportunities to connect people to the land we love. Along with raising funds to support land conservation, *Fore the Love of the Land* provides an opportunity for people to commune in Long Island’s most beautiful recreational open spaces. Thank you to all who came out to play in support of the Land Alliance’s conservation work.

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New Board Members Join the Land Alliance Team

**Cristoph Cushman**
Christoph is a Partner of CRE Asset Management, a commercial real estate investment company, where he has worked since 2003. Christoph and his family possess a real conservation ethic and have been loyal supporters of the Land Alliance since its beginning in 2003.

Prior to working in real estate, Christoph worked in the non-profit sector at the Peninsula Community Foundation in their Venture Philanthropy department. He attended the Green Vale School, Phillips Academy, University of Virginia and Columbia Business School where he received his MBA.

Christoph is married to Paula. They live on Duck Pond Road in Locust Valley with their four children, who attend the Green Vale School.

**Christopher Hagedorn**
Chris was born on an Air Force base in Germany but raised in Sands Point by parents whose families have lived on Long Island for four generations. Growing up on property that adjoins protected wetlands, Chris has long valued the connection to nature he was able to enjoy as a child. He attended Friends Academy before graduating from Bowdoin College in 2007, an experience that only strengthened his bond with the outdoors.

Since graduating, he worked as a copywriter for an advertising agency in New York and as a marketer for his family business before founding his own business, the Hawthorne Gardening Company, in 2014. HGC is dedicated to creating high-quality gardening products founded in social and environmental responsibility. Their mission is to create engaging consumer experiences and products with the ease and innovation to empower more people to garden no matter where they choose to grow. Since the founding of Hawthorne Gardening Company in late 2014, the business has completed a series of acquisitions that has established them as market leaders in the urban, natural and hydroponic gardening categories.

Chris also serves on the Board of Directors for AeroGrow International as well as the Board of Trustees for the Farms for City Kids Foundation, whose mission is to give inner-city children the opportunity to experience an “outdoor classroom” where academics and teamwork are taught in an authentic working farm environment. Chris lives in Sands Point with his wife, Meghan, and their two dogs.

**Tom Hogan**
Thomas Hogan joined the Advisory Board of the Land Alliance this past January. Tom is an attorney with the firm of Hogan & Hogan in Locust Valley specializing in real estate law and a former Oyster Bay Town Councilman. Tom currently serves as the President of the Cold Spring Harbor Business Improvement District and as a member of the Advisory Board of the Society for The Preservation of Long Island Antiquities. He has been an Independent Director at The First of Long Island Corporation and its subsidiary The First National Bank of Long Island since 1978.

Tom and his wife, Judy, live in Cold Spring Harbor and have served as volunteer EMTs with the Cold Spring Harbor Volunteer Fire Department and Huntington Community First Aid Squad. In 2009, they founded the Cold Spring Harbor Firehouse Museum. Judy owns and manages Sweetie Pies on Main, a cafe in Cold Spring Harbor. They have grown children and several grandchildren who live in the area.
Nina Muller
Nina joined the Land Alliance team this past January as our Director of Development. Nina’s primary responsibility is managing and coordinating the Campaign for the North Shore. Prior to the Land Alliance, Nina was the Director of External Affairs at The Heckscher Museum of Art in Huntington, NY and previously had a twelve-year career with Merrill Lynch in the city. She graduated from Notre Dame of Maryland University with a degree in History.

Nina grew up in Cold Spring Harbor and currently lives in Lloyd Harbor with her husband and two teenage children. As a native, she possesses knowledge of our community and a real passion for protecting it. In addition to her work with the Land Alliance Nina remains involved in the community. A past member of the Board of Governors of the Cold Spring Harbor Beach Club she is actively involved at the committee level and serves on committees at St. John's Church in Cold Spring Harbor. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her children, playing tennis and gardening.

SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, September 26, 2015

Join North Shore Land Alliance for our
12TH ANNUAL WINE AUCTION & DINNER
at the Barn at Groton Place, Old Westbury, NY

Auctioneer Hugh Hildesley of Sotheby’s is back!
This very special evening, Co-Chaired by Kim and John Bancroft and Amos and Andrew Nevin with Junior Co-Chairs Aileen and Ian Gumprecht, is the main event for the Land Alliance.

Come out and bid on rare and vintage wines, unique trips to special places and take a chance on our wall of wine - 100 bottles of wine rated 90 and above by Robert Parker. Raise your glass in support of open space!

For sponsorship and ticket information, or to donate wine to the event, please call the Land Alliance at 516-626-0908 or email us at wineauction@northshorelandalliance.com or visit www.northshorelandalliance.com.
YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!

North Shore Land Alliance relies on the generous support of our community. Your membership support will ensure that we are able to acquire the land that matters most, maintain protected open space and provide valuable educational programs.

Ways to Support the Land Alliance:
- Become a member or renew your membership
- Donate a conservation easement on your land
- Include the Land Alliance in your Will
- Give a gift of stock
- Ask your employer to match your gift
- Become a volunteer for open space
- Join our email list to receive advocacy alerts

WHAT IS YOUR CONSERVATION LEGACY?

One of the most powerful ways to sustain the North Shore Land Alliance’s mission over time is to build endowments in support of conservation, stewardship, leadership, general operations and education. Planned gifts are an essential part of endowment building and the Land Alliance’s future.

Whether it is a gift by Will, after first providing for your family’s needs, perhaps by a Trust ensuring steady and reliable income for life, for a family member with the remainder passing to the Land Alliance, or any one of the various planning solutions that are available to you.

For more information about how you can support the North Shore Land Alliance for years to come, please contact Nina Muller at 516-626-0908 or nina@northshorelandalliance.org.

NORTH SHORE LAND ALLIANCE
PLANNED GIVING SOCIETY

“If we do not protect the environment now, we cannot ensure a strong nation for our children…
If we do not act today, many of these lands will be gone.”
– Theodore Roosevelt

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With much gratitude, the Land Alliance presents the names of individuals, families, foundations, businesses and organizations who supported our conservation work in 2014.

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Notice to Members

North Shore Land Alliance Annual Members Meeting

Saturday, October 24th
11:00 a.m.

Please join us for our annual update and the election of trustees.

The Locust Valley Library
170 Buckram Road
Locust Valley

Invitation and proxy to follow in September.

The North Shore Land Alliance continues to strive to learn more about how we can make a difference and implement eco-friendly practices. Our newsletter is printed on recycled paper. Please help us by passing it along to a friend.