



Conservation News

Protecting Open Space on Long Island's North Shore

NORTH SHORE LAND ALLIANCE

Volume 18, Issue 35

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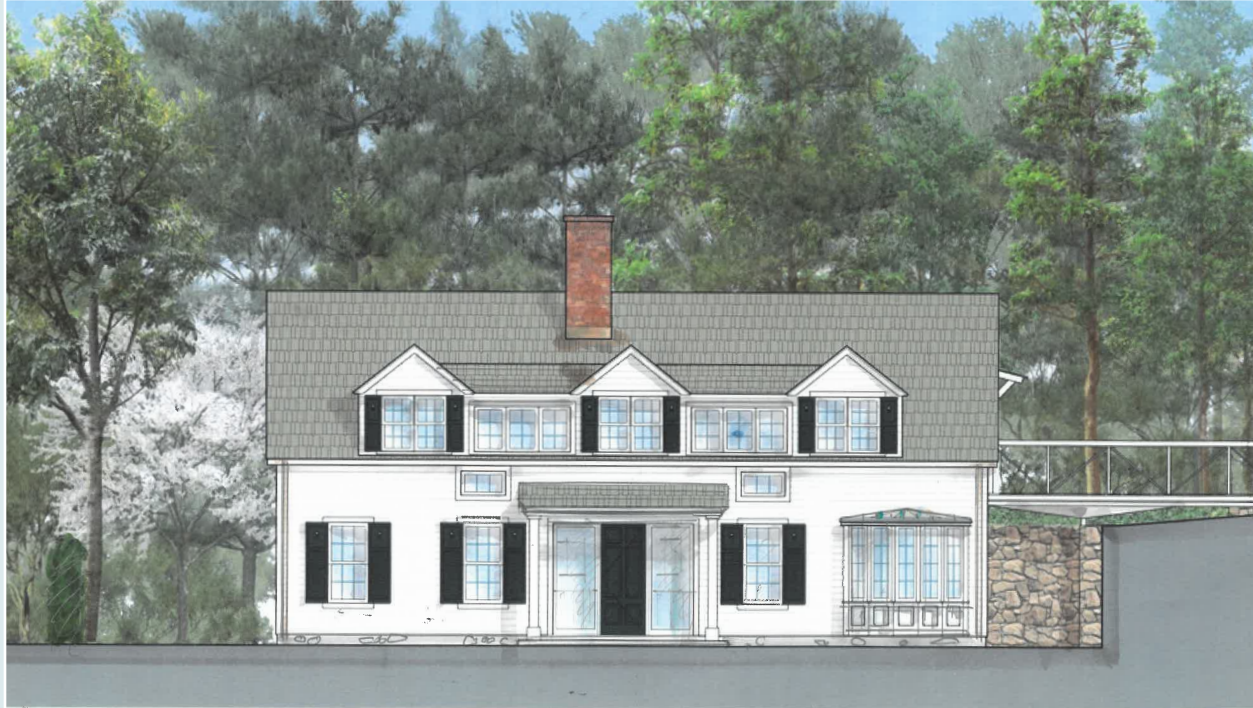
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Rendering of the Tavern House

Land Alliance New Headquarters at Humes

After over 19 years of operating in borrowed or rented spaces, The North Shore Land Alliance, Inc. (Land Alliance) is excited to announce our relocation to the historic Tavern House at the Humes Preserve in Mill Neck, NY. With strong community support, the Land Alliance has grown considerably and accomplished a great deal. It seems appropriate that at this juncture we establish a permanent, engaging and highly functioning center of operation on a property we protected.

The Land Alliance stretched its resources to acquire the 28-acre Humes Preserve in 2015 for \$5.3M. We subsequently purchased the seven-acre Smithers Connector parcel for \$296K in 2016 and the adjoining seven-acre John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden for \$686K in 2017. These 42 acres are in the heart of the most biodiverse area of Nassau County. They adjoin the Charles T. Church Shu Swamp Preserve and connect with the Upper Francis Pond Preserve (acquired by Nassau County in 2009 with help from the Land Alliance). These acquisitions have created a 150-acre open space corridor with nearly five miles of public trails. Visitation to the Humes Preserve has been active and grows.

In June, the Land Alliance will begin restoration of the Tavern House, which is one of

(Continued on pg. 4)



Dear Friends in Nature,

Like many of you, I am fascinated by the beauty and complexity of nature. I am amazed each year when the trees flower, then leaf. I am awed by the artistry of a spider's web and the complex systems that guide birds and butterflies' unimaginable distances on their migration routes.

That awe grew deeper for me this winter when I was fortunate to experience a bucket list adventure with a group of conservation-minded friends. On foot and horseback, we climbed to the remote forests of Mexico's Central Highlands to view the most delicate of creatures – the Monarch butterfly. As we entered a fir tree grove with an understory of bright salvias, the trunks and branches appeared blanketed with rusty autumn leaves. On taking a much closer look (with binoculars), we soon saw those were not leaves at all but millions of sleeping butterflies. They were as still as a tree's bark. Then, as the warming rays of the sun emerged, the butterflies began to quiver and soon took to the sky—so many that we heard the beating of their wings as they flew down the mountain in search of food. At times, it was like a river of orange under bright blue sky. I was lucky to witness an occasional Monarch resting on my shoulder. The locals believe that when a Monarch lands on you, it's someone you've lost telling you they love you!

The more I learned about the plight of the Monarchs, the more poignant their story became. Did you know the Monarchs who were visiting our gardens last fall traveled 3,000 miles back to the same place where their ancestors were born? Or that their offspring will take three generations to return this summer? As you can imagine, such a journey takes its toll on such delicate creatures. According to National Geographic, in the last 40 years America's eastern population of Monarchs dropped by about 80 percent. The journal Science reports that Western Monarchs, which winter in California, have lost close to 99 percent of their population.

Why has this happened? There are two primary reasons – loss of food source and loss of habitat. Milkweed is the host plant for Monarch butterflies and the only food that Monarch caterpillars eat. It used to grow between crops in farmers' fields, but today many of those fields have been developed and milkweed that remains is often removed.

What can we do to help the Monarchs? (1) Plant native milkweed and other native pollinators, (2) Minimize the use of pesticides, (3) Protect the natural areas that plants and animals need to survive, (4) Advocate for government programs like the Farm Bill that protect pollinators and their habitat and, (5) Visit/support magical places like El Rosario, Chincua, Cerro Pelon and Herrada that the Mexican government has set aside for the Monarchs.

Thankfully, early reports from Mexico show the Monarch population is up an estimated 35% this year over last. Experts say the rise may reflect the butterflies' ability to adapt to more extreme bouts of heat or drought varying the date when they leave Mexico. This is just one of many examples of nature rebounding and the good we can do if we come together to protect our precious environment.

Thank you for being our members. Thank you for caring about nature. And thank you for taking action to protect the wonders of nature that surprise us year after year.

Have a great summer!

Lisa W. Ott,
President & CEO



Photo credit: Missy Janes

Continued from pg. 1

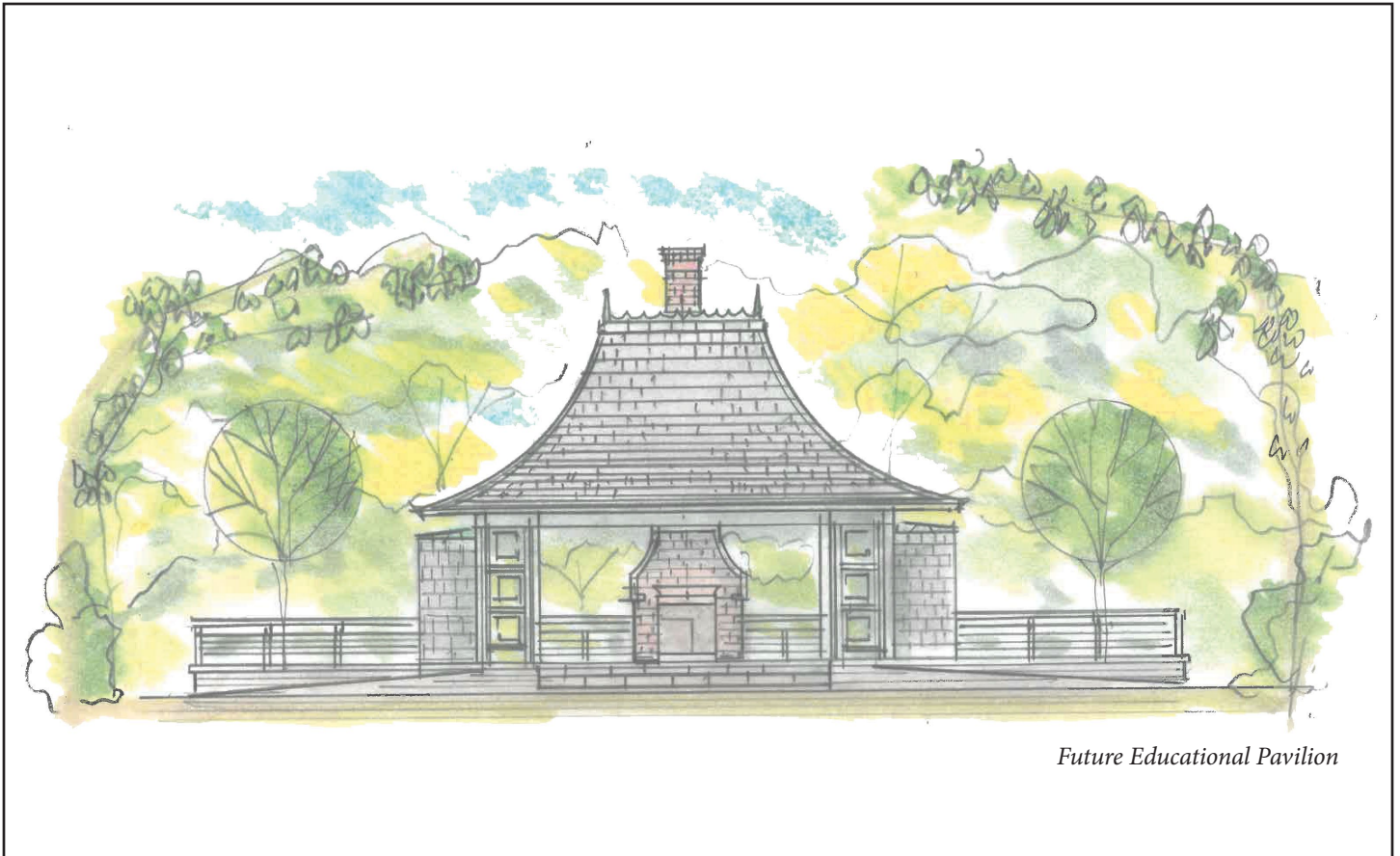
the oldest structures remaining in Mill Neck. We have hopes of occupancy by year-end. While there is little written about the Tavern House or adjacent Cook's Cottage fronting Oyster Bay Road, they are said to date back to the first half of the 18th century. They originally served as their names indicate. The Tavern House was an important stopover on the road to Oyster Bay and accommodated a long list of passersby, famous and infamous. The Cook's Cottage reportedly served as a general store for a time during the 1800's.

In keeping with the property's history, the Tavern House façade will remain almost identical to its current one, and the building size will stay within the existing footprint. The interior will be updated and modernized to provide a light and cheerful working place. The cost of the renovation is approximately \$1.2M. Eduardo Lacroze is the architect for the project. RAF Development Corporation has been chosen to manage the construction. Innocenti and Webel, under

the guidance of David Cohn and Jim Wellington, will continue their firm's decades of design work at Humes as the landscape architects.

The Tavern House's location on busy Oyster Bay Road provides excellent visibility for us. This location also enables handicapped access to the John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden and the adjoining educational pavilion (former pool house), where small lectures and workshops will be held.

While final fundraising efforts continue, we are most grateful for the leadership gift made by the William C. and Joyce C. O'Neil Charitable Trust (Trustees Hollis Russell and John Crabill) and the supporting gifts from the Gerry Charitable Trust and the Estate of Rosalind P. Walter. We are also grateful to the Village of Mill Neck for revising our special use permit and to Tom Hogan, Esq., for serving as pro bono counsel for the Land Alliance.



Future Educational Pavilion

A New Preserve in Lattingtown



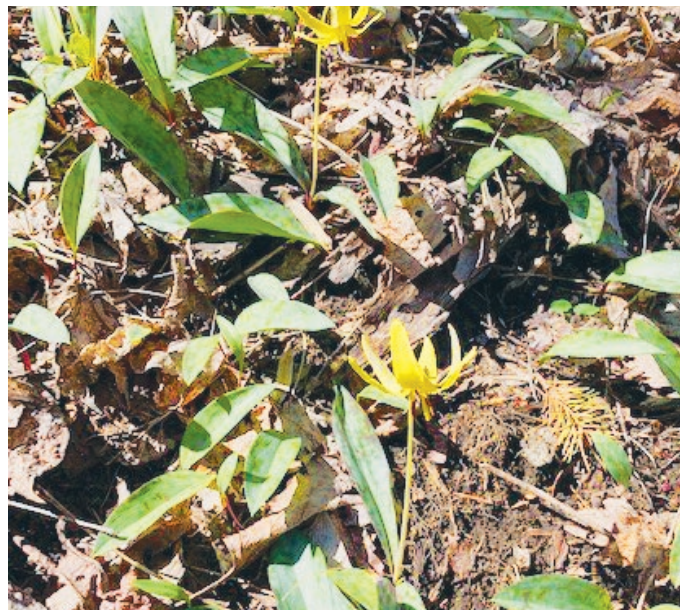
Mary and Tim Williams have donated their family's beautiful 4.5-acre property located at 357 Lattingtown Road to the Land Alliance for use as a public preserve. This lovely place once hosted a grand house called the Dormer House. The house was designed by Theodate Pope Riddle, one of the first female architects in America. It was built in 1906 by Mrs. Charles Otis Gates, of the Royal Baking Powder fortune, and tragically was destroyed by fire in 2014. The landscape, which remains today, was designed by the famous landscape architect Ferruccio Vitale (who was also working on the Humes Estate at the time).

The meadow is perched above a pond and overlooks the vicinity of St. John's Church of Lattingtown. Deer paths can be found across the sloped woodland that separates the pond from the meadow. It is easy to envision a loop path that crosses the meadow, then enters the woodland with its diversity of majestic trees and leads to a bench offering a serene view of the pond. Another approach to the pond may be from the driveway, which feels like an old carriage road, in the lower part of the property. Such a path would make its way over a bridge crossing the stream and leading into the pond. A pondside bench or perhaps a bird blind would be welcome in this spot. A deliberately tiny and rustic but functional parking area will be installed at an open grassy area just west of the driveway as one enters the property.

The Williams property is in the Frost Creek watershed, which is classified as a wetland suitable for fish, shellfish and wildlife propagation and survival. It is also part of a corridor of undeveloped land that includes the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge, The Order of St Josaphat, Kate Trubee Davison Preserve and an adjoining 2-acre parcel donated to the Land Alliance by Miani Johnson in 2016. The conservation values of the property include Long Island Sound protection, groundwater protection, habitat for wildlife and pollinators as well as a recreational opportunity.

Among the more noteworthy flora and fauna observations are a diversity of mature trees, including white oak, red oak, American sycamore, tulip and white pine. A spring ephemeral trout lily was observed by the stream this spring along with a variety of native plants such as azure bluet and great laurel. A number of warbler species (both breeding locally and spring migrants) were documented, as was a wood duck on the pond. We expect fox, opossum, bats and other mammals will also call this property home.

We are grateful to the Williams family for this wonderful gift and look forward to inviting you to visit later this summer.



Humes Preserve Updates



Humes Meadow

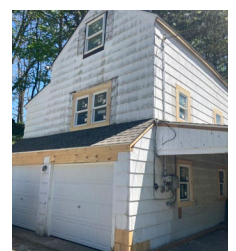
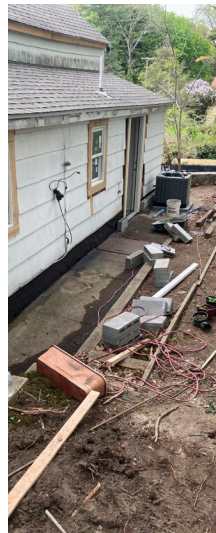
As newsletter articles are being written, spring migration is in full swing! The meadow is no exception for lively bird activity: tree swallows and bluebirds have been observed duking it out at the bluebird boxes while a scarlet tanager makes an appearance in a tulip tree. After its annual late winter/early spring mow, the Humes meadow is coming alive. Late winter, too, was filled with woodcock courtship activity, thanks in large part to leaving substantial open areas between the meadow and surrounding woodland. These edges also attracted a large number and diversity of fall migrants.

Seeding outer parts of the meadow with primarily grasses but also some wildflowers is slated for late this spring. Keeping wide open edges mowed aside the woodlands will help with both discouraging invasive plants from colonizing the meadow and adding to the diversity of birds using the site.

Cook's Cottage

Located next to the Tavern House office, and just as historic, is what has been called the Cook's Cottage. Dating back to the 1800's, the Cook's Cottage reflects a historical aesthetic and charm important to the character of our community. The history of the Cook's Cottage moniker is unclear, but it is documented to

have been a store at the time the Tavern House was a tavern. This past winter, after residing in the Cook's Cottage for nearly 30 years, Bob Ventresca moved to Florida. Bob was a friendly face around the Humes Preserve, with lots of historical knowledge about the Humes family and the property. Following a bidding process, we employed RAF Development Corp. to perform the much-needed exterior and interior work. Interior improvements include code updates, new plumbing with bathroom and kitchen upgrades and new windows, interior staircase, paint and carpet. Exterior improvements include a new roof, side shingles, wood trim and fresh white paint.



When completed, the Cook's Cottage will provide comfortable accommodation for a member of the Land Alliance staff who will be able to monitor the property after hours. In addition, the garage space will provide supplemental storage space for stewardship tools and equipment. This restoration is an exciting prelude to the completion of the Tavern House, which will rejuvenate the frontage of the Humes Preserve along Oyster Bay Road in Mill Neck.

The Future Educational Pavilion

As we forge ahead with projects such as the Tavern House and Cook's Cottage which are critical to our operational needs, we can't ignore the educational aspect of our mission. Once funding has been secured, we plan to convert the 1960's pool house (adjacent to the Tavern House) to an educational pavilion. There we can host small events such as lectures, workshops, demonstrations and/or seminars.

In November 2021, the pool was removed to satisfy Village safety requirements, creating a lovely open area for seating. With the pool house in total disrepair, we plan to build a covered pavilion in its place that will serve as the focal point of the space. It will also provide shelter from the sun for presenters and participants alike. The elegant structure has been designed by Eduardo Lacroze, our architect for the Tavern House

project. In keeping with the original landscape ethos of the Humes Estate, we have engaged Innocenti & Webel as landscape architects to execute a practical, safe and graceful design. One example of our intent to pay homage to the original design can be seen in the Innocenti & Webel rendering. It reflects the outline of the pool, with the original bluestone we carefully preserved as a design highlight. The yew hedge surrounding the pool complex will make the lawn feel like an enclosed outdoor room. We are excited for this versatile space to come to fruition in the coming months.

Other Happenings and Updates

While the large-scale projects at Humes often dominate our headlines, we continue enhancing the preserve in other areas. We are inspired by the ongoing support of our friends. For example, the new flagpole with solar lighting has been complemented by a donor sign which reads "Donated in Memory of John P. Humes, and with deep appreciation for all who serve as diplomats for the United States." A short way down the road at the Children's Play Area, we're installing an akambira, a wooden instrument derived from the African xylophone. Children will be able to experiment with pitch, melody and rhythm as they enjoy this natural play space created for exploration and discovery.



John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden Opens for 2022 Season



We were blessed with a lovely spring weekend April 30th and May 1st for the season opening of the Stroll Garden. New visitors and repeat guests had been anticipating the season for some time. They were happy to leave their troubles at the entrance gate, walk the Garden's peaceful paths and take in the lilting sounds of the Shakuhachi flute. Many thanks to our Garden Manager, staff and a dedicated crew of volunteers for their very hard work (through the winter and early spring) to ensure it was ready to once again welcome the public. Their tasks included cutting bamboo; removing leaves, leaves and more leaves from around countless plants (such as the striking Japanese Jack-in-the-Pulpit, pictured here), "grooming" moss beds and removing sticks and limbs from the paths. The Dogwood Lane parking area is

graced by several cherry trees, whose blooms were at their peak opening weekend.

Also during the winter, we worked with contractors to prune trees to re-stand a few boulders that had fallen and reconfigure gravel that had migrated to inappropriate locations. We are grateful to the New York State Conservation Partnership Program for its support of this work that makes the Stroll Garden more safely accessible to visitors.

Our weekly volunteer stewardship sessions, led by our gifted Garden Manager, Mary Schmutz, continue year-round, weather permitting.

Hats off to Mary, our volunteer program leaders and our stewardship volunteers.

Upcoming Events

Hours of Operation:

Saturdays, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Sundays, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Shakuhachi

Second Saturdays,

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

June 11th, July 9th, August 13th,

September 10th and October 8th

Led by Daniel Nyohaku Soergel

Japanese Tea Ceremony Demonstration

(Stroll Garden members only)

Saturday, June 25th, 5:00 pm

Led by Keiko Kitazawa-Koch,

Tea for Life

Bonsai Display

Saturday, August 6th and

Sunday, August 7th

Led by Hal Johnson with the

Long Island Bonsai Society

Strolling: History, Design and the Arts

Sunday, September 24th, 11:00 am

Led by Mary Schmutz,

Humes Japanese Stroll Garden

Manager

For more information and to register, please visit www.northshorelandalliance.org/events

Wawapek Updates



Wawapek is alive with the sights and sounds of summer! The trees are in full leaf, the pollinator gardens are a buzz and the blueberry patch is heavy with fruit. As we enter a new season at this much-loved preserve, we'd like to give you some quick updates about exciting things to come.

Mowbray Lane Entrance

If you've visited Wawapek this season, you may have noticed a much-improved entrance. A new split rail fence was installed along Mowbray Lane (which was dotted with beautiful daffodils earlier this spring). With the help of funding from the New York State Conservation Partnership Program (NYSCPP) and a generous neighbor, we installed pollinator gardens on both sides of the driveway, along with new native red cedars and white pines.

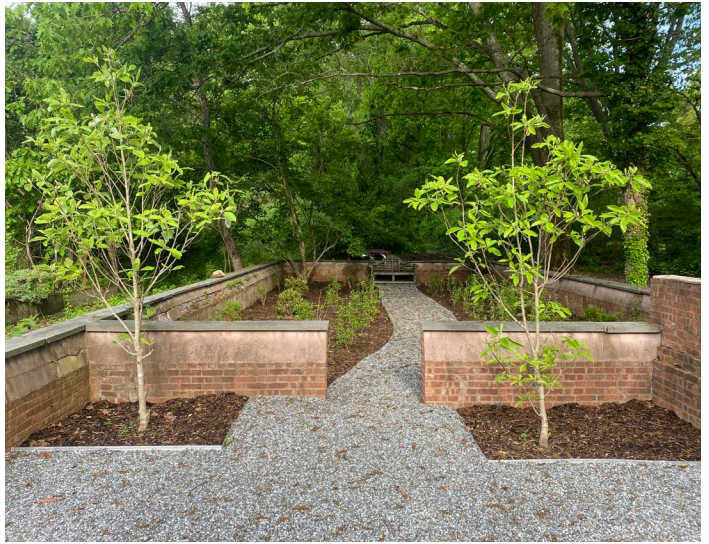
Habitat Restoration Area

If you're a regular visitor to the preserve, you've witnessed years of rapid invasive species growth along the right side of the driveway. Last fall, with the help of a local contractor, we used a forestry mulcher to remove porcelain berry, multiflora rose and other bad actors in this 10,000 square foot area. That made way for new native plants! This summer, with the help of funding from the NYSCPP, those invasive species will be replaced by beautiful native shrubs and trees such as red maples, dogwoods, rhododendrons, witch hazel and white pines.



Vine Removal

Along the woodland trail, we have started a periwinkle removal project with our volunteers. *Vinca major* is a rapidly spreading trailing vine that has spread throughout much of the woodland, outcompeting our native plants. The next time you're out hiking at Wawapek and you come across a tarp in the woodland understory, you will see our volunteers' invasive species management at work. Pulled plants are placed inside a black tarp to solarize (cook in the sun). Since our volunteer days over the past weeks, the native Canada Mayflower has begun growing quite abundantly in the areas previously invaded by *Vinca*, going to show just how crucial pulling weeds can be.



Ralf Lange Garden

Thanks to a generous donation from Pat Peterson and her friends in honor of her long-time partner Ralf Lange, we have installed a gathering area and native gardens in the once neglected greenhouse complex. The first garden, located within the low brick foundation of the former greenhouse, has been transformed. It now is a gathering area with a teak picnic table and benches surrounded by sweet bay magnolia trees. The adjacent garden area is filled with native shrubs such as witch hazel, sweet pepperbush and mountain laurel. Old cold frames have now been planted as pollinator gardens, with hyssop, sensitive fern, butterfly milkweed, black eyed Susan's, purple coneflower and mountain mints.



We have also removed invasive vines (like porcelain berry and bittersweet) along the hedge row in the formal lawn. Thanks to the tireless work of dedicated volunteers, we have unveiled blooming star magnolia trees, a cluster of which had been invaded by vines over many years. The trees are still recovering, but their branches are no longer burdened by the weight of the heavy invasive vines. We are excited to watch these trees recover in the seasons and years to come.

We plan to continue removing as many weeds as we can with the help of our volunteers, Friends Academy students and our summer O'Neil Stewards.

Great things are happening at Wawapek! We hope you will visit soon and watch these exciting new projects grow. If you are interested in seeing what's happening at Wawapek, come visit the beautiful property (located off Mowbray Lane) and its woodland trails from 7AM-5PM every day of the week.

If you have any questions or wish to get involved, please contact Meghan Leverock at 516-922-1028 or meghan@northshorelandalliance.org.

Frederick Law Olmsted, Pioneer for Open Space



This year we celebrate Frederick Law Olmsted's 200th birthday. Olmsted was a landscape architect, author, and conservationist who designed many urban parks like Central Park and Prospect Park, as well as many university campuses. Olmsted along with his sons, commonly known as the Olmsted Brothers, designed many great open spaces on the North Shore of Long Island. They include the open-air amphitheater at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, the grounds of Planting Fields Arboretum and the St. John's Memorial and Locust Valley Cemeteries.

Beyond his work as a visionary landscape architect, Olmsted pioneered the concept of open space at a time when public parks did not yet exist. 150 years ago, many people in cities relied on cemeteries for recreation and nature access. This predicament plagued Olmsted and inspired him, along with his collaborator Calvert Vaux, to design some of the country's most iconic urban parks.

Olmsted's first encounter with the concept of public

open space was during a trip to Liverpool, England when he visited Birkenhead Park and wrote, "in democratic America, there was nothing to be thought of as comparable with this People's Garden." At the time, Gramercy Park in New York City had been around for decades. But it was behind locked gates and only accessible to the wealthy. Olmsted later learned that Birkenhead was England's first publicly funded park.

Before the Age of Romanticism and authors such as Henry David Thoreau, nature was seen as a dangerous place that could not be easily tamed or made accessible. This changed as cities grew in the 19th century and people began to long for the rural landscapes of the past. However, it was difficult to incorporate natural wilderness into American cities, as Olmsted later discovered through his trials with Central Park.

Beyond urban parks, Olmsted also pioneered the protection of rural areas and the National Park System. In 1865, he was drafted by Abraham Lincoln to write a preliminary report on the Yosemite Valley. Olmsted not

only created a plan for the national park, but also the intellectual foundation for the country's first system of national parks. Olmsted argued in his report that it was the country's duty to set aside "great public grounds for the free enjoyment of the people, forever guaranteeing its citizens the pursuit of happiness."

At the core of his work, Frederick Law Olmsted believed that public open spaces were vital to the health of a community and must be accessible and inclusive to those they serve. He also believed that open spaces can bring communities together and form a new American society.

The Olmsted Brothers continued their father's legacy of conserving land when Olmsted Jr defined the purpose of a unified system of national parks in 1916 as, "to

conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

Olmsted's work and philosophy live on in the open spaces he preserved and designed during his career. It's hard to imagine Manhattan without Central Park or the US without its National Park System. The North Shore Land Alliance aims to continue the legacy and work of Frederick Law Olmsted by preserving the open spaces of Long Island's north shore in perpetuity. For more information about Olmsted, his work and the 200th anniversary of his birth, please visit <https://olmsted200.org/>.



GOVERNMENT UPDATES



FEDERAL Partnerships Are Important

New York's game species are literally losing ground, as human development and climate change is restricting their native habitats. In a new report, the National Wildlife Federation found game species across the country lost, on average, 6.5M acres of habitat over the past two decades.

Per the report, between 65 and 82M acres of America's national forests need restoration. In addition to the 30x30 plan outlined in Biden's America the Beautiful initiative, Congress is considering the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, (RAWA), which would allocate nearly \$1.4B annually to states to implement habitat restoration and conservation strategies.

If fully funded, RAWA would deliver about a 25 percent increase to states, tribes and territories in their wildlife agency budgets. States would be required to contribute a 25 percent match. The money would be allocated among the states by formula, based on a state's size, population and the number of species it contained that were listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

In the 117th Congress (2021-22), RAWA has been introduced in the House (H.R. 2773) by Representatives Debbie Dingell (D-MI) and Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE). It passed the House Natural Resources Committee on January 19, 2022. RAWA was introduced in the Senate (S. 2372) by Senators Martin Heinrich (D-NM) and Roy Blunt (R-MO). It was amended and passed by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on April 7, 2022. Since they now contain different language, if the bills pass both chambers they will have to be reconciled in a joint committee.



NEW YORK STATE A Once in a Generation Opportunity

The \$4.2B Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Bond Act will appear on the November ballot this year

New York's natural resources provide us with what we need most: clean water to drink, clean air to breathe, food for our families and places to explore the great outdoors. On November 8, New York voters have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to protect clean drinking water, conserve wildlife habitat, reduce pollution and modernize infrastructure through an environmental measure on this year's general election ballot. If approved by voters, the \$4.2B Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Bond Act will help communities throughout the state make crucial upgrades to roads, water pipes, septic systems and water treatment plants and keep pollution out of our bays, harbors and drinking water. The Bond Act would also support nearly 100,000 local jobs and protect and restore natural habitats by supporting family farms, conserving forests and improving habitat for birds, fish and other wildlife.

The Land Alliance is a member of the coalition who will be actively supporting the passage of this important legislation. We hope we can count on you to vote yes in November. More information to follow.



Photo Credit: Don Nedbalsky

Connecting People with the Outdoors

2022 Walks in the Woods and Other Cool Things to Do Outside Program



Our popular Walks in the Woods series draws repeat customers and new explorers every year. This year's exciting series includes new venues and leaders along with dedicated experts who return year after year to provide top-notch programs.

Our 2022 calendar kicked off on a frigid, windy but sparkling morning (in more ways than one; an ice storm preceded it the night before). This February 5th program, led by MaryLaura Lamont at Hallock State Park Preserve in Jamesport focused on winter botany and birds. Held in partnership with the Long Island Botanical Society, a highlight was the observation of yellow-rumped warblers that can be found there in winter thanks (in part, at least) to a steady supply of eastern red cedar berries.

On March 27th – another cold and WINDY day! - Virginia Dankel's basic survival skills program at Caumsett State Park in Lloyd Neck informed participants how to find food, start a fire and build a shelter. Her program fascinated attendees who braved the wind while sitting on a damp lawn.

Newcomer Michael Kliger (perhaps our youngest Walk leader to date!) led a group of 15 on a winding tour in late April through the Humes Preserve and Shu Swamp to investigate spring ephemeral plants. They are among the first native plants to flower after winter. Michael also provided some information on the culinary delights of some invasive plants and shared snacks prepared from hazelnuts and other plant parts harvested from his property.

Our May 8th Sound View Dunes Park program had to be postponed due to illness. Keep an eye on our website for a new date.



Remaining 2022 Walks are as follows:

Saturday, July 9th, 8:00 am
Tiffany Creek Preserve, Oyster Bay Cove

Led by Stephane Perrault - Ornithologist Stephane Perrault will teach us about bird identification and breeding behaviors used to collect data for the New York State breeding bird atlas.

Saturday, September 24th, 2:00 pm
Oceanside Marine Nature Study Area, Oceanside

Led by Peter Martin - We will explore seasonal nature changes, including movement of insects and birds.

Sunday, October 9th, 11:30 am
Cushman Woods, Matinecock

Led by Jane Jackson - Learn about some of the plants and wildlife that occupy the preserve as we explore its hilly woodland trails, ending at what was once a weed-covered utility line to learn about the meadow installation underway.

Saturday, October 22nd, 10:00 am
Cranberry Bog Preserve, Riverhead

Led by Andy Greller - Join us at this magnificent preserve when mushrooms, cranberries in the bog and fall colors make it the most beguiling time of year.

Saturday, November 19th, 2:00 pm (to 3:30) pm
Center for Environmental Education and Discovery (CEED), Brookhaven

Led by Eric Powers - Join CEED staff at Long Island's newest nature center for a tour of its site, history, and future plans. Of course we will be on the lookout for overwintering wildlife, tracks and other signs of animal life on the grounds. Depending on the status of renovation, we might also tour the inside of the Lodge, built in the late 1800's. Prepare to be amazed at how CEED is merging history, wildlife, art and education in meaningful ways.

Saturday, December 10th, 11:00 am
Beaver Brook Corridor, Mill Neck

Led by Jane Jackson - With a focus on covering some ground in this spectacular corridor of conserved land, this hike will warm you up!



And two kayak trips lead by
naturalist extraordinaire Peter Martin:

Wednesday, July 13th, 5:00 pm
 Shore Road, Cold Spring Harbor

Saturday, September 17th, 2:00 pm
 Hempstead Harbor, Port Washington

Registration is required.
 To register or for updates, visit our website
www.northshorelandalliance.org/events

It's That Time of Year Again: Algal Blooms Are Coming Soon



Rust tide

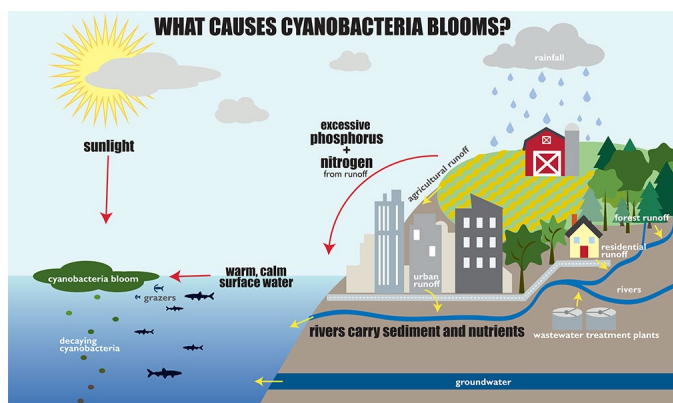
Each year, Long Island's bays, harbors and ponds experience severe harmful algal blooms. Based on research done by scientists at Stony Brook University, in 2021 alone, every major bay and estuary across Long Island experienced harmful algal blooms (HABs) and oxygen-starved dead zones.

HABs are a major concern for both human and animal safety. Consuming water or organisms with HABs can cause Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) and trigger ALS and has been linked to numerous dog illnesses and deaths across the United States. Equally concerning are the widespread "dead zones" across Long Island where there is so little oxygen in the water that it becomes unsustainable for fish and shellfish to survive. The occurrence of these events has led to the collapse of major fisheries and seagrass habitats – all of which are critical in protecting waterfront communities from storms.

HABs are made up of small, plant organisms known as algae or phytoplankton that are invisible to the human eye. Phytoplankton photosynthesize like plants, making them an essential base of the marine

food web. In most cases, phytoplankton are harmless. But there are some species that, when exposed to warm water temperatures and high amounts of nitrogen, can grow rapidly and create an overwhelming bloom, wreaking havoc on aquatic ecosystems.

Many species of HABs exist in two states: resting and vegetative. During the resting stage, HABs live on the ocean floor and wait for optimal conditions to rise to surface waters. At the surface, resting HABs transform into their vegetative state, where they multiply or "bloom". Blooms can last a few days to many months, but when a bloom dies, decomposing bacteria use the remaining oxygen in the water, triggering fish kills.



HAB Life Cycle

The three main types of phytoplankton which can form in HABs are cyanobacteria, dinoflagellates, and diatoms. HABs are a well-known part of New York State's marine ecological community. The primary HAB phytoplankton species found on Long Island include *Dinophysis* (Red Tides), *Microcystis* (Blue-Green Algae), *Prorocentrum* (Mahogany Tides), *Cochlodinium* (Rust Tides), and *Aureococcus* (Brown Tides).



HAB Species

Blooms are expected to become worse each year as waterways become enriched by nitrogen and phosphorous. In Nassau County, nitrogen primarily comes from septic systems (60%), fertilizer runoff from homes and farms (20%) and sewage treatment plants (10%).

For Nassau County to hit nitrogen reduction goals, it will need to replace more than 20,000 antiquated

cesspools and septic systems. This is a massive challenge for Nassau, but scientists and septic experts are rising to it. In 2021, Nassau County launched its first ever Septic Grant Program, Nassau SEPTIC, through which homeowners and small business owners are eligible for \$20,000 in grants to upgrade their existing, outdated cesspool and/or septic tank with a nitrogen-removing clean water septic system. By removing your home's primary source of polluting nitrogen, you too can make a difference in protecting our water for generations to come.



LA OWTS Installation

For more information about clean water technology and assistance on how to install your own system, visit www.upgradeyourseptic.org. The Land Alliance's Water Quality Improvement Program is dedicated to providing free assistance to all Long Islanders about how they can take advantage of county and state funding to upgrade their septic.

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Climate Tuesdays Social Media Series: Our Top Six Tips



Let's talk about it!

A recent report issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a group of scientists who work as part of the United Nations effort to monitor and assess all global science related to climate change, reported that dangerous greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise at an alarming pace.

While climate change can already be felt worldwide, there is still time for us to change our future course. On a macro level, the IPCC report suggests that globally, we must accelerate the transition to clean energy, reach “net zero” emissions as soon as possible and remove as much of the excess carbon already in the atmosphere as we can. This can be done through legislation, government oversight and a commitment from companies to embrace environmentally friendly processes. On a micro level, we too can play a part in slowing down the effects of climate change.

Each Tuesday, we take to our social media channels to share tips on everything from finding and properly installing native plants in your garden to lobbying your local legislatures. See below for a roundup of our top six climate tips that we have shared thus far:

1) Think Native

Fact: Native plants support greater biodiversity and abundance of wildlife. These plants have coevolved with animals for thousands or millions of years and are a critical part of our ecosystem. Mammals, birds and other animals benefit directly from native plants as well as from the insects that feed on them.

Climate Tip: This planting season, consider adding native plants to your garden. They are not only beautiful but essential to optimizing habitat! To find a listing of the best plants for your area, visit: Audubon ([Audubon.org/native-plants](https://audubon.org/native-plants)) and Long Island Natives (longislandnatives.com) – among a growing number of sources.

2) Protect our trees

Fact: Research tells us that protecting and restoring our forests is our single largest nature-based climate opportunity. As forests grow, their trees take in carbon from the air and store it in wood, in plant matter and under the soil. If not for forests, much of this carbon would remain in the atmosphere in the form of CO₂, the predominant greenhouse gas driving climate change.

Climate Tip: Plant a native tree. Its spring blossoms will reward you year after year and you'll be doing something important to fight climate change.

3) Waste not, want not

Fact: Each year, around 1.3B tons of food produced for human consumption – enough to feed those going hungry worldwide – is thrown away. Food waste in landfills produces a large amount of methane – a more potent greenhouse gas than even CO₂.

Climate Tip: Incorporate some of the simple yet sensible tips from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization to cut down on your environmental footprint. Here are a few: buy only what you need, “ugly” or irregular produce is just as delicious, eat leftovers if you have made too much food and donate surplus food to others when possible.

4) Get your hands dirty

Fact: Composting food and other organic materials can be as beneficial and important in the fight against climate change as recycling our glass and plastics. It has been estimated that if composting levels worldwide increased, we could reduce emissions by 2.1B tons by 2050.

Climate Tip: Consider creating a compost pile in your garden – your garden and the environment will thank you!

5) Make your voice known

Fact: We need elected officials who advocate for our planet, embrace environmental protection policies and are actively working towards preparing communities for future environmental challenges. Typically, only one out of five eligible voters participate in local elections — so make your voice known. It has a significant impact!

Climate Tip: An easy place to start is with our own local governments. Ask them to champion climate change policies and commit to working on solutions. Don't be afraid to contact your legislators when they're not. By doing so, you send a message that you care about our future.

6) Shop local!

Fact: Not only is shopping local important for the economy, but it is also important for the environment. By shopping local, you will reduce packing and shipping waste, lessen fuel consumption and reduce your carbon footprint.

Climate Tip: Support an economy of friends and neighbors and shop close by. Spread the word and build a community that thrives by thinking local first!

We invite you to follow our Climate Tuesdays series on Facebook and Instagram and learn more about how each of us can play a part in combating climate change!



Let's Get Composting!



Are you passionate about reducing household waste and your carbon footprint? If so, you may want to consider composting and how it can benefit your family and your community.

Composting is the natural process of recycling organic matter, such as leaves and food scraps, into a valuable fertilizer that can enrich

soil and plants. Anything that grows decomposes eventually; composting simply speeds up the process by providing an ideal environment for bacteria, fungi and other decomposing organisms (like worms) to do their work.

On average, organic waste like food and garden scraps make up 28% of what we throw away. By composting, one family can significantly reduce its

impact on landfills and incinerators.

Compost is also great for your garden because it contains three key nutrients needed by your plants: nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. Compared to harmful industrial fertilizers that can create toxic runoff into our water supply, compost is natural and cheap.

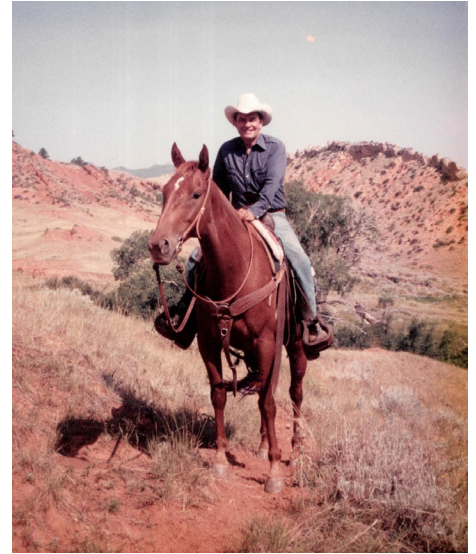
Listed below are the ingredients you need for a successful compost:

- **Greens:** This is fresh organic material that is typically green and contains a lot of nitrogen for your pile. Common greens include fresh grass, food scraps and coffee grounds (and do not include animal products).
- **Browns:** Browns are organic matter that are easy for decomposers (like bacteria, fungi and worms) to break down and provide carbon for your pile. Common browns include dead leaves, branches, twigs and paper. Proportionately, you will need two to four times more brown than green in your pile.
- **O₂ and H₂O:** Decomposers need oxygen and water to live like any other organism! Make sure that the pile has air flow by mixing it regularly and keeping it moist.
- **Size and Location:** An open 3-foot cube in a dry and shady location provides the ideal conditions for your compost pile to thrive. The compost can be stored in a bin or a pile based on your preference. Remember that decomposition is a natural process that will produce scents and may attract animals. If the pile is closer to your house, a closed bin may be optimal.

For more information about composting, its benefits and how to get started, please visit Cornell Cooperative Extension's website at ccenassau.org/gardening/compost-resources.

Protecting the Environment for Future Generations:

Interview with Botsy and Hoyle Jones



Hoyle Jones had a storied childhood. He grew up on the Crow Indian Reservation in southern Montana, bordered by Wyoming to the south and the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation to the east. The Bighorn Mountains, Wolf Mountains and Pryor Mountains framed the Reservation, and the Bighorn River majestically flowed through the land. The closest “city” to Jones’ home was Sheridan, Wyoming – located halfway between Yellowstone Park and Mount Rushmore, with a current population of just 17,000.

Hoyle, known as “Bronco” by those closest to him, took full advantage of his idyllic surroundings. He spent his days exploring the mostly untouched land, enjoying wildlife in every shape and form, horses and his beloved Irish Setters. By the time he graduated from high school, his childhood experiences had sculpted him to have a deep love of nature.

College took Hoyle to the east coast, where he studied at Washington and Lee. A series of serendipitous events landed Hoyle in Manhattan, where he began his long and distinguished career for Citibank. Hoyle recalls standing downtown on Wall Street, gazing up in awe at the towering buildings of New York City – a sight he could never have imagined in his early years spent on the ranch.

While Montana never left his heart, Hoyle set down roots in New York. It is there he met and married his beloved wife Botsy. With their primary residence in Manhattan, summers and weekends were spent in Mill Neck, where Botsy was born and raised. Their days on Long Island were surrounded by nature, fresh air and open space.

Their plan was always to make Mill Neck their lasting residence once Hoyle retired from Citibank. And that is precisely what happened. The Joneses have called Long Island their permanent home for the past twenty years.

Over the decades of visiting and living on Long Island, Botsy and Hoyle have watched the area change. What were once sleepy farming communities have become bustling towns. Traffic has increased, clusters of homes have popped up where farms used to be and open space has all but disappeared. When flying back to NY after business trips, he would often note how green the North Shore was compared to other parts of Long Island. This was when he vowed to do everything possible to keep it this way.

A lifelong love of the environment and nature and a deep desire to give back to his adopted community led Hoyle to the North Shore Land Alliance. He was impressed by the Land Alliance's success in preserving environmentally important parcels of land and its commitment to preserving the natural resources that make Long Island so special. By 2009, Hoyle had become a member of the Land Alliance's Board of Directors. Since 2018, he has served as the Chairman of the Board.

Through the years, Botsy and Hoyle have given generously to the Land Alliance through their hearts, time and means. When asked what they would like to see accomplished with their investment, they say the answer is easy. They simply want to protect the environment, wildlife, open space and clean drinking water on Long Island today and for future generations.

To accomplish this goal, Botsy and Hoyle have included the Land Alliance in their will – a lasting gift to a place that has played such a pivotal role in their lives. They are quick to encourage others to explore ways in which they can provide long-term assistance to the Land Alliance. That will further its mission to protect and preserve, in perpetuity, the green spaces, farmlands, wetlands, groundwater and historical sites of Long Island's north shore. Botsy and Hoyle's gift is a building block for future action to preserve the splendor and diversity of our natural world.

With a home overlooking one of the Land Alliance's most popular preserves, Hoyle shared that he is proud of what he has helped accomplish with his fellow board and community members. He sees visitors from all over Long Island enjoying beautiful open spaces, exploring nature and gaining an appreciation for the outdoors. What is incredibly heartwarming is to see children running through the fields, chasing butterflies and breathing in the fresh air. The Joneses are proud of their commitment to the environment today and into the future – and so they should be.

While Montana will always be an incredibly important place for the Joneses, Long Island has their heart.

What's Your Conservation Legacy?

One of the most powerful ways to create your legacy of protecting nature is to partner with the North Shore Land Alliance.

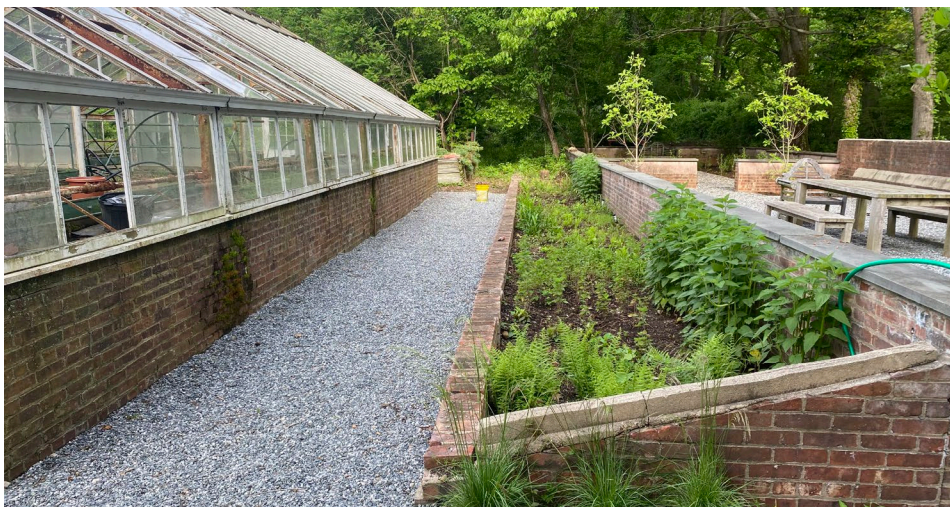
There are many ways to include the Land Alliance in your estate plans, which will help protect critical natural areas for future generations. Whether you simply remember us in your will or work with a financial advisor to establish a charitable gift annuity, set up a trust, or designate us as a retirement fund beneficiary, we can help you plan for your financial future while supporting your conservation goals.

We invite you to start building your legacy with the North Shore Land Alliance today.

For more information as to how you can support our mission today and for years to come, please contact Deb Wiener at 516-922-1028 or deb@northshorelandalliance.org.



\$155,500 in Grants Funding Received for Stewardship Projects



We are grateful for the support of both family foundations and grant makers at the county and state levels who have supported the Land Alliance's work in the first half of 2022. It is through their generosity and through that of our supporters that the Land Alliance can continue to steward important land across the north shore.

A Historic Greenhouse is Given a New Life

Standing tall within Wawapek is a historic greenhouse that dates to 1902. The owner of the property at the time, Mr. Robert Weeks de Forest, commissioned the famed greenhouse designer Hitchings & Co (later known as the Lord & Burnham Company and then the Burnham-Pierson-Sefton Corporation) to install the impressive structure.

Once a proper working greenhouse, its two separate rooms, heated by a large coal furnace, were filled with

rows and rows of plants that were propagated for use on the de Forest farm. Unfortunately, over the years the greenhouse fell into significant disrepair with broken glass, scattered old clay pots, rotted wooden flowerbed frames (with sprouting trees) and a coal heating system that no longer functioned. Beautiful, old low masonry walls remain, which once framed the foundation of additional greenhouses.

Understanding the historical significance and beauty of the greenhouse and the surrounding gardens, the Land Alliance and our philanthropic partners have committed to restoring this space. Landscape architect David Lamb completed a master plan for the 3-acre greenhouse and cottage parcel in Spring 2021 and the Ralf Lange Greenhouse Garden is already underway. New cold frame gardens have been cleared of invasive species and replanted, blooming magnolia trees have been installed, a picnic area covered by a pergola is in the works

and a meandering gravel path leads to a bench at the far end of the garden. This work was made possible through the generous support of Pat Petersen, Chairman of the Board and President of Daniel Gale Sotheby's International Realty, who established a matching gift challenge to create the garden in memory of her longtime partner.

We are thrilled to share that we will begin the restoration of the greenhouse this summer, thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the Gerry Charitable Trust. As a first step in the process, the broken glass panels will be removed, the wood window frames will be stripped and refinished and the invasive plants that have taken over the old planting beds will be cleared. We thank the Gerry Charitable Trust for allowing us to get the extensive restoration well underway.

NYSCPP Grants

We are grateful for New York State's continued support of the Land Alli-

ance and our preserves through its Land Trust Alliance administered Conservation Partnership Program (NYSCPP). This innovative public-private partnership between the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the Land Trust Alliance's New York Program provides annual grant opportunities for land trusts that advance land conservation and farmland protection.

This year the Land Alliance requested and received two grants from the NYSCPP for a total award of \$90,000. The larger of the two grants will enable the Land Alliance to provide handicapped access to the new headquarters at Humes

and to the abutting educational pavilion. The other grant will give us the resources needed to remove invasive species at Wawapek and replace them with native trees and shrubs, creating a more inviting entrance to the Preserve while improving habitat and enhancing biodiversity in the area.

Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District Grant

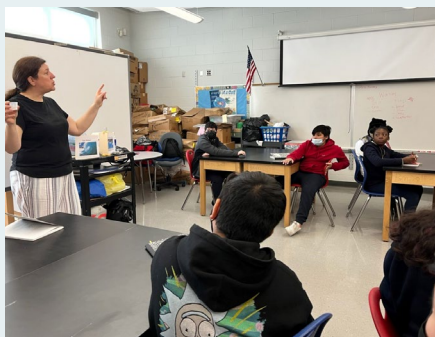
The Land Alliance received a \$7,500 grant from the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District in support of the Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve. The money will be used to remove invasive species and seed the area with native meadow species.

Alice Lawrence Foundation

At the recommendation of Meris and David First, the Land Alliance received a \$7,500 grant from the Alice Lawrence Foundation. These monies will be used to purchase native plants for the garden at Wawapek, stonework for an exterior path and the materials needed to build a covered seating area for visitors to take a moment and enjoy this wonderful place.

If you are interested in helping the Land Alliance with our restoration efforts for these projects, please contact Deb Wiener at 516-922-1028 to learn more.

North Shore Land Alliance Long Island Water Education Program Surpasses 10,000 Students Served



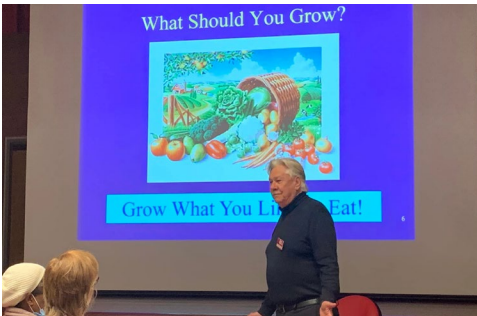
After a pandemic year+ of postponement and a second year of remote learning (with supplies packed and delivered to schools) educator Karen Mossey finally returned to the classroom (with some interruptions!) during the 2021/2022 school year. And an exciting year this was with the total number of students served since the program's inception surpassing 10,000. Enterprising as always and like educators everywhere faced with dramatic changes the pandemic required, Karen managed to add new

school partners (Hewlett and Ogden in the Hewlett-Woodmere school district and St. James in the Smithtown school district). She nimbly adapted to remote learning. She did this by creating a video of the "build an aquifer" session and distributing a set of supplies for EACH student to the schools. Her efforts were carried out while getting her own school-age children through remote learning at home. Cheers to you, Karen, and educators all over.

A New Season Has Begun at the Roosevelt Community Garden



Earth Day Clean Up



Garden to Table Presentation led by Charlie Kemnitzer at the Roosevelt Public Library

We are pleased to kick-start the fifth growing season at the Roosevelt Community Garden. This year we are partnering with new organizations, hosting more activities and educating more people. Our overarching goal is to help connect more youth to nature and better understand their role in protecting our environment.

Annual Garden Members' Orientation and Garden-to-Table Presentation

On Saturday, March 19th, we hosted an educational presentation led by Master Gardener Charlie Kemnitzer at the Roosevelt Public Library. Participants learned how to start a vegetable garden and maintain their raised-garden plots and tips to care for their crops in a sustainable and healthy manner.

Earth Day Celebration

On Saturday, April 23rd, more than 50 volunteers and garden members participated in our Annual Earth Day event. Together we accomplished a lot, from removing debris and weeds to refilling plots with soil and replacing garden hoses in preparation for our annual Planting Day in May.

We are grateful for all our volunteers, especially our newest friends from Bank of America, Girl Scout Troop #4703 and Rojah Peck. Special thanks to Claire DeRoche, Barry Nobel and other members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock, who started volunteering last year, and to Bagel Chalet of Merrick for donating bagels for our breakfast.



Planting Day and Square Foot Gardening Demonstration led by Reese Michaels



One World Girl

Annual Planting Day and Square Foot Gardening Demonstration

On Saturday, May 21st more than 80 people, including Garden members, volunteers and visitors from throughout Nassau County, joined us to learn how to grow food using the Square Foot Gardening method. After the presentation led by Master Gardener Reese Michaels, Garden members and youth from the Roosevelt Prevention Coalition Roots Club and Girl Scout Troop #4703 worked together to plant vegetables and fruits. It was a pleasure to work alongside these students and watch them learn to grow their own food. Healthy food makes for more productive and healthier students!

We were also pleased to work with the One World Girl organization again this year on their Prosperity Project. This awesome group of young people planted native wildflowers and shrubs throughout the Garden to help attract beneficial insects, create a stopping place for Monarch butterflies and provide food for birds. We hope to attract some new species for our pollinator project in June. Special thanks to Atlantic Nursery in Freeport and Long Island Natives for donating a portion of the plants.

Upcoming Events at the Roosevelt Community Garden

Pollinators in Our Garden Saturday, June 18th, at 10:00 am

Young Explorers will learn the essential role birds, bees and butterflies play in supporting food production, flowers and habitats

Paint Night in the Garden Thursday, July 7th, 6:00 pm

Let your creative minds flow as you enjoy the beauty of our Garden. Please arrive 15-30 minutes early so you can unwind and take a stroll through the Garden before our instructor helps you create your own garden-inspired masterpiece.

Succession Planting: How to Grow Crops for Continual Harvest Saturday, August 20th, 10:00 am

Master Gardener Charlie Kemnitzer will teach you how to extend your gardening and harvesting season and maximize your garden's yield. He'll also discuss what to plant in late summer for fall harvest and how to encourage beneficial insects and limit the bad.

Living with Wildlife on Long Island Tuesday, August 16th at 10:00 am

Young Explorers will meet some of the hawks, owls and falcons that live on Long Island. Learn what makes them some of the most skilled hunters on the planet and how we can help protect them. This program will be led by Led by Volunteers for Wildlife.

For more information, contact Andrea Millwood at andrea@northshorelandalliance.org or visit us online at www.northshorelandalliance.org/events

The Evolution of Invasive Species on Long Island

Abigail Bezrutczyk, Long Island Invasive Species Management Area



Japanese knotweed (Reynoutria japonica)

The north shore of Long Island has some of the best ecological communities in Nassau County - from meadows to rich forests to coastal areas. But these small pockets of conserved land, being so intersected by human development and disturbance, are threatened by invasive species. As a former intern with North Shore Land Alliance and now Invasive Species Coordinator for the Long Island Invasive Species Management Area (LIISMA), I know firsthand the work that goes into stewarding preserves from the impacts of such species: preventing them from overgrowing trails, managing their growth to protect native plants and even restoring areas. But you don't need to be an intern to be a steward of your own back yard!

By definition on Long Island, an invasive species is non-native and causes harm to the environment, the economy or human health. Mile-a-minute vine (*Persicaria perfoliata*), for example, originally from Asia, was introduced to a new place where it was not previously found, making it non-native. In addition, mile-a-minute outcompetes our native vegetation, to the detriment of complex food webs, and is a real economic nuisance to the Christmas tree industry by invading farm fields. It's that combination of being non-native and producing negative impacts (often coinciding with being difficult to control) that labels it as invasive.

Invasive species have been introduced both intentionally and ac-

cidentally. Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*) was brought from Asia as a fast-growing plant used widely in private and public gardens, as well as in state-led erosion control projects. However, its once favored characteristics have led to its current infamy, as it spreads easily to numerous habitats, smothers native species and is notoriously difficult to manage. As such, it (like many invasives) is now prohibited in several states, making it illegal to transport, buy, sell, import or export. The eggs of spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*), in contrast, were introduced to Pennsylvania from Asia unintentionally on shipping materials. Once established, invasive species seeds can be transported by birds and wildlife, or by humans on our shoes, tires



Lesser celandine

or other equipment. In some cases, seeds or plant fragments can travel downstream to start a new population.

Climate change isn't helping the invasive species situation either. As winters get warmer, some species are able to expand their ranges northward at a fast rate and harm our ecosystems in the process. That is the case for southern pine beetle (*Dendroctonus frontalis*), a particular threat to Long Island's pine barrens. Climate extremes can mean more intense or frequent disturbances like storms, granting new opportunities for an invasive species to take hold.

It's important to note that many non-native species (such as food crops and some garden plants) do not have invasive tendencies. Some even require our care to survive. However, native species – those that developed over hundreds or thousands of years in a particular region or ecosystem – are important to conserve into the

future. Indeed, Long Island is one of the most biodiverse regions in New York State. Native plants are not only important to protect in themselves, but also for how they relate to their ecosystems, as they support beneficial insects, birds and wildlife in ways that non-native plants cannot.

Right now, hundreds of invasive species threaten Long Island – from long-familiar ones that are already very widespread such as Phragmites, to new invaders like Beech leaf disease. At LIISMA, I help to prioritize invasive species work in the region, work with municipalities, landowners and many great environmental organizations (the Land Alliance included!) to keep everyone on the same page. We focus on what we can continue to protect – the integrity of our natural areas, waterbodies, agriculture and rare plant communities. That's where our work will make the biggest difference.



Mile-a-Minute

What You Can Do!

Preventing the spread of invasive species is a huge priority for us. It also is a great way for you to make a difference:

- If there are invasive species on your property, try to manage them to minimize spread.
- Take a few minutes to clean your gear, boots, tools, or tires after a hike or working outdoors.
- Notify professionals about invasive population locations through iMapInvasives or iNaturalist– free mobile apps for recording these kinds of observations.

Our personal actions as both a front line of defense for the preserves and our eyes on the ground will go a long way toward protecting our land and waters.

Spotlight on Our Volunteers for Open Space Program



Tim Hanes

The Land Alliance is fortunate to have so many dedicated volunteers who contribute their time and energy to help us accomplish our mission. One of these stalwart individuals is Tim Hanes: carpenter, construction designer and builder. As we've acquired land and enhanced trails in the Beaver Brook corridor we've encountered some muddy situations, particularly in winter, when the trail can become so muddy that preserve visitors trying to avoid the mud sometimes trample vegetation at trailside. Tim has addressed this issue by designing, building and installing removable bog bridges at the Humes Preserve and Connector parcels to keep walkers on the trail but over the mud. The cost of Tim's labor to the Land Alliance? Priceless! Tim's next project is a bit larger: construction of a bridge across Cedar Swamp Creek at James Preserve in Old Brookville. Its predecessor, damaged by flooding during Hurricane Ida last summer, was removed by hearty stewardship volunteers and staff over the winter as we awaited a freshwater wetlands permit from the

DEC to replace it. Tim's design helped secure the permit and now, with permit in hand, he is securing materials to construct and install a new bridge this summer.





Ken Krumenacker

As volunteer Ken Krumenacker - whose carpentry expertise has been of great benefit to the Land Alliance - can attest, we have no shortage of building and installation projects at our preserves. Thank you, Tim for your hours of volunteer service and the enhancements you have made to our visitor experience.

We will keep you busy!

For nine years, the Land Alliance has had the pleasure of hosting Friends Academy seniors who spend the last three weeks of the school year volunteering for Independent Service Projects. This year we had three students: Ian Afzelius (whose brother, Carl, and Chas Merrill, earlier Friends volunteers, greatly advanced our trail system at Cushman Woods in 2019!), Brett Beaman and Ethan Seidner. All participated in a variety of activities which we hope gave them a better understanding of the ins and outs of a non-profit organization.

They were primarily engaged in preserve stewardship activities, which included trail maintenance, identifying and helping with the removal of invasive plants (particularly in areas of sensitive and high-quality plant communities), rubbish removal from roads and ponds and weed whacking. They were much appreciated for their work at the John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden and their help with various planting projects.



Ian Afzelius, Ethan Seidner, and Brett Beaman

They also assisted with our annual Fore the Love of the Land golf and tennis outing and with office tasks, among them organizing our tools room and helping our office manager Jen keep up with filing.

We are grateful for and impressed by their braun and good nature. Thank you, Ian, Brett and Ethan! Congratulations on your graduation and best of luck in your upcoming years.



**Care to Join North Shore
Land Alliance as a
Volunteer?**

For more information, visit us online at www.northshorelandalliance.org or contact Charlotte Brennan at 516-922-1028 or cbrennan@northshorelandalliance.org.

Earth Day Activities to Inspire Students to Make a Difference



Earth Day began in 1970 when Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin organized a nationwide college teach-in focusing on air and water pollution. Environmental concerns had been growing for decades after Rachel Carson's bestseller *Silent Spring* brought public attention to pollution and the country witnessed the effects of a massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, CA in January 1969.

Senator Nelson and his colleagues chose April 22nd for the college teach-in because it fell in between Spring Break and Final Exams, maximizing student participation. Denis Hayes, a young activist, built a staff of 85 and chose the name Earth Day as he successfully sparked national attention and spread the movement across the country.

The first Earth Day inspired 20M Americans to join together in classrooms, the streets, and nature to demonstrate their love for the Earth and concern for the pollution, industrial development, and wildlife extinction that was plaguing our country.

By the end of 1970, Earth Day led to the creation of the US Environmental Protection Agency and its first laws including the National Environmental Education Act,

OSHA, and the Clean Air Act. Soon after, the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act followed.

Earth Day is proof that when Americans come together en masse, real changes can be made. Since the first Earth Day, more than 1B people in 193 countries have joined the celebration and protection of our natural environment.

This year, the Land Alliance celebrated Earth Day with volunteer projects across the North Shore. Each one of these events engaged our local communities in meaningful projects while giving back to the environment. Read below about some of our amazing volunteer partners and the results we were able to achieve.

Shore Road Sanctuary Beach Cleanup

In partnership with the Cold Spring Harbor Library Teen & Tween Services, over 20 students and parents joined us at our Shore Road Sanctuary in Cold Spring Harbor on the morning of "official" Earth Day. Many of these young people had never visited the property



before and were very interested to hear about its storied past as a petroleum distribution site turned beautiful native meadow. The group of excited students joined us in a tour through the three unique habitat types Shore Road has to offer: grassland, wet meadow and salt marsh and the plants and wildlife (or parts of them!) that inhabit them: a Canada Goose skull, a nesting Killdeer, a bed of prickly pear cactus, mounds of ribbed mussels and Asian Shore Crabs among them.

On the beach, Cold Spring Harbor students suited up with gloves and grabbers to rid our beautiful beach of trash big and small. Many volunteers had not realized that microplastics – small broken-down pieces of larger garbage – are a huge threat to our marine environment and are commonplace on many beaches. Our group of hardworking students collected 125.5 pounds of trash!

Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve Native Planting

When Oyster Bay High School Environmental Club President Sabrina Rezk heard about colony collapse disorder and the struggles of native bees on Long Island, she contacted Long Island Native Plant Initiative (LINPI) in Brentwood. She secured a donation of grasses and wildflowers that support pollinators, then rounded up four additional Club members to plant them at the demonstration meadow planting area at our Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve in Upper Brookville

during Earth Day week. The planting area was established in 2021 with help from the Grenville Baker Boys & Girls Club, One World Girl, and the Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District.



Wawapek Earth Day Activities

Long-time volunteers as well as new friends joined us on April 20th to prepare the pollinator gardens for the warmer seasons by removing weeds and adding new mulch and weeding the blueberry enclosure.

Three Harbors Garden Club joined Wawapek property

manager Meghan Leverock and horticulturist Richard Weir on a guided walk to see all the new native plantings, unveiled Magnolia trees and our beautiful thyme-filled lawn on the bright Spring morning while learning about the property's historic past and majestic woodland.

Our long-time partner Grenville Baker Boys & Girls Club tackled the aggressive periwinkle groundcover along our woodland trail to keep it from spreading into the forest ravines.

The Land Alliance is grateful for all the hard work of our volunteers who ensure that our preserves are welcoming to visitors and play a vital role in habitat restoration and to LINPI for providing native plants!

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Charlotte Brennan at 516-922-1028 or cbrennan@northshorelandalliance.org.



Peter, Mary and Paul

Locust Harvest from Groton Farm: Volunteers Come to the Rescue of the John P. Humes Japanese Stroll Garden

If you've visited the Stroll Garden you've probably made your way up the woodland path to the "mountain peak". Locust logs installed across the path and elsewhere in the Garden were long overdue for replacement. Over the last several years our Stroll Garden Manager, Mary Schmutz, has worked with volunteers and interns to assess needs. Last year, following an invitation from Board members Julie and Luis Rinaldini, she visited their Groton Farm property in Old Westbury to determine whether locust, much of it on the ground, on site could be useful for replacing the logs in the Garden. The visit felt like finding the pot of gold at the end of a rainbow! Over the next year Mary and volunteers Paul Silchenstedt, Peter Meleady and John Duvall made several trips to the property to cut logs to size and transport to them to the Garden. They were ably assisted by the Rinaldinis and their property manager, Javier Sepulveda, in the process, which continued this spring beyond the sale of the property to a new owner who allowed continued access.

We greatly! appreciate the generosity of the Rinaldinis and all the other participants in this project.

Year Seven of the Joyce C. and William C. O'Neil Stewards Program



Lily Fallar



Meg Rumplick



Olivia Larocchia

After considering many qualified candidates, we are pleased to present the 2022 class of O'Neil Conservation Stewards:

Lily Fallar is a rising junior at Binghamton University. Lily is majoring in environmental science (with a concentration in earth science and natural resources) and is minoring in health and wellness. She is a Long Island native and is very dedicated to environmental research and conservation.

Meg Rumplick, an Islip native, is a junior at Vassar College majoring in Environmental Studies focusing on Plant Biology and Geography. Meg has a keen interest in preserving the environment. After working at Vassar's ecological preserve and herbarium last semester, Meg knew working for the Land Alliance would be the perfect way to prepare for a future in conservation, while familiarizing herself with Long Island's beautiful landscapes.

Olivia Larocchia is a senior graduating from Binghamton University with a BS in Environmental Science. She is very passionate about taking care of the planet so that all living beings, whether people, plants or animals, can thrive today and far into the future. She will be continuing her education after this summer at Binghamton University and will receive a MS in Sustainable Communities in May 2023.

These outstanding students will begin their internship the first week of June. With an exciting project list and a talented team of interns, it is sure to be a productive and fun-filled summer!



About the O'Neil Conservation Stewards Program

The Program is designed to give college students interested in environmental studies a glimpse of what the world of conservation non-profits looks like. Our goal is to provide a well-rounded experience including hands-on stewardship experience on Land Alliance properties. This summer, these students will conduct plant surveys and wildlife inventories, maintain trails, manage invasive species, learn to monitor conservation easements and lead environmental activities for children. This program provides the Land Alliance additional capacity to not only maintain but improve our preserved lands for the benefit of the public and for our ecosystems.

2022 Golf & Tennis Outing Honoring Julie and Luis Rinaldini



The Rinaldini Family gathered for a tree planting in their honor



Wednesday, May 18th was a beautiful day on the Piping Rock golf course and grass tennis courts! Our luck continued with a great turnout of players at our annual For the Love of the Land Golf and Tennis Outing.

This year we honored a very special and deserving couple, Julie and Luis Rinaldini. For more than 20 years they have worked tirelessly to spread awareness, connect land and people and build a conservation ethic in our community. Both Julie and Luis have been extraordinarily generous with their talents and their means. We cannot think of any couple more worthy of acknowledgement!

The morning kicked off with a buffet breakfast on the clubhouse terrace and golfers warming up on the range before carting out to their respective tees for a 9 am shotgun start. The results were close with a talented field of players.

Congratulations to the following 1st place prize winners.

1st Place Net (55) - Matt Arcati, Kyle Crennan, Ben Stokes and Andrew Rubenstein

1st Place Gross (66) - Tim Bowe, Patrick Bowe, O.D. Lee and Aaron Bernthal

Closest to the Pin Men's - Darren DeRisi (4'7")

Closest to the Pin Women's - Sarah Blundin (9")

Longest Drive Men's - Tim Bowe

Longest Drive Women's - Lindsey Barnett

The tennis players gathered later in the morning for a warmup session with the Piping Rock pros, followed by a round robin tournament on the just opened grass tennis courts. We had a sold-out roster with many commendable teams! Congratulations to the winners,





Hugh Tanchuck and Gina DiPietro, and runners-up, John McMillin and Monique Lodi.

After the activities, everyone gathered in the MacKay Room for lunch and the awards ceremony. An assortment of silent auction items was offered, including rounds of golf at Piping Rock Club, Meadow Brook, Creek Club, Westhampton Country Club and Bethpage Black.

A heartfelt thank you to the event sponsors, underwriters, donors and players. And to the lovely Piping Rock Club for generously hosting us year after

year. Thank you to our wonderful committee Chad Brisbane, John Casaly and Louise Parent, Kim Como, Nick Leopardi, Alexis McAndrew, Bryan McMillen, Caroline and Tim Mullen, Terry Parsons and Mary and Russell Selover for attracting us a lovely group of players.

Lastly, we would like to thank our wonderful community for your ongoing support. Your commitment to the Land Alliance has helped us preserve over 1,200 acres of open space on the north shore of Long Island. We look forward to continuing our mission of preserving more land for many years to come. Thank you!



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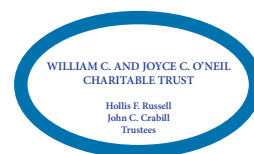
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Open Space Society Dinner Hosted by Maryam and Arash Yaraghi



On Friday, June 3rd, Maryam and Arash Yaraghi hosted the Land Alliance's annual Open Space Society Dinner at their beautiful home, La Reserve, in Mill Neck, NY. Close to one hundred supporters of the Land Alliance gathered for an evening that included cocktails and dinner al fresco on their terrace overlooking a beautiful sweeping vista that extends all the way to Beaver Dam Pond.

Land Alliance Board Chair Hoyle Jones welcomed guests and President Lisa Ott remarked about the importance of land conservation on Long Island – especially on the north shore. For nearly a decade there has been scientific consensus that a minimum of 30% of our lands and waters must be conserved to address today's biodiversity and climate change crises. Approximately 12% of our US land mass is permanently protected and NYS has 19% of its land conserved. In our north shore community, we have protected approximately 18% of our natural areas. Our mapping demonstrates that another 12% of our natural areas are in their natural state and worthy of conservation. If we are to be successful, the time to act is now and private land conservation will be essential. In some ways, this is our nation's 21st century moon shot. Actions like conserving and better managing land can provide as much as 30% of the solution to the climate crisis!

Since 2007, the Land Alliance has been graciously welcomed in some of Long Island's most beautiful and historic private residences for this annual fundraiser, and this year was no exception. We thank the Yaraghis for their generosity in hosting us at La Reserve and thank all who spent the evening with us in support of our land conservation efforts. It was indeed a magical evening.

Latest Staff Additions

This year the Land Alliance welcomed two new members to our professional team. Deb Wiener joined us in January as the incoming Director of Development, responsible for fundraising efforts. Shortly after, Charlotte Brennan joined the team as our Stewardship Associate/Volunteer Coordinator. Both Charlotte and Deb play important roles in the Land Alliance's future success, and we are happy to welcome them aboard.

Charlotte Brennan, Stewardship Associate



Charlotte, who arrived in February, received her BS in Marine Sciences from Stony Brook University in December 2019. Prior to joining the Land Alliance, Charlotte served a yearlong AmeriCorps term with Michigan's Natural Heritage Program where she documented rare species occurrences around the state. She previously worked for the Student Conservation Association, Friends of Hempstead Plains and the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. Charlotte is excited to bring her stewardship knowledge and volunteer management skills to the north shore Long Island, the place she calls home.

Deb Wiener, Director of Development



Deb is a lifelong Long Islander with a keen desire to give back to the community that has provided her so much over her lifetime. She began her career working in both New York and Washington DC for one of Long Island's Congressional members. In this role, she worked to connect Long Islanders with important federal programs and services and helped to shape public policy. Deb's career then pivoted to working with non-profit organizations to strengthen their fundraising efforts and advance their missions. With over 15 years' experience working with non-profits, across Long Island and the Northeast, Deb is excited to champion the environmental efforts of the Land Alliance.

SAVE THE DATE!

North Shore Land Alliance
Annual Wine Auction & Dinner
Saturday, October 1, 2022
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(also known as Villa Banfi)

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SAVE THE DATES!

Annual Wine Auction & Dinner

Saturday, Oct 1st, 2022

Rynwood Estate, Old Brookville
(also known as the Villa Banfi Estate)

Annual Members Meeting

Saturday, November 5th, 2022

Location to be Announced



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