



Conservation News

Protecting Open Space on Long Island's North Shore

NORTH SHORE LAND ALLIANCE

Volume 14, Issue 27

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Photo credit: Phyllis Weekes

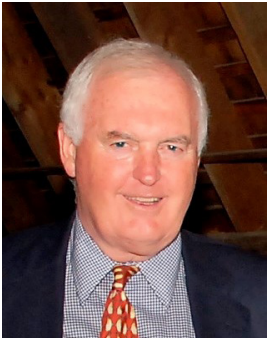
Happy Birthday to Us.... The 15th Anniversary Issue

The Land Alliance turned 15 years old on June 1st! Many people judge success in terms of metrics like how many acres protected (nearly 1,200), how many members (3,200+ families), how many conservation easements (21), how many preserves open to the public (9), or how many children educated (6,000+). But here on the North Shore of Long Island, where land is a very precious thing, we prefer to judge in terms of quality – we take pride in the quality of the places preserved like the Banfi/Youngs Farm fields, Wawapek, Shore Road Sanctuary, Cushman Woods, the Humes Property and the adjoining Japanese Stroll Garden to name a few, as well as the quality and quantity of the water sources protected and the quality of life that is enhanced by our work.

The occasion was marked with a series of celebratory events, beginning with an easement donor thank you party at the Oyster Bay Cove home of Paula and Richard Weir. Easements are the backbone of any land trust. Our 21 easement donor families have made a real mark in the protection of our North Shore community.

A birthday party dinner for board and staff followed, where long-term Board Chair Carter Bales was presented with a painting by Abby Youngs Weir of the Youngs Farm fields, considered by many to be the Land Alliance's most emblematic land save.

(Continued on p. 10)



Dear Friends,

On Friday, June 1st, the Board of Trustees and key supporters of the North Shore Land Alliance gathered to acknowledge 15 years of effort to protect the character of Long Island's North Shore. It was a time of celebration, as the Land Alliance has been very fortunate in its success to date, thanks to the strong community support we have enjoyed since we began operations in 2003.

Here is a list of accomplishments by the Land Alliance that create permanent benefits for all residents of the North Shore:

- We have played a central role in protecting approximately 1,200 acres of local lands and in bringing good stewardship to these lands, while promoting public access to them. This is roughly two square miles of nature in our community, protected forever!
- We have worked to build a “conservation ethic” in communities across Long Island and to promote a sense of local sponsorship of nearby nature preserves. Our membership has grown to over 3,000 families and continues to grow.
- We have worked with selected village governments to review village land planning policies and open space ordinances and to suggest “best practice” improvements in local land use laws and regulations.
- We have educated approximately 6,000 school children to date on the need to conserve the natural world and the sanctity of Long Island's sole source freshwater aquifer.
- We have promoted open use of protected lands by the public through reopening overgrown trails, removing exotic species, mowing meadows and hosting walks-in-the-woods and other events to get people to enjoy the land.



Board Birthday Dinner



Hoyle Jones



Augusta Donohue



Tim Dooley



Tom Lieber

Our view is that we are climbing the foothills of our potential to protect the North Shore from excessive development and loss of character. Our hope for the coming five years is to at least double the land we are protecting to four square miles of natural areas.

The Land Alliance enjoys a strong and committed Board of Trustees and executive team and is surely one of the leading local land trusts in the nation today. However, as with all public service organizations, we must pay close attention to the challenges of renewal. After 15 years, it is time to renew the officer structure of the Alliance.

To that end, I am pleased to announce that Hoyle Jones will assume the role of Chairman of the Land Alliance, effective July 1st, succeeding me in that role. Hoyle has served the Alliance ably and with commitment for many years as Vice Chair and is ideally suited to carry the organization to the next level. In addition, we are adding three younger Vice Chairs to our officer team: Tim Dooley, Gussy Donohue and Hollis Russell, all current trustees, as well as another trustee, Tom Lieber, who will serve as Secretary to the Alliance. The rest of the officer structure will stay in place and I will remain as Chairman Emeritus to support the ongoing efforts of the Alliance.

This is an exciting and challenging time for the North Shore Land Alliance. We have at least five large properties in our area that should be protected. In addition, we are stepping up our commitment to protect smaller parcels of land, as we value smaller transactions and their benefits to local neighborhoods as well as larger transactions. Finally, our commitment to promote a conservation ethic in our community and to steward our preserves will continue.

I have enjoyed my time as Chairman of the Land Alliance and look forward to being helpful in that cause in the future.

Carter F. Bales, Board Chair



Carter Bales and Hollis Russell

A Tribute to Carter



Carter Franklin Bales was the Board Chair of the Land Alliance before it even started, a mere 15 years ago. Wikipedia describes Carter as an American investor, asset manager, environmentalist, conservationist, philanthropist and informal public servant. We at the Land Alliance agree with all except the description of Carter as an informal public servant! Carter Bales has been an exceptional public servant, dedicated to the health of our community, Long Island's North Shore.

In addition to being a very successful businessman, Carter has been devoted to conservation for more than 40 years. He was an early author of noted environmental studies, including the landmark report *Reducing U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions: How Much at What Cost?* That report was integral in framing the economics of environmental improvement strategies in the United States and elsewhere.

Carter has served on the boards of a number of environmental organizations, including the Grand Canyon Trust (where he was formerly Vice Chair), the Adirondack Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, The Center for Market Innovation at NRDC, and as Vice Chairman and Chairman of the International Committee of the Board of Governors of The Nature Conservancy and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Nature Conservancy of New York. In addition, he has served for the last 15 years as Founding Chair of the North Shore Land Alliance (NSLA).

How lucky were we that this highly motivated, knowledgeable and talented man chose to co-found and lead the NSLA for our first 15 years? We were very fortunate, indeed. Any organization is only as good as the people who manage and support it.

Carter has been a dedicated, selfless, highly engaged leader. I am grateful to have had the opportunity and distinct pleasure of working with him for over 15 years. I can confirm that his intelligence, strength, ambitious goals and resolute guidance have been the wind behind the Land Alliance's fortunate sails. We most certainly would not be where we are today without Carter's extraordinary leadership.

Thank you, Carter!

Yours in conservation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa W. Ott".

Lisa W. Ott
President & CEO



Land Alliance Timeline

2003-2004 Years-in-Review

- Board Formed, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit status granted.
- Conservation opportunities identified through “Greenprint” process.
- Idea for a Nassau County open space bond successfully presented to County Executive.
- Coalition organized to promote first Nassau County \$50 million Environmental Bond Program and second Town of Oyster Bay \$30 million Save Environmental Assets (SEA) Fund Bond.
- Funds for Bond Campaign raised at first wine auction. Bond passed with 77% majority.



Farm at Oyster Bay

2005 Year-in-Review

- Nassau County Bond selection committee began work, 55 acres preserved.
- Mapping completed identifying over 300 5+ acre local parcels.
- New York State Open Space List expanded by 3,600 acres based on Land Alliance’s mapping.
- Membership grew to 700+ families.

2006 Year-in-Review

- Nassau County placed new \$100 million environmental bond on November ballot.
- Land Alliance raised funds and sponsored the campaign for the bond. Bond passed, again, with 77% majority.
- IRS increased tax deduction for conservation easements. New York State enacted law that provided for a tax credit for conservation.
- Town of Huntington purchased Mohlenhoff Nursery property. Nassau County purchased portions of the Pulling, Boegner (Old Westbury Gardens), Northwood properties and several more.
- Membership grew to 880 families.

2007 Year-in-Review

- The Town of Oyster Bay placed a \$60 million SEA Fund bond on ballot. Land Alliance ran the campaign and we won with a 72% majority. Suffolk County ¼ cent sales tax passed too. Land Alliance participated in process to allocate bond funds.
- Town of Oyster Bay purchased 80 acres of open space including the Littauer Farm in Oyster Bay Cove.
- Seminars were hosted featuring Sean Nolon on land use and Steven Small on the tax advantages of conservation.
- Uh oh, trees were planted along Hegemans Lane!

2008 Year-in-Review

- Land Alliance began 2008 with 77 acres of private easements, 65 acres of The Nature Conservancy preserves under management and 202 acres protected through public acquisition. Smithers, Humes, Old Mill and more were included.

- The Town of Oyster Bay set a precedent by placing an easement on public land for added long-term protection.
- Popular “Walks in the Woods” series began.
- Land Alliance ran the campaign for the successful Town of Huntington \$15 million bond which passed with a 75% majority. Ballot measures across the U.S. topped \$7 billion in conservation funding.

2009 Year-in-Review

- Recession continued, and the pace of land conservation slowed.
- 65 acres of open space were conserved.
- Land Alliance completed natural resource inventory for least developed 12 North Shore Villages. Analysis included features like tree cover, soil type, grasslands, steep slopes, breeding bird population, etc. for each village. The development of a comprehensive plan to protect valuable natural resources was encouraged in a series of public meetings.
- Land Alliance assumed management of an additional 135 acres of The Nature Conservancy preserves as well as programming for the 73-acre Roosevelt Preserve.
- Program service rate for the Land Alliance was 93%. (For every dollar spent, 93 cents went toward programs)
- Land Alliance contributed \$2 million to the acquisition of the 60-acre Banfi Fields by Nassau County and a private conservation investor. Deal closed on December 31st creating Happy New Year for us all.

2010 Year-in-Review

- To date, Land Alliance had been instrumental in the protection of more than 800 acres of land.
- Land Alliance joined others in rallying support for restoration of New York State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) funding and the permanent renewal of the tax credit for conservation easements.
- Land Alliance, in partnership with town, village and neighbors, attempted to purchase the 117-acre Woodcrest Club in Muttontown for conservation purposes. Effort was unsuccessful but a model for conservation was unveiled.
- Restoration of local meadows began. Roosevelt Preserve programming was expanded. Walks in the Woods program attendance exceeded 200 people.
- Land Alliance received a two-year grant to spearhead local sustainable farming initiative. Second year of environmental education program at Roosevelt Preserve was successfully completed. Important partnerships formed to ensure continuance of both programs.
- Membership grew to almost 1,700 families and volunteer force reached 100 people.
- Rauch Foundation launched study to calculate economic benefits of open space. It was determined that Long Island’s parks, farms and open space provide quantifiable economic benefits worth over \$2.74 billion per year. Results armed Land Alliance with valuable new information in pursuit of future conservation opportunities.



*Youngs Farm Fields, Old Brookville
Photo Credit: Archie Rinaldini*

2011 Year-in-Review

- Enhanced tax credit for conservation easements expired weakening incentive for private conservation efforts.
- D’Loren, Morgan and Northwood easements were completed resulting in 43.8 acres of private conservation.

- No public conservation transactions occurred.
- Land Alliance purchased historic Trousdell Property in hamlet of Oyster Bay to protect emblematic parcel from intensive development with the intention of placing a conservation easement on the property and selling it to a conservation buyer.
- 60-acre Banfi transaction was completed with land swap authorized by state.
- Inaugural Small Farm Summit took place on April 15th attended by 400+ community members interested in promoting more sustainable local agriculture.



- Farm at Oyster Bay (aka Littauer Estate) harvested 1,500 pounds of vegetables to donate to the hungry.
- Town of Huntington, Suffolk County and Land Alliance agreed to join forces to protect the 31-acre deForest Williams Estate in Cold Spring Harbor. A very complicated process would follow but an important partnership was formed.

2012 Year-in-Review

- Land Alliance raised \$625,000 to purchase a one-year option on the deForest Williams property in Cold Spring Harbor. Town, county and community remained engaged. Closing was anticipated for mid-year 2013.
- ExxonMobil donated an 8-acre property to the Land Alliance for conservation purposes, a precedent setting gift of land from a major corporation.
- Land Alliance was awarded \$576,000 in grants—a record amount for the organization (\$500,000 from New York State, \$35,000 from the 1772 Foundation for deForest Williams acquisition, and \$36,000 from EPF for the TNC preserves transfer and accreditation preparation).
- The road to accreditation was officially underway. Organizational assessment was completed and pre-registration documentation was approved.
- The second Small Farm Summit drew 700+ attendees. Land Alliance volunteer corps neared 200 people. Membership grew to 2,146 families.
- The enhanced tax credit for conservation easements was renewed for two years.
- Land Alliance ended the year with 15 conservation easements totaling 135 acres, 75 acres in fee-owned land and 74 additional acres under management.
- Heritage Society, young member's group, kicked off with Harriman Cup presence.

2013 Year-in-Review

- Land Alliance celebrated its 10th anniversary with nearly 1,000 acres of land protected and membership nearing 2,500 families.
- 32-acre deForest Williams acquisition advanced, with closing pushed back to early 2014.
- Nitrogen pollution in our waters topped the list of Long Island's most serious environmental problems.
- Restoration of ExxonMobil property began with community celebration in April.
- Trousdell House restoration neared completion, with sale expected by year-end.
- Land Alliance volunteer and staff worked together to replace more than 200 native trees destroyed in local preserves during Superstorm Sandy.
- Land Alliance assisted in update of New York State Open Space plan, facilitating the inclusion of a waterfront golf course on Long Island's South Shore for the first time.

2014 Year-in-Review

- Conservation results over the last decade included 560 acres protected through public funding and 195 acres protected through 16 conservation easements. Additionally, the Land Alliance owned 104 acres of land in fee and managed 124 acres of preserves.
- The Land Alliance received national accreditation from the Land Trust Alliance. Of 1,700 land trusts nationwide only 254 have been accredited.
- Five-year Strategic Plan update was completed, a new website was launched and social media efforts were expanded.
- Our Water Education Program was launched in three public and private schools through the generous support of a Land Alliance Trustee.
- The first Red Truck Estate Sale was held raising awareness about the concept of recycle, renew and reuse with considerable funds raised for local conservation purposes.

2015 Year-in-Review

- Purchased the 32-acre deForest Williams Property in Cold Spring Harbor for \$8.5 million in a public/private partnership. Purchased the 28-acre Humes Property in Mill Neck for \$5.2 million with the help of a \$3 million loan from The Conservation Fund and an anonymous lender. Entered into contract to purchase a three-acre addition to deForest Williams for \$1.4 million which will serve as an educational center.
- Made the improvements necessary to convert the private 32-acre deForest Williams Property into a public preserve which included an entrance, small parking area, trail markings, an orchard and a massive effort to remove invasive species and replace with native plants.
- Continued to make improvements at the Shore Road Sanctuary through a generous \$57,000 grant from New York State for a small, pervious parking area and storm water-absorbing native rain gardens.
- Launched the quiet phase of a \$25 million Capital Campaign to create a land acquisition revolving fund and endow operations, education, stewardship and legal defense.
- The Nature Conservancy transferred ownership of the 42-acre Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve in Upper Brookville and the 20-acre Darwin James Preserve in Old Brookville to the Land Alliance. We also took over management responsibility for the eight-acre Davenport Preserve in Laurel Hollow and the four-acre Harbor Hill Preserve in Lake Success.
- The William C. and Joyce C. O'Neil Charitable Foudnation endowed a five year internship program.

2016 Year-in-Review

- Purchased 28 acres in the Village of Matinecock (later named Cushman Woods), the seven-acre Smithers Connector Parcel located in Village of Mill Neck and accepted the donation of the two-acre Johnson Property in Lattingtown.
- Acquired the 20-acre James Preserve in Old Brookville from The Nature Conservancy.
- Schiff easement donation closed – 5.6 acres in Oyster Bay Cove!
- Deposit was made on Cedar Brook Golf Course – 126 acres in Old Brookville.



Wawapek trails



Cushman Woods

2017 Year-in-Review

- Purchased the seven-acre Humes Japanese Stroll Garden property in Mill Neck and a two-acre scenic easement over the Macy Meadow in Lloyd Harbor.
- Established stewardship agreement with The Nature Conservancy for eight-acre Davenport Preserve in Laurel Hollow and four-acre Harbor Hill Preserve in Lake Success.
- A five-acre perimeter section of the Humes property in Mill Neck was sold to Nassau County for conservation purposes. The land will remain protected in perpetuity.
- Roosevelt Community Garden project was launched with a \$20,000 Long Island Community Foundation grant.
- Hosted our first BioBlitz resulting in 514 species documented at five preserves in the Beaver Brook watershed.

2018 to Date

- Land Alliance celebrated 15th Anniversary.
- Land Alliance's first Board Chair Carter Bales passed the baton to Hoyle Jones.
- Reopened the Humes Japanese Stroll Garden to the public.
- Roosevelt Community Garden was built.
- With much more to come....

Happy 15th Birthday to Us



On June 2nd the official 15th Anniversary birthday party for members, friends and elected officials was held at the historic Humes property in Mill Neck. The party kicked off with an early-morning bird walk led by Stella Miller. Guests spotted a variety of birds on the 28-acre piece of land like Baltimore orioles, goldfinches and scarlet tanagers. Later that morning families and friends gathered on the great lawn between the Rumpus house and the meadow for a variety of fun-filled activities. The Land Alliance's Long Island Water Education Program educator Karen Mossey taught guests how to build

aquifer models in cups with sand, water and rocks. Children boasted bright smiles while feeding the goats at the petting zoo and gluing leaves and twigs to miniature wooden fairy houses. Guests enjoyed a lovely tour of the exquisitely manicured Japanese Stroll Garden, which just reopened to the public May 12th, and Senator Marcellino chatted with Land Alliance Board Chair Carter Bales during the dogwood tree planting honoring Bales.

Under a blazing sun in the early afternoon heat, Lisa Ott, Land Alliance President & CEO, cut slices of rich





birthday cake while guests, staff and volunteers sang a heartfelt happy birthday. “What a memorable and fun day this has been. Thank you all so much for coming,” Ott said. “I am so proud of all we have accomplished together over the past 15 years and I’m very grateful to all our staff, board, members, local foundations, nonprofit friends and government partners. We would not be where we are today without all of your help and support.” Just as she finished her remarks, the first guest, a hungry 1-year-old, took a huge bite of chocolate cake.



Looking Back: Protected Places and the People Behind Them

Land conservation does not happen without the generosity of people – those who donate land outright, those who donate conservation easements, and those who donate the time and resources necessary to transact sometimes highly complicated real estate deals. In this 15th Anniversary issue, we would like to feature some of the people who were behind a few of the Land Alliance’s most emblematic conservation victories.

Youngs Farm in Old Brookville and Paula Youngs Weir



Shortly after sunrise, Paula Youngs Weir and her team of over twenty employees are busy farming their crops, baking savory pies and quiches, mixing homemade jams, filling 150-pound flour bins, and preparing for yet another busy day at Youngs Farm on Hegemans Lane. Weir and her family have been farming the same plot of land for five generations.

Weir’s great grandfather, John H. Youngs, was the great grandson of Thomas Youngs. He owned an apple orchard boasting 27,133 apple trees in Oyster Bay, settled in Old Brookville in 1893 and married Ida Hegeman. Eventually her Hegeman Farm became Youngs Farm. The farm, which Weir manages with her daughter, Remsen Dooley, and son-in-law, Tim Dooley, sells its own organically-grown produce as well as produce from other farms on Long Island. Over the course of an 11-month season, they cultivate over 35 different types of fruits and vegetables, 95 percent of which are sold on site. Inside the three-room farm

stand, the smell of homemade cookies, scones, muffins and other delectable baked goods fills the air. Shelves and counters are adorned with carefully selected grocery and gift items such as seasonal napkins, rooster salt and pepper shakers and handwoven dish towels.

Youngs Farm once consisted of over 100 acres. In the 1980s, the Youngs had to sell a significant portion of their property to settle an estate. Banfi Vineyards purchased the land with the intention of growing grapes for wine. The vineyard was unsuccessful, and developers were eager to purchase the land.

That was when the North Shore Land Alliance stepped in. It coordinated the acquisition of the land with the seller and Nassau County. It also contributed \$2 million toward the purchase of the conservation easement on the former Youngs property, now known as Banfi Fields. Youngs Farm itself is approximately 11 acres, but Weir and her family now have access to an additional

30 acres via the Banfi Fields purchase. “Because of the North Shore Land Alliance, we are able to farm some of the original Youngs Farm land. We are very grateful to them for what they have done for our family and for our community,” said Weir. The Rottkamp Brothers grow on the remaining 30 acres.

Since the first settlers ventured to Long Island 300 years

ago, agriculture has been an important part of Long Island culture and history. Farming also helps preserve wildlife habitat and the natural beauty of Long Island. “I think Thomas Youngs, who settled in Oyster Bay in 1652 and built the Youngs Homestead at the corner of Cove Road and Cove Neck Road, would be very proud to know that his family is still here farming today,” said Weir.

The Humes Property in Mill Neck and Hoyle Jones



Since its inception 15 years ago, the North Shore Land Alliance has protected nearly 1,200 acres of land on the North Shore of Long Island. That includes the Humes property, which the Land Alliance purchased from the Humes Estate in 2015 for conservation purposes. This 28-acre parcel of land in Mill Neck boasts a diverse landscape consisting of meadows, woodlands and freshwater wetlands. It is situated between Shu Swamp Preserve and the Upper and Lower Francis Ponds, completing one of the largest open space corridors on the North Shore of Long Island. The Land Alliance would like to express our deepest gratitude to conservationist and newly elected Board Chair Hoyle Jones for his tireless efforts to secure the funds necessary to purchase the Humes property.

“Over the course of the Land Alliance’s 15-year journey, Hoyle Jones’s personal generosity and dedication to our

cause stand out to me,” said Carter Bales. “He truly loves the land and is an exemplary citizen of our community. We are forever grateful to him for his tireless efforts to preserve the precious Humes estate.”

Jones lives in Mill Neck with his wife Elizabeth (Botsy) and their five cats. They can walk into the Humes preserve from their backyard. When asked why he chose to help acquire the Humes property, Jones said, “I didn’t want this spectacular parcel to fall into the hands of developers.”

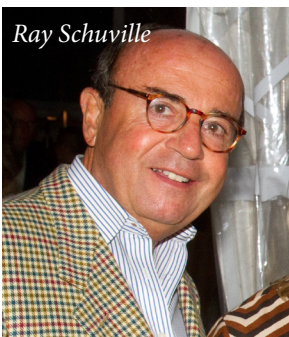
From a young age, Jones had an appreciation for the environment and the outdoors. He grew up on a 2000-acre ranch on the Crow Indian Reservation in Montana. After graduating from high school, he ventured to the south and attended Washington and Lee University in Virginia. During the summers, he worked as a wrangler

on a ranch in Wyoming, where he was nicknamed Bronco. After a 38-year career at Citibank, Jones retired to Mill Neck. He joined the board of the North Shore Land Alliance in 2006.

Of all the Land Alliance's accomplishments over the past 15 years, Jones said he is most proud of the Humes property, which was the estate of former U.S. Ambassador to Austria, John P. Humes, Sr. and his wife Dr. Jean Schmidlapp-Humes. "It's a great example of what a lot of people in the community working together can accomplish," he said.

The Joneses visit Wyoming every August and are reminded of the vast open spaces in the west. "The west has done a great job with land conservation," Jones said. "Over the past 15 years, the Land Alliance has accomplished a lot, but there is still more to do. I am committed to the preservation of open space and protecting the drinking waters on Long Island and will do everything I can to ensure the Land Alliance has another successful 15 years."

Wawapek in Cold Spring Harbor Augusta Donohue, Ray Schuville, Tom McGrath and Jim Watson

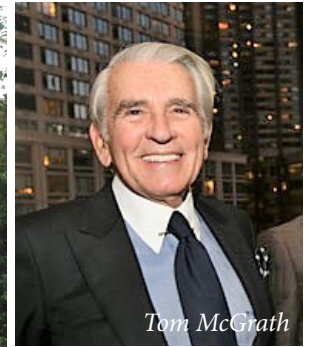


In 2015, the Land Alliance purchased what is now the Wawapek preserve in Cold Spring Harbor (formerly known as the deForest Williams estate) from the Williams family for \$8.5 million. Wawapek overlooks the historic village of Cold Spring Harbor. It was once part of a 600-plus acre estate owned by the deForest family, which included Wawapek Farm.

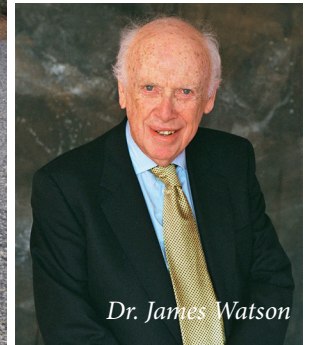
This epic three-year transaction involved three government entities - the Town of Huntington, Suffolk County and New York State - as well as several not-for-profit organizations - The Conservation Fund,

The Nature Conservancy and the Land Alliance. In addition, there were 358 private donors. Remarkably, this was the first time in Suffolk County history that a private organization shared title with the County.

As in all successful deals, there were key individuals who led the charge. In this instance, we would like to give a special thank you to four individuals who led a capital campaign to preserve this spectacular 32-acre property: Augusta Donohue, Ray Schuville, Tom McGrath and Dr. James Watson. "Thanks to all of you, the waters of Cold Spring Harbor will be cleaner, our



Tom McGrath



Dr. James Watson

children will continue to roam the same paths as their parents and the important tree-cover that distinguishes the North Shore will remain intact,” said Lisa Ott, Land Alliance President & CEO.

Schuville remembers being at a wine auction dinner when the topic of conversation turned to preserving part of the deForest Williams property. He drives by what is now Wawapek preserve almost every day, so preserving the land was especially important to him. “Let’s get it done,” he said at the dinner. Raising the funds necessary to help purchase Wawapek was one of the biggest capital raises the Land Alliance has ever done. Dr. James Watson, Tom McGrath and Ray Schuville hosted dinners and called on their friends to bring attention to the need to preserve the deForest Williams property. Dr. Watson even donated a portion of the proceeds from the sale of his 1962 Nobel Prize to the Land Alliance. “It certainly wasn’t easy,” said Schuville. “And nobody was more passionate about preserving this piece of land than Gussy Reese Donohue.”

Gussy grew up in Cold Spring Harbor down the street from the deForest Williams estate and used to venture there for playdates with Claudia Dwyer (the William’s granddaughter). “I was passionate about wanting to save this piece of land,” Donohue said. “Open space and natural beauty is what I appreciate most about

Cold Spring Harbor. I wish we were celebrating our 30th anniversary because so much more land would have been saved. Carter and Lisa are champions of preservation and it’s been a pleasure working with them,” she said.

The Land Alliance has transformed Wawapek into a passive preserve open to the public. It is home to a diverse group of animals, such as foxes, box turtles (which are a state protected animal) and great horned owls. Mature hardwood forest, which comprises over 60 percent of the preserve, protects air quality and provides erosion control. Trumpet honeysuckle was recently planted at the restored trellis. Fruit trees and blueberry bushes have been planted on the premises and the trails have been restored, allowing pedestrians to explore the forests on site. The beautiful round of yew hedge has been stripped of invasive plants. And a pollinator garden was installed that boasts a variety of indigenous insects.

“The protection of this environmentally significant place was truly a community effort,” said Tom McGrath, Land Alliance trustee and long-time Lloyd Harbor resident.

Special thanks to Trudy Calabrese for sharing her local knowledge and organizational expertise.

The Roosevelt Community Garden is Up, Running and Beautiful



On Saturday, June 9th the Roosevelt Community Garden was officially opened to the public. Under bright sunny skies, 20+ garden members and volunteers gathered to kickstart the opening of the garden and the 2018 growing season. With the help of long-time farmers Heather Forest and Larry Foglia, gardener members learned how to plant their beds to achieve maximum yield. Heather and Larry also shared tried and true techniques for planting vegetables. Gardeners were then provided with a variety of seeds and beautiful seedlings including tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, collards, okra (and more) to start planting their beds.

Overall, the garden contains 43 plots - six children's beds, three wheelchair accessible beds and 34 regular raised beds. Community plots are also available to engage senior citizens, students and individuals who would like to grow to give back to local food pantries. Plots are available on a first-come, first-served basis. After opening day, only three beds remain unsubscribed.

To ensure the sustainability of the Garden, we are partnering with local organizations to host a series of educational workshops throughout the year. Experienced gardeners from Cornell Cooperative Extension, Brooklyn Queens Land Trust and the local community have enthusiastically volunteered their expertise. Topics will include: starting your vegetable garden, growing on a budget, square-foot gardening, organic gardening, composting and more. Additionally, the Roosevelt Public Library is making plans to host children's reading programs on site and Catherine Beasley, a teacher from the Roosevelt School District, will use one of the beds to teach her students about growing their own food.

Community gardens have the potential to empower communities by helping to educate residents about how to grow their own food and eat more healthily. They create connections among residents and local civic organizations. They also present local job opportunities and teach community members specific skill sets such as carpentry and agriculture.

When they are successful and abundant, they provide community members with the opportunity to give back by donating food to residents in need and to local food pantries. Equally important, they limit future residential development and promote sustainable gardening practices that will help protect the natural environment and our groundwater.

About the Project

Nassau County approached the Land Alliance in 2016 about establishing community gardens on vacant County-owned lots. Land trusts across the country, with their experience in land use, agriculture and community organizing, have been successful partners in ventures such as these. We embraced the idea and began to write grant applications to bring this project to fruition. Thankfully, the Long Island Community Foundation and the Land Trust Alliance/New York State Conservation Partnership Program responded and have funded the first two years of the project.

The Roosevelt Community Garden is located on a former 10,000-square foot house lot adjacent to a county park, three churches, two schools and the local library. We have been working with the County and members of the community to shape the plan for the garden.

Over the winter, Nassau County cleared the site and installed new fencing. With the site prepared, we turned to experts Dylan Licopoli of Home Organic Gardening Service and Larry Foglia of Fox Hollow Farm to design and build the raised beds. On April 20th members of the community and corporate volunteers from MSC Industrial Supply Co. built 34 raised beds in record time. Soon volunteers returned to build children's beds and wheelchair accessible beds and to weed the garden plots. A pergola gathering area will be built in the center of the garden, featuring benches and picnic tables. This area will serve as the hub of the garden, a place for the community to gather and share food and for children to play. Two sheds will be installed for storage purposes. If this garden is successful, it is our hope that other such gardens will grow on other vacant lands owned by the County.

We are very pleased to partner with Nassau County to create a community garden in Roosevelt. Special thanks to Land Alliance staff members Andrea Millwood and Amanda Furcall and volunteers Jill DeGroff and Ken Krumanacker for their extraordinary efforts to make this garden a success. We must also add a "shout out" to Stephen Searl, whose clear vision was key to the early planning efforts.



Facelifts for Three Preserves



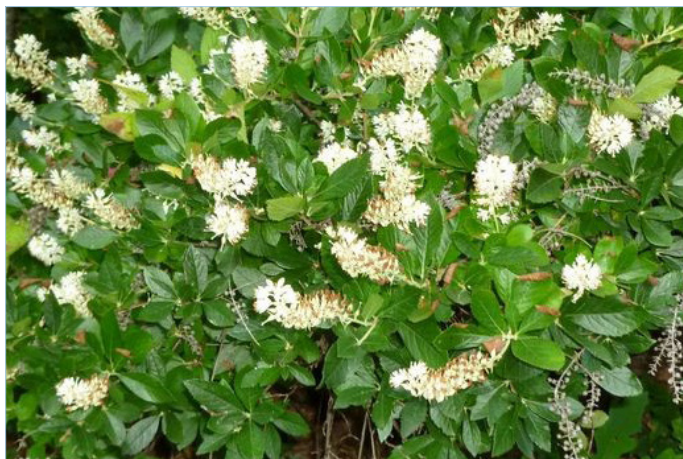
Attractive changes are afoot at the entrances of three of the preserves the Land Alliance stewards: Red Cote Preserve (purchased by Nassau County with Environmental Bond funding) on Yellow Cote Road in Oyster Bay Cove, Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve on Chicken Valley Road in Upper Brookville and James Sanctuary in Old Brookville.

New signs subtly grace the parking area and trailhead at Red Cote. Visitors can now learn not only how this important 30-acre property was protected but also about its ownership history, how it is managed, some of the plant and wildlife species found there and how to enjoy the trail system. Native highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), shadblow serviceberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*) and sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) shrubs are being planted alongside the driveway and parking area to beautify and add color to the entrance, while enhancing the wildlife habitat the preserve provides.

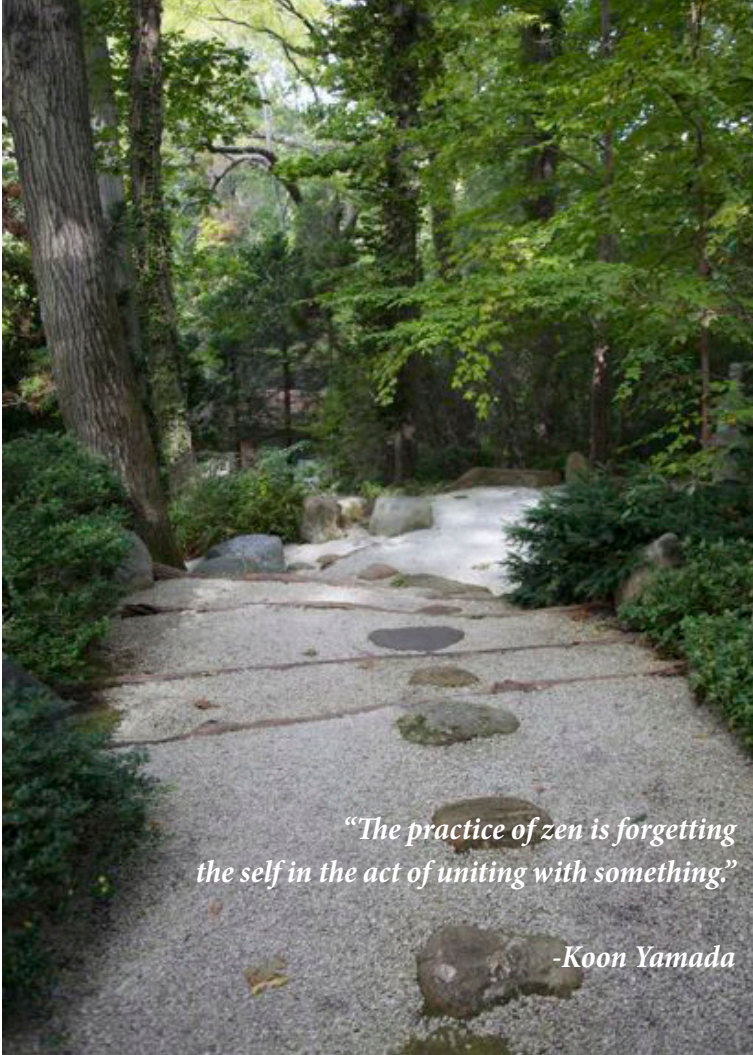
Offering nature's serenity to harried Long Islanders, our Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve's 42 acres rewards visitors with gentle trails, a colorful meadow, a majestic hardwood forest and a pristine pine plantation.

Changing seasons usher in ephemeral delights: trailing arbutus clinging to a hillside in May, sunflowers lighting up the meadow at summer's end and silent snowshoeing excursions in the dead of winter.

Thanks to grants from the Hope Goddard Iselin Foundation and the New York State Conservation Partnership Program (for more details, see LTA grant article on p. 23), we now have the ability to make these preserves more visible, more inviting and safer. These improvements, paired with associated educational signage and programming will help transform these preserves into places that Long Islanders can discover and enjoy.



Humes Japanese Stroll Garden



Stroll Garden Hours

Saturdays - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Sundays - 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Stewardship Volunteer Days - One weekday each week - 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.



Recent and Upcoming Events

Opening Day

Saturday, May 12th - 10:00 am

Shakuhachi with Daniel Soergel

Saturdays - 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Dates: May 12th, June 16th, July 14th,

August 11th, September 8th and October 13th

Japanese Tea Ceremony

Sunday, June 24th - 6:30 pm

with Marybeth Welch/Urasenke NY
for Friends of Stroll Garden Members

Mankh, Haiku

Thursday, July 26th - 6:00 pm

Bonsai Techniques with John Capobianco

Sunday, July 22nd

with the Bonsai Society of Greater NY

Bonsai Display and Demonstration

Sunday, September 30th - 2:00 pm

Michael Veracka/SUNY Farmingdale

"Bamboo in Northeastern Landscapes" walk

Closing Weekend

October 27th and 28th

The installation of a much-needed deer fence around the Stroll Garden was completed just in time for our opening over Mother's Day weekend in May. Despite rainy weather that Saturday and Sunday, a number of people enjoyed the Stroll Garden, many of whom were treated to the haunting, somewhat melancholy shakuhachi melodies masterfully played (and donated!) by Daniel Soergel. The drizzle only enhanced what is always a feature there: serenity.

We welcome membership in the Garden and volunteers to help with garden maintenance, coverage of open hours and leading tours.

If you are interested in becoming a Stroll Garden member and/or volunteer, please contact us at 516-922-1028.

Humes Property Concept Plan



The future home of the Land Alliance

Since our last update in the Fall/Winter 2017 newsletter, significant strides have been made in our on-going efforts to safeguard the important Humes property in Mill Neck. In the waning days of 2017, the Land Alliance sold five acres of the property to Nassau County for open space purposes. The sale expanded County holdings at Shu Swamp and the proceeds enabled the Land Alliance to make payments toward the debt it incurred to acquire the property in 2015 for \$5.3 million.

In April of this year, the Board of Trustees of the North Shore Land Alliance voted to adopt a Concept Plan developed by staff for the remaining 23 acres. The plan envisions the sale of two additional five-acre lots for single family residential use and development of a nature preserve on 13 acres of meadow and woods, to be retained by the Land Alliance. The lots will be sold subject to conservation easements to buyers willing to maintain the historic appearance of the main structures. At the preserve, former fields will be restored to grassland and a foot trail established that will link to other protected land in the Shu Swamp/Beaver Brook corridor. Some existing non-essential structures will

be demolished, while others will be repurposed for preserve maintenance, visitors space and potentially Land Alliance offices. This “limited” or “conservation” development will enable the Land Alliance to meet debt obligations while protecting the most important natural, cultural and historic resources of the property. In addition, two residential parcels will be returned to the tax rolls, restoring some tax revenue to the village.

In May, 2018, the Land Alliance submitted to the Mill Neck Planning Board an application to subdivide the property into three lots. Buyers for the two residential parcels have been identified and will be prepared to close upon village approval. Until then, the Land Alliance continues to stabilize the structures and maintain the property. In June, we replaced a failing stretch of stockade on Oyster Bay Road. Habitat restoration and trail layout are underway.

This project represents the Land Alliance’s first foray into a limited development project of this scope and magnitude. If successful, it will hopefully serve as a model that can be repeated to great benefit in other North Shore communities.

Year Three of the Joyce and William O'Neil Stewards Program

This is the third year of the Joyce and William O'Neil Stewards Program. This summer internship program for college students has been endowed for a total of five years by the William C. and Joyce C. O'Neil Charitable Trust. The first two years of the program were very successful.

We are excited to announce that we again received many qualified candidates and from those chose three interns for the class of 2018. They will begin their internship after Memorial Day. The program is designed to give these students a well-rounded experience, providing a glimpse of what the world of environmental nonprofits is like, along with hands-on

stewardship experience on Land Alliance properties. The students will conduct wildlife inventories, install native plantings, maintain trails, manage invasive species, learn to monitor conservation easements and lead our dedicated volunteers in stewardship work. They will also assist with events, including our Family Day Member's Event. This program gives the Land Alliance additional capacity to not only maintain but improve our preserved lands for the benefit of the public and our ecosystems.

With an exciting project list and a talented set of interns, it's sure to be a productive and fun-filled summer.

Meet the 2018 O'Neil Stewards



Abby Bezrutczyk

Abby is a sophomore at Cornell University studying environmental sciences and plant science. She has fueled her interest in conservation by working in an invasive plants lab and with specimens at Bailey Herbarium. Abby has experience doing field work and is an avid gardener. This summer she is looking forward to learning more about the natural places of Long Island where she grew up.



Emily Manning

Emily is a sophomore at Elon University NC and is majoring in environmental studies, with a minor in public health. Emily has held similar stewardship positions where she maintained trails, removed invasive plants and gave guided nature walks. She is a world traveler and is excited to get this hands-on experience.



Sofi Solomon

Sofi is a sophomore at University of Michigan in the Environmental Program. Her experience working at a nature camp, teaching children on long days outside and curating the camp's animal collection has primed her for this internship. Sofi is excited to learn more about land management and the ecological gems of Long Island.

Jane Jackson Receives Prestigious Garden Club of America Hull Award



Gussy Donohue, Jane Jackson and Jennifer Ely

Jane Jackson, Director of Stewardship at the North Shore Land Alliance, was presented with the Garden Club of America's prestigious Margaret Abernathy Hull Award by the North Country Garden Club of Long Island on June 7. This national award is given to a select group of individuals each year who further the early environmental education of children.

Jane has been working in the world of conservation for much of her adult life, first at The Nature Conservancy in Rhode Island and then at the New York Restoration Project in Manhattan. Jane has managed the Land Alliance's educational programs for the last ten years and has developed hands-on programs such as the Long Island Water Education Program, which has attracted over 4,000 students from a dozen school districts in Suffolk and Nassau Counties. The Water Education Program encompasses a three-session course for 4th-6th grade students that teaches them that Long Island's drinking water comes from underground and that there is a link between land conservation and a clean and abundant water supply.

"Jane is the chrysalis that makes the Land Alliance's Water Education Program happen; involving

volunteers, donors and teachers that bring live, hands-on environmental education to so many local students," said Richard Weir III, an honorary member of the North Country Garden Club, the organization that proposed Jane for the Hull Award.

Land Alliance President & CEO Lisa Ott said, "Jane instills in children a sense of awe and then shows them how they can protect these magnificent places. She turns something as simple as a Girl Scout beach cleanup into a unique learning experience. Jane introduces children to plants and animals and engages them with greater meaning about how they work together with their environment to support a complex but delicate network. We are very proud of Jane and her fine work."

The Garden Club of America is active in supporting future stewards of the environment. In addition to the Hull Award, which was established in 1992, the Garden Club of America sponsors 28 merit-based scholarships for students in fields ranging from tropical botany to landscape architecture, pollinator research, summer environmental studies, coastal wetlands, horticulture and urban forestry. Since 1928, the Garden Club of America has funded over 1,300 recipients. In 2017, over \$330,000 was awarded to 86 scholars.

For more information about the Garden Club of America Scholarship Program, please visit their website at www.gardenclubofamerica/scholarships.

For more information about the North Country Garden Club and its Virginia W. Smith scholarship for local high school seniors, please visit their website at www.ncgc.org.

Grants: New York State Conservation Partnership Program (NYSCPP)

The Land Alliance is proud to be the recipient of two grant awards from the Land Trust Alliance New York State Conservation Partnership Program: a \$40,000 grant for the establishment of the Roosevelt Community Garden and a \$26,000 grant for much needed improvements at the entrances to the Iselin (Upper Brookville) and James (Old Brookville) preserves.

Roosevelt Community Garden

The Roosevelt Community Garden is a first for both the Land Alliance and Nassau County. Nassau County had vacant land and a small amount of funding from the Nassau County Environmental Bond Program to ready the property for planting. The Land Alliance has a keen interest in encouraging more locally grown food, experience in community organizing and supporters committed to sponsoring such endeavors.

This two-year grant will fund assembling the beds, bringing in quality soil, securing organic plants, hiring a part time caretaker and building a central shed/community gathering area. While many community gardens are run solely by volunteers, we wanted to ensure a smooth start by employing a caretaker to get the garden on its feet. The caretaker will manage communal areas, organize meetings and programs and serve as a gardening mentor for anyone with questions.

This garden will be a way for the Land Alliance to empower people to grow their own food and bring a taste of agriculture back to southern Nassau County. We can't wait to see those 45 beds running over with beautiful fresh food.

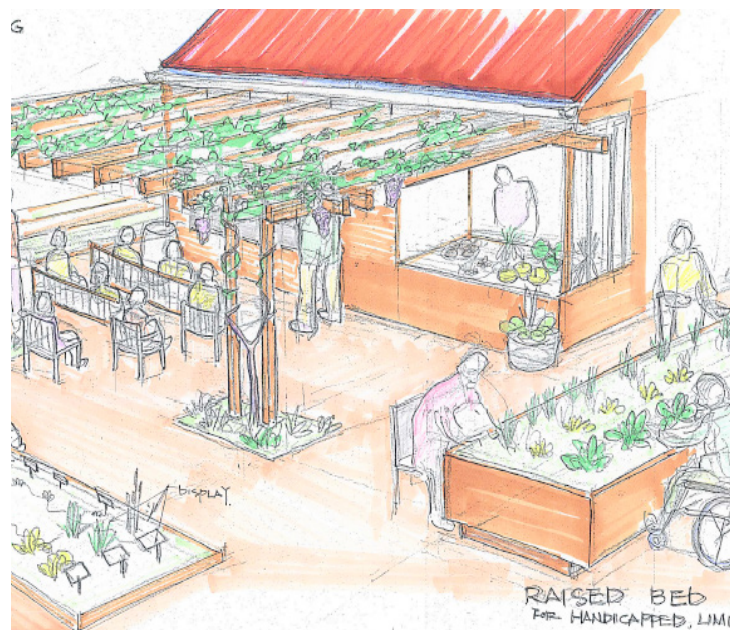
Hope Goddard Iselin Preserve and Louis C. Clark Sanctuary

At Iselin, which is a popular place for community members, we are replacing the existing parking area to enhance its visibility, approachability and safety. These improvements will beautify the preserve's roadside

edges, improve wildlife habitat through planting native plants and simplify maintenance requirements. We will also update a decades-old trail, install interpretive signage and create a brochure that visitors can carry with them. We hope this project will broaden visitors' appreciation of nature and foster a better understanding of why we are so fortunate to live in this beautiful area.

The entrance to the Clark Sanctuary is located on a treacherous curve off Valentine's Lane. The existing driveway serves as the parking area, and currently leaves no room for cars to turn around. To remedy this situation, we will clear invasive Japanese knotweed and garlic mustard just beyond the driveway to make more space for cars to turn around. We will also replace fill with gravel and an existing stockade fence with post and rail, so that visitors will have an improved view of the forest upon entering the preserve. Descriptive and colorful signage describing the preserve's history and captivating features will be created and, with village permission, traffic mirrors will be installed so drivers will have a clearer view of approaching cars.

Many thanks to the NYSCPP for enabling us to make such positive contributions to our community.



Rendering of the community area at the Roosevelt Community Garden.

Volunteers for Open Space



MSC Industrial Supply Co.

MSC has generously volunteered its staff for many years on Land Alliance projects. This year MSC team members celebrated Earth Day at the newly founded Roosevelt Community Garden. Working as a team, they built 34 raised beds in record time, transforming a vacant lot into a place for the community to grow their

own fresh organic produce. By the end of a very full day, they were tired, but proud to have accomplished so much and built something so meaningful with their own hands. MSC also donated essential garden supplies including wheelbarrows and garden hoses. We are extremely grateful for their generosity and hard work.

Friends Academy High School Students



For the past five years, the Land Alliance has had the privilege of hosting Friends Academy students through their community outreach program for seniors. This spring John and Matt Scaglione spent three weeks with us participating in a variety of activities in the

field and in the office. They were a huge help to our stewardship team. Their contributions included building and maintaining trails, removing invasive plants and monitoring native plants, lending a helping hand with our Long Island Water Education Program field trip and pitching in at office organization and fundraising events.

When asked about their Land Alliance experience, John said, “Volunteering for the North Shore Land Alliance has better connected me with my local community. I am very happy to be working with such a dedicated and kind team.” Brother Matt added, “My experience so far volunteering for the North Shore Land Alliance has been extremely rewarding. I have learned about the importance that the North Shore Land Alliance has in my community and am proud to be supporting the organization in any way I can.”

Thank you, John and Matt, for your hard work, great attitude and insight. Our office and preserves have benefited from the hard work of these outstanding young men. We wish them the best as they continue their education at Emory and Vanderbilt universities.



Girl Scout Troop #2597 from Elwood, Earth Day beach cleanup at Shore Road, Cold Spring Harbor



Strong Youth students from Uniondale garden bed installation at the Roosevelt Community Garden



Retired teachers from The Transition Network 2018 Golf Outing

Volunteer Spotlight: Marcia Skolnick



Patient and calm. Dedicated listener. Reliable and conscientious. Enthusiastic supporter of land conservation. Ability to communicate love of nature through speaking and writing. Add up all these characteristics and qualifications and what do you get? Why, Marcia Skolnick, of course!

Marcia attended a John Turner lecture in 2008 at the Hoffman Center where she picked up a brochure that listed Long Island nonprofit environmental organizations, including the Land Alliance. She called us on a Saturday seeking information about our nature walks and lo and behold someone answered the phone (!) and told her about our upcoming Walk in the Woods. Marcia attended our October 2008 walk and decided then and there that she wanted to support our work through volunteering.

“Contributing to the North Shore Land Alliance as a volunteer allows me to channel my energy to a cause which has great significance – protecting and preserving open space, historical sites and our natural world,” said Marcia.

Marcia has not only continued to participate in and support our Walks in the Woods, she has also helped the Land Alliance with many of our fundraising and outreach events: The Wine Auction (her first was in 2009), events for the Long Island Water Education Program, a variety of festivals and more. She has become such a dedicated and irreplaceable cog in our wheel that we know the North Shore Land Alliance volunteer landscape would be a very different place without her. Thank you, Marcia, for all you have given and continue to give.

To become a volunteer, please visit our website at www.northshorelandalliance.org.

Inspired by Nature Art Show

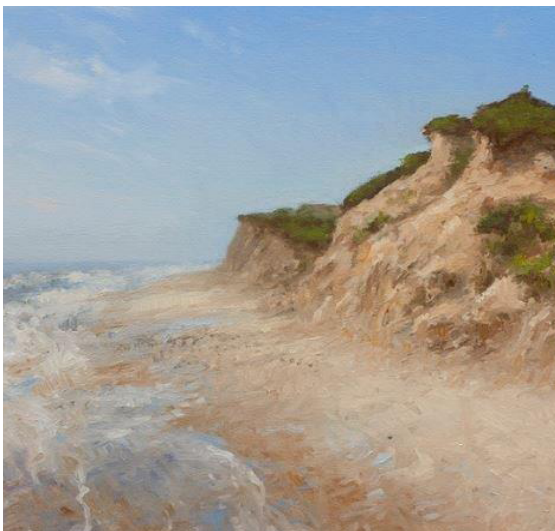


Laura Powers-Swiggett

The natural areas that the Land Alliance preserves and protects are essential to keeping our drinking water clean and communities healthy. They also provide opportunities for recreation and inspiration, so it was fitting in this 15th anniversary year that the Land Alliance partnered with several of our many talented member artists to host a benefit art show highlighting the wonderful nature that surrounds us.

More than 70 works by eight visual artists were on view

from Friday, March 2nd through Sunday, April 8th at the Land Alliance's offices. Works on view ranged from botanical paintings by Abby Youngs Weir and Virginia Crawford Pierrepont to seascapes by Christine D'Addario and from representational landscapes by Doug Reina and Mercedes Dorson to abstract landscapes by Laura Powers-Swiggett and Maxine Jurow. A special feature of the show was Richard Gachot's "Milk Thistle", a nature-inspired sculpture created from reclaimed objects.



Doug Reina



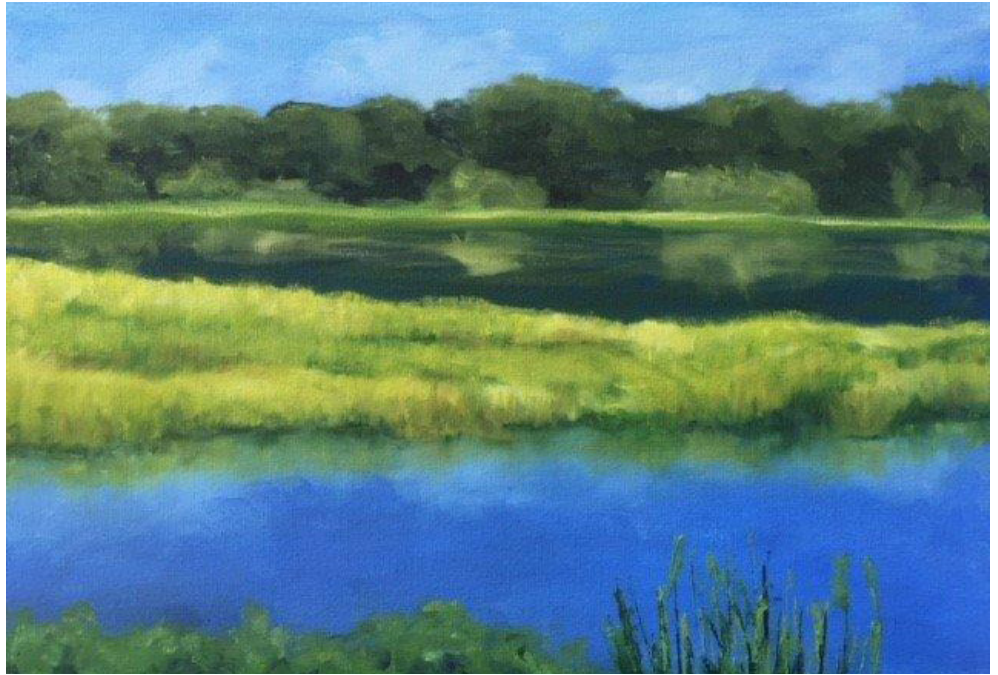
Oyster Bay Music Festival



Abby Youngs Weir



Virginia Crawford Pierrpont



Mercedes Dorson

While a series of nor'easters caused the opening reception to be postponed several times, more than 100 new and long-time members attended the opening on Friday, March 9th.

On a Sunday afternoon later that month, the Oyster Bay Music Festival (OBMF) hosted a nature-inspired musical performance featuring Matt Ross on flute, Christine Chen on cello and Michelle Stern on violin.

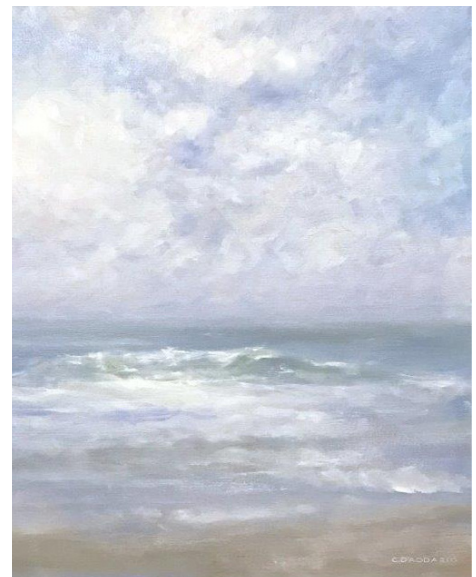
Throughout history, artists have responded to the beauty and fragility of their natural surroundings through their work. The Inspired by Nature art show and musical performance clearly illustrated the importance of the Land Alliance's work to preserve our remaining natural areas for future generations of artists and art lovers.



Maxine Jurow



Richard Gachot



Christine D'Addario

From Countryside to Cities: Investing in Conservation



On April 22nd, the Land Alliance was honored to have Lynn Scarlett, Global Climate Strategy Lead at The Nature Conservancy (TNC), as the featured speaker at our New York City Lecture. Nearly 100 Land Alliance supporters and friends attended the lecture at the Colony Club, where Lynn emphasized the importance of investing in conservation.

In her current role at TNC, Lynn Scarlett directs all climate policy in the United States and the 72 countries in which TNC operates. Through her work at TNC Lynn influences climate and nature-based policy solutions that are an essential component of controlling carbon pollution and protecting against climate impacts. Lynn's presentation at the Land Alliance lecture was drawn from her significant experience as Former Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Department of the Interior and current work and belief that practical, innovative solutions can create a prosperous low-carbon future that is cleaner, healthier and more secure for everyone.

Lynn discussed how research shows that natural climate solutions (defined as proven ways of storing and reducing carbon emissions in the world's forests, grasslands and wetlands) play a big role in mitigating the issues presented by climate change. Climate change is a global problem and it requires solutions on a global scale. Our lands and waters, if protected, provide an

untapped opportunity. In fact recent studies show that more than 30% of the climate change goals that our world leaders established at the 2015 Paris Climate Convention can be achieved through the power of nature. This means that nature-based solutions – such as stopping deforestation and restoring coastal ecosystems – can get us more than a third of the way to the emission reductions needed by 2030.

Lynn emphasized how natural infrastructure creation and the environment can work in tandem. Wetlands purify water, tree canopies can help keep the earth cool and help respiratory health, and how oyster reefs can protect coastal communities during intense storms. She also touched upon the need for investment in green capital to help advance clean energy generation projects such as solar energy and wind farms.

Lynn ended her presentation by noting that despite today's difficult political climate, each of us can do something to mitigate the harmful effects of climate change, such as supporting the work of your local land trust. Think globally, act locally and continue to invest in conservation.

“Most Americans believe in this American idea - that a portion of our nation's wealth should be used to invest in protecting special places.”

- Lynn Scarlett

Thank You to Our Sponsors

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A coalition is forming to oppose Governor Cuomo's proposed tunnel from Rye to Oyster Bay. The Land Alliance is an active member of the group. Please let us know if you would like to get involved. Contact the Coalition at info@unsoundcrossing.org or call 516-508-9171.

2018 Fore the Love of the Land Golf and Tennis Outings Honoring Steven Dubner and Heritage Farm & Garden



Our 2018 Golf and Tennis outings were a great success. We enjoyed full capacity and beautiful weather on both days. Many prominent community leaders came to enjoy two days of golf and tennis while supporting the Land Alliance.

Steven Dubner and Heritage Farm and Garden were honored for efforts to preserve 42 acres of horticultural heritage on Long Island. Steven purchased the former Martin Viette Nursery in Muttontown, which has been a community treasure for 80 years. The community is grateful to Steven for not only maintaining but upgrading this incredible gardening destination.

Attendees were moved by the thoughtful words provided by Steven, who was humbled and honored to be recognized by the Land Alliance. He thanked his dear family, many friends, colleagues and staff for supporting the organization and its values, so closely aligned with his own. Along with picture perfect days for golf and tennis, all guests enjoyed a wonderful lunch and took home orchids provided by Heritage Farm and Garden.

Both events raised a record amount of funds for the Land Alliance, which helps to cover operating expenses. Our fundraising events are also an important opportunity to share the work we do with those who may not be aware of the impact we can make, caring for the very special places where we live and raise our families.

We hope to see many of the new and returning participants at our highly anticipated 2018 Wine Auction Event on September 22nd. As this year marks our 15th Anniversary, the event will be a very special evening and an opportunity for all of us to come together and celebrate our milestone and achievements at this signature event.

For more information on Wine Auction committee participation, tickets or sponsorship, please contact Michelle Stack at michelle@northshorelandalliance.org or 516-922-1028.

2018 Fore the Love of the Land Golf and Tennis Outings Winners:

Golf Outing

Individual Gross: Men's - Dan Rifkin, Ladies'-Jean Marie Stalzer

Closest to the Pin: Men's- Jeremy Nickol, Ladies'- Susan Dubner

Longest Drive: Men's- O'D Lee, Ladies'- Susan Dubner

Closest to the line: Jean-Marie Stalzer

Foursome 1st Place Net: Gary Wade, Max Lituchy, Zach Halsey, Mike Mainland

2nd Place Net: David Powers, Michael Lamoretti, Michael Weinbaum, Alan Kupferman

1st Place Gross: Peter Fazio, Steve Cranford, David Klunick, Dan Rifkin

Tennis Outing

1st Place: Men's - Kenny Friedman, Ladies' - Heather Whitman

2nd Place: Men's - John McMillin, Ladies'-Sally Scialabba





Fore the Love of the Land

GOLF & TENNIS OUTINGS

Honoring

Steven Dubner and Heritage Farm & Garden

for their efforts to maintain 42 acres of horticultural heritage in our community.

Thank you to our sponsors and many supporters.

Ike, Molly & Steven Elias Foundation

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Heritage Committee Cocktail Party

The North Shore Land Alliance held its annual Heritage Committee cocktail party at the new Harvard Club Rooftop in New York City on Wednesday, June 20th. The Heritage Committee is a community of bright and energetic young professionals, 35 and under, who not only love nature, but understand the importance of land conservation and the impact their actions will have on future generations.

“It’s so important to us at the North Shore Land Alliance to involve the younger community in the work we do,” said Lisa Ott, Land Alliance President & CEO. “They are the future and we cannot shape the future of land conservation on the North Shore without their help and support.”

Guests were served a delicious variety of passed hors d’oeuvres like juicy pork dumplings, spring rolls and crab cakes while enjoying the breathtaking views of Manhattan on this beautiful summer evening. The tapas table boasted an eclectic variety of dishes like an eggplant stew and our favorite: champagne flutes filled with gazpacho. Silent auction items included Billy Joel concert tickets, paintings by Michelle Stack and Mercedes Dorson, and a visit to the exotic Montauk Salt Cave West – a holistic spa in Huntington.

Cathryn Bales, Carter Bales’s daughter, gave a wonderful toast where she thanked guests for coming and supporting the important work we do at the Land Alliance. She also coaxed guests in a humorous and heartfelt way to overbid on their silent auction items, which got a nice chuckle from the crowd. Thank you for all your support, Cathryn.



Growing the Local Food System



On April 19th The National Center for Suburban Studies at Hofstra University, the Long Island Food Coalition and North Shore Land Alliance hosted a conference titled the *State of Suburban Agriculture on Long Island*. Farmers and foodies came out to listen to keynote speaker and food activist Mark Winne. Mark is known for a variety of important projects ranging from organizing breakfast programs for low-income children in Maine to developing innovative national food policies in Washington, D.C.

Mark has dedicated his professional life and writing to enabling people to find solutions to their own food problems as well as those that face their communities and the world. He spoke about the need for disparate groups to organize and collaborate in creating vibrant local food systems. Panels discussed the current food system in Nassau County, the importance of agriculture to health and education and how to work together towards common goals.

The morning conference was followed by a tour of local farms, including Youngs Farm in Old Brookville and the Frank M. Flowers and Sons oyster operation in Oyster Bay and a pot luck supper at the Land Alliance offices.

2018 Food Conference



This event provided the perfect trigger for stepping up the Long Island Food Coalition's efforts to improve local opportunities for people who would like to grow food. We are beginning to organize for the next conference which will be held at Long Island University Post on November 3rd. TV personality and food activist Tom Colicchio and Congresswoman and Agriculture Committee member Chellie Pingree have been invited as keynote speakers. The day-long event will cover key topics such as food policy, food as medicine, food equity and community gardens.

All interested individuals and organizations are welcome to join us in the planning. For more information, please contact the Land Alliance at 516-922-1028.

A Climate Change Primer

On Wednesday, October 17th at 6:00 p.m. the North Country Garden Club and North Shore Land Alliance will host a lecture about climate change at the Land Alliance's Planting Fields office. The presenting organization, a nonprofit called C-Change Conversations, was started by a group of Princeton Garden Club members who were interested in finding a grass roots, non-political, non-confrontational way to discuss this important issue.

For many, climate change has become a polarizing issue on our political landscape. As the *New York Times* reported recently, "Americans overwhelmingly believe that global warming is happening, and that carbon emissions should be scaled back. But fewer are sure that the changes will matter to them personally." Citing data from the Yale Program on Climate Communication, the Times noted that "most people think that climate change will harm Americans, but they don't think it will happen to them."

Kathleen Biggins, the primary presenter for the group, is not a scientist or a political activist. She is a relatively normal person - wife, a mother, a volunteer like so many people we know. She was raised in New Orleans, where her father was an orthodontist. New Orleans was and is a microcosm of the climate change issue.

A dozen years ago Kathleen went to the national garden club convention in Washington, D.C., and was impressed by the speakers addressing the climate change issue. "When I came home people treated me like I was Chicken Little," she recalled.

The sky didn't really fall. But years later, at around the time of Hurricane Sandy, Biggins made another trip to the national garden club convention. Trading notes with other club members in the aftermath of Sandy, she discovered that "everyone had a story of some weird weather event. And things that experts projected would happen 20 to 30 years off were happening now."



Kathleen Biggins, former Governor Christine Todd Whitman and Katy Kinsolving

It was a call to action. "I realized I had so many friends who had no idea of the danger of climate change. I wanted to wake people up, but not turn them off," said Biggins. "We wanted to bring the conversation to the middle." And that is just what they did.

Biggins and others in the garden club circle decided to ask some experts to address the climate change issues. They began hosting a series of cocktail lectures where people talked about the impacts of climate change like increasingly severe storms, the financial impacts of rising water on businesses, growing zones migrating north, increasing tick populations, etc. Without those polarizing words, it didn't take long for people to realize that we are all impacted by climate change.

Please join us for one of the best, user-friendly presentations on climate change you will ever see. For more information or to register, please contact the North Shore Land Alliance at 516-922-1028.

New Trustees



Ben Stokes is Co-founder and Principal of RedSky Capital, a real estate development firm focused in Brooklyn and South Florida. Ben oversees development and day-to-day operations of all properties under the RedSky umbrella.

Ben earned a B.S. in applied economics and management from Cornell University. He is married to Asia Baker Stokes, interior designer at A.A. Baker Design and they reside in Locust Valley with their two young children. Their interest strengthened with the Land Alliance development of Cushman Woods very near to their home. Ben and Asia have been active members of the Land Alliance.



Shauna Leopardi grew up in Lloyd Harbor, N.Y. and attended Cold Spring Harbor High School. After graduation, she attended Connecticut College and earned a Bachelor of Arts in computer science. Shauna currently works at Bank of America in the capital markets division covering large corporate clients focusing on foreign exchange solutions.

Shauna and her husband Nicholas moved back to Cold Spring Harbor three years ago with their three children, who not only enjoy the green spaces of Cold Spring Harbor, but also enjoy riding their bikes to Wawapek preserve. They are members of the Cold Spring Harbor Beach Club, Huntington Country Club, Winter Club and New York Yacht Club. In 2017, Shauna worked on the fundraising project that preserved the Macy Meadow.



Susan and Jack Foley were both born and raised on Long Island, and now reside in Locust Valley.

Susan, a graduate of Boston University, built a career in marketing and corporate communications, most recently serving as EVP Director of Global Marketing and Communications for Cohn & Wolfe, a leading communications firm based in NYC. Susan is a member of the Board of Trustees of The Green Vale School.

Jack earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Binghamton University. After graduating from college, he moved to New York City. There he combined his love of real estate and architecture and eventually became the Senior Vice President at Title Associates, a division of Stewart Title Insurance Company. Jack serves as a trustee of Old Westbury Gardens and The Nassau County Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center.

Together, the Foleys served as chair of the North Shore Land Alliance Wine Auction and Dinner in 2016. They are the proud parents of Sam, a first-year student at Fairfield University, Kathryn Grace, who attended Green Vale and is now a junior at Friends Academy, and Luke, who will be graduating middle school from Green Vale in 2019.

New Staff



Heather Amster, *Director of Conservation*

Heather comes to the Land Alliance with public and private sector experience in conservation real estate. She was previously Senior Project Manager at the Manhattan offices of the San Francisco-based Trust for Public Land and most recently the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Heather served as DEC's Regional Real Property Supervisor in NYC through 2000, then on Long Island until joining the Alliance staff in March of 2018. She is practiced in transactional real estate, appraisal, grant writing, public finance, stewardship, regulatory compliance, legislative initiatives and outreach.



Michelle Stack, *Events Manager*

Michelle joined the Land Alliance to manage all special events, such as the Golf and Tennis Outing and the ever-popular Fall Wine Auction and Dinner. Michelle received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Michigan and Master of Fine Arts from the University of Illinois. Prior to her nonprofit transition, Michelle worked as a Creative Director in the beauty industry for companies such as Estee Lauder and Guerlain Paris. Michelle likes to utilize her creative skills to create innovative and memorable environments. She has consulted numerous companies including Chanel, Dior, The Gap, Ann Taylor and Movado. Michelle previously led development and events at UJA- Federation of New York and Island Harvest.



Jenny Einhorn, *Marketing and Communications Coordinator*

Jenny Einhorn has joined the staff at the North Shore Land Alliance part-time as the Marketing and Communications Coordinator. Jenny moved to Locust Valley from New York City last summer with her husband, Tom, and three children: Tommy, Madeline and Claire. Before taking a few years off to raise her kids, Jenny was Managing Editor at Paper&String, a community-based digital media company focused on independent retailers in New York City. She has written for prestigious publications such as Time Out New York and the Daily Telegraph and most recently contributed communications material for the National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. She has a B.A. from New York University and holds an M.S. from Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Jenny has an affinity for the North Shore – she grew up coming to her grandparent's home on High Ridge Lane in Oyster Bay each summer. She would like to thank her three beautiful children and wonderful husband for making her a better person, partner and parent each day.

In Memorium: Clarence Michalis (1933-2018)



Clarence Michalis died on March 30, 2018. He was an incredible force in shaping the North Shore community as Mayor of Lattingtown for 48 years and as a trusted advisor to both local government and numerous not-for-profit organizations. He was elected to the Land Alliance Board in 2004 and his early endorsement of the

organization's land conservation work and unflinching judgement, guidance and support have been critical to the Land Alliance's success. Clarence was elegant, bright, kind, generous, interesting and interested and well-versed on virtually every subject. He was a devoted husband to Cora, his wife of 64 years, loving father to his four daughters and a dedicated community leader. He was one of a kind and his presence will be greatly missed.

Eagle Scout Candidate with Troop #170 Installs Kiosk and Native Plants at Cushman Woods Preserve



Eagle Scout candidate Rob Naldjian motivated members of his Boy Scout Troop #170 of Syosset to get up early on Sunday, June 3 to install his freshly-built kiosk at the trailhead at Cushman Woods. In addition, Rob organized the Scouts to clear invasive shrubs and vines at the edge of the sunny parking area and intersperse among recently installed native sunflowers some 60 additional plants, among them purple Joe-

pye weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*), wild columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) and butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*). We extend our most heartfelt thanks to Rob, his parents and Troop 170 for carrying out these much-needed improvements to welcome Cushman Woods visitors!

Tips for Avoiding Tick Bites

Every year seems to be worse than the last for the number of ticks we see on our preserves. This is probably due to the gradual warming of our climate which creates conditions on which ticks thrive.



1. Avoid wooded and brush areas with high grass and leaf litter. Walk in the center of trails.
2. Use repellent that contains 20 percent or more DEET, picaridin, or IR3535 on exposed skin for protection that lasts several hours. Use products that contain permethrin on clothing.
3. Bathe or shower as soon as possible after coming indoors (preferably within 2 hours) to wash off and more easily find ticks that are crawling on you. Parents should check their children for ticks under the arms, in and around the ears, inside the belly button, behind the knees, between the legs, around the waist and especially in their hair.
4. Examine gear and pets. Ticks can ride into the home on clothing and pets, then attach to a person later, so carefully examine pets, coats and day packs.
5. Tumble dry clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors.
6. See your doctor if irritation from a tick bite occurs.

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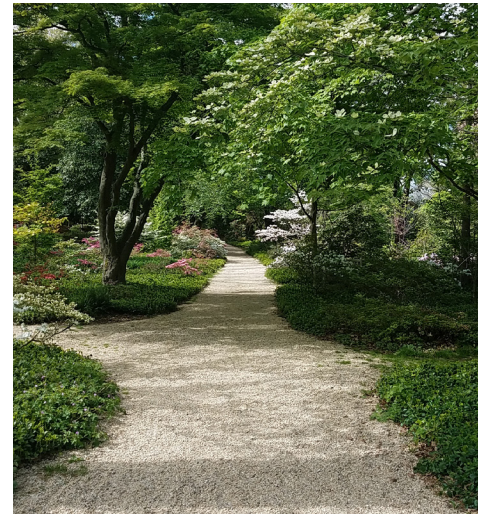
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The North Shore Land Alliance is a 501(C) (3) land trust formed to protect and preserve, in perpetuity, the green spaces, farmlands, wetlands, groundwater and historical sites of Long Island's north shore for the enhancement of quality of life and benefit of future generations.



SAVE THE DATES

September 22nd

Annual Wine Auction & Dinner
Land Alliance Planting Fields Office, Oyster Bay

October 27th

Annual Members Meeting
Land Alliance Planting Fields Office, Oyster Bay

October 17th

Climate Change Lecture
Land Alliance Planting Fields Office, Oyster Bay
Sponsored by North Country Garden Club
and North Shore Land Alliance

November 3rd

Long Island Food Conference
LIU Campus, Brookville

