



Photos: Jeff Heatley

Trust Donors Play Greater Role In Key Acquisitions

Since it was founded in 1983, the Peconic Land Trust has depended upon the generosity of its donors to protect Long Island's working farms and natural lands. Over two-thirds of our annual budget is derived from private donations, mostly through our yearly fundraising effort known as the Challenge (see page 5). Aside from providing the Trust with the resources, talents, and skills necessary to protect land through the Challenge, our donors have also provided funds necessary for specific acquisitions through gifts and loans. At least 72 acres have been protected in 10 separate projects across Long Island's East



Trust Donors

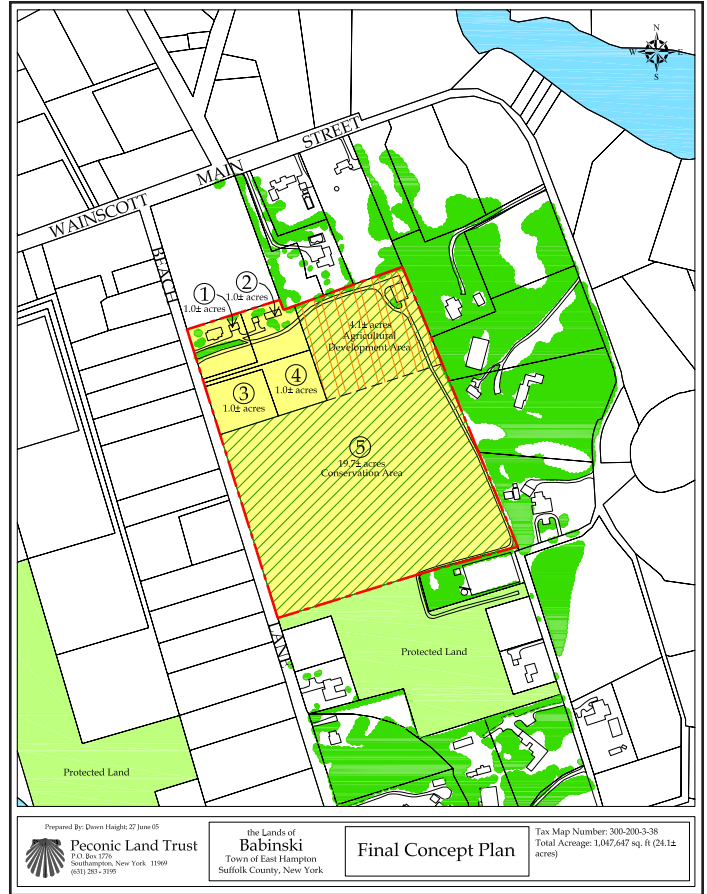
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End with the help of our donors. Two of these projects were recent successes where the Trust partnered with landowners, neighbors, and local government. Such collaborations underscore the strong connection people have with the land in their communities and exemplify the extraordinary measures they will take in order to assure its protection. According to Trust President John v.H. Halsey, “With the continued, rapid appreciation of real estate values and a finite amount of public funds for conservation, private donations to the Trust toward specific properties are increasingly critical to their protection.”

Babinski Farm in Wainscott

In Wainscott, a 24-acre working farm off Beach Lane is in the process of being protected from development thanks, in part, to donations and pledges of \$2 million from over 110 nearby residents, many of whom are new donors to the Trust. These private donations supplement a \$5 million commitment by the Town of East Hampton through its Community Preservation Fund. The owners of the farm have agreed to sell the development rights to the Town and Trust at a steep discount through a “bargain sale.” The difference between the fair market value of the development rights and the bargain sale price constitutes a charitable gift for the sellers that can be used to offset a portion of their capital gain.

This farm has been in the Babinski (Osborn) family for many generations, and hopefully will continue for generations to come. The property contains nearly 100% prime agricultural soils that have sustained the family farm and surrounding community with locally-grown produce for many years. By selling the development rights, the family has converted most of the equity in the farmland to cash so that it can be reinvested or set aside for future family needs. The protected farmland, with its reduced value, is much less likely to constitute a problem from an estate tax perspective. In addition to the two existing residences on the property, the family has retained the right to have two additional residences. Both the Trust and the Town have secured a right of first refusal on each of these future lots, as well as the protected farmland itself should the family decide to sell.



There are many participants to thank, including the Town of East Hampton for funding the majority of this purchase, the more than 110 nearby residents who supported and participated in a grass roots effort to raise \$2,000,000, and particularly the Babinski family who are the key players in this endeavor. The Trust always seeks a win-win situation that strikes a balance between the goals and needs of landowners and the public interest. The Trust is pleased to have played an important role in the protection of the Babinski Farm and looks forward to more acquisitions in Wainscott with an energized local community through our newly created Wainscott Protection Fund.



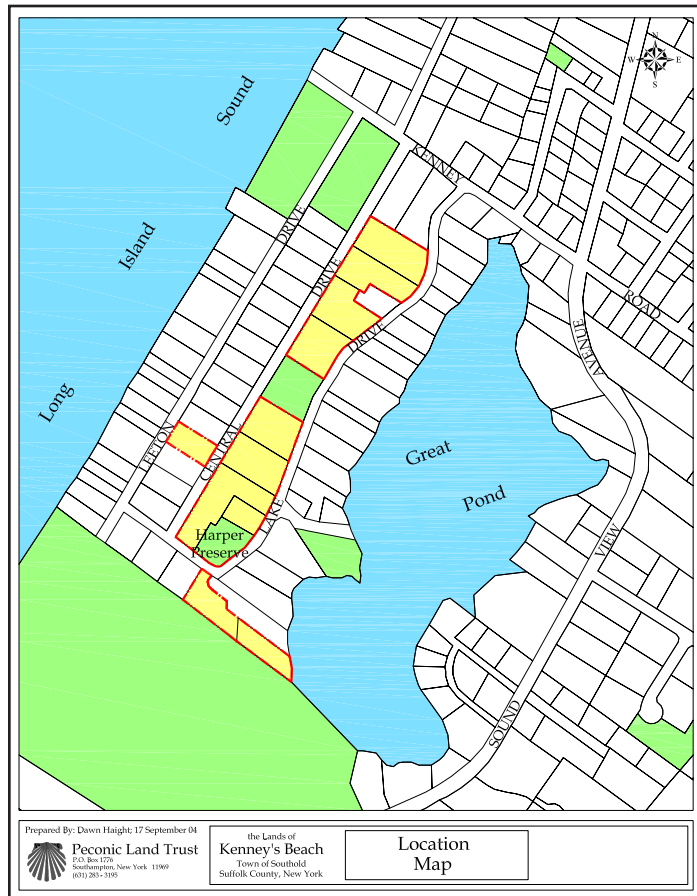
Babinski farmland, Wainscott

Photo: Jeff Heatley

Harper Preserve at Kenney's Beach

Thanks to the Great Pond Wetland Preservation Committee and local residents, the Peconic Land Trust was able to purchase and protect an important property within a rare ecosystem that runs from Goldsmith's Inlet to Horton Point and acts as a filter for Great Pond. The Committee was formed by members of the Kenney's Beach Civic Association and is chaired by Lillian Ball. Ms. Ball approached the Trust in the summer of 2004 to consult on potential conservation strategies for the Great Pond Wetland Area—an approximately 12-acre area between Lake Drive and Leeton Drive—classified by New York State as a rare “maritime dunes and globally rare maritime freshwater inter-dunal swale.” The area, which is adjacent to Suffolk County-owned Peconic Dunes County Park, contains rare native plant and animal species including *Iris prismatica*, native cranberry, pitch pine carpet, carnivorous sundew, box and snapping turtles, red fox, osprey, bobwhite, pheasant, and the Eastern screech owl.

Last fall, after successful outreach efforts by Ms. Ball and Trust staff, an agreement was reached with Peter Harper to purchase his approximately 7-acre parcel at the corner of Lake Drive and West Drive. The Committee worked diligently with Peconic Land Trust staff on fundraising efforts for the parcel and the area at large. To date, generous community residents and friends have made charitable contributions of approximately \$165,000 to the Trust for conservation in the area. The Town of Southold also committed \$56,000 to purchase a conservation easement on the Harper parcel. As such, on April 14th, the Trust was able to purchase the Harper Preserve at a bargain sale for \$220,000. Since the appraised value of the parcel was actually higher, the landowner was able to take advantage of a charitable tax deduction for the difference between the purchase price and the full market value. The Committee also helped secure a \$40,000 grant for the Trust from



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Harper Preserve

Photo: Jeff Heatley

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the Long Island Sound Futures Fund of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. (see article on grants)

With regard to the protection of the remaining open space parcels in the area, both the Trust and the Committee are continuing outreach efforts to owners of the remaining parcels, as well as community fundraising efforts for future acquisition. In addition, Southold Town has generally agreed to similar commitments on future acquisitions and the Suffolk County legislature has shown its support by approving a resolution to authorize the necessary steps towards acquisition of the parcels.

The role of our donors will continue to be critical to our success. We thank you and future contributors for supporting our work through our annual Challenge as well as by providing private capital to supplement public funds for important acquisitions.

Photo: Jeff Heatley



Photo: Marsha Kenny



(l. to r.) Bob Kalb, Great Pond Wetland Preservation Committee member; Marian Sumner, PLT Director of Conservation Programs; Melissa Spiro, Town of Southold Land Preservation Coordinator; Bill Edwards, Town of Southold Board Member; Mike Deering, Suffolk County Director of Environmental Affairs; Lillian Ball, Committee Coordinator; Michael J. Caracciolo, Suffolk County Legislator, District 1; Josh Horton, Town of Southold Supervisor.

President's Column: Conservation Tools Threatened

When the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) released shocking recommendations regarding a roll-back of federal tax incentives for conservation this past January, a collective shudder ran through the land trust community nationally. The very tools that had resulted in hundreds of thousands of acres of protected farms, natural lands, and watershed areas were called into question. The JCT recommended that gifts of land be limited to basis (the value of land when first acquired by the owner) even though land is taxed by the federal government at fair market value for estate purposes. It also recommended that conservation easement donations be limited to 1/3 of fair market value or eliminated all together under certain circumstances given perceived abuses.

Fortunately, with your help, and that of the Land Trust Alliance, thousands of citizens, land trust supporters, and public officials throughout the country contacted their Congressional representatives to express their alarm and concern. We thank all of you who contacted Congress. The message was clear... keep tax incentives intact given their effectiveness for both public and private conservation efforts. To the extent that there are abuses under current law, focus on a) improving the appraisal process, b) increasing penalties for the over-valuation of gifts, and c) assuring that all gifts meet legitimate conservation purposes.

By the time the Senate Finance Committee met in early June, the JCT recommendations had been set aside. There are still onerous proposals being discussed, including the elimination of conservation easement deductions on parcels under 10 acres as well as golf courses, mandatory federal accreditation of all land trusts, in addition to greater penalties for over-valuation. As of this writing, however, reform legislation has yet to be introduced in Congress.

One encouraging note has been the willingness of Senator Charles Grassley of Iowa, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, to include enhanced tax benefits in reform legislation similar to those approved by the Senate two years ago in the CARE Act. These would extend the carry-forward period for unused deductions from 5 years to 15 years and increase the percentage of income sheltered by taxpayers from 30% to 50% (farmers would be eligible to shelter 100%).

So, the end of this story has yet to be written. I will keep you all informed of developments in Washington D.C., especially when legislation is introduced, so that we can continue to influence the ultimate outcome.

- John v.H. Halsey

"Farming the Future"

Rudaitis Media has just completed production on its new documentary *Farming the Future: Farm Life on Long Island*. Produced by Ron Rudaitis and Sarah Lansdale, and directed by Rudaitis, the one-hour film was made possible through the generous support of the Long Island Community Foundation and the Rauch Foundation. It will have its broadcast TV premiere on WLIX21 public television this summer.

2005 Challenge Grant

Since 1983, contributions from you and other supporters have enabled us to preserve nearly 8,000 acres of working farms, natural lands, and watersheds for future generations. Our work continues with conservation opportunities comprising thousands of acres that define the Long Island we know and love. Our goal is to acquire and protect another 10,000 acres in the next 10 years. As we have relied on your help in the past, we are asking for your support again. Individuals like you provide most of the Trust's annual funding, enabling us to engage the talent and expertise necessary to conserve and manage land. We hope to raise \$1.2 million from the general public in 2005 to increase the pace of

our work and make a lasting difference for our children and grandchildren. We know that you appreciate all that comes from the land . . . fresh farm produce, wildlife, and clean drinking water. Land defines our history, it sustains our lives, it heals and inspires us, and maintains balance in a hectic world. Protecting what we love most about Long Island is a staggering job . . . our success depends on your involvement. Please join us by sending a contribution today. If you are interested in becoming a leadership sponsor of this year's Challenge (a donation or pledge of between \$5,000 and \$100,000), please call Rebecca A. Chapman, Vice President of Philanthropy at (631) 283-3195.

Donor Profile: Pingree Louchheim

Pingree Louchheim, a Board Member and long-time supporter of Peconic Land Trust, with her soft voice and quiet manner, is in truth a force of nature! Or more aptly, a force *for* nature. She and her husband Donald have lived in a sprawling gambrel-roofed 19th century house in the heart of Sagaponack for 30 years. Donald had been a foreign correspondent for *The Washington Post* and, as young marrieds, they lived in various capitols of Africa and in Paris, where Don was the Post's bureau chief. "When one of our children saw boys tossing baseballs in a Paris park and asked what that game was," Pingree says, "I knew it was time to come home. We didn't want to raise three Eurobrats."

Don wanted a newspaper of his own, and a search firm found *The Southampton Press* for sale, then a small, 8-page broadsheet. The Louchheims came home. It did not take long for Pingree, raised on a Michigan farm, to become involved with the beautiful land that surrounded them on Eastern Long Island. She had studied art and design at Parsons and at Yale, and for the next 17 years she was the paper's main photographer.

She specialized in views of farms and the people who owned them. To her dismay, she found that the farms that she loved photographing were being carved up into real estate developments. She joined a group called Farmlands First and became a member of The Nature Conservancy and the Group for the South Fork. Then in 1984, 21 years ago, the *Press* published a story about John v.H. Halsey and his creation of the Peconic Land Trust.

"I felt at once that that was the way I wanted to go," says Pingree. "Here was a way to save farmland. You could show a farmer how he could keep a legacy that had been in his family for generations, could still farm it, could keep his land, and pass it on to his offspring. Even in West Virginia, you wouldn't go up to a

farmer and say, 'I love the way your land looks. Why don't you give it away!' John Halsey had the brilliant idea of showing farmers and other landowners how to use conservation easements on a part of their generations-owned land, skyrocketing in value, and pass it on to the next generation and save inheritance taxes. A win-win way."



Photo: Wendy Chamberlin

She is a licensed pilot and has flown, solo, to San Diego and back to East Hampton, to Wyoming and to the Bahamas as well. She flies every week to keep her hand in. "I see, from a very privileged aerial view, the shrinking open space . . . how much has already been lost to development." She comes from a long line of horsewomen and was once able to ride from Mecox to Sagaponack on open fields "There are so few fields now that I have given up riding," she says.

She was one of the founders of the Southampton Trails Preservation Society, a not-for-profit organization that promotes and creates public trails for hikers and horseback riders. The group has helped to create the Paumanok Path, a 125-mile long regional trail that stretches from Rocky Point in Brookhaven Town to

Montauk Point. "It is exciting to realize that this project is almost complete, except for a few spots in Southampton Town."

Pingree's Sagaponack house sits up high above a beautiful 4-acre treed meadow in the center of the hamlet. She has given a conservation easement to the Peconic Land Trust on the half of this land that borders Sagg Main Street, a permanent park-like buffer that affirms the long history of this beautiful passage.

Ed. Note: Fred R. Smith was on the founding staff of Sports Illustrated, editor-in-chief of American Home, an editor of Time-Life Books and president of East-West Network. Now a full-time resident of Wainscott, he has continued to write for such magazines as Town and Country, Smithsonian, and House Beautiful.

- Fred R. Smith

Connections . . .

The Trust is expanding outreach and conservation education by providing more opportunities for *you* to experience the wonders of nature!

Our outreach program was launched on April 16 with a Bark Identification Hike on Peconic Land Trust's 40-acre Reeve and Granttham Preserves in Riverhead. Hikers followed an old farm road through the preserved working farmland, and hiked through successional woodland to the spectacular bluffs on Long Island Sound. Black birch, red oak, white oak, black oak, American beech, wild cherry, black locust, mockernut hickory, and Eastern hophornbeam are some of the trees that were identified by their distinctive bark.

The Trust celebrated National Trails Day with a Forest Ecology Hike on the Trust's 189-acre Silver Beech Preserve in North Amagansett. This extraordinary preserve contains a mature forest of American beech, white oak, red maple, sassafras and flowering dogwood. The area is a critical habitat for a variety of birds, including the chuck-wills-widow, the whip-poor-will, hairy woodpecker, Acadian flycatcher, the veery, the black and white warbler, the ovenbird, the hooded warbler, the scarlet tanager, the wood thrush, the red-eyed vireo, and the Eastern wood-pewee.

These are just two examples of how Peconic Land Trust is building connections between people, communities, and the land. We are very excited about providing these opportunities especially for you, our supporters. We hope that you will take advantage of the many and varied events listed in *Connections*, our new calendar of events brochure. Meet the people who have so generously protected working farms and natural lands. Join with others who understand the importance of land conservation and enjoy the beauty of the East End!

A sampling of upcoming events follows . . . learn which native plants provide food, shelter and nesting sites for our feathered friends; visit Peconic Land Trust's Quail Hill Farm, the longest running cooperative organic farm on Long Island and one of the first in the country; join a local chef as she prepares recipes from the recently published *Quail Hill Farm Cookbook*, taste oysters raised at Peconic Land Trust's Shellfisher Preserve, learn the myths and misconceptions about bats from a world-renowned expert . . . we look forward to seeing you!

Saturday, July 30, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Hunters of the Night

Sponsored by the Town of Southold Friends of Ft. Corchaug Committee

Down's Farm Preserve at Ft. Corchaug, Main Road in Cutchogue (between Alvah's Lane and Elijah's Lane). Family oriented. \$5/person. Call Denise Markut at PLT's North Fork Stewardship Center, (631) 734-5630 for information.

Sunday, July 31, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Great Pond Wetland Area Birding Hike (Moderate difficulty)

Join Peconic Land Trust and the Kenney's Beach Civic Association for a nature/birding hike of the Great Pond Wetland Area, Kenney's Beach, Southold. Please call (631) 283-3195 to reserve.

Saturday, August 6, 1 p.m.

Kristi Hood Cooking Demonstration

Springs General Store (outdoor picnic area), 29 Old Stone Highway, East Hampton. \$5/person. Call (631) 283-3195 for reservations and for information about Quail Hill Farm membership.

Saturday August 13, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Tepee Ted and his Wilderness Traveling Museum

Sponsored by the Town of Southold Friends of Ft. Corchaug Committee

Downs Farm Preserve at Ft. Corchaug, Main Road (between Alvah's Lane and Elijah's Lane), Cutchogue. Rain or Shine. Family-oriented. \$5/person. Call Denise Markut at Peconic Land Trust's North Fork Stewardship Center, (631) 734-5630 for reservations.



Saturday, August 13, 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Native Species that Attract Birds

Winds Way Farm, Jamesport. \$5 PLT Supporters/\$10 all others. Call (631) 283-3195 for reservations.

Saturday, August 20, 4:30 p.m.

"At The Common Table" - dinner in the Apple Orchard to benefit PLT's Quail Hill Farm. \$125/person (includes an \$85 charitable contribution to the Peconic Land Trust for Quail Hill Farm). Call (631) 283-3195 for information or to charge a ticket to your MasterCard or VISA.

Saturday, August 27, 10:00 a.m.

Sunshine is free - turn it into electricity!

Peconic Land Trust's Quail Hill Farm, Apple Orchard, Deep Lane, Amagansett. No charge. Call (631) 267-8492 for information. Reservations not required.



Peconinic Travels to Aquebogue

The 2005 Peconinic, our annual event to celebrate our donors, volunteers, and friends, had another spectacular setting this year! Elizabeth Schaffner and Norwest Farm hosted more than 200 guests on land that has been protected from development and overlooks acres that are also protected. Ms. Schaffner recently

sold the development rights on 54+ acres of her land to Suffolk County. Located on the westerly side of West Lane in Aquebogue, it is adjacent to approximately 100 acres of protected land including PLT's Karen's Kettle Preserve and 29.8 acres under a conservation easement that was donated by Ms. Schaffner in 2001.



Photos: Marsha Kenny

Peconic Land Trust Receives Grants

The Peconic Land Trust has been awarded \$40,000 from the Long Island Sound Futures Fund of the US Fish and Wildlife Service for a project that will preserve 11.72 acres of globally rare marine freshwater wetland as open space. Adjacent to Suffolk County-owned Peconic Dunes County Park, this habitat includes rare native plant and animal species including *Iris prismatica*, native cranberry, pitch pine carpet, carnivorous sundew, box and snapping turtles, red fox, osprey, bob-white, pheasant, and the Eastern screech owl. The Trust will develop a stewardship management plan to control invasive species and a program to promote habitat knowledge among approximately 360 Camp Sea Wolf environmental students (10-15 years old) and 740 regular campers who annually attend Peconic Dunes Camp. Matching funds of approximately \$165,000 have been provided by community donors, as well as \$56,000 from the Town of Southold.

Peconic Land Trust is also the recipient of \$7,700 New York State Conservation Partnership Program administered by the Land Trust Alliance Northeast Program with support from the State of New York. The funding will assist the Trust and our Quail Hill Farm to address organizational development issues and innovative projects at the farm in Amagansett.

Quail Hill Farm is a community supported agriculture project (CSA) that began as an experiment in preservation and active land management on 20 acres donated to Peconic Land Trust by Deborah Ann Light in 1989. Since then, the goal of the Trust has been to 1) maintain a healthy balance in the soil through organic and bio-dynamic farming methods, 2) provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the stewardship of protected land and 3) educate others about sustainable agriculture and organic farming through an apprenticeship program.

Like all small farms, Quail Hill has been dramatically affected by the increasing cost of farming, from insurance to the price of fuel, while the revenue received for vegetables has not increased. To date Quail Hill has pursued innovative ways to provide revenues including selling fresh produce to local restaurants and compost to local landowners, and recently initiated a successful annual fund campaign for the purpose of raising unrestricted funds. Additionally, events such as a tomato tasting have been organized to bring in modest donations and introduce others to the sense of community inherent to Quail Hill. Now, the Trust is developing a strategic plan for the future of Quail Hill that will define alternative revenue streams and ensure the long-term viability of this community resource.

This summer, do something really good for body and mind!

JOIN QUAIL HILL FARM . . .



The harvesting season started in June and runs through the end of October . . . 23 weeks of glorious organic vegetables, herbs, raspberries and flowers! Harvest on Saturdays and Tuesdays from 8 AM to 6 PM. Farm shares are \$690 per family. For more

information, contact Laura Fischer at (631) 283-3195, Ext. 20. We accept MasterCard and VISA.

This Common Ground: Seasons on an Organic Farm, by Scott Chaskey

We congratulate our staff member Scott Chaskey, Quail Hill Preserve Manager, on the publication of his book. Quail Hill Farm, now in its 15th year, had its beginning as the Trust's first stewardship project on 20 acres donated through the generosity of Deborah Ann Light to Peconic Land Trust in 1989. Scott, a farmer/poet, arrived soon after and has been poetically chronicling the "drama" of farming ever since—the successes, the failures, the people, and the breathtaking beauty and wonder of working in Nature's garden and running a community farm. Over the years he has recorded his meditations on weather, wildlife, soil, seed, root, plant, and flower and, in his recently published *This Common Ground* (Viking), he has organized these reflections season by season over the course of one year. A lyrically written story of the education of a gardener becoming a farmer, *This Common Ground* is also a record of the interdependence of people, animals, and soil. We watch as the interconnections within a community open up to conservation and change, and through the seasons by

the sea, we observe the hearty growth of a community farm. That Scott is also a poet is very much evident in his writing. Many of you may remember his letters to Farm members, that he has a contagious sense of wonder, an artist's sensibility and a big heart. Using language that reflects a pragmatic utopianism and a doer's respect for the rhetoric of the fields, Scott invites us into a world where we witness nature's web of interdependence and truly marvel at its richness. According to *Publishers Weekly*, "His book will be a joy to read for lovers of organic farming, and it also offers a strong argument to the general public that, with careful management of the soil, 'everyone, the haves and the have-nots, [can] gain access to land and good food.'" *Kirkus Reviews* states, "He unfurls the cottage wisdom of the garlic's providence, describes the fixing of farm implements, the satisfactions of a good tool, the procedures of cold-soil planting, creating the ideal compost, taking up the battle with nut grass, the importance of equanimity when facing the vexation of tomatoes."

Leave a Legacy to Future Long Islanders ...

If you would like to extend your support of the Trust's work in protecting farmland and open space on Long Island, you may do so in a variety of ways such as naming the Trust a beneficiary of your IRA or a life insurance policy, for example. If you would like to include a provision in your will to bequeath cash, securities, or other asset property to the Trust, the following language may be used and modified as necessary:

For gifts of real estate

"To the Peconic Land Trust, Incorporated, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, incorporated under the laws of the State of New York in 1983, having as its principal address 296 Hampton Road, Southampton, New York 11968, I hereby give and devise my real property at (*street address here*) to Peconic Land Trust, Incorporated, of Southampton, New York."

For cash gifts

"I give and bequeath \$_____ to Peconic Land Trust, Inc. of Southampton, New York."

For gifts of securities

"I give and bequeath _____ (*number of shares*) of (*name here*) common stock to Peconic Land Trust, Inc. of Southampton, New York."

For asset property such as paintings, other artwork, antiques, etc.

"I give and bequeath (*description or name of items*) to Peconic Land Trust, Inc. of Southampton, New York."

If you or your attorney would like to discuss a potential bequest, please call Marsha Kenny, Director of Development, at (631) 283-3195. All inquiries will be kept confidential. All gifts to Peconic Land Trust are tax-deductible. Contributions of \$250 or more will be acknowledged in our Annual Report.

Other Ways to Support Land Conservation

Matching Gifts: Many companies have matching gifts programs; some allow matches for others in addition to employees—spouses, retired employees, spouses of retired employees, widows or widowers of retired employees, and non-employee directors of the company. Please check with your employee benefits office. If your employer has a matching gifts program, your gift to the Trust can be doubled or tripled.

Scallop Shell Memorial Gifts: A gift in memory of a loved one or friend is a special tribute to those who appreciated the beauty of Long Island. To make your gift, send your check, along with the name of the person being memorialized, to the Trust. Please indicate the name and address of a family member or friend of the deceased to whom we can send an acknowledgment of your charitable gift.

Special occasion gifts: Commemorate an anniversary, birthday, wedding or other special occasion with a gift to conservation. The Trust will send a card in your name to whomever you designate (just provide us with a mailing address!).

You may make a charitable gift to the Trust on our secure website www.peconiclandtrust.org.

Lenz Winery Fundraiser

Lenz Winery is offering two of its fine wines as a fundraiser for Peconic Land Trust. These bottles will sport a special label featuring the Trust's shell logo and information about our conservation work. Lenz will make a contribution to the Trust on every case sold. The **2001 Lenz Silver Label Chardonnay** is \$200.83/case and the **2000 Lenz Estate Selection Merlot** is \$310.54/case. Both case prices include NYS sales tax and shipping. **Shipping is within the continental U.S. only. All purchasers must be 21 years or older.** Please call (631) 283-3195 for an order form.



Minimize Income and Estate Taxes, Maximize Dollars To Your Family

There is a new technique available for farmers and landowners to use in their estate planning. The technique can be used in conjunction with other estate and gift planning techniques. We call it the "Open Land Solution." It combines the sale of development rights and a financed life insurance policy owned by an irrevocable trust. The benefits of this technique are that: 1) the cost of carrying the policy is borne not by the landowner, but by the Town (in addition to its cost to purchase the development rights); 2) the amount of sale proceeds received during life involve a bargain sale and thus a charitable deduction reducing the capital gains tax and; 3) the payment of the insurance proceeds is received both income and estate tax free by the family via the trust. This technique may work for you. Call Marsha Kenny at Peconic Land Trust, (631) 283-3195 for a consultation.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 7 • 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

Celebrate the East End's rural tradition and the preservation of the East End's unique landscapes!

Put on your field-walking shoes and join us for a great summer day on the East End! Bring your house guests, bring the family. Kids will love it. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the crucial land preservation efforts of the Peconic Land Trust.

Country Luncheon at Wild Ocean Farm - The centerpiece of the day's activities will be a festive country lunch in the magnificent indoor riding arena of Kelly Klein and Stormy Byorum Good's 30-acre preserved horse farm. Lunch will be catered by local favorite, Brent Newsom. Tickets are \$500 for Patron Ticket, \$2,000 for a table of ten, and \$150 for an adult luncheon ticket. Tickets include the day's tour and, to insure a reservation, must be purchased in advance.

Families will enjoy every site on the day's tour, but the first two are especially convenient for families with children, with exhibits planned to delight and interest the young.

1. The Halsey Family Farm

10,000 apple trees march in orderly trellised fashion across 65 acres of the Halsey Farm, in the same family for 12 generations. "Apple John" Halsey, his wife Evelyn, and their two daughters, Jennifer and Amy, will welcome visitors to their apple and peach orchards and greenhouses. John Halsey will take families on tours in a tractor-drawn wagon and explain how varieties of apples are grown. Falconer Lorrie Westman will also be on hand showing a variety of free flying raptors at work: an African red-tailed hawk, a Peregrine falcon, an African pied crow, and a barred owl. Children will be able to touch the tame birds.

2. Mecox Bay Dairy

With significant help from his five Jersey cows (10,000 gallons of milk annually), Art Ludlow makes award-winning cheese at the family's 100-acre farm. "Atlantic Mist," a brie-like cheese, was called "the year's most exciting local food product" by the Slow Food Movement and "Mecox Sunrise" was cited as second best in its class in the USA by the American Cheese Society.

3. Swan Creek Farms

Swan Creek Farm, owned by the Topping family, is one of the prime riding and boarding stables in the area. Visitors will watch riders training their show hunters. Farrier Dave Birdsall will demonstrate the ancient art of shoeing a horse, and Barbara Bornstein will demonstrate how horses learn to understand and respond to signals, both physical and verbal.

4. Halsey Farm and Nursery

Halseys have farmed this land since 1747 and the family was one of the first on Eastern Long Island to preserve land through a sale of development rights to Southampton Town. Tom Halsey will tell tales of farming past as he demonstrates his collection of old farm tools and his son Adam will show his collection of 36 vintage tractors. Their farm stand will be open and cookbook author and columnist Janeen Sarlin will show how to cook and serve summer's locally grown bounty. Michael Grim will make his magic by demonstrating how to arrange country flowers.

5. Frankenbach's Deerfield

Nursery & Landscaping

The Graham family has owned and operated this wholesale landscaping business for 5 generations. They recently protected 57 acres through a sale of development rights to the Town of Southampton. Tour goers will learn the varieties of deer-resistant and native plants, and the importance of soil quality and composting. Phil Markowski of Southampton Publick House will discuss the history of brewing farmhouse ales.

6. MeadowView Farms

The expansive barns and fields of MeadowView Farms sit on 65 acres in Water Mill. Owned by the Riggio family, it is the summer home for thoroughbreds such as Kentucky Derby contender Noble Causeway and of champion show-jumpers. In the spacious indoor riding arena, local artists will display paintings of East End land, farm and seascapes, that will be for sale. Robin Foster and members of the Paumanok Driving Club will parade their elegant carriages. Duck Walk Vineyards will host a wine tasting and Michael Cavaniola will host a cheese tasting. Quail Hill Preserve Manager Scott Chaskey will read from his new book *This Common Ground*.

For information regarding sponsorship packages, please call Rebecca Chapman at (631) 283-3195. For all other tickets, mail this coupon to Peconic Land Trust, PO Box 1776, Southampton, NY 11969 or fax it to (631) 283-0235. Rain or shine. No pets please.



Please reserve my tickets for *Through Farms and Fields 2005* as follows:

_____ tickets @ \$25/adult
_____ tickets @ \$5/children under 12

_____ tour and Country Luncheon tickets @\$150
(tax-deductible amount is \$95.)
_____ Patron @ \$500 for 2 tour/Luncheon tickets
(tax-deductible amount is \$390.)

_____ Benefactor @ \$2,000 for
10 tour/Luncheon tickets
(tax-deductible amount is \$1,450.)

_____ Total amount enclosed (please make check payable to Peconic Land Trust) or
please charge my tickets to: MasterCard VISA Account # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature required for charge _____

Cardholder Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to Peconic Land Trust, PO Box 1776, Southampton, NY 11969 or fax to (631) 283-0235.



Photos: Richard Lewin



PECONIC LAND TRUST
 296 Hampton Road
 PO Box 1776
 Southampton, NY 11969
 (631) 283-3195
 www.peconiclandtrust.org

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Mission Statement

The Peconic Land Trust is dedicated to conserving Long Island's working farms, natural lands, and heritage to enrich life in our communities now and in the future.

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