Preserve Spotlight

Southold Town Green

A Public Asset Born from Community Action

Located at the corner of Main Road and Youngs Avenue, the Southold Town Green was the Peconic Land Trust’s first project in Southold Town. To this day, 30 years later, it exemplifies how a community can come together to make lemonade out of a lemon.

In 1986, the historic 18th-century Hartranft house that graced this corner was unexpectedly demolished. In the wake of the public outcry, George Wells, whose ancestor was the original owner of the Southold Hotel, had a dream for the property. “Let’s make something positive happen out of this negative situation,” he proposed.

To get the project started, George donated $200,000 to the Trust in memory of his aunt, Lillian Howell, towards the purchase of the newly vacant corner lot from the owner, Herbert Mandel. Mr. Mandell’s willingness to accept an offer that was substantially lower than its fair market value enabled the Trust to purchase the property in December 1986.

Soon after, the Southold Town Green Committee, comprised of Edward Boyd, Frank Cichanowicz, Jean Cochran, Connie Cross, Alice Eckert, Michael Hall, Richard Hall, John Halsey, Frank Murphy, Sarah Sands, Greg Scholand, Paul Stoutenburgh, Raymond Terry, Jean Tiedke, Vincent Tirelli, Joseph Townsend, Jr., Richard Ward, and Jane Williams was established to coordinate planning, fundraising, and improvements.

Eighteen months later, the Green, with its turn-of-the-century gazebo, courtesy of the Southold Kiwanis Club, plus benches, landscaping, and a brick walkway, was dedicated in May 1988 and conveyed to Southold Town: a public asset born from community action.

The dedication ceremony held for the new town green included remarks from George Wells, as well as a performance by the Whalers Chorus of Sag Harbor among others. The day also included a ceremonial transfer of the deed of the property from the Peconic Land Trust to the Town of Southold.

Since 1988, the Southold Town Green has been maintained by the Town as a beautiful public green for the enjoyment of area residents and visitors. We thank the families of Mr. Wells, Mr. Mandel, the Southold Kiwanis Club, the Southold Town Green Committee and everyone who contributed to making this possible.

Know a community conservation opportunity in your neighborhood? Contact Melanie Cirillo, Director of Conservation Planning at MCirillo@PeconicLandTrust.org.
Thank You for making 2018 Peconic a wonderful success

The Channing Family Sculpture Garden
June 2nd, 2018

Images by Madison Fender Photography
Jean Held: Legacy Gift Supports a Vision for the Future

Jean Held has been a friend and supporter of the Trust for many years. By including the Trust in her estate plan, she is supporting a vision of the future that she would like to see.

“The Trust’s mission aligns with my belief in the need for diversity in nature, specifically agriculture. Making sure that we have a diverse farming community, growing all sorts of local fruits and vegetables, is important for our survival. I support the work of the Trust because they are dedicated to making sure that agricultural biodiversity continues.

“My love of history is another reason that I will leave a legacy gift to the Trust. The Trust believes in a world in which farmers and their history is important. I feel that by supporting the Trust, I am supporting a vision of the future that I would like to see, where children can enjoy wide open fields, fresh, local food, and an abundance of dragonflies.”

~ Jean Held

We are so grateful, Jean! And thank you to all our donors who have decided to include the Trust in your estate plans!

To learn more about how giving through your donor advised fund or estate plan can help make your vision for the East End a reality, please contact Amanda Abraham at 631.283.3195 or AAbraham@PeconicLandTrust.org.

Getting to Know

Jackie LiCalzi: Helping to Protect Long Island’s Living & Breathing Ecosystem

“Having grown up on Long Island, I feel deeply connected to its history and to preserving what remains of its varied and beautiful landscape and waterways. I hope through conservation efforts it will continue as a living and breathing ecosystem, not a ‘museum’ frozen in time. When looking to buy a home here on the East End, we wanted to educate ourselves about the community and its priorities. The Trust kept coming up as an organization that was deeply connected to the local community and fighting for the issues that made us want to own a home here in the first place!

“It was pretty easy to see that the Trust is an organization that grew organically (pun intended!) from within the East End community, was long established and well-run, and had a great reputation for doing important work. In our biking and long walks with our dogs, and in our access to local farms and agriculture, we experience the benefits of the work the Trust does and wanted to support and be a part of it.

“I recently established a donor-advised fund (DAF) because it’s an easy-to-use tax planning tool that allows me to be proactive about my giving over the long term. It’s like a health savings account but for philanthropy. I can contribute cash and other assets, such as appreciated stock, which can help reduce taxes and ultimately help me give more to charity. I like the flexibility that DAFs offer, as well as the simplified record keeping. As a bonus, I can even make donations from an app!”

~ Jacqueline LiCalzi

Jackie, her partner Jill Schlesinger, and their two Norwich Terriers, Trixie and Charlie, live in Manhattan and North Sea. They’ve been donors to the Trust since 2012.

Thank you so very much Jackie & Jill.
Hayground Farm, with its fertile Bridgehampton silt loam soils, has a long history of growing food. The land, acquired by Mr. Haines in the 1680s through a land grant, was purchased by the Trust in 2013 from Mr. Haines’ descendants. Undoubtedly cultivated by Native Americans for generations given its productivity and proximity to Kellis Pond, the fields provide travelers on Montauk Highway with a view into the South Fork’s cultural and agricultural heritage.

Today the farmland is leased to Peter Dankowski as part of the Trust’s Farms for the Future Initiative and is protected with affirmative and affordable farming covenants and resale restrictions that ensure that it will be accessible and affordable for food production forevermore.

“It’s all about these incredible soils,” said Lee Foster of the South Fork Land Foundation, who partnered with the Trust on the protection of the land. “Once protected, we have a responsibility to care, nurture and use these soils for their best purpose. It is our goal to make the land available to farmers who grow food and to respect the legacy that the soil represents as well as its special capacity to produce crops of benefit to all.”

In 2013, The Trust purchased the 20 acres of farmland from the descendants of William Haines, who acquired the land as a consequence of the Little South Division of 1682. The Trust had worked with the family on the sale of the development rights to Southampton Town in 2002. Over the intervening years, the appraised value of the protected farmland rose from $15,000/acre to $112,000/acre, an indication of the growing problem of access to affordable farmland that food producers increasingly face.

Over the nine generations under the ownership of the Haines family, the farmland has been in food farming — first supporting the early generations of settlers and later in production agriculture growing potatoes, corn and other vegetables.

But the land may well have been in production by Native Americans for centuries prior to English settlement. According to David Martine, Director of the Shinnecock Nation Cultural Center and Museum, “Native Americans often raised crops, including the Three Sisters [corn, squash, and beans] near their settlements. This property contains very fertile soils close to a documented Native American settlement in Mecox and is adjacent to Kellis Pond a source of fresh water, so the likelihood is quite high that it was producing food long before Europeans arrive.”

With the acquisition of the Haines farmland, the Trust reconnected the land to 4.7 acres of neighboring farmland, acquired by the Peconic Land Trust from Gusty and Jack Folks in 2008. And in 2016, the Trust sold the enhanced easement for food production to the Town of Southampton on the combined farmland of 24.6 acres thus assuring a future for food farming on this land for generations to come.

“We are pleased that our land went to an organization that will treasure it and preserve it for agriculture. The Trust’s dedication and passion for preserving the East End is very obvious. There are many, I am sure, who appreciate all that you do. My family is one of them,” said Darrah Yates, a descendant of Mr. Haines.

Our thanks to all those who tilled and maintained this land for hundreds and thousands of years, from Native Americans to the descendants of the Haines family. This land will forever be available for agriculture that feeds and sustains us.

Interested in learning more? Please contact Pam Greene at 631.283.3195 or PGreene@PeconicLandTrust.org.
John v.H. Halsey and the Board & Staff of the

PECONIC LAND TRUST

Bridge Gardens

Invite you to a

Birdhouse Exhibition & Auction

where art & nature take flight

July 6 through November 10

Our birdhouse exhibition and auction features talented contributing artists and friends like you!
Don’t miss the excitement – bidding runs from July to November.

Artists: Carol & Ron Ahlers, Casey Chalem Anderson, Scott Bluedorn, Kiki Boucher & Robin Drake, James Buttonow, Rob Calvert, Sylvia Channing, Scott Chaskey, Susan D’Alessio, Frazer Dougherty, Terry Elkins, Suzanne Fokine, Horticultural Alliance of the Hamptons, Brian Kennedy, Randy Kolhoff, Scott O’Hare, Janet Ollinger, Camille Perrottet, Gabrielle Raacke, Gordian Raacke, Heidi Rain, Dan Rizzie, Joanne Rosko, Barbara Stype, Summerhill: Emilia Durka, Monica Yang, NancyLynn Thiele, Pete Treiber, Richard Udice, Cynthia Wells, and Patricia Wynne with Ariel Fleming

Wood graciously donated by Riverhead Building Supply

Bridge Gardens, 36 Mitchell Lane, Bridgehampton
open everyday | free admission | 10 am to 4 pm

www.PeconicLandTrust.org / BridgeGardens

We can do so much more because of you!

Your gift matters.

Your gift to the Annual Fund helps protect our working farms, natural lands, and agricultural heritage. Without your support, our work would not be possible.

Giving is easy!
Simply return the enclosed gift envelope | Visit www.PeconicLandTrust.org
Call us at 631.283.3195 | Email us at: Info@PeconicLandTrust.org
Future Generations

The Peconic Land Trust is always making connections to the land, the water, the air, and to each other.

Clockwise top from left corner: Rick Bogusch, Garden Manager, leading the tour of Bridge Gardens on National Public Gardens Day; starting seeds at Quail Hill Farm; a future farmer at the Children’s Museum of the East End Family Fun Day; sketching from inspiration picked in the herb garden at the Ag Center at Charnews Farm; creating a cutting garden for bouquets at Bridge Gardens; Square Foot gardening workshop at the Ag Center at Charnews Farm; seeking out our feathered friends on Earth Day at Darn Pond; and a Plein Air artist capturing beauty at Bridge Gardens.

Future Generations

Getting our hands in the soil and planting trees with the Peconic Community School

In June, students from the Peconic Community School, along with their teachers and parents, paid a visit to the Agricultural Center at Charnews Farm to plant a few new trees to Red Oak. We thank them all for their hard work, and look forward to seeing the trees grow tall and strong!

Know a school or community group that would like to lend a hand? Contact Outreach Manager Kathy Kennedy, KKennedy@PeconicLandTrust.org.
The Peconic Land Trust leases over 200 acres of farmland to over 20 farm operations on Long Island . . .

. . . providing fertile soils for established and new farmers.

Stop by and see what’s growing this season!

Now in our 29th season, the Trust’s Quail Hill Farm has trained over 140 apprentices, many of whom are farming here on the East End, as well as far and wide. Meet the six advanced apprentices for 2018. The farm’s apprentice program, under the guidance of director Scott Chaskey and farm manager Layton Guenther, serves as a model for CSAs across the country.

Abe Korman | Akio Shoji | Bantam Creek
Deep Roots Farm | East End Stems Farm
The Farm Beyond | Feisty Acres | The Growing Seed
Invincible Summer Farm | Priscilla’s Farm
Sang Lee Farm | Savannah Calderale
Tilth & Smoke
and nearby, Noank Aquaculture Cooperative and Peconic Escargot

Meet the Advanced Apprentices of Quail Hill Farm!

Miriam
Jared

Ivana
Sarah

Tori
Grace

Amagansett

Amagansett Sea Salt | Amber Waves Farm
Balsam Farms | Bee’s Needs
Juliana Duryea | Oceans to Earth
Summerhill Landscapes | The Hoppy Acre
Three Sons Farmers
and nearby: Peter Dankowski, the Ludlows

These are only a few of the many farm operations that nurture Long Island’s landscape and residents. The Long Island Farm Bureau (LIFB.com) and Discover Long Island (discoverli.com) also have great resources for additional farmers markets and farm stands.

Check them out!

We wish everyone a bountiful growing season!
Our Latest Conservation News
Celebrating 35 years of Conservation

Peconic Land Trust conserves Long Island’s working farms, natural lands, and heritage for our communities now and in the future.

Enclosed are highlights from our eNewsletters from April 2018 through July 2018. Join our email list to receive updates from the Trust each month.

Please help us further reduce our carbon footprint. If you change your address, or would like to receive all (or some) of your communications from the Peconic Land Trust by email, let us know!
Contact Janet Schutt, Donor Services Manager
631.283.3195 ext. 24 or JSchutt@PeconicLandTrust.org.

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