



# PECONIC LAND TRUST NEWSLETTER

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Photo: Joan Zaluski

## Farmland in Water Mill Protected

**W**orking with the Town of Southampton and farmland owners in the Deerfield area of Water Mill, the Trust facilitated the completion of two significant conservation projects in January, enabling more than 85 acres to remain in agricultural production. Both properties are located in the Town of Southampton's Agricultural Overlay District, an area identified in the Town's comprehensive plan as worthy of protection for agricultural purposes. Although only one of the families is actively involved in farming, both wanted to protect their land so that it could remain in agriculture.

The Zaluski family has farmed their 71 acres on Deerfield Road for three genera-

tions. Known for their sweet corn and fresh vegetables, the family sells much of their produce at a farmstand on Seven Ponds Road in Water Mill. Overwhelmed by offers to purchase their land and farm, Joan and Bill Zaluski began to explore the future use and ownership of their land in early 1993. The family was concerned with protecting both their equity and their farmland. To this end, the family decided to subdivide that portion of their land least productive from an agricultural perspective into a total of 9 residential lots, including the existing farmhouse and barns. Under the current 2-acre zoning, the property could have been subdivided into as many as 32 residential lots. With the encouragement and support of the Trust, the family

sold development rights on the balance of the property, protecting 52 acres of their best farmland forever. From Joan Zaluski's perspective, the process was daunting at times. "Without the Trust working with us every step of the way, our sale of development rights might not have happened. They worked with our family to move the project forward at every turn. We appreciate the Trust's involvement and its tenacity."

Loretta Gaston, Irene Sikorski and Diana Pillsworth, are the daughters of the late Chester Sikorski who farmed as many as 400 acres in Water Mill from the 1950s until he retired in 1969. Before that, their grandparents farmed the land. Over the years, as fam-

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## Farmland in Water Mill Protected (continued from cover)

ily needs dictated, the original acreage farmed by the Sikorski family was reduced to about 60 acres including the 41-acre parcel on which the development rights were recently sold. According to Loretta Gaston, who remembers her father's excitement and pride at purchasing acreage to farm, selling their land bit by bit over the years was a necessity. Since the 41 acres was the first piece their father purchased, the sisters felt strongly about keeping it in agriculture. As Loretta Gaston explains, "This land is a symbol for our family and represents a lot of good memories about our farming heritage. We talked to the Zaluski and learned about the availability of Town acquisition funds, so we decided to sell development rights on about 34 acres." The site includes prime agricultural soils and is presently leased to a farmer who has the acreage planted in row crops. In addition to the sale of development rights, the family subdivided 3 residential lots on the property including an existing home. Given the current zoning, the property could have accommodated as many as 18 residential lots.

The Zaluski and Sikorski families represent many of the remaining farmland owners on Long Island and illustrate the crossroads at which many farming families find themselves. In considering their future, the Zaluski

made some difficult choices that will impact their family, livelihood and assets. By selling their development rights on the bulk of their property, they have chosen to manage and control their land rather than relinquish it. Chester Sikorski's daughters, while no longer farming their family land, decided to honor their parents and grandparents, and the land itself, by assuring that it would remain in agriculture. Along with protecting the land, preserving a way of life and family memories deeply entwined with farming will be their legacy.

*Ed note: The Trust's work with these landowners resulted in the purchase of development rights by the Town of Southampton through its Farmland Preservation program, which has been in existence since 1981. Since then, the Town has acquired the development rights on approximately 844 acres of farmland. The success of these recent acquisitions was the result of the patience and fortitude of the Zaluski and Sikorski families as well as the commitment and understanding of the Town Board, Planning Board and Department, Farmland Committee, Town Attorney's Office, and other Town officials, most notably Bob Duffy, Director of Land Management.*

## 1998 Conservation Accomplishments

**Weymouth Preserve** - In January, the Trust received a 2-acre parcel in Southold as a testamentary gift from Clayton "Pete" Weymouth. The site includes wetland and wooded upland and is adjacent to the 2-acre E. Grayson and Louise Clayton Weymouth Preserve, given to the Trust in 1997.

**McCall Easements** - Subsequent to the Fort Corchaug site acquisition, the Trust sold a 37-acre farmland parcel, now called Down's Farm Preserve, and a 16-acre woodland site to Russell McCall. Down's Farm Preserve is protected in its entirety, while the 16-acre parcel is restricted to one residential unit.

**Accabonac Preserve** - Also in January, the Trust purchased three parcels totaling 94+ acres on Accabonac and Springs-Fireplace Roads in Amagansett from the Potter family. Funding for this "bargain sale" acquisition was provided by an anonymous donor. The site, which is primarily oak forest and is located in the aquifer protection overlay district, had a development potential of 37 homes.

**William C. and Elizabeth S. Lester Preserve** - In February, the Trust acquired 5 acres of wetland property immediately adjacent to the Trust's 40-acre Berglund Preserve on Little Sebonac Creek in Southampton.

**Nissequogue Preserve** - Fee title on 16 acres previously under conservation easement was donated in October. The site consists of pristine wetlands and woodland visible from the

Nissequogue River and is contiguous to land owned by the Town of Smithtown.

**McMahon Preserve** - Just shy of an acre, this parcel in the Prospect Hills section of Montauk was given to the Trust by Julie and Eugene McMahon in November. The site is an environmentally sensitive and scenic bog, containing a variety of wetland flora. It is in close proximity to land protected by the Town of East Hampton and is also near Startup Ranch, one of the Trust's ongoing conservation projects.

**Fraad/Higgins Easement** - Notable for its 100' elevation and pastureland overlooking Lake Montauk, this 1.35-acre parcel is situated in the Startup Ranch development. Under the terms of the easement, the site, which had the potential of one residential unit, will be protected from development.

**New Ground Easement** - Members of the Rogers and Halsey families gave a conservation easement on 75+ acres in Water Mill to the Trust in November. The easement reduces the development potential from 35 to 21 units on the Noyac Path site, providing an Agricultural Reserve Area of 37.5 acres. As a result, significant agricultural land and a scenic viewshed have been protected.

**Walter Channing Easement** - This easement, granted in December, reduces the development potential on the 46-acre site from 20 units to 6. This easement extends the 17-acre easement granted to the Trust in 1993 and is part of 116 acres of woodland, open space, meadow and vine-

yard owned by Walter Channing and his family.

**Hurst Easement** - In December, the Trust was granted a conservation easement on 33 acres on Bridge Lane in Bridgehampton, reducing the development potential from 8 to no more than 3 units. Contiguous to the Trust's 19.6-acre Smith Corner Preserve, the property is notable for its agricultural land and scenic views. The site includes approximately 1,475 feet of shoreline along Sagaponack Pond and offers the boating public significant scenic vistas of open space, farmland, and wetland.

**Suskind Easement** - Also in December, the Trust was granted an easement on 15.6 acres on Kellis Pond in Bridgehampton. This easement reduces the site's development potential from 7 to 3 units.

**Lumber LLC Easement** - Currently in active agricultural production, this 26-acre site in Bridgehampton is located in the Agricultural Overlay District and the South Fork Special Groundwater Protection Area. The easement, granted in December, reduces the development potential from 12 to 3 units.

**Witteveen Easement** - In December, the Trust was granted an easement that extinguished the development rights on two lots of 1.3 acres each in East Marion. The site, overlooking Long Island Sound, is adjacent to the Cove Beach Easements, granted to the Trust over the last three years, which protect 69 acres from development. That acreage includes several species of rare plants and pristine woodland.



Photo: Joan Zaltuski

## Preservation and Development: The Farmers' Perspective

We are at a critical juncture in time as the survival of our agricultural heritage is at stake. The threat by the erosion of property rights, coupled with substantially complex environmental issues, are placing doubts in farmers' minds as to whether or not they should stay in farming. The economics of farming may surprise you. Generally speaking, farmers are lucky to receive a 2% return on investment during an average year. A few bad years (such as the potato industry has gone through recently) places the farm operation in jeopardy. The farmer must come up with the capital to farm the next year. To do this, he must borrow. But where is the collateral? It is his farmland. Any significant negative changes in his equity position or land values might force him to sell the farm! The environmentalist's desire to save all remaining open space, including farmlands, is most noble, however, there are those who believe that a farmer should be allowed only two options, to farm his land or sell development rights to the government, not to develop it. This attitude is not acceptable to landowners. This is not a Communist country, this is still the United States, and we still have the Constitution.

What the environmentalists don't understand is that their zeal will cause the opposite effect. Landowners will be threatened psychologically and will then decide it is time to protect their interest. They will choose to subdivide or make plans to develop rather than be forced

into making a decision that, had they been left alone, they might have instead considered alternatives that would still meet their needs.

The other issue I mentioned—environmental problems—basically comes down to the perception that agriculture is to blame for environmental degradation, rather than accepting our cumulative responsibility as a society. Take a ride across the landscape and you will see the uses of the land. Farmers do use fertilizers and crop protectants to produce food and the other products we need. Homeowners, cemeteries and golf courses also use approved materials to maintain their properties. As a society, we want it all, but there are always trade-offs. Farming is essential to our quality of life and there is an economic basis to land use. But, without the tools, there is no way to be successful in a farm operation.

If decisions are made by government without considering the consequences, we'll wind up losing the things environmentalists are trying to save. I have a simplistic point of view: I believe public policy should be based upon sound science, good planning, and rational thinking.

*Joseph Gergela, Executive Director, Long Island Farm Bureau*

*Ed note: Since the Trust is interested in fostering a better understanding of the complexity of conservation and the perspectives of various interest groups involved, we asked Mr. Gergela to share his views.*

## 1999 Challenge: to Raise \$700,000

The Trust's 15th Anniversary Challenge was a big success, raising more than \$600,000 for our conservation work. Once again, we would like to thank the 24 Sponsors who pledged a total of \$300,000 and all of the donors who matched these funds with their gifts. With significantly expanded opportunities for conserving farmland and open space, and the expansion of our professional staff required by additional work, our Challenge goal must be greater this year than in past years. If you would like to serve as a Sponsor of the 1999 Challenge by making a pledge of \$5,000 or more please contact Marsha Kenny, Director of Development and Communications at (516) 283-3195.

## Stewardship News



Over the months, many people have generously contributed their time to assist with stewardship work at Downs Farm Preserve. Shown here are (left to right) Diana Voelker, Melissa Spiro, Howard Wiggins and Debby Wiggins.

The Trust's stewardship of protected land has expanded significantly in the last five years. From 1983 to 1993, the Trust completed 39 conservation projects. The next five years, however, resulted in the completion of another 50 projects, bringing the total to 89, a dramatic increase in our responsibility. Presently, we have three Preserve Managers each carrying out our stewardship

obligation. Once an easement or land is conveyed to the Trust, one of our stewardship staff visits the site and completes the following work: 1) baseline documentation, 2) identification of boundary lines, 3) posting of signs, 4) photo documentation, and 5) an initial monitoring report. Recently, Preserve Manager Margot Booth completed this required work for five preserve sites on Shelter

Island. Similar work was also completed for several sites held by the South Fork Land Foundation, a supporting organization of the Trust, at Gull Pond Preserve, the Quogue Canal Easement and the James Trees Easements. In addition to new sites, our stewardship staff has also been monitoring other easements and preserves, updating that information for our files. Recent work at Berglund Preserve in Southampton included delineation of boundaries, posting of the site, and discussion of the management plan by members of the Stewardship Committee. In Amagansett, Quail Hill Preserve Manager Scott Chaskey worked with the East Hampton Trails Preservation Society president Richard Lupoletti to complete a section of the Paumanok Trail. When completed, the Trail will extend from Rocky Point to Montauk. This section, a critical link for the East Hampton portion of the trail, traverses a grass "waterway" over Trust-owned land that is actively farmed. This portion was officially opened last fall to coincide with the 350th Anniversary of the Town of East Hampton. Other stewardship tasks in East Hampton have included managing a 19-acre former potato field in the Village and posting and monitoring the Trust's preserves and easements in the area.

## Other Ways to Support Land Conservation

**Matching gifts:** If your employer has a matching gifts program, your gift to the Trust can be doubled or tripled. Please check with your employee benefits office.

**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. We will be

pleased to notify the family 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!).

## PLT People

- Vanessa Craigo is the Trust's new Development Assistant, returning to her Long Island roots from Pennsylvania's farm country where she worked in marketing and sales at a large lumber company and at Susquehanna University.
- Kathleen Kennedy joined the Trust as Program Assistant in the Public Programs department where she will work on conservation projects with the local municipalities. Most recently, Kathleen was executive secretary to Assemblyman Fred Thiele.
- Marian Sumner, the Trust's new Director of Conservation Programs, was previously with the Empire State Development Corporation, where she worked on various programs includ-

ing Urban and Community Development, Commercial Revitalization, and Sports Facility Assistance.

- Rae Lapides joins the Trust as Project Manager in the Conservation Programs department. After relocating to the East End from Missouri where she had an extensive career in real estate and construction, she was administrator for the East End Seaport Museum & Marine Foundation in Greenport.
- Graham G. Hawks, Jr., the new Field Manager at Quail Hill Preserve, was the founding Executive Director of the Tennessee River Gorge Trust which was established in 1986. Previously he had served as the Director of the Tennessee River Gorge Project

of the Tennessee Nature Conservancy. Most recently, he apprenticed at an organic market farm in Orange County, NY. Recent promotions include Peri L. Youmans to Project Manager and Julie Wesnofske to Program Manager. Congratulations to all!

The Trust's new website made its debut earlier this month. Designed by John Musnicki at Graphic Image Group, Inc., it includes helpful information about the Trust's activities and land conservation. Our address is:

[www.peconiclandtrust.org](http://www.peconiclandtrust.org)  
and visitors are welcome!

# President's Column: Conservation at the Crossroads

By John v.H. Halsey

During the summer of 1969, I had the opportunity to visit Sweden as an exchange student. Upon my return, I was introduced to Rune Pehrson, who had immigrated to this country from Sweden in the 1950's and worked for a local builder. I asked him why he left such a beautiful country and he replied, "When I left Sweden, you needed to get permission to move a window in your house. In this country, I have more opportunities and am free of government interference. Here I own three houses and I can change them as I wish. This would never have been the case in Sweden."

At the time, Rune Pehrson's comments meant little to me. Today, however, they have new meaning. Rune came to this country because of the rights of individuals and the opportunity such rights afforded him. Indeed, many of our forebears came to this country with the same opportunities in mind... a place where the rights of individuals were foremost and government served the people.

Perhaps those were simpler times, but today the rights of the individual and the public interest are in a delicate balance. Unfortunately, there is precious little patience with or tolerance of others with different perspectives or goals. We want immediate results, undoubtedly a consequence of the instant gratification that we all suffer from in varying degrees. Too often, we demonize each other, certain of the malevolence of those who do not share the same goals or perspectives. These are not easy times. Yet, we must all struggle to maintain the balance between the rights of individuals and the public interest. Such balance requires time, patience, and tolerance, the stuff that our democracy is based on. If we lose this balance, we open ourselves up to tyranny.

So, what does this have to do with conservation? As an organization that is often mediating between the interests of landowners, environmentalists, elected officials, and public servants to name a few, the Peconic Land Trust seeks the common ground among disparate parties. Our philosophy and approach is based on understanding the needs, goals, and circumstances of

landowners, the opportunities and dilemmas associated with their land, and the importance and value of farmland and open space protection. In essence, we find ourselves at the juncture of the rights of individuals and the public interest. Ironically, many of the pressures that force landowners to sell their land are a function of governmental policies related to estate taxes, property taxes, and even zoning. Thus, among many farmers and landowners, there is an inherent distrust of government and regulations.

Meanwhile, there are those who would like to legislate away private property rights because it appears to be a simple and quick solution to the loss of land. Too often, there is little understanding or consideration of the consequences to industries (e.g. agriculture) or landscapes that we hope to protect. Unfortunately, there are no simple answers and such simplistic approaches can become self-fulfilling prophecies by undermining the tenuous existence of landowners literally on the edge, dependent upon the equity in their land.

So, then, how do we protect land and maintain an appropriate balance between the rights of individuals and the public interest? We must listen to each other and use a variety of tools and techniques to find the "win-win" situation. We must analyze the potential consequences of our actions and engage the affected parties in dialogue before we act. We must create incentives for landowners and farmers to choose the path that promotes the public interest while protecting their equity and property rights. In short, we must insist upon a process that is fair and just so that the product of our labors, the protection of farmland and open space, is also fair and just. It is not easy, it is not quick, but it is sure since our successes will be grounded in a mutual respect of both the individual and the public interest.

Please note our new mailing address:  
PO Box 1776, Southampton, NY 11969.



## Cars Wanted!

Wondering what to do with your old car? Help us raise funds for our conservation work by donating it to the Trust. We accept cars, trucks, vans, and motorcycles (no campers). Pick up is fast and free, and you'll be able to take a tax deduction for your charitable gift. For more information, please call the Trust's Development Office at (516) 283-3195.



**Save the Date!** The Trust's annual Peconic will take place on Saturday, June 12 at Downs Farm Preserve in Cutchogue, overlooking this beautiful view of Downs Creek. Our host will be the family of Russell McCall, a member of the Trust's President's Council and the conservation investor who worked with the Trust and the community to protect Fort Corchaug and Downs Farm.

## From Quail Hill Preserve...

As you enter the valley by the farm track off to your left, leading into some wild brambles and bittersweet, there is a mowed path, the "entrance" just visible. When I am not driven to plow this, seed that, cultivate this, I allow myself to amble onto this path, which reminds me of a certain meandering stream outside of Oxford, the Windrush, where I often walked. I have a confession to make. My then 14-year old son, Levin, made this path in early spring last year, straying on the mower from his appointed task which was to mow the orchard. He mowed his way through the thick wild grass until he reached the rutted farm road, where the mower stopped, wheels suspended over a rut. Embarrassed, he had to find his father, who had to tow him out, grumbling, "Why would you drive into the brambles . . . huh?" But now is my chance to acknowledge the gift: a series of casual walks throughout last summer, noting the changing wild growth, butterfly bush, honeysuckle, bittersweet berries, monarchs on milkweed, lost for a meandering moment on a narrow path through the wild. My thought is: I should encourage him to stray again, to break for various moments from the orchard pattern, row after row. If you follow Levin's path, look up to catch the liquid flight of swallows; step by step on our soil, hear the meadow music.

*Scott Chaskey, Preserve Manager*



*Spring chickens . . .*

*Ed note: if you would like more information on Quail Hill Farm membership, please call (516) 283-3195. Summer shares are \$500 (plus a \$100 capital assessment fee for new members). Harvesting officially begins on June 5 and runs through October 30.*

## From Shellfisher Preserve...

Late winter finds us longing for spring at Shellfisher Preserve. Construction on the adjacent lots is moving forward as planned. By the time you read this, at least one of the two new homes should be inhabited. Welcome to our new neighbors! Work outside has involved additional control of invasive species. The ever-present Multiflora rose has been dealt an additional blow through surgical cutting near the Preserve's entrance. The meadow surrounding the "bunker" was relieved of its heavy infestation with a sickle bar mower. This work makes way for plantings of little blue stem and switchgrass. Both species will be salvaged from a nearby construction site slated for clearing.

In addition to our usual sightings, this winter has introduced us to two additional Preserve residents. On a cold morning in December, Andrea and I were awoken by the booming calls of owls, so loud that it sounded like they were in the room with us! I had heard their distant calls in the past down near the water, but had never been able to locate the source. After a few moments of orienting myself to the early morning light, our attempt to locate the owls was successful. To our surprise, a pair of huge great-horned owls were perched in a large oak tree just outside the window. We had never seen these birds close-up before and were impressed by their size and antics during their courtship.

After about five minutes, one of the pair flew over the house to roost on a tree near the center of the Preserve. The second soon followed and they resumed their calling from this new perch. A call to North Fork naturalist and Trust Stewardship Committee member, Paul Stoutenberg, informed us that this is the time of the year when these birds pair off and begin to look for a nest site. Paul suggested that we look for a large crow's nest at the top of one of the nearby trees. I haven't located the nest just yet, but I'm hoping we will have the opportunity to welcome several more new residents to the Preserve this Spring.

*Chris Pickerell, Preserve Manager*

## In Memoriam - Alice Cole

The Trust lost a good friend and volunteer last fall. Long-time Huntington resident Alice Cole moved to Sag Harbor after retiring and responded to the Trust's call for volunteers in 1994. For the next several years, Alice made the commitment to spend one day a week at the Trust, helping us do a wide variety of things, from mailings to covering the phones, to Peconinics and other events, and a lot in between. No task or problem was too overwhelming, even when it might have appeared that we were doing our best to scare her off! The fact that Alice had worked for the Department of Motor Vehicles might explain her patience. We quickly came to depend on her and considered her one of the staff. Most of all, Alice was good company. Her loss has been deeply felt by all of us, and we are as appreciative of her generosity of spirit as we are of the time she gave us.

## The Bottom Line: Bequests

If you would like to extend your support of the Trust's work protecting farmland and open space on Long Island, you may include a provision in your will to bequeath cash, securities, or property to the Trust. The following language may be used: "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, (Gifts of Real Estate) "I hereby give and devise my real property at *address here* to Peconic Land Trust, Incorporated, of Southampton, New York."(Other Gifts by Will) "I give and bequeath (e.g. \$\_\_\_\_; my shares of *name here* common stock) 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 (516) 283-3195. All inquiries will be kept confidential.*

## Project Update

by Chris Pickerell

In the Trust's Spring 1998 Newsletter, we discussed the Cassidy Preserve wetland restoration project. As with most large-scale restoration projects, progress on the Cassidy Salt Marsh restoration has moved at a fairly slow, but steady pace. Since we last spoke in our Spring 1998 issue, major milestones achieved include receiving final permit approval and clearing of onsite vegetation. All existing *Phragmites* in the work area has been cleared allowing us to place all "cut" and "fill" stakes necessary for grading and excavation. With these in place we can get accurate and reasonable excavation estimates. If we had not taken the considerable time and effort in clearing and staking the site, we could waste sorely needed grant money. Additional progress associated with this project is outside of the original scope of work.

In an innovative twist on the original project, we have again teamed up with Cornell

Cooperative Extension, Suffolk County who will utilize several truckloads of *Phragmites* stems for a "primitive technologies" workshop. CCE met with a local primitive technologist who uses natural materials to create traditional crafts and structures. Based on this discussion, CCE will be hosting an early summer workshop utilizing the *Phragmites* as the raw materials for constructing mats. As a result of this partnership, the Trust benefits from additional free labor and there will be less *Phragmites* to dispose of. Everyone wins when a "waste" product is reused.

Another exciting development related to the project is the recent application by the Suffolk County Department of Labor to the EPA for Five-Star Restoration Challenge Grant funding. When Suffolk County was looking for a candidate project, the Trust gladly offered this "work in progress." As a result, Suffolk County Department of Labor, the Trust, CCE and the

Southold Town Trustees teamed up to apply for restoration funding. If the grant is awarded, there will be an additional \$20,000 available for cord-grass plants and planting labor. This money will not only benefit this project, it will help train and educate economically disadvantaged youth served by the Department of Labor. Through the proposed project, these youth will be introduced to the growing field of ecological restoration.

The more we work on this project, the more interesting and innovative it becomes. With our current and pending funding, we will be able to complete a significant portion of the potential restoration of this site. However, we eagerly look forward to additional developments and funding that may allow us to expand our salt marsh restoration efforts. One goal may be to enhance waterfowl habitat by creating one or more brackish ponds on the site. Stay tuned for additional developments!

## Ft. Corchaug Wins National Landmark Status

In February, Ft. Corchaug in Cutchogue was designated a National Historic Landmark. Only 2,200 sites across the United State share the designation. A very rigorous review, sometimes taking many years, precedes the final approval. According to Bob Grumet of the National Park Service, who guided Ft. Corchaug's application through the 9-year process, a designated site must be "critical to the understanding of the broad patterns of history and culture in the United States." Others involved in the application process were archaeologist Dr. Ralph Solecki and Lorraine Williams, who did limited excavations of the site in the

1940s and the 1960s. Some of those artifacts are housed in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. Just 18 months ago, the site was protected from development through a unique conservation collaboration between private individuals and organizations, Southold Town, Suffolk County, the State and the Peconic Land Trust. The important Native American fort site, productive farmland, scenic woodland and wetland were conserved in perpetuity. Now, this significant natural and historic resource on Down's Creek has joined the lofty ranks of the Statue of Liberty and the Empire State Building.



## Peconic Land Trust 15th Anniversary Lenz Reserve Chardonnay

For those who missed the opportunity to order our commemorative Reserve Chardonnay during our 15th Anniversary celebration last year, we have good news. This unique Chardonnay with a specially designed label is still available and may be ordered through the Trust. The price per case is \$200 (plus \$9.90 NYS tax), \$80 of which is a tax-deductible contribution that will support the Trust's land conservation work. For phone orders charged to MasterCard or Visa, please call the Trust's

office at (516) 283-3195. Your order can be shipped UPS to any address within the continental United States. Summer weddings are ahead—a case makes a great wedding gift!

*Lenz Winery is located in Peconic on Long Island's North Fork. Founded in 1978, the Winery has 70 acres of some of the most mature vineyards in the region. The North Fork is a distinct geographic region as well as a designated BATF appellation for United States wines.*

## Wish List

The high cost of living on the East End makes it difficult for Quail Hill Farm apprentices each year, so donated housing is high on our wish list. Also a 250 gal. portable fuel tank for tractor use in the field will make life a little easier for our farm staff. We'd like to thank the following for their generosity: Rosemarie and Heinz Bingeli for 2 round patio tables and 6 chairs with cushions, redwood table with 4 benches with cushions, an electric fan, storage cabinet; Peter and Michelle Halstead for two electric drills, a shop vacuum, and Sawsall reciprocating saw; Linda and Roger Jones for furniture, area rugs, framed posters, and chairs for our conference room, and to volunteers Carol DeVito, Louise Loewenguth, Pamela Rossbach and Judy Saner for their time, ideas and good humor. Don't forget, gifts of goods and services will help the Trust stretch its conservation dollars. Please call our office at (516) 283-3195 if you have an item you would like to donate.



**PECONIC LAND TRUST**  
**P.O. Box 1776**  
**Southampton, N.Y. 11969**



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**Mission Statement**

The Peconic Land Trust is a nonprofit, tax-exempt conservation organization dedicated to the preservation of farmland and open space on Long Island. To this end, the Trust acquires and manages land as well as easements for conservation purposes. In addition, the Trust assists farmers and other landowners in the identification and implementation of alternatives to full-field development.

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