



# THE Spruce

## SPRING 2013 NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2276 ▪ Huntington Station ▪ Shelton, Connecticut 06484

## LAND PRESERVATION ONE ACRE AT A TIME:

The Shelton Land Conservation Trust, Inc. is pleased to announce to nature lovers everywhere that additional acreage has been added to its inventory of preserved, natural habitat. The Trust happily reported that the Thiele Woods parcel recently grew by one acre, and now totals 4.28 acres. This parcel, located at 706 Long Hill Avenue, borders an additional two acres of Shelton-owned open space.



Trust is deeply appreciative of Mr. Thiele's generosity.

Stewardship plans are already underway to address removal of some scattered invasive plant species before they fully infiltrate the area. Although the Trust will seek volunteers to do the work, donations supporting the Trust's stewardship efforts are sincerely welcomed. If you see the workers out there stop by to say hi, or lend a hand, volunteers are always needed.

The additional acre now gives additional street frontage to the property, forever protecting the natural landscape along the road. The wooded parcel features an intermittent stream, a steep upland area containing unique rock outcroppings, and is home to area wildlife.

Mr. William Thiele, contacted the Trust this past fall, expressing an interest in donating the property to the Trust. Following a site walk, the Trust confirmed it would be a great addition to the existing parcel, and the transfer of ownership was quickly initiated. The Land Trust took title to the property earlier this year, and will soon be installing a sign to identify the piece and give appropriate recognition to the donor. The





# Save The Date!

**Saturday April 20**-City of Shelton sponsored Clean Sweep on Saturday April 20 at 9am we are having a clean up on our Wake Robin Lane Parcel. Meet at the culdesac.

**April 20-28**- City Wide Clean Sweep. Find a land trust parcel in your neighborhood or elsewhere and register to clean it on the clean sweep web site. The link to our properties map is <http://www.sheltonlandtrust.org/htmlfiles/prpty/shltnmap.htm>

A group effort will give us the much needed help to clear our properties of any litter. The clean sweep web page is at <http://www.donttrashshelton.org/Clean Sweep.html>



**Saturday May 4**- from 11am to 1 pm., the Trust will hold a tractor unveiling of its recently restored Massey Ferguson tractor. The 1959 Ferguson tractor was restored to like-new condition by Trust Vice President Ed McCreery and his son Conner. The unveiling date was selected to coincide with the dedication of the recently acquired Bushinsky property, located off Bridgeport Ave. just west of Huntington Rd. Please join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony, light refreshments, and a walk of the parcel! The ponds hold a plethora of wildlife, and be on the lookout of animal tracks. The grounds have many crocus, snowdrops, and daffodil, among the other ornamental shrubs. A great place for a picnic!

**Saturday June 1** is National Trails Day. Take a hike on our Nicholdale or Tahmore loop Trails.

*You are cordially invited to attend  
the official dedication of  
the Shelton Land Conservation Trust's newest parcel  
"BUSHINSKY ARBORETUM."*

This beautiful property was lovingly bequeathed to the trust  
by the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Bushinsky.

Please join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony, light refreshments, and a walk  
of the parcel, also the unveiling of the restored 58 Ferguson.

**When:** May 4, 2013 at 11 o'clock in the morning

**Where:** 43 Shelton Road, Shelton, CT 06484

**RSVP** 203-929-7269 or [rliddel@aol.com](mailto:rliddel@aol.com)

For more details visit [www.sheltonlandtrust.org](http://www.sheltonlandtrust.org)



## Notes from the Executive Director, CT Farmland Trust

# GUNTHER FARM SAVED!

Last week, Governor Daniel P. Malloy announced awards totaling more than \$9 million in Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWLA) grants to support 35 communities in purchasing 2,732 acres to be preserved as open space.

"Land conservation is an important investment in our future, and moves us closer to meeting our goal of protecting 21% of Connecticut's land as open space in the next ten years," said Governor Malloy. "These preservation projects are key to maintaining our high quality of life and making Connecticut a great place to live, work, and raise a family."

**In an innovative partnership with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), CFT will accept \$320,000 of those funds to save Gunther Farm in Tolland and Vernon.**

In addition to great soil, this 21.3-acre farm boasts important grassland habitat, the flood plain of Gages Brook, and endangered wildlife Habitat - all of which will be permanently protected. This farm is also home to the non-profit Tolland County Agricultural Center. The Center will utilize the agricultural fields for their education/agricultural programs and develop and maintain the trails here.

In the deal, CFT will use the money from DEEP and privately-raised capital to purchase the farm from the Gunther Family, who have agreed to a steep bargain sale. We will then place an agricultural conservation easement on the property, so it will be protected forever, and transfer ownership of the land to the Tolland County Agricultural Center. CFT will continue to hold the easement in perpetuity.

**That is money that your calls and letters helped to protect last month.** We've asked you to do a lot through the fall and early winter: Call Congress about the charitable deduction, write to the Governor about the CIA, phone your representatives about the Farm Bill.

This is how all your calls and letters pay off, you did great! And together, we're putting more of Connecticut's vanishing farmland under permanent protection.

Go ahead - do your little victory chair-dance now. You earned it.

Thank you so much for all that you've done and are doing - together, we're making a difference.

Yours in the land

Jim Gooch

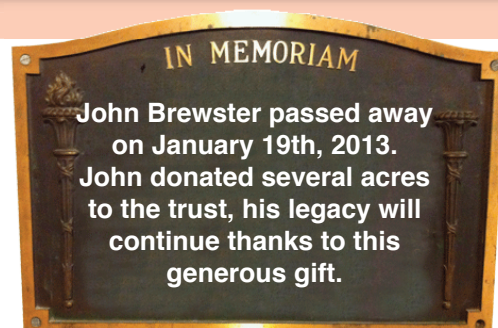
Executive Director

Connecticut Farmland Trust



## Before and after Sandy

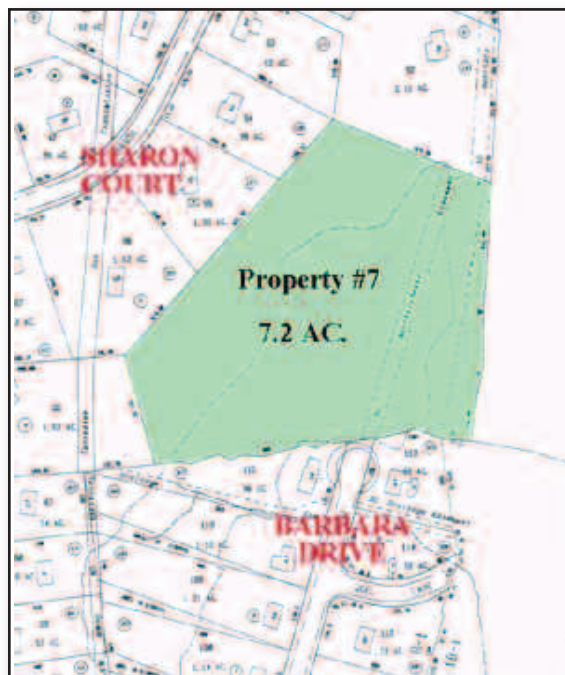
A great many people were affected by super storm Sandy, and most Shelton residents were no exception. If it weren't for our volunteers' dedicated efforts, many of our pristine natural land parcels would have remained less than pristine, and somewhat inaccessible. Among the volunteers responding to the challenge were the scouts and leaders from troop 101, who battled storm Sandy damage along Commerce Drive. A Big Thank You to Troop 101.



# Getting to know our parcels:

## Shelton Land Conservation Trust

### Parcel #7



The City of Shelton has labeled this parcel LT 11, and the Land Trust knows it as Parcel #7. It is located at the end of Barbara Drive, which is a cul de sac off Rocky Rest Road. Parcel No. 7, was deeded to the Shelton Land Conservation Trust, Inc. by the City of Shelton in a quit claim deed on March 9th of 1979.

The parcel is approximately a 7.2 acre piece of property. Access to the parcel is at the end of Barbara Drive. The parcel is mapped as a wetlands area although it is possible to walk the entire parcel. Cutting through the easterly side of the property is a thirty foot wide sanitary sewer easement. The

parcel is surrounded on the northwest and southern borders with neighboring lots of homes off Barbara Drive, Raymond Lane, and Sharon Court. On the east is bounded by the Mica Corporation, which is located off of Mountain View Drive.

This parcel provides an important buffer between light industrial zone, and some residential areas of our city.

#### We're on FACEBOOK!



Please "like" our page and you can keep informed about upcoming events and Land Trust news. Search Shelton Land Trust.

## Shelton Land Conservation Trust, Inc.

P.O. Box 2276 • Huntington Station • Shelton, Connecticut 06484

#### *President*

Joseph Welsh

#### *Vice Presidents*

Philip Jones

Edward McCreery

#### *Secretary*

Mary Jane Liddel

#### *Treasurer*

Paul Uhrynowski

#### *Board Members*

Robert Carreau

Marge Estok

Pat Gajdosik

Rudy Gajdosik

Evelyn Healy

Hank Lauriat

Jackie Lauriat

Robert Liddel

Bruce Nichols

Margaret Paulson

Joseph Palmucci

Donald Pendagast

Robert Wnek

**Have you paid  
your 2013 dues  
yet?**

#### **2013 General Meetings:**

#### **April 2nd, 2013 - ANNUAL**

May 8th WED

June 12th WED

Sept 11th WED

Nov 13th WED

Additional meetings to be announced. All general meetings will take place at the Shelton Community Center at 7pm.

To be better informed about Land Trust activities and local conservation issues, why not join the Trust's email alert list? To be added, simply send an email to [slctjoew@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slctjoew@sbcglobal.net)

