

GREENWAYS

Newsletter of
D&R Greenway Land Trust
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Land Preservation Update

Since 1989 D&R Greenway has permanently preserved 289 properties, approximately 19,846 acres valued over \$398,000,000, an area more than 33 times the combined size of the World's two smallest countries (Monaco and the Vatican City)!

Connections Made, Connections Preserved

At the Kulley-Higgins-Parisi farm in Franklin Township, Somerset County, rows of crops extend to forests shimmering on the horizon. The quiet—the sound of growing things—wraps the land in serenity. It seems a world unto itself.

What you can't see are the invisible threads that tie this newly preserved 54-acre farm to people, to history and to the surrounding landscape.

In summer 2016, the farm between Old Georgetown Road and Route 518 was acquired as open space by Franklin Township. D&R Greenway facilitated the acquisition, working hand-in-glove with the owners and the Township to craft legal and financial arrangements that achieved everyone's goals.

Preserving the site was a high priority because this historic farm connects protected expanses east of the D&R Canal. Linking preserved properties into large-scale landscapes adds ecological and social value, by

creating wildlife habitat corridors, protecting water quality and enabling trails to be built.

Immediately south of the farm are 149 acres acquired by Somerset County in 2015 from Trap Rock Quarry. North by northwest are two more open space properties thanks to D&R Greenway: the 5.5-acre Weingart preserve and the County's 70-acre Speiden tract, which fronts on the Canal. This latest link involved hours of work by Jay Watson and Emily Blackman of D&R Greenway, who were instrumental to getting the property preserved.

"The new property will provide a critical connection between the Weingart tract and the County-owned lands," says Theodore "Ted" Chase, Deputy Mayor of Franklin Township. "Eventually there will be trails from Canal Road across Old Georgetown Road and out to Route 518."

The "Kulley-Higgins-Parisi" moniker is a mouthful that reflects the complicated nature of the



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transaction—one that D&R Greenway is particularly well-suited to facilitate. "D&R Greenway has developed expertise in bringing the right people to the table who can advise on complex legal, financial and planning considerations," says Linda Mead, President & CEO. "Also, because of our long history of collaborating with local partners, we have rich personal relationships with many of the individuals involved."

One such individual was Andrew Kulley, whose late brother Matthew owned part of the property with his wife Linda (née Higgins). Linda, her brother Butch Higgins, and sister Dianne Parisi jointly owned another part. (In the small world department, Andrew and Matthew's sister is Marion Harvey, whose husband Ash Harvey is a former D&R Greenway Trustee.) Andrew, who is President of Friends of West Windsor Open Space, introduced his family members to D&R Greenway. "D&R Greenway has been instrumental in helping

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Fifty-four acres permanently preserved in Franklin Township.

Connections Preserved

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FOWWOS,” he says. “They know the preservation business, the different steps that have to be taken, how to divide and consolidate lots, and how to find consultants and experts. I knew they were trying to connect land in the vicinity, so it was natural for me to reach out and see if they could act as facilitators.”

D&R Greenway knew that Franklin Township wanted to preserve land in the area, and had a personal connection through long-time supporter and township official Ted Chase, a neighbor of Linda Kulley. Ted had purchased his own property from the Weingarts, and his efforts had led to D&R Greenway’s preserving the Weingart tract in 2010.

For Linda Kulley, preserving the farm property is both the fulfillment of she and Matthew’s vision and a way to continue her family’s historic ties to the community. “Higginses settled Kingston, and built Rockingham,” Linda remarks. Her parents purchased

mountain” that she, her husband and her siblings worked to preserve.

“What’s been preserved is not just the land but all the connections that it represents,” says Linda. She recounts how a recent quiet evening at home

turned into a vibrant gathering when her neighbors all came over to see her new tractor. “That’s what it’s all about, friends and neighbors,” she continues. “It’s important to preserve what this is—a community.” 🌱

D&R Greenway Remembers Former Chairman Brian Breuel

D&R Greenway Land Trust mourns the loss of Chairman of the Board of Trustees Brian Breuel, who died in late May. “He was an enthusiastic, committed leader who cared deeply about the mission of preserving land,” says D&R Greenway Land Trust President and CEO Linda Mead.

His wife Shirley speaks of his pride in the legacy of D&R Greenway: “While driving around the area, Brian would proudly point out properties that D&R Greenway had preserved. He loved being involved with the organization and believed deeply in its work.”

“Brian was truly a guiding light,” says Linda. “He clearly understood the value of preserving green places in our community, inspired by his two young grandchildren.”

Brian was a graduate of the Lawrenceville School, Princeton University (where he was about to celebrate his 50th reunion) and the University of Florida College of Law. He held masters’ degrees in financial services management and financial planning,

and founded Wealth Strategies, LLC, located in Lawrenceville.

A Renaissance man, Brian took a mid-life five-year sabbatical, sailing on a Hinckley yawl in the Caribbean. His lust for adventure led him to work on a cattle ranch in Wyoming and become a certified Advanced Open Water scuba diver. Brian wrote books for major publishers about insurance and annuities as well as wealth preservation strategies. He served on numerous



Brian Breuel

boards including the Lawrenceville School, his Alumni Class at Princeton University and Westminster Choir College.

“One of his biggest passions was for the environment. In his quiet way he transferred that love for natural beauty to everyone on the board,” says Phyllis Marchand, who succeeds him as Chair of the Board of Trustees. “Brian focused on building a strong and stable D&R Greenway, using his financial acumen and strategic thinking to guide the organization into the future.”

“Brian was a wonderful gentleman and thoughtful leader who cared deeply about D&R Greenway and our mission,” says Linda Mead. “He continued to participate, even during his final days. His presence will continue to be felt through the contributions he made. He was especially excited to establish the Revolving Land Fund. As Brian said to me during our last meeting, ‘Preserving land is the most important thing we can do.’” 🌱



(l-r) Linda J. Mead of D&R Greenway, landowners Linda Kulley and Dianne Parisi, with Ted Chase and Fran Varacalli of Franklin Township.

the Route 518 property in the 1970s. There they grew grain for her mother’s Kingston stables, “Hasty Acres,” which since 1959 has been home to a therapeutic riding program and other educational offerings. Both Linda and Dianne became accomplished equestrians. Linda and Matthew bought the adjacent parcel, where they built their house (by hand), and where Linda bred horses. Linda now enjoys retirement in her home on the “small

Former Princeton Township Mayor Phyllis Marchand Assumes Leadership as Chair of the Board

The slogan “Run Phyllis” took Phyllis Marchand through 22 years of elected office, including 14 as Princeton Township Mayor. An open space enthusiast who partnered with D&R Greenway as Mayor to preserve Greenway Meadows, Phyllis is still running to ensure that we protect as much open space as we can before it disappears.

Shortly after leaving office in 2009, Phyllis was invited to join the Board of Trustees of D&R Greenway Land Trust. This spring, Marchand, who served as Vice-Chair, was elected by the Board of Trustees into the leadership role as Chair of the Board. She succeeds Brian Breuel.

“Going back to the late 1990s when we worked together to protect Greenway Meadows and the land that is now home to the Johnson Education Center, Phyllis has been extraordinary in her commitment to land preservation,” says President & CEO Linda Mead. “I am excited about the charismatic leadership she brings to D&R Greenway.”

Among the Board achievements Phyllis is most excited about is the Revolving Land Fund, which will enable D&R Greenway to purchase a



Phyllis Marchand at the Greenway Gala. (photo: Richard Grant)

property when it becomes available, protecting it from development and reselling it to replenish the fund for the next acquisition.

A New York City native, Phyllis is enthused about D&R Greenway’s work in creating Capital City Farm in Trenton, which just received a Smart Growth Award from New Jersey Future (see related story on page 4). “It’s so important for urban residents to have

a taste of nature and be a part of the local food movement. I hope the Smart Growth Award will encourage other conservation groups around the country to similar projects that provide local jobs, beautiful natural settings, health benefits and food that doesn’t have to be shipped across the country.”

In 2015 the YWCA Princeton Breast Cancer Resource Center became the first partner on D&R Greenway’s Conservation Campus at Greenway Meadows, making the essential connection between healing and nature, another subject about which Phyllis is passionate. Looking ahead, she hopes to increase partnerships with other nonprofits.

“We are very good at making connections with the arts and nature,” says Phyllis. “Our thought-provoking art exhibits showcase regional fine artists, and the educational panels inform everyone who visits about topics related to nature, birds, plants and the landscapes that are exhibited. We have also held concerts with music that relates to the natural world, as another way to celebrate nature and draw people in to inspire a conservation ethic.”

Johnson Education Center

“We dreamed of creating a place to inspire a love of the land and encourage preservation and stewardship. That dream has come true.” — Linda J. Mead, President & CEO



Opened
April 2006
~
Happy Birthday!

Nearly 10,000 visitors
per year

Native Plant Nursery
initiated 2008

180 thought leaders
have spoken here

Conservation Campus
established 2015

MEREDITH’S
GARDEN OF
INSPIRATION
created 2009

86 art exhibits
over 10 years



Capital City Farm Wins New Jersey Future Smart Growth Award

Launched just a year ago, Capital City Farm in Trenton has already earned a Smart Growth Award from New Jersey Future. Only projects that represent the best examples of sustainable growth and development in the state have been recognized with this distinction.

“This small plot will bring big benefits to the community it serves—not just healthy food, but nutrition education, job training and opportunities for community collaboration. On all those levels, the project is a clear winner,” said Andrew Hendry, a New Jersey Future trustee who chaired the Smart Growth Awards jury.

“This small plot will bring big benefits to the community it serves—not just healthy food, but nutrition education, job training and opportunities for community collaboration.”

The farm is on two acres of land adjacent to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK). D&R Greenway has led its transformation from a vacant lot full of debris to a growing community asset. Collaborating partners include Isles, East Trenton Collaborative, TASK, Escher SRO Project, Helping Arms, Rescue Mission, the City of Trenton, Mercer County, The Watson Institute and Designing the We.

TASK volunteer and Princeton resident Kate Mittnacht provided the inspiration that led to Capital City Farm. She passed the vacant land every day and saw possibility.

“Swirling in my head was the idea of healing communities through healthy food and green spaces,” says Kate. “I felt that it was only natural that the space that surrounded TASK become an outdoor extension of its vitality and sense of community. Sophie Glover put me in touch with [D&R Greenway Vice-President] Jay Watson, and he brought all of the players from the government and the surrounding community to the table. We had local pastors and community activists attend these meetings. A doctor from St. Francis Medical Center stopped



Joyce Campbell (l), new executive director of the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK), with Derrick Branch, local artist and farm staff member, and Allegra Lovejoy, Capital City Farm manager.

by to express interest in providing nutrition counseling.”

Acquisition and remediation was completed by fall of 2015. A chain-link fence was replaced with a welcoming gate and walkway; a pollinator garden was seeded; trees and shrubs were planted along adjoining streets; and a sign now adorns the property on North

Clinton Avenue, modeled after the “Trenton Makes” bridge sign.

TASK clients are keeping an eye on the garden as it grows. “Their lives are complicated, and as these mounds of soil begin to look like plants and vegetables, they are inspired,” says Kate. 🌱

Farming Life Comes Full Circle for Capital City Farm Employee

On a hot July day, Derrick Branch, wearing a cap to protect himself from the sun, is shoveling rich black soil made from mushroom compost onto a field where kale, eggplant, and peppers are growing. His duties include planting, watering and fertilizing, as well as attending to farm needs.

“I was born across the street from the farm, on Sheridan Avenue, so it’s all come full circle,” says Derrick. His mother lived in Trenton while working on farms in Bucks County. On the bus that would transport her over the Delaware River, she fell in love with the driver, who would become Branch’s father. “I was the last of 10 kids,” he says, “and the only one now working in farming.”

A frequent participant with the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) as a client, musician and artist, Derrick

watched the farm’s creation on the formerly vacant lot. The Trenton native grew excited about Capital City Farm, attending public meetings and participating in opinion polls. “I was especially psyched because my mother came to Trenton as a migrant farm worker in the 1960s,” he says, taking a break in the greenhouse recently erected by D&R Greenway Land Trust. Originally from Georgia, Branch’s mother followed her brother, a mason, to Trenton.

A devout churchgoer, Derrick’s mother sang to her children at night. “Those songs helped us through terrible odds,” he recalls. She grew corn, tomatoes, beans and peppers from seed, which is how he learned to garden. Even though ‘Green Acres’ was his favorite childhood TV show, Derrick never
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Bee hives donated to Capital City Farm by D&R Greenway, from St. Michaels Farm Preserve, bring bees to the pollinator meadow.



Tending to the Farm's flower garden produces beautiful results.

expected to return to farming. "It's providence," he says. "I enjoy being outside."

Derrick's brothers liked to draw, so he spent hours every day creating comic book characters with them. Last fall, as a member of the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen's A-Team, Derrick painted the enormous ladybug on the colorfully decorated shipping container that serves as storage for farm supplies.

Looking around, he remembers the old neighborhood with its meat market, movie theaters and stores. He remembers a train track running through the land where Capital City Farm is and a bridge and an underpass, as well as two big grain silos. Sadly, he says, the site became a shortcut where people would come to drink beer, smoke and leave trash. When D&R Greenway partnered with Isles, East Trenton Collaborative, TASK, Escher SRO Project, Helping Arms, Rescue Mission, the City of Trenton, Mercer County, the Watson Institute and Designing the We to clean up the site and turn it into



Derrick Branch is happy to be on the farm.

a farm for local residents, it was dreamlike for Branch.

"I've really enjoyed working with Derrick over the past month," says Allegra Lovejoy, Capital City Farm Manager. "It's been great to see him make connections with nature on the farm and to see his growing interest in learning about plant science and agriculture. I really appreciate the skills he's brought to the farm and the connections with other community members he's enabled."

A poet who looks at the world through a moral lens, Derrick laments that "conscience doesn't bother people now. They get desensitized to how crazy the world is. That's why I'm here — to show the positive light to the community. There's a lot of ugliness in Trenton, but there's beauty when you look for it." He spins around to take in the wildflowers with dragonflies and other pollinators hovering above. "That's why I love this farm." 🌱

Three-Year Traveling Exhibit by Artist James Fiorentino Premieres at D&R Greenway Land Trust with special guest Governor Tom Kean

This September, D&R Greenway will join with Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey to premiere a new exhibition called **Rare Wildlife Revealed: The James Fiorentino Traveling Art Exhibition**.

The realistic paintings by James Fiorentino depict some of the state's most endangered and vulnerable species. During the premiere exhibit through

Governor Kean's passion for nature inspired James to become a trustee of the Raptor Trust in Millington, N.J.

"Mr. Fiorentino's incredibly evocative artwork inspires viewers by putting a spotlight on these charismatic yet often overlooked wildlife species," says Conserve Wildlife Foundation New Jersey Executive Director David Wheeler. "His watercolor paintings

informative panels," says James. "We hope to have a biologist and animals at the opening to educate visitors about wildlife."

"The subject of disappearing New Jersey wildlife speaks directly to the work that we do to protect habitats," says D&R Greenway President & CEO Linda Mead. "As an admirer of James Fiorentino's artistic talent, I am thrilled that we were selected as the premiere venue for this exhibition. Conserve Wildlife Foundation New Jersey has been a long-time partner with D&R Greenway, exhibiting their 'Species on the Edge' fifth-grade art and essay contest winners annually in our Olivia Rainbow Gallery."

James Fiorentino was first introduced to D&R Greenway by 2016 Donald B. Jones Conservation Awardee Wade Martin, who began collecting his artwork when James was a teenager. From sports icons, James gravitated to painting political figures, including Mikhail Gorbachev, Desmond Tutu, George H. W. Bush, Steve Forbes and Gov. Kean.

"Wade volunteers with D&R Greenway to educate landowners about the financial benefits of preserving land. He connected me with the organization to exhibit my wildlife art," says James. In 2014, Conserve Wildlife's David Wheeler attended at D&R Greenway's *Wild Creatures: Protecting Endangered Wildlife for 40 Years* and saw a bobcat and red-tailed hawk painted by James. *Continued on facing page*



Artist James Fiorentino presents "Edie's Rainbow Dream" commissioned by D&R Greenway Donald B. Jones Conservation Awardee Wade Martin for Edie Howard at the May 1st Greenway Gala. Edie Howard, with her husband Charlie, preserved their farm through D&R Greenway. (photo: Richard Grant)

October, sales of the original paintings, limited edition digital prints and a book with a forward by former New Jersey Governor Tom Kean, as well as wildlife merchandise, will benefit D&R Greenway Land Trust and Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey.

"Renowned as one of the best sports artists in the country, Jim's work hangs in major museums," says Governor Kean, who met the artist while serving as president of Drew University. James was a student there in the 1990s, when his sports figures started receiving national attention. He was featured on *ABC World News* and in the *New York Times*. "In recent years he has turned to wildlife. Jim has created an amazing body of work. Many of the creatures he paints are endangered, and Jim celebrates their uniqueness and beauty."

truly bring wildlife to life. His art helps to educate and engage viewers about the precipitous declines that many of these species have suffered. It helps us bring attention to the very tangible steps that people can take to save and strengthen these wildlife populations."

"D&R Greenway is a wonderful organization with an educational mission, and their gallery space is perfect for presenting



"Bobcat" (watercolor, 22 x 30 in.) by James Fiorentino, 2015

Framing the Future:

A series of environmental discussions co-sponsored by D&R Greenway Land Trust and the Green Hour

Environmental Leadership in the 21st Century

Monday, October 24. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Program begins 7:00 p.m. Seating is limited; RSVP required.

Do you think there has been enough focus on environmental issues in this Presidential election year? Will our political leaders meet the coming environmental challenges? Is our democratic system fit for tackling global, long-term environmental challenges?

Our next Framing the Future discussion will bring two experienced politicians together who have a positive track record on environmental issues: Governor Christine Todd Whitman, and NJ State Senator Bob Smith (17th Legislative District).



Christine Todd Whitman

We will explore these leaders' experiences and thoughts about how our elected representatives who work within an economic and political system influenced by powerful vested interests and focused on short-term results can deal with long-term environmental challenges such as climate change.

Christine Todd Whitman served as Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from 2001 until 2003. She was the 50th Governor of New Jersey, serving as its first woman governor, from 1994 until 2001.

As Governor, Christie Whitman earned praise from both Republicans and Democrats for her commitment to preserve a record amount of New Jersey land as permanent green space.

Since leaving the EPA, she has served as President of the Whitman Strategy Group, a consulting firm that specializes in energy and environmental issues.

Having served in the New Jersey State Legislature since 1986, first as a State Assemblyman and more recently as State Senator, **Bob Smith** is

considered one of the State's leading environmental lawmakers. He has been named Environmental Legislator of the Year by several New Jersey environmental organizations. He sponsored and passed laws such as Site Remediation Reform, Barnegat Bay cleanup, including the most stringent



Senator Bob Smith

fertilizer law in the United States, the Recycling Enhancement Act, Electronic Waste Management Act, and the 2009 \$400-million Green Acres Initiative ballot referendum. 🌱

Traveling Exhibit

Continued from facing page

David invited James to judge the 'Species on the Edge' art and essay contest, and from there wheels began to spin about an exhibition.

"We rehabilitate 4,000 wild birds a year and release about half that number," says James of the Raptor Trust. "These wild birds have had a tremendous influence on me. I enjoy getting close to birds of prey, and it

brought me back to nature art." James, now 39, started painting animals when he was 10.

Before going back to his studio to paint the details, James sketches the animals up close, sometimes holding them, taking in their details.

The Middlesex County native moved to Flemington with his wife 11 years ago. "I am awed by what we see in our own backyard: the (endangered) Eastern box turtle, great horned owl, pileated woodpeckers, foxes, hawks and butterflies. It's an amazing

backyard ecosystem." His two young sons enjoy being in nature, the older one joining his father to draw wildlife, especially butterflies, proving that humans benefit from having wildlife in their midst.

"Because of the 20,000 acres preserved by D&R Greenway, endangered wildlife who make their home in New Jersey will continue to have a supportive habitat," James says. "No wonder Linda Mead has won awards from Conserve Wildlife." 🌱

Volunteers find Meaning as they Make a Difference

Julia Benedict and her husband moved to Princeton just a year ago. They were excited to see that D&R Greenway was active in preserving land in their new community.

“I kept seeing D&R Greenway preserve signs and knew that I needed to get involved,” says Julia. “My parents donated a large piece of our land in Nantucket when I was young and we have always discussed the importance of preserving the land. I adore walking in the woods, seeing the animals that live there, hearing all the sounds.”

Among the organization’s newest volunteers, Julia talks about the camaraderie she has found, “From the moment I walked in, everyone has been incredibly welcoming. I learn something new at most events and get to meet great people along the way. The highlight for me is finding a community of like-minded people who are passionate about our environment.”

Thanks to VolunteerConnect, a New Jersey nonprofit, D&R Greenway now has a comprehensive volunteer program—from orientation to recognition. Volunteers are paired with the area of the organization that best suits their skills and interests. Opportunities include providing event support, assisting with mailings, building and maintaining trails, stewarding wildlife habitats and nurturing plants in the Native Plant Nursery.

Sue Kirkland is a skilled volunteer from VolunteerConnect. She worked with 2015 Fellow Allegra Lovejoy to

design effective ways for D&R Greenway to provide meaningful experiences for the volunteers that contribute to the organization’s work.

This past spring, Lisa DeMarsico became a volunteer to support stewardship of D&R Greenway preserves. She joined the ‘Wednesday Morning Crew’ and helps with farm activities at Capital City Farm.

“With the ‘Wednesday Morning Crew,’ I help clear invasive species, plant natives and maintain the beautiful trails on D&R Greenway preserves,” she says. “There is nothing better than being in the woods on a weekday morning. Learning about different plant species and what a healthy forest environment looks like has been really interesting and meaningful. The tranquility and peace is second to none. We are the most densely populated state, but D&R Greenway provides a place where I can put personal morals and beliefs into action.”

Lisa likens her work at Capital City Farm to “watching a baby take her first steps. I’ve been fortunate to be with the farm from the very



D&R Greenway volunteer Lisa DeMarsico represents Capital City Farm at United Way’s Strike Out Hunger event.

start of this season,” says Lisa, a 2003 College of New Jersey graduate who works at Cherry Grove Organic Farm in Princeton. “Local food and the nutritional benefits of a whole food diet are serious passions of mine. Being able to bring these concepts and ideas to Capital City Farm has been exciting and constructive.”

“Volunteers are proud of their work and enjoy being ambassadors for our mission,” says Capital City Farm Manager Allegra Lovejoy, who works with volunteers.

D&R Greenway volunteers appreciate making friends and connections that enrich their lives as they share stories, ideas, advice, bike rides, recipes, restaurant and book reviews, travel recommendations, laughs and the sense of accomplishment of work well done.

At the end of the day, all that D&R Greenway Land Trust accomplishes would not be possible without the corps of volunteers who contribute to its work. “Our volunteers are committed to the work they do for us,” says D&R Greenway President & CEO Linda Mead. “They convey their passion to all whom they encounter, helping to spread the message about the importance of preserving land, water and wildlife. They inspire us, the staff, as they themselves inspire a conservation ethic.”

Julia Benedict sums it up, “D&R Greenway’s mission inspires me to keep learning and keep fighting for what’s important—preserving open space and natural habitats.” 🌱



Sue Kirkland enjoying a gift of appreciation at D&R Greenway’s volunteer picnic.

“This was a perfect fit for me. My experience as a nonprofit professional and as a volunteer, fit our project really well. The people are great, and the fact that my husband and I are donors made the experience even more special. I hope I can help again.” — Sue Kirkland

Love of the Land Leads to Personal Commitment

Dick and Carol Hanson

A Carol Hanson landscape painting is recognizable by its colors—blues, greens and siennas—and the undulating bodies of water that lure a viewer in. Suggested by actual landscapes, they are ultimately landscapes of the mind. Hanson has spent so much time in nature, studying, for example, how the tree line intersects the valley, that she is able to re-create the scenes in her studio.

“I developed my passion for the land as a child in Nantucket,” says Carol. “My first memory of painting is of watercolor sunsets. I’m always looking at the land, marveling at the beauty of nature.”

Along with her husband, Dick, Carol is a longtime D&R Greenway supporter.

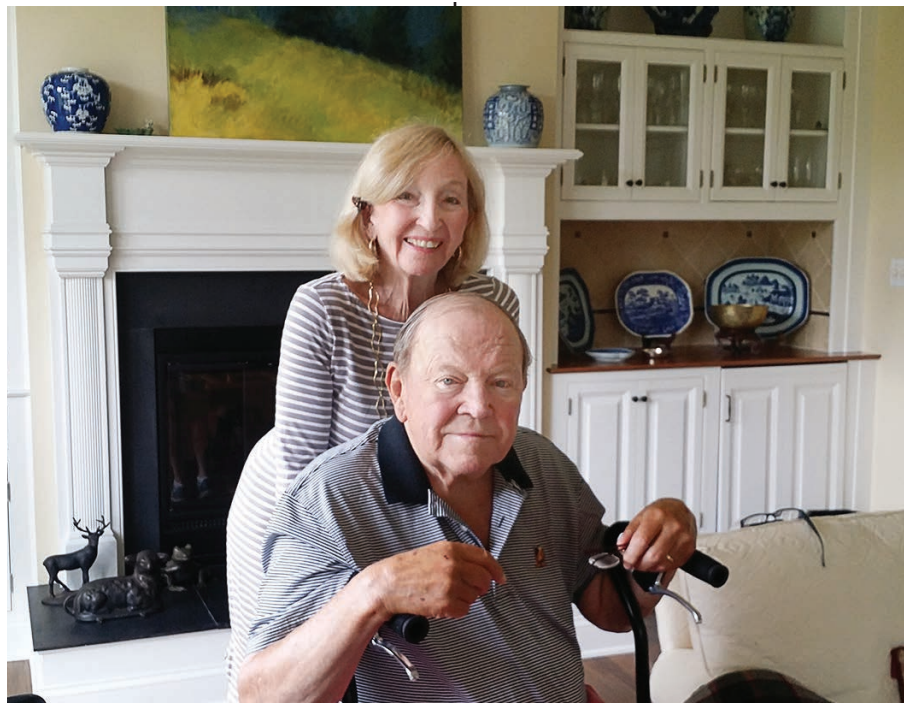
It was while living at the ca.1737 Trevenna Farm in Montgomery Township from 1985 to 2010 that Carol and Dick made their first foray into land preservation. Their neighbor, Orchard Hill Elementary School, needed land for recreation fields. The Hansons’ generously provided a few acres to the school at a bargain sale price and then donated half of their remaining 12 acres to Montgomery Township for preservation.

“I’m always looking at the land, marveling at the beauty of nature.”

— Carol Hanson

“Growing up on a farm in Minnesota, I’ve always been an outdoorsman,” says Dick. “We lived in Wyckoff, New Jersey, before coming to Montgomery. We saw what was happening and felt we were running out of open land.”

Dick joined Montgomery Friends of Open Space in the early 1990s, and soon met D&R Greenway President & CEO Linda Mead. “We were struggling to get land with state funds, and Linda was able to help the Friends acquire land for open space,” he recounts. “I introduced her to the Old Guard of



Along with her husband, Dick, Carol Hanson is a longtime D&R Greenway supporter.

Princeton”—a group of 200 men and women over 65 who meet weekly for a lecture—“as the ‘space lady’ so that more people could learn that preserving land as community open space is possible.”

The permanent exhibit of decoys at the Johnson Education Center landed at D&R Greenway thanks to Dick. His grandfather, a Minnesota hunter, carved more than 250 working decoys. While traveling in Brazil with Jay Vawter, Dick learned that his longtime friend was seeking a home for his prized decoy collection. Unlike the working decoys, Jay’s were fine art. Dick made the introduction. Impressed with what he learned about D&R Greenway’s efforts to protect waterfowl habitat in places like the Abbott Marshlands near Trenton, Jay donated his collection to create a permanent educational display.

“Having art exhibits has been a successful way of educating the public about D&R Greenway’s mission,” says Dick. “The more people come to see art, the more supporters understand the importance of preserving land.”

This connection with art and nature led to a recent D&R Greenway event

organized by Carol, past President of the Princeton Artists Alliance and trustee of the Princeton University Art Museum and Morven Museum. At the event, Peter Lawson-Johnston, author of the book ‘Growing Up Guggenheim’ and patriarch of the Guggenheim enterprises, shared his story about family and philanthropy with a packed audience. Peter and his wife, Dede, helped D&R Greenway preserve land between Cold Soil and Poe roads in Lawrence Township, over a dozen years ago. Asked about his interest in land preservation, Peter’s family quickly raised their hands and nodded yes, when he said, “Oh, yes, just ask my daughters.”

Dick and Carol understand this family thread that connects generations to the land, because it runs in their family, too. Their son Alex, a former D&R Greenway trustee, and his wife Laura, placed their 70-acre Pennington farm into preservation with D&R Greenway in 2003.

Looking forward, the Hansons have made a commitment to ensure that D&R Greenway’s work will continue. Their love of the land has created a legacy of action and commitment—now and for the future. 🌱

Future Conservation Leader joins D&R Greenway

For River Days, Abbott Marshlands Apps

This season promises several exciting projects for D&R Greenway Land Trust. Among them is River Days, a series of events linking a network of 23 nature centers in the Delaware River watershed. D&R Greenway is helping to create this network, supported by the William Penn Foundation. Events are designed to raise awareness and get people



involved in stewardship of the waterways and lands that drain into the Delaware River, an important source of clean water for over 15 million people.

Helping to make these connections is Kelsey Kane-Ritsch, D&R Greenway's newest Charles Evans Future Conservation Leader. Kelsey comes to the organization through Princeton AlumniCorps' Project 55 Fellowship Program. It matches recent graduates with nonprofit organizations in six regions throughout the country. In 2015, D&R Greenway was the first nonprofit in New Jersey invited to participate. Kelsey's position is a one-year paid fellowship.

In addition to River Days, Kelsey (Princeton University Class of 2016) will work on two new apps for the Abbott Marshlands near Trenton, where D&R Greenway partnered with Mercer County to establish the Tulpehaking Nature Center. The two apps present stories



Kelsey with her school students in Laikipia, Kenya

based on location, thus offering a self-guided tour along a canoe trail and a foot trail. "The stories will be told in a number of voices, usually experts in the field, who may talk about birds of the region, for example," says Kelsey, who majored in anthropology with minors in environmental studies and French.

Kelsey spent the summer after her freshman year in Kenya, helping to develop curriculum and teach students about biodiversity. She taught native students about planting trees to prevent erosion, and about protecting land from flooding and over-grazing. "It opened my eyes to the human connection," she says. "In order to protect land and animals, you have to understand the culture."

After her sophomore year, Kelsey embarked on a dream job, working in Monet's Garden at Giverny. She literally got her feet wet in the lily pond, performing invasive species management. "I was wrangling plants twice as tall as I was," she recounts.

For her senior thesis, Kelsey went to New Caledonia, talking

to conservation groups and tribal elders. There, she learned how regaining a greater use and respect of traditional practices can assist Western conservation efforts.

When she learned about the opportunity with D&R Greenway, Kelsey was "blown away" to find out that 20,000 acres in central New Jersey have been preserved. She was also excited about the connection to the arts—Kelsey has been a ballet dancer since growing up in Los Angeles.

The Charles Evans Fellowship was named for the Evan-Picone women's sportswear company founder. He also developed some of the earliest office buildings that incorporated glass atriums. A Charles Evans Foundation gift established the internship program in 2010. Kelsey is the second to hold the position for a full year. The 2015-2016 year fellow Allegra Lovejoy will continue with D&R Greenway through the growing season as manager of Capital City Farm.

Of the partnership with D&R Greenway, AlumniCorps Executive Director Andrew Nurkin states, "We are thrilled to match a thoughtful, energetic student with D&R Greenway Land Trust, which has a wonderful record of preserving and caring for land right here in our backyard. This kind of connection is what AlumniCorps is all about." 🌱



Linda Munson of the Charles Evans Foundation (c) with Charles Evans Future Conservation Leaders Allegra Lovejoy (2015) and (r) Kelsey Kane-Ritsch (2016).

Help us Celebrate 10 Years at the Johnson Education Center

Events are free to attend unless otherwise indicated.
For gallery hours and to RSVP: rsvp@drgreenway.org or call (609) 924-4646.

Art Exhibits

Rare Wildlife Revealed: The James Fiorentino Traveling Art Exhibition

September 12 – October 14
Opening reception: Friday, September 30
5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Special appearance by
the Honorable Tom Kean. RSVP

Paintings of twenty-five species of wildlife that are disappearing in New Jersey. In partnership with Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey.

“We hope to inspire adults and students on the immense power of the arts to illustrate conservation issues. James Fiorentino’s nationally recognized art brings unparalleled attention to the very tangible steps that people can take to save and strengthen these wildlife populations.”

—Executive Director David Wheeler,
Conserve Wildlife Foundation of
New Jersey

Farms, Barns, and Bridges Juried Exhibit

October 24 – December 16
Opening reception: Friday, November 18
5:30 – 7:30 p.m. RSVP

Since 1989, D&R Greenway Land Trust has been preserving New Jersey farmland to ensure bountiful local crops and healthy water. These remarkable landscapes remain to inspire our regional artists.

Jay Vawter Decoy Exhibit (ongoing)
A visual timeline with decoys from early 1900’s through the present time.

Olivia Rainbow Gallery

Species On the Edge

Conserve Wildlife Foundation of
New Jersey

September 12 – October 20

Fifth-grade state-wide student art and essays about New Jersey’s threatened and endangered species.

What Comes Naturally!

October 21 – November 30

Nature art by GREEN HOUR home-school students.

Near and Natural

December 2 – January 13, 2017

Regional landscapes by students of
Heather Barros of *Art Collaborations!*

Educational Events

Our Land, Our Food

Tuesday, September 20
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Program begins at 7:00 p.m. RSVP

Three farmers will share stories about farming in the Garden State. Terhune Orchards’ Gary Mount will talk about farming across generations. John Lima, of Lima Family Farms, will speak about raising animals on sustainable pastured diets. Jay Watson, vice president of D&R Greenway, will talk about creating a model of urban farming at Capitol City Farm in Trenton.



“Little Brown Bat” (watercolor 24 x 12 in.)
by James Fiorentino, 2015

New Jersey’s Own Bats, Bobcats & Kestrels

Thursday, November 10
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Program begins at 7:00 p.m. RSVP

Three New Jersey wildlife experts will present:

- the truths about, and the benefits of, supporting local bat populations
- the secretive lives of bobcats that first appeared in North America 1.8 million years ago
- the nesting sites of the kestrel, the smallest and most beautiful of the falcon species

Preserving Land Makes Cents for All

A four-session lunch and learn series at the Johnson Education Center, in partnership with Princeton Public Library and Princeton Adult School.

October 13, 20, 27, and November 3,
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Registration and fee info: 609-683-1101
or www.princetonadultschool.org.



Guided Public Walks

Public Walks take place every month,
10:00 a.m. – noon, unless otherwise
announced. Space is limited. RSVP

Sourlands Ecosystem Preserve, Hopewell/East Amwell

Saturday, September 10
Time: 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Leader: Sharyn Magee, President,
Washington Crossing Audubon Society.
Bring your binoculars for this birding
walk focused on the forest interior.

Cedar Ridge Preserve, Hopewell Saturday, October 8

Leaders: D&R Greenway staff.
Inaugural trail walk at a new section of
trail in celebration of Hopewell’s 125th
Anniversary.

Pryde’s Point / Alexauken Creek Preserve, West Amwell

Saturday, November 12

Leader: Alan Hershey, chair of the
New Jersey Trails Association.
Explore a newly completed trail that
extends the network another mile
downstream through mature forest,
passing remnants of a historic pre-
revolutionary era cottage and spring
house.

Save the Date!

Saturday, December 10
Time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Leader: Dr. John Clark, Aldo Leopold
Distinguished Teaching Chair in
Environmental Science and Ethics,
The Lawrenceville School.

Visit www.drgreenway.org
for directions and updates.

Fall Native Plant Sales

Friday, September 16
3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 17
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon



One Preservation Place
Princeton, New Jersey 08540
Tel (609) 924-4646, Fax (609) 924-5577
www.drgreenway.org

D&R Greenway Land Trust, Inc.

D&R Greenway Land Trust, Inc., is a regional, 501(c)(3) nonprofit land conservancy dedicated to preserving and caring for land, and inspiring a conservation ethic.

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SAVE THE DATE!

D&R GREENWAY'S MASQUERADE BALL

Saturday, October 29, 2016
6:30 – 11:00 p.m.

*at the home of Meredith Asplundh Gardner & Timothy Gardner
Historic Tusculum Barn, 166 Cherry Hill Road, Princeton*

For tickets and information, (609) 924-4646 or info@drgreenway.org