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Martha A. Curtis Nature Preserve

PETOSKEY GEM DONATED AS NATURE PRESERVE

Todd Petersen

A BEAUTIFUL PROPERTY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF PETOSKEY was recently donated to the Conservancy so that it could remain a natural sanctuary for animals for all time.

Martha “Marty” Alice Curtis was described as a private woman who had a strong connection to all living things and the earth. Born in Petoskey, Martha developed a love of farming growing up on her family’s hobby farm. Her formal training was in nursing and she worked as a surgical nurse in both Petoskey and California. But her passion was animals.

One of Martha’s closest friends, Lois Holmes, described Martha as generous, non-boastful, and someone who lived the simple life by choice. “I called her ‘the St. Francis of Petoskey’ because she believed every creature was entitled to life, including insects and spiders,” Lois said. “She always felt that when she was with nature, she was close to God.”

Late in high school, Martha owned and registered a small herd of Galloway cattle and used her own money to raise oats and hay for them. At one time, she started a business raising puppies to be trained as guide dogs for the blind.

In her will, Martha donated 25 acres of mixed forest and field, including beautiful views of Little Traverse Bay. The property has been identified as a “priority area” for the protection of water quality in the Little Traverse Bay Watershed Plan.

As part of her gift, Martha included money to remove the home and associated development

and for ongoing stewardship of the property. She requested that hunting would not be allowed and that no trails or parking area be developed. Her desire was that the land be returned to its natural state so that local animals could find refuge there. “It was as if the

wild animals knew that they were safe on that land,” Lois said. “And every year, the monarchs seemed to find refuge in Marty’s woods and converged in the fields because of the milkweed. You could count on it every year.”

The new preserve will be known as the Martha A. Curtis Nature Preserve. Lying adjacent to the Bay View Woods, the property greatly increases both watershed and wildlife protection in an otherwise developing region. “Natural lands like this — sitting amidst neighborhoods — serve a multitude of purposes for both wildlife and humans,” said LTC Executive Director Tom Bailey. “This preserve is a significant addition to land conservation in the area. Together with the Bay View Woods, it provides significant wildlife habitat and protects water quality by maintaining the natural hydrology of a large area with steep slopes that drain into Little Traverse Bay. It is a wonderful gift to the community and to conservation.”



Beaver Island Shoreline Protected

An unusual opportunity recently arose for the Conservancy on Beaver Island.

In 1993, a 500-acre private property on the island had been protected with a conservation easement. The terms of the easement allowed for a 20-acre split that included one building envelope along the Lake Michigan shore.

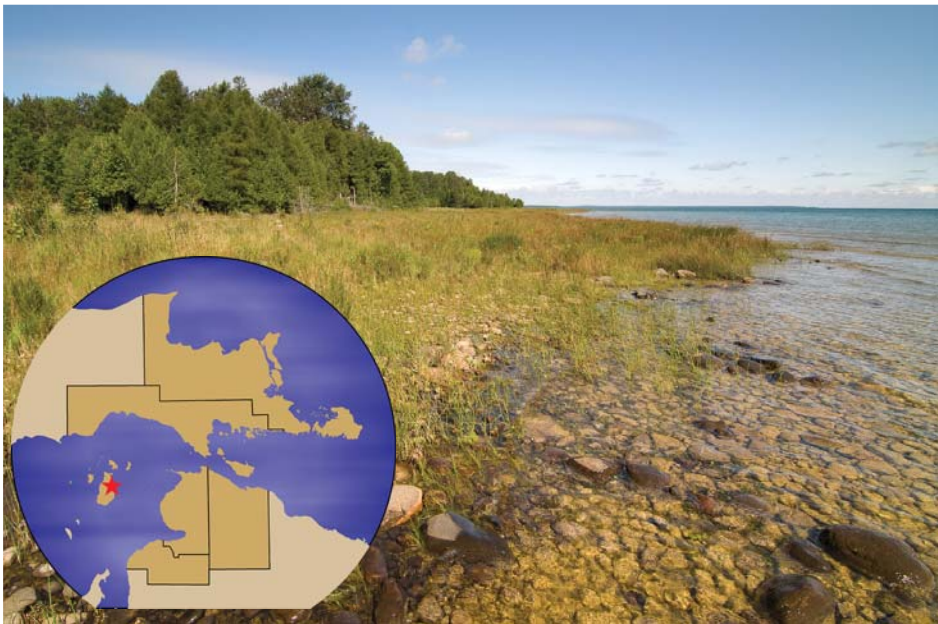
So when the 20-acre parcel became available for purchase, the Conservancy decided to take action. Through a donation from the J.A. Woollam Foundation as well as gifts from anonymous donors, the 20 acres with 700 feet of Lake Michigan shoreline were purchased.

“This parcel is full of ecological diversity and will be protected primarily to ensure that it stays just as it is,” said Ty Ratliff, land protection specialist with the Conservancy. Researchers from Kalamazoo College and Central Michigan University have explored the property and documented 53 plant species.

LTC’s Little Sand Bay Preserve is located one mile north of the newly purchased land, along the same stretch of shoreline. Because Little Sand Bay is so close and easily accessible for visitors, the Conservancy has no plans to promote access or recreation on the new preserve.


The Conservancy would like to thank Beaver Island realtor, Ed Wojan, who donated most of his commission to the project.

“My office staff and I were happy that we were able to help close the sale of this lakefront parcel to Little Traverse Conservancy,” Wojan said. “We feel that it benefits our whole Beaver Island community and even our business to have land — especially lake frontage — preserved. These preserves allow the immediate use by inland property owners. Inland acreage parcel and lot owners have value added to their property with its increased attractiveness



This Beaver Island shoreline was recently purchased for protection thanks to donations to the Conservancy.

“Will these next generations be able to own lake frontage as many of our resident families do now? If it becomes too expensive for locals to buy or hold, our progeny will still have lake frontage to use by virtue of Little Traverse Conservancy’s purchases of parcels for preservation and use by the public. We all should help LTC buy more parcels - in whatever way we can - for our use now and especially for the future.” - Ed Wojan, Beaver Island

through access points that they can use. A longer-term view of the benefits to all of us involves thinking of our grandchildren and great-grandchildren.” 



Marta Olson

Improving Scenic Quality Along US-31

A small land donation adding to the Fochtman Nature Preserve was recently gifted to the Conservancy. The new property adds more than 150 feet of frontage along US-31 to the preserve, protecting scenic quality in a rapidly developing stretch of US-31.

The Fochtman Preserve includes a total of 243 acres, a quarter mile on Round Lake, and more than a quarter mile of US-31 frontage.



Goodhart Farms Preserve Grows

NEW PARCELS EXPAND WILDLIFE CORRIDOR PROTECTION

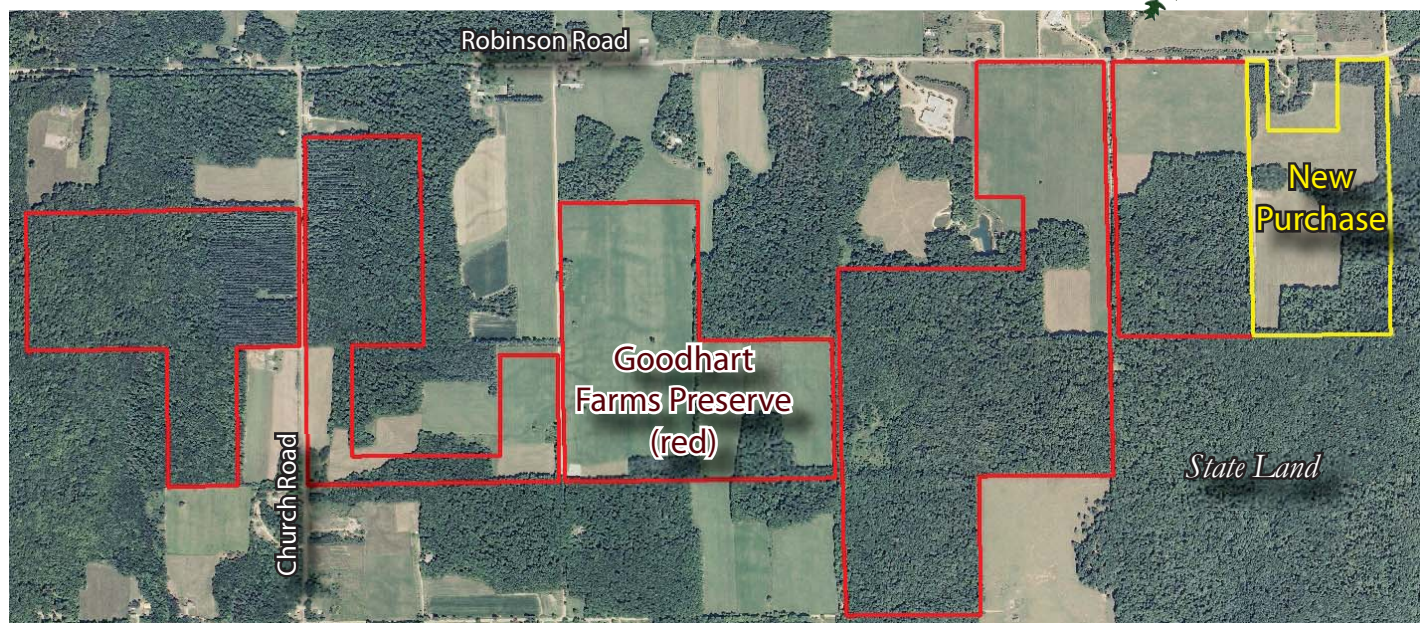
A 70-acre parcel was recently purchased by the Conservancy to expand the Goodhart Farms Nature Preserve. Located adjacent to the preserve, the addition also lies next to state land and land owned by the Emmet County Sportsmens Club that is protected with a conservation easement.

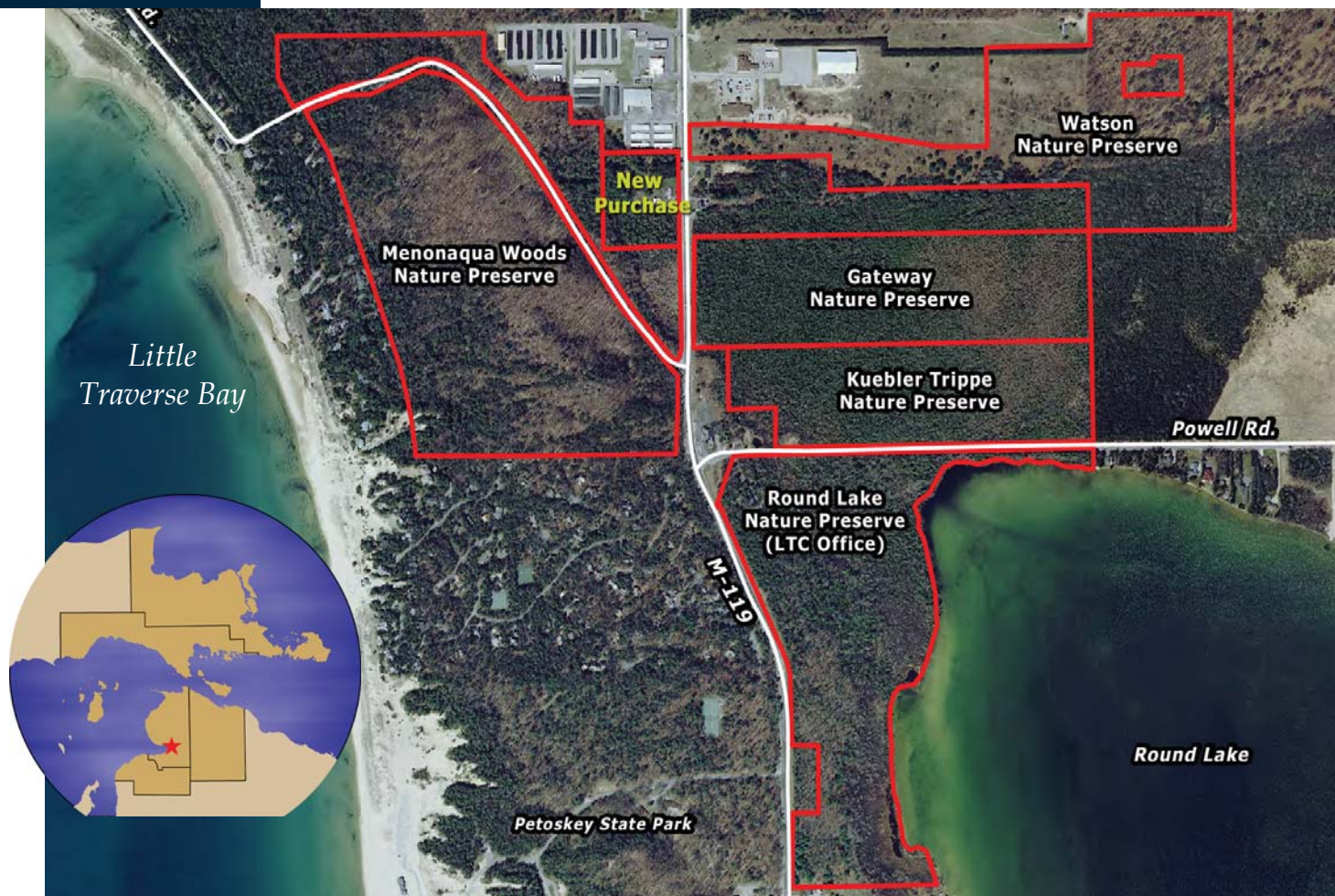
“Between Goodhart Farms, the Elmer Johnston Preserve, conservation easement protected lands, and state land, a terrific wildlife corridor has been expanded,” remarked Ty Ratliff, land protection specialist for the Conservancy. “We hope to continue working with landowners to extend this protection down to Lake Michigan.”

Now at 665 acres, the Goodhart Farms Nature Preserve

This 70-acre parcel was recently purchased and added to the Goodhart Farms Nature Preserve, bringing the size to 665 acres. The map below shows the newly-purchased parcel (highlighted in yellow) in relation to the rest of the preserve as well as other protected and state land that create large blocks of wildlife corridor.

is the Conservancy’s largest property in the Lower Peninsula and also one of the most highly used. There are more than seven miles of trails that cover the property and three parking areas, including one large enough for several horse trailers. The preserve is open to hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, hunting (with written permission), and groomed skiing and snowshoeing.

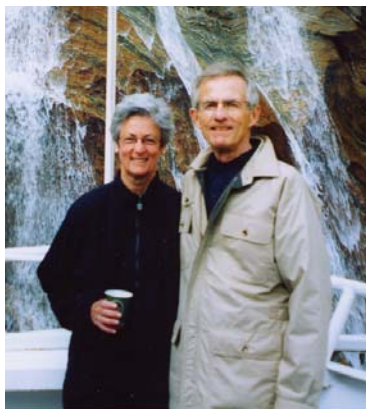




An Expression of Love

A KEY PARCEL ALONG M-119 WAS RECENTLY PURCHASED through the Conservancy thanks to a gift given in memory of a woman who dearly loved the Menonaqua woods. “This is one more piece in the puzzle of a long history of land conservation along this corridor,” said Mike Cameron, who contributed to the funding for the purchase in memory of his wife Martha.

Mike and Martha Cameron first began coming to the Harbor Springs area from their Grosse Pointe home in the early 1970s. A friend had recommended they stay at the Menonaqua Inn. “He said it was like stepping back in time, and he was exactly right,” Mike said. From that visit, the two were hooked. As each year passed, they found themselves spending more and more time at their favorite lakeshore cottage, Break-o-Day, and Martha would eventually spend the entire summer there, while Mike continued working downstate. Finally, they constructed their own home in the Menonaqua Association and, when Mike retired in 1999, the couple made it their permanent home.



Martha and Mike Cameron

Raised in the farm country of southeastern Michigan, Martha had a strong connection to the land. She was very active in the community, serving on the board of Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council and, along with Mike, supporting many of the Conservancy’s initiatives.

During the past 10 years and more, both Mike and Martha had to face serious illness. During that time, they found comfort in being surrounded by the woods of the Menonaqua Preserve, which abuts their home.

It is now three years since Martha passed. Last spring, when the opportunity arose to purchase a key parcel adjacent to the Menonaqua Preserve, Mike knew it felt right. “This parcel is part of a continuum of land protection history that has been creating the M-119 greenbelt corridor for more than 30 years,” Mike said. “And in many ways, this greenbelt represents the beauty of this region that keeps people coming back decade after decade.”

The nature preserve will be known as the “Martha Cavanagh Cameron Nature Preserve.” During the past couple of months, the buildings associated with the former homestead have been disassembled and removed, revealing the natural land behind them.

LTC Executive Director Tom Bailey said that through Martha’s work on the Watershed Council board and Mike’s service on the Conservancy board, it has been a pleasure to get to know the Camerons. “It is truly an honor for the Conservancy to be able to accept Mike’s gift in honor of Martha and her deep love of this beautiful land,” Bailey said.





More M-119 Scenic Protection

Private landowners recently sold the development rights to the Conservancy enabling the protection of 1,000 feet of M-119 frontage.

Since Little Traverse Conservancy was founded in 1972, the protection of the scenic M-119 corridor from southeast of Harbor Springs north to Cross Village has been a high priority for conservation. The story on the preceding page along with the two projects on this page show how landowners continue to work with LTC to maintain the beauty of this well-loved travelway.

NEIGHBORS POOL RESOURCES FOR PROTECTION

In 2008, a handful of property owners along Cook Point Road (north of Harbor Springs off of M-119) pooled together to purchase a narrow wooded parcel with more than a quarter mile of M-119 frontage. The land lies only a few miles from downtown Harbor Springs, along a well-known stretch of the “Tunnel of Trees”, designated by the state as a Scenic Heritage Route. The land also includes a very steep bluff that slopes dramatically toward the water.

This past October, the group donated the land to Little Traverse Conservancy to ensure its permanent protection. Leaving this land undeveloped will help prevent erosion and maintain the integrity of the bluff.

“To us, it seemed natural to donate this strip of land to the Little Traverse Conservancy in their effort to protect the M-119 corridor,” said Joey Arbaugh, one of the donors and a Conservancy trustee. “We thank the Conservancy for caring for this land in order to leave a permanent view of Lake Michigan to all traveling in this area along M-119.”

Another great example of how the generosity of several leads to a benefit for all!

THE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS TO 1,000 FEET OF M-119 frontage approximately one mile south of Good Hart were recently purchased by the Conservancy. Lying along the east side of M-119, the privately owned land is dominated by a hardwood forest of red oak, beech and maple with a few hemlock and large aspen trees interspersed.

“The easement protects a classically beautiful stretch of M-119,” said Kieran Fleming, the Conservancy’s Director of Land Protection. “We’re grateful that the landowners and program donors allowed this conservation easement to happen.”



This new preserve was donated by neighboring landowners to protect the M-119 frontage and bluff.



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Business Profile Sheryl McCleery Tom's Mom's Cookies

One of the mainstays of the "sweet life" of northern Michigan is indulging in a Tom's Mom's cookie. What better way to spend an afternoon than to swing by the store to stock up on the way to your favorite trail or beach? Over her 25 year history with the successful Harbor Springs business, Sheryl McCleery can fully appreciate how a high quality of life means living in a high quality environment. For this reason, she has been a generous business supporter of the Conservancy for many years.

The original Tom's Mom's Cookies opened in Charlevoix in the late 1970's. In 1985 Sheryl helped a friend open the Harbor Springs shop which was the first of a small franchise chain. "I was living in Ann Arbor at the time and knew I'd be crazy not to come up north to help her" she said. Sheryl continued to manage the Harbor Springs store during summers and in 1995 when her friend offered to sell her the business Sheryl said yes, after much soul-searching. She knew it was a life-changing decision, though once made she's never looked back. Since then Sheryl has grown Tom's Mom's Cookies into a year-round operation with a large portion of the off season being mail order. "We are gearing up to mail approximately 3,000 dozen cookies for the holidays," she explained.

That small franchise which started 25 years ago has since dissolved and Harbor Springs is the only Tom's Mom's Cookies in existence today. Year round sales allow Sheryl to keep staff employed year round and that's just the right size company for her. She has no desire to expand and feels strongly that keeping her business small is the best way of keeping it good. "We are regularly approached about going wholesale and I just can't let go of quality control."





Members of the Lake Superior State University Fish and Wildlife Club and other volunteers did trail work at the Cook Island Preserve located off the northwestern edge of Sugar Island.

Employees from Circuit Control Engineering helped Conservancy staff and volunteers with a clean up at the Offield Preserve during the September 14 United Way Day of Caring event.

Join us on Facebook to see photos of our stewardship activities and join our email list by sending a message.

The VIN plate of an old automobile whose remnants were found at the Offield Family Preserve revealed a 1951 Custom Tudor sedan that would have looked much like the photo at left.

If you haven't yet visited the Andreae Preserve, you should!

Housewarming for Andreae Cabin

During the past two years, Conservancy staff and volunteers have put a lot of work into renovating the foundation and yard areas of the Andreae Preserve cabin. Last year, volunteers from Narcotics Anonymous completely renovated the kitchen. To complete this work, the Conservancy would like to acquire cookware and other kitchen accessories. Located near Indian River, the cabin is used on a regular basis by scout and community groups and several items are still lacking.

If you would like to help us outfit the kitchen, a registry has been created at Bed Bath & Beyond. Go to www.bedbathandbeyond.com or stop in at a Bed Bath & Beyond store.

The registry is set up like a regular gift registry under the name Andreae (first name) Cabin (last name). Click on Bridal & Gift Registry. Under "Find a Registry," type in "Andreae" for the first name and "Cabin" for the last name. Click on "Andreae Cabin and Little Traverse Conservancy" to view the registry.

You can shop on line and have the items shipped to us, or you can shop in a Bed Bath & Beyond store and drop off your gifts at our office. For photos of the cabin and preserve, visit www.landtrust.org.





Dave Caroffino of the MDNRE Fisheries Division cleaned barbed wire from the Marvin Preserve during the September 14 United Way Day of Caring event.



Conservancy staff spent many hours cleaning up fallen trees after the big October wind storm.



(Top right) Researchers with Lake Superior State University erected a weather station at the top of the life saving station at the Vermilion Point Preserve on Lake Superior's shore.

photos and descriptions of more. You can also join message to ltc@landtrust.org.



Members of James Donaldson Moore's family gather for the dedication of this new preserve, located within the city limits of Sault Ste. Marie.

Arch Reeves (*below right*), longtime volunteer preserve monitor for the Pigeon River Wildlife Preserve, retires and hands the reins to Stephen and Ruth Brede. Fortunately, Arch has agreed to continue to serve as a consultant when necessary.

Exotic phragmites found on the Kalman Preserve were treated as part of large Emmet County treatment plan spearheaded by Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council.



Huron Pines

Chosen with Intention

A FEW YEARS AGO, CHRIS AND LYNESA Knickerbocker lived in Hawaii. Hawaii was chosen based on Chris's passion for fish, and the couple landed there in 2002 excited to pursue an outdoor lifestyle close to the water and mountains. They spent six years in Hawaii full of outdoor opportunities and enjoyment of the amazing beauties. However, during the last two years, Chris and Lynsa found themselves each immersed in long work shifts, with little time available to spend all together as a family. So they made a conscious decision: find a family-friendly, outdoor-oriented, safe community with excellent schools, churches, and a great hospital to settle in and raise their growing family.

Lynsa started searching online for the best schools in America. One website had a list of about 20 places in America with excellent public schools and Traverse City, Michigan was on the list, which was immediately highlighted by Chris as an area with great fishing and water. So, the couple focused their efforts on learning more about northern Michigan. They then found Petoskey in a book entitled "101 Best Outdoor Towns in America." Chris and Lynsa and their young family visited Petoskey in 2008 and were greatly impressed by the area and the people. They and their two young children (and expecting their third child) took a leap and made the move in January 2009. "We left Hawaii at 80 degrees and arrived here to 20 degrees below zero," Chris laughs.

One of the first things they did when they settled into the area was to get a copy of the Little Traverse Conservancy's preserve guide. "We had read about the Conservancy while still in Hawaii and noticed the many nature preserves and programs geared towards young children. We wanted our kids outside fishing, camping, hiking, and someday hunting," said Chris. "We want our kids to develop a love of nature and learning," Lynsa commented.

Although they've been in northern Michigan less than two years, the young family has already explored many of the



The Knickerbocker Family

Conservancy preserves. At ages 4 and 3, the older two children can already tell the difference between an oak and a maple leaf, and the youngest often gathers her own shoes and coat as soon as she hears "going outside" mentioned. "Whenever we're out walking, we are always looking for acorns, pinecones, animal tracks and droppings, or whatever else we can find," Chris said. Some of the family's favorite nature preserves include Oden Island and McCune. Lynsa is particularly fond of the Pigeon River region and on a recent hike through the Vivian VanCampen Preserve, she remarked to her husband, "This feels like we are in a movie."

Both Chris and Lynsa are well aware of how mindful they must be in their parenting to continue raising eco-minded children who love nature and learning. "We recently decided to limit TV viewing for our children to a family movie night once a week and Saturday morning cartoons," said Lynsa, "It's great because the kids are given the opportunity to spend more of their time playing, developing interests, making friendships, enjoying art and music, and exploring/playing outside – the opportunities are endless. And we just love it when they are outside!" she said.



Snowshoe Time!

Want to get your school group out this winter?
Registration for the Winter Snowshoe Programs runs from

December 8-20, 2010 and January 4-10, 2011.

Programs will be held from

January 18-March 3, 2011.

Please call Melissa at 231.344.1004 or Alison at 231.344.1010 during one of the registration periods to schedule your group.





Orienteering ~ Falling for Leaves ~ Decomposers



Discovery Boxes

THEMED RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS

Looking for some fresh resources to bring into your classroom? Little Traverse Conservancy offers nine different theme-based discovery boxes to involve your students in fun, interactive science-based lessons. Each box (see list below) includes hands-on materials such as animal furs, skulls, books, CDs and video tapes for teachers to use at their own discretion. Also included are detailed lesson plans, activities, and background information on each topic. All of the boxes meet the Michigan Curriculum Framework Standards, which are listed on each lesson plan. There is no charge to borrow a box for up to two weeks, or a Conservancy Naturalist can be scheduled to present a box to your classroom. For a full description and photo of each box, visit the Education page of www.landtrust.org and click on "For Educators."



Skulls, Bones, & Adaptations



Michigan Trees and Forestry

Knee-High Naturalist (PreK) Discovery Box

Beauty of Bats

Geology Rocks

Michigan Mammals Box

Michigan Trees and Forestry

Michigan Gray Wolf

Owls and Their Prey

Skulls, Bones, and Adaptations

Wild Weather



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New Trustees Reaching Out to Younger Generations

Ashley Moerke grew up in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, a mecca for natural resource education through the University of Wisconsin. Her childhood was spent in the outdoors camping, hiking, skiing and fishing. It was no surprise that she pursued a career centered around fisheries, freshwater ecosystems and aquatic ecology and completed a Ph.D. from University of Notre Dame. Today, she is an associate professor at Lake Superior State University and is co-director of the Aquatic Research Laboratory there. A sampling of the courses she teaches include Principles of Watershed, Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems, and Ecology and Management of Sub-Saharan Africa.

"I hope my relationship with the university and community will draw more attention to this region," Ashley said. "With my science background, I also hope to help inform



land acquisitions as they relate to the watersheds in this region." Ashley notes that a lot of people in the Sault area still aren't aware of the preserves available to them and the role the Conservancy plays in long-term conservation. A former adviser to LSSU's

Fish and Wildlife Club, the group has completed stewardship work at the Round Island Point Preserve, one of the Conservancy's largest properties.

We asked Ashley how she feels about the future of conservation, since she is working with the next generation of decision makers. "I am hopeful about the future of our environment. I am lucky enough to be in a profession surrounded

by passionate and dedicated students and I am confident they will make a positive impact on the future management of our natural resources. It is my students that often invigorate and re-energize me! But I also think we have a tremendous challenge in educating the next generation. I do see an increasing disconnect between people and the resources that they use every day."

Tom Jeffs grew up in metropolitan Detroit and remembers coming up north with his parents around the age of 8 or 9. His family started skiing in the late 1950s when Boyne Mountain was just opening. Tom also attended Camp Nissokone, a YMCA camp near Oscoda, where the campers did a lot of canoeing. Since then, he has spent many outdoor adventures canoeing the Au Sable, Manistee, and other Michigan rivers.

Though home base remained in Detroit, in the 1980s, Tom and his wife Pat built a home in L'Arbre Croche, located between Petoskey and Harbor Springs. It was their up north getaway while they raised three girls. However, with Tom in the midst of a thriving banking career, the family found it challenging to spend much time there. They sold their L'Arbre Croche home and "lost our foothold in the north," as Tom recalls.

Eleven years ago, Tom and Pat retired and made the decision to spend most of the year in Florida. But they purchased another home in L'Arbre Croche and are now able to spend every summer here.

At last summer's annual meeting, Tom learned about the Getting Kids Outdoors program, in which LTC is a partner. "We're really enthusiastic about this effort," Tom said. "With five grandchildren and one on the way, I am acutely aware of the need to connect our children to the natural world." He plans to sign his grandkids up for the Knee-High Naturalist programs next summer.

"I am also very, very interested in land conservation and protection," Tom said. "When you have seen all the changes I have coming up here for more than 60 years, I want to help in any way I can."



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in honor of his birthday celebration
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in honor of her birthday
Ms. Kelli Hoogerland

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in honor of her dedication to community and her birthday
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in honor of his generosity
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Outfitter Race Day 2010 Water Station Volunteers
The Outfitter

Bernie Schaffer and Elizabeth Pollie
in honor of their wedding
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Reflections ...Tom Bailey

PERPETUITY

In October 2010, at the Land Trust Alliance's annual conference in Hartford, Connecticut, I was asked to comment on the term "perpetuity" during a workshop session I was leading. Conservation tax attorney Stephen Small had been distributing buttons with the word on them to encourage people to be mindful of the significance of our land conservation work, and so the term was much on people's minds.

It seemed to me, I related to the group I was addressing, that perpetuity can be viewed in our business in a couple of different ways. "Perpetuity" is of course a legal concept that is incorporated into many land conservancies' mission statements, incorporations, and conservation easements, intended to mean something along the line of "forever." There are important reasons to carefully consider legalistic definitions for a concept like perpetuity because tax laws and enabling statutes refer to it.

But it seems to me that legal definitions only go part way in describing what perpetuity is all about in land conservation. In the land conservation movement, the idea of perpetuity, along with being a legal concept, is a reflection of our outlook, vision, or perhaps our dream. Like those visionary people who created our National Park system, and like Theodore Roosevelt and many others who spoke eloquently of preserving natural areas for all time, we dream of a world where wonderful scenic, green spaces stay green "in perpetuity." We dream of a world where all children can have access to the Great Outdoors: to fields and streams and trees to climb, to woods and hills they can explore, and places where they can not only learn in the abstract sense what we call "knowledge," but also learn more deeply as Richard Louv has proven with his research and Walt Whitman expressed in poetry that "the secret of making the best persons is to grow in the open air and to eat and sleep with the earth."

Most of us don't find "perpetuity" as a legal concept to be all that inspiring, but perpetuity as a dream can be. We should remember that Martin Luther King, Jr. inspired generations by saying, "I have a dream." He didn't say, "I have a legal concept," even though his work for racial justice had to

do with a number of very specific legal concepts. He didn't say, "I have a strategic plan," or "I've got a scientific paper."

Had he expressed himself in that way, we would probably not remember his message today. But he did not speak on the mundane level; he looked much higher. He said "I have a dream," and we listened and were captivated and we believed in the dream, too. The expression of that dream literally helped to change the world. So perhaps in our work we should pay more attention to the dream of perpetuity along with the legal concept. Just as our National Parks and great historic shrines are dedicated in perpetuity on the national level, perhaps we in the land conservation movement can help bring to the neighborhood level the idea of green space in perpetuity, proclaiming our dream that every child will have not only the right but also the means to venture outdoors **and** have adventure outdoors. We can share our dream of helping all people and all neighborhoods to have natural areas that will be there for them in perpetuity.

I have noted before that I believe this to be an American birthright. What made America and Americans great was our unique relationship with the land. And here's an interesting connection to Hartford, Connecticut, where my recent discussion took place: Hartford was for a number of years the home of the quintessential American writer Samuel Clemens, known as Mark Twain. Noting that he was acknowledged to be the most famous American in the world, he once observed, "I am not just **an** American, I am **the** American." And indeed, his body of work contributed much to what we in this country and many around the world believe to be the essence of the American character, much of it having to do with the outdoors. Twain's characters Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn, and others all reflect a youth that was full of outdoor adventures and influenced by closeness to nature. In stories of the Mississippi River and across the West, Twain reflected the relationship between people and the land that is uniquely American. He wrote quite a bit of that great work right in Hartford, just a few miles and a little over a century away from where we at the Land Trust Alliance Rally were having our discussion.

Mark Twain watched our nation celebrate its centennial in 1876 and witnessed the 19th Century give way to the 20th. He could scarcely imagine what it would be like for us, observing the bicentennial of our country and then the 20th Century become the 21st. However, because he recognized the importance of adventure and experience outdoors to people and our nation, I'll bet that Mark Twain would keep a special place in his heart for those places where such adventures can be had: not only the river at Hannibal, Missouri and Tom Sawyer's famous cave, but places from east to west and north to south that typify the great variety of American landscapes and offer all of us the chance to refresh ourselves and our memories of who we are and where we come from.

The dream of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the stories of Mark Twain are two examples of how important it is to look beyond mere legalisms for the essence of what is important. And so we owe it to ourselves and all who will come after us to dream the dream and tell the story of what it means to protect natural areas in perpetuity. Because in "perpetuity," we deal with a legal concept, of course, but we also have a dream.



thank you...

Marta Olson, Todd Petersen, and Todd Parker for fall photos.

John Maximiuk and the following volunteers with the RSVP program who helped with our fall mailing: Doris Lark, Bev Warner, Mona Fay, Gloria Krusell, Marge Upton, Pearl Dally, Maggie Frederick, Carolyn Keller, Pat Denemy, Arlayne Froysaa, Lurli Vaughn, Norm Cutshall, Susie Frisk, Marian Jurries, and Nancy Fay Packer.

Zach Roder and Garrett Thatcher for their work at the Andreae Preserve cabin. Thank you also to several local troops of boy scouts and their leaders for helping us complete Phase II of the streambank erosion control project at the preserve.

The staff of Char-Em United Way, for their work with the Volunteer Connections program, and coordination of the Day of Caring events.

Day of Caring (*September 14*) volunteers who cleaned up the Marvin Preserve, removed barbed wire, and helped us post the boundaries: Dwain Abramowski, Michael Buttigieg, Dave Caroffino, David Clapp, Randy Claramunt, Patrick Hanchin, Dan Kantor, Bryce Kucharek, Jeanne McGhee, Patrick O'Neill, Rebecca Parker, and Emmaline Weidman.

Goodhart Farms Storage for storing the Conservancy trailer.

Day of Caring (*September 14*) volunteers who cleared trails at the Offield Preserve: Phil Whittaker, Dean Williams, Roger Fosmore, Sally White, Dan Muller and Laura Kemp.

John Griffin for providing boat transportation in the Les Cheneaux area on many occasions.

Volunteers who worked on trails, clean up, culvert removal, and bridge installation at the Cook Island Preserve on September 25: Ryan Baldwin, Lauren Davison, Chris Dey, Sara Dimick, Lynn Evans, Paige Filice, Jacob Harm, Carl Linhart, Vickie Lyon, Mike McCarthy, Mike Miller, Steve Miller, Ashley Moerke, Lynne Petersen, Chris Scherwinski, Glen Schmiede, and Timmo Skallerup.

We have more than 200 volunteers who help us with preserve stewardship. Our sincere thanks go out to every one of you!

Bill Ashley and Chris Oliver for keeping the Rogers Family Homestead Preserve trails in good shape.

Glen Matthews for conducting resource inventories and helping with preserve management planning on numerous preserves and new land acquisitions.

Dave Cummings for leading a field trip on the Five Mile Creek Preserve.

Connie Donovan and Sue Ring for coordinating a volunteer effort to fund new interpretative signs on the Goodhart Farms Preserve.

Nan Hogan for help in stewarding a conservation easement property.

Kirt Babb, Joe Parent, and the work crew from the Michigan Prisoner Re-entry Initiative program for removing buildings from a newly-protected property.

wish list

- Pruning kits for stewardship work (*Kits cost \$65 apiece and include a saw, pruning shears, and a leather sheath. Please call Doug at 231.344.1009 or Cindy at 231.344.1011 if you can contribute to a kit.*)
- Andreae Cabin Registry items (*see page 8*).

The updated preserve guide map is now available. If you would like a copy, just call the office at 231.347.0991 and we will mail you a copy at no charge. It is also available on our website, www.landtrust.org.

Happy holidays from the LTC Gang!



L-R: Kieran Fleming, Cacia Lesh, Ryan Kozar, Melissa Hansen, Ty Ratliff, Alison Berry, Jay Neff, Anne Fleming, Charles Dawley, Cindy Mom, Tom Bailey, Doug Fuller, Tom Lagerstrom.

LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY'S Nature Preserve Map



Get out and explore these natural lands available for you and all future generations.



3rd edition,
November 2010

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Winter Events

These community events are offered at no charge. As a courtesy to our trip leaders, many of whom are volunteers, please pre-register for a Conservancy field trip by calling 231.347.0991.



Nina Asunto

Nature Conservation in Norway Tuesday January 25 7 pm

Carnegie Building 451 E. Mitchell St. Petoskey
Through Rotary International's Group Study Exchange program, LTC's Stewardship Specialist Cindy Mom was able to spend the month of May 2010 on a work/study exchange in Southern Norway. There she met with Norwegian conservation professionals and outdoor enthusiasts, while visiting many natural and scenic areas. Come to this indoor presentation to learn how land management and conservation in Norway differs from that in Northern Michigan, and how it is the same.

All Day Birding Adventure Saturday, January 29 Eastern U.P. and Sugar Island

The tundra-like Eastern U.P. is an excellent place to look for Snowy Owls, Snow Buntings, Bald Eagles, and Rough-Legged Hawks. Departing from Harbor Springs in the morning, we'll take the scenic route to the Sault, birding along the way. At the Sugar Island ferry, we'll check for ducks and hope for a Gyrfalcon to fly by. After the short ferry ride to Sugar Island, we'll snowshoe into the Bailey-Lagerstrom Preserve and visit the shoreline, looking for animal tracks and beaver sign. This will be an all-day event (please bring your own lunch), with options to join the trip in Harbor Springs, Pellston, Sault Ste Marie, or on Sugar Island. Ask about carpooling when you register.

Greenwood Sanctuary Outing Saturday, January 29 10 am to noon Cheboygan County, near Wolverine

Visit one of the largest private properties in our service area now protected with a conservation easement. Greenwood Sanctuary is a haven for elk, porcupine, and a multitude of other wildlife. Landowner George Jury opens his gates and invites us in to explore. Trails will be groomed for skiing and snowshoeing, if snow permits. Please call 231.347.0991 to register and get directions.

Snowshoe Raven Ridge Saturday, February 5 1 pm Raven Ridge Preserve, Charlevoix County

Let's take that workout out of the gym and explore a beautiful preserve by snowshoe. Join Cacia Lesh and Anne Fleming on the hills of Raven Ridge. We'll park at Raven Hill Discovery Center and snowshoe to the trails where we will hike the entire trail system (1½ hilly miles). This will be an active trip for medium to advanced snowshoers/runners!

Snowshoeing, Sheep, and Sheer Fun! Saturday, February 12 10am to noon Flower Lady Farm, Levering

Stave off your winter blues as we partner with Shepherdess and Master Gardener Kimberly Clare. To get your creative energies flowing prior to the tour and craft, LTC naturalist Alison Berry will lead participants on an invigorating outdoor snowshoe hike. We'll then come indoors for a tour of the wool making process. We'll then do an optional craft (\$5 Materials Fee). Snowshoes will be provided by LTC, all sizes, but limited numbers, please call LTC at 231.347.0991 to reserve and register.



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