

# Mountain Views

News from Stowe Land Trust

Fall/Winter 2015

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*The SLT-conserved Mayo Farm includes fields that are part of the Percy family commercial dairy operation. It is also home to the Community Garden run by the Stowe Parks and Recreation Department.*

## Local Eats: Stowe's Farms & Food Producers

*Looking to source more of your food locally? So are we. Toward this goal, this summer we compiled a map and list of local farms and food producers, and published it in our monthly e-news. Here's a summary of what we found, in case you missed the article. Don't want to miss out on future stories from Stowe Land Trust? Sign up for our e-newsletter at [www.stowelandtrust.org](http://www.stowelandtrust.org) and stay up to date on conservation projects, stewardship efforts, volunteer opportunities, events and more.*

Thanks to Stowe's local farms and producers, you don't have to travel far to buy locally produced food. From high-quality meats to pick-your-own blueberries to fresh eggs, there are plenty of Stowe-grown foods you can pick up right from the farm or at local farmers markets and shops. Local brews and

ciders are available too, along with maple syrup, artisanal cheese, and more.

Want to grow your own veggies, but don't have space for a garden? Check out the Community Garden at Mayo Farm. Applications are accepted starting in late winter. Check out the Stowe Parks and Recreation website for more info: <http://www.stowerec.org/parks/item/62-community-garden>

Keep the list and map on Page 3 handy year-round, and support local farms in Stowe! Don't see your favorite farm on the list? Contact us and let us know, and we'll update our files: [info@stowelandtrust.org](mailto:info@stowelandtrust.org).

*continued on page 3*

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*Stowe Land Trust is dedicated to the conservation of scenic, recreational, and productive farm and forest lands for the benefit of the greater Stowe community.*

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STOWE LAND TRUST

# Letter from the Executive Director



Greetings friends,

The brisk weather has set in here in Stowe, with temperatures in the 20's at night. I must admit, after more than three decades living in Vermont, I am always a little surprised at how fast the cold weather arrives each fall. There is always much to do around the house this time of year, from putting the gardens to bed, stacking that last cord of wood, and putting away the screens. This fall has also been extremely busy at Stowe Land Trust. Like a chipmunk gathering nuts for the long winter, our Stewardship manager, Kristen, has been

bustling about, wrapping up the last of the conservation easement monitoring for the year. She has also been finishing the last of the trail work for the season, installing new signage at our kiosks, and coordinating with contractors for the solar lighting project that will be happening at the Mill Trail Cabin. This long list of projects was ONLY possible because of your generous support, so thank you! In this newsletter you will find a long list of donors and supporters who have contributed to Stowe Land Trust in some way this year. It's an impressive list, and it has helped make in impressive impact in Stowe.

In addition to all of the great stewardship work that is happening, we have been working on another very exciting project this year: saving the Kaiser Farm. We announced this project to our members at Annual Meeting in September, so you might have already heard a bit about it. For those of you who weren't able to attend Annual Meeting, here's the short and sweet update: Stowe Land Trust is partnering with Vermont Land Trust to save the last working farm in Nebraska Valley. The Kaiser Farm is a 49 acre diversified farm that has been in operation for more than 70 years. This project will help keep this farm growing food, instead of houses. We are currently accepting gifts of \$5,000 and up to create a base of support for the project. If you are interested in joining this leadership phase of the campaign, please be in touch with me. Other supporters can help us reach the finish line after we go public with the campaign early next year – so stay tuned!

Warmly,

Caitrin Maloney, Executive Director



Help Protect the  
Places You Love:  
Become a 2016  
Member!

Many thanks to those of you who  
have already sent in your donation.

# Local Eats: Stowe's Farms & Food Producers

 = On-site Sales

**1** Crop Brewery & Bistro   
Mountain Rd.  
253-4765  
info@cropvt.com  
www.cropvt.com  
In-house brewed beer

**2** Harken Back Farm   
Pucker St.  
760-6071  
harkenbackfarm@gmail.com  
www.facebook.com/pages/  
Harken-Back-Farm  
Heritage livestock, gourmet  
meats & produce

**3** Kaiser Family Farm   
Christine Kaiser  
Nebraska Valley Rd.  
253-8222  
Organic meat, eggs & hay

**19** Mansfield Valley Poultry  
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Pucker St.  
253-7746  
Poultry & eggs

**6** Nebraska Knoll  
Sugar Farm   
Audrey & Lew Coty  
Falls Brook Ln. off of Nebraska  
Valley Rd.  
253-4655  
www.nebraskaknoll.com  
Maple syrup & other maple  
products

**9** Sage Farm Goat Dairy  
Molly & Katie Pindell  
West Hill Road  
760-0943  
www.sagefarmgoatdairy.com  
Micro-batch artisanal goat  
cheeses

**10** Stepping Stone Farm  
Karen Nicholson  
Barnes Hill Road  
279-2898  
karen@stowealpacas.com  
Alpacas

**11** Sterling Brook Farm  
Bambi Freeman  
Sterling Valley Rd.  
888-3735  
sterlingbrookfarm@gmail.com  
Lamb, sheepskins & more

**12** Stowe Cider   
Pucker St.  
253-2065  
info@stowecider.com  
www.stowecider.com  
Small-batch, artisanal ciders

**13** Stowe Community Garden  
at Mayo Farm  
Stowe Parks & Recreation  
Department  
www.stowerec.org  
20'x20' plots available to com-  
munity members

**14** Stowe Farmer's Market   
www.stowefarmersmarket.com  
Produce, meat, dairy, prepared  
foods, crafts, wine & spirits

**15** Stowe Hollow Nursery   
Zuber Family  
North Hollow Rd.  
253-9671  
www.facebook.com/  
StoweHollowNursery  
Pick-your-own blueberries

**16** Stowe Maple Products   
Route 100  
253-2508  
Maple syrup

**17** Stowe Mountain Resort  
Farmers Market   
Mountain Rd.  
253-3560  
www.stowemountainlodge.com  
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& more

**18** Trapp Family Lodge &  
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Trapp Hill Rd  
253-8511  
www.trappfamily.com  
In-house brewed beer, maple  
syrup & eggs

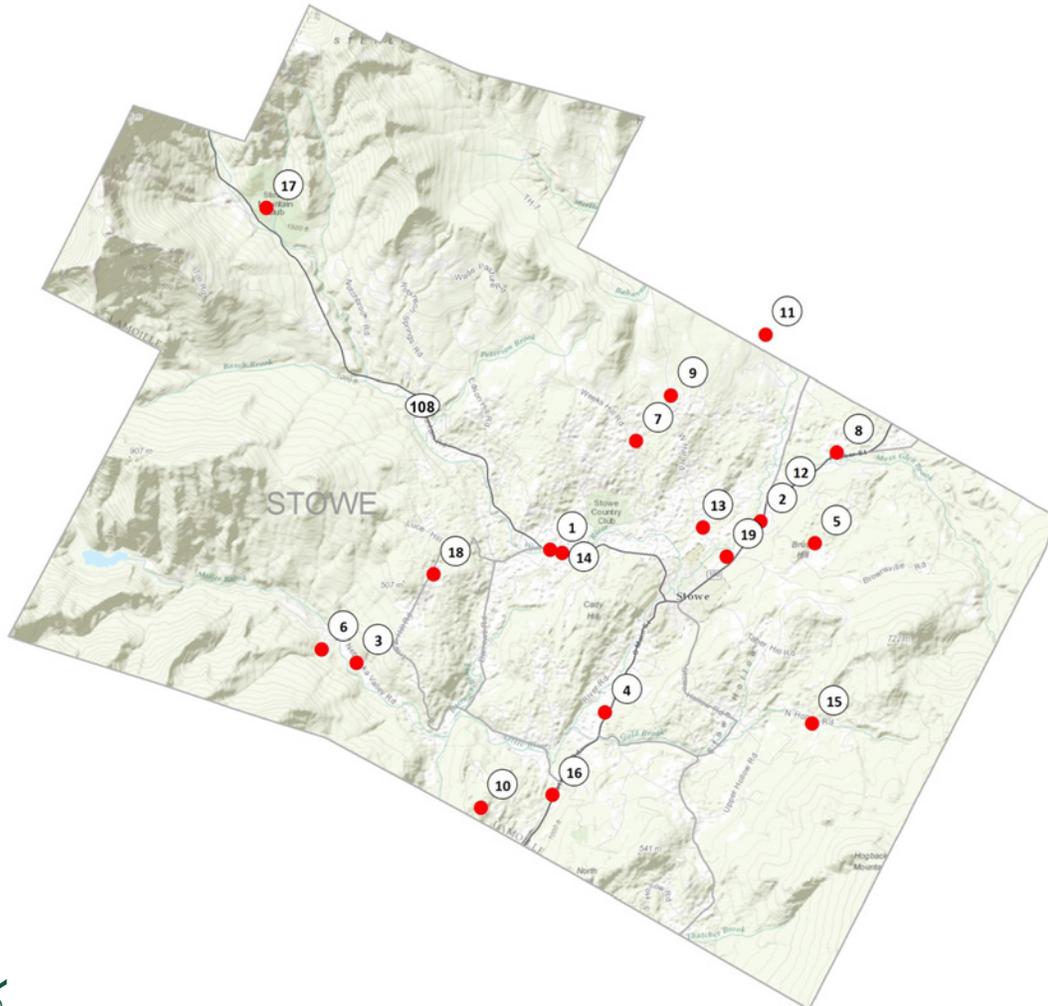
## Commercial Dairy Farms

**5** Morrill Farm, Brush Hill Rd.

**7** Percy Farm, Weeks Hill Rd.

**4** Keewaydin, Pike Family,  
Route 100

**8** Ricketson Farm, Route 100



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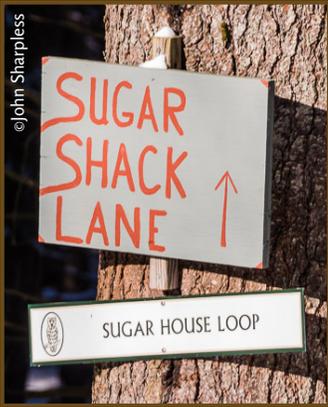
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Decisions Decisions  
Ecopixel  
Edelweiss Mountain Deli  
Elmore Mountain Farm  
Ferro Jewelers  
Fine Wine Cellars  
Fix PC  
From Maria's Garden  
Golden Eagle Resort  
Gray Matter Marketing/Craft



Brew Races  
Gracie's Restaurant  
Green Envy  
Green Mountain Coffee Roasters  
Green Mountain Inn  
Harrison's Restaurant  
Healthy Living  
Hunger Mountain Coop  
ICON Promotional Products  
Nancy and Reid Krakower  
Laughing Moon Chocolates  
Lipsky Logging  
Mac's Market  
Maxi's Restaurant  
Michael's on the Hill  
Phoenix Table & Bar  
Piecasso Pizzeria & Lounge  
Plate  
Power Shift  
River Arts  
Sage Therapeutic Massage  
Salon Salon  
Shaw's General Store  
Shaw's Supermarket  
Stowe Cable  
Stowe Craft Gallery & Design Center  
Stowe Kitchen Bath & Linens  
Stowe Mercantile  
Stowe Mountain Resort  
Styles Hair Salon  
Sushi Yoshi  
The Bench  
The Body Lounge  
The Matterhorn  
The Pizza Joint  
The Swimming Hole  
Trapp Family Lodge  
Umiak Outdoor Outfitters  
Von Bargaen's Jewelry  
Websticker  
Well Heeled  
West Branch Gallery & Sculpture Park

## Grants

Bowie and Helen Duncan  
Farnsworth Fund  
Fields Pond Foundation  
Norcross Wildlife Foundation  
Land Trust Alliance  
Oakland Foundation  
Stowe Mountain Resort  
Vermont Housing & Conservation Board

## Program Partners

Catamount Trail Association  
Intervale Conservation Nursery  
Keurig Green Mountain Coffee  
Lamoille County Natural Resources Conservation District  
Laraway School  
Mud City Adventures  
National Life Group  
State of Vermont  
Stowe Antique & Classic Car Show  
Stowe Bible Camp  
Stowe Conservation Commission  
Stowe Department of Parks & Recreation  
Stowe Elementary School  
Stowe High School  
Stowe Mountain Bike Club  
Stowe Mountain Resort  
Stowe Nordic  
Topnotch Resort & Spa  
Town of Stowe  
Trapp Family Lodge  
UVM Rubenstein School  
Vermont Housing and Conservation Board  
Vermont Land Trust  
Waterbury Conservation Commission

*This list includes all donations made between October 1, 2014-September 30, 2015. If we have missed or incorrectly listed your name please let us know!*

## Welcome New SLT Landowners!

This past year, three of SLT's privately-owned, protected properties changed hands. We are pleased to welcome these new owners and stewards of SLT lands into our community!

**Amy, Phil & Jackson Farley**  
Little River Corridor Easement



*We love to take our son down to explore the different plants and wildlife inhabiting the land and riverbank. Over time, we look forward to watching and learning about the changes in the river as it takes on more of its natural path.*

**Jenny, Mike, Katie, Mikey & Tommy Levy**  
Halverson Forest



*We feel so fortunate to have acquired this precious land. We are very excited about getting to know the Stowe Land Trust and its members as we learn more about the ways we can protect it responsibly and enjoy it as a family.*

**Nancy & Max Justicz**  
Grandview Farm



The Justiczs purchased the Grandview Farm in June. We look forward to supporting them in caring for this special and beautiful place in Stowe Hollow.

## Summer Naturalist Program Going Strong



In September, we completed yet another successful Stowe Land Trust Summer Naturalist Program season. Now with three years under our belt, the program is becoming well-established and -known in the community and by visitors. It is a family-friendly way to learn about and connect to conservation and Stowe's history & great outdoors. A big thanks to our 2015 Naturalist, Kate Lapore, for engaging over 600 visitors,

children, and volunteers and to everyone who participated. See you next year!

## Leave a Legacy



For 28 years, SLT's goal has been to ensure that the Stowe area continues to be a strong and vibrant community, where the natural landscape plays a central role in the economy, where development respects historic traditions

and natural resources, and where there are accessible open spaces and abundant wildlife habitat. If you share this vision, you can make the conservation of Stowe's exceptionally scenic landscape and rich ecological resources a vital part of your own legacy by making a planned gift to Stowe Land Trust.

There are many ways to create a Legacy for the lands of Stowe and our community. Some are gifts that will occur upon your passing. Others may offer you income during your lifetime, and many may offer a tax benefit for you now or for your heirs later. The first step is to decide you would like to create a Legacy for our land. Next, you may meet with your own advisors to determine the best way to support the Stowe Land Trust in the future, and meet with us to make sure your gift is designed so we can use it best.

For more information contact Stowe Land Trust Executive Director, Caitrin Maloney at [caitrin@stowelandtrust.org](mailto:caitrin@stowelandtrust.org) or 802-253-7221.

## Cliff Johnson and Alan Thorndike become Emeritus Directors



In his 25 years as a Stowe resident, Cliff has worked for the Town of Stowe as Director of Public Works for eight years and has lived a life of tireless service to others. Cliff's term as board chair began in 2010 with the reconstruction of the Adams Camp bridge, restoring public access to 513 acres of conserved land

in Ranch Valley. He helped lead the organization through a comprehensive strategic planning process that put SLT on track to celebrate its 25th anniversary with solid goals for the future. The campaign to protect Cady Hill Forest required a huge effort, and Cliff's leadership ensured the success of this important project. Cliff's willingness to take on any task, and his determination to make every minute of every day productive, is a standard that few of us can follow. In recognition of the tremendous dedication he has shown to SLT over the past 10 years, Cliff was recently appointed Emeritus Director, an honorary position with SLT. Thank you, Cliff!



Alan and his wife Ellen became Stowe residents in 1976 on the principle that they wanted to live in the town where they worked, played and where their kids went to school. Now both of their sons have moved back to Stowe with their families—a wonderful continuation of that philosophy. Alan has given

indefatigably to the Stowe community since his arrival - serving as president of the Stowe Education Fund, president of the Stowe Rotary Club, and starting the Stowe Youth Soccer program when his kids were young. His exuberance and his passion for Stowe and Stowe Land Trust has been instrumental to SLT's success over the years. Cady Hill Forest was conserved in May 2012 during Alan's term as Vice Chair, quickly followed by the conservation of the Palmer property in December 2012. Alan's leadership and vision as Chair was paramount to guiding SLT through its complete staff transition in 2013. We thank Alan for his commitment and guidance over the past 10 years. In recognition for his tremendous dedication, Alan was also recently appointed Emeritus Director. Thank you, Alan!

## Stowe Land Trust Earns Continued National Recognition

Stowe Land Trust has achieved renewed land trust accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance.

"This achievement demonstrates our commitment to permanent land conservation that benefits the entire community," says Caitrin Maloney, Executive Director. "While Stowe Land Trust has established itself as a leader in local land protection, we are stronger today having gone through the rigorous accreditation renewal process."

Stowe Land Trust was first awarded accreditation in March 2010 after undergoing an extensive 2-year long external review of its governance, management policies and systems it uses to protect land. SLT was awarded renewed accreditation this February and is one of 317 land trusts from across the country that are now accredited. Accredited land trusts are authorized to display a seal indicating to the public that they meet national standards for excellence, uphold the public trust and ensure that conservation efforts are permanent. The seal is a mark of distinction in land conservation.



"Stowe Land Trust is one of the first land trusts to achieve renewed accreditation, a significant achievement for the land trust and significant major milestone for the accreditation program. They are an important member of the accredited land trust community that protects more than three quarters of the 20,645,165 acres currently owned in fee or protected by a conservation easement held by a land trust," said Commission Executive Director Tammara

Van Ryn. "Accreditation renewal, which must be completed every five years, provides the public with an assurance that accredited land trusts continue to meet exceedingly high standards for quality."

Each land trust that achieved renewed accreditation submitted extensive documentation and underwent a rigorous review. "Through accreditation renewal land trusts are part of an important evaluation and improvement process that verifies their operations continue to be effective, strategic and in accordance with strict requirements," said Van Ryn. "Accredited organizations have engaged citizen conservation leaders and improved systems for ensuring that their conservation work is permanent."

# New Directors Elected

Three new board members were elected by Stowe Land Trust's membership at the 28th Annual Meeting celebration held on Sunday, September 27th. Catherine Drake, Mila Lonetto, and David Wilkens will join twenty existing board members responsible for governing the community conservation organization. Each year SLT has a limited number of openings available in its volunteer board. New members are recruited based on an identified need within the organization. The diversity of the Board is meant to represent the broad perspectives of our community and strengthen SLT's position as a community asset.

was recently appointed to the Stowe Conservation Commission and looks forward to using her experience to liaise between the Commission and SLT and help continue to preserve lands for future generations.



## Mila Lonetto

Mila Lonetto has lived in Stowe since 2000 and has been grateful every day that this is where she landed. She is lucky enough to be able to count Stowe Land Trust property as an extension of her backyard (with a little imaginative navigation), and so is especially appreciative of the role the Land Trust plays in creating community land. She works with her husband (and sometimes their 6-year-old daughter) at Edgewise Elite Ski Service, a business they started here in Stowe. Mila sits on the Planning Commission in Stowe and is also involved with the Stowe Free Library and Mount Mansfield Ski Academy. Her favorite activities: skiing, biking, swimming, hiking, gardening, and reading.



## Catherine Drake

Catherine Drake and her husband Rich Levine visited Vermont for decades and finally got to move to Stowe permanently in 2012. Born in Miami, Catherine graduated from Stockton University with a BA in Environmental Studies in 1982. Catherine then spent 28 years with the NJ

Department of Environmental Protection where she developed a strong passion for land preservation and public access. As Executive Director of Liberty State Park, Catherine oversaw development of the 1,155-acre urban park adjacent to the Statue of Liberty. She went on to become a project manager for land acquisition for several counties in New Jersey, partnering with local governments and land trusts to acquire land for permanent protection.

Catherine has two grown daughters, one of whom also lives in Stowe with her husband and baby Nora, and the other living not too far away in Boston. Like nearly everyone else she's met in Stowe, she enjoys hiking, tennis, skiing and traveling. Catherine



## David Wilkens

David Wilkens and his wife Molly Pindell moved to Stowe in 2007 where they have been raising their two children, Juliette and Soren. In 2009, David, Molly and Katie Pindell started Sage Farm Goat Dairy; a small-scale artisanal cheese producer. He has been a part of the

Mount Mansfield Ski Patrol for 7 years. When he is not at the farm, you can find him on the trails and in the hills throughout the year.

## Top it All Off

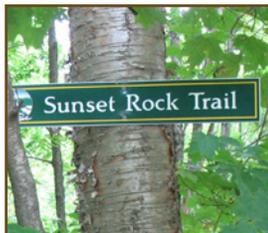
Stock up on old friends like our classic baseball hats (\$20) or our Vita ChicoBags (\$15) made from recycled plastic bottles. Time for something new? Try our new eco trucker hat (\$20) made with recycled polyester and organic cotton available in red, orange, navy, and black. Stop by our office at 699 South Main St in Stowe or give us a call at (802) 253-7221 to order.

[WWW.STOWELANDTRUST.ORG](http://WWW.STOWELANDTRUST.ORG)



# What's Going On? SLT Outings and Events

These outings are free and open to the public! Please bring your own equipment.  
For more information or to register, check the Events & Outings page at [www.stowelandtrust.org](http://www.stowelandtrust.org).



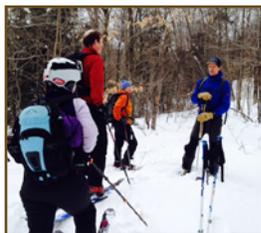
**Fall Family Hike**  
Saturday, November 21st, 10am  
*All abilities*  
Meet at the upper parking area for Sunset Rock off of Taber Hill Road for a kid-friendly hike around Sunset Rock. All ages welcome!



**Raven Hill Trek**  
Saturday, January 30th, 9-11am  
*Intermediate*  
Bring snowshoes or skis to enjoy this off-trail trek along the meadow & through the forests of the scenic Burnham Farm. Meet on Dewey Hill Road at bottom of Ayers Farm Road.



**Mill Trail Snowshoe**  
Saturday, December 19th, 5:30-7:30pm  
*Beginner – Intermediate*  
Bring your snowshoes & a headlamp for this evening hike to Bingham Falls. Join us for a fire at the Mill Trail Cabin afterwards.



**Backcountry Ski**  
Saturday, February 20th, 9am-1pm  
*Advanced only*  
Grab your gear and join us for a backcountry outing. Location TBA based on snow conditions.



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