

Evening Of Music, Entertainment Will Aid Land Conservation Effort

An evening of exuberant music, food, and drink Nov. 1 will benefit land conservation in the region.

Daisy Mayhem, a nationally-acclaimed, four-piece band, will perform at Knowlton Memorial Hall in Ashford. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. and costs \$25 per person for Trust members; \$30 per person for non-members. Reservations must be received by Oct. 27.

Whether you like folk music, jazz, vintage swing, country blues or traditional tunes, Daisy Mayhem is sure to play its way to your heart.

Described by the Boston Globe as “neo old-timey with cosmopolitan splashes of contemporary pop and jazz,” the band has already released three CDs and is working on a fourth. Scott Kessel, who grew up in Mansfield, plays drums for the band, which as been praised for its “seamless four-part harmonies.”

Isabelle Atwood and her team of volunteers will set the tables with wines and hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from the event will enable the Trust to continue its primary mission of acquiring and protecting open space. Currently, the Trust is working with the towns of Lebanon and Willington on conservation of close to 250 acres.



Daisy Mayhem

Another project involves an 18-acre pasture abutting the Hubbard Sanctuary in Chaplin. The Trust's pro-active engagement in conservation has received enthusiastic support from members. The Nov. 1 event is a great opportunity to contribute to the cause.

More information on the band can be found at www.raniarbo.com.

Trust Secures Settlement To Protect Rare Bog Habitat

When development plans on abutting land once again threatened the Windham Atlantic White Cedar Bog, Joshua's Trust undertook a vigorous defense. The 67-acre Bog is one of the rarest habitats protected by the Trust, and is located in an area where business and traffic can produce toxic run-off.

An agreement recently signed with the developers, Windham Crossing, LLC, gives the Trust a conservation easement on a buffer zone, details the steps which the developers must take to prevent contaminants from entering

the Bog, places the conditions in a covenant which binds all future owners of the land, and creates an escrow account to guarantee implementation.

To develop its case that the originally proposed plans would threaten the Bog, the Trust contracted with an environmental engineering firm and assigned John Pagini to coordinate the Trust's efforts. Thus far, approximately \$20,000 has been spent on the current defense of the Bog. This large investment will have on-going rewards in addition

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Joshua's Tract Conservation And Historic Trust, Inc.

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Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust was formed in 1966 to receive gifts of money and land, or to buy land of historic, aesthetic, or scientific value, for the benefit of future generations.

It is designed to supplement the open space efforts of federal, state and local governments. The Trust protects over 3,000 acres in the region, maintains trails which are open to the public, and publishes *The Joshua's Tract Walk Book*.

The office is located in the historic Eagleville Schoolhouse, South Eagleville Rd., in Mansfield. Office hours: Thurs. 1:30-3:30 pm.
Phone: 860-429-9023

Stewardship Efforts Are Costly, But Rewarding For The Trust

Joshua's Trust has received a lot of positive publicity because of our success in minimizing the potential impact of the proposed Tractor Supply development next to the environmentally sensitive Windham White Cedar Bog.

This was made possible principally through the hiring of expert consultant Scott Horsley, who provided an alternative low-impact development design for the site. Mr. Horsley also

provided testimony before the Windham Inland Wetlands Commission and helped negotiate an agreement between the Trust and the developer of the site, guaranteeing that the low-impact development would be carried out.

The Trust was fortunate to have funds available from the earlier Home Depot settlement to pay for Mr. Horsley's services.

Each property that the Trust accepts presents a number of one time and ongoing expenses which must be met. To be good stewards of our 55 properties and 50 conservation easements, the Trust has

started a program to set aside sufficient funds to ensure that future monitoring and stewardship costs will be covered.

How much money should we set aside? We are fortunate that most of our stewardship activities are carried out by our many volunteers who keep down our expenses. Our stewardship expenses are primarily from insurance, cost of equipment and materials, management and surveys.

We are also fortunate that we have not been in any protracted court cases involving our properties or easements.

At the present time most of our stewardship costs are covered by contributions from our generous members. The Conservation Easement and Stewardship committees are in the process of coming up with estimates of future monitoring and stewardship costs.

In the meantime, we are asking (when feasible) land and easement donors to contribute endowments to guarantee that our stewardship commitments will be met for the foreseeable future.

Warren's Word

By Warren Church
Joshua's Trust President



Involvement In White Cedar Bog Protection Settlement Will Have Long-Standing Implications For The Trust

Continued from Page 1.

tion to the agreement which has been reached.

In particular, the expenditure demonstrates the Trust's clear commitment to defend its properties, a commitment required by the IRS which grants the Trust its non-profit status, and by the Land Trust Alliance, which accredits only those organizations which can prove an ability to care for the properties that it

protects.

In addition to the monetary expense, hundreds of volunteer hours have gone into the defense of the Bog. President Warren Church and Stewardship Chair Joan Hill are only two of the many Trust volunteers who have participated in defending the Bog. The Board of Trustees, recognizing the long-term threats to the Bog, have authorized an additional \$5,000 for a remediation study.

Fall Is A Great Time To Explore This Area's Natural Beauty

Joshua's Trust will present a series of walks during "Walktober." The full schedule can be found at www.thelastgreenvalley.org. Here is a selection.

Sept. 14 at 2 p.m. take a leisurely one-hour stroll through Whetten Woods with steward Ruth Moynihan. Meet at the Joshua's Trust booth during the Festival on the Green in downtown Storrs.

Oct. 11 at 9 a.m. join nationally-known watercolorist Charles McCaughty on a leisurely stroll through the woods near Church Farm and learn to look at nature with an artist's eye. 1 mile, 2 hrs. Bring a sketchbook or camera.

From Rte. 195 in Mansfield Center, take Rte. 89 and pass the Ashford Town Line (about 5.9 miles). The Church Farm is a large colonial with pillars. Just past the Church Farm, turn left on Varga Rd., go left at the fork. Park alongside the road.

Oct. 12 at 11 a.m. Thames Valley Trout Unlimited, a conservation partner with the Trust, presents a 2.5 hr. informative hike in the Fenton River Valley, designed especially for those interested in trout, fish habitat and stream conservation, includes brief talks and demos. Moderate. 2.5 hrs.

From Rte. 195 (Storrs Rd.) in Mansfield Ctr., take Chaffeeville Rd. 0.75 mi. north. Parking area on right.

Oct. 12 at 1:30 p.m. Learn to Read the Stream on a walk with a fly fisherman as he describes how trout see the world. Examine the aquatic life that trout depend on. Learn about stream ecology and habitat restoration on the Fenton River, which once powered the historic grist mill on its banks. The mill will be open for tours. Easy, slow. 1 mile 1.5 hrs. Bring a fishing rod if you have a license.

From Rte. 195 in Storrs, go east on Gurleyville Rd. 2.5 miles to Chaffeeville Rd. Go south on Chaffeeville Rd. 0.2 miles to Stone Mill Rd. The mill is a short distance on the right. Park along Stone Mill Rd.



Sydney Landon Plum, author of *Solitary Goose*, led a walk at BiCentennial Pond for members of the Nature Book Discussion Group. The group, which is co-sponsored with Mansfield Parks and Recreation, is open to the public. The 2008-09 schedule can be found at www.joshuaslandtrust.org.

Oct. 13 at 9 a.m. Ramble along the Nipmuck Trail near the Fenton River to visit the Gurleyville Gristmill and the ruins of other mills and industrial sites. Dr. Nick Bellantoni, the state archaeologist, will discuss the history of this once-thriving hub of the silk industry in colonial Connecticut. The walk is sponsored by Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center. Hilly, swampy. 4 miles, 2 hrs. Meet at the Gurleyville Mill, Stone Mill Rd. (See directions in previous item.)

Oct. 18 and 19 at 9 a.m. Guided by the words of a list of pre-eminent nature writers, Juan Sanchez will lead walkers along the Preston Sanctuary trail. See nature through the eyes of John Burroughs, Rachel Carson, Robert Frost, and Henry David Thoreau. **Limited to 20 people. Reservations required; email Juan by Oct. 16: jasdawin2@charter.net.** 1.1 miles 2 hours.

The Preston Sanctuary is on the West side of Rte. 97, about 4 miles north of Rte. 6 in Hampton and about 3 miles north of the center of town. Park along the grassy road shoulder.

Oct. 19 at 1 p.m. Children especially will enjoy the short climb to Wolf Rock for a spectacular autumn view, then the leisurely walk along the Nipmuck Trail through the relatively new Sawmill Brook Preserve to the spectacular Sawmill Brook Marsh. There is some interesting beaver activity along the brook and the marsh always has surprises to observe. There may be wet spots, depending how busy the beaver has been, so be prepared. Hilly, 2 miles, 2 hours. The walk is co-sponsored with the Mansfield Parks Advisory Committee.

Going south on Rte. 195 in Mansfield, make a right onto Brown's Rd. next to the Congregational Church and near the intersection with Rt. 89. Go up a long hill and at the first fork, take a left onto Crane Hill. The trail is a short way down on the right. Park along roadside.

Join us for an evening of music and fun... ...as we work to preserve local lands

The Trust invites you and your friends for an evening of wine hors d'oeuvres and "neo-old timey" music at an event benefitting the environmental cause !

Where Good Music And Land Conservation Meet

See page 1 for details

Nov. 1, 7:30 p.m.

Knowlton Memorial Hall, Ashford (west of intersection of Rts. 44 & 89)

Reservations required by Oct. 27

Name _____

Phone _____

Number of persons attending:

Members @ \$25 ea _____ Non-members @ \$30 ea. _____

Total enclosed _____

Send check and form to Joshua's Trust, P.O. Box 4, Mansfield Center, CT 06250

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