



Isabelle Atwood Donation Of Home And Farm Results In Big Public Auction, Pursuit Of New HQ

The late Isabelle Atwood's gift of her home and land to Joshua's Trust has created a unique opportunity for the organization to pursue a move to a new and historic headquarters and potentially raise thousands of dollars for on-going operation.

A public auction of the estate's large collection of American antique furniture, accessories and art will be held on Saturday, Oct. 5 at the farm on Wormwood Hill Road in Mansfield Center. Proceeds will benefit the Trust.

"This auction will be a rare event given the range and volume of inventory," according to the auctioneer, Paul Russ of Russ Antiques & Auctions, Inc.

"Isabelle lived her entire life at the farm," Russ said,



The Atwood home could become the Trust's new headquarters.

"and the collection represents a generational accumulation with the large house, barn and various outbuildings all filled with numerous items. The overall theme of inventory is country New England with Windsor chairs, painted

blanket chests, tavern tables, tea tables, ancestral portraits, landscape paintings, stoneware, etc."

"More formal items include Empire and Victorian furniture, Oriental rugs, Victorian glassware, oil lamps, porcelain, sterling silver, etc.," Russ continued.

"There are numerous

leather-bound books with local history titles and textiles including multiple quilts, coverlets, hooked rugs, etc. This sale includes everything from very fine collector objects

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Help Needed With Stewardship, Outreach, Education

Joshua's Trust needs your help on both the Stewardship and Outreach & Education committees.

Stewardship is looking for a regional coordinator to oversee stewardship activities in the Tolland/Coventry region. This person serves on the Stewardship Committee and works closely with the chair.

The Outreach & Education Committee is looking for volunteers to lead walks on some of the Trust's many preserves. We are specifically looking for individuals with

special knowledge that they would be able to share with other Trust members, such as orienteering, mushroom identification and foraging, plant identification, etc.

The Outreach & Education Committee is also looking for additional members to help with a variety of tasks such as coordinating events and/or representing the Trust at special events.

For more information, contact Stephanie at the Trust office or email stephanie.clark@joshuastrust.org.



Joshua's Tract Conservation And Historic Trust, Inc.

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MANSFIELD CENTER, CT 06250
Email: joshuastrust@snet.net
www.joshuaslandtrust.org

OFFICERS:

President: Allison Burchell -Robinson
Past President: Warren Church
Vice President: Mona Anderson
VP Land Acq: Richard Hyde
Secretary: Carol Enright
Treasurer: Hamilton Holt
Asst. Treasurer: Pat Mochel

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Executive Director: Stephanie Clark

Stewardship: Vacant

Membership: Doug Hughes, Marietta Johnson

Newsletter: Nancy Silander, Paul Stern

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.

The Trust protects over 4,100 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



The accreditation seal recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national standards for excellence, uphold the public trust and ensure that conservation efforts are permanent.

The Trust's Volunteers Are Its Biggest Treasure

It's as though Joshua's Trust won the lottery with close to \$700,000 contributed to the Legacy Campaign.

It's amazing how a conversation among a small group mushroomed into the launching of our first capital campaign and it's not over. Stay tuned.

Doesn't the success of this small group mirror the success of a small group back in 1966?

Did they envision the success and size of Joshua's Trust in less than 50 years?

I think they did just as the group who envisioned Legacy did. There is an empowerment that comes when you believe in an idea/concept strongly and are willing to work to achieve it.

But, you can't do it alone or in a small group forever. You need help. You need ideas, strategies, planning, helping hands, muscle -- you need people with energy, vision and interest. Volunteers!

You don't have to be an expert on land conservation. When I first became involved with the Trust I knew nothing about stewardship, boundaries, easements, surveys, baseline reports, management plans or walk books. I listened, I learned and today I am the richer for it.

All of us have something to contribute to the ongoing activities and

tasks associated with Joshua's Trust. We actually found people who like to file. Can you imagine the shock they encountered when it was revealed that the files were in less than tip top shape? They persevered.

We need help in all areas. For those not already on board, we need trustees and officers, stewards, monitors, walk leaders, grant writers, help with the website, committee chairs.

We desperately need help in the financial arena. Pat Mochel, our hard working and long time assistant treasurer, has wanted to retire for months. Can one of you help?

The point is that volunteers have always constituted the work force of Joshua's Trust. Volunteers started the Trust and their work continues today. Some of the volunteers from the beginning are still with us today, but they and others have or are retiring. We need you to step forward to take their places.

The first step is the hardest. Together, we can make all the rest of them easy.

REFLECTIONS ON THIS AND THAT

By Allison
Burchell-Robinson
Joshua's Trust President



The publication of the Trust's September newsletter is underwritten with the help of a grant from the First Niagara Bank Foundation.



Local Folk Group Will Headline Trust's Annual Fundraising Concert

Rani Arbo, a popular Connecticut folk group that performs everything from Springsteen tunes to ballads from Appalachia, will be featured at our fall concert fundraiser.

Make your reservation soon for the event to be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 6, at Ashford's Knowlton Memorial Hall, Route 44 just west of Route 89.

Rani Arbo's vocal harmonies are accompanied by a number of stringed instruments, including banjo, guitar, and ukulele. Instead of a traditional drum kit, percussionist Scott Kessel uses a variety

of recycled items as instruments, including a cardboard box, tin cans, caulk tubes and a vinyl suitcase.

Visit <http://snd.sc/11e10UW> to listen to a track.

Doors open at 2 p.m. and refreshments will be available.

Tickets are \$25 for members (non-members - \$30) and benefit the Trust's conservation activities. You may reserve a seat by mailing in a check to the Trust for the number of attendees in your party. You may also pay at the door, but since seating is limited, it is best to book ahead.

Musicians, l-r, Scott Kessel, Rani Arbo, Anand Nayak and Andrew Kinsey.

Use the reservation form on the back page.

Grist Mill Needs Docents, Gardeners, And Archeologists!

So maybe you're no Indiana Jones, but have you ever been tempted to try a little archeology?

If so, here's your chance.

Starting Sept. 2, the Trust will be carrying out an archaeological investigation at the Gurleyville Grist Mill. Volunteers without archaeological experience are welcome, and will be provided with equipment and instruction.

While the work is not heavy, there is considerable getting up and down from a position seated or kneeling on the ground, and carrying of buckets to the screening area.

The mill has been on its site since 1725, so who knows what treasures will be found?

There has been a lot of other activity at the Grist Mill this summer.

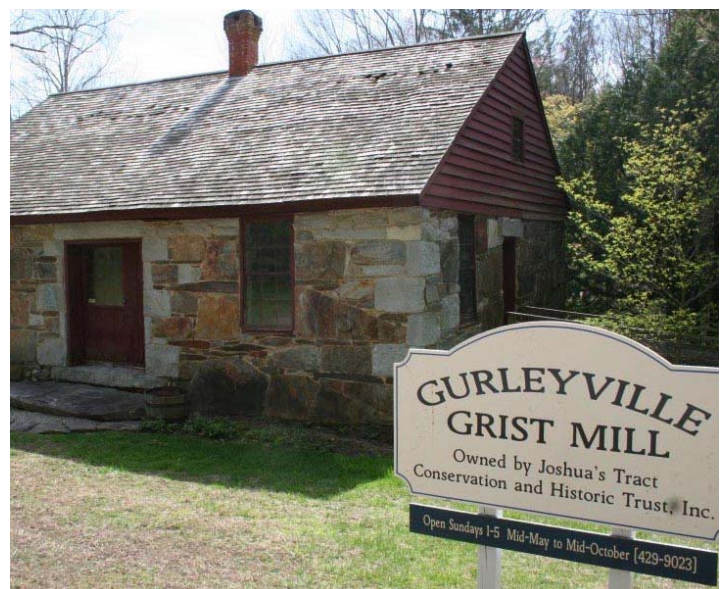
New and returning docents have given weekend tours, including one to the neighbors of the mill. Better signage has increased the number of visitors to the property.

The Grist Mill is also looking for someone interested in planting and maintaining a heritage vegetable garden across the street from the Miller's House next summer. Or, if no one is interested in this, an alternative is to plant a butterfly garden on the garden site.

If you would like to learn more about this special historical site, we are also still actively recruiting and train-

ing docents to work at the Mill next year. Other than training, the time commitment is for two Sunday afternoons between mid-May and mid-October.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities – archeologist, gardener or docent - please get in touch with Grist Mill committee chair Joan Hill at 860-228-2849 or jhill003@charter.net, or call the Trust Office.





Old-Fashioned Auction Of Atwood Estate Antiques Oct. 5 Will Raise Funds To Benefit Trust For Years To Come

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to dusty project pieces from the loft of the barn.

The event will be an "old-fashioned on-site auction under tents," Russ said. "All inventory is to be sold unreserved."

The auction is scheduled to begin 11 a.m. Oct. 5 with a preview the morning of the sale from 9-11 a.m. Additional preview times will be Oct. 3 and 4 from 10 a.m. 4 p.m. For full auction details, images, terms and conditions see www.russantiques.com.

"We encourage visitors to come to the in-house preview on the 3rd and 4th to see the inventory in room settings and to fully absorb the atmosphere as well as to have ample time to examine the thousands of lots offered at the auction," the auctioneer said.

"Isabelle was an antique auction enthusiast her entire life and will be long remembered for her passion and keen eye for American antiques," he said.

A number of other items not included in the auction will be kept by the Trust or be given to the Mansfield Historical Society due to their importance to the Atwood family

or Mansfield.

Meanwhile, since the beginning of the year, the Trust's Atwood Farm Committee has been working on various plans for the farm. One aspect has been to pursue the option of using the house as the headquarters for the Trust.

Trust officials have been working with the Mansfield director of planning towards changing the zoning regulations to allow the property's use "as historic house as an office for a conservation or preservation organization, such as a historical society, or a preservation/land trust organization."

The zoning change would allow the property and house to be used for special meetings and programs, educational programs, exhibits, and displays.

Once this proposed addition to the regulations for a residential zone is approved, the second step is to apply for a special permit for the farm to become the Trust's headquarters. Rudy Favretti, Joshua Trust vice-president for historic properties, indicated that the entire process should be resolved by early autumn.

The items in the rooms shown below are among those to be auctioned, rain or shine, to raise funds for Joshua's Trust.



The Trust Has More Than 300 Acres Of Conservation Land In The Works

The Trust has been working with several towns on conservation easements, development rights, and property purchased this spring and summer.

In June we closed on a 32-acre conservation easement in Hampton donated by the Bass/Fields family.

Also in Hampton, we will soon close on the 15-acre conservation easement donated by the Goodheart/Embardo family.

The acquisition of the 20-acre Bowers Preserve in Scotland is also expected to be finished up within the month.

In April, the State of Connecticut purchased the development rights to the 113-acre Szegda Farm, and the Town of Lebanon purchased a conservation easement on the 162-acre Anderson Farm. The Trust contributed funds for each of these.



Habitat Trail Opens at Allanach-Wolf

Currently in transition from lawn to meadow, the open area nearest the parking lot at Allanach-Wolf Woodlands in Windham now has interpretive signage explaining how the Trust has improved this area as a wildlife habitat. The signage also provides details on how the visitor can create many of the same habitats at home. The level trail is 0.2 miles long, and has 12 informational signs.

Fall Brings Lots Of Opportunities For Fun

Come and join us on a walk, or come introduce yourself if you are at a fall event! All of these offer opportunities for purchasing a Joshua's Trust Walk Book or other branded items! (Please visit our web site for the times of these events.)

- Sept. 15 - Family Day, Ashford
- Sept. 19 - Third Thursday in Willimantic
- Sept. 21 - Hike Whetten Woods in Mansfield
- Sept. 22 - Mansfield on the Green Festival
- Sept. 28 - Chenes Roches Hike, Willington, 10 a.m. to noon.
- Nov. 10 - Walk Utley Hill Preserve in Columbia
- Dec. 7 - Surviving Winter Program, Allanach-Wolf Woodlands in Windham

And don't forget about the Quiet Corner's Walktober events. Joshua's Trust is sponsoring several of the walks:

- Oct 5, 10 a.m. - Walk Byle's Sanctuary on Rt. 44 in Ashford - 1.5 miles focusing on the biodiversity.
- Oct. 16 and 19, Gurleyville Gristmill Tour. 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.
- Oct. 16, 10:30 a.m. and Oct. 19 at noon - Gurleyville Village walking tour with historian Rudy Favretti
- Oct. 19, 10 a.m. - Walk Two Sisters Tract in Chaplin - 1.2 miles focusing on the history and plants. Optional Air Line State Park trail walk after focusing on natural history.

For more information, go to www.TheLastGreenValley.org

Welcome To The Trust!

These are the members who have joined (or come back) in the past few months. If you know them, please welcome them!

We hope to see all of you at Trust activities this fall!

- Andover - Jed and Janet Larson
- Ashford - John Bayline, Andrew Meade, John Sievel, Mark Urban
- Chaplin - Alycia Sanders, Christopher and Albert Komuves, Sylvia Godbout and Ray Garrido
- Columbia - Karen Christianson, Christopher Juhl, Tom Currier, Judy Ortiz, Shari Herzig, Carol Strout
- Coventry - Dennis Seretny, Jan Speas, Ellie Stargardter, Mary Holz, Reg Clause, Karen Mullins
- Danielson - Kelly Andrews-Babcock
- East Hartford - Zach Schurin
- Eastford - Susan and Glenn Orcutt
- Franklin - John Kochiss, Maryanne Grybowski, Claire Chesmer
- Glastonbury - Ken and Nancy McLaren, Kathleen Chapman
- Hampton - Gay Wagner
- Hartford - Robert Smith
- Mansfield Center - Tim Reilly, Nancy and Chauncey Rucker
- Middletown - Jack Marshall
- Mystic - Stephanie Clark
- Newington- Charlene Smith
- Norristown - Justin Weddington
- Pomfret Center - Donna Gauthier, Annice and Adam Rockwell
- Preston - Jinny Labbe
- South Windham - Brenda Rosen
- Storrs - Edan Tulman, Paul Aho, Ty Christopher, Emily Mattingly, Kim Mehrens
- Tolland - Emily Taigen, Cherie Trice
- Union - Brian Barlow, Robert Roberts
- West Hartford - Beth Critten
- Willimantic - Brent Brisson, Emily Palladdino, Paul Ashton, Susan Oldershaw
- Windham - Joanne Todd, Bob Sawyer, Dency Sargent

JOSHUA'S TRACT
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FALL CONCERT RESERVATION FORM

Use this form to reserve your place at the Trust's fall fund-raising concert 3 p..m. Sunday, Oct. 6, at Ashford's Knowlton Memorial Hall on Route 44.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Number attending _____ x \$25 = _____
(\$30 for non-members)

I / We cannot attend but would like to contribute \$ _____

(Tickets will not be mailed out.)

Please make check payable to Joshua's Trust.

Mail to:

Joshua's Trust Fall Concert, P.O. Box 4, Mansfield Center, CT 06250