

Community-Minded Conservation Thrives

With your help and support in the last two years we've conserved 22 acres zoned for urban development. And chances are some of that land is just a walk away from where you live.

Standing on the dock in Wheeler and looking across the estuary, you see the emerald necklace of Cedar Creek, Elk Meadows, Sitka Wetlands, and Alder Creek Farm. Our conservation efforts are preserving the landscape we all love and helping balance development with the beauty of open space and the need for wildlife habitat. We see again and again how small, local conservation projects add up to a big impact.

It takes people to make conservation work, and so many individuals have offered a helping hand in the last two years. Starting in 2014 Toni and Dave Clay made a generous bargain sale of 4.54 acres, and when LNCT added Blacktail Ridge the result was 9-acre Elk Meadows Park (see story on page 3). Later that year Judy Sorrel's donation of nearly five acres of forest and riparian habitat adjacent to Alder Creek Farm expanded the Farm's conserved lands to 59 acres. A bargain sale from Ruth

and Robert Simpson expanded Sitka Wetland to 25 acres. Cliff and Carol Halvorson's generous land donation preserved land adjacent to Vosburg Creek, and our positive impact on Wheeler's natural surroundings grows as well.

With these strides, we are especially pleased to announce the conservation of an additional 7.27 acres on Neahkahnne Creek in the Alder Creek watershed thanks to land donors, Tom Nash and Maureen McMahon. Funds to support land stewardship as well as costs associated with the land transfer were generously provided by our donors (see back page).

Neahkahnne Creek is a high priority salmon habitat that runs along Highway 101 between Manzanita and Nehalem. Two projects focused on upstream restoration will work in concert with LNCT's efforts and provide long term benefits: replacement of the culvert under Highway 101 to improve fish passage and restoration activities in Neahkahnne Lake by Lower Nehalem Watershed Council. LNCT's preservation of the Creek will help

continued on back

Harvest Festival 2015



photos Adelaido Bautista

With 550 attending our annual Harvest Festival, we saw some bold changes that showcased why our community is so special. Event manager Gary Seelig shares, "It's a festive thank you party for all the community's support of our work and our mission to protect local lands. And it's a way to show off what we are doing at Alder Creek Farm."

All our favorites were back: cider pressing, the piñata, the farmers' market, a lively zero waste campaign (only five pounds

of garbage after recycling!), music by Sedona Fire, conservation talks, and garden tours. Off-site parking and shuttle buses really worked, and everyone loved the car-free environment. The additions of Nehalem Bay Horse Excursions & Pony Rides and KidZone from NCRD were big hits, too. Gary adds, "This is about creating an environment that reflects the values we are implementing on our lands and striving for in our lives."

Harvest Festival 2016, Saturday, October 1

From The Ground Up - Rob Wynia

I have heard it said that action is contagious. Since joining Lower Nehalem Community Trust as Development Director a number of people have commented, "It must be frustrating to do environmental work with the way the world is today." But I believe that couldn't be further from the truth. There is a thrill that comes with doing this work that can only be experienced



Robert Wynia in the work itself.

Over the past year I have had the honor of being part of so many exciting efforts, all thanks to the community of LNCT. Additions to our conserved lands, the donation of nearly a ton of fresh organic produce to the Food Bank, and the amazing stewardship work done by youth work crews getting their hands dirty, just to name a few.

With each and every effort I'm reminded of why we're all here — because action is contagious. And every action that benefits our corner of the world is just the beginning. These things make a real difference here and now, but are also seeds planted, which will bear fruit in a distant future that's only realized from the work we do today. Thank you for your contagious actions, which care for the lands and people of our region now and into the future.

With gratitude for your vision & generosity

Foundations

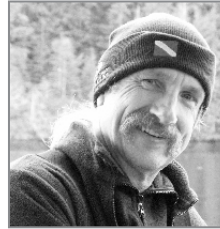
Campbell Family Charitable Fund	Gary & Melinda Seelig
Eisele Family Trust	Judy Sorrel
Eugene Schmuck Foundation	Henry & Kim Stevens
Kafka Foundation	Unfurl Clothing of Manzanita
Juan Young Trust Foundation	Reed & Tina Wilson
Meyer Memorial Trust	Anonymous (2)
Natural Resources Conservation Service	
YARG Foundation	
Land Trust Alliance	

Cedar Circle

Nancy Ashton & Dennis Schantzen	Special Thanks
Ralph Dobiejko & June Baumler	Roxann & Mark Balmer
Gareth & Georgenne Ferdun	Nancy Chase
Linda & Howard Franklin	Judy Coleman
Gordon & Katherine Keane	John Cottrell
Linda Kozlowski & Bill Supak	Samantha Ferber
Jan Layne	Doug Firstbrook
Olivia Mercado	Monica Gianopulos
Kim Miller & Michael Hithe	Diane Gibson & Patty Rinehart
Allan & Madeline Olson	Maia Holliday
Mary C. Ruhl	Judith Jones
	Mike Manzulli
	Mark McLaughlin
	Cathy Peinhardt
	Melinda & Gary Seelig
	Susan St. John
	Bruce Thompson
	Austin Tomlinson
	Tina Wilson

Comings and Goings

Jim Pendergrass joins LNCT's board of directors as our new Treasurer. Jim was born in Portland and has lived in Oregon almost his entire life. Educated at Stanford, he recently retired from a 33-year career in the banking industry, most recently as President of Wells Fargo's Small Business Banking Group in Oregon. He and his wife Chris, a ceramic sculptor, have been married for 33 years, and spent 20 years in eastern Oregon before moving to the Willamette Valley. They live both in Manzanita and on a small farm outside of Cheshire, where they raise sheep and trees. Both are long time private pilots and are active scuba divers, skiers, and hikers. And Jim plays ice hockey in Eugene's adult league.



Jim Pendergrass

LNCT also welcomes new board member, **Dan Carroll**. Since retiring from the corporate life in December 2015, Dan's new role is founder of Nehalem Valley Naturals, an organic fresh produce farm cultivating 22 different fruits and vegetables sold through local farmers markets, such as Manzanita, Cannon Beach, and Hillsboro. When he's not farming, Dan spends much of his time hunting and fishing. Married 26 years to Elizabeth Carroll, together they have 2 children: MaryBeth who is a Junior at U of O and Michael who is a senior at OSU.



Dan Carroll

Ed Gallagher, an LNCT board treasurer and lands committee member, has stepped down to accept an exciting appointment to the Tillamook County Economic Development Council. Both economic development and environmental protection have long been at the center of his work over the years, and we're excited to wish him well in this new chapter.



Enjoy a growing season of organic produce for yourself and to share with North Coast Food Bank

Opening Day is Saturday, February 27

visit nehalemtrust.org for an application & guidelines
email: karen@nehalemtrust.org
or call (503) 368-3203



photos Max Broderick



Roosevelt elk at Elk Meadows
photo Max Broderick



Map of Elk Meadows Phase One
J.D. Walsh & Associates, P.S. - Landscape Architects

Elk Meadows Park Coming Soon - Max Broderick

A partnership between the City of Manzanita and the Lower Nehalem Community Trust will soon present our community with an exceptional 9-acre nature play park on Neptune Way near Nehalem Bay State Park and existing LNCT preserved lands. The park took shape in 2014 with a generous "bargain sale" by Dave and Toni Clay supplemented by LNCT's adjacent conservation parcel, Blacktail Ridge. Oregon's Parks and Recreation Department and LNCT's community of supporters provided funding.

Thanks to generous donations and grant awards, enough funding has been

raised to implement phase one of the park plan, which includes an eastern loop trail with viewing areas (see map above). Work on this phase will be conducted by local contractor, John Longfellow Construction, Inc. We hope to have the first walker-ready path open by early summer!

Elk Meadows Park will provide quality habitat for wildlife, connect people to the environment, and provide nature-based education and outdoor activities for children. The new park meets Manzanita's 2012 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan requirements, and when it is fully implemented there will be two loop trails, nature

play areas for kids, benches, and viewing areas.

As additional funding becomes available, more viewing benches, nature play areas and equipment, plus a second trail loop to the west will be developed. Your generous backing can be made online at www.nehalemtrust.org or by check payable to LNCT.

Interested volunteers can also contribute to the project by donating their time and skills to help with control of invasive species and reintroduction of native plants. With all of us working together, the park will be enjoyed by resident elk and people alike!

Winter 2016

Our Mission

To preserve land and nurture conservation values in partnership with an engaged community in the Nehalem region of the Oregon Coast.

Our Conservation Values

- Respect for all species
- Species diversity
- Clean water
- Responsibility for human impact on nature
- Living in harmony & balance with nature
- Recognition that nature and natural systems sustain all life
- Healthy habitats
- Resilient ecosystems
- Understanding the place in which we live
- Learning as a process

Board of Directors

Allan Olson, Chair
Jim Pendergrass, Treasurer
David Sip, Secretary
Dan Carroll
Nancy Chase
Jeremy Sappington
Casey Storey

Staff

Dale Cramer Burr
Executive Director
dale@nehalemtrust.org
Robert Wynia
Development Director
rob@nehalemtrust.org
Max Broderick
Stewardship Coordinator
max@nehalemtrust.org
Karen Matthews
Community Garden Coordinator
karen@nehalemtrust.org
Mary Corey
Office Manager
mary@nehalemtrust.org

Going Online

We're using a new email platform called MailChimp to deliver our monthly eBulletin, so you may need to add lnct@nehalemtrust.org to your email contacts to ensure it reaches you. We value your interest, will only send you important announcements, and will never share your address.

LNCT Gets a New Look



Our new logo is the product of a yearlong community effort that opened doors to new relationships. Thanks so much to all of you who took the time to review and respond to this exciting project as it unfolded.

The beautiful logo was designed by Brenda Cornett of BRANDViVA! She began the design process by asking questions about the work the logo would do for the Trust, concepts that would honestly represent the organization, and what design elements to consider to achieve these goals.

Brenda presented three designs — each unique and outstanding. As these were shared, a real love for the original logo, based on an oil painting by Don Osborne of Wheeler, became clear.

The new logo is a brilliant consideration of the original artwork, with the addition of an eagle — suggested by Trust founder, Gareth Ferdun. The design is expertly crafted using the newest technology, making it easy to use while ensuring consistency and legibility.

We are pleased to have a strong visual identity that represents us professionally and also conveys the heart of our community.

Community-Minded Conservation Thrives, *continued from pg 1*

remove invasives, establish native vegetation, and ensure quality spawning and rearing habitat. Our goal is to protect this vital waterway of Alder Creek's watershed *forever*.

With Gratitude for the Protection of Neahkahnie Creek

Allen Family Foundation
Anonymous (3)
Debra Bergquist & Kathie Raisler
Nancy Chase
Lynda Chick
Louise Christianson
Diane Colcord
Howard & Linda Franklin
Darel T. Grothaus
Chip Hall
M. & A. Haskin
Daniel Korder
Lannon Leiman & Fredrick Seil
Maureen McMahon & Tom Nash
Kim Miller & Michael Hithe
Sandra Morey
Allan Olson
Jeffrey Roehm

Mary C. Ruhl
Tomas Sedlacek
Donald Shields
Alan & Gwen Shusterman
Vivi Tallman
Sara Schmidt Tattam
G. Tunstall
Susan Walsh
Robert Wynia

Project Partners

Longfellow Construction, Inc.
Bayside Surveying
Gary Hahn & Associates, Inc.
Board Member Nancy Chase

Land Committee Volunteers & Staff

Max Broderick; Ted Chu; Gareth Ferdun, Chair;
Doug Firstbrook; Allan Olson & Jon Wickersham

Save the Date June 4, 2016!



Fundraiser, Feast & Auction *New* at Alder Creek Farm

2016 Ferdun Conservation Award

Send Your Nominations ... Deadline is April 1

The Ferdun Conservation Award, presented at Living Locally, recognizes outstanding contributions to conservation in our community. Nominations for the 2016 award are currently being accepted. LNCT's board of directors will review all submissions and select this year's winner.

To nominate your candidate, please send name and bio to lnct@nehalemtrust.org with *Ferdun Conservation Award* in the subject line.

Save the Date

LNCT's Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, April 30

9am – noon



Plant starts for your garden!

Join Community Gardeners at the Farm and get a jump on your spring garden with locally propagated starts.

Plants are grown with care by Community Gardeners in the greenhouse at Alder Creek Farm so they are acclimated to our coastal environment.

Don't miss the fun ! All proceeds benefit our work.

Alder Creek Farm • 35955 Underhill Lane • Nehalem

