Dear FNLT Supporters...
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DEAR FNLT SUPPORTERS...

Serving as a board member on the Farm & Natural Lands Trust is a sweet spot for volunteerism for me. It allows me to blend my personal and professional interests to help preserve our beautiful landscapes in York County.

My personal interest in preserving land didn’t start until my adult years. However, as a young girl growing up in York Township, I lived next to, not on, a farm. As most kids do, I inadvertently trespassed onto the farm to play in the creek in the summer and to go sledding in the winter. I eventually saw that farm developed into housing. As a professional planner, I understand why that occurred, but there is still a sense of childhood loss tucked away in my memories about that farm.

The beauty of our landscapes really started to hit home when I spent several years in Texas attending graduate school. I would come home to Pennsylvania during Spring Break to visit family. After being in a flat, brownish landscape with short trees for several months, I would drive home from the airport and see tall green trees on lush rolling hills. I felt like Dorothy waking up in the Technicolor world of Oz.

I am also lucky to be married to an avid outdoorsman. Throughout our marriage my husband Jan has shared with me his love of woods and waterways. That has only deepened my appreciation for what we have in York County.

My interest in preservation spills over into my work on a daily basis. As the Director of the York County Planning Commission, I am expected to know the landscapes of York County and understand how they shape our community. We are truly blessed with scenic vistas along the River, rolling hillsides of productive agricultural lands, and wooded areas for recreation. We are also “blessed” with an interstate connecting us to major cities to the north and south, a shared border with Maryland that heightens the demand for housing, and steady population growth even when other areas of the state are stagnating. Understanding these forces and balancing them to ensure we have a community that we all want to live in is a challenging task.

Being a Board member of the Farm and Natural Lands Trust allows me to work with dedicated staff and board colleagues to blend my professional knowledge in planning and my personal interests in the outdoors to preserve the varied landscapes of York County so they are here for future generations. If you have a similar passion, consider volunteering with FNLT. It’s rewarding and fun!

-Felicia Dell
Farm & Natural Lands Trust is pleased to announce the preservation of the Frances Z. Callahan’s homestead. This 25 +/- acre property is in Manheim Township where land preservation is not as prevalent. In fact, FNLT has only one other preserved property in the township, so we hope this news will help spread the word to other landowners in the community.

Driving through this township is like taking a step back in time because of the rural, agricultural and open space vistas. As you arrive to the Callahan property, the most striking man-made feature is the two-story fieldstone farm house. Close to the home, you’ll find a pull though corn crib, spring house and milk house. In addition, Frances and her son enjoy a small greenhouse and rather large garden.

The site has a large wetland area of nearly 1.5 acres with other smaller wet areas within the woods where springs and seeps are visible. A tributary to Gunpowder Falls is along or near the western boundary. The canopy within the wooded area is tight and used as firewood for the cook stove inside. Hay fields replaced the once active tilled areas.

Frances commented she and her late husband greatly enjoyed raising their family there. She recalls the children going out to play and not coming back to the house until mealtime, with many adventurous stories from the woods. Her face lights up as she talks about the fond memories living there and hopes through preservation with FNLT, similar memories will continue for generations to come.
MARTIN FARM ADDED TO HELLAM TWP. PRESERVATION AREA

Mike and Deb Martin are coming up on 24 years of ownership of their newly preserved 54+ acre farm in Hellam Township. They’re in great company, as their farm borders the already FNLT preserved lands of both the Phiel and Hauser farms. Just beyond those two properties to the west is 737+ acre Rocky Ridge County Park; and, to the west is the FNLT preserved 121+ acre Horn Farm.

The Martins take great pride in their property, and their community. In their time of ownership they have gone all organic in their practices which include beef cattle and laying chickens. At the center of the farm you’ll find their home, built in 1822, and accompanying barn that predates the house, with additional outbuildings. Surrounding the house you’ll find a nice mix of pasture, woodlands, a pair of ponds, numerous wet areas and a tributary that flows to Kruetz Creek.

Mike and Deb Martin join the extended FNLT preservation family in Hellam Township. Thank you, we look forward to growing that preservation family tree!
The old adage for event planning is you’ll never find a night without something else going on. Pretty much every year we face that with the Hoedown and 2017’s event was no different. With that, we had less people but by far our biggest success with almost a 50% increase in funds raised in our ninth year of the event!

Guests enjoyed live music from “The Farm Trust Boys,” food by Artistic Foods Catering and beverages by Brewery Products – all in a unique setting at the Warehouse offices in Downtown York. In addition to the live and silent auctions, this year we had live demonstration by the South Central Pennsylvania Wood Turners, along with several of their members’ items up for bid. Donated private tours, bonfires, pig roasts, artwork and more were all sold to generous supporters of land preservation.

Thank you to all who attended, donated, volunteered, bid and more to make the Hoedown such a great success! Mark your calendar for Thursday, November 15th to help celebrate our 10th year of the Downtown Hoedown!

Please see the list below of thank yous and our apologies if there is anyone we missed:

MCQUINN FAMILY PRESERVES THEIR WHITE OAK FARM

Like many of our landowners, Bill and Tammy McGuinn were drawn to their 33+ acre Shrewsbury Township farm property because of the setting. The old two twin door Pennsylvania German farm house and barn sit in the center of the farm, with a long driveway extending through the scenic agricultural fields. They love the peaceful setting, with field and pasture cushioning the buildings on all sides.

The majority of the McGuinn farm is actively tilled agricultural land with a mix of corn, soybean and winter wheat in rotation. In addition there are several wooded areas, including one that buffers a tributary to the East Branch Codorus Creek that traverses the property.

Thank you to Bill and Tammy for providing these photos, and of course for their efforts in preservation with FNLT.

Save The Date

2018 FNLT EVENTS

FNLT’s 28th Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 3

Millbourne Garden Tour & Dinner
Saturday, August 25

Give Local York Big Give Day
Friday, May 4

FNLT Trail Runs TBA

10th Annual FNLT Clay Shoot
Friday, May 18

10th Annual FNLT
Downtown Hoedown
Thursday, November 15
Kirk and Ruth McClelland saw a farm for sale in the rolling hills of Glen Rock, fell in love and purchased it in 2001. The landscape is a typical York County farm property consisting of a mix of tillable agricultural land, low-wet areas, streams/springs, woodland and slopes. That’s not hard to love!

They first began renovating the brick farmhouse, built in 1875 and nearly all original, but missing modern amenities and including some of the ‘fun’ that comes with a house of old age. That didn’t matter, as the serene surroundings were perfect, changes to the house would take time but the landscapes were set. The McClellands and their four children, plus any available family and friends, worked together for over three years to completely update the home.

A grant through the Isaac Walton League helped restore approximately 2,200 feet of Pierceville Run and reforest the floodplain. The McClellands are told the stream has been removed from the impaired waters list and now supports trout population. During that project, low areas remained, creating a landscape for vernal pools, which are habitat for frogs, toads, salamanders, insects and crustaceans not seen in flowing waters. Vernal pools are usually only wet during snow melt and spring rains – typically dry during summer and fall. In addition to all of this, 15 acres are enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, restoring and enhancing riparian habitat areas while reducing erosion and improving water quality.

With all this in place, the McClellands began work in preservation with Farm & Natural Lands Trust. It is important to them that these sensitive landscapes not be consumed by sprawl, plus the hope their children will be able to enjoy the farm as they do, and generations to come. FNLT was very proud to add this beautiful property to our program and thank the McClellands for their hard work and love of the land.
FARM & NATURAL LANDS TRUST MEMBERSHIP FORM

Yes, I believe in balancing the protection of our precious land resources with growth. My contribution to the Trust will be used to preserve York County’s productive and unique natural lands. Please check your contribution below.

- $10,000+ Lifetime Donor
- $5,000+ Leadership
- $1,000+ Benefactor
- $500+ Sustaining
- $250+ Sponsor
- $100+ Contributor
- $50+ Family
- $30+ Individual
- $15+ Senior Citizen or Student

Please find enclosed my/check for membership dues in the amount of $________ payable to: Farm & Natural Lands Trust.

Name

Address

City        State        Zip

Phone        E-mail

Credit Card Info: _______ Visa _______ MC Name on Card (if different than above): __________

Number: ___________________________ Expiration: ____________ Last 3 digits on back of card: ____________

Note:
To initiate a matching employer contribution, please notify your employer of your gift.

The Farm & Natural Lands Trust of York County sincerely thanks you for your support and generosity.

☐ I would like to receive an information packet about preserving my land.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll-free within PA 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.