



# LIVING WITH NATURE

## Bald Hill Farm: Landmark Property for Sale

There are some places that just speak to you – places that inspire and remind you of the reasons why you live in and love the Willamette Valley. Bald Hill Farm is one of those special areas.

With its 587 acres of rolling hills, creeks, public trails, and pastoral prairies, Bald Hill Farm is a treasured landscape close to home. Summer afternoons are a mixture of hikers, dogs, families and bicyclists enjoying the vistas and pathways that pass by cows and sheep in deep green pastures. Limbs of legacy oaks touch the ground, providing sanctuary for birds of all kinds, from acorn woodpeckers to Western bluebirds. Hiking along the Mulkey Creek Trail on the Farm, you enter a landscape that becomes all moss, ferns, spreading oaks and tall conifers – a quiet refuge from the busyness of everyday life.

“Mulkey Creek Trail is our premier outdoor classroom. The diversity of native vegetation in this area has enabled us to get to know ‘the real Oregon’. And since

it is so close to where we live, we follow the seasons faithfully. Nesting birds, rare flowers, colorful mushrooms, all continue to delight and astonish us as the years pass.” – Eve Gill, trail user.

“Bald Hill Farm represents an important opportunity and excellent project to enhance Oregon’s natural, cultural, educational, and recreational heritage” – Dan Bell, The Nature Conservancy.

Bald Hill Farm has been a key property listed in Benton County’s open space plan for more than 30 years. It connects adjacent protected lands, creating a corridor for native wildlife and plants that extends over 1,200 acres from Fitton Green, to Lupine Meadows, and Bald Hill. With an overall cost of \$5 million, this is the largest single project GLT has

Continued on page 6

### SUMMER 2011

#### Bald Hill Farm- Timeline for Success

- ★ **February, 2010**  
Bald Hill Farm for sale!
- ★ **June, 2010**  
GLT conducts appraisal of property (appraisal funded by the Doris Duke Foundation)
- ★ **September, 2010**  
Outreach to neighbors of Bald Hill Farm
- ★ **October, 2010**  
Option agreement signed to purchase Bald Hill Farm by Oct., 2013
- ★ **October, 2010**  
Launch Silent Campaign
- ★ **October, 2010**  
Outreach to stakeholders
- ★ **February, 2011**  
Launch Public Campaign for \$2 million
- ★ **February, 2011**  
Initiate Technical Advisory Team for Bald Hill Farm
- ★ **February-August, 2011**  
Public Campaign, events, and outreach
- ★ **April, 2011**  
Submitted proposals for \$3.4 million in grant funding
- ★ **2012-2013**  
Purchase Bald Hill Farm!



Bald Hill Farm

Alissa Rosaria





## Board of Directors

Betty Griffiths, *President*  
Ethan Hasenstein, *Vice President*  
Jack Mykrantz, *Secretary*  
Keli Kuykendall, *Treasurer*  
John Bliss  
Douglas Brodie  
Nancy Hathaway  
Seymour House  
Chris Kiilsgaard  
John Martinsen  
Joanne McLennan

## Staff

Michael Pope  
*Executive Director*  
michael@greenbeltlandtrust.org

Jeff Baker  
*Stewardship Program Manager*  
jeff@greenbeltlandtrust.org

Claire Fiegner  
*Special Projects Manager*  
*Newsletter Editor/Designer*  
claire@greenbeltlandtrust.org

Stephan Friedt  
*Office Administrator*  
stephan@greenbeltlandtrust.org

Steve Lilly  
*Volunteer Coordinator*  
steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org

Jessica McDonald  
*Development Coordinator*  
jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org

Denise Richards  
*Administrative Assistant*  
denise@greenbeltlandtrust.org

Dan Rosenberg  
*Lands Coordinator*  
dan@greenbeltlandtrust.org

*The Greenbelt Land Trust acts to conserve and protect in perpetuity native habitats, working lands and lands of natural beauty, which provide a connection to the natural world for the residents of the Mid-Willamette Valley.*

Greenbelt Land Trust  
PO Box 1721  
Corvallis, OR 97339  
541.752.9609

[info@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:info@greenbeltlandtrust.org)  
[www.greenbeltlandtrust.org](http://www.greenbeltlandtrust.org)

# Get into Nature Calendar of Events

**Wednesday, June 8th, 7 pm**

## **Ethnobotany - A Story of the Willamette Valley - Living with Nature Lecture Series, Corvallis Library Main Meeting Room**

Join us for this installment of the FREE Living With Nature Lecture Series, with presenter Margaret Mathewson, OSU Professor of Anthropology.

**Saturday, June 11th, 9 am - 1 pm**

## **Landscape Painting Workshop with Kris Mitchell @ Bald Hill Farm**

Led by area artist and teacher Kris Mitchell, this will be a focused workshop on landscape techniques and styles, for all levels. Space for this FREE event is limited to 25 people, so reserve your spot now - email [jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org) to RSVP.

**Saturday, June 18th, 9 am - 2 pm**

## **Digital Landscape Photography Workshop with Kurt Norlin @ Bald Hill Farm**

Join Albany landscape photographer Kurt Norlin for this workshop dedicated to landscape photography. Learn how to manipulate your camera to create the perfect image you are looking for. Space for this FREE workshop is limited ... RSVP now to [jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org).

**Saturday, June 25th, 9 am - 12 pm**

## **Historian Tour of Bald Hill Farm with Mary Gallagher**

Come and learn more about the fascinating history of this property, from Native American influences, through western settler migration. This tour will be led by the acclaimed local historian, Mary Gallagher. Space is limited to 30 for this FREE event, so RSVP now to [jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:jessica@greenbeltlandtrust.org).

**Saturday, July 16th, 9 am - 1 pm**

## **Owens Farm Resoration Workday**

We will be mulching and staking recently planted Western Spirea along the creek. We also need a few volunteers to help detect and pull Queen Anne's Lace, Oxeye Daisy, and teasel before they go to seed. Contact Steve Lilly at [steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org).

**Saturday, July 23rd, 9 am - 1 pm**

## **Little Willamette Restoration Workday**

Got mulch? We need to mulch and stake all of the trees and shrubs that were planted by the great students of Calapooia Middle School in Albany. Contact Steve Lilly at [steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org).

**Saturday, July 30th, 9 am - 12 pm**

## **Ethnobotany Tour of Bald Hill Farm**

In collaboration with the Sierra Club, we are hosting a walk led by Tom Pflieger to discuss the land management system used by the Kalapuya, through the late 19th Century. Learn about historic plant uses and management tools. Contact Sierra Club leader Janet Throop @ [throopj@peak.org](mailto:throopj@peak.org) to RSVP.

**Saturday, August 6th, 9 am - 12 pm**

## **Evergreen Restoration Workday**

We will be cutting back more blackberries where we cannot mow due to wet conditions. Contact [steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org).

**Saturday, August 13th, 9 am - 12 pm**

## **Lupine Meadows Restoration Workday**

We want to make sure that all of our fences are secure and free of weeds. Please join us for a morning of clearing the fenceline of any unwanted plants or trees. Contact [steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org).

**Sunday, August 21st, 5 pm & 7.30 pm**

## **An evening with Joel Salatin, LaSells Stewart Center**

See Salatin article on page 7 and Event information on back page.

**Saturday, September 17th**

## **Willamette River Canoe Trip**

Join us for a fun canoe day led by geologist Gordon Grant to learn about the river's history. Check back on GLT's website for more details and to reserve a spot!

For more info. contact Greenbelt at 541.752.9609 or visit [www.greenbeltlandtrust.org](http://www.greenbeltlandtrust.org).  
Offices located at 101 SW Western Blvd., Corvallis Oregon.

# Why Greenbelt?

- Seymour House, Greenbelt Board, 2011

I grew up on a land grant farm with remnants of native big bluestem above the Mississippi floodplain, where we also had another piece of ground – just about the place Huck Finn’s dad took him to across from Hannibal, Missouri. That cabin would have been just over the levee from our bean field, out in the scrub of the flood plain where the snapping turtles lived. My father loved pointing out the trees his grandfather had planted – cypress, pecan – all of which still stand. The river visits from time to time – in ‘67 when I remember eating doughnuts with the National Guard guys filling sandbags, and more recently in ‘93 when the old levee broke, sweeping away our barns but not the pecan trees. I spent nearly all my spring breaks from high school with my father, planting natives – paw-paw, hickory, white pine – in the margins of our fields. He later deeded a conservation easement to the Illinois Department of Conservation along the fragile wetlands. I figure we must have planted 10,000 trees over the years. My brother still farms that ground, hunts morels and dove – most of it arable, the rest of it for the birds and turtles.

Rural Illinois has nothing like the population pressure we have here. Practically everywhere you look, bits of wild riparian and prairie land persist, maybe because no one moves there. Benton County is a different story.

When the Greenbelt Land Trust appeared on my horizon, it was like coming home. We live outside Philomath in a schoolhouse built by a former slave in the 1860’s. It’s now what you might call a farmlet – some sheep, chickens ... no tillage, lots of trees. A friend and restorationist helped return part of it to seasonal wetlands, tripling the bird species almost overnight, and now Camas blooms, red-winged blackbirds offer that lucent song of theirs, and the place has been transformed, or rather restored to what it must have been when Rueben Shipley built the school in the 19th century. What once was here can easily be lost – but just as often it can be easily preserved. That is why I’m delighted to be part of the GLT – to help us all find ways to foster similar preservation and restoration.

\*Read about Seymour’s family farm and the ‘93 flood in the New Yorker 8/9/1993 story “Battle on the Sny”

Sign up to receive eUpdates and get our monthly eCalendar and our quarterly newsletter emailed directly to you. For more information or to sign up, please email us at [info@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:info@greenbeltlandtrust.org).

## Our Community

Over the past 22 years Greenbelt has benefited from being led by a bevy of dedicated and passionate advocates for the protection of open spaces around us. One such leader was Phil Schary (1929-2007), whose energy and sincere interest in our mission proved to be contagious among fellow Board members, friends, and family.



“Our family home is a short bike trip away from Bald Hill and I used to bike it with my dad when visiting. I can still see him smiling while we rode across the meadows – he just loved the open space and how the cut patterns on the grass looked in the light.”  
- Martha Amram, Phil’s daughter.

Corvallis is known as a green-town, with pastoral prairies and hillsides, and plenty of access to nature for all. It is because of people like Phil that we enjoy the comforts of greenspaces nearby. Whether volunteering on the Open Space Commission for Corvallis, working to pass the seminal 2002 Open Space Bond Measure, or working on the initial 1998 Open Space Plan for Corvallis, Phil was committed to the philosophy that access to nature and a healthy community are inextricably linked.

The Schary family had contemplated the idea of creating a memorial fund in Phil’s name to celebrate his love of the outdoors and to help fund the acquisition of a landscape that would leave a legacy for others. As the family began to think about establishing this memorial fund, Bald Hill Farm emerged on the horizon as a natural project to lend their support to. This spring the Phil Schary Memorial Fund supporting the Campaign for Bald Hill Farm was established and generously supported by the Schary family. In honor of this fund and Phil’s work with GLT, we are seeking to name a trail at Bald Hill Farm in his honor.

“Our family home is a short bike trip away from Bald Hill and I used to bike it with my dad when visiting. I can still see him smiling while we rode across the meadows – he just loved the open space and how the cut patterns on the grass looked in the light.” - Martha Amram, Phil’s daughter.

If you would like to support the Campaign for Bald Hill Farm, and were one of the many who were touched by Phil’s friendship, the Schary Memorial Fund would be honored to accept your contribution.

# Greenbelt & OSU

A popular class at Oregon State University is Ecological Restoration 445, led by Professors Stan Gregory and Paul Doescher. For the 2011 Spring term a portion of the class looked at restoration approaches on local landscapes.

Management Plans were intended to:

- Evaluate key ecological principles used for restoration of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems in western North America
- Understand role conservation and restoration play within the larger context of natural resource management
- Look at restoration approaches that require careful assessment of alternatives constrained by complex ecological, sociological and political realities

“Throughout the course students learn key ecological principles that can be applied to restore terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems in western North America. While working in teams, students have the opportunity to apply these ecological principles in a real world situation by developing comprehensive restoration plans for various regions within the Willamette Valley. For instance, the team I was a part of had the chance to work with Greenbelt Land Trust and design a restoration plan to restore upland prairie habitat at Bald Hill Farm. By restoring upland prairie habitat at bald Hill farm we hope to provide habitat for the endangered Fender’s blue butterfly and the threatened Kincaid’s lupine, and improve habitat connectivity between Fitton Green Natural Area and Lupine Meadows.” Joseph Weldon, student and OSU Fish and Wildlife Club Co-President.

We are seeking volunteers to water recently planted native plants at Willamette Bluffs, Evergreen, Owens Farm, and Lupine Meadows. These volunteers will begin in late June and water each site every 3 - 4 weeks throughout the summer. Contact Steve Lilly at [steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org](mailto:steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org) or 541.752.9609 to volunteer.



## BLUEBIRDS

*The bird with the sky on its back - Henry David Thoreau*

In 2010 along the ‘Bluebird Trail’, the Audubon Society of Corvallis reported:

- \* 880 Western bluebird’s hatched
- \* 723 birds banded for monitoring
- \* 1,122 bluebird eggs laid!

These beautiful songbirds are cavity nesters that were prevalent early in the twentieth century when small farms with interspersed clearings and woodlands dominated the Willamette Valley. These natural cavities diminished as residential development and large-scale agriculture replaced the family farm and Bluebirds faced competition against non-native starlings and sparrows for nest sites.

With the population at risk, the State of Oregon listed the Western Bluebird as a “sensitive” species in the Lower Willamette Valley. Today, because of the work of committed birding volunteers, Western Bluebirds have made a comeback, and are a common site at the edges of forestland in the Willamette Valley.



A memorial bench in honor of Greenbelt supporters Rudi and Christel Engelbrecht now stands at Bald Hill Natural Area, overlooking a vista of wildflowers and green hills. Come and sit awhile the next time you are hiking up the mountain... finding a moment to remember those who have dedicated themselves to leaving a legacy of open space for our community.



# 995 Trees Planted by Over 400 Volunteers

## March 2011



Little Willamette



Evergreen



Lupine Meadows

This spring the Greenbelt planted nearly 1000 native trees and shrubs on four properties in the mid-Willamette Valley. Greenbelt partnered with over 400 volunteers, 3 area schools and 8 organizations to make this happen.

“ Helping to restore natural habitats as part of a larger outdoor classroom program is vital inspiring the land stewards of the future. We are grateful to be able to link Philomath Middle School students with Greenbelt Land Trust to lend a helping hand.”

- Xan Augerot, Executive Director, Marys River Watershed Council

### ★ 495 Trees and Shrubs Planted at Little Willamette

Planted by 250 6th graders from Calapooia Middle School (Albany), 2 teachers, Parent volunteers, Integrated Resource Management, Institute for Applied Ecology, City of Albany Public Works, Andersen Construction, and Greenbelt volunteers.

### ★ 300 Trees and Shrubs Planted at Evergreen

Planted by 130 8th graders from Philomath Middle School, 4 teachers, Parent volunteers, Mary's River Watershed Council, and Greenbelt volunteers.

### ★ 100 Trees and Shrubs Planted at Lupine Meadows

Planted by Philomath High School Students, Coordinated by Rachael Kugler (Philomath High School Student, as part of a senior project), Benton Soil and Water Conservation District, SOLV, Greenbelt volunteers, and Northwest Youth Corps.

### ★ 100 Shrubs Planted at Owens Farm

Planted by Greenbelt volunteers.

Restoration objectives for these plantings was to provide cover for wildlife, nest and forage materials (berries and insects) for song birds, increase habitat diversity (edge along field), provide a buffer between roads/agriculture and streams/fields, to increase riparian shade cover, and to provide for future habitat diversity when restoration of additional areas begins. These objectives have been developed in management plans for each property.

“ In working with Greenbelt, my goal is to inform students about our precious natural resources and inspire them to take meaningful conservation actions now and in the future. Partnering with Greenbelt Land Trust allows me to reach my conservation education goals and produce lasting benefits for the natural areas that GLT manages.”

- Heath Keirstead, Benton SWCD Education and Outreach

These projects were funded by Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Bonneville Power Administration, Benton County Soil and Water Conservation District, SOLV, Mary's River Watershed Council and Greenbelt Land Trust.

# BALD HILL FARM PURCHASE

\$770,393

Money Raised

340

# of People on Tours

238

# of donations

57

# of birds counted

Congratulations on investing in your community! We received a \$20,000 donation towards Bald Hill Farm because you gave to protect this legacy property. A generous anonymous donor matched every donation of \$1,000 (up to \$20,000) made before June 1, 2011 in support of the Campaign for Bald Hill Farm. Thank you for investing in a legacy of open space for our children.

## Bald Hill Farm: For Sale

Continued from Front Page

taken on in its 22-year history. In order to permanently preserve this landscape we are raising \$2 million from the community that will match an expected \$3 million in outside grant funds.

“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for me. I walk on Bald Hill Farm and Bald Hill every week. I cannot think of a greater legacy that Greenbelt can leave to our community. By supporting and participating in this project, I know that this is likely going to be the most significant contribution that I ever make to the Corvallis community, or any other.” – Michael Pope, Greenbelt Land Trust.

“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity”  
– Michael Pope, Greenbelt Land Trust.

The Willamette Valley is at a crossroads. Our population is expected to double in the next 50 years because many more people will want to experience what we love about where we live. It will be much more difficult to balance growth with livability as demands increase for more land and water to accommodate larger populations. Protecting the most critical landscapes at our urban edges now is key to the health and vitality of our communities and cities. Currently 96% of Willamette Valley land is privately owned. The opportunity to conserve an expansive property like Bald Hill Farm for our community is truly a once in a lifetime possibility.

“Bald Hill Farm represents an important opportunity and excellent project to enhance Oregon’s natural, cultural, educational, and recreational heritage” – Dan Bell, The Nature Conservancy.

A successful Campaign for Bald Hill Farm is within our reach. We are over 1/3 of our way towards our goal of raising \$2 million as leverage for additional grant funding. Hundreds of families, businesses, and individuals have already come together to contribute to reaching our goal. We have a ways to go, and are working on getting as many people involved and educated about this project as possible. To put our fundraising in perspective ... if every person who walked at Bald Hill Farm contributed \$50, we would exceed our goal.

Do you enjoy the trails at Bald Hill Farm? Do you want to play a key role in protecting this land for our children and grandchildren? Take a stand and tear off the enclosed donation form and dedicate your support to this Campaign.



**This is your backyard ... What legacy do you want to leave?**

**Yes!** I want to support the Campaign for Bald Hill Farm!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make a donation or  
pledge online:  
[www.greenbeltlandtrust.org](http://www.greenbeltlandtrust.org)**

Please make checks payable to Greenbelt Land Trust and send to:  
Greenbelt Land Trust ♦ PO Box 1721 ♦ Corvallis, OR 97339 ♦ (541) 752-9609



## Working Together

Greenbelt is collaborating with Afton Field Farm to bring farming legend Joel Salatin to Corvallis this summer. August 19th and 20th Afton is hosting tours of their farm with Joel, to explore the benefits and techniques of utilizing sustainable farming practices on your own land. On August 21st Greenbelt will be celebrating a summer of outreach and fundraising for the Bald Hill Farm Campaign with a reception and presentation by Joel and Tyler at LaSells Stewart Center.

Maybe you have seen Afton Field Farm at the Corvallis Farmers Market? Or perhaps you read the New York Times article on Tyler and Alicia Jones, owners of Afton and profiled as the 'Future Face of Farming' in America? More likely, you have enjoyed their free range chicken at Big River or Luc restaurants in Corvallis.



Afton is a grass based livestock operation on a 106 acre farm not far from downtown Corvallis. "We feel that the healthiest relationship between humans and the environment includes a dedication to local markets that helps reduce our collective footprint and fosters a level of personal connection with the food we consume. We are committed to open interaction between farmer and consumer, encouraging people to visit and learn how their food is being produced. We believe this kind of transparency promotes healthy and responsibly raised food."  
- Tyler and Alicia Jones.

"Greenbelt works with local farming families to devise ways of integrating traditional land uses such as farming and ranching with the protection of conservation values on the land. We are fortunate to have local families like Tyler and Alicia to provide guidance on how we can use adaptive farming to assist with our restoration efforts for native prairies and forest lands" - Michael Pope, GLT Director.

[www.aftonfieldfarm.com](http://www.aftonfieldfarm.com)  
[www.greenbeltlandtrust.org](http://www.greenbeltlandtrust.org)

## Joel Salatin - Corvallis Oregon August 19th-21st, 2011

Since moving to Virginia's Shenendoah Valley in 1961, Joel Salatin's family (Polyface Farms) began experimenting with a farming practice that strove to produce healthy livestock, enhance and support grazed prairies, and build a community of people who become reconnected to their food. Over 50 years and three generations later, Polyface Farms has emerged as a leader in the sustainable agriculture movement throughout the US and beyond, with the guiding principles of:

- ★ **TRANSPARENCY:** Anyone is welcome to visit the farm anytime
- ★ **GRASS-BASED:** Pastured livestock and poultry, moved frequently, offer landscape healing and nutritional superiority
- ★ **INDIVIDUALITY:** Plants and animals should be provided a habitat that allows them to express their physiological distinctiveness
- ★ **COMMUNITY:** We should all seek food closer to home, in our foodshed, our own bioregion

Interested in learning more about Joel's farming philosophy and techniques? Visit [polyfacefarms.com](http://polyfacefarms.com) for info ... and JOIN US Sunday, August 21st to learn more about how to use Joel's methods in the Willamette Valley.



Tyler Jones, Joel Salatin, Alicia Jones



## JOEL SALATIN, CORVALLIS

Joel Salatin from Polyface Farms - featured prominently in Michael Pollan's book *The Omnivore's Dilemma* (2006) and the documentary films, *Food, Inc.* and *Fresh* - is coming to Corvallis in August. Join the Greenbelt Land Trust and Afton Field Farm in the following events to hear Salatin speak about his holistic approach to farming.

### EVENTS HOSTED BY AFTON FIELD FARM

**\* Friday, August 19th**

Intensive Discovery Seminar with Joel Salatin

**\* Saturday, August 20th**

Field Day with Joel Salatin

For more info visit:  
[www.aftonfieldfarm.com](http://www.aftonfieldfarm.com)

### EVENTS HOSTED BY GREENBELT LAND TRUST

**\* Sunday, August 21st**

Reception and Presentation with Joel Salatin

**5.00 pm – Private Reception**

Tickets: \$100 (space limited)

**7.30 pm – Public Presentation**

Tickets: \$20 General  
GLT Members & Students: \$15  
Children 13 and under: Free

*Proceeds will benefit Greenbelt Land Trust and the Campaign for Bald Hill Farm. Tickets will be available for purchase on July 1st. Check our website, [www.greenbeltlandtrust](http://www.greenbeltlandtrust), for ticketing and information.*

