



Seeking to preserve, protect and enhance land in perpetuity for the public benefit

[lickinglandtrust.org](http://lickinglandtrust.org)

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



One of the goals of the Licking Land Trust is to foster an appreciation for the outdoors. With more time now being spent at home, we are valuing outdoor spaces more than ever: our backyards, our neighborhoods, nearby farmland and wooded lands, and our parks. Mother

Nature affords natural beauty, opportunities for physical activity, play for children, tree-shaded protection from a hot summer, and temporary respite from masks.

Many have voiced enthusiastic praise for Spring Valley Nature Preserve, the local jewel protected forever with assistance from the Licking Land Trust. Filled with trails, streams, and wildlife, Spring Valley is a beautiful and easily approachable local natural area.

While COVID has slowed down life for many, it has not slowed commercial/residential development and the loss of farmland

and open space that comes with it. Central Ohio remains a vibrant economic center and is attracting much new business. This makes the mission of the Licking Land Trust all the more important. A sign of things to come: a regional company that clear-cuts sites for development is moving its headquarters to central Licking County.

The Trust depends on your support. Our hard-working, all volunteer board ensures that your donation goes far, and money is well spent. The Trust's annual late summer gala will be an online event this year: "Farm to Fork at Home". The event's silent auction, an important fundraiser, will also be hosted online. Please join us virtually for Farm to Fork at Home. You will find more information about this event in this newsletter.

Thank you for your past and present support; we are counting on you not only for support, but for engagement in saving farmland, open space, and special lands...forever.

Jim Bidigare, Chair

## HANNAH HARTSHORN, OUR SUMMER INTERN

Hannah Hartshorn, Kenyon College sophomore, is a familiar face around Granville. Hannah graduated from Granville High School and works at Kussmaul Gallery in Granville. She is an excellent student and an accomplished leader. She was Student Council President and Senior Captain of her high school field hockey team. As the Licking Land Trust's 2020 summer intern, her leadership abilities now shine in the conservation community.

Hannah is pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies with a minor in French, and competes in varsity field hockey. When

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## FARM TO FORK AT HOME

By Tom Henshaw

Over the past five years the Trust's August Farm to Fork event has served as a wonderful opportunity to gather with friends and share great food while supporting the preservation of Licking County's natural landscapes. Alas, in this season of social distancing, such an intimate event is not to be. Undeterred, the creative minds guiding the Trust have collaborated with local home chef Neal Bell (pictured here), founder of Maamos Kitchen, to bring you an exciting and unique event – Farm to Fork at Home. This year, everything you know and love about Farm to Fork – amazing food, witty banter, and a silent auction with wonderful local art and goods, will be streamed to your kitchen.



**Here is what is planned:** On September 12th, 2020, at 6pm, home chef Bell will offer a virtual cook-along experience using quality ingredients sourced and packaged for the event. A meal kit containing the ingredients you will need will be delivered to your home through no-contact delivery by Licking

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# FARM TO FORK 2020 continued from page 1

Land Trust board members and staff. Each kit will contain all the ingredients needed to make an exquisite dinner. All you need to supply is your own cooktop, appetite, and internet access. This event will also once again feature a Silent Auction, but this year it will be online.

## Here is how to participate:

First, type or paste [Event.gives/farmtofork](https://Event.gives/farmtofork) into your browser and visit the Farm to Fork at Home host site.

Create an account using your mobile phone number, then purchase tickets online using a credit card. After that, you're all set! If you wish, you may begin early bidding on auction items on September 6th, the Sunday prior to the event. Bids may be placed through the same website, [Event.gives/farmtofork](https://Event.gives/farmtofork). Bidding will remain open until 10 AM Sunday, September 13th (Grandparents Day). Every-



one can have fun browsing and bidding on items; local artisans, gifts, and experiences will be featured. As always, all winning bids and donations will support the preservation of our rich agricultural lands and beautiful landscapes in the Licking County area.

On the evening of September 12th, after receiving delivery of your meal kit ingredients, you will again visit [Event.gives/farmtofork](https://Event.gives/farmtofork), log on, and voila! you will join many other cooks - and aspiring cooks - at Farm to Fork at Home! If you live outside Licking County and want to join this unique experience supporting the Trust, a recipe-only option is also available at [Event.gives/farmtofork](https://Event.gives/farmtofork).

We hope you will join us (virtually) for this fun evening! For additional information and to secure your place at this event, please visit [Event.gives/farmtofork](https://Event.gives/farmtofork).



## MEET HANNAH HARTSHORN

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Kenyon College sent students home this spring, she reached out to the Trust with an offer to get started early. With her assistance, creative thinking, and leadership, the Trust was able to move forward with its new Youth Conservation Ambassadors program, despite challenges associated with the pandemic.

Hannah has also been helping remove invasive species from Trust properties. She accompanies Trust board members to annual property

inspections, and is organizing a tree planting event this fall with board member Rebecca Swab.

Hannah's enthusiasm and her critical thinking skills helped the Trust meet unexpected challenges this year. Our annual fundraiser, Farm to Fork, has been re-imagined for 2020. Hannah played an important role in reshaping this upcoming event into a safe and fun experience for all. Although the pandemic has impacted the planned internship experience, Hannah helped us to quickly pivot and find new ways to further our mission. We are grateful for all the talent she has shared with us this summer!

## NEW SIGNS ARE ON THE HORIZON

By Maria Losh

When you visit or drive by a protected property owned by the Trust, you will soon see a new sign posted declaring that fact. Thanks to generous membership support, we were able to purchase these signs. A smaller version of this sign is also available for purchase at cost by owners of properties protected via Trust conservation easements.

The sign includes a QR code. When scanned on your cellphone, the code sends you directly to the Trust website! We also purchased a few specialty signs to post in locations where motor vehicles are prohibited.



## FINDING COMMON GROUND By Lyn Boone

Licking Land Trust member Kevin Wilhelm and coauthor Natalie Hoffman have published a valuable guide to navigating controversial topics, *How To Talk to the "Other Side"* (2020). The book's subtitle reflects its timeliness: *Finding Common Ground in the Time of Coronavirus, Recession and Climate Change*. Wilhelm, Granville native and CEO of Seattle firm Sustainable Business Consulting, was our 2017 annual meeting speaker.

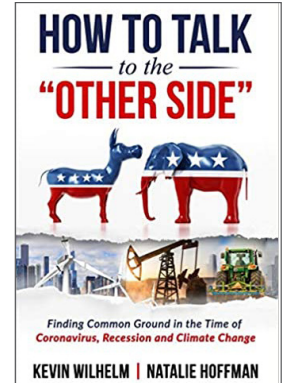
This book comes to us at a time when radical divisions – political, cultural, sociological, etc. – can hinder civil discourse and impact our ability to make progress on critical problems in many arenas.

Who is "the other side" that the book's title refers to? Wilhelm and Hoffman lean over backwards to present an even-handed, nonpartisan approach as they invite readers of all stripes to the table. The effectiveness of their thesis (that productive communication IS possible, even in the face of paralyzing polarization) lies in their view that successful communication is not about "winning" or convincing one to change position.

Rather, success lies in identifying common ground, a base from which to jump over contentious viewpoints and land on win-win outcomes of shared aspirations.

This compact manual will be useful for organizations, students, and individuals alike. The authors' array of case studies is especially rich in the fields of energy, climate change, and sustainability. But the practical communication tools and techniques they offer are universally applicable, and are presented clearly in handy charts throughout.

Some might say the book's optimistic approach of identifying shared aspirations is simplistic and would not always work as in the cited examples. The authors would probably agree that their method does not guarantee a panacea. It does offer a *starting-place*, a humane attitude toward communication that emphasizes authentic listening, good-faith compromise, and empathy – as exercised from both "sides." It is a hopeful and welcome approach to addressing intractable issues. And it's hard to argue with that!



## YOUTH CONSERVATION AMBASSADORS OF LICKING COUNTY

By Jen Jacquot

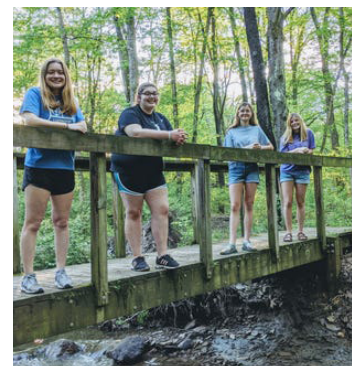
You may have read about the Trust's new Youth Conservation Ambassadors program in the Newark Advocate or Granville Sentinel. We are delighted this new youth outreach effort has been recognized in local newspapers, as well as nationally by the Land Trust Alliance in its newsletter, "Midwest Field Notes".

The Trust embarked on this pilot program to reach out to students to share the land preservation mission. High school students were invited to submit an essay about their passion for the environment and how they hope to promote conservation among their peers. The inaugural Youth Conservation Ambassadors are Breanna Aves, Anna Cahall, Paige Hartshorn, and Shelby Heist of Watkins Memorial, Lakewood, Granville, and Lakewood High Schools respectively. The program is coordinated by Administrative Director Jen Jacquot and Intern Hannah Hartshorn.

The program was scheduled to begin mid-March with a meet-and-greet luncheon. Of course, that was not to be due to the pandemic. The program had been designed around partnership events with Dawes Arboretum, the Licking Park District, and the

Licking County Soil and Water District. All were cancelled, so the future of the program was uncertain. Thanks to the ingenuity of the Ambassadors, new ideas formed quickly.

The Ambassadors first planned a county-wide art project, "Online Safari", for kindergarten through 5th grade students. Children drew their favorite animals and learned about their habitats. This fun and imaginative artwork may be viewed in video format on the [Trust's Facebook page](#).



Shelby Heist, Anna Cahall, Paige Hartshorn, Hannah Hartshorn

The Ambassadors also created videos describing how being outdoors in nature has helped them personally during months of closures. These timely videos are available on the [Trust's Facebook page](#). Otherwise, they are assisting with invasive species removal, annual property inspections, tree plantings, and planning for a new bridge at Spring Valley Nature Preserve. All in all, the Ambassadors are making a positive difference in Licking County conservation efforts!



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The mission of the Licking Land Trust is the preservation and permanent protection of central Ohio green spaces – wetlands, woods, farmlands, riparian corridors, and scenic vistas – and education about the importance of green spaces and their conservation, all for the public benefit.



## Join The Licking Land Trust

Renew your membership, join, or contribute online at [lickinglandtrust.org](http://lickinglandtrust.org)

Detach and mail this completed form with your check to:  
 Licking Land Trust  
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