A Healthy Future

Western Reserve Land Conservancy
OUR LAND. OUR LEGACY.
Donor Report July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011
A HEALTHY FUTURE

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Interestingly, these findings are directly reflected in Mr. Florida’s term *quality of place*, which captures the unique set of characteristics that define a place and make it attractive. Taken together, these factors determine the decisions our nation’s best and the brightest people make about where to live. Mr. Florida calls these people the “creative class” and defines them as those who add economic value to an area through their creativity. The creative economy now accounts for virtually all economic growth in the United States. The characteristics that are important to this group of economy-driving people are virtually the same as the factors in the Knight Study:

- **What’s There**: a combination of the built and the natural environment (i.e., *aesthetics*)
- **Who’s There**: diverse people and openness (i.e., *openness*)
- **What’s Going On**: vibrant street life and social interaction, a lot of active, creative, exciting endeavors (i.e., *social offerings*)

At the Land Conservancy, we want to help create these great places to live, these thriving communities in our region. To play our part, we focus on the “what’s there” factor. The “what’s there” of northern Ohio includes a set of dynamic and interrelated areas: urban, working lands, natural areas. One cannot thrive without the other. Together, they make up what we call a *healthy habitat*.

Often, the most powerful ideas are the most simple. One of these is the law of the healthy habitat. It tells us that an organism will only live in and thrive in a habitat that is fit for its particular kind. Even without conscious thought, all organisms seek healthy habitat and avoid toxic habitat. For example, an anaerobe thrives in the absence of oxygen while an aerobic organism thrives in the presence of oxygen. If an organism is a match for the habitat it finds itself in, then it will thrive. If there is a mismatch, then that particular habitat

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*I in this issue of our annual donor report, you will read about a wide range of activities the Land Conservancy is involved with. Due to the breadth of our programs, people occasionally ask us to describe our core mission. Recently, during a meeting with a new donor, we were faced with this question: “On the one hand,” she said, “we know that you preserve beautiful natural areas, and that you are focused on the real estate transactions that are required to create parks and preserves. But on the other hand, we have noticed that you have preserved more than 10,000 acres of working farms and forests. And, we recently read about your groundbreaking work in the area of urban revitalization under the banner of Thriving Communities Institute. What is your area of focus?”

The donor is correct: We are deeply engaged in urban revitalization; we do protect natural areas that feature remarkable biodiversity; we do acquire interests in working farms and forests to help ensure they stay in production; and we do all of it with an equal amount of focus. The central premise of our work is that in order to have a thriving region in northern Ohio, we must have a “healthy habitat” for people, plants and animals. This is not an original thought of ours. Rather, it is based on an exhaustive study of the best research in economic development and biology. In his book “The Rise of the Creative Class,” Richard Florida makes the case that *quality of place* is a key factor in the career decisions of today’s most talented workers.

The Knight Foundation’s *Soul of the Community* study tells us that it is not the perception of a strong economy that attracts and keeps people attached in a particular region. Surprisingly, the study – on which The Gallup Organization was a partner – found the equation is actually flipped: people’s strong attachment to a particular place drives economic growth within that place. Attached residents tend to stay longer, take pride in their region, and even become more successful. So, what drives people’s attachment? The study concludes that there are three main factors that drive our attachment to a place: aesthetics, openness, and social offerings.

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*Bill Mulligan  Rich Cochran*
is toxic for the organism and it will either flee or die. Humans seek a habitat featuring openness, aesthetics, and social offerings. We cannot thrive in an environment depleted of those features. Yet, many of our region’s economic development initiatives ignore this rule when we seek to incentivize companies to locate in areas that are not well-matched to human habitat. This idea is akin to bringing a population of grizzly bears to the Mohave Desert and hoping they will thrive because we offer them troughs full of berries and honey. Maybe the bears will stay until the free food is all gone, but at some point in time, every organism will seek its natural habitat, the physical environment that effortlessly supports it.

Because human beings have mastered technologies to alter our habitat, we have lost some of the lessons from this law. Due to transportation, air conditioning, heating, public water systems and various other comforts of technology, we can live virtually anywhere now. But deep down we are still organisms, we are still the stuff of nature, and we are constantly seeking a healthy habitat, whether we are consciously aware of it or not. When we do not find ourselves surrounded by the quality of place features that we so desire, we simply move on. The good news is that, along with our technological advances, we also now have the capability to improve our habitat where it is lacking.

So, our mission at the Land Conservancy is to work with others to improve and protect a healthy habitat for thriving communities of people, plants, and animals. This includes an abundance of prime soils for the production of food and fiber, a network of biodiverse and beautiful preserved land, and urban centers that are clean and green. So our answer to our new donor: We are focused on lending our hands to enhance the quality of our place, our region, to help ensure the people who choose to live here can have something to be proud of and have something that they want to make better for the generations to come. Richard Florida concluded that healthy habitat includes “authentic and historic urban centers and easy access to abundant natural resource amenities such as parks and preserves.” We couldn’t agree more.

William C. Mulligan
Chair

Richard D. Cochran
President and CEO

1 The Knight Soul of the Community project 2008, with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and Gallup. www.soulofthecommunity.org
2 Richard Florida, The Rise of the Creative Class...and how it is transforming work, leisure, community, and everyday life; 2002 by Richard Florida; page 231
3 Richard Florida, The Rise of the Creative Class; 2002
Brian Smith never figured his son was interested in a career in agriculture, even though the boy grew up on a farm in Huron County. Then one day Daniel Smith, now 17, made a surprising revelation to his father, who is well-known in the Fairfield Township farming community.

“(Daniel) said to me, ‘I think I want to farm, dad,’” Brian Smith says.

He wanted his son, a senior at South Central High School and EHOVE Career Center, to test-drive a prospective career in farming with a lower-risk venture, so the two started a hay business. “I’m the financier and laborer. He’s management,” Brian Smith says with a smile.

The business is just one of the ways Brian, 42, is helping ensure the future of farming in Huron County. He has permanently preserved about 380 acres of his own farmland with conservation easements and has helped make connections that have led to the protection of another 750 acres, according to Andy McDowell, the Land Conservancy’s western field director.

Smith most recently protected three parcels totaling 137 acres in New Haven Township, east of Willard, under the state’s Agricultural Easement Purchase Program. It was the first AEPP award in Huron County, the top-ranked county in Ohio for growing vegetables.

The vast majority of farmers, according to Smith, are true conservationists and good stewards of the land. “We want the land to have a high fertility—we don’t want to see our topsoil going down the creek,” he says.

Brian is the fourth generation to own the original 87-acre family farm, which was purchased in 1863. The farm became jointly owned by Brian and his brothers when their parents, Harold and Carolyn, died in 2002. Brian later became the sole owner.

Brian and his wife, Denise, a veterinarian, have been married for 23 years. They are proud that they have preserved so much farmland.

“All of our land, except for about 80 acres, is in conservation (easements),” Brian says. “This is a way to make sure, going forward, that for my son and hopefully my grandson, it will always be a farm. I will never have to look at a row of houses.”

“This is a way to make sure, going forward, that ... it will always be a farm.”

-- Brian Smith
Habitat protected on Kelleys Island
The Land Conservancy acquired conservation easements on three Cleveland Museum of Natural History-owned properties on Kelleys Island totaling about 53 acres. The island, which has seen increasing residential development, has been designated as an Ohio Important Bird Area. It is known both for its variety and mass numbers of migratory bird species.

More preservation in Summit County
In Bath Township, a 27-acre conservation easement has been donated to the Land Conservancy on property adjacent to the former Ray Firestone estate. The easement, which includes ponds covering about 10 acres, will protect wildlife habitat, wetlands and, ultimately, the water quality of Yellow Creek.

Lampson Lake is preserved, restored
A former reservoir for the Village of Jefferson has been permanently preserved and will become part of the Ashtabula County Metroparks system and save the county millions of dollars in repairs. Volunteers earlier this year planted wetland vegetation at the 93-acre Lampson Lake property to help speed the establishment of woody cover in and around the newly created wetlands. The reconfigured lake will have a large wetland component for fish spawning and duck habitat. It is scheduled to be restocked in the spring.

‘Little Grand Canyon’ permanently protected
The Land Conservancy and Geauga Park District worked together to complete the acquisition of the 87-acre Welton’s Gorge property in Burton Township. The property – sometimes referred to as “The Little Grand Canyon of Geauga County” – contains magnificent sandstone and shale gorges and its preservation helps protect the water supply for the City of Akron.

More land preserved along the Chagrin River
In the Village of Chagrin Falls, the Land Conservancy worked with the village and a local business group to preserve 83 acres along the Chagrin River. The protected corridor runs from Riverside Park upstream nearly two miles to Whitesburg Park. This project complements the planned redevelopment of the former Chase Bag Factory/Ivex Paper Mill.
Multi-talented couple has passion for land preservation

For years, Bill and Carol Prior have been strong advocates for the natural resources and fresh water in Canada’s Georgian Bay, where since 1906 Bill’s family has maintained a summer cottage on a tiny island. The Priors are mainstays in the Georgian Bay Association, which protects lakefront property.

Locally, the Priors, who live in Russell Township, had also supported the work of the Chagrin River Land Conservancy. But it was a simple weekend get-together – coffee, doughnuts and a hike at nearby Russell Uplands Preserve, a property preserved by CRLC – that energized the couple about local land conservation.

“We hiked around the preserve and got really excited about it,” Carol says.

So the Priors became more involved in the activities of Western Reserve Land Conservancy, the organization formed in 2006 by the merger of CRLC and seven other local land trusts. According to Bill, the Russell Uplands event was the spark for the couple’s commitment to regional conservation.

Flash forward to the summer of 2011, when the Priors received an invitation to a Land Conservancy event called Conservation Celebration. Carol recalls listening with amusement as Steve Morris and Tom Stanley engaged in a bit of witty banter before announcing the winner of the Stephen C. Morris Sugar Maple Award, one of the highest honors bestowed by the Land Conservancy.

What she did not know was that she and Bill were the winners.

“I couldn’t believe it. It was a total shock,” she says.

It was a well-deserved honor for the talented, engaging and philanthropic couple. Bill, an engineer and inventor who founded Newbury-based Kinetico Corp., and Carol, a New Hampshire farm girl and former teacher who has become an acclaimed watercolor artist and sculptor, are champions for the work done by the Land Conservancy in northern Ohio.

The passion the Priors, who have been married 31 years, have for the outdoors reflects the sum of their backgrounds.

Bill, who grew up in Chagrin Falls, has had a lifelong love of the Great Lakes, and his career has always been focused on water. In 1969, after being fired from a manufacturing firm, Bill formed Tangent Co. to try to design a sailboat that would glide over the water on hydrofoils. The sailboat did not make it to the market – “Yet,” Bill adds with a wry smile – but the company spawned Kinetico, which started as a water softener maker and evolved into a firm serving commercial, municipal and industrial markets and developing new technologies for pure drinking water, municipal filtration, waste treatment and water recycling. He sold the company in 2006.

Carol, who grew up on an apple farm where she would operate the family’s 1936 John Deere while her brother sprayed the trees, attributes her views of the outdoors to her upbringing. “My love of the land came from growing up on a farm,” she says.

Meanwhile, Bill has re-established Tangent to help bring clean, safe water to people wherever they need it. He says the firm is emphasizing the challenges of water supply, distribution and environmental pollution. The hydrofoil sailboat, the one he first envisioned in 1969, remains on the to-do list.

“It isn’t finished,” he says, “but we’re getting close.”
Tireless team-builder
is a force for conservation

As a child, no one had to prod Kathy Leavenworth to go outside and play. She and her friends spent their non-school hours exploring the natural wonders of their hometown of Highland Park, Ill., outside of Chicago. In winter, there were snowball fights and ice skating. Summers were spent camping, hiking, horseback riding and taking week-long pack trips while at a camp in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

“We were outside all the time,” Leavenworth says. “It was what we did.” So it is probably not surprising that Leavenworth, a self-employed training consultant whose extensive career in public and community service has included more than 30 years on the State and West Geauga boards of education, embraces the idea of preserving land in northern Ohio. Leavenworth, who was president of the Chagrin River Land Conservancy when it became part of Western Reserve Land Conservancy in 2006 and has continued to serve on the Land Conservancy board, now focuses her volunteer efforts on the environment and education.

In 2009, Leavenworth, who is known for her ability to build teams and bring people together, was named to the prestigious National Council of the Land Trust Alliance, an organization that includes the Land Conservancy. The group, which also includes local conservation leader Thomas Quintrell, has been assisting LTA’s leadership for the past four years, serving as a think-tank for the LTA board on such issues as litigation defense insurance, policy priorities such as tax incentives, legislative involvement, communications and diversity.

“I don’t think any of us could have predicted that we would have such success so quickly.”
-- Kathy Leavenworth

“(The leaders) come to us and say, ‘Here’s what is happening in LTA. We’d like your input.’ We do a lot of brainstorming, and I get to know the leadership,” says Leavenworth, who lives in Russell Township.

Leavenworth says her mother, Miriam Keare, who had served on the foundation board for the Sierra Club, “introduced me to the outdoors” and was a role model for community activism. In northern Ohio, she became immersed in conservation after a late 1990s lunch with the Chagrin River Land Conservancy’s Mary Weber and Rich Cochran, now president and CEO of Western Reserve Land Conservancy. She has been a conservation leader ever since.

The 2006 merger of eight local land trusts – the largest one of its type in U.S. history – was quite a feat, she says. “We serve as a model to the rest of the nation and at state and national gatherings we are constantly asked, ‘How did you manage to accomplish that?’”

Leavenworth adds, “I don’t think any of us could have predicted that we would have such success so quickly. I can’t give enough praise to Rich (Cochran). He has such vision.”

Leavenworth says she is excited about the Land Conservancy’s new urban initiative, Thriving Communities Institute. She says Thriving Communities, with its emphasis on creating land banks to help urban areas, will allow the Land Conservancy to lend its expertise to cities.

“We need to be protecting land in people’s back yards,” she says. “Yes, we want to be able to protect land in the inner city, but a one-sixteenth of an acre lot didn’t make sense for us. Now we have a tool to tackle this problem.”
Some of Carole Clement’s fondest childhood memories were formed on the banks of Tinkers Creek, where her extended family picnicked on Sundays. And when the family moved from Cleveland to Independence, 8-year-old Carole no longer had to wait for the weekend to satisfy her need for outdoor adventure: Her new home had acres of woods and fields.

For a kid who loved to explore nature, it was the perfect upbringing.

“I have no memory of not being out-of-doors with my family,” Clement says.

It is probably not surprising that the girl whose grandmother and aunt taught her how to pick edible mushrooms is now showing people throughout northern Ohio how a volunteer with energy, passion and talent can make a difference. Since joining the Land Conservancy’s Grand River Chapter two years ago, Clement has been a dynamo, doing everything from co-organizing a geology tour (with Jim Sarosy) to representing the organization at events and helping staff members.

“Carole has been a tremendous asset to the Land Conservancy,” says Kim Bihler, the Land Conservancy’s manager of membership and special events. “She’s willing to jump into projects and think outside the box. She’s a champion for the staff and wants to help us achieve our goals as an organization.”

Clement, a Cleveland State University graduate who taught English at Brecksville, Euclid and Mentor high schools before co-founding a successful electronics business in Painesville, likes to push her own personal boundaries. She holds a bachelor’s degree in French from Lake Erie College and is currently taking a geology class at Lakeland Community College. Clement is a student of classical piano.

An accomplished writer – two plays she wrote became off-Broadway productions and another won the top award in an international competition – Clement blogs for the News-Herald.

She says the newspaper approached her about blogging after she made an impassioned speech about deer culling before Mentor City Council in February 2010.

“My talent is writing, and I am persuasive,” she says.

In addition to her work with the Land Conservancy, Clement, who lives in Mentor, has been involved with the Mentor Marsh Board, the Burroughs Nature Club, the Blackbrook Audubon Society, the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Western Reserve Resource Conservation and Development and the Lake Erie Allegheny Partnership.

“I’ve never lost my love of the natural world, the world not made by hands,” she says.

To our volunteers: Thank you!

Every year, more than 100 people unselfishly lend their time and expertise to the Land Conservancy, doing everything from guiding hikes to stuffing envelopes to helping out at events. We could not begin to do as much as we do within our 14-county region without the help of our volunteers.

The Land Conservancy staff and trustees are genuinely grateful for the efforts of people who love our mission and love the natural resources of our beautiful Western Reserve. Thank you.
Conservation comes naturally to ‘salt-of-the-earth’ couple

One time was enough for Bruce MacLellan.
When the retired Ohio Bell Telephone Co. employee and his wife, Debbi, sold a 7-acre tract in Bruce’s Trumbull County hometown of Liberty, they did so with the understanding that just a few single-family homes would be built on the property. Instead, he says, a developer carved up the land and rolled out plans for a higher-density subdivision.

It was a lesson for the MacLellans, who moved to rural Columbiana County.

“I did not want anything like that to happen down here,” Bruce MacLellan says.

So the MacLellans did something extraordinary. They voluntarily placed a conservation easement on their 135-acre property near Lisbon, permanently protecting its beautiful upland forests, hemlock gorges and nearly two miles of high-quality streams that feed into Little Beaver Creek, a State Wild and Scenic River – and they did so without seeking any tax or financial relief.

As a result of their unselfish act, the MacLellans were awarded one of the Land Conservancy’s highest honors, The Grimm Family Conservation Medal. The medal is awarded to “a conservationist, possessed of a deep and abiding passion for our mission, who has preserved land in a charitable manner, who views land as a precious resource and not as a commodity, and who has forgone significant financial value to preserve land.”

Land Conservancy Trustee Dick Grimm, in awarding the medal to the couple, said, “This salt-of-the-earth family preserved their land solely for the sake of the land, for the love of their land.”

This was the Land Conservancy’s first project in Columbiana County and its first partnership with the Little Beaver Creek Land Foundation. The Land Conservancy and LBCLF co-hold the conservation easement, which is an agreement in which a property owner permanently protects his or her land by prohibiting or limiting future development.

Today, the MacLellans enjoy walking the heavily wooded land with dogs May, Coal and Tugs. Bruce likes to plant daffodils in just about every nook of the property (“When you cut them, it’s like putting sunshine on your counter,” he says), while Debbi, who grew up in Columbiana County, enjoys gardening, quilting and crafting. Both are at home around farm equipment.

“We work together,” Bruce says, “on everything.”
GRIMM FAMILY CONSERVATION MEDAL: BRUCE AND DEBBI MACLELLAN
He sees great returns on land bank investment

Each year, an estimated $1.3 billion in commerce flows through the Lake Erie Shores & Islands region that includes Erie County, thanks in part to attractions such as the islands, Cedar Point Amusement Park and Kalahari Resort and Waterpark.

However, prosperity is not around every corner. In 2010, Erie County had 548 foreclosure filings. Vacant and abandoned properties exist throughout the county.

And that is one reason why Erie County Commissioner Pat Shenigo became so interested in a proposal by Jim Rokakis, director of the Land Conservancy’s Thriving Communities Institute. Rokakis, who was instrumental in forming what is commonly known as the Cuyahoga County Land Bank, has suggested setting up a similar organization in Erie County.

Shenigo views a county land bank, which safely holds abandoned and foreclosed parcels until they can be re-used, as an effective, cost-efficient means of dealing with blighted properties.

“One of the things we’re all excited about is how (a county land bank) can help all the townships, villages and cities at little or no cost,” he says. “It can be a self-sustaining program.”

Huron City Manager Andrew D. White sees a county land bank as a valuable economic development tool. He says while his city successfully assembled a package to reutilize an abandoned 20-acre industrial site on the Huron River, it would not have the resources to do multiple projects; a county land bank, he says, would allow similar sites to be safely held until they could be redeveloped.

“A county effort like this lends itself to partnerships,” White says.
Land Conservancy launches urban initiative for region

In March 2011, the Land Conservancy launched a region-wide effort to help revitalize our urban centers.

Thriving Communities Institute, led by former Cuyahoga County Treasurer and nationally recognized urban land reutilization expert Jim Rokakis, has hit the ground running. Rokakis and his staff have been meeting with officials throughout Ohio to help them establish county land banks, which allow communities to safely hold vacant properties until they can be returned to productive use. In 2008, Rokakis, then the Cuyahoga County Treasurer, pushed for the Ohio General Assembly to allow for the establishment of land reutilization corporations, known as county land banks.

We named our effort Thriving Communities Institute because of all the connotations the word *thriving* holds for urban centers: flourishing, prospering, blossoming and successful. Our cities have thrived in the past; and we believe they will thrive again. They will move from vacancy to vitality.

In October, the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland and the Land Conservancy co-hosted the first-ever state conference on land banking in downtown Cleveland. It provided an interactive forum to discuss tactics and strategies with county officials and others who are considering this tool to address urban blight.

In working with community leaders in our region, we have learned that urban revitalization is a process, one with many steps supported by great partnerships. Thriving Communities welcomes the opportunity to be part of these collaborations.

Public funding picture brightened by diversification

Faced with a lack of available funding from Clean Ohio, which has typically been one of the largest sources of funds for conservation, as well as tightening federal budgets, the Land Conservancy diversified its public funding portfolio during fiscal year 2011, securing more than $8.8 million from 14 different sources.

The amount rivaled the record $9.6 million from FY2010, when federal and state funding was more available.

The Land Conservancy uses the term public funding to describe dollars from state and federal grant programs and appropriations, local funding from park districts and communities and funding from private entities required to fund conservation projects as part of government permitting processes, such as mitigation. It does not include private donations from individuals or foundations.

In FY2011, local sources accounted for 49 percent of all public funding raised, or about $4.3 million, up from just 4 percent the year before. State funding accounted for 36 percent (about $3.2 million) of all public funding, while the share from federal sources dropped from 24 percent in FY2010 to 4 percent ($336,821) in FY2011.

Corporate/mitigation revenue did not account for any public funding in FY2010. In FY2011, it accounted for 11 percent ($989,000).

Considering the changes that occurred in the funding landscape over the past year, particularly the availability of state and federal funding, the Land Conservancy’s total public funding results for FY2011 showcase the Land Protection Team’s ability to adapt to changing realities and pursue new or alternative funding sources.

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<th>FY 2011 Land Protection Funding Sources</th>
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<td>LOCAL</td>
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<td>$3,215,546</td>
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As an only child growing up in Lorain County’s Brownhelm Township, Arlene Sahr would pick potatoes, strawberries and other crops at her family’s farm. At 5 a.m. each day, her dad and his brothers would pack the produce in a truck and head to Cleveland’s bustling West Side Market, where there would be plenty of willing buyers for the fresh food.

Sahr, 89, considers herself lucky to have had such a childhood.

“When you are on the farm,” she says with a smile, “it is a good life.”

Sahr, who now lives in Sheffield, has taken steps to ensure that her family’s farm and others like it in northern Ohio are permanently preserved. In 2009, she granted a conservation easement on the 51-acre farm, one that ensures the property will never be developed. In addition, she became a member of the White Oak Legacy Society, a special group of Land Conservancy supporters who have included the organization in their estate planning.

Sahr, who worked as a licensed cosmetologist at shops in Rocky River, Elyria, Amherst and Vermilion, lived most of her adult life in Elyria, but the farm was never far from her mind. After a friend suggested that a conservation easement might be something in which she would be interested, Sahr worked with the Land Conservancy’s Andy McDowell to preserve the farm.

She says she could not be happier knowing the farm will not be developed.

“I didn’t want any more cement or housing,” she says. “This way it will stay preserved, during my lifetime and beyond.”

“I want my family’s farm to stay that way,” she says. “This way it will stay preserved, during my lifetime and beyond.”

She says she would love to see the farm, which remains in agricultural production, eventually used for some educational purpose for younger children or teens. A wetlands area on the property has already yielded a bit of history: In 1886, a neighboring farmer unearthed a fossilized mammoth skeleton. Though most of the skeletal remains have fallen apart over the years due to poor storage conditions, the skull of the mastodon is still on display at the Lorain County MetroParks Carlisle Visitor Center.

Sahr’s farm upbringing has helped her cope with personal tragedies that might have crippled others. Donald Sahr, her husband of 43 years, died in 1985, and two sons passed away in 1989 and 2006.

“Faith and attitude make a big difference, and I thank God I had such good parents, husband and family. Many people do not have that.”
Land Conservancy protects another 1,700 acres

Fiscal year 2011 was another productive year for land conservation in northern Ohio.

The Land Conservancy completed 24 projects and permanently preserved another 1,745 acres in FY2011. As of June 30, 2011, we had preserved a total of 347 properties and 21,639 acres. In the last five years, the Land Conservancy has protected 12,290 acres, or an average of 2,458 acres per year.

In FY2011, Huron County has the largest amount of preserved land with 696 acres, followed by Ashtabula County (537 acres), Geauga County (152) and Cuyahoga County (110).

The largest individual projects were Fullercrest Farms (175 acres) in Ashtabula County, Brian Smith’s 137-acre easement in Huron County and the Lampson Lake project (94 acres) in Ashtabula County.
Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2011 and 2010

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<td><strong>4,289,331</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,378,462</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,910,869</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>4,664,070</td>
<td>4,663,593</td>
<td>477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>6,000,321</td>
<td>2,882,979</td>
<td>3,117,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,664,391</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,546,572</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,117,819</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</th>
<th>June 30, 2011</th>
<th>June 30, 2010</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>$ 14,953,722</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 9,925,034</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$ 5,028,688</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Statement of Revenue and Expenses

**July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY2011</th>
<th>% of Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of Conservation Property</td>
<td>$3,174,039</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Program Revenue</td>
<td>2,872,001</td>
<td>467,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Grants</td>
<td>472,500</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Donations</td>
<td>1,026,709</td>
<td>3,553,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Donations</td>
<td>55,250</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events Net Revenue</td>
<td>219,171</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Investment Revenue</td>
<td>1,058</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restrictions satisfied by Payments</td>
<td>902,872</td>
<td>(902,872)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>8,723,600</td>
<td>3,117,342</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>expense</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Conservation Property Sold</td>
<td>$4,809,078</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Program Expense</td>
<td>2,661,065</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>413,339</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>839,641</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSE</strong></td>
<td>8,723,123</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES | $477 | $3,117,342 | $3,117,819 | 26% |
Wet and ‘wild’ events peppered our calendar

Bird-watchers had a great day at the Blue Herons and Blooms outing at the Land Conservancy’s Ashcroft Woods property in Ashtabula County.

The Firelands Chapter’s second gold-panning event on the Vermilion River attracted more than 150 hopeful prospectors.

Even though weather forced the event indoors, more than 260 yogis attended Practice on the Preserve, an event sponsored by Cleveland Yoga and the Land Conservancy, at Orchard Hills Park.

Children and their parents netted plenty of critters at the annual Kids in the Creek event at Geauga Commons.

The Land Conservancy’s own Pete McDonald was one of the performers at the second Conservation Rocks! concert at the Beachland Ballroom and Tavern in Cleveland.

A demonstration of rehabilitated owls by the Medina Raptor Center was one of the highlights of the Medina Summit Chapter’s annual Hoot ‘n’ Harvest Festival at the Hill ’n Dale Club in Montville Township.
### Western Reserve Land Conservancy Donors

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$25,000 and over

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- Mrs. Gerald N. Cannon
- Dealer Tire
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- Mr. & Mrs. Michael Bidwieser
- Jeffrey & Kim Blumer
- Beth & Bob Bogel

### Thank you!

The Land Conservancy is deeply grateful to those whose donations make our work possible. Your support is vital to our mission, and the money you invest with us will be put to good use.

---

#### Additional Donors

- Mr. & Mrs. James Marshall
- Rees & Heath Mason
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- Ms. Esther McDowell
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- Mr. & Mrs. T. Sanders
- Mr. & Mrs. U. Sanders
- Mr. & Mrs. V. Sanders
- Mr. & Mrs. W. Sanders
- Mr. & Mrs. X. Sanders
- Mr. & Mrs. Y. Sanders
- Mr. & Mrs. Z. Sanders
Did you know...the Land Conservancy is currently working with more than 600 property owners to help them voluntarily conserve their land? Did you know... the Land Conservancy is currently working with more than 600 property owners to help them voluntarily conserve their land?
In Memory of
Alynson Arenberg
Bob and Sue Curtis
Western Reserve Land Conservancy Staff
Wendy Zook

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Mr. and Mrs. Stephen R. Blount
Violet Blount
Mrs. Marica Blount
Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Freas
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Vikki Broer
Sears-Sweetland Family Foundation
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Eaton Corporation
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Mr. and Mrs. William Mattlin

Margaret Milbourn
George Milbourn

Margaret Milbourn

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Doris Gilbert

Mildred Wisnieski
Walter "But" Wisnieski

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Mr. Grant Thompson
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The Lubalzoff Foundation Matching Gift Administrator
The Nordson Corporation Foundation
Jennie-Illinois Charities Foundation
The PBC Foundation
Perkins Charitable Foundation
Preferred Line Products
Progressive Insurance Foundation

Our gratitude to the following individuals whose vision in 2006 was to merge into one organization, and became members of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy Founders Society.

Anonymous (B)
Ames Family Foundation (The)
Dr. Jay Arkeney & Dr. Julie Clayman
Mr. Edward Baker & Anna Van Heekeren
Mr. & Mrs. W. Douglas Bananer
Barbara & Mike Bass
Jerry & Janet Bender
Mr. Joseph P. Bennett
Marion Bertick IR Trust
Mark & Melanie Biche
Black River Audubon
Jean Aistro  Paudel Blanch"*
Rob & Pog Biegel
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Bolton
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bowen
Dennis & Laura Bowker
Vikki & Peter Broer
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Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hoffmann
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Holland & Ms. Marjorie Muirden
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Holland
Mr. & Mrs. Richard C. Hyde

Did you know...
... legendary aviator Charles Lindbergh used a former landing strip on a now-protected property in the Chagrin River valley when he flew in to visit friends here?

We apologize for any omissions. If your name has been omitted or listed incorrectly, please contact Leah Whidden at 440-729-9621 or lwhidden@wrlandconservancy.org.
EverGreen EverBlue soars at historic landing strip

Legendary aviator Charles Lindbergh was said to be less than enthralled with the tricky winds of the Chagrin Valley whenever he flew to Hunting Valley to visit friends in the late 1920s. But Lindbergh found an abundance of natural beauty when he touched down on David Ingalls’ legendary landing strip at Stoneybrook Farm on Chagrin River Road.

More than 600 guests discovered Stoneybrook’s charm at the Land Conservancy’s eighth annual EverGreen EverBlue benefit at the historic Ingalls estate. As a prelude to the event, a single-engine plane piloted by Mike Toman of Classic Auto Group circled the property and landed in the same field that Lindbergh used shortly after his 1927 solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean.

One of the evening’s highlights was a speech by Rand Wentworth, president of the Land Trust Alliance, a national organization with more than 1,700 members. He praised the Land Conservancy’s work, adding that it “is just amazing to see what you are accomplishing.”

The event chairs were Bill and Hattie Mulligan and Sally and Sandy Cutler.

The Village of Hunting Valley and Western Reserve Land Conservancy viewed the 125-acre estate as one of the region’s top conservation priorities and worked together to permanently preserve it. The property has nearly a mile of frontage on the State Scenic Chagrin River and contains exceptional biological features, including wetlands rated in the state’s highest category.
Our vision

There is nothing more beautiful than a crisp fall day in northern Ohio: the sun shimmering on our great Lake Erie; the red and yellow leaves of a beech maple forest; the long views of crop and pasture land framed by towering forests; and the gentle murmuring rivers that run through our glacial landscape. We love the Western Reserve. It is where we rear our children and where our hearts reside.

Our vision is that today, a decade from now, and beyond the time that we can imagine, the Western Reserve will be a stunningly beautiful and healthy place. An authentic place filled with breathtaking scenic views, abundant clean rivers and lakes, miles and miles of connected trails for hiking, biking, skiing, and horseback riding; and an accessible, clean and safe great lake for world class fishing, swimming, and boating.

Development will be concentrated in historic urban areas such as Cleveland and Akron, in historic Western Reserve villages such as Chagrin Falls, Brecksville, Medina and Bay Village and, as needed, in new areas that promote lasting, community-oriented development. Working farms will flourish, supported by local markets that provide healthy and fresh produce that connects citizens to the land in a tangible, enduring way. Parks and preserves will provide people with a special connection to the land, a safe place where children can play, and a quality of life that attracts and retains as residents a great diversity of people.

The Land Conservancy inspires citizens throughout our region in the effort to protect land and water for the benefit of all of our communities; to create a habitat that serves people. We envision a healthy and scenic landscape, a patchwork quilt of large natural areas connected by wildlife and river corridors, a beautiful region interspersed with well-planned agricultural, residential, and commercial development that supports the people of our region now and forever.
Western Reserve Land Conservancy extends its thanks to the following people:

- Bill Abell
- Jeanie Antonacci
- Nidia Arguedas, Cleveland Metroparks
- Ashland County Commissioners
- Ashland County NRCS
- Ashland County Park District
- Ashland County Planning
- Ashland Soil & Water Conservation District
- Ashtabula Metro Parks
- Ashtabula Soil & Water Conservation District
- District
- Janet Auwerter
- Jarvis Babcock
- Ned Baker
- Tracy Baker
- Amelie Barratt
- Tom Barratt & Kim McConnell
- Beachland Ballroom
- Mary Becker
- Paul & Susie Belanger
- Glen Bernhardt
- Anthony Papaleo
- Tami Schneider
- John Blakeman
- Black Oaks
- Lisa Cyroick
- Ryan Harrell
- Pete McDonald
- Anthony Papaleo
- Zach Smolko
- John Blakeman
- Blue Robot
- Peg Bobel
- Joyce & Wilbur Browand
- Jim Brown Jr.
- James A. Brown Sr.
- Eileen Bulan, Mayor of Vermilion
- Gail Butler
- Dan & Judi Buttlter
- Dorothy Carney
- Ken Christensen
- The Chubby Cook
- Ron Clarke, Fine Art Photography
- Carole Clement
- Cleveland Museum of Natural History
- Dr. Jim Bissell
- Renee Boronska
- David Kriska
- Larry Roche
- Judy Semrowc
- Cleveland Yoga & especially
- Jenn Harte
- Tami Schneider
- Allison Conte
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- Copley Feed & Supply
- Gerald Cowie
- Wayne Cox
- Todd Crandall
- Travis Crane
- Margaret Cummins
- Sally & Sandy Cutler
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park
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- Lisa Petit
- Kevin Skerl
- Beau Daane
- Norm Damm
- Sandy Denes
- Guy Deny
- Lorraine DiSimone
- David Ditullio
- Elizabeth Dorr
- Drake Hollow
- Al Bonnis
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- Steve Madewell
- Lucy Dzanko
- EHOVE Career Center
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- Fat City
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- Peggy & Ray Jarrett
- Mark Johnson
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- Charlotte Karson & Eric Daiber
- John Kastko
- Curt Keal
- Keep Akron Beautiful
- Kelleys Island Audubon
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- Lake MetroParks
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- Lake Soil & Water Conservation District
- Elaine & Bill Lamb
- Lake MetroParks
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- John Pogacnik
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- Ting Fong Lee
- Legacy Construction
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- Tom Arbour
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- Dan Nelson
- Gary Obermiller
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- Gordon Oney
- Connie Oney
- David Orr, Oberlin College
- Environmental Studies
- John Pais
- Anthony Paskevich & Associates
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- David Patterson
- Nancy J & Jim Patterson
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- Maya Tener
- Jim & Mary Terpay
- Grant Thompson
- Kenny & Jan, Rolland & Diane, & Carol Thach & Hostile Valley Campground
- Mike Tomass
- Jeff Van Loom, Medina Soil & Water Conservation District
- Jim Vandertill
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- Debbie Weimer
- Mary Weber
- Lauren Wesorick
- Western Reserve Section of the
- Mercedes-Benz Club
- Paula Whewell
- Britt Whidden
- Lee Will, Will Edit
- Willoughby Supply
- Margaret Wilson
- Karen Wise
- Shane Wohlen
- Linda Zeha