GREENBELT PRESENTS 1st ANNUAL
RUN & WALK FOR TRAIL FUND

The Greenbelt Land Trust is excited to present our very first annual ‘Run for the Hills’ event on Saturday, June 9th, 2007. The highlights of this event are a 2 mile walk and an 8k trail run through the beautiful, city owned, Bald Hill Park located in west Corvallis. We are encouraging everyone to participate! All proceeds of this event will benefit the Greenbelt Land Trust Trail Fund. This fund is established to help purchase raw materials and equipment used for trail construction and maintenance by the volunteers who keep our trails safe and passable for users.

The walk portion of this event is a leisurely 2 mile stroll around this beautiful natural area, so please bring your family members and join us! Or if you are really energetic sign up for the 8k run, and ‘Run for the Hills’. ❖

Event Information

Where—The Run for the Hills begins and ends at the Benton County Fairgrounds—south parking lot, 110 SW 53rd St., Corvallis.

When—Saturday, June 9th, 2007
Registration/Packet pickup 7:30-8:45am
8k Trail Run - Start 9:00am
2mi Run/Walk - Start 9:05 am

Course—The scenic 8k trail run consists of flat stretches and rolling hills in Bald Hill Park, including approx. 1 mile of paved path and 4 miles of dirt trails. The noncompetitive 2mi run/walk will be entirely on paved paths. Course maps are available at www.greenbeltlandtrust.org.

Aid Stations/Refreshments—Two aid stations will be located on the course serving water and sports drinks. The finish will be stocked with fresh fruit, and other great refreshments. Solstice Café Goji Bars to the first 50 runners.

Sign-up & More Info—
Please visit our website at www.greenbeltlandtrust.org to access the entry form. Entry fees for walkers is $15 and $20 for the 8k run and both include a T-shirt. For more race information please contact the Race Director Cary Stephens at 541-753-4794 or cstephens@bwbslaw.com.

Thank you to our event sponsors!

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Upcoming Greenbelt Hikes!

Timberhill Hike —Tuesday, June 12, 6:30pm – 8:30 pm  Exercise with the Greenbelt Land Trust as we hike this city-owned natural area in Corvallis’ backyard.

Willamette Park —Thursday, June 14, 6:30pm – 8:30 pm  Hike with the Greenbelt’s Executive Director, Karlene McCabe, her dog Raja and his friend Keya. Bring your dog for a very enjoyable and easy level hike in South Corvallis.

Bring the family and share these wonderful natural areas with them! Please RSVP to Steve Lilly and to find out where to park and meet the group at (541) 760-9055 or steve@greenbeltlandtrust.org or contact the Greenbelt Land Trust Office at (541) 752-9609.
Respecting the Greenbelt’s past and sharing its beautiful natural areas with our children is crucial for the Greenbelt to establish special places that children can enjoy now and in the near future. Without your support and inspiration, our important conservation work could not get done. One special group deserving recognition is your Board of Directors. We have a very dedicated and talented Board who work very hard on your behalf. Two Board members whose terms have ended and who will be greatly missed are Mary Strickroth and Cynthia Solie.

Mary began her service on the Board in 2001 and quickly took a leadership position as Board Secretary. We are not sure how we will replace her talent at participating in meetings while taking very complete minutes. She has worked on many projects including Fitton Green trail planning, construction and dedication of the Alan Throop Loop, and restoration projects at our various restoration sites. She has provided great insights during her tenure as the Board has been planning the future direction of the Greenbelt. She will stay involved as a member, so when you see her on a Greenbelt workday, hiking, or biking the trails, say “Hi” and “Thanks for all your work!”

Cynthia also came on the Board in 2001. She was a key member of the group that worked on our first Strategic Plan, which was initiated in 2001 and was adopted June 2002. In fact, she edited the final document, which will be used as the basis for our update to be completed this year. Recently, she has spearheaded the efforts to update the 1998 Open Space Plan. She helped organize and facilitate the April 2006 workshop on the conservation plan and since then has worked hard organizing the data from the workshop and other sources. Fortunately, she has agreed to remain involved in that effort until we have a completed plan this Fall. We will miss her organizational skills and willingness to work on big projects. When you see Cynthia out and about or when you see the finished Conservation Plan, give a big “Thank you” to Cynthia for her dedication.

We appreciate the 82 attendees at Greenbelt’s Annual Meeting in February where we elected a new Board member, Joanne McLennan. We are very excited about Joanne joining our Board. She brings a good perspective as a business owner and rural resident along with her experience on other Boards such as the First Alternative Co-op. In addition, Bill Beck and John Watson were re-elected to additional three-year terms.

In other news: We are pleased to have been selected as one of 22 land trusts in the United States to participate in the new Land Trust Accreditation process. On page 9 of this newsletter we announce our participation in this process and how you can comment regarding our organization. Over the next several months, the Board will be working on our accreditation as well as developing a new Strategic Plan and a Business Plan for the next five years.

We value your support for conservation efforts in the Willamette Valley. Your comments and suggestions are always appreciated. Please contact the office or one of your Board members with your ideas. Meantime, have a great spring and please join us on our hikes or “Run for the Hills”.

Betty Griffiths, President
"Special Places: Living For Keeps and Keeping What We Live For"

—Steve Lilly

‘Nature-deficit disorder is the cumulative effect of withdrawing nature from children’s experiences, but not just individual children. Families too can show the symptoms — increased feelings of stress, trouble paying attention, feelings of not being rooted in the world. So can communities, so can whole cities.’

—Sarah Karnasiewicz

On April 26th at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Corvallis, Dr. Robert Michael Pyle addressed this issue to 129 guests in a heartwarming and inspiring speech. Dr. Pyle, a lepidopterist from Gray’s River, WA, has written more than twelve books including his latest, Sky Time in Gray’s River. He is a Yale-trained ecologist, Guggenheim Fellow, and a specialist in butterfly research. Given his vast knowledge, Dr. Pyle travels the country promoting his books as a freelance speaker in an effort to reconnect people with their natural surroundings.

Preceding his talk, Dr. Pyle and local authors Matt Amano, Margaret Anderson, Judy Juntunen, Jeff Miller, Margie Powell, and Jim Hall (editor of Bonnie Hall’s Ever Blooming: The Art of Bonnie Hall), signed and sold their respective books.

Concerning Nature Deficit Disorder, Dr. Pyle said that there is currently a 36% decline in bicycle riding by children and only 6% of children go outside to enjoy the great outdoors in this country. Loss of habitat close to these children’s homes is one reason for this vast decline. Another reason is distraction via palm pilots, video games, and other technological gadgets.

Dr. Pyle asked the adults in the audience, “How many of you can remember that special place, one where you caught pollywogs, built forts? What do you remember about that special place?” To his delight, almost the entire adult audience raised their hands and described their special places.

Dr. Pyle asked the children in the audience if they have a special place today. Most of the children answered, “Not really.” He talked about how some children today regard an irrigation ditch as that special place. Dr. Pyle continued to describe how children have lost that intimate contact with nature, known as the ‘extinction of experience’.

What can we do to reconnect our children with nature? The answer: Bring nature to them. I am happy to report that the Greenbelt is currently reconnecting children to nature through naturalist hikes at Fort Hoskins and Lupine Meadows. Recently, the Greenbelt led 18 children from Head Start on a hike at Lupine Meadows. The 4- and 5-year old children enjoyed eating wild strawberries as they walked among native wildflowers. After the hike, I asked the children what they remembered about the day. Their responses were, “Lupines! Strawberries!”

This is a start. Thank you Dr. Robert Michael Pyle for teaching me to share my enthusiasm of a special place with the children of today.

Thank you to these businesses for sponsoring this event!

Beazell Forest Education Center Opening Ceremony
Saturday, June 2, 2007, 10am–2pm
Tours, Demonstrations, Displays
For more info contact Benton Co. Natural Areas & Parks Dept. at 766.6871 or visit www.co.benton.or.us/parks/forest_ed.php.
This year saw important growth in both the scope and focus of our land conservation work in the Mid-Willamette Valley. We acquired easements on two important properties in Benton County, Lupine Meadows and Thomas Paine Farms, protecting over 200 acres of rare habitats and species. We are increasing our land protection efforts to protect and restore some of the most endangered habitats in the valley including upland prairies, wet prairies and oak savannahs and woodlands.

We received a significant increase in requests for assistance from landowners who want to conserve and restore their properties. The passage of Measure 37, escalating land costs, and increasing population are providing new challenges and opportunities for our work.

Our stewardship work at Owens Farm to restore wet prairies and oak woodlands is showing success. This past fall we completed understory removal of an additional block within the oak woodland area and are excited to see what comes up there this spring. We have completed our Owens Farm Management Plan with the assistance of many of our members and the ecological knowledge of Dick Brainard at Salix and Associates. This plan is available on-line at www.greenbeltlandtrust.org/OwensFarmPlan.htm.

Our Lupine Meadows restoration work is also showing success. During the fall of 2006 we contracted with RJ Consulting to initiate our wetland prairie restoration at this site. With their skid-steer tractor they removed Oregon ash, invasive fruit trees and English hawthorn that had, over time, encroached into the native wetland prairie. This woody vegetation removal will enable us to conduct a prescribed burn during the fall/winter of 2007, weather permitting. We are working with Tom Kaye of the Institute for Applied Ecology to complete a management plan of this site by the summer of 2007.

We continued our efforts to work with the Institute for Applied Ecology and their RARE (Restoration And Re-introduction Education) Partnership program at Lupine Meadows in the hope to include Owens Farm during the 2007-2008 school year. This program educates students from Elementary to High School on rare plant populations and their habitats in our region and how they can work to restore and enhance these populations. Throughout the school year, local students learn about prairie species, grow native species in school greenhouses, then plant seedlings in restoration areas in the spring.

In order to carry on the important work of land conservation we are reaching out to the newcomers and students in our region to introduce them to the wonderful natural areas in our communities. A generous grant from the Oregon Community Foundation and support from our donors allowed us to hire Steve Lilly as our Outreach and Membership Coordinator. He is working with our board to develop a more extensive outreach program, to increase support for protection of natural areas, and provide opportunities for residents to learn about the work of the Greenbelt Land Trust.

The Board and staff also began an important strategic and business planning process that will help us prioritize our land acquisition, stewardship and outreach efforts for the next 5 years. We held a meeting in April 2006 to take input from our members and partner organizations on where we should focus our conservation work and what are the greatest challenges and opportunities to our work in the Valley.

We continued to expand our funding for land conservation with over $800,000 in grants received from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the North American Wetland Conservation Act, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Landowner Incentive Program.

An investment in the ongoing success of the Greenbelt was made through a generous bequest from a long time member, Rita McDonald. We are continuing our efforts to grow this fund to $1,000,000 through a focus on our planned giving program.

Please join us in this exciting work to protect and restore the natural heritage of the Willamette Valley and provide opportunities for communities to experience nature close to home.
An elected board of directors who serve 3-year terms governs the Greenbelt Land Trust. A list of our officers and directors is included in this report. Our chief executive officer is our executive director, Karlene McCabe.

For the period October 1, 2005-September 30, 2006 we received funding from private donations, grants, interest on investments and sales of donated stock. We did not receive income from events or sales.

The majority of our unrestricted income came from private donors. We also received federal and state grant funding for acquisition of conservation easements and stewardship. We received a major bequest of $204,563 from a long time donor.

Ninety-two percent of our expenses went directly to our programs, including land conservation, stewardship, public education and open space partnering. As reflected in our IRS Form 990 for 2005 the Greenbelt spent 8.4% on administrative and fundraising costs.

It should be noted that the Greenbelt Land Trust changed to an accrual system of accounting in 2005.

The Greenbelt completed a Federal Audit of the previous year reviewing our income, expenses, and assets.

This report was presented to our members at our annual meeting on February 27, 2007 and is available in both our May 2006 newsletter and on our website.
Grants received in 2006

US Fish & Wildlife Service
North American Wetland Conservation Act
Pacific Coast Joint Venture
Private Stewardship Grant Program
Landowner Incentive Program
Oregon Community Foundation
The Nature Conservancy
Corvallis Kiwanis Foundation

The following donors generously supported our conservation efforts between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2006

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(Continued on page 8)
Thank You Donors!

(Continued from page 7)

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(Continued on page 9)
The Greenbelt Land Trust has been accepted into the Land Trust Alliance first ever independent accreditation pilot program. As part of this process the Land Trust Accreditation Commission is asking for our members, stakeholders and partners to offer their comments on the work of the Greenbelt Land Trust. The Land Trust Alliance promotes voluntary private land conservation to benefit communities and natural systems. They are the national convener, strategist and representative of more than 1,600 land trusts across America.

Independent accreditation provides the assurance of quality and permanence of land conservation the public is looking for and is essential for building public confidence in land trusts. The accreditation seal will recognize land conservation organizations that meet national standards for excellence, uphold the public trust and ensure that conservation efforts are permanent. This recognition will provide for enhanced credibility and respect with land conservation donors, partners, members and the public. Voluntary accreditation also offers land trusts, like the Greenbelt Land Trust, another tool in their toolbox. The preparation and application process affords applicants the opportunity to review and implement policies that will help streamline our operations and lead to more effective land conservation.

Your comments would be of great value to us and to the Commission. Comments must relate to the Greenbelt Land Trust’s compliance with the accreditation indicator practices. These practices address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. For the full list of indicator practices see www.lta.org/accreditation/practices.htm

(Continued on page 10)
Marguerita (Rita) McDonald, 3/1906 – 8/2005

Rita, who loved and appreciated nature, left a generous bequest of $204,000 to the Greenbelt Land Trust with the understanding that it would in some way commemorate her good friend, Katherine Osborn, with whom she enjoyed seeing so much of the beautiful outdoors in Oregon. The Greenbelt is grateful to Rita and her commitment to land conservation and the enjoyment of the outdoors. Unrestricted requests such as Rita’s are used by the Greenbelt to grow our endowment fund to ensure that the trust will be able to conserve and protect important properties in perpetuity. We are also working with her friends to determine how she would wish to commemorate her friend Katherine.

Rita McDonald was born near Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada and spent her childhood in Armstrong, B.C. In 1924, Rita received her Bachelor’s Degree from the University of British Columbia. Rita became a United States citizen in 1931 yet had a difficult time in the Great Depression, working several part-time library jobs. The onset of World War II stirred her patriotism. In 1942, she enlisted in the Women’s Army Corps as a private, preferring not to serve as an officer. She stated that she wanted to serve in a capacity that would “free a man for flight”. Before leaving the WAC, she was offered a government service job but declined it since she wanted to return to civilian life in the West.

Commencing work at the Valley Library at Oregon State University in 1962, Rita served as librarian for the engineering library until she retired in 1972. Rita had many interests outside her professional life. She was an active member of the League of Women Voters where she concentrated on water supply problems. She supported the Greenbelt Land Trust, Sierra Club, other environmental groups, and the Democratic Party. She and her friends enjoyed outdoor trips to Oregon parks. Because she did not drive, Rita traveled by bus or walking. She lived in various apartments near OSU and later shared the house belonging to her friend and fellow librarian Katherine Hughes.

Katherine Osborn & Rita McDonald

We have moved our office!
We are now located along the most southern part of the waterfront area at: 101 SW Western Boulevard. Stop in for a visit!

Our mailing address remains the same: PO Box 1721, Corvallis OR 97339

Rita’s nephews, Kenneth and Ron Lowtian of Seattle, and Robert Wallace of Nova Scotia, as well as many friends of all ages have fond memories of her as a friendly, intelligent, and spirited person.

Submitted to the Greenbelt by Nancy Leman
New Faces at the Greenbelt

Joanne McLennan—Board of Directors

Joanne moved to Oregon in 1973 with her husband, Seaton. She was involved in the first Willamette Growers Association and the area’s first Farmer’s Market. She received a BA from the University of California at Santa Cruz. From 1973-75, Joanne and her husband operated the Van Buren Street Café. Before opening Corvallis Paperworks (Design & Advertising) in 1984, she worked for many years as freelance graphic designer and at LBCC publications Department for three years. The design agency is now EDGE Design where Joanne worked as Creative Director until she retired in 2006. Joanne enjoys gardening, painting, sculpture, crafts and camping/travel.

“GLT’s mission of acquiring large areas of land and designating open green space is at the heart of maintaining a balance of livability in this area. As populations increase, it demonstrates how clear choices can and should be made to continue to protect what so many of us came to Oregon for in the first place.” - Joanne McLennan

Steve Lilly—Outreach & Membership Coordinator

In 2005, Steve, his wife Susanne, and their cats Baezil and Sleighban moved from Charlottesville, VA, to this wonderful land that we call Oregon. In December 2006, Steve was hired as the Outreach/Membership Coordinator at Greenbelt Land Trust after working as the Development Coordinator at the Benton County Historical Society & Museum. Steve is excited to apply, encourage, and share this same passion and enthusiasm to Greenbelt’s mission of land conservation with folks living in our area. As an avid nature lover, he believes that observing, protecting, and sharing the wonderful open space areas is crucial now and in the future. He is looking forward to seeing each of you during hikes, trail workdays, and outreach events. In his spare time, Steve enjoys reading, hiking, fishing, cooking, history, and traveling with Susanne.

YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT THE GREENBELT LAND TRUST with the following tax-deductible contribution.

Membership Form

- General $35
- Family $60
- Supporting $125
- Guarantor $250
- Patron $500
- Millennium Club $1,000
- Conservation Circle $2,500+
- Additional Gift for Land Acquisition $______

I am enclosing a check for $______ for membership in the Greenbelt Land Trust.

- New Member
- Renewal

MAIL TO: Greenbelt Land Trust PO Box 1721, Corvallis, OR 97339

Volunteer Opportunities
I am interested in participating with the following activities:
- Stewardship/Restoration
- Trails

More Information
- Please contact me about an educational presentation to my group or organization.
- Send me information about the tax benefits of land gifts and conservation easements.
- Send me information about including the Greenbelt in my trust or will.
The Greenbelt Land Trust and the community of Corvallis recently lost two strong voices for conservation of natural areas. David Kliewer and Phil Schary were involved members of the Greenbelt and passionate supporters of open space protection. Both men and their families lived in Corvallis for over 40 years and enriched the community through their involvement.

David Kliewer

Dr. Kliewer and his wife Jean owned a 10 acre parcel of land in North Corvallis where they raised their three children, Pete, Jody and Dave. The property is located just off of Highland Drive and is now called Forest Dell Park. Six acres of the property comprise a wooded park with paths for hiking. Dr. Kliewer spent many years planting a variety of native trees on the site. David and Jean donated six acres of the property as a park to the City of Corvallis in 1998. As a requirement of their donation they required a conservation easement, held by the Greenbelt, be placed on the property to insure that the land will remain as community open space in perpetuity. The remaining 3 acres of the site is being developed with homes for Habitat for Humanity. The Kliewer’s belief in social justice guided their vision to use their lands for open space and housing that would be available to all members of the community. The Greenbelt and community of Corvallis will be forever grateful to the Kliewer family for their generous support of open space in our communities.

Phil Schary

Phil and Nancy Schary moved to Corvallis in the 1960’s. He was a professor in the business department at OSU and enjoyed exploring the many beautiful places both close to home and throughout Oregon.

Phil served on the Greenbelt’s board of directors and was instrumental in the publication of the Greenbelt’s 1998 Open Space Plan that helped guide the recent acquisition of open space lands in and around Corvallis and Philomath. His wit, sense of humor and commitment helped guide us through the long process of developing this important study that has guided the work of the Greenbelt over the last 8 years. Over the years he stayed committed to conservation of open space through his work on the Corvallis Open Space Commission and the Marys Peak Chapter of the Sierra Club.

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