



Honoring family

and is often something that we love, something that is part of our family memories and our local history.

Such was the case for Judy LaLonde, who lives in Troy. Over the years, the forested slopes, the meandering stream and lush pasture became much more than a parcel of land. They became part of the family.

"My brother Brad died suddenly in 2008, leaving me this alpaca farm," reflected Judy, continuing, "the land is so beautiful, and he loved it so much."

Brad had purchased the land because he had a strong appreciation for both farming and nature. It was a gem, right on the outskirts of the city of Troy.

The property had been platted for a subdivision and he wanted to make sure that never happened.

Judy sees the land as a continuation of her family legacy, and a tribute to her brother. Because of her vision, the land, 49 acres of forest land and Big Meadow Creek, are protected.

Moose, deer, and other wildlife travel through the forest, and the creek will be an important area for steelhead trout once a culvert is replaced under Highway 8 as part of a project in the works by Idaho Department of Fish and Game.



"I've so enjoyed taking care of the alpacas and watching the wildlife that uses the forest. I felt like protecting the land would be like I was paying Brad back for all that he gave me," Judy LaLonde

Inspiring youth and the next generation of conservationists:

Brad loved having the Troy Elementary School children visit the farm each year to learn about the alpacas. As Judy tells it, by the time the students were in the

"I'd love to see it be used for all sorts of education; from forestry, to agriculture, to nature studies—both now and after my lifetime." third grade, they could conduct the tour themselves.

Judy continues this tradition of inspiring local youth by hiring students from Troy High School to work at the farm, and teaching kids about alpacas and how to care for them. "I'd love to see it be used for all sorts of education; from forestry, to agriculture, to nature studies—both now and after my lifetime."

Generous, community-minded people like Judy are something that makes our region so special. Thanks to your support, her dream of protecting the property in a way that honors her brother and benefits the community is now a reality.



The trails are newly enhanced at Idler's Rest, thanks to this terrific team of volunteers. If you'd like to volunteer, let us know. It's a great way to make a difference.

Caring for the land: Volunteers celebrate **National Trails Day at Idler's Rest**

Have you been to Idler's Rest Nature Preserve lately? The Preserve has recently been spruced up thanks to the hard work of an energetic group of volunteers organized by Moscow's Pat Rathmann.

Pat organized volunteers for National Trails Day to prune along the trails, pull exotic weeds, and build a new set of steps to improve the main entrance to the Preserve's cedar trail.

"I figured I wasn't the only person having trouble getting down the steep, gravelly slope," Pat recalled, "so I spoke with the Land Trust and we decided to do something about it together."

A local refuge for people and wildlife

Idler's Rest has long been a refuge from the summer heat. For over 100 years, people have been coming to relax in the cool cedar bottom. The cedars provide a shady spot for a picnic, and the trails in the Preserve cross through three distinct habitat types, making for a lovely and interesting walk.

For directions to the Preserve and more information, visit our website www. PalouseLandTrust.org.



A special thank you to Pat Rathmann and the volunteers who have enhanced the Idler's Rest Nature Preserve.



What's going on here?

Researchers with the University of Idaho are working at Idler's Rest to collect the scent of Houndstongue (Cynoglossum officinale) flowers. You can learn more about why they're doing it on our website: www. PalouseLandTrust.org/idlers-restnature.php



What is a land trust, how do we conserve land?

Land trusts work with people who want to protect their land as well as helping to inspire the love of conservation. For many people, it's important to ensure that future generations can continue to marvel at the forests and meadows, ranchlands and habitats, and streams and mountains that make our region so special. There are 1,700 land trusts nationally and each one is a bit different.

Our land trust is community-supported, non-governmental organization. We work with people from all walks of life to help them fulfill their family, or personal, goals related to the land.

Because each property is unique, as are the family's goals, each conservation project is specially tailored to meet those goals. As part of the project process we establish a conservation agreement, called a "conservation easement" to reflect the long-term conservation goals and the owner's vision for their land. These agreements "run with the land," which means they apply to present and future owners.

There are four key points to understand about working with a conservation easement.

- A conservation easement is a voluntary agreement between a landowner and the land trust. The landowner may qualify for significant income tax deductions that can be spread out over a total of 16 years [see our website for more details].
- The landowner continues to own the land. He/she may also transfer it to their heirs, give it away, or sell the land.
- The property may continue to be farmed, ranched, timbered or used in a sustainable manner. Some landowners retain a reserved housesite for future or current use. A conservation plan is established as part of the process, often restricting certain types of development in order to preserve special natural values of the property.
- The land stays on the tax rolls and public access is not required.

Once the land is conserved, the Palouse Land Trust works with current and future owners to make sure the land remains protected.

Incredible farms, forests, wetlands, streams and prairies are going to be conserved...

Local families working to conserve their land

Families from all walks of life are working to conserve the properties they love.

Some want to honor their longterm connection to the land. Others want to ensure that there are farms for local food into the future. Many are interested in protecting a place for wildlife, helping to ensure clean water and places to play for kids in the future.

Thanks to the support of our members—people like you—we are currently assisting families in five counties (Whitman, Latah, Benewah, Nez Perce, and Idaho counties) to conserve their land. As part of the process, we respect each family's privacy so that they can make the very personal decision to protect their land.

Possible income tax deductions

If you are interested in the possible income tax deductions related to conserving your land, please visit our website www.PalouseLandTrust.org. You may be able to deduct up to 50% of your adjusted gross income, or – if you are a farmer or rancher – 100% for up to 16 years.

For many families, conserving their land has been a long-time dream. For a few, it's something they just found out about. All of them are excited to conserve their land—and make sure that future generations continue to enjoy the very best things about our region.

Would you like to conserve your land?

Give Amy Trujillo a call at (208) 669-0722. All conversations are confidential to respect your family's decision to explore your options.



Your support helps us assist landowners like Mark and Gail DeSantis who wanted to ensure their beloved land remained a refuge for wildlife, as well as an open space for the community. "People may not think of a few acres is large or special," says Gail, "but they haven't seen this place!"

You can become a local hero, each month...

Have you ever wished to make a bigger impact with your donation? Conservation needs you more than ever. As a member of our Conservation Heroes program, you can make your donations via payroll deductions or monthly donations via your bank bill pay or through our website. It's safe and easy to do.

Jim Heidelberger signed up last year

for monthly giving. "Basically, I do the monthly contribution because otherwise it would be difficult for me to come up with a worthwhile annual donation," he says, "By doing a small monthly donation, I hardly notice the difference but by the end of the year, it adds up to something significant."

WSU employees can now make payroll deductions to the Land Trust via the

Washington Combined Fund Drive. UI employees can make donations via payroll deductions through the Human Resources office.

For more information on how to set up monthly donations or payroll deductions, please contact Amy Trujillo at (208) 669-0722 or visit www.PalouseLandTrust.org/ways-to-give.php.



Because of you, kids like Sidney can experience our rivers and streams.

Inspiring conservation, changing lives

Leaving a Legacy of Land Conservation

Conservation can last forever: in the hearts of kids, the streams and forests, and the family farms we conserve. You can make sure that happens in more and more communities on the Palouse, with a legacy gift in your estate plan to Palouse Land Trust. It's simple to do, and the impact will last for generations.

Your gift can play a central role in the long-term protection of locally important lands, increase the pace of local conservation, and make sure future generations experience the beauty of the Palouse. Please contact Executive Director, Amy Trujillo, to discuss your legacy gift, to ensure it meets your wishes and the needs of the Land Trust. Your leadership will never be forgotten.

You're Making it Happen

Your support helps us assist families from the western slope of the North Rocky Mountains to the grasslands of the Palouse and the Camas Prairie. You have helped protect farm and ranch land, wildlife habitat, and open space for our future. Your support enables us to conserve streams and wetlands, clean water, and beautiful vistas... forever. Many thanks to our 2012-2013 members, we couldn't do this work without you.

Champions - \$1,000 +

Judy LaLonde Moscow Giving Circle John Norton Justin & Amy Trujillo * Paul Wendland

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"The way I was raised, protecting open space with its beautiful landscapes, plant and animal habitats and its soils means a great deal for me and my family. Having the opportunity to protect our place with a conservation easement was exactly what we needed." —Maynard Fosberg

Lisette Waits & Dave Roon * Joanne Washburn Jim & Bertie Weddell

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If you believe your name was left off this list in error. please call Amy at (208) 669-0722.

- * A special thank you to donors marked with an asterisk who participate in our Conservation Heroes program by donating via payroll deduction or monthly
- ** These people generously gave at the Alternative Giving Market of the Palouse in 2012.



Conserving the open space, wildlife, water and scenery of the Palouse.

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P.O. Box 8506 Moscow, ID 83843 (208) 669-0722 www.palouselandtrust.org info@palouselandtrust.org

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Our Mission is to conserve the open space, scenery, wildlife habitat, and water quality of the Palouse region for the benefit of current and future generations.

Want to hear about projects and programs?

Sign up for our free E-News.It's a great way to stay in touch!

www.PalouseLandTrust.org





You helped conserve the land, come celebrate! Please join us to celebrate the protection of Big Meadow Creek Alpacas farm in Troy

Come see a beautiful farm and natural area that you just helped protect.

Bring your friends, family and kids.

It's free and there will be activities for kids.

This is a great chance to learn about alpacas and see the new crias (baby alpacas!) as well as the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's efforts to restore steelhead trout in the area.

Where: Big Meadow Creek Alpacas farm, 1021 McKeehan Road, in Troy, ID.

When: Saturday, August 24th drop in anytime between 5:30pm and 7:30 pm

What to wear: Wear casual clothes and

shoes suitable for walking around a farm or natural area

Rain date: Call the office if the weather looks questionable. We'll leave a message stating what the plans are.

RSVP is helpful for refreshment planning, but not required (208) 669-0722.

There is limited parking, so carpooling is encouraged. Please visit our website www. PalouseLandTrust/calendar-of-events.php if you need directions. We look forward to seeing you.