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NEWS ARTICLE

Bethlehem Trust Plans Fund-Raiser

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BETHLEHEM—The Bethlehem Land Trust’s Sixth Annual Dinner/Auction, “Farms, Fields, and Forests,” will take place on Saturday, Nov. 20, at Memorial Hall on Main Street. The event begins at 6 p.m.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of the land trust, and the event features a harvest dinner, music, and a live and silent auction. The dinner will be catered by Jordan Caterers of Cheshire, voted the number one caterer in Connecticut multiple times in Connecticut Magazine.

Auction items include a scenic flight over Litchfield County in a vintage plane with professional pilot Captain Thomas Whelan at the controls, a condo in Wellfleet on the Cape for three days, four cords of firewood, a handcrafted table by Woody Mosch Cabinetry theater tickets, rounds of golf and much more.

“We’ve had tremendous support from town residents, who are offering their services and connections to help the land trust meet its goals,” stated Stuart Rabinowitz, the auction chairman and vice president in a press release, “and we have recently added new members to the board of directors.”

The purpose of the event is to raise funds for land acquisition. The Bethlehem Land Trust now owns 220-plus acres with easements on another 36-plus acres, all permanently protected by the trust. Although impressive, this is a very small percentage of land compared to surrounding land trusts who hold larger percentages within their towns. The first land acquisition was the 81-acre Bellamy Preserve, located in the heart of town. The “Preserve” is Bethlehem’s “Central Park” and offers through varied ecosystems trails for residents and their canine companions to enjoy.

The land trust is now exploring land in town with an eye on acquiring additional property in the near future to preserve Bethlehem’s natural heritage for future generations to enjoy.

Anyone interested in buying tickets to attend the fund-raiser, making a financial contribution or finding out more information about donating property is asked to call Mr. Rabinowitz at 203-266-5874. Seating is limited and tickets are \$65 per person.

There are a limited number of tickets which will be available at the door the night of the dinner.

The Bethlehem Land Trust, established in 1980, is a nonprofit organization.