

BETHLEHEM LAND TRUST

Conservation of Natural Resources

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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ANOTHER EASEMENT GIVEN TO THE BETHLEHEM LAND TRUST

BETHLEHEM: The Bethlehem Land Trust is pleased to announce that Ann and Michael Loeb of Arrowhead Farm, Bethlehem, have preserved 20.5 acres of their land in Bethlehem with a permanent conservation easement in favor of the Land Trust.

In 1970 the Loeb family purchased Arrowhead Farm, which included 75 acres. Over the years they acquired contiguous parcels, some of which they gave to the John Dorr Nature Laboratory, adjacent to Arrowhead Farm.

The 20.5 acre easement being given to the Land Trust includes mixed hardwood forest, evergreens, a pond, and contours typical of the Litchfield County uplands. The easement ensures that the land will never be built on or sub-divided and will forever remain a haven for wildlife.

Land preservation and stewardship has always been an important part of the Loeb family's values. At one time Michael Loeb was chairman of the Sierra Club Foundation. He and his wife Ann have remained actively involved with the Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society. Mr. Loeb also served for many years on the board of the Horace Mann School in New York, which owns the local John Dorr Nature Laboratory. Camping was a frequent family activity. The Loeb family's younger daughter

participated in Outward Bound programs, attended the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), and climbed Denali in Alaska.

Ann Loeb is a member of Rachel's Network (named for Rachel Carson), a group of women working for the environment and land preservation. The Loeb's are now retired – Michael Loeb from a career in publishing and Ann Loeb from many years of work with the non-profit Settlement Housing Fund in New York.

“We particularly like Bethlehem because of its lack of development and hope it can stay a country community. Our kids feel the same way,” commented Mr. Loeb. Their gift brings the Land Trust holdings to 359 acres – 250 owned outright and 109 protected by permanent easements.

The Bethlehem Land Trust, established in 1980, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the permanent conservation and stewardship of local farmland, fields, forests, and wetlands and to educating the public on the importance of conservation. For more information please visit the Trust's website at www.bethlehemctlandtrust.org.

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