WEEKEND
The Patriot Ledger
A NEW ENGLAND DISTINGUISHED NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
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Farmers Matt Sabourn and Clare Parkinson prepare fingerling spinach for planting in the greenhouse at Holly Hill Farm in Cohasset on Sept. 18. The farm is run by a nonprofit that has purchased the property to maintain as a working produce farm. PHOTOS BY GREG DERR/THE PATRIOT LEDGER

Holly Hill Farm's legacy to continue

Preservation measures keep the Cohasset farm active for years to come

Sue Scheible
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USA TODAY NETWORK

COHASSET – Holly Hill Farm, the 6.23-acre organic enterprise with far-reaching community ties, has a new owner and can now "remain a farm forever."

The White family, which owned the property for more than six generations, has sold the farm to the nonprofit organization, which has been running it as a sustainable resource since 2002.

That group, The Friends of Holly Hill Farm, raised over $4.9 million, including $1 million in Community Preservation Act funds from the town of Cohasset, to close the deal. A new conservation restriction was also added, helping to ensure that the land is safe from development.

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The main barn, which acts as a produce market on Fridays and Saturdays,

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"This represents what Frank and I were hoping would happen," Jean donkeys, goats and chickens in the rain. White helped sustain the farm until it could be sold and continues to feed the animals twice a day and help manage the flowering plants. Her husband, Frank, who grew up on the property, died in 2009 at age 77.

"I love what I'm doing," White said. "I love the animals and the animal care, and I love the farm."

Buoyed by the sale, the group is already investing more in buildings and infrastructure on the property and is continuing a fund drive for the future.

The Friends organization has operated the farm since 2002, through a lease with the White family.

As she nurtured her animals, Jean White's joy was tempered by a sense of recent loss. Pumpkin, her beloved Welsh pony, died in early September at age 39.

The community's outpouring of condolences and gratitude on social media and at the farm for Pumpkin's long presence was uplifting. For days after Pumpkin died, visitors to the farm had left flowers, small gifts, and poignant messages by children and adults on a bench by the stall.










Vegetables
VEGETABLES


HOLLY HILL FARM
HELP US UNLOCK A
$500,000 GIFT
TO REACH OUR NEXT
CAMPAIGN MILESTONE
Please make your gift today!
FARM
STAND
open

Keep Our Farm A Farm campaign goes on

The trust's purchase of the land was just the first step in its ongoing Keep Our Farm a Farm campaign.

"This is a huge win for the environment and this beautiful farm." Meredith Laban, executive director of the Friends of Holly Hill Farm, said.

“We are incredibly grateful to the White family and the community of Keep Our Farm a Farm supporters ... and we’re asking the community to join us to help ensure we can grow, teach, and be here for generations to come.”



Scenes of plenty from nonprofit Holly Hill Farm in Cohasset

A visit to Holly Hill Farm in Cohasset, a working produce farm run by a nonprofit family enterprise.

The next phase in the farm's growth

The next phase of development includes:

- Making critical improvements to the historic 1785 barn that is home t its year-round farm stand
- Improved traffic flow and parking
- A year-round indoor educational space with heat, a kitchen for teaching and preparing food for food pantries and restrooms






EGGS
COFFEES & TEAS
HONEY
CHEESE & YOGURT
SNACKS
LOCAL



How the farm was transformed into a community treasure

When the Whites co-founded the Friends of Holly Hill Farm in 2002, they carefully created a nonprofit certified organic farm, committed to sustainable agricultural methods, with an educational mission – they would grow vegetables, herbs, seedlings, and flowers for the local communities.

The farm also supports people facing food insecurity through its Farm to Food Pantry program. More than 7,300 thousands of pounds of healthy food and flowers were donated to nine local food pantries last year alone.

The farm stand provides food to participating families through its Holly Hill Farm SHARES program and also proudly accepts SNAP payments.

The farm has partnerships with over 40 schools from the South Shore to Boston and provides on-the-farm educational programs for children year-round.

More than 20,000 students from over 14 communities participate in programs on the farm, in classrooms, and in school gardens each year.

Adults are invited to attend workshops and guided walks on the farm, and in the community, led by its educators and experts in the field.

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Adults and children are welcome to visit the farm on their own and enjoy the natural setting, interact with barnyard animals, attend different community events, sign up for volunteer opportunities and educational programs.

The farm stand is open every Friday and Saturday year-round. Visit the Farm website for the schedule.

Some of the most popular products

What treasures might you find here? Christina Barber, the farm's marketing communications leader, said that organic tomatoes, green beans and flowers "were especially bountiful and well received" in 2026.

Customers also enjoy:

- Organic salad mixes, lettuces, kale, bok choy, peppers, garlic, and, when available, fresh farm eggs.
- Holly Hill Farm honey harvested on the farm by Treespoke, and local beekeeper/owner Colin Doherty.
- Fresh-baked breads and pastries from Alecco Bakery in Maine.
- Mushrooms from McGuire's Mushrooms in Hingham.
- Eggs from Garden to Garnish in Hanson.
- Coffee from Dean's Beans in Orange.
- Valcour Maple Syrup from Petersham.

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- Cheese from Round Table Farm in Hardwick and Narragansett Creamery in Rhode Island.
- Chicken and pork from Azuluna Farms in Woodstock, Connecticut.

Can people visit the farm animals?

Barber said that visitors are welcome to see the farm animals and children participating in programs can have opportunities to help care for the animals in their pens alongside the farm educators.

Visitors are asked not to feed the animals; they can greet them at their fences, take photos and admire them in their natural farm environment.

Special events in the community

There are many special events throughout the year at Holly Hill Farm. Here are a few:

- The annual organic plant sale every spring, and a smaller plant sale in the fall
- The annual farm-to-table dinner
- Annual Winter Fest
- Wreath-Making workshops
- Workshops on the farm and in the community.

"We also offer workshops in the community, including fall gardening and food- and nature-inspired workshops at Untold Brewing in Scituate,"

To learn more about the Friends of Holly Hill events and programs, to support the Keep Our Farm a Farm campaign and to donate, go to hollyhillfarm.org.

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