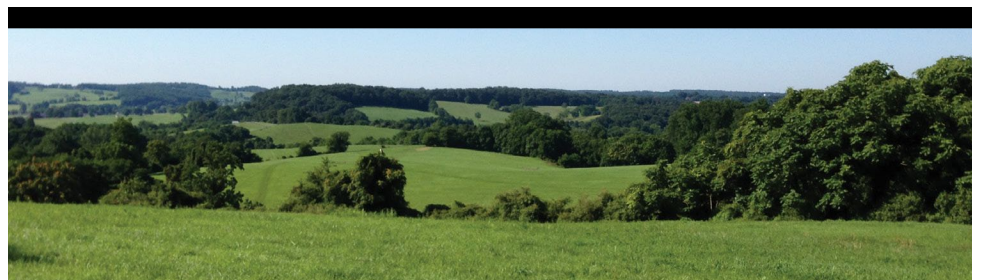


BUCK & DOE



TRUST



FALL/ WINTER 2023

HISTORY OF THE KING RANCH COMES ALIVE

Author **Kathleen Hood** teamed up with the former King Ranch Cowboys and local artist **Randall Graham** to create a book *Where are the Cowboys?* that captures the essence of life on the ranch from the cowboys' perspective. It provides factual information on the ranch operation, along with historic photos, and is sure to be enjoyed by the entire family. The book can be purchased at the Brandywine Museum of Art's gift shop
(more p 14)



BRANDYWINE
CONSERVANCY

BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY AND PARTNERS ANNOUNCE LAUNCH OF BRANDYWINE FLOOD STUDY

Supported by the Chester County Water Resources Authority and the University of Delaware Water Resources Center, the flood study will identify opportunities for future flood mitigation measures to better protect residents living along the Brandywine Creek in Pennsylvania and Delaware.

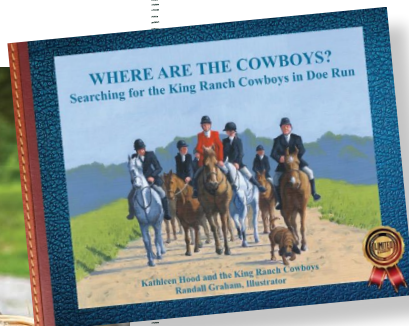
In response to more frequent and extreme flooding events impacting communities along the **Brandywine Creek** in both Pennsylvania and Delaware, the Brandywine Conservancy is excited to announce the launch of the **Brandywine Flood Study**—nearly two years after Hurricane Ida produced historic flooding that devastated the region. Conducted in partnership with the **Chester County Water Resources Authority** (CCWRA) and the University of **Delaware Water Resources Center** (UDWRC), the flood study is a coordinated effort to better understand where and why flooding occurs and identify the best approaches to protect our communities from future severe flooding events.

Encompassing the mainstem of the Brandywine Creek and key tributaries in Chester and Delaware Counties in Pennsylvania and traveling downstream to impacted areas over the Delaware state line, the flood study aims to identify

options for reducing flood impacts to improve public safety and lessen property damage. The study will be funded, in part, through grants from Chester County Government and **Delaware County Council**.

“As we approach the two-year anniversary of Hurricane Ida, which caused significant threats to public safety and emergency services, along with over \$100 million in flood damages to public infrastructure in our region—including more than \$10 million in damages to the Brandywine Conservancy & Museum of Art’s 15-acre campus in Chadds Ford—there is an urgent need for this flood study,” said **Grant DeCosta**, Director of Community Services for the Brandywine Conservancy. “In order to identify the best strategies for mitigating the impact of future flooding events, we need to better understand all of the factors that contribute to flood levels along the Brandywine Creek and its tributaries.

(continued p 13)



“COWBOY CRITTER” HANDMADE

SUPPORTING
LAND AND WATER
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION

PRESIDENTS LETTER

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

BUCK & DOE TRUST continues to applaud all our local land trusts and conservation friends for their efforts! As I have said before, it is not one person, one event, or one year, but everyone helping with their part in preserving our area.

As an interesting perspective, we have included an article written in 1993. Commercial pilots from Philadelphia always knew their location when flying over the **King Ranch** area. Given the conservation efforts and minimal homes (and the lights) in the area, it reminded them of a big **“Black Hole”**. The conservation efforts continue today in 2023 as additional landowners ease their lands. Additionally, some landowners go a step further. A special recognition goes to **Joy Slater** who further amended her original easement completed almost 40

years ago. She further protected her 341 +/- acres in **West Marlborough Township**, known as **Fat Chance Farm**, by removing the remaining development rights. This is an extraordinary example of her belief in conservation and an extraordinary gift to the community. The vast fields and views along Doe Run Road (RT 82), across from the King Ranch pens and **The Laurels** entrance, will be protected for generations to come!! Buck & Doe Trust truly wants to honor Joy and all who have contributed to the conservation effort!

Wishing everyone a great holiday!

Amy McKenna – President
AmyMcKenna123@aol.com

Amy

COMMUNITY NEWS:

MARRIAGES:

Emily Fanning & Tucker Hunter (II)

Nita Greer & Clipper Lamotte

Devon Seery & Nate Stoltzfus

PASSINGS:

Tom Brokaw

Michael Rotko

Jonathan Shephard

John Swayne

NEW LANDOWNERS:

Nicholas Grandi & Ashley Glick

Brooke & Roddy Moorhead

Kathy & Tim Weber

WE ARE MIXING IT UP!

HOLIDAY EVENT:

Frolic Weymouth always said, “it is good to mix things up”! Following Frolic’s sage advice, **instead of a fall/holiday event, we will have a mid-winter party!** Reminder, the invitation to come is for **eased landowners** who are paid BDT members.

ANNUAL MEETING/
OPEN HOUSE:

Per our By-laws, we will have our Annual Meeting at a very relaxed Open House: December 27th, 2023

1-3 PM:

With Annual Meeting at 1:30pm
Cookie & Gerry Brown Center at Armisted Farm
2230 Hilltop View Rd, Coatesville

*Please Stop by
Wednesday afternoon
for some holiday cheer
by the fireplace!*



ILLUSTRATION : ADOBE CREATIVE



December 5, 2023

Dear Member:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to invite you to the 2023 Annual Meeting of The Buck and Doe Trust, which will be held on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 from 1pm to 3pm (EST) at the Cookie & Jerry Brown Center at Armisted at 2230 Hilltop View Road, Coatesville, PA 19320.

At the Annual Meeting: *Nina Burnaford, Terry Corkran, Phoebe Driscoll, Mamie Duff, John Goodall, Amy McKenna, Keith Kanara, Jamie O’Rourke, Maria Pfeffer, Janet Sidewater, Susannah Small, Barbara Stewart and Lizzie Vannote*, will stand for re-election as Trustees; and candidates for membership in The Buck and Doe Trust previously recommended and approved by the Board will stand for election as new members.

The Board recommends that you vote in favor of all resolutions.

It is necessary to have a quorum of the members entitled to vote attend the Meeting in person, or by proxy, in order to take action. IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND the Annual Meeting, I strongly encourage you to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in your place. YOU CAN APPOINT A PROXY by sending a completed Proxy Form (on the reverse side of this Letter and also available on the website at www.buckanddoetrust.org) by email, mail or fax in accordance with the details in the Proxy Form Card to be received on or before 5pm (EST) on Tuesday, December 26, 2023.

You are invited to join the Board for Holiday Cheer with light refreshments at the Annual Meeting.

I look forward to seeing you then.

Sincerely,

Amy McKenna

Amy McKenna
President
BUCK AND DOE TRUST

PROXY FORM

STEP 1: Appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf.

I/We being a Member of The Buck and Doe Trust hereby appoint Amy McKenna (or other Chairman of the Annual Meeting), or failing her, _____ (please print) as my proxy to act generally on my/our behalf and to vote in accordance with the following directions at the Annual Meeting of Members of The Buck and Doe Trust to be held at Cookie and Jerry Brown Center at Armisted at 2230 Hilltop View Road, Coatesville, PA 19320 on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 and at any adjournment of that meeting.
NOTE: Please DO NOT fill in the blank above if you wish Amy McKenna (or other Chairman of the Annual Meeting) to be your proxy.

STEP 2: Items of Business-voting instructions/ (ballot paper (if poll is called)).

Ordinary Business (Check one box per nominee)

ITEM 1

That the following Trustees are re-elected:	For	Against	Proxy's Choice	Abstain
Nina Burnaford				
Terry Corkran				
Phoebe Driscoll				
Mamie Duff				
John Goodall				
Amy McKenna				
Keith Kanara				
Jamie O'Rourke				
Maria Pfeffer				
Janet Sidewater				
Susannah Small				
Barbara Stewart				
Lizzie Vannote				

ITEM 2

That the candidates for membership recommended and approved by The Board of Trustees are elected as new members.	For	Against	Proxy's Choice	Abstain

SIGN: Signature of Member(s). This Section must be completed.

Member:

(please print)

Member:

((please print)

Please return this Proxy Form by mail (P.O. Box 804, Unionville, PA 19375) email (buckanddoetrust@gmail.com) or FAX (484-288-1961) to arrive on or before 5pm (EST) on Tuesday, December 26, 2023.

SUPPORTING LAND & WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION



CREBILLY FARM CONSERVATION EASEMENTS FINALIZED

Natural Lands announced the finalization of four conservation easements on 102 acres at **Crebilly Farm** in Chester County. These easements—permanent, legal restrictions on development—are one element of a two-part plan to preserve the entirety of the iconic farm, which is one of the largest remaining parcels in **Westtown Township** and **Chester County**.

The second piece of the two-part plan is Westtown Township’s purchase of an additional 206 acres of the property for use as a publicly accessible, passive-use park. During November’s election, residents voted overwhelmingly—two votes to one—in favor of the creation of an **Open Space Tax**, the funds from which will pay for acquisition and maintenance of the township park.

“Following last November’s stunningly successful open space referendum win—which would have not been possible without the extraordinary commitment of the **150 Vote Yes To Save Crebilly** volunteers whose efforts were recently recognized with the 2023 **Governor’s Award for Local Government Excellence**—the completion of the easement process is the exciting consequential next phase en route to preserving this iconic Township centerpiece for generations to come,” commented **Dick Pomerantz**, vice chairperson of the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors.

A conservation easement is a voluntary land protection agreement that permanently restricts development on a particular property. Subsequent heirs or owners of the land are legally required to comply with the terms of the agreement in perpetuity.

“It took more than a village to get us to this place. A team of individuals worked positively, creatively, and cooperatively to save Crebilly Farm,” said **David Robinson**, one of the owners of Crebilly Farm. “The family has many to thank, including 150 volunteers who worked toward the ballot referendum, the Westtown Township Board of Supervisors and manager **Jon Altshul**, and our advisors who provided expertise. Most importantly, we thank Natural Lands.”

Added David, “It truly is an amazing endeavor of which everyone can be very proud. Five generations of Robinsons have lived at the farm and have fond memories made over the past 86 years. Now others will be able to create memories at Crebilly thanks to its permanent protection.”

Chester County Commissioners Marian Moskowitz, Josh Maxwell, and Michelle Kichline said, “Every step in the process of preserving Crebilly Farm brings us closer to the time when everyone who lives in Chester County or visits Chester County can enjoy the beauty of this historic pastoral space. Every element of the plan to keep Crebilly as it should be, has been well thought-out, and we thank Natural Lands, Westtown Township, and the Robinson family for working together to make it happen.”(continued p 13)



THE SPRING FLING CHUCKWAGON BREAKFAST

STILL COOKIN' WITH GAS

by Janet Sidewater

The **Buck & Doe Trust** was incorporated in 1986 and consisted of the 33 founding members of the **King Ranch** project. One year later, the first **Chuckwagon Breakfast** was held and brought together these landowners to celebrate their success in placing a large portion of the King Ranch under easement. How fitting the event was, and still is held each year in **The Laurels Preserve**. The 771 acre parcel was divided off from the original land purchase of 5,367 acres and was donated to **The Brandywine Conservancy** in 1985. The Laurels represents the heart of this ground breaking land conservation movement.

Newcomers to our area always ask me “So what IS the Spring Fling?” I usually start with a description of the amazing locally sourced menu consisting of pancakes, sausages from **The Country Butcher** grilled to perfection, the apple cider donuts from **Highland Orchards** and the fresh strawberries. But the Spring Fling is more than a hearty breakfast. A generation later, it has become a tradition. The landowners who attended the first chuckwagon breakfast now arrive with their grandchildren in tow. It provides the opportunity to bring our community together. To gather in an exceptional setting reveling in the best that nature has to offer. Dining on a historic covered bridge with a babbling brook flowing underneath. Beautiful hiking trails through the open fields. Rain or shine, the annual event is a celebration of the land we hold so dear. And then the global pandemic hit.

During the lockdown of 2020 and 2021 the **Spring Fling** was not held. But The Laurels was there, waiting serenely, providing succor, relieving the feeling of isolation people

were experiencing. One of the benefits of that period was that it brought home the inherent and intrinsic value of open space. People ventured out of their homes and came to The Laurels in record numbers. And during this challenging time our conservation partners did not rest on “their laurels”. In fact, The Brandywine Conservancy was presented with the opportunity to expand The Laurels Preserve. A portion of the **SuRal Farm**, located on the northern side of the preserve was vulnerable to development. The Conservancy secured an agreement with the **Roberts family** to purchase the 82 acres which were contiguous to The Laurels.

Once again, our community answered the call and came together to make this expansion possible. 35 years later, our neighbors generously donated to honor Frolic’s legacy.

One of the highlights of the event are the maps placed on easels, graciously provided by **John Goodall** of the Brandywine Conservancy. The maps provide a chronological bird’s eye view of the progress of preservation efforts over the past 3 decades. From 771, to 5367 to over 33,000 acres. That translates into more than 43 square miles of virtually contiguous open space! Each of the eased properties creates a mosaic of green. But airline pilots describe our area a little differently. As they fly over Pennsylvania at night, they can see the grid created by roads, streetlights and businesses. Suddenly they find themselves over a giant circle of darkness. They have labeled this region as **“The Black Hole”** (p 7) of Pennsylvania.

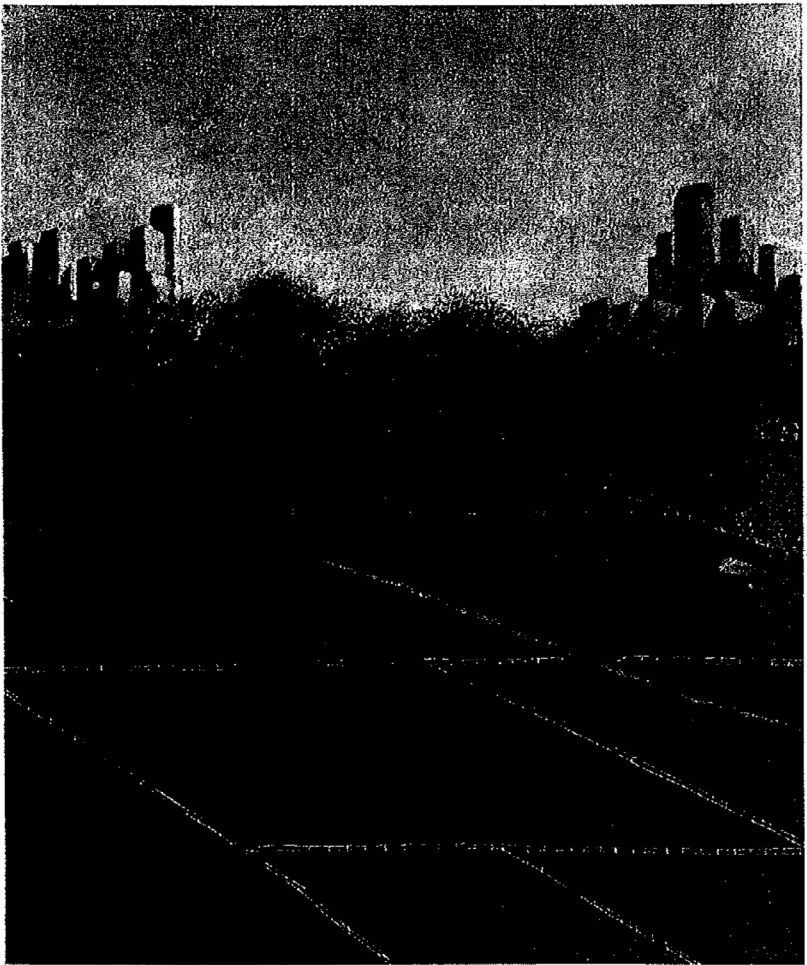
This year’s Chuckwagon Breakfast was held on an impossibly perfect spring morning. Once again, the Buck & Doe Trust crew pulled off a sumptuous breakfast without electricity, (continued p 14)

HISTORICAL FLASHBACK ARTICLE REPRINT FROM JANUARY 1993

GREEN SPACE

THE GOOD BLACK HOLE

BY TOM HORTON



*With 20,000 acres of protected
land, Pennsylvania’s Brandywine Conservancy
leads the way to wide open spaces.*

16 MID-ATLANTIC COUNTRY • January 1993

FROM AN AIRPLANE AT NIGHT, you can see the “black hole” very clearly. In the center of the triangle formed by the glowing metropolitan areas of Wilmington, Del., and Lancaster, Pa., and Philadelphia, it looks like a vast power failure — mile after mile of pure, black darkness. But if you were to fly in closer, skimming the treetops, you would see there is nothing wrong with the electricity. Picking out the occasional home or farmhouse twinkling in the dark, you would see that this place is inhabited after all, however sparsely. You would see, in other words, the work of the Brandywine Conservancy.

The Conservancy, founded in 1967 with the comparatively modest goal of slowing development in and around Chadds Ford, Pa., is now recognized as one of the nation’s pioneers in the preservation of open space through conservation easements. More than half of the Brandywine River watershed “black hole” — some 11,000 acres of prime countryside — is black because of these easements, under which private property owners agree to limit development of their land in perpetuity. And if the Conservancy and its volunteers fulfill their dream, the rest of the valley could soon follow suit.

Seldom have landscape and people mixed more richly or companionably than in the Brandywine River Valley. This is Wyeth country, a rolling patchwork of forest and farmland that has inspired its own school of painting, with Howard Pyle and three generations of Wyeths — N.C., Andrew and Jamie — at its core. “Never have I appreciated nature as I have in this place,” N.C. Wyeth wrote early in this century.

According to Nancy Mohr, coiner of the “black hole” metaphor and tireless Conservancy consultant and volunteer, this is also “Tuesday country, Thursday country and Saturday country.” That, she explains, is how Mr. Stewart’s Cheshire Foxhounds, informally known as the Cheshire Hunt, divvies up the open tracts it gallops across three days a week in pursuit of the red fox.

Just now we’re in Tuesday country, off Route 82 north of Unionville, watching the hunt gear up. It’s a popular local event, and the roadside is lined with cars and pickups. The hounds and horses are closely trailed by a small, gray-haired lady peering over the dashboard of her Jeep Wagoneer. This is Nancy Penn-Smith Hannum, Master of the Cheshire

ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL GIBBS

Hunt. Reluctantly grounded by past riding injuries, Hannum keeps up as best she can on four wheels. "It is her abiding sorrow she cannot teach that Wagoneer to jump," Mohr observes.

IT WAS NANCY HANNUM'S STEPFATHER, inveterate foxhunter Plunket Stewart, who founded the Cheshire Hunt in 1912 and began buying up farms to ensure the requisite elbow room. Legend has it that Stewart once went round on a Sunday morning, plunking cash on kitchen tables and offering to grant the sellers lifetime residence. There were few telephones then, and on a Sunday he figured he could secure a good price before word got out.

At around the same time, another wealthy landowner, Lamont du Pont, was doing much the same thing — but for different reasons. Convinced that the lower Brandywine, Wilmington's water supply, was being polluted by industry and development upstream, du Pont began buying up the watershed, in preparation for the day that Wilmington would need its own reservoir. The reservoir was never built, but by the mid-1940s, when du Pont put his holdings up for sale, he owned some 8,000 acres — nearly 13 square miles. That tract of land was ultimately purchased for grazing land by cattleman Robert Kleberg Jr., owner of the mammoth King Ranch in Texas.

For more than 30 years the future of the open countryside seemed assured by the red Santa Gertrudis cattle that grazed peacefully across mile after mile of southern Chester County. Kleberg's ranch was a perfect neighbor, keeping the landscape intact and accommodating foxhunters, Boy Scout troops, scientists studying water quality and nature trekkers. There were other good neighbors there too — most notably Miles Valentine and John West, who are widely credited with introducing the community to the relatively new concept of conservation easements.

The shock came in the early 1980s, says George A. "Frolic" Weymouth, chairman of the Brandywine Conservancy, when, after Kleberg's death, the big ranch went up for sale. "From the time he purchased it from du Pont, [Kleberg] had always promised he would preserve it as a watershed for the city of Wilmington," Weymouth recalls. "We had been working with him all along to put conservation easements on the land, but the heirs said 'sell.' . . . [They] just ripped up all that work."

"Those were our 'Welcome to the 20th century' days," says H. William Sellers,

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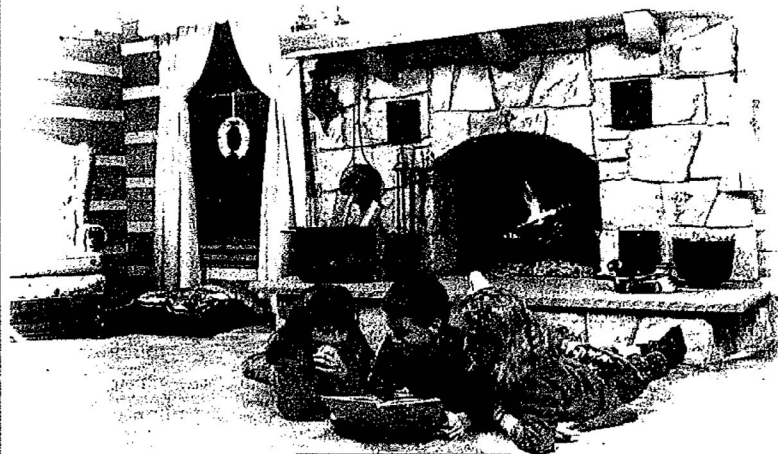


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director of the Conservancy's land and water conservation arm. "We faced a massive loss of our historical and scenic heritage; there were rumors flying around that Andy Wyeth, who has the status of a local folk hero, would leave the area."

The King Ranch sale was a defining moment for the Brandywine Conservancy. By the early 1980s, with its successful Brandywine River Museum and some 3,000 acres worth of permanent conservation easements already in place, the Conservancy was steadily gaining momentum. But now, facing the specter of 5,400 acres being sold and, inevitably, developed, the organization had a momentous decision to make.

Development, especially under Pennsylvania's fragmented zoning ordinances, would mean far more than the loss of scenic beauty or fox-hunting venues. In earlier studies, the Conservancy had already established that the King Ranch was part of a vital recharge area for underground water. The meadows, forests and wetlands of the ranch filtered and cleansed surface runoff before it entered Brandywine River tributaries. Paving and bulldozing any part of the land would adversely affect the quantity and quality of the water supply so vital to Wilmington.

"I went to Texas and made a deal," Frolic Weymouth recalls. "We got an option to buy the ranch for \$13 million; we had six months to raise it." With not much time for contemplation, the Conservancy, led by Weymouth, enlisted a group of investors — a limited partnership known as Buck & Doe Associates — who came up with the purchase price in 1984.

They would eventually re-sell most of the land, but not before placing conservation easements on it, limiting the total number of homes that could ever be built to three per 100 acres. The easements, moreover, incorporated specific planning for where those homes could be built, so they would fit into the landscape with as little environmental and visual impact as possible. Where conventional zoning might have permitted 2,000 homes, there can now never be more than 140. And a particularly lovely natural tract known as The Laurels, encompassing more than a square mile, was donated to the Conservancy by Buck & Doe Associates as a nature preserve open to all Conservancy members.

"If we had known how much work would have to be completed in a relatively short time, we might not have had the courage to go ahead," Sellers says, "but

the process ultimately contributed to [the Conservancy's] becoming a more sophisticated, more effective organization."

INDEED, AS IT MARKED ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY last summer, the Brandywine Conservancy could claim to be one of the nation's most successful and diverse private land-use institutions. Its dramatic success with the King Ranch property served as a catalyst for more easement donations from private landowners. The total acreage protected — by outright ownership or easements — has doubled since 1985 to nearly 20,000 acres, the equivalent of a tract of more than 30 square miles. And several thousand more acres are well on their way to being added.

"And this understates what we do," Sellers says. The Conservancy's expert staff also offers consulting help to similar projects in several states, and it is involved in a major effort to remove sewage-treatment plant discharges from waterways, applying the treated wastewater to the land instead. Locally, the staff works with more than 100 Pennsylvania townships to help them develop conservation strategies of their own.

"These days, equally important to the acreage we're preserving is the way we're influencing the way land is developed," Sellers says. He is particularly proud of the Conservancy's recent work in helping two brothers near Chadds Ford develop their family farm: "We helped them select a developer who would treat the land sensitively and involve them in the development process. They were able to save the forestland, retain the popular 'you-pick' orchard on the land. . . . The whole community has good vibes about that development, and it has set a standard for others in the area."

"Some people will say, you guys are supposed to be conservationists, not developers," Sellers adds. "But this is part of it; development is going to happen. . . . it's not all King ranches." Currently, his staff is working on six limited-development plans in the area.

Back at the Mohrs' small farm near Unionville, Nancy pulls out a map, colored like a jigsaw puzzle to show lands whose owners have granted easements, those that are "in the pipeline," and those whose owners have yet to be persuaded. It all overlaps — farm country, fox country, cattle country, Wyeth country, the clean water in the Brandywine, the drinking water for Wilmington.

It's clear that the ever-expanding "black hole" is anything but empty. ♦

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Strawbridge	Julia and George
Stroud	Dixon and Lisa
Stroud	Moose and Boo
Swayne	John and Wooz
Teter	Jane
Truitt	Nancy
Tull	Richard and Nadine
Tupitza	Harriett & Jim
Vermeil	Dick and Carol
Walker	Cuyler
Wintersteen	George and Gretchen
Wood	Alan
Wylie	Bill
Wylie	Peyton
Goodall	John and Celia
Coyne	Anna
Hanna	Colin and Anne
Harris	George and Annie
Jones	Russell and Donnan
LaMotte	Nita Greer & Clipper
McKenna	Todd

SUPPORTING LAND & WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION





BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY AND PARTNERS ANNOUNCE LAUNCH OF BRANDYWINE FLOOD STUDY

(continued from cover) Given the increasing likelihood of future severe weather events, the Brandywine Flood Study is key to our community’s health and safety.”

Led by the Brandywine Conservancy, CCWRA and UDWRC, the study will evaluate the Brandywine Creek’s flow regimes during intense storm events, along with the scale and potential impact of subsequent flooding. The study will also include **Stroud Water Research Center, West Chester University** and other technical experts as key partners.

“On behalf of Chester County, the **Water Resources Authority** is proud to be a partner in this watershed-based approach to identify a range of solutions that address flood impacts in our communities,” said **Seung Ah Byun**, Executive Director of the Chester County Water Resources Authority. “We also view this as a way to build resiliency and mitigate the potential effects from future storm events that may be larger and more intense due to our changing climate. Approaching this from a more regional scale is important, because what our upstream communities do affects our neighbors downstream.”

One of the first tasks of the flood study will involve refining the study area to determine all the streams and tributaries with flow regimes that contribute to major flood events. The study partners will then evaluate the designated area’s storm event and climate data, population, land use, water quality, natural areas and cultural resources. Historical and present flooding data will also be evaluated, and then the partners will develop hydrologic and hydraulic models of the Brandywine Creek using the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Hydrologic Engineer Center’s River Analysis System (HEC-RAS)**. Using these models, the partners will identify problems associated with the geography and hydrology of the flood study area. This process will also include public workshops and field reconnaissance of the defined study area.

“In 2021, **Hurricane Ida** sideswiped our area and caused the biggest flood in 200 years along the historic Brandywine Creek. At the University of Delaware Water Resources Center, we look forward to working with our upstream partners in this bistate and intergovernmental Brandywine Flood Study to identify the root causes of the flooding, as well as recommend and hopefully implement real flood solutions for the people who live and work in the watershed in Delaware and Pennsylvania,” said **Gerald Kauffman Jr.**, Director of the University of Delaware Water Resources Center.

Following the data gathering and field study phase, the partners will begin site assessment for improvements to the flood study area to mitigate future flooding. The recommended solutions will be evaluated for various factors, including impact and cost, in order to facilitate strategic implementation throughout the study area.

Chester County Commissioners **Marian Moskowitz, Josh Maxwell and Michelle Kichline** said, “Chester County has more than 100 years of continuous stream flow records for the Brandywine Creek at Chadds Ford, and during Hurricane Ida, the creek crested at over 21 feet—nearly four feet higher than the previous highest recording. Chester County has a rich legacy of sound planning and environmental stewardship, and we know that it is important to continue to plan and prepare for future conditions that involve extreme weather patterns. This flood study is a key step in the preparation.” *(continued p 15)*

CREBILLY FARM CONSERVATION EASEMENTS FINALIZED

(continued from p5) “The development of Crebilly Farm has been looming for many years. Everyone who has worked so hard to preserve this iconic property will sleep easier tonight knowing the conservation easements are in place,” said **Jack Stefferud**, senior director of land protection for Natural Lands. “The preservation of Crebilly Farm has been a long, complicated process. We just took a major step toward the finish line.”

Natural Lands is dedicated to preserving and nurturing nature’s wonders while creating opportunities for joy and discovery in the outdoors for everyone. As the Greater Philadelphia region’s oldest and largest land conservation organization, Natural Lands—which is member supported—has preserved more than 125,000 acres, including 42 nature preserves and one public garden totaling more than 23,000 acres. Nearly five million people live within five miles of land under the organization’s protection. Land for life, nature for all. natlands.org.

PLEASE NOTE: “Natural Lands” is the organization’s official operating name and should be used instead of its legal designation (Natural Lands Trust, Inc.).

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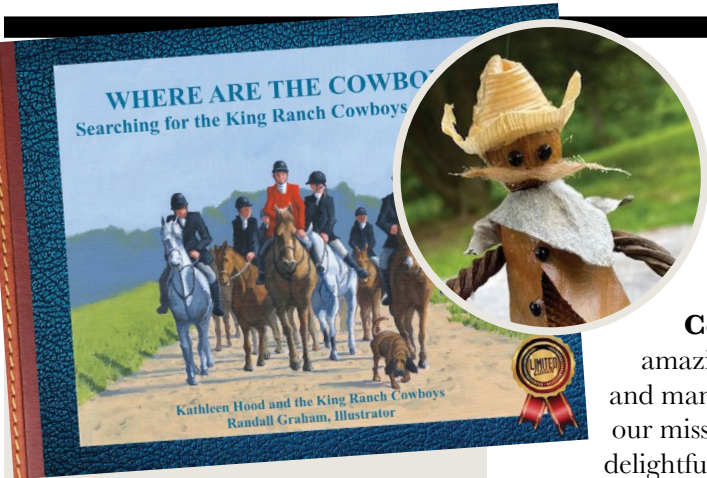
“SPRING FLING” CHUCKWAGON BREAKFAST ON SPEAKMAN COVERED BRIDGE

STILL COOKIN’ WITH GAS *(continued from page 6)*

while the only running water was the Doe Run gurgling under the **Speakman covered bridge**.

Families arrived with children and grandchildren. The kids were transformed into unicorns, tigers and leopards by a talented face painter. **Kathleen Hood** was on hand to sign her book: **‘Where are the Cowboys?’** *(Searching for the King Ranch Cowboys in Doe Run).*

New landowners had the opportunity to learn about the history of our area. That our legacy of open space did not happen by accident, but rather reflects the extraordinary vision of the original landowners who stepped up to the plate to make it happen. The land is the common thread just how lucky we are!



BRANDYWINE CRITTERS: *(continued from cover)*

or at www.BrandywineMuseumShop.org. Also, while supplies last, a special “Cowboy Critter,” handmade by Brandywine’s volunteers, can be purchased separately at the Museum’s gift shop. All proceeds from the sale of this publication are donated to the Brandywine Conservancy.

A Holiday Tradition For over 45 years, **Brandywine Conservancy & Museum of Art** volunteers have been creating

amazing natural ornaments from teasel, acorns, pinecones, seeds, berries and many other plants and natural materials. Critters are a natural link to our mission, as they bring art and nature together in a unique way. These delightful Critters are an important part of **“Brandywine Christmas”** and are featured throughout the museum during the holiday season.

Every year, beginning in March, over 100 volunteers begin their work to make these charming ornaments. Using their imaginations, along with glue and wire, they produce whimsical creations from materials that many might overlook.

Since each critter is hand crafted using materials from nature, slight variations maybe found and your critter may not represent the image exactly. Critters are quite durable with a clear acrylic spray applied to each finished ornament helping to preserve them for many years. Proceeds benefit the **Volunteers’ Art Purchase Fund**, and **Art Education and Programming**.



SPECIAL OFFER!: WHILE SUPPLIES LAST, THE SPECIAL **“COWBOY CRITTER”** HANDMADE BY BRANDYWINE’S VOLUNTEERS, CAN BE PURCHASED IN-PERSON WITH THE BOOK FOR AN ADDITIONAL FEE—A PERFECT ADD-ON FOR THOSE GIFTING THE BOOK TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

LAUNCH OF BRANDYWINE FLOOD STUDY

(continued from p 13) “We are thrilled to support the Brandywine Flood Study, led by the Brandywine Conservancy in partnership with the Chester County Water Resources Authority and the University of Delaware Water Resources Center,” said Delaware County Council Chair, **Dr. Monica Taylor**. “This coordinated effort will be key to helping us better protect our communities from future severe floods and will help us more fully understand and respond to all of the contributing factors that lead to extreme flooding along the Brandywine Creek in Pennsylvania and Delaware.”

The study is expected to be completed by June 2024. A series of public workshops will be held during key stages of the flood study process to engage with impacted communities and gather feedback. The partners also plan to form a flood advisory committee made up of key stakeholders along the watershed. The public can stay informed on the flood study progress, along with upcoming public meeting dates and locations, at brandywine.org/flood-study.

Once the flood study is completed, the partners are committed to working with impacted communities, elected officials, key funders and government agencies to implement the study’s recommendations so that the watershed and its residents in both states are better prepared, protected and equipped to rebound from future severe flooding events.

ABOUT THE BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY:

The Brandywine Conservancy protects water, conserves land, and engages communities. The Conservancy uses a multi-faceted approach to conservation.

Staff work with private landowners who wish to see their lands protected forever and provide innovative community planning services to municipalities and other governmental agencies. The Conservancy currently holds more than 510 conservation and agricultural easements and has facilitated the permanent preservation of over 70,200 acres of land. The Conservancy is a program of the **Brandywine Conservancy & Museum of Art**, which preserves and promotes the natural and cultural connections between the area’s beautiful landscape, historic sites, and important artists.

ABOUT THE CHESTER COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY:

The Chester County Water Resources Authority (CCWRA) provides water resource management, science, and planning services to support thriving communities and healthy watersheds in Chester County. CCWRA was established in 1961 by the Chester County Board of Commissioners, under the **PA Municipality Authorities Act**, to implement the **Brandywine Creek Watershed Workplan**. From 1961 through 1994, in partnership with the U.S. Department

of Agriculture, CCWRA led the local efforts to implement the plan through the planning and construction of five regional flood control facilities and two regional water supply reservoirs. CCWRA is also leading the development of Chester County’s integrated water resources plan, Watersheds 2045, which is expected to be released completed by December 2023. Watersheds 2045 provides a planning framework to empower communities and stakeholders across Chester County to protect, sustain, enhance, and enjoy our shared water resources, both today and in the future.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE WATER RESOURCES CENTER:

Established in 1965 as one of the 54 **National Institutes for Water Resources** (NIWR) at land grant universities in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and three island territories of Guam, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands, the University of Delaware Water Resources Center (UDWRC) is Congressionally chartered by Section 104 of the **Water Resources Research Act of 1984** and 1964 administered by the **U.S. Department of the Interior** and **U.S. Geological Survey**. As part of the NIWR network, the mission of the UDWRC is to: **(1)** support research, education, and public outreach programs that focus on water supply, water management, and water quality - issues important to Delaware citizens and **(2)** foster/support training and education programs for future water scientists, engineers, managers, and policy-makers who will lead the water resources research, planning, and management efforts in our state and region. Since 1977, UDWRC has provided water assistance to governments in Delaware through the land-grant public engagement (service), learning (education), and scholarship (research) role of the University of Delaware as sponsored by a board of the State of Delaware, New Castle County, and Newark and Wilmington.



TRASH PICK UP

Thank you to all!

BDT’s Adopt-a-Highway continues to clean up the roads



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THE BUCK & DOE TRUST WAS ESTABLISHED AT THE TIME OF THE KING RANCH PROJECT TO ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY COOPERATION AND SUPPORT OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM. THE TRUST SEEKS TO WELCOME NEWCOMERS AND OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS, NEW AND OLD, TO GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER BETTER. THE BOARD MEMBERS HOST THE

SPRING FLING IN THE LAURELS

(A CHUCKWAGON BREAKFAST), AND OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH FOCUS ON "COMMUNITY CONSERVATION".

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THE BUCK AND DOE TRUST IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHOSE STATED MISSION IS SUPPORT OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION WITHIN THE BUCK AND DOE RUN WATERSHEDS. THESE WATERSHEDS INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, THE TOWNSHIPS OF EAST FALLOWFIELD, WEST MARLBOROUGH, EAST MARLBOROUGH, HIGHLAND, LONDONDERRY, AND NEWLIN.

THE TRUST INITIATIVES TO ACCOMPLISH THIS MISSION ARE:

PROMOTE, THROUGH MEMBER INVOLVEMENT AND EDUCATION, THE CREATION OF ADDITIONAL HIGH QUALITY CONSERVATION EASEMENTS WITHIN THE BUCK AND DOE WATERSHEDS.

MONITOR AND SUPPORT ACTIVE ENFORCEMENT BY EASEMENT GRANTEEES OF ALL EXISTING CONSERVATION EASEMENT REQUIREMENTS.

PARTICIPATE, INFLUENCE, AND MONITOR THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE LAURELS RESERVE BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT CENTER OF THE BRANDYWINE CONSERVANCY.

INITIATE AND ENCOURAGE ACTIVE AND TIMELY COMMUNICATION ON LAND AND WATER RESOURCE CONSERVATION ISSUES WITHIN THE BUCK AND DOE WATERSHEDS.

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