

*The Southbury Land Trust's mission is to preserve farmland, open spaces and other natural resources for the benefit of present and future residents of Southbury.*

## **Scouts and Forest Technicians Improve The Bassett Preserve**

*People and birds both benefit*

Two recent projects at the Bassett Preserve have been completed, one will benefit hikers the other will enhance bird habitat. For our hikers, Southbury Scout Eric Holtz from Troop 1607 and his crew, built a boardwalk over a wet, rocky area making the trail safer for hikers. This enhancement to our Preserve was Eric's Eagle Project and the Southbury Land Trust is fortunate to reap the benefits of his hard work. For our feathered friends, Junior Forest Technicians (JFT) from the Youth Leadership Forestry Program at the Bent of the River Audubon Center, worked with their Program Coordinator Glen Somogie, and Regina Badura, SLT's Director of Stewardship, at a selected site where trees had come down during the 2018 tornado. They planted Highbush blueberry and Spicebushes adding to an abundance of Lowbush blueberry and Huckleberry within a half acre plot. The native plants will improve nesting habitat, shelter and food sources for birds. Many thanks to the JFTs and Glen.



*Scout Eric Holtz and his dad Brian Holtz pictured with their crew on the new boardwalk at the Bassett Preserve.*



**Junior Forest Technicians from the Youth Leadership Forestry Program at the Bent of the River Audubon Center from left: Joe Velky, Danni Syrotiak, Taner Genc, Lily Mills and SLT's Director of Stewardship Regina Badura**

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## **Check Out South Ridge Farm**

*Flower lovers take note*

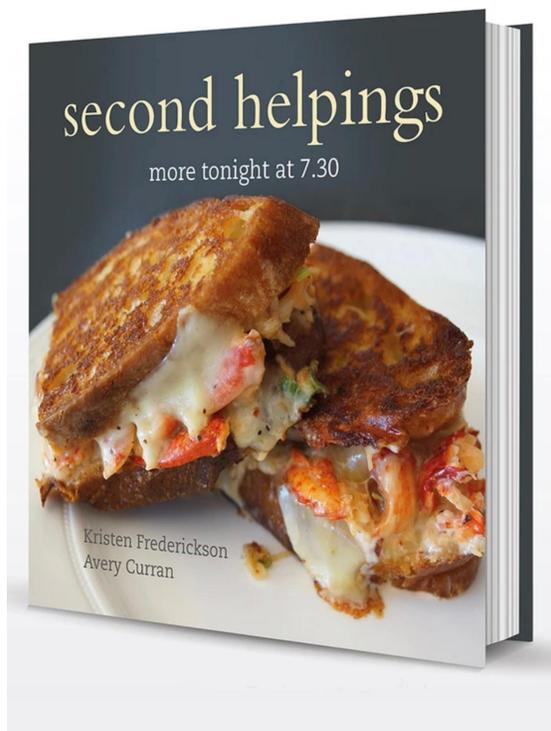
It is not too late to round out your summer with gorgeous and unique flowers from South Ridge Farm. Located at 1008 South Britain Road, South Ridge is a micro flower farm owned and operated by Tara Messina and her husband Al. Tara and Al fulfilled a life long dream when they moved to Southbury five years ago and began growing and producing environmentally friendly flowers. Tara uses the barn (once part of a dairy operation) to dry her flowers and make fresh arrangements. She happily shares the space with a herd of goats and chickens. The seasonal flowers are sold directly from the farm on weekends and through local farmers markets during the week. To find out more go to: [www.southridgefarm.net](http://www.southridgefarm.net)



*Sunrise at South Ridge Farm*

## Local Cookbook Available For Purchase

*Features familiar Southbury faces and recipes  
Coupon code below provides a discount and supports the SLT*



Cookbook author Kristen Frederickson, her husband John Curran and daughter Avery Curran have been the proud owners of Red Gate Farm on Sanford Road just south of Phillips Farm since 2004. In 2015, Kristen and Avery published their first book, 'tonight at 7.30: one family's life at the table.' During the coronavirus pandemic of 2020, the whole family was locked down together, and decided to take advantage of being together to finish their second book. The result is 'second helpings: more tonight at 7.30,' featuring over 100 recipes and photographs, with stories of many familiar Southbury faces and recipes, cooked and eaten around their ancient picnic table at Red Gate Farm, as well as some very elegant recipes created for more formal occasions. Readers of this newsletter can log onto the website created for the books, [www.secondhelpings.net](http://www.secondhelpings.net), and use the coupon code LANDTRUST5 to purchase cookbooks (both the first and second) and tea towels. Kristen and Avery will donate 10% of all proceeds to the Southbury Land Trust.

## Join Us at the Ludorf Barn Festival

The Ludorf Barn Festival is just around the corner! It is free and open to all. Featured this year will be a guided hike at 2:30 PM, music by Richard Neal and friends playing a fiddle and banjo, a spinning demonstration, hot dogs for purchase, bake sale, farmers market and more. Parking is across the street from the barn. Masks are recommended when not socially distanced.



*Come on over!* **Ludorf Barn Festival**

502 West Purchase Road, Southbury (parking across the street)

**Saturday, September 18th**  
2:30 PM to 5:30 PM

- Free Admission
- Live music
- Guided hike at Ivers Preserve next door (2:30 PM)
- Farmers Market & bake sale
- Hotdogs with the fixins
- Demonstrations
- Historical Society Gift Shop
- See & learn about the historic Ludorf Barn

Sponsored by the Southbury Historical Society and the Southbury Land Trust  
Questions: email [jstuart@southburylandtrust.org](mailto:jstuart@southburylandtrust.org) or call 203-264-4441

## September and October Guided Hikes

The cooler air makes hiking a pleasure especially on properties with beautiful views and interesting features. The hike at Southbury Farms will be guided by Ed Platt, a long time resident and farmer who can likely answer any question about the land and activities there. In addition, Jim Wargo owner of Hidden Gem Orchard, will offer his apples (both heirloom and modern day varieties) grown at the orchards you will see on the hike.

Our October 2nd hike will be led by our Director of Stewardship Regina Badura who will walk you through the beautiful Platt Farm Preserve. This hike which is co-sponsored by the Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition, is in honor of Dr. Marc Taylor who played a key role in both organizations and was instrumental in preserving this 110 acre preserve. Both of these hikes are free and open to all. Details are below.



## Hike at Southbury Farms

**Date:** Wednesday, September 22nd 2021

**Time:** 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

**Location:** Southbury Farms Apple Pavilion:  
1st driveway on right after intersection of Spruce Brook  
and Purchase Brook Road (follow cones and signs)

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Join Ed Platt, hike leader and local farm expert, for a one hour hike around Southbury Farms. The hike will start and end at the new apple pavilion where Jim Wargo will be selling his apples from the farm. Heavy rain cancels. Questions call SLT office at 203-264-4441 or email: [jstuart@southburylandtrust.org](mailto:jstuart@southburylandtrust.org) to check status.



Join us

### Dr. Marc Taylor Guided Walk

Saturday, October 2nd at 10 AM

### Platt Farm Preserve

Meet at the kiosk near the parking lot at 465 Flood Bridge Road

*As we celebrate 20 years of conserving this land, come enjoy a one hour walk through this amazing preserve in honor of Dr. Marc Taylor who played a key role in its preservation. This walk is free and open to all. Co-sponsored by the PRWC & SLT.*



## Come Celebrate at Platt Farm Preserve

*RSVP Now, Space Is Limited*

Our members and volunteers are invited to attend a special bluegrass concert at Platt

Farm on October 2nd. Doors open at 2:30 PM, music plays from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The very popular band "Too Blue" will delight you as you enjoy the fresh air and views at this beautiful preserve. In addition, you can look forward to a mouth watering treat, as the highly acclaimed Ice Cream Emergency truck will be there to serve you their best flavors and toppings. Guests should bring a chair/blanket, beverage of choice and your favorite picnic fare. Masks are required in the ice cream truck and highly recommended at the entrance.

**RSVP to [jstuart@southburylandtrust.org](mailto:jstuart@southburylandtrust.org). Attendance is limited to 100 people and will be honored on a first come first served basis. You will receive an email confirmation.**



**SOUTHBURY LAND TRUST**  
**CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!!**

**Please Join Us**  
**A MUSICAL CELEBRATION**  
**AT PLATT FARM**

**It's been 20 years since this land became your land.  
Come celebrate with us!**

**OCTOBER 2ND 2021**

**Featuring "Too Blue" a swing-grass, hot-pickin', sweet singin' band**

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[Click Here to Donate](#)