Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy Celebrates 30th Anniversary

DELMAR, NY – September 7, 2022: From its humble beginning as an all-volunteer group meeting in members’ living rooms, Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy (MHLC) has grown into a recognized leader in local conservation. In honor of their 30th year, MHLC will host 30 Years & Growing, an Anniversary Celebration, on Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 5:30 PM. The fundraising event will be held at Orchard Creek Golf Club on Dunnsville Road in Altamont, New York, where guests can enjoy beautiful sunset views of the Helderberg Mountains while mingling with friends and fellow supporters.

MHLC Executive Director Mark King said, “Thirty years of conservation and more than 13,000 acres protected across our three-county area is a wonderful milestone worthy of celebration. Our preserves and programs continue to offer opportunities for learning and adventures while protecting cherished landscapes. We are so grateful to the thousands of supporters who have made our work possible, and we look forward to many exciting new projects on the horizon.”

The event features a cocktail reception, a specially prepared dinner, live music, and virtual silent auction; tickets can be purchased through September 15 at www.mohawkhudson.org/30Years and all proceeds support MHLC’s vital conservation work in the region.

In addition to the in-person gathering, a silent auction will be running online starting September 23 and closing on September 30, at 6 PM. The silent auction is open to the public; you do not need to attend the event to participate in the auction. There will be many exciting items up for bid, including vacation rentals in the Adirondacks and Maine, a guided kayaking trip, original artwork, tickets to performances at SPAC, Proctors, and Albany Symphony, and gift packages from many beloved local businesses. To purchase tickets, view the silent auction, or learn more about sponsorship opportunities, visit the event website at www.mohawkhudson.org/30Years.

At the event, MHLC will celebrate three individuals, each of whom has had a great impact on the local community and the environment.
Dr. Margaret Craven, the 2022 event honoree and an acclaimed Doctor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, has long been a supporter of MHLC. Dr. Craven protected her 87-acre property at the base of the Helderberg Escarpment in 2015 and has remained a key contributor in creating the Helderberg Conservation Corridor, providing donations for grant matches, and working with neighbors to facilitate protection on their properties. Today, the Helderberg Conservation Corridor protects more than 3,500 acres – in large part to Dr. Craven’s passion for the land and relationships with neighbors in the area.

Lorraine Plauth will receive the Dan Driscoll Volunteer Leadership Award. Joining MHLC as a volunteer in 2015, Lorraine has assisted on everything from workdays at MHLC’s public nature preserves to events throughout the area - serving as a representative of the organization and supporter of its mission.

Dr. Eric Foster will receive the Saving Special Places award for his efforts in local conservation. Dr. Foster protected his 104-acre parcel in 2018. When he and late wife Bonnie purchased the property, it was just the house and small acreage. When the opportunity to purchase the backlands to the Escarpment became available, they jumped at the chance. Since the protection of the property in 2018, both Dr. Foster and Dr. Craven were critical in protecting both Picard Farm and Helderberg Workshop, making MHLC’s conservation successes in the Helderbergs possible.

About Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy
The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy’s mission is to conserve and steward lands and waters of the Mohawk and Hudson River Valleys for the benefit of people and the environment. We have protected more than 13,000 acres of land in Albany, Schenectady, and Montgomery Counties. Our conservation work protects natural resources to ensure clean water, clean air, and working landscapes for farming and forestry for a healthier Capital Region for current residents and for future generations. MHLC connects communities to the benefits of nature by offering a calendar of free outdoor events and free year-round access to 22 public preserves for hiking, cross-country skiing, and other educational and recreational opportunities. Please visit us online at www.mohawkhudson.org

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