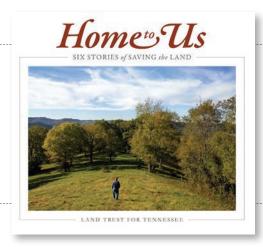
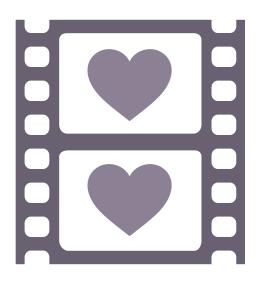
# A Tapestry **OF STORIES**



his book shares the stories, both visually and verbally, of the people who have promised the green spaces to you and your children and grandchildren. It is our hope that to read these stories...is to appreciate the land around us and the regular folks who have secured its existence," says writer Varina Willse of the new book Home To Us: Six Stories of Saving the Land. Willse collaborated with award-winning photographer Nancy Rhoda and editor John Egerton to tell the stories of six families who have made the decision to protect their land with the Land Trust for Tennessee, which has just hit the landmark of saving 84,000 acres.

Though regionally specific to Middle Tennessee, the scope of the book's meaning and relevance extends more widely to the South and to the nation as a whole. Ultimately, it is a tapestry of stories that explores the timeless and essential connection between people and the physical environments they call home.

See www.landtrusttn.org/events/home-to-us-book-launch.html. •



#### **Movies with Heart**

**SHORT FILMS ABOUT LAND ISSUES.** often centered on themes of farming and food, have been showing up at events or theaters around the country, sometimes hosted by land trusts. Here are links to titles of interest:

#### www.blueprintproductions.biz

The documentary "The Last Crop" tells the story of a family on the front lines of the local food movement: Annie and Jeff Main and their 20-acre organic farm *Good* Humus Produce in California's Central Valley. Their personal journey addresses socioeconomic issues such as preserving local farms, creating regional foodsheds, ensuring affordable farmland, connecting food producers and consumers and maintaining healthy rural communities.

#### www.urbanrootsamerica.com

Grist.org says the documentary, "Urban Roots," directed by Mark MacInnis, shows "dedicated Detroiters working tirelessly to fulfill their vision for locally grown, sustainably farmed food in a city where people—as in much of the country—have found themselves cut off from real food and limited to the lifeless offerings of fast food chains and grocery stores stocked

with processed food." The theme follows that of Will Allen's speech at Rally 2011, and he is featured in the film with other urban farmers.

#### www.thegreenhorns.net

The Greenhorns documentary film explores the lives of America's young farming community—its spirit, practices and needs. It is the filmmakers' hope that by broadcasting the stories and voices of these young farmers, they can build the case for those considering a career in agriculture—to embolden them, to entice them and to recruit them into farming.

#### www.peconiclandtrust.org

(click on "Growing Farmers")

"Growing Farmers," a new documentary film that looks at the issue of affordable farmland and Peconic Land Trust's Farms for the Future Initiative, tells the stories of several farmers who are leasing land either owned or managed by the land trust in the face of one of the greatest impediments facing farmers on Eastern Long Island: affordable farmland.

#### www.downeastlakes.org

(click item under Latest News)

The Visionaries documentary series for public television, hosted by Sam Waterston, highlights people around the world making a positive difference in their community and beyond. "Forests and Lakes-For People-Forever," a new film in the series, features Downeast Lakes Land Trust in Maine.

#### http://h2oblues.org

"Water Blues, Green Solutions" is an interactive documentary project telling stories of communities creating green solutions for our water blues—flooding, pollution and scarcity. "Water Blues" launches in late 2013, but the filmmakers are in the field now, pursuing stories of innovation in green infrastructure. The website says, "Join them on their voyage of discovery!"

## **GROWING STRONGER EVERY DAY**

Land conservation is a process—filled with many twists and turns. And we're here to help you steer! Whether you have a quick question for our knowledgeable forum experts or need to dig deeper for sample documents and articles, stop by The Learning Center to quickly get the information you need.

And—if you missed something at Rally in Salt Lake, RallyNet on The Learning Center is open to the public until January 31st. Check out the presentations, handouts and more.

### http://learningcenter.lta.org

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