

## **FROM THE EDITOR Preservation of Davis Farm a milestone**

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Quality of life is frequently mentioned as the key attraction for living in this area. Plenty of shoreline, no traffic congestion, and a good deal of open space all combine to provide a quality of life many envy. And recently, the region was ensured that 168 acres would be forever set aside as open space for passive recreation. The Stonington Land Trust reached an agreement with the Davis family to purchase a conservation easement for the acreage that is part of the historic Davis Farm off Greenhaven Road. The farm dates to 1654 and is located along the Pawcatuck River. The trust now has three years to raise \$2 million to pay for the easement and if it all comes to fruition, it means the entire 430-acre farm will remain undeveloped since other sections of the property have already been protected. This has been a goal of the Stonington folks for some time. Once combined with adjacent open space, the entire farm will help create a continuous greenway of more than 1,500 acres stretching from the Barn Island Wildlife Management Area at the mouth of the river north to the farmland. "If you're in Avondale or Watch Hill and you're looking across the river, a good part of what you're seeing is this property," said Stanton Simm, chairman of the Stonington Conservation Commission. "This gives us one of the largest coastal reserves in the region. . . . It's just something you don't find anymore." Kudos to the landowners and those who worked to preserve this land. They will forever be credited with making improvements to the quality of life in this region. And future generations will be grateful for their foresight.