Since 2013, the Sourland Conservancy has commissioned numerous mapping projects related to open space analysis and hiking sites. Learn how these projects were developed by the Conservancy’s geographic information systems (GIS) analyst, Kevin Burkman, during the Putting the Sourlands on the Map talk at the Sourland Mountain Train Station Series on November 8 (see the Train Station Series schedule on the insert inside this newsletter). We’ll hear about the digital map-making process, as well as the particular mapping projects Kevin created for the Conservancy, including the Sourland Online Atlas application currently in development.

**Sourland Conservancy Online Atlas Application**

In 2014, Kevin Burkman, GIS analyst (and Sourland Conservancy trustee at the time), and the Sourland Conservancy began a project that produced maps for all of the hike sites found in the Sourland region. Earlier this Spring, a bound booklet, the Sourland Region Hiking Atlas, was published based on these maps, and included detailed information about the natural/human history of the sites. These projects have become the basis for the Conservancy's latest mapping project - the Sourland Conservancy Online Atlas, its first online interactive mapping application, to be released later this autumn.

The Online Atlas will feature numerous interactive map layers and detailed information related to the natural and human history of the Sourland region. These layers will include:

- Hike Sites
- Partner Vendors/Organizations
- Historic/Cultural Sites
- Open Space Analysis
- Sourland Spectacular Routes
- Natural Resources
- Changing Landscapes

The projected initial release of the Online Atlas is set for late October, with about half of the layers completed and ready for use. Remaining layers will be completed in early 2019.

*Continued on page 2.*

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The Sourland Conservancy is the only nonprofit organization working solely to protect, promote and preserve the unique character of the Sourland Mountain region.
2018 was a fabulous year for the Sourland Conservancy! Our two signature events, the Music Fest and the Sourland Spectacular were extremely successful in raising awareness of the Sourlands and raising funds for the Conservancy. Our stewardship program, Sourland Stewards has grown to include several habitat restoration projects and our educational programs continue to draw a large audience – see our 2018 Train Station Series schedule on the insert included with this newsletter. Make sure you sign up to receive our eNewsletter at www.sourland.org to receive program announcements and registration information.

PUTTING THE SOURLANDS ON THE MAP, continued

Continued from page 1.

Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum Online Atlas Application

This online mapping application allows African American points of interest to be viewed in a web map, where users can obtain information about the sites. This information includes geographic locations & data, categories, short descriptions, and live website links for more detailed site information, and Google Map directions. Access the SSAAM Online Atlas at the link below or find it at www.ssaamuseum.org.

http://kburkman.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4332f546fad249efb805e39e8d63a65c

Nearly 300 hundred sites have been verified, which lie mostly along the target region of the I95 corridor, from Portland, ME to Richmond VA. Dozens of websites from organizations and government agencies were utilized to gather this data.

The sites have been organized into major categories, including historic sites, cemeteries and churches, as well as museums, memorials, monuments, and sites of cultural and academic importance.

In addition to the Conservancy, Kevin works as a GIS analyst for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. He is also on the board of the Conservancy’s sister organization, the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum (SSAAM), where he co-chairs the Marketing & Technology Sub-Committee. Kevin produces maps in the historical and urban planning fields, with a special interest in land use change, historic land preservation, urban sustainability and public spaces.

He holds a B.S. in environmental planning, and a M.S. in urban and regional planning, both from Rutgers University. Kevin lives in the Montgomery section of the Sourland region, with his wife Margaret, and dog Morgan.

Sourland Conservancy

Meeting information
Sourland Conservancy’s Board of Trustee meetings are held on the first Tuesday of even-numbered months at the train station in Hopewell Borough, at 7 pm. You are warmly invited.

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Message from the President
By Dante DiPirro

On September 18, 2018, I had the pleasure of kicking off the Conservancy’s 2018 Train Station Series by giving a presentation on Sustainable Living in the Sourlands. Living sustainably is important everywhere but even more important in the Sourland Region where we have important natural resources and a scarcity of groundwater. Sustainable techniques we can build into our daily lives include: conserve water; limit lawn size and avoid pesticides; get a forest stewardship plan; install solar electric and solar hot water systems; and drive an electric car or hybrid. If we all do our part, we can preserve and protect this wonderful region!
THE POET’S CORNER

Singing the Sourlands
~ Lois Marie Harrod

Welcome to Singing the Sourlands, which will feature poems of the flora and fauna, people and places, secrets and sanctuaries here. I begin with three poems by my fellow Cool Women, who will read poems at the Hopewell Train Station on November 1. We hope you will come.

The first poem, Judy Michaels’s "Sourland Dialogue" provides the title of our reading Sourland Dialogues. Michaels’s poem uses a conversation she had on one of her daily walks in the Sourlands as its vehicle. I like the efficiency of her poem, the way it creates setting and communicates anxiety in both herself and the man in the pickup as the motorcycles whizz by.

Sourland Dialogue
She climbs the steep ridge, road a tangle of potholes, fallen tree, strangling vines.
Soil’s an inch thin over bedrock.
Folks used to scratch a living here.
A pick-up slows
gears grind
grim voice rasps,
“See ya walkin’ by my place
all the time. Envy ya.
Me, I wouldn’t make it out the drive.”
She lets go her breath. Tells him she’s had cancer six times. Is trying to walk it off.
Brag? An apology for something?
“Huh,” he grunts, start of a smile,
as ten motorcycles barely miss her.
“Just don’t wear out your guardian angel.”

Sharon Olson’s poem “Hanging Up the Wash at the Brophys” remembers Corinda Reasoner True, who with her husband agreed to allow Mount Zion AME to build a new church on their property on the east side of Hollow Road. The Stoutsburg Cemetery Association has recently partnered with the Sourland Conservancy to create the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum, the first African American museum in New Jersey. Corinda died hanging up clothes, which Olson suggests was a kind of rapture.

Hanging Up the Wash at the Brophys
~ Corinda Reasoner True, 1855-1920, Skillman, New Jersey
Her first husband was a reasoner, her second husband true.
With the congregation she pulled the pews out of the fire, hissing but still upright, ready to serve the new church built at the edge of her property, the central aisle proceeding west to east so the sacraments might catch the early sunlight through the windows, the way the birds edged her thoughts, the scarlet tanager, the eastern phoebe, the oriole, how sometimes she heard them in Spanish, for they had wintered far away, and perhaps it was a swoop of chatter that frightened her as she was hanging up the Brophys’ wash, and a light she had never seen before illuminating the sheets, enveloping her in the arms of her savior, but as usual, she thought, she had nothing to complain about, her hands thrown up as she was swept away.

Maxine Susman, an observer of nature here in NJ and on her beloved Cape Cod, concentrates on the deceptive size of a bird’s brain and on the nature of memory, “each recall kindling more more more.” The more we remember, the more we remember.

Birdbrain
Smaller than an infant’s heart.
So small, if it goes to sleep on an empty belly it will die.
Must always hide find hide find in its vast memory thousands of memories, speaks seeds bits of bugs pods berries stashed over its thirty-two acres, yard meadow woods marsh field – flits from one cache to the next seeking what it knows it stored here and here and here – to find enough even if now bitter, dried, sweet turned rot – that particular seed, where did it hide that particular seed? Hypocampus lit at each recall kindling more more more brain cell circuits sparking the more it remembers the more it remembers

first published in Stillwater Review

Teacher and poet Lois Marie Harrod’s most recent publication Nightmares of the Minor Poet (Five Oaks) appeared in May 2016. Author of 6 poetry books, 10 chapbooks as well as short stories, her work has appeared in journals and online ezines from American Poetry Review to Zone 3. Visit her online poems at www.loismarieharrod.org

Judy Rowe Michaels, former poet in residence at Princeton Day School, is a poet for the Dodge Foundation. She has 3 poetry collections (Reviewing the Skull, The Forest of Wild Hands, Ghost Notes, and most recently So Yeah, My Poems Have Cats In Them) and 3 books on teaching and writing. She gives talks on ovarian cancer to medical schools for Survivors Teaching Students.

Continued on page 7.
It’s usually right around Halloween when the Red Maple (Acer rubrum) outside our kitchen window gives up the ghost, so to speak. The leaves gradually change color over several weeks, until the entire tree is awash in reds and oranges.

It’s the change in day length (or really night length) and temperature that signals deciduous trees and shrubs that it’s time to get ready for winter. They have to drop their leaves to protect themselves from damage that would be caused due to the heavy weight of winter ice and snow storms. As nights get longer and temperatures drop, these woody plants gradually slow and eventually stop replenishing chlorophyll in their leaves, the substance that is responsible for their green pigment.

But what accounts for the array of colors that are revealed as the chlorophyll gradually disappears? The yellow, orange, red, purple, bronze and browns?

These colors reflect some of the same nutrients that are in the plant-based foods we eat. Many of these chemicals were present throughout the growing season, but were masked by or blended with the green of the chlorophyll.

The yellows are carotenoids, mainly xanthophylls, nutrients that help to reduce inflammation, boost the immune system and reduce tumor growth. They are present in yellow summer squash, beets, carrots, corn, peppers, green leafy vegetables, and many others. Xanthophylls help plants to absorb energy from the sun while protecting tissues against the sun’s intense radiation.

Carotenes (another group of carotenoids) are responsible for the orange shades revealed in fall leaves. Beta-carotene, visible in foods like winter squash, carrots and sweet potatoes, is an anti-oxidant. They assist in photosynthesis, and help protect plant tissues from over-exposure to the sun’s rays.

Reds and purples are anthocyanins, nutrients present in foods like blueberries, blackberries, cherries, grapes (and red wine!), purple cabbage, other purple-tinged greens like red leaf lettuce, some kale and swiss chard, as well as many others that show red or purple colors. Anthocyanins are antioxidants, with anti-inflammatory, anti-viral, and anti-cancer properties. Plants may also benefit from anthocyanin’s antioxidant effect, as well as gaining protection from sun damage from the dark colored pigments.

Plants continue to manufacture these chemicals until the leaves fall. When the day time temperatures are warm enough, plants continue to manufacture these chemicals. If they night time temperatures are cool enough, the chemicals will be trapped in the leaves, rather than being absorbed into the plant’s vascular system.

Brown and tan colors show the presence of tannins. They tend to be bitter or astringent tasting, and tend to discourage browsing by herbivores (plant-eaters) so they may provide some protection to plants. They are present in foods like grapes, wine, tea, and chocolate, though, so you can see that this protection is not foolproof.

There is overlap and blending of colors based on the mix of chemicals in the leaves. These bright colors may also signal to birds that there is fruit available for consumption.

These nutrients, along with others obtained from the soil, like calcium and potassium, break down and return to the soil as the fallen leaves gradually decompose. During this process, animals may still take advantage of some of the nutrients. Red-banded Hairstreaks, for example, feed on fallen leaves, especially those of sumacs, contributing to the process of decomposition, and the cycle of life for the next generation.

Eventually, the leaves on our Red Maple all fall from the tree. They gradually decompose, nourishing the soil, and the plants and animals that rely on them.

Mary Anne Borge is a Pennsylvania Master Naturalist, Instructor at Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve and Associate Editor of “Butterfly Gardener” magazine.
The grants awarded to the Sourland Conservancy this year are supporting our work in the areas of stewardship, education and capacity building. The NJ Conservation Foundation’s Franklin Parker Conservation Excellence Grant is once again supporting our habitat restoration work at Baldpate Mountain. The Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission awarded us a Mercer County History Regrant to fund our “Cultural Landscape History of the Cedar Ridge Preserve” Project. (Hear about this project from project leader, Ian Burrow, at the Hopewell Train Station on October 11 - please see the insert inside this newsletter for details.) The Bunbury Fund of The Princeton Area Community Foundation is supporting us in the form of a grant for strategic planning and organizational assessment and the Sands Foundation has awarded us a generous operating-support grant. The Jeanne A. LaPlaca Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation will support an administrative assistant position at the Conservancy for a second year.

The Simcha Rudolph Charitable Trust Grant, awarded to the Sourland Conservancy in the summer of 2018, is enabling the Conservancy to expand its stewardship program in many ways. A new project we are undertaking with these grant funds is a Foraging Forest Restoration Project, in Hopewell Borough Park, to continue the restoration efforts started in 2016 with our American Woodcock Restoration Project (which was in partnership with Mercer County and Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space and partially funded by a Franklin Parker Conservation Excellent Grant awarded to the Conservancy.)

The Foraging Forest Project is a partnership of the Sourland Conservancy, the Mercer County Park Commission, D&R Greenway and the American Chestnut Foundation. The Conservancy’s Naturalist Advisor, Jared Rosenbaum, our Stewardship Committee Chair, Roger Thorpe and Mercer County Naturalist, Jenn Rogers, are providing the expertise, dedication and hard work for this project. Carolyn Klaube, our Administrative Assistant and Stewardship Coordinator, will facilitate and coordinate the entire project. Communications and Development Director, Laurie Cleveland, will provide outreach for the project, acquire volunteers, take photographs to record and report on our progress and more. The American Chestnut Foundation has provided us with chestnut trees, which are currently being nurtured by D&R Greenway until they are ready to be planted.

Our Foraging Forest Project goals are to implement best stewardship practices within the context of a habitat restoration project, to provide opportunities for people to connect with nature in a variety of ways including use of native edibles and to provide educational experiences for community and school groups. The strategies we will use to achieve these goals are to plant American Chestnut Trees, acquire and plant additional native edible plants, create a maintenance plan utilizing Sourland Stewardship Leaders and other volunteers, and to create partnerships in order to combine resources to achieve our goals.

Join us for a special program, American Roots: A Musical Celebration of the American Chestnut, on October 12, to learn more about our Foraging Forest Project and to hear some great American roots music! Please see the insert inside this newsletter for details.

As was anticipated, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission denied the environmental community’s Request for Rehearing on the PennEast “certificate of public convenience and necessity.” This sets up the next step, which is a petition to the US Court of Appeals contesting the validity of FERC’s orders.

Meanwhile in the Federal District Court in Trenton, the case fighting the grant of eminent domain to PennEast has not yet been decided. The four-month delay is considered beneficial to opponents of PennEast because the strategy has been to slow down every part of the process.

Both NJDEP and the Delaware River Basin Commission are reviewing permits for PennEast, and the project cannot proceed without approval from both bodies. The Sourland Conservancy and our environmental partners are fighting both approvals.

In Washington, there is an effort, and a proposed bill in a Senate committee that would prevent states from invoking the Clean Water Act to stop gas and oil pipelines. You can help fight this by reaching out to NJ Senators Booker and Menendez through the Delaware Riverkeeper Network’s page.

http://www.delawareriverkeeper.org/node/5482
People who value the Sourlands arrive at this conclusion for a variety of reasons. In my case, I grew up in a city and fell in love with the peace and quiet here. But in the case of local photographer and open space advocate Clem Fiori, his experiences growing up on a family farm in Warren Township, NJ, were formative. His parents were Italian Americans who met while working tourism-related jobs at the 1939 World’s Fair. Clem grew up having eighteen aunts and uncles, some of whom lived nearby, and living on a farm parcel purchased from one of the aunts. As a child he learned to take care of the family’s chickens, pigs, and even a cow, as well as to harvest edible native plants such as mustard greens and dandelions. Growing up in a farm community with its open fields and hedgerows, with forests visible in the distance, he developed an appreciation for the rural way of life.

By age thirteen, Clem had already begun to develop an interest in photography. During his student years he never took any classes or had any formal instruction but was entirely self-taught. Most children experiment with various forms of art, music, sports, and hobbies in general, only to abandon them within a year or two. But in Clem’s case, by the time he was applying to Rutgers University he had accumulated a significant portfolio of his own photographs which he proudly presented as part of his application. At Rutgers he commuted daily from home to campus, where he majored in English and edited the college literary magazine. In his work with the magazine he enjoyed being able to interact with a number of outstanding writers and poets. Over the four years as he traveled back and forth he began to observe that many of the farm fields in the area had been sold for housing developments, while at the same time the opening of Highway 78 brought industrial development replacing even more of the former farms.

Clem and his high school sweetheart, Joanna Schaefer (former president of the Sourland Conservancy), married in 1966. As a young married man Clem’s first job was with the Princeton University Press. He much preferred the part of his job which focused on preserving at first large parcels by working with interested landowning families. The Township, working with other State and County agencies, Montgomery Friends of Open Space, as well as area land trusts, has been quite successful in this effort. Currently the Township is working on protecting a number of parcels in the area known as the Rock Brook Stream Corridor along Hollow Road. He and Joanna have continued to be strong supporters of the Sourland Conservancy. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated and effective leaders—each with a different story of how they got to this point—as Conservancy members.

Interview with Clem Fiori, Photographer and Conservationist

By Andrea Bonette

Clem determined that only meaningful citizen advocacy could save at least some of this area’s rural ambience. He was recruited to chair the Montgomery Township Open Space Committee when it started thirty years ago and has been an active force ever since. At the time the emphasis was on developing a new Master Plan focusing on preserving at first large parcels by working with interested landowning families. The Township, working with other State and County agencies, Montgomery Friends of Open Space, as well as area land trusts, has been quite successful in this effort. Currently the Township is working on protecting a number of parcels in the area known as the Rock Brook Stream Corridor along Hollow Road. He and Joanna have continued to be strong supporters of the Sourland Conservancy. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated and effective leaders—each with a different story of how they got to this point—as Conservancy members.
Animals have a wonderful variety of ways to defend themselves. For many of us the first thing that comes to mind is those animals that rely on tooth and claw; bears, coyotes, foxes and many others bite or claw as a first line of defense. But there are many other defense techniques. Vultures projectile vomit at their foes. Bees sting, and inject a toxin when they do so. Porcupines stick opponents with needle-like quills. Skunks spray opponents with a noxious fluid. Turtles retreat into a hard shell. Some animals use sharp hooves or spiky horns and antlers.

Cottontail rabbits don’t have any of those defense tools. They are pretty fast runners and their tactic of running in a zigzag pattern helps, but many of their predators are faster. When fighting each other over mates or territory, rabbits have developed a trick of leaping over the head of their opponent and kicking it in the back of the head, using their powerful hind leg. This is how we got the name for a “rabbit punch,” which is a boxing term used for a chopping blow to the back of the head. Rabbits don’t try that trick with coyotes or any foes of a different species. Their lack of tools for self-defense may be one reason that rabbits are the prey of practically every carnivore in the east. They are a favorite meal for coyotes, foxes, hawks, owls, crows, skunks, raccoons, cats, dogs, opossums and snakes (snakes mostly eat baby rabbits).

Cottontail rabbits do have a technique for survival of the species, if not of the individuals—reproduction. They reproduce like, well, like rabbits. Female rabbits reach sexual maturity at two months and can produce a new litter every two or three months. The babies are born blind and nearly hairless but they mature rapidly; their eyes open after a week and they are self-sufficient after four or five weeks. The survival rate is often as low as 15%, but quantity compensates for vulnerability.

The policy of surviving by prodigious reproduction seems to work. Rabbits have been around for a long time. Their earliest fossil record dates to the late Pleistocene, 55 million years ago. Long before peace protesters adopted it as a slogan, rabbits were practicing “Make Love, Not War.”

Cottontail rabbits have keen senses of sight, hearing and smell, and the organs that support those senses are unusual. They have eyes that bulge from their skull, giving them 360 degree vision—except for a small area directly in front of them. They have large, cone-like ears that can be moved independently so they can pick up noise from all around them. They have more than 100 million scent detectors in their noses—humans have about 5 million—and by twitching their noses they can expose different detectors. Since they twitch their noses twenty to one hundred and twenty times a minute they are able to detect scents that more common noses would miss.

Rabbits may be a part of the diet of many animals but they eat only herbaceous plants. If given a chance, they may also eat nuts, fruit and tree bark. Here is this adorable little animal whose main contribution to the ecology of meadows may be to supply food for carnivors.

**THE POET’S CORNER, CONTINUED**

*Continued from page 3.*

**Sharon Olson’s Will There Be Music? is forthcoming from Cherry Grove. Her Long Night of Flying was published by Sixteen Rivers Press in 2006. A retired librarian from California, she currently lives in Lawrenceville, New Jersey where since 2015 she has been a member of Cool Women Poets critique and performance group.**

**Maxine Susman** has published six poetry collections, most recently Provincelands, and her poems appear in New Jersey and national poetry journals. She teaches poetry writing and short fiction at the Osher Institute of Rutgers University, where she won the Marlene Pomper Teaching Award.

**Cool Women Poetry Reading: Thursday, November 1, Sourland Mountain Train Station Series at the Hopewell Borough Train Station. For information about registration see the insert included in this newsletter.**

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**Welcome, Fall 2018 Interns...**

**Elias Winters**, a senior at Hillsborough High School, enjoys making music and playing video games. He lives in the Sourlands and understands the importance of preserving the region.

**Anurag Arasan**, is a senior at Hillsborough High School. His hobbies include computer programming and playing video games. Anurag chose to intern at the Sourland Conservancy to lend a hand to the conservation efforts in the Sourlands.
Sourland Cuisine: Grilled Venison Loin with Autumn Olive Sauce

Thanks to Chef Will Mooney of The Brothers Moon, Hopewell NJ

**Grilled Venison Loin** - Serves 8
2 venison loins - 1½ pounds each
2T Zaatar spice (sumac, thyme, sesame seed)
2T kosher salt
3T olive oil

1. Season loins with Zaatar spice, salt and oil.
2. Grill to desired temperature.
3. Cool a bit or all the way (depends on how you want to serve it).
4. Slice thinly and keep slices together in a nice neat fashion.
5. Serve with sauce drizzled over or next to the loins

**Autumn Olive Sauce** - Serves 8
2 cup very red/ripe autumn olive berries cooked with 1 cup water, puree
1t salt
1t maple syrup/sugar
1T thyme

1. Rinse autumn olive.
2. Place Autumn olive in a small pot with water, thyme, salt and maple syrup/sugar.
3. Simmer until reduced to 1½ cup.
4. Strain and serve

Send your favorite venison recipe to leleveland@sourland.org!
Tuesday, September 18, Sustainability: Presented by Dante DiPirro, Sourland Conservancy Board President and pro-environmental lawyer, with over 25 years of experience in sustainable energy and the environment.

Thursday, September 27, Lichens: Natalie Howe will tell us about the lichens that linger, often overlooked, on the tree bark, stones, and soils of the Sourlands. She will describe the small dramas of the lives of the lichens as they manage the algae, mosses, fungi, bacteria and animals that associate with them, pulling in her own stories about the joys and disappointments of her adventures in North American lichenology.

Thursday, October 4, Copperheads in the Sourlands: The Northern Copperhead is a reptile of surprising docility, beauty, and complexity, despite its reputation for aggression and perniciousness. This presentation will highlight an ongoing radio-tracking study of Northern Copperheads taking place in the Sourlands. Presented by Tyler Christensen.

Thursday, October 11, Walls and Wolf Trees: The Cultural Landscape History of the Cedar Ridge Preserve: For the last few months archaeologist Ian Burrow has been researching the history of the D & R Greenway's Cedar Ridge Preserve in Hopewell Township. Come and find out how people and nature have interacted here since prehistoric times to give us the beautiful and interesting landscape we have today.

Tuesday, October 16, Spotted Lanternfly: The invasive Spotted Lanternfly poses a significant threat to agricultural and forest health. It was discovered here in July 2018. The sightings have led the New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) to quarantine Warren, Hunterdon and Mercer Counties to prevent the spread. Find out what’s happening and learn what you can do. Presented by Paul Kurtz, NJDA Entomologist.

Thursday, October 25, Ghosts in the Sourlands - Bring Your Stories: Jim Davidson, local East Amwell historian has lived in 16 old houses, 4 of which have been haunted. Come and hear his stories and bring your own to share. We will talk about what the different types of ghosts, why are they around and, if need be, how to get rid of them.

Thursday, November 1, Cool Women Poetry Reading: For an evening of wildness and wonder, hear Cool Women Poets perform. The members of the nine-women poetry critique and performance group will read three rounds of poems, creating a jazz conversation with and about the Sourlands.

Thursday, November 8, Putting the Sourlands on the Map: Since 2013, the Sourland Conservancy has commissioned numerous mapping projects. Learn how these projects were developed by the Conservancy’s geographic information systems (GIS) analyst Kevin Burkman. We’ll hear about the digital map-making process and the projects he created for the Conservancy, including Sourland Online Mapping Application.

Thursday, November 15, Connecting Kids with Nature: Over the course of just three generations, we have observed a dramatic change in childhood. Sharing images and statistics, Nicole Langdo, founder of Painted Oak Nature School, will explain why getting children outside is crucial, now more than ever, and just how easy it is to do so!
Sourland Conservancy’s Upcoming Events

Camp Meeting Revival: Saturday, September 29, 2018, 11am-2pm, at Skillman Park. Join us for an historic reenactment of a camp meeting revival: friends, food, a little history and great gospel music! Featuring the Capital City Gospel Singers and special guest, Bertha Morgan.

Proceeds benefit the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum. www.ssaamuseum.org

Follow @ssaamuseum on Facebook for event details.
Purchase tickets online at www.sourland.org/2018-camp-meeting-revival

American Roots: Friday, October 12, 2018, 7-8:30 pm, at the Antique Barn at Cashel, 145 Wertsville Road, Hillsborough, NJ. Join us for a musical celebration of the American Chestnut and an interesting talk about the history of the American Chestnut and the upcoming Foraging Forest restoration project in the Sourlands. Purchase tickets online at www.sourland.org/American-Chestnut

Western Sourland Region Bus Tour: Saturday, October 27, 1-4 pm. Meet at the East Amwell Municipal Building front lot. See the sites of legend and lore on the Sourland Mountain and hear about the region’s historical importance, unique heritage and rich ecology. Visit the Holcombe–Jimison Farmstead Museum and enjoy its exhibits reflecting the diverse agricultural history of our area. Museum admission is included in the bus tour ticket price. Register at www.tiny.cc/western_tour or, to pay by check, call 609-466-0701.

“If These Stones Could Talk” Book Talk and Signing: Tuesday, December 11, 2018. This event is in partnership with D&R Greenway and will take place at One Preservation Place, Princeton. Time and more details to follow. “If These Stones Could Talk” by Beverly Mills and Elaine Buck provides a clearer understanding of the African American experience and accomplishments of those who lived in the Sourland Mountain region.

Sourland Conservancy Members’ Holiday Party: Sunday, December 2, 2018, 2-6 pm, at the Antique Barn at Cashel, 145 Wertsville Road, Hillsborough. This party is the Sourland Conservancy’s “thank you” to its members and business partners for their dedicated support. If you are not yet a member, join now so you don’t miss out on the best holiday party in the Sourlands!

Sourland Music Festival: Summer 2019, date to be announced. Our area’s premier summer music fest, Sourland Conservancy’s main fundraising event and extremely popular celebration of community spirit! Visit www.sourlandmusicfest.org