

Village of Old Field

A Social magazine for the residents
of Village of Old Field.

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pulse

*Old Field Farm's Sally Lynch
See Page 18*



Grandstand today.

making a **DIFFERENCE**

Sally Lynch

OLD FIELD FARM, Ltd.



New grandstand.



Sally Lynch.

Sally Lynch, president and one of the founders of the organization, has led the way of the restoration of the once beautiful show grounds. Her concern for disappearing farmland and horse properties motivated her to take on this project. Many of the buildings have been restored, and there is much more work to do. The old-fashioned scalloped-trimmed roof tops the wooden grandstand, which resides by the main ring, which was designed by Robert Jolicoeur of the International Equestrian Design. The stables are once again home to the visiting horses who come to compete in events.

The restoration of Old Field Farm County Parkland continues to be a priority; while much progress has taken place, the organization proceeds slowly to keep a tight rein on the budget and ensure that all modifications are accomplished in a manner that is consistent with historic roots of the facility and a sensitivity for the delicate ecosystem in which it resides. Changes that are immediately visible to visitors include improvements to the Hunt and Pony course, and the painting and extensive repair of all fencing, but there are many other projects that are being completed behind the scenes. Irriga-

The Long Island Classic & Equestrian Finals were held on September 7th at the historic Old Field Farm County Parkland. Originally known as the North Shore Horse Show Grounds, Old Field Farm has undergone a substantial transformation over the past few years. For over 50 years the North Shore Horse Show Grounds was host to thousands of riders and spectators. Originally designed by architect Richard Havilland Smythe, the facility was composed of a main barn and courtyard, numerous free-standing stables, and a large old-fashioned wooden grandstand. High-quality equestrian competitions, many acting as successful charitable events, were held there. It was a place where people who shared a love for horses and outdoor life could meet and catch up while, at the same time, competing to see who the best in their field was. Over the years the once renowned and beautiful show grounds fell into disrepair; its stately grandstand and beautiful barn became brittle and started falling down as less and less people came to visit.

In 1986 the farm was acquired by the county in an effort to prevent the commercial sale of the property to those who would break it up into subdivisions. During this time, while the county searched for someone who would take on such an extensive restoration, the facility continued to stand vacant and deteriorate. In 1996 the county signed an agreement with Old Field Farm Ltd., a not-for-profit organization who looked forward to restoring the show grounds to its rightful place in the community.



Richard Haviland Strythe Barn.



Old grandstand.



New main barn.



Historic Show Scene. Photo compliments of the "Three Village Historical Society."



Movie night at Old Field Farm.

tion systems, new and improved entrances, and tractor equipment are among the few that have been generously donated and allow the farm to lessen their dependence on outside contractors and result in more appropriate allocation of assets.

In an effort to raise awareness and generate funds for restoration, Old Field Farm caps and T-shirts were created and sold, which evolved into a complete line of sporting gifts. This effort has now been spun out of the charity Old Field Farm, Ltd. and is now a brick and mortar retailer call Old Field Farm, Horse & Home, Ltd. offering equestrian goods, clothing, and sporting gifts, located on the corner of Route 25A and Bennett Road. While this new retail effort is just getting off the ground, once it is profitable, the charity Old Field Farm, Ltd. will be a beneficiary to continue its restoration work and program development.

Events like the Summer Film Festival, highlighting vintage films along with related history, the Seaside Celebration Lobster Clambake and Horse Show, and the Old Field Farm Equestrian Book Club are only some of the few that are scheduled to be held at the show grounds. As more repairs are made, more events will be held. Funds raised through membership to Old Field Farm Ltd. and donations help to bring these events to the community for all to enjoy.

The effort is spearheaded by Old Field Farm principle Dr. Sally A. Lynch, the Vice President of General American Investors Co. Inc., and is responsible for securities in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries. She earned her B.S. in Biologi-

cal Sciences in 1982 and her Ph.D. from the Department of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology in 1988, both from Stony Brook University. During her studies at Stony Brook, Sally became enamored with the Three Village Area, and returned to take on the restoration of the farm and purchased a home in Old Field in 1997. Following graduation, she was a postdoctoral fellow and research assistant in the division of Solid Tumor Immunobiology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Lynch splits her time between New York City and our area, where she established and operates nonprofit Old Field Farm, Ltd. to restore historic Old Field Farm County Parkland as a venue for equestrian and community-related activities.

The mission of Old Field Farm, Ltd is to reinstate Old Field Farm as an important center on Long Island for equestrian and community activities. The farm will respect its longstanding heritage by maintaining the environmental and historical integrity of its extraordinary site and, at the same time, continue its tradition of philanthropy by partnering with local not-for-profit organizations. Old Field Farm serves as a living model for preservation of open spaces and historical structures, and promoting Long Island equestrian culture and community life past, present, and future.

Come visit October 19th to see our final informal horse show in our Schooling Days series. The show will be held throughout the day.

To learn more about Old Field Farm, Ltd. visit www.oldfield-farmltd.org.