# Tree

## Talk

Community Arboretum Newsletter • C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University

#### Celebrating Arbor Day: The History of an American Holiday

The idea for Arbor Day was originally started in Nebraska by J. Sterling Morton, a journalist and editor of Nebraska's first newspaper. Given that forum, he spread agricultural information and his enthusiasm for trees to early settlers in the mid 1800s. Morton's main motivation was to add trees and greenery to the generally treeless landscape of the plains. Trees were needed as wind shields to keep soil in place, for fuel and heating, for building materials, and for shade from the hot sun.

On January 4, 1872, Morton first proposed a tree-planting holiday to be called "Arbor Day" at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. Prizes were offered to counties and



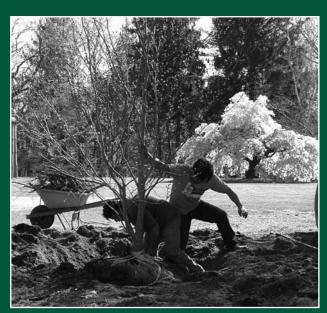
In All Its Glory: The Weeping Higan Cherry at Lorber Hall

individuals who planted the largest number of trees on that day. Today, the most common date for the state observance is the last Friday in April.

Trees add an unparalleled value to our society and the

environment in which we live. Trees cool our environment in the summer and, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, a young, healthy tree is equivalent to 10 air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. It is also estimated that landscaping, especially with trees, can increase property values as much as 20 percent.

Public gardens such as arboreta and botanical gardens play an integral role in the Arbor Day holiday and the stewardship of trees. The C.W. Post Community Arboretum cultivates and nurtures trees for the enjoyment of the public and to improve our environment.



A Copper Beech from Martin Viette Nurseries in East Norwich is planted at Lorber Hall in honor of Arbor Day. The tree is a tribute to the late Frances "Fan" Bush-Brown, founder of the Campus' Hutton House Lectures. (See Page 3)

• ...a young, healthy tree is equivalent to 10 air conditioners operating 20 hours a day.

Arbor Day is one of the most unique American holidays because while most holidays celebrate the past, Arbor Day celebrates the future. Plant a tree today! It will improve the environment and undoubtedly make our world a better place.

~ Vincent A. Simeone, Horticulturist and Arboretum Coordinator



#### **GARDEN GOSSIP...**

Q: How often should I water my newly planted trees and shrubs?

A: Newly planted trees and shrubs should be watered consistently for at least the first 2-3 years after planting to ensure that they develop a well-formed root system. As a general rule, in climates where supplemental irrigation (such as sprinklers) is required and in periods of drought, longer, infrequent watering is preferred over short, frequent watering. Specific watering amounts depend on soil type, water pressure and the size of the area to be irrigated. In the heat of the summer when plants are not receiving enough rainfall, watering shrubs for 2 to 4 hours, once or twice a week will provide a deep watering. In contrast, a short frequent watering such as 5 times a week for 30 minutes will only moisten the surface of the soil, creating plants with shallow, vulnerable root systems.



In an effort to help preserve and protect Nassau County's bays, coastal waterways and underground water supply, the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University is sponsoring the Adopt-A-Waterway program. The campaign, which is recognized by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, is a Nassau County initiative dedicated to improving the quality of local waterways from polluted storm-water runoff. It aims to raise public awareness about the importance of protecting the natural resources that make our region unique. The C.W. Post Campus also is a long-time sponsor of Nassau County's Adopt-A-Highway program.





Photo courtesy of Nassau County Division of Museum Services/Long Island Studies Institute

#### From the Archives

The Magnolia Allee (at left) as it looked in 1935. Located just south of the Winnick House/C.W. Post administration center, the Magnolia Allee was created in the mid 1920s by famed landscape architect Marian Cruger Coffin at the request of cereal heiress Marjorie Merriweather Post. The original pink and white blossoming magnolia trees were considered a landscape wonder because they were planted fully grown. The original trees were removed by the university in the mid 1980s when the specimens became diseased. Luckily, three off shoots from an original tree survived and have been incorporated into the new Magnolia allee, which is a part of the C.W. Post Community Arboretum.

#### **Creating Great Gardens**

More than 200 landscape designers, horticulturists and landscape architects gathered at the C.W. Post Campus for the 19th annual **Creating Great Gardens** forum. Sponsored by Atlantic Nurseries, Inc. and the C.W. Post Community Arboretum, the symposium is dedicated to providing innovative, cutting-edge information to professionals who are leaders in the horticultural industry.



(from left) Case Joosse, grounds manager, C.W. Post Campus; Vincent Simeone, director, Planting Fields Arboretum, Alan Armitage, keynote speaker and master gardener.







A beautiful Copper Beech was planted on April 28, 2006 in honor of the late Frances "Fan" Bush-Brown, the founder of C.W. Post's acclaimed Hutton House Lecture Series. Here, Fan Bush-Brown's daughters, Martha Risom (left) and Lel Gimbel are pictured with Dr. David Steinberg, president, Long Island University.

(from left) Lel Gimbel, Elizabeth Henderson, Dr. Kay Sato, director of Hutton **House Lectures** 



(from left) Genevieve Johanas, president, Brookville Park Foundation; Rita Langdon, associate provost and director of public relations, C.W. Post Campus; Jennifer Fitzpatrick, director of community relations, C.W. Post Campus.



Welcome to our Arbor Day Celebration, that one special day set aside each year to awe and marvel at nature's canopies of shade.

- Rita Langdon, associate provost and director of public relations, C.W. Post Campus

Green Thumbs Up! (from left) Case Joosse, grounds manager, C.W. Post Campus; Genevieve Johanas, president, Brookville Park Foundation; Lel Gimbel and Martha Risom (daughters of Fan Bush-Brown); Dr. David Steinberg, president, Long Island University; Dr. Joseph Shenker, provost, C.W. Post Campus; Tess Mullarkey, chancellor, C.W. Post Campus; Vincent Simeone, coordinator of

the C.W. Post Community Arboretum; Ed Shorin, chancellor, **Southampton Graduate Campus** and Brentwood Campus and trustee, Long Island University.





Vincent Simeone (left) and Case Joosse

#### Tree Talk

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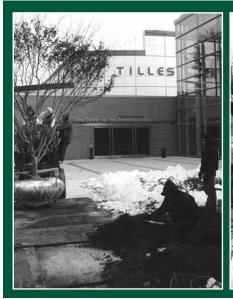
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### New Addition at Tilles Center

With the planting of a Japanese Maple tree in the courtyard of Tilles Center for the Performing Arts last winter, the landscaping around the newly renovated Tilles Center was completed. This specimen maple was hand-selected as the best from among hundreds of other maple trees. Japanese Maples are small, slow-growing trees that have leaves with finely textured edges that turn a brilliant shade of orange and red in the fall.



#### Celebrate Trees!

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# Plan Your Visit to the C.W. Post Community Arboretum

The C.W. Post Community Arboretum is a magnificent 20-acre tract of native trees and nature trails within the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University. It features 114 trees (71 species), some very rare that are labeled with horticultural and origin information. Self-guided walking tours begin at Hillwood Commons and last 30 to 45 minutes. To obtain your free map, go to the Hillwood Commons Information Desk or call (516) 299-3500 or e-mail neighbor@liu.edu.

