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NEWS

Director's Note

As I complete my 10th season here at LongHouse, I am amazed at how much we have grown and evolved through the years and I am sure you will agree it has been a very positive and rewarding experience. However, we always strive for improvement, and the 2007 season promises to be better than ever.

This past summer we had a record number of visitors during the open days and the largest number ever of school children experienced the grounds. Our Heightened Perspective summer gala, with its distinguished honorees, was definitely one of the year's season highlights in the Hamptons. Another terrific event was the site specific performance Nature in Focus by Jennifer Muller/the Works dance group. At our August 14th presentation of the Horticulture Service Award to the LVIS of East Hampton we were happy to greet and mingle with so many friends and members of LVIS and LHR.

Looking forward to greeting you at our Holiday Party on the 25th!
Matko Tomicic

Garden News

A great addition to the LongHouse team is **Ray Smith**, as the Director of Horticulture. He has made a huge difference in the planning and execution of the garden maintenance. As you may have noticed while visiting, we had considerable deer damage on the grounds during the past winter. To help us keep our gardens beautiful and healthy, we gladly accepted the advice and help of **Michael Marron** of East Hampton Fence, who advised us on resetting the cattle guard and the fence at the entrance. He also generously contributed his expertise and labor on resetting the most vulnerable parts of the existing fence. We are grateful to Michael for his support.

Ray Smith, Director of Horticulture

Ray Smith has been named the Director of Horticulture at LongHouse. For three years Ray Smith and Associates has performed the highly skilled pruning work and plant health care that has created a lush new look for LongHouse. Working with Jack and the Garden Committee, Ray will oversee the planning and maintenance of the gardens for now and in the future.

A native of Long Island, born in Oceanside, NY, he grew up in Freeport and attended the SUNY Farmingdale Horticulture program. In 1971, Ray moved to the South Fork to work for Eastern Tree Experts, was made a partner in 1972, and for the next 23 years contributed his expertise to the growth and development of the Hamptons. In 1996, he started his own company, Ray Smith & Associates. The company now has 50 employees and continues to grow.

An International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist, Ray is an expert on tree biology and the science behind tree care, pruning only with the physiological needs and limitations of the tree in mind. Well known for dedication, commitment and professionalism, Ray's company provides expertise and impeccable service to homeowners in the South Fork community.

