



Honoring the Island's Leaders, Inspiring Next Generation

On Saturday, May 29 friends and neighbors of Trude Lash gathered at her former Menemsha home to honor those who've cared for the island and to inspire the next generation.

"Anne W. Simon was the Rachael Carson of Martha's Vineyard," said Jim Feiner. Written in 1984, Ms. Simon's books included *Neptune's Revenge*, *The Ocean of Tomorrow* which is especially poignant for our times. It features a quote from her good friend, Joseph Lash.

The Nixon's were acknowledged for hosting the Vineyard Youth Summit for Sustainable Development at The Menemsha Inn which will be held from June 26-July 2. Bob has been filming the Gulf oil spill for Google Earth. He also chairs the Earth Conservation Corps and engages inner city youth in Washington D.C. to clean up the Anacostia River. Over the years, Jane Paquet has organized environmental service learning expeditions with her Martha's Vineyard Charter School students to help with this project.

In his welcoming remarks Andy Goldman spoke of the need for 'new blood' in the town's leadership – and the importance of preparing the next generation of leaders. People were acknowledged for their support for the Youth Summit. Jane Paquet is helping organize the Sustainable Vineyard Quest where youth will visit the island's environmental challenges and innovations. Martha's Vineyard Vision Fellow Liz Baldwin is guiding an educational kayak trip to Cape Poge with support from the Trustees of the Reservation. Youth will then develop action plans for Sustainability-In-Action projects for the coming year. Chuck Hughes is hosting a BBQ after these environmental adventures.

Youth Summit delegate Oscar Thompson will feature the videos he produced with Vineyard Voice on the island's solar, wind and organic farming initiatives. The island is a showcase for sustainable development.

"I am grateful that our Vineyard youth have this opportunity to be heard, to contribute, to learn from and share with students from other precious Island communities," said Liz Packer. "I am very impressed with how you are presenting them with this opportunity for a creative and committed collaboration -- to serve their communities with a vision to sustain the future. The Stone Soup Leadership Institute is a collaboration of ingredients that eloquently illustrates how to feed the body and feed the soul."

Trude Lash worked with Marianne Larned to write the story about Eleanor Roosevelt, *She Kept Her Promises* in her book, *Stone Soup for the World: Life-Changing Stories of Everyday Heroes*. In 2000, Trude Lash presented the Institute's first Eleanor Roosevelt award to Vineyard youth. "We need to keep our promises to our youth – to help prepare them for the challenges facing the 21st century," said Ms. Larned, director of the Stone Soup Leadership Institute. "We each have an opportunity to invest in the future leaders of the Island."

Everyone is invited to pitch in Stone Soup style: sponsors are needed and volunteers to coordinate lunches. People were encouraged to nominate seasonal youth residents to attend the Youth Summit. "We want to invite those who summer on the island to help preserve it too for generations to come." For more information and applications: www.mvyli.org.

Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative • www.mvyli.org
Stone Soup Leadership Institute • P.O. Box 4551, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 • 617.304.7821
soup4world@gmail.com • www.soup4world.com • YouTube Channel: ston_soup_leaderinst