



often scout the store for ideas. Four hundred dollars for a vintage Pyrchley jacket at Horse Leap today becomes \$1,400 for a knockoff at Saks next fall.

LOCAL FAVORITES

Millbrook's most popular spot for dining is Charlotte's on Route 44, about four miles out of town. If you have any trouble finding it, just follow the duallies with Florida license plates (likely polo players) or horse trailers with a fox-mask sticker (fox hunters). It is the venue for countless hunt breakfasts and even the occasional hunt ball. Make sure you get a table in the bar, which sports a wall of hunting prints and an expansive fireplace.

For the best Italian food, there is the Trattoria San Giorgio in downtown Millbrook. A local favorite is a pizza with honey, pears, and gorgonzola. For the best hamburgers around, try Monte's in Amenia, and for more casual dining, you can't go wrong with the Millbrook Diner on Franklin Street, an authentic 1950s diner that's fun for kids and adults alike.

AN OPEN WALL

In a way, Nancy Stahl does have her Hadrian's Wall, but it's not a 10-foot-high pile of stone like one built by the Roman emperor. Instead it's the Dutchess Land Conservancy (DLC), which has helped put 39,000 acres in the heart of Millbrook hunt country into agreements that mean there will be no Levittown row houses or the hotels disclaimed by Millbrook equestrians.

While the DLC's role is broader than fox hunting, Oakleigh Thorne III and Farnham Collins have been critically involved in the organization's inception and growth. The people who support the DLC are often called stewards of the land. Becky Thornton, president of the conservancy, says that designation comes from a statement made in 1985 by the late banking heir Chauncey Stillman that "the extraordinary scenic of this area has remained protected from the desecration of landscape occurring elsewhere because all of

1. John Klopp (right) playing in the Mashomack International Challenge Cup. 2. Karen Klopp visits with EQ at her Smithfield Farm. 3. Davis Colley, a 15-year-old polo player. 4, 6, 16. Charming boutiques, restaurants, and businesses along Franklin Street in Millbrook. 5. The Millbrook Diner. 7. Roseview Farm's polo team. From left: Nicolas Arriabar, Michel Dognac Sr., Michel "Milo" Dognac Jr., David Sloan, Diego Ferreira. 8. Parker Gentry competes at the What2WearWhere polo challenge. 9. Dog Bailey tailgates in a David Sloan creation. 10. Owners of Charlotte's restaurant, Alicia and Mikael Møller. 11, 12, 17. Charlotte's restaurant. 13. A selection of hunt attire at Horse Leap. 14, 15. Barbara Wadsworth, owner of Horse Leap, creates a window display.

us have dedicated ourselves to its stewardship." In 1988, the 1,250 acres of Stillman's Wethersfield Farm (page 58) were among the first preserved by the DLC.

Thanks to the DLC, someone driving through Amenia today might stop for the priceless sight of running hounds in full cry with Parker Gentry or Bruce Colley in scarlet coats galloping behind, in a full, Gosford Park scene that is fast disappearing from other parts of the American landscape. **EQ** **PAGE 89**



ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Don Rosendale (below, left) has won the Millbrook Horse Trials 13 times and finished second in the Millbrook and Golden's Bridge hunter trials. Before devoting himself full time to his farm in Amentia, he was a corporate vice president of Trans World Airlines and PepsiCo Inc. He has previously written for The Economist, Vanity Fair, and Forbes.

Rebecca Baldrige (below, right) is an investment professional, institutional marketer, and financial writer. An enthusiastic horse lover, rider, and polo player, she also frequently writes on equestrian topics. In 2014, she fulfilled a lifelong dream by riding to bounds with Golden's Bridge.

