PATHWAYS

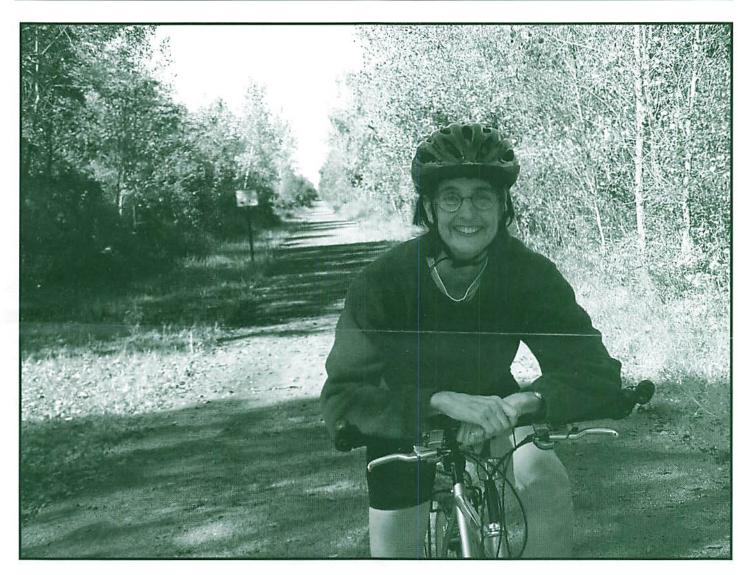
VOL 12 NO 3

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MENDON FOUNDATION

WINTER 2005

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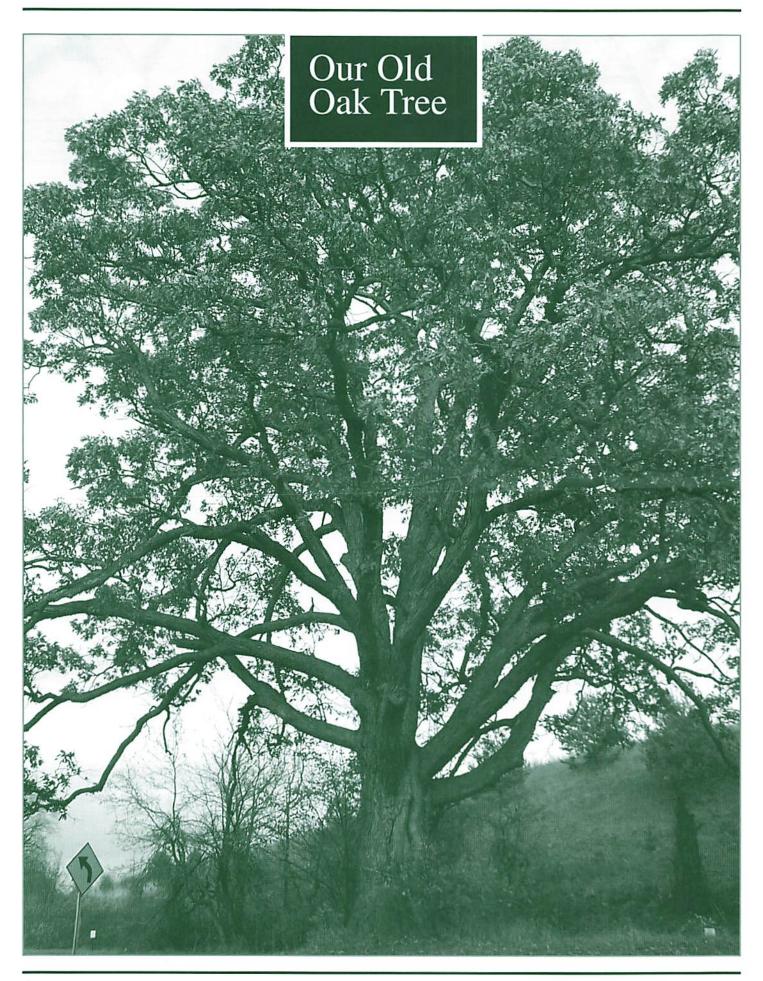
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Ann Stevens takes a break and talks about the Lehigh Valley Trail
Photo by John Buck

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S ince late Fall '03, we have been working to revive and manage the health of an old friend. We are having great success! Ring growth and health for the past two years significantly exceeds that of several previous years. At that time an appeal for funds raised \$950 toward saving the Old Oak Tree on Route 15A and Plains Road. In addition to those funds, \$450 has been donated in services, but ongoing maintenance and rescue must continue.

Recognizing the tree was having serious difficulty coping with problems, we started the tree rehab with a professional trimming of dead wood. Dr Daniel Marion, Professor of Tree and Ornamental Plant Health, has been advising us on care and treatment. Disease determinations, tissue analysis and root health guide his efforts. We had been advised the large and heavy NYSDOT mowing tractors were detrimental to the tree roots, along with salt and hydrocarbons. Neighbor Dave Hopkins is donating mowing maintenance with agreement from NYSDOT.

In order to continue our rescue efforts, the Mendon Foundation needs funding from the community. Anyone enjoying the tree's spectacular beauty as they drive by should consider contributing \$10 or more (a taxable deduction). Please support our ongoing preservation of this beautiful specimen with a

generous gift to be committed to the venerable Old Oak Tree Fund. The Mendon Foundation thanks you for your donation.

And so does our old friend.

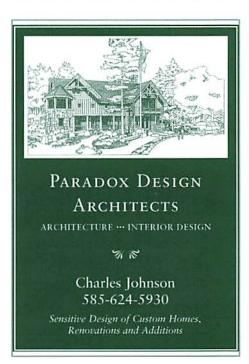




Old Oak Tree Fund Name Address Phone Make checks payable to: Mendon Foundation PO Box 231 Mendon, NY 14506-0231 \$10 ____ \$25 ____ \$50 ___ Other \$ ____ Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ A tax deductible receipt will be sent to you for your generous donation. If you are interested in joining the Mendon Foundation, please refer to the membership information in this newsletter or on our website: www.mendonfoundationinc.org

For further information please contact: Carl Foss @ 385-2330 or Arlene Cluff

at: ajcluff45@aol.com



Trail rider Ann Stevens....

Getting back to her roots...

I met Ann Stevens one bright October morning on the Lehigh Valley Trail near East River Road. Ann, 48, lives in West Henrietta and is an editor whose clients include both commercial and non-profit organizations.

After selling her horse last year, she decided to return to her roots as a recreational rider and explore the local trail networks.

After a few outings on the Lehigh Valley Trail, she was struck by the amount of work that had been planned and accomplished, and also the variety of wildlife and natural beauty adjacent to the trail. Using the internet, she discovered and publicly thanked through the Democrat & Chronicle all those involved in the creation of the trail.

Ann is typical of the many people now enjoying this incredible trail, and the Mendon Foundation is appreciative of her endorsement. Happy Trails, Ann!



Photos and text by John Buck





Brian Eder, D.C., C.S.C.S.

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Photos by John Buck

of the weather. See more images at our website: www.themendonfoundation.org



Lots to eat!!

















Our plant sale is a great deal!

Just in time for the holidays...a great and affordable gift idea!

Mendon Note Cards



The Mendon Foundation is excited to be able to offer these beautiful and personal Mendon note cards...just in time for the holiday season!

The five images shown on the left are printed in full color on bright white cover stock and were created by Mendon Foundation board member John Buck. Each Mendon image has been digitally enhanced to have a "painterly" effect.

John is a travel and portrait photographer working primarily on assignments for Kodak and with clients in Japan and Argentina.

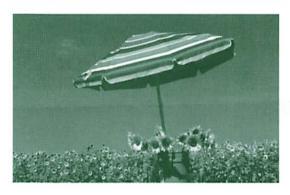
Each \$20 gift box contains 15 cards and envelopes. And the best part...the proceeds benefit the Lehigh Valley Trail and other Mendon Foundation projects.

At this printing, local outlets for the cards are undetermined, and we urge you to ask our local merchants if they offer them. The cards will be distributed by the second week of December. Or you can fill out the order form to the right and we will make sure you receive your gift box in time for Christmas.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!













Momentum builds at Rochester Junction

by Warren Wallace

Photo by P.J. Erbley



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It may not be full-scale reincarnation, with tracks and trains and all that, but some of the spirit of Rochester Junction is returning. The Plains Road site, where the mainline of the Lehigh Valley Railroad intersected with branches north to Rochester and south toward Honeoye Falls, is one of the key locations along the Lehigh Valley Trail.

Hopes to restore some of the grit and grandeur of Rochester Junction began with the opening of the recreational trail. An information kiosk, the Eagle Scout project of Christoph Napp and his minions, followed earlier this year.

A second Eagle project led to clearing of the depot site, revealing the platform outline and concrete footprint of the fanciful Victorian depot - built in 1896, but destroyed by fire in 1972. This was followed by the construction of a knee-wall to represent the depot building - including openings where actual doors once existed. Under the guidance of Troop 10 Life Scout Garrett Koek, Mendon Foundation supplied materials and oversight, while Koek's team performed the heavy lifting. Eventually, it is hoped that several buildings will be represented in this manner - including the interlocking tower, pump house, freight/express house and produce house.

Completion of these two projects has been accompanied by a growing list of other developments related to Rochester Junction.

1. Over 1000 trail brochures have been distributed from the Kiosk.

- Karnas Sign Co. has donated the "Rochester Junction" sign for the Kiosk as well as signs for the Kiosk at Mendon Station.
- The RJ Historic Presentation Committee has been formed and is working on plans for the Junction's further development.
- The Town of Mendon has proposed the connection of the Great Bend Park to the L V Trail at Rochester Junction.
- 5. Troop 10 Eagle Scout Candidate Liam Dooley has proposed rebuilding the connecting bridge as his Eagle Project.
- 6. Completed Information Kiosk
- 7. The Foundation has been offered a gift of a Baggage Cart which was used at Rochester Junction to load and unload the mail.
- In 2006 the Foundation hopes to develop the interlocking tower and Freight House sites, as well as rebuild 60 feet of RR Track..

Trout Brook Sugar House by John Farrell



Greg and Sheila Keyes caught the maple syrup bug from Greg's brother Kevin. Since the 2002 sugaring season, the Keyes have continued to prosper at thier Trout Brook Sugar House, at 269 Taylor Road.

It was a chance meeting with retired maple sugarman Richard Twardokus of Ionia and the availability of his equipment-- not to mention his willing assistance to pass along his springtime love with the sugar maple that greatly helped their operation grow.

Together with sons Sean and Rory and daughter Kerry it's a family tradition to work outdoors in the sugarbush. The sugarbush term refers to the collection of sugar maple trees that supply the necessary sap that is boiled down to syrup that is as pure as it is good.

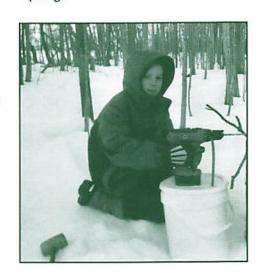
The Keyes sugaring production began with a 2'x4' evaporator under a tarp covered old dog kennel in their driveway. Currently with about 120 sugar maples tapped and a goal of 200 the Keyes operate with a 400 gallon stainless bulk sap tank and a beautiful new 12'x16' sugarhouse complete with a Vermont made GH Grimm 2'x6' evaporator. It takes 46 gallons of sap to get one gallon of Grade A maple syrup!

The sap is collected mainly in buckets that are tapped at the trees. Each tree could have as many as three taps depending upon the trunk's diameter and the volume of the tree's canopy overhead. Tightly forested trees yield

less as their canopies are smaller than the roadside tree in full sun. Nights cool to below freezing followed by warm days to 42F+ are necessary for the sap to flow. In 2005, sugaring lasted just 10 days "short & sweet" say Greg & Sheila; still the Keyes sugarbush yielded 21 gallons.

Trout Brook is a registered member of the New York State Maple Producers Association. If you are interested in a co-op partnership including your trees with Trout Brook, call Greg (624-5648) and he will come bucket and tap inhand and help you tap your maples. The taps are removed after the sap stops flowing and before budding which allows the trees to heal naturally.

Trout Brook offers tours every weekend in March free samples are provided. Come, gather around and see the 219F boiling sap in the steamy sweet sugarhouse and hear the whole marvelous maple story. Bring a friend and see you at Trout Brook next spring!





2005 Bluebeard's Castle Raffle...

THE WINNERS!

The results are in for the winners of the recently completed Bluebeard's Castle Raffle. Here, in order of selection matched up with their prize picks Grand Prize thru 12th:

1st___Holly Youngman \$1,000 Shopping at HF Market Place or Mendon Meadows Market

Grand Prize___Dennis Moriarity trip to Bluebeard's Castle; St. Thomas US Virgin Islands

2rd___Eileen Higgins 4 Toyo Spectrum tires from Tire World in Webster worth \$500

3th___Pam Knauf 2Vine Restaurant \$100 Gift Certificate, 2 tickets to GEVA & Gander Mountain \$50 Gift Certificate

4th___Patti Neumann \$500 Shopping spree at Mendon Village Commons 5th___Bruce Downer Mario's Via Abruzzi \$100 Gift Certificate, 2 RPO tickets & Fox Run wines

6th___Robert Dehm \$750 Custom landscape design from Ted Collins Tree & Landscape & \$150 Cub Cadet garden trailer from Saxby Implement

7th___Sue Dehm Joe's Mendon House \$50 Gift certificate; 4 tickets to Garth Fagan Dance & Casa Larga Vineyards wines

8th___Sharon Brodie Weiders Pro Hardware \$200 Handyman's Special Service Gift Certificate

9th___Jack Starke \$50 Champps at Eastview Mall Gift Certificate & \$100 Growler Club Membership Custom Brewcrafters in Honeoye Falls

10th___Pete Palermo \$200 Park Avenue Photo Gift Certificate

11th___Christine Dehm 4 1-Day passes to Seabreeze Park & \$50 Tom Wahl's Gift Certificate

12th___DC Cantwell \$120 Auburn Creek Driving Range & Mini Golf Gift Certificate

Drawing 1st Holly Youngman considered her 2 caregiving jobs and time away from those depending on her every day. The \$1000 of groceries was too good to pass up. "I turned \$10 into \$1000, plus I got the free pizza and played mini golf too" reports an estatic Holly. "I really like the king crab legs too" she says.

Dennis Moriarity drawing 2nd tells Pathways he has never been to St. Thomas but describes his upcoming trip to the island as "a great way to kick-off the summer" and he'll visit an old friend living on St. Thomas. "Not bad for 2nd place and a \$10 ticket" says Dennis.

All in all the Mendon Foundation raised some badly needed money for the Lehigh Valley Trail improvement. Perhaps some stone and concrete for the unfinished maintenance shed. Thank you to all those who bought tickets, we wish you a very enjoyable holiday season.



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Mendon Foundation Receives \$1,000 Gift to Start HFL Grant Program

What does a ground-breaking research paper in the area of high finance have to do with a group of young students playing violins in HFL's Manor School? Normally, not a great deal. But through the generosity of the author of the award winning paper, the Mendon Foundation was selected as the non-profit organization to administer a new grant program for the Honeoye Falls-Lima School District.

In May, Christopher Carosa, a director of the Mendon Foundation and a part-time adjunct faculty member of Medaille College, was notified by the Journal of Financial Planning that his research paper had been awarded first prize in the Journal's annual call for papers competition. The paper, titled "Passive Investing - The

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The Next Generation In Investment Management Emperor Exposed?" was recognized in the Planning Techniques,
Academic category. Mr. Carosa, who presented the results in San Diego at the Journal's annual symposium, has received national media attention since the publication of the paper in the October issue of the Journal. Indeed, the internet site Early Retirement Planning Insights reviewed what it termed the "explosive article" with these words: "It is exceeding well done. It is revolutionary. It turns everything upside down. Best of all: It makes sense."

Now, Mr. Carosa has turned his good fortune into good fortune for our local school children. In lieu of receiving the \$1,000 cash prize, he directed the Journal to donate his winnings to the Mendon Foundation to establish a grant program for the Honeoye Falls Lima School District. "Since the award recognizes academic research," says Mr. Carosa, a full-time investment adviser whose firm abuts the Lehigh Valley Trail in the Hamlet of Mendon, "I wanted to do something that might help spur extraordinary academic pursuits among our school kids."

Mr. Carosa contacted parents and school officials about current interests and needs and identified two initial areas that could use the grant money. The first is to further develop the Youth Orchestra Program. This was started through Pathways in 2004 and allows students taking private lessons in string instruments the opportunity to play in a group. "HFL currently does not have a string program," explains the donor, "and a number of parents and community members have been working to encourage its eventual development." Mr. Carosa sees some of the grant money being used to broaden the present Youth Orchestra

Program and inspire even greater interest.

The second area identified involves the development of chess among the younger age groups. The district recently hosted an interscholastic chess tournament, but it's practical offerings work best only for middle school and high school students. "I've spoke to the District person overseeing this activity and we agreed it would be ideal to do something to support greater discovery of this intellectually stimulating game among younger students," states Mr. Carosa. He hopes to see some of the grant money used to sponsor a specific activity in the Manor School, perhaps as early as this coming spring.

Mr. Carosa has stipulated his initial gift can be used for grants in any area, not just the two mentioned. He has provided, however, that, should other community members wish to donate to this Grant Program on behalf of future Youth Orchestra or Chess grants, the Foundation will use his donation to match those gifts, dollar for dollar, for use towards grants in those specific activities.

The Foundation wishes to thank Mr. Carosa for his kind gift. If part of your year-end tax planning involves giving a gift to this grant program, please contact our Treasurer, John Schaefer for more information. In addition, if you have ideas for other areas where grants might be useful, please speak to a District teacher or other District representative to confirm their interest, and then contact Mr. Carosa, who has volunteered to coordinate the Grant Program. Finally, if you're interested in serving on the Grant Program committee, also contact Mr. Carosa.



University of Rochester Students

volunteer On August 27th, 26 University of Rochester Freshman and 2 Sophomore team coordinators spent several hours volunteering for the Mendon Foundation as part of their community service commitment. Their willingness to participate and spirit of giving combined with our long "to-do" list resulted in a significant amount of work accomplished in a short amount of time. Working along side with our Boy Scout volunteers, one group finished clearing a creek of logs and the adjacent area of underbrush. Another group mulched landscaped areas around Mendon Station Park in preparation for the Mendon Arts Festival. A third group weeded and cleared brush along a section of the Lehigh Valley Trail. Their contribution of community service to the Foundation was very much appreciated. It was an excellent learning experience for all involved. We look forward to their services next year.

HELP WANTED!

The Mendon Foundation has a critical need for volunteer assistance in the following three areas:

Public Relations Fundraising Secretary

If you have some free time we could sure use your help! If you are interested, please call Carl Foss at 624-1634 for details.

PATHWAYS

is the newsletter of the Mendon

Foundation, a completely volunteer organization which exists with the generous support of its members, volunteers, and contributors. This newsletter is published three times a year and paid for through the generous support of our advertisers.

The Mendon Foundation P.O. Box 231 Mendon, N.Y. 14506-0231

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