

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has." -Margaret Mead

# PATHWAYS

VOL 16 NO 1

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MENDON FOUNDATION

SPRING 2009

A Member of the National Land Trust Alliance

[www.MendonFoundation.com](http://www.MendonFoundation.com)

## Mendon Foundation Receives Trail Improvement Grant

*Article on page 15.*



**Inside:** THE SHAPING OF MENDON • OAK TREE BABIES • 4TH ANNUAL BIRDWALK  
EARTH DAY • HF-L BIOLOGY STUDENTS VISIT LANDFILLS & RECYCLING CENTERS  
PLANT SALE & WORKSHOP • BLUEBELLS IN OUR FUTURE • TRAIL NEWS & VIEWS

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# 16 years old already!

# MENDON FOUNDATION



March 5, 2009 was the first day of our 17th year. During these early years our operating standard has been to pay no wages or benefits, no rent or utilities. Grants, membership and event income, sponsorships fund the cost of equipment acquisition and operation. Labor is donated. And that standard continues.

Volunteers, donating many thousands of hours over these early years, have made our activities possible. Major grants, the second announced in this issue, have made the Trail a part of our lives.

Partnering with other organizations has been very successful. Twenty four Cub Scout and Eagle Scout projects and counting, confirms our success. From the beginning the Mendon Foundation has had the goal of developing Recreation and

Education opportunities. In addition, we have had as our third goal, Preservation.

Currently about 5,000 acres in the United States are consumed by development every day. Many landowners and Land Trusts are taking a stand to safeguard the places they love. Productive farms, ranch land, forests, wetlands, and coastlines are being placed under protection from future development. The Mendon Foundation currently has six properties totaling about 160 acres that will remain undeveloped in the future. Many conservation methods are available that can be adapted to individual situations. Information is available upon request.

We urge you to join us by becoming members through the years ahead.



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# The Shaping of Mendon

By Diane Ham,  
Mendon Town Historian

In the 1790s, 35 families came to the Town of Mendon and the village of Norton's Mills (now Honeoye Falls). By 1810 there were 178 families in the Town. Some came and stayed; some went on farther west. Although most of the earliest settlers to Mendon came here as farmers, there were other occupations needed in order to build a community and to entice the people to stay here—grist mill operator, sawmill operator, wagon maker, harness maker, carpenter, store keeper, tavern keeper, blacksmith, cooper, shoemaker, doctor, etc. Some men had more than one occupation. When the War of 1812 broke out, 45 men answered the call from Mendon and Norton's Mills which left quite a number of families to take care of themselves and their homes. At times, some of these occupations were vacant until others came.

As the settlement grew, so did the need for political organization. In 1813 when Mendon was organized as a Town (it was seceded from East Bloomfield), there were several Town officers needed to get the Town work done—Supervisor, Clerk, Assessors,

Commissioners, Overseers of the Poor, Pathmasters (who were also Fence Viewers), a Constable and Tax Collector, Commissioners of the School Fund, and Inspectors of the schools. An election was held and the positions were filled. From then on, the Town of Mendon continued to grow.

Dr. John Browning and his wife, Betsy, came to the Town of Mendon with their two children in 1818. In a letter written home to her sister on January 5, 1819, Betsy told of the hardships incurred in traveling to Mendon from Hardwick, Massachusetts. She wrote: "After a journey of sixteen days from the time we left Hardwick, we arrived at Mendon. We had tolerable good luck on the way. John S. and Eliza [their children] stood the journey as well as could be expected. Eliza was unwell a few days with a cold. The Doctor and myself enjoyed tolerable good health on the way but he was rather fatigued with walking sometimes. The doctor travelled most of the way after Henry [her brother] left us; he did not ride five miles after we left Albany... It rained just enough to

make it muddy all the way from Albany to Mendon. I had no idea there were two ways, so we came the heavy turnpike. The people told us on the way if we had taken the Mohawk [trail] we should have had better going but in fact, I will tell you my sister, the way appeared very gloomy on account of the bad going and the stormy weather but I did endeavor to keep up my spirits as well as I could but sometimes it did appear as though we should never reach Mendon."

She went on to say, "We have got a very convenient house although small. We have one room finished; it stands on the pleasantest place of any house in the village." It is not known whether they built the house themselves, or if they bought it already built, but John Browning did not start paying taxes until 1820. Their house was located at 149 Taylor Rd.

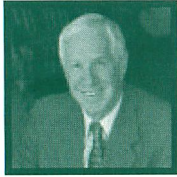
Dr. Browning was said to be the first physician in Monroe County. He rode horseback, and his supplies were carried in saddle bags—a large piece of leather with pockets on each side and thrown over the horse's back.

*continued on page 5*



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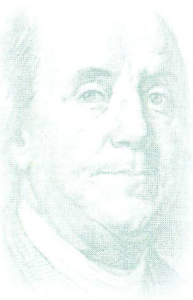
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# Our Old Oak Tree

## Expecting Multiple Babies

No one knows for sure how old the tree is. We do know its trunk has a 24 foot circumference. Thus it has a 7.64 foot diameter!

It might have been a strong and tall oak when local farmers marched off to the Civil War.

Last Fall '08, we gathered a few of its acorns. Interestingly for such a big tree the acorns are quite small. We are working with John Cintineo, Countryside Flower Farm owner. He hopes to have some Old Oak Tree Babies available for Fall '09 adoption.

Also, John is nurturing baby red and black oaks for us. Although they grow no where near as big as our Old Oak Tree, their acorns are twice as big. And, as well, John expects to have available several shag bark hickory babies for our Fall '09 "Baby Hardwoods Adoption Opportunity".

More information will be available in our August Newsletter. If you might be interested, email us at [mendonfoundation.com](http://mendonfoundation.com), or write to Mendon Foundation, P.O. Box 231, Mendon, NY 14506.



# The Mendon Society of Friends

By Diane Ham, Mendon Town Historian

About 1828 or 1829, Martin Davis, Daniel Russell, Isaac Ewer, Nathaniel Russell, George West, John Allen, and James Whippo, and their wives organized a "Friends" meeting, or better known as Quakers, holding assembly in a log house on the farm later owned by H. T. Lord near Mendon Center. They met here for two years, and in 1833 built a house of worship. It was a wooden structure, painted white, 30 by 40 feet and later enlarged to 30 by 60 feet. It had a broad platform built the length of the house on the front side of suitable height to enable people to get out and into their wagons or carriages without inconvenience. Facing the platform were two doors equidistant from the center of the building, the women using the left door, the men using the right. James Whippo gave the land for the meetinghouse and the cemetery on Quaker Meetinghouse Road in near Rush-Mendon Rd. The meetinghouse served a community of about 500 Quakers who lived in the Mendon Center area.

Quaker meetinghouses were stark in their simplicity. Music and decoration were taboo by the Quakers, regarded as likely to distract attention from quiet meditation. The interior of the Mendon Center meeting house was divided in two equal parts by movable shutters that could be raised or lowered as occasion demanded. Men were seated on one side of the meetinghouse and women sat on the other.

On mid-week meeting days, about an hour was taken for religious services and once a month after the meeting for worship, a business session was held. When the secular business of the organization was attended to, the shutters were raised

and each sex proceeded to investigate the affairs of its department each sex having the same number of caretakers. When the shutters were down, the inside of the building was one large open space aside from a partition a few feet high at the base of the sliding shutters.

For meetings of worship the shutters were down. Wooden seats, painted but no cushions, faced the front of the room and were occupied by audiences. Several rows of wooden seats in the front of the room, the rear row raised higher, were designated for speakers or elders of rank. There were two large stoves for heating—probably wood-burning—one in each end of the large room, with plenty of space around for people to gather and warm themselves.

In early Quaker days, the men wore their hats during the time of worship and if some person in the audience appeared in supplication, all in the house arose to their feet, took off their hats, and bowed reverently. When prayer was over, they put on their hats and took their seats again. That custom has been discontinued and they now remove their hats when taking their seats and do not rise in time of prayer.

For many years, the meetinghouse had attracted the interest of members of the sect from more distant areas. At times, as many as 400 Friends would tax the capacity of the meetinghouse. Famous speakers in the Quaker world came to Mendon which included the poet, John Greenleaf Whittier, who came to Mendon on a lecture tour in the 1840's, Susan B. Anthony, and Sojourner Truth, a black woman who rose from slavery to travel about as a self-appointed agent for her race.

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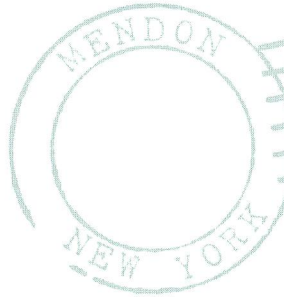
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# Postmarked: MENDON

By Diane Ham,  
Mendon Town Historian

Did you know that if you received A letter postmarked "Mendon" but with no state included, it could have come from one of nine Mendons in the United States?

While researching the history of Mendon, NY, I began to get interested in where our early settlers came from and why Mendon was chosen as a name for our Town and one of its hamlets back in 1813. After considerable research, I found that Caleb Taft appeared to be the only settler who came from Mendon, Massachusetts about 1800. While pouring over the Annual Business Atlas that is bigger than I am at the Rochester Public Library, I discovered that besides the nine Mendons (located in Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, and Utah), there is also one Mendham and three Minden's in the United States! In comparing only the villages of Mendon, it is interesting to note that their populations range, at present, from 50 to just under 1,000.

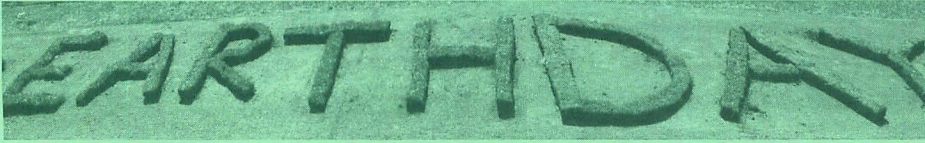
Since most of the early towns and villages in the New England states were named for places in England, and since there was a wide variety in both spelling and pronunciation, it may well be that Mendon, Massachusetts was named after the English town of Mendham. That village itself, without any apparent objection from the first entry of business transacted, used the name

Mendon. Almost all of the Mendon's were part of a parcel of land that was purchased from the Native Americans, and a number of them had similar encounters with the Native Americans in trying to make peace.

Manufacturing did not flourish in any of the Mendons very long. They all had saw mills, grist mills, foundries, and blacksmith shops to take care of local needs. Abundant waterpower also seemed to be a characteristic of the Mendons. Waterpower was the key to these settlements for the mills. The Mendons were agricultural towns and villages. Generally, their farms were largely self-sustaining units of survival and not at all business enterprises. They are now all beginning to become more residential, however.

The Massachusetts and New York Mendon villages have interesting parallels. Both are about the same size; both are rural communities, but not chiefly agricultural hamlets today; both had settlements of Quakers; both gave bounties in early days for wolves killed.

Our Town of Mendon is a rural Community of immense pride. We believe that change can occur while respecting our creeks, retaining Agriculture, preserving our cultural and historic resources, remaining small, and looking forward to the future.



## MANOR SCHOOL – FRIDAY, APRIL 17

Every April for the past 5 years students at the Honeoye Falls-Lima Manor School have enjoyed a special spring day at school. The regular routine is deferred for a day and all the school celebrates Earth Day. With special guests, unique presentations and a lot of outside hands-on activities, the children gain a renewed appreciation for our environment and learn how to combine education and fun with ways to conserve our earth's precious resources.

One of the annual events enjoyed by the Manor children, grades 2 through 5, is working in the school district's Habitat Garden. The garden has grown to consist of 3 beds, each containing a diverse collection of native trees, flowers and other perennials. The plant selections were chosen under the guidance of Mr. Jim Engle of White Oak Nurseries, a specialist in native plants who has reinforced the philosophy that gardens can not only beautify our lives, but should also provide food and shelter for native wildlife.

With assistance from the High School's Green Team, the Manor School children have learned about preparing garden beds, which plants serve what purpose, and the level of diversity that is required to maintain a successful habitat over the years.

The garden edges the pathway between the Manor School and the High School allowing students, staff and passersby to enjoy the beauty of their efforts. This year the group will learn about garden maintenance -- a necessary, but sometimes overlooked aspect of having a garden.

On this special school day students will rotate through a variety of presentations and demonstrations to rouse their interest, including:

- Bee keeping (without the live bees)
- Maple sugaring
- Live bird demonstration
- Visit with a wildlife biologist
- Water insects as indicators of stream health
- Drumming
- Learn from a bear specialist
- Tree identification
- Native American culture from the Ganondagan State Historical Site
- Practical reduce, reuse and recycle methods
- Even an encore gathering of sewing volunteers to turn the kids' old T-shirts into reusable tote Bags.

With backing from the Mendon Foundation and the visionary planning and passionate dedication of Karen Waldron-Johnson since she started coordinating Earth Day at Manor School in 2004, the April celebration has grown bigger and better each year. Her influence on this event is evident from those who have volunteered to work with her, who describe her efforts as "containing an enthusiasm that is infectious to those around her" and "she has an inspiring love of all things natural."

Local businesses have generously sponsored this event over the years, allowing the day's activities to expand into other parts of the High School and into the Middle School. Once again some High School art students, under the guidance of art Teacher Harold Coonan, will be on

*continued on page 9*

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# HF-L Biology Students to visit Monroe County Landfill and Recycling Centers.

As high school science students all over New York State are busy preparing for their Regents exams this spring, some HF-L biology students will take a little time out of their in-class review to get their hands dirty in the field, literally. In late April, 60 biology students and members the Green Team Environmental Club, will be headed to the Monroe County Landfill and Recycling Centers to see what happens to all of the waste we recycle and throw away every day.

Currently, each American produces on average about four pounds of garbage per day. Unfortunately, volume is more of a problem than weight. It has been estimated that trash from one day in our country would cover a 1,000 acre area, extending 400 feet deep. That is a lot of garbage! Fortunately, as recycling has become much more widespread in recent years, our trash production has decreased. 2005 represented the first year in which Americans produced less trash than in the previous year. How do we continue on this trend? Making a lasting impression on our youth is a great way to start.

During the trip to the Monroe County Recycling Center on Lee Road in Rochester and to the Waste Management landfill in Fairport, students will have the opportunity to experience firsthand the various branches of the waste stream, including the entire "life cycle" of garbage that we produce. Most peoples' knowledge ends with garbage and recycling being picked up, but the HF-L students will observe what happens to waste during

sorting, landfill disposal, energy production and recycling processes.

This fieldtrip, which represents a partnership between The Mendon Foundation, Honeoye Falls-Lima High School Science Department and HF-L Green Team Environmental Club, could not come at a better time, for a number of reasons. As more and more people are "going green" and becoming increasingly aware of the impact that humans are having on the planet, education of this type is essential. The intention is that students will be affected by the vast amounts of waste that they see, and that it will echo in their personal and family lives. Hopefully, students will return to school with the understanding that their actions can have a positive impact on their environment, from the choice of recycling a bottle, to encouraging their parents to greatly reduce the amount of waste that their homes produce. Students will also be sharing what they have learned with their classmates back at HF-L in a multi-media presentation.

Apart from the long-term positives that can come from a trip such as this, the topic of human impact is directly relevant to the students' study of biology. Prior to the trip, students will be conducting research projects ranging from invasive species introduction to global climate change to development of alternative fuel sources.

Increasingly, the Regents exam in Biology/Living Environment focuses on the interactions between humans and ecosystems, as well as the threats to biodiversity and life on earth.

Needless to say, the Biology teachers at HF-L are thrilled with this opportunity to expose their students to directly relevant topics in an experiential way.

The teachers are not the only group that is excited about the trip. Many members of the Green Team, a student driven environmental action group at HF-L high school, will have the opportunity to participate. In the past three years, the Green Team has managed the bottle and can recycling at the high school, as well as initiated battery and electronics recycling and several community service clean-up projects. As this group has gotten more involved in recycling on the school level, students have many questions about the actual recycling processes of different materials. For example, "How are different plastics separated?", or "Can we expect garbage to be converted into usable fuel in the next decade?" Hopefully, answers to these questions will be just the beginning of what interested students can learn from the trip.

One trip to the landfill and recycling center is great, but what about next year's students? The Mendon Foundation plans to make this a yearly event, and eventually as an "educational rite of passage" for all HF-L students. Perhaps with this lasting relationship, our community can continue to reduce its impact on our environment.

Please visit <http://www.wm.com/wm/environmental/resources> to learn more about landfills and recycling in our area.



## 4th ANNUAL MENDON FOUNDATION

# Birdwalks

*along the Lehigh Valley Trail & Mendon Foundation Properties*

Bird lovers, families, and hikers come and join us for a bird walk along the Lehigh Valley Trail, Oak Openings in Rush, a Mendon Foundation property and the Fisher Park Hiking Trail in Victor. Stuart Ackerman, Mendon native, bird enthusiast and naturalist will lead the walks. Identify and observe a variety of birds as they wing their way north through Mendon.

### DATES & LOCATIONS OF WALKS:

**April 25th:** Rochester Junction entrance on Plains Rd. to the Lehigh Valley Trail

**May 2nd:** Oak Openings in Rush on Honeoye Falls –Five Points Rd. (For directions go to [www.townofrush.com/community/map.html](http://www.townofrush.com/community/map.html))

**May 9th:** Mendon Foundation Pittsford-Mendon Center Rd. Property, meet at 1136 Pittsford-Mendon Rd., Director, John Schaefer's house. You may park in the driveway.

**May 16th:** Fisher Park, Victor, adjacent to the Lehigh Valley Trail. Take Mile Square Rd. to Main St. Fishers, turn onto Old Dutch Road. (For information about the Park go to [www.victorhikingtrails.org](http://www.victorhikingtrails.org).)

**Time:** Meet at 6:30am sharp. Hike to begin @ 6:45 am. This is the best time of day to see the birds feeding.

Be sure to wear appropriate weather gear and hiking shoes. Do not forget your binoculars and camera. Grammar school children and older are invited to come. Breakfast will be served following the walk. Donations for breakfast are appreciated. Bring a chair for breakfast seating.

Please contact Arlene Cluff @ 624-3182 or e-mail @ [ajcluff45@aol.com](mailto:ajcluff45@aol.com) if you plan to attend any of the walks. This will be appreciated for ordering breakfast food. We look forward to meeting all of you and hope you will attend this educational and enjoyable event.

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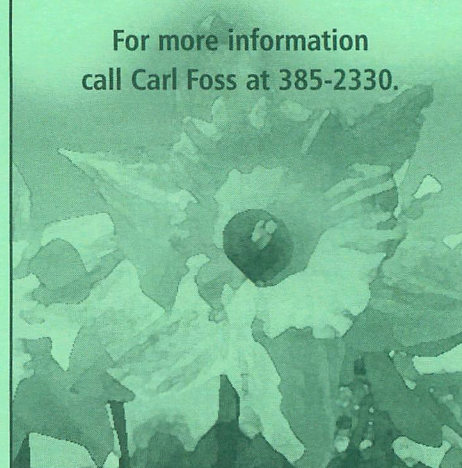
hand to take pictures of the fun and document the day's events. One of last year's photographers was in the right place to capture the sod spelling EARTH DAY for us.

With the continued efforts of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers our community is raising a very conscientious group of young people that will forever have appreciation for our earth's animals, land, air and water.

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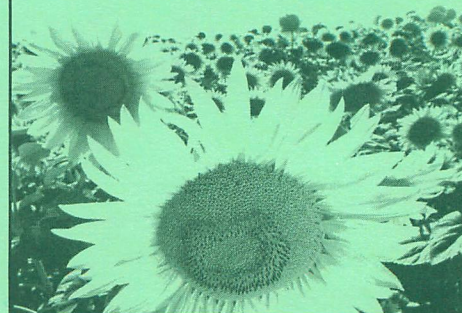
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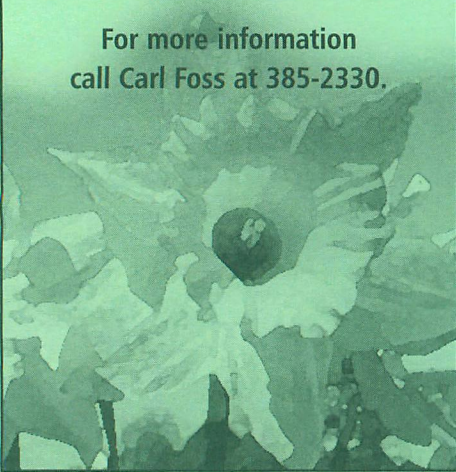
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## NATIVE TREE, SHRUB, WILDFLOWER, WOODLAND AND POND

# Plant Sale & Workshop

The Mendon Foundation cordially invites you to a native tree, shrub, wildflower, woodland and pond plant sale and workshop. Jim Engel of White Oak Nursery, Ellen Folts of Amanda's Garden, Jim Kennedy of Willow Pond Aqua Farm and Margie Norwood of Mendon Village Garden Store will provide expert advice on plant selection, ways to attract songbirds and wildlife to your natural garden landscape and pond.

**DATE: Saturday, May 30, 2009**

**TIME: 9 AM – 1 PM**

### TOPICS:

**Attracting birds to your garden with native trees and shrubs  
Presented by Jim Engel**

**Pond plants for maintaining good filtration  
Presented by Jim Kennedy**

**Planning your Wildflower Garden  
Presented by Ellen Folts**

**LOCATION:** Mendon Station Park, located in the Hamlet of Mendon at the corner of Pittsford-Mendon Rd. (Rt. 64) and Rush-Mendon Rd. (Rt.251) behind Cibi's.

A percentage of the proceeds will benefit the Mendon Foundation.  
For more information contact Arlene Cluff at 624-3182  
ajcluff45@aol.com  
www.mendonfoundation.com





# Volunteers Needed!

Would you like to spend a few hours volunteering for the Mendon Foundation and contributing to your community? We have the job for you. Anyone who can spare some extra time – adults, students, seniors – is invited to call Arlene Cluff, Director @ 624-3182 or [ajcluff45@aol.com](mailto:ajcluff45@aol.com). Here are some of the projects we need help with:

Weeding and cleaning up our flowerbeds at Mendon Station Park, the entrance to the Mendon Youth ball field on the Lehigh Valley Trail, and Rochester Junction @ Plains Rd.

Digging, potting and planting Bluebells for our blue bell flower rescue.

Working on the 2009 Annual Mendon Station Festival, September 12 & 13, 2009.

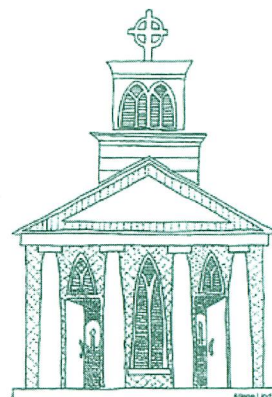
Helping with maintenance along the Lehigh Valley trail.

Mowing our properties involved with the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program in either early spring or late summer.

## St. John's Episcopal Church

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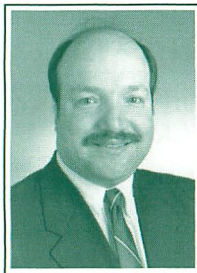
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*continued from page 3*

Regarding the surroundings, Betsy Browning said, "I suppose you think I forgot to say that there is no fruit—no, that is not the case. There are some beautiful orchards, such ones as we never see in Massachusetts. It does not look as pleasant here as it does in the town joining [probably

East Bloomfield] but presume it will when it has been settled as long." Betsy Browning wrote another letter home to her friends in 1820 that her husband, Dr. John Browning, needed to take up school teaching because the people in Mendon were so healthy that there wasn't enough work for the local doctor to make a decent living. Thus, he probably had two occupations.

The neighboring settlement of Norton's Mills, during the first three decades of the 1800's, grew quickly because of the power provided by the falls where several mills were built in the only village in the Town of Mendon. Zebulon Norton was the first settler coming here with his wife and family in 1791 from

Connecticut. He built the first sawmill at the falls and purchased 640 acres for 12½ cents an acre. His friend, Enos Boughton, also came with his family from Connecticut and settled in Victor. Zeb Norton and Enos Boughton had decided to migrate from Connecticut to the Genesee Country soon after the close of the French and Indian War while they were waiting for the signing of a Peace Treaty in 1788. The Peace Treaty would guarantee safety to those who came to settle in the new territory.

By 1825, the population of Mendon had grown to 1,922. The completion of the Erie Canal during that year no doubt made moving westward easier and more desirable. Although the Canal did not go through Mendon, it made its way across Pittsford just to the north of us and on to Rochester. It was fairly easy to ship and receive supplies by boat, and the wagon ride to Pittsford was only a couple of hours in good weather, depending where one lived. The Erie Canal was a great addition to Mendon's economy and also to Western NY.

*QUAKER MEETING HOUSE continued from page 5*

In spite of the use of the term "Quakers," Jonathan Noxon who was the last of the large Society of Friends that formerly flourished in Mendon, was quoted as saying "the term 'Quakers' has never been assumed in any of the records of the Society as far as I know. We assumed the name Society of Friends at the origin of the Society and still retain it."

The Mendon meetinghouse was torn down and sold about 1905, its site now overgrown with locust trees. But the small Quaker Burying Ground, bordering the meeting

house site, is still undisturbed with its small uniform headstones. Anyone can be buried there, but most graves are of Quakers. Currently there is only about one burial a year. In early times, flagstones recorded the deaths of the community with burial in rotation according to early custom. The Quaker Burial Ground Association has an endowment fund, which will maintain it for years to come.

# The Mendon Foundation Offers Bluebells

**Encourage the greening of Mendon by carefully transplanting native plants.**

The bluebell, a spring flowering perennial plant is a native species in the Mendon area that sometimes grows so vigorously that the area of dense carpeting of these beautiful blue plants is called a "bluebell woods."

A friend of the Mendon Foundation, Brice Bowerman, whose family homestead includes one such woods, is willing to share freshly dug bluebell plants to people wishing to propagate this special plant. Here's a hint: Bluebells prefer to live under trees and are often found by streams. Brice says the plant, which grows from a bulb, is very hardy and seems to prefer growing conditions that are "shady and damp."

Peak bloom of these cyan, bell-shaped beauties usually coincides with Mother's Day.

Mr. Bowerman's bluebells will be made available, free of charge to Mendon Foundation members, with somewhat limited availability sometime in early to mid-May.

Please consult the Mendon Foundation's web site [www.mendonfoundation.com](http://www.mendonfoundation.com) or call 585-624-3182 for further details on the bluebell program. A larger number of plants may be available to schools and other groups upon request.



## Grow with us!

The Mendon Foundation newsletter is growing from 12 to 16 pages providing more ad space for advertisers. With a mailing list of 4700 households in Mendon and surrounding areas, this is a great opportunity to showcase your business to people in our community.

**For more information call Carl Foss at 385-2330.**



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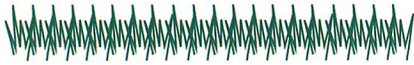
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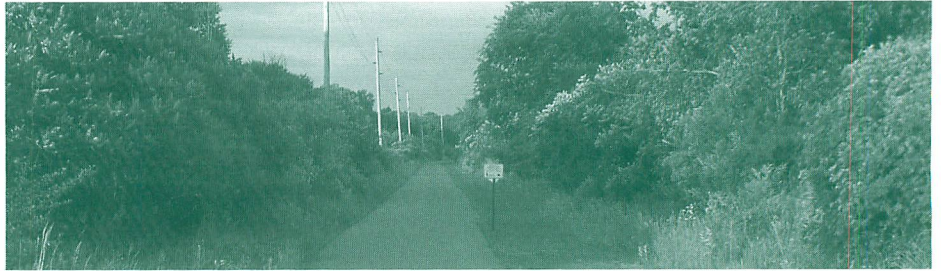
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# Trail News

## Mendon Foundation Receives Trail Improvement Grant



In June of last year, your foundation applied for a Federal Transportation Enhancement Program Grant to improve and extend the Lehigh Valley Trail. We were joined in this application by the generous support of the Town of Mendon, who agreed to act as our sponsor.

The NYS DOT, who administrates this program in NYS, has notified us that our application has been approved in the amount of \$504,303. These funds will allow us to proceed with our planned 3 part trail enhancement program. Part #1 will expand the trail south from Rochester Junction through the town's Great Bend Nature Park to a parking lot on Clover Street and includes opening the East Wye branch and the construction of 2 bridges.

Part #2 is the construction of his and her public rest rooms at Rochester Junction. Their design will be based on Monroe County's Flushing Restroom Design and include running water and electricity.

Part #3 will extend the Lehigh Valley Trail west from its current termination at the Genesee Greenway to a new parking area at River Road in the town of Caledonia.

The process for this grant is a lengthy one. First the town, as sponsor, must negotiate a contract with the state. Then engineering bid requests go out followed by the selection of a project engineer. After the engineering work is completed and approved, contractor bid requests are prepared and contractors are selected. It will likely take close to 2 years before actual construction work starts. Needless to say, the foundation is very pleased to receive this substantial grant. This would not have been possible without the close cooperation and support of the Town of Mendon. We along with thousands of Trail users are all looking forward to completion of these trail improvements.

# & Views

## A Summer of Improvements

Your Foundation has been busy over the winter, working with the Monroe County Parks Department, to plan and execute numerous Trail improvements.

### Larger projects:

1. Fix major washout areas at farm crossings west of Route 15A and, north of Route 251, on the northern extension in Rush.
2. Fix several washout areas east of Quaker Meetinghouse Road and north of Plains Road.
3. Finish development of the Monroe County owned parking lot, adjacent to the Little League Fields in the Mendon Hamlet, with asphalt grindings plus installation of curbing.
4. Improvement of parking area at Rochester Junction by surfacing with compacted crushed stone, plus definition of the area with boulders.
5. Prepare landscape plans for Mendon Station Park. Plans will be implemented based on available funds for plants, bushes, and trees, and volunteers.
6. Install interpretive signs at Mendon Station Park, Rochester Junction and Rush Station Park.

### Smaller projects:

1. Improvements at the intersection of the Lehigh Valley Trail and the Genesee Greenway Trail just west of the Genesee River.
2. Installation of two sided signs identifying Mendon Station Park at Route 64 and at Route 251.
3. Replace missing (stolen?) road and stop signs.
4. Destination signs will be installed on Trail at Park areas.
5. Purchase materials for an Eagle Scout project at Rochester Junction. Knee walls will be constructed to define the location of the Pump House.
6. Clear and grade a picnic area at Rush Station.
7. Repair and/or replace assorted electrical work, benches, and padlocks at various locations.

It is an impressive schedule we hope to complete by year-end. We have been fortunate to have had many volunteers over the years, 16 now and counting. However the need is always there. If you would like to help, please e-mail Carl Foss at [carlfoss27@yahoo.com](mailto:carlfoss27@yahoo.com).

You should know that tens of thousands use the Trail for health and enjoyment reasons every year. We invite you to stop at one of many parking areas and enjoy the quiet beauty of a walk, jog, or bike ride that you have been missing.

# 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

[www.MendonFoundation.com](http://www.MendonFoundation.com)

### Board of Directors:

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### OUR VISION STATEMENT

We believe in preservation.

We believe in recreation.

We believe in education.

We believe in community stewardship.

### OUR PURPOSE

To improve the quality of life in our community.

As we succeed in these objectives, we enhance property values for all Mendon property owners. The Foundation is supported by membership fees, grants and other contributions. Donations to the Mendon Foundation are tax deductible. Proceeds are used to cover easement acquisitions, monitoring and communications. All labor is volunteer.

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

### Sign me up!

- Senior/Student \$20
- Individual \$25
- Family \$40
- Business \$50
- Sponsor \$100
- Sustainer \$250
- Patron \$500

### I want to volunteer.

#### My interests are:

- Lehigh Valley Trail
- Mendon Station Park
- Community Playground
- Mendon Hamlet
- Fundraising
- Communications
- Open Space/Preservation

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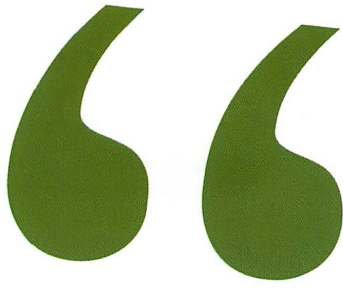
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