

"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 18 NO 1

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MENDON FOUNDATION

SPRING 2011

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Ready for Spring?



Inside:

The Black Diamond Express • HF Methodist Church History • Equicenter Celebrates Horses as Healers • 6th Annual Birdwalk • Bridges of Mendon * Sibleyville Nature Preserve • Boy Scout Projects and more!



Alexandria Costanza, Grade 9



Sasha Bradley, self-portrait Grade 1

Student artwork on display!

Clark Palen, Grade 1



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The Black Diamond Rolls On In Our Imaginations



In our previous issue of Pathways, we highlighted Hank Moffett's interest in collecting memorabilia from the Black Diamond and other railroads. The famous Black Diamond Express on the Lehigh Valley Railroad was a major carrier of passengers and freight between Jersey City, New Jersey, and Buffalo, New York.

The train coming into Mendon Station right where we celebrate the Mendon Festival every year was an event that everybody looked forward to.

The Black Diamond Express was first class, beginning with its inaugural run on May 18, 1896. The 315-foot long train was the fastest in the fleet and outfitted with plush velvet chairs, a comfortable smoking room, separate lavatories for men and women, an observation platform, and kitchens where "preparing and serving substantials and delicacies in a most appetizing fashion," was de rigueur.

While the Lehigh Valley called it "The Handsomest Train in the World," the trains popularity with

newlyweds on their way to and from Niagara Falls, also earned it the nickname the "Honeymoon Express." The Black Diamond pulled into the station for the last time on May 11, 1959.

For history buffs, there is an active society devoted to all things Lehigh Valley.

- The Lehigh Valley RR Historical Society meets on the third Sunday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the depot building in Shortsville NY. Members are former LVRR employees, scale modelers, and others with a common interest in the old Lehigh Valley Railroad.
- The 2011 LVRRHS Station Open House Schedule includes being open to the public one Sunday afternoon a month from May to October. This year the dates are May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, and October 16. Hours are from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. There is also a gift shop for serious train buffs, and presentations from noted rail historians. While admission is free, donations are welcome.
- More than 3,000 items, photos, and related memorabilia about the railroad is on display at the LVR RHS Station Museum, in the former New York Central freight depot, 8 High Street in Shortsville, NY. Check the web site for details.
- To find out about special excursions on the Lehigh Valley Railroad that will take you back in time, visit the group's web site at www.lvrrhs.org.

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From 1791 to the present – A short history – The United Methodist Church of Honeoye Falls



What a quickly evolving time it was! The Revolutionary War concluded in 1781. Methodists, now separated from their roots, organized the nation-wide Methodist Episcopal Church in 1784 in Baltimore. Preachers were sent out on "circuits" to small Christian gatherings to proclaim the Good News on the frontier. Imagine this area as a vast wilderness inhabited by the Six Nations of the Iroquois surrounded by wild life when around 1791, Captain Zebulon Norton and his family moved to this area from Connecticut. During the week, this Revolutionary War veteran and miller constructed and operated his now famous flour mill, but Sundays found the family gathered in his log cabin for worship.

New York. Zebulon built himself another home and gave the cabin over for the exclusive use of their young church. The cabin was located just north of where the railroad tracks used to cross Main Street in Honeoye Falls (near today's Post Office).

To accommodate the growing congregation, a frame building was constructed in 1803 just south of the railroad crossing. Folks would travel from East Bloomfield, Victor, Bristol Hills and other places to worship and to hear the Circuit preachers such as Thornton Fleming, James Smith, the blacksmith Owens, and William Colbert, whose journal gives us much of the early information. And in 1818, "Father" Benajah Williams organized the first

In 1793 this area was probably part of the newly formed Seneca Circuit of the Northumberland Pennsylvania District of the Methodist Church. About once every three months a circuit rider would come by to bring the Sacrament and preach the Word to the families at Norton's Mills. The year 1797 marked the arrival of Zebulon's daughter Hannah with her husband, Jacob Young, and their family. These families, joined by the Moons, the Sterlings, the Perrins, and the Crosses, organized themselves into a church, the first known Methodist society in western

Sunday school. Fifty-five circuit riders served the Honeoye Falls congregation between 1797 and 1827 when the first resident pastor, the Rev. John Parker, was appointed.

The expanding group built a new place for worship in 1821 on what is the present site of the Honeoye Falls Church. A dark yellow interior, balcony, and high pulpit reached by 11 or 12 steps reminded the people of the buildings they left in England. It is said that the preacher was alone in his glory when seated, being entirely invisible to the congregation - and his head nearly touched the ceiling when he was preaching! The renovation of the building in 1837 included lowering the pulpit.

1837 was also the year the large bell was purchased. It served as a town clock, being rung three times daily - at 5 a.m., noon, and 9 p.m. - by persons employed for that purpose...at \$35 per year. Later, 1874 the bell was removed when the church building was sold to the village and moved to the site of the present village hall. The bell was molded over into the present bell. Also in 1837 the first missionary society was formed, reflecting the Methodist belief in our call to share the Good News with others. That year, the Genesee Annual Conference--always a big event with clergy from all Methodist Episcopal Churches in western New York in attendance--was held in this building for the second and last time.

It was in 1873 that the Ladies' Aid Society was first organized-- the precursor to our present United Methodist Women. The organization has been "a most valuable helpmate in the temporal affairs of the church" and a leader in spiritual affairs as well.

Once more the need for a larger structure was agreed to, and in 1874 the present church building was raised. Bishop Jesse Peck dedicated the church that August. The congregation paid off the debt by 1878.

In 1891 the Epworth League, an organization for young people, was formed. It continues today with the name of the United Methodist Youth Fellowship. About this year the practice of paying pew rent was discontinued! Previously families paid for specific pews to be reserved for their exclusive use.

A tracker action organ built by Johnson Company of Westfield, MA (later purchased by Skinner Co.) was purchased and installed in 1893 at a cost of \$1,500. The bellows were electrified in 1935, so the boys no longer had to take turns pumping it. In the early years, the boys received \$16.50 per year for their labor. That organ is now on the National Registry of Historic Organs.

In 1957 Mrs. Jennie Lord augmented the organ with a set of chimes.

The year 1914 saw the dedication of the attached Sunday school building. In 1957 the church was remodeled and renovated, which included the excavation under the nave and educational buildings so that a large fellowship hall and kitchen could be provided.

Over the years, the congregation has had various names. First incorporated in 1824 as the "First Methodist Episcopal Society of Mendon," it later was the "First Methodist Episcopal Church of Honeoye Falls." In the 1840s the national church divided over the issues of bishops' authority and of slavery. In 1939 these churches merged once again as "The Methodist Church." And in 1968 with the merger with the Evangelical United Brethren, our local church took on the name by which it is now known--The United Methodist Church of Honeoye Falls.



This fall Mendon Station Park got its new signs, one located on Rt. 251 and the other on Rt. 64. The signs were funded by the Monroe County Parks Department and the frames built by the Mendon Foundation. The signs were made by Al Karnas Signs of Honeoye Falls. At left, Al presents the Rt. 251 sign to Warren Wallace, the Foundation's Director responsible for Park and Trail Development. Next spring the signs will be finished off with raised plantings at their bases.




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The Sixth Annual Mendon Foundation Bird Walks – Come With Us!!!



Cover and cardinal photo by Brad Carlson.

Many people who have enjoyed the bird study walks led by the Mendon Foundation are looking forward to a series of bird-filled adventures again this year. We had many great bird sightings last year and can expect a repeat. Spotting a pair of Blue-Gray Gnatcatchers feeding their young at the Burrough's Audubon Sanctuary; hearing a few Warbling Vireos singing at the Semmel Road Park in Mendon, and sighting a pair of Sandhill Cranes in South Lima were just a few of the most memorable events.

Bird lovers, families, and hikers come and join us for a bird walk along the Lehigh Valley Trail, the Burrough's Audubon Society property, a Mendon Foundation property, Bluebird Haven and Oak Openings. Stuart Ackerman and Connie Kellogg, long time Mendon residents and bird enthusiasts, will lead the walks. So come along to identify and observe a variety of birds as they wing their way north through Mendon.

The dates and location of the walks are:

- **April 30th.** Lehigh Valley Trail – Plains Rd. – Rochester Junction entrance www.mendonfoundation.com

- **May 7th.** Maryfrances Bluebird Haven, Victor-Egypt Rd., across from the Valentown Road intersection in Victor.

- **May 14.** The Burroughs Audubon Society property, 301 Railroad Mills Rd. Victor. www.bancny.org.

- **May 21.** Oak Openings in Rush. <http://www.townofrush.com/Community/Map.html>. Meet at the Honeoye Falls Five Points Rd. parking lot.

- **May 28.** Sibleyville Nature Preserve – Mendon Foundation Property. Take 15A to Plains Rd. The parking lot is about 2/10ths of a mile on the right off Plains Rd.

TIME: Meet at 6:30 a.m. sharp. All bird walks begin at 6:45 a.m. This is the best time to observe birds feeding.

Caution: Be sure to wear appropriate weather gear and hiking shoes. Don't forget your camera and binoculars. Grammar school children and older are welcomed.

Light breakfast refreshments will be served following the walks on 4/30, 5/14, and 5/28. Donations for the breakfast are appreciated.

We look forward to meeting all of you bird enthusiasts, including newcomers. We welcome you to this annual, educational, and enjoyable event. This is a great opportunity to add to your life list of birds.

Please contact Connie Kellogg at 624-4797 or e-mail Jaye Chambery at jaye81@hotmail.com if you need directions or additional information.

Mendon Station Festival

Four Levels of Festival Sponsorship Available!

We've heard nothing but great news about the 2010 Mendon Station Festival held last September 11th and 12th. The Mendon Foundation, a not for profit 501c(3) is a 100% volunteer-driven organization, organizes the Festival which has been entertaining thousands of people every year.

This year it will be better than ever with our Revolutionary War re-enactors returning, the Mendon Pony Club demonstrations, a lively silent auction, "Taste of Mendon," Custom Brewcrafters, a big bounce house for kids, horse drawn wagon rides along the Lehigh Valley Trail maintained by the Foundation a HFL juried art show, Mendon-centered music all day long, and much more.

All of this wonderful community-centered activity can only take place with the support of our outstanding sponsors. We welcome you to join this special group of people or continue your sponsorship as you have in years past.

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Sponsorships:	Platinum	\$1500
	Gold	\$1000
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	Patron	\$100

Many thanks for considering our proposal while you draft your marketing budget for 2011. The Festival is a totally hands-on, community event. You can have a booth, display your name on the signage and press releases, donate goods to the silent auction, or become a "silent supporter" with a tax-deductible check.

We really need your support to keep the momentum going. Please join us and more than 5000 Festival attendees in Mendon on September 10th and 11th.

Volunteers Needed!

Did you enjoy the Mendon Station Festival last year? Would you like to help make it even better? The Festival Committee is looking for volunteers to help with the 2011 festival. Time and talents will be appreciated. Please contact the Festival Chairman at 585-624-3182 or e-mail through www.mendonfoundation.com. Planning will be starting soon.

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EquiCenter Celebrates Horses as Healers

EquiCenter, 3247 Rush Mendon Road, is a special neighbor in our community. The facility is one of only two therapeutic equestrian centers in New York State accredited from the North American Riding for Handicapped Association (NARHA) and the New York State Horse Health Assurance Program (NYSHHAP).

People, certainly horse people, often say that horses are a part of wish fulfillment. A visit to EquiCenter in the town of Mendon would reinforce the belief. This is a place where wish fulfillment and other dreams are realized through therapeutic equine activities – mounted and on the ground.

Just imagine a six year old girl with global developmental delays who spoke her first word, “horse,” as she approached the farm not long after she had become a participant. Think of an Army soldier who came home from Iraq with a shattered leg who is encouraged to ride, in part, by a Vietnam veteran.

The former soldier says, “I am always finding ways I can compensate and deal in a better way with my injuries. Riding is one of those ways.” As for the little girl, her mother reports that the entire family has benefited from coming here. “As a family of six,” she says, “we firmly believe in encouraging and supporting one another in each individual’s endeavors. The EquiCenter has received all of us with open arms. EquiCenter is my daughter’s ‘island of competence’ in what is often a confusing world. At EquiCenter she is abled and confident.”



In fact, following several years of participation, the little girl whose first word was “horse,” now gathers her own tack and talks to instructors.

Thanks to hundreds of volunteers and hundreds of riders and generous outpouring of public support, EquiCenter has grown and prospered much like an unsteady foal getting up on its legs for the first time. The success of the venture says as much about the community it serves as it does about the amiable, gentle nature of the four-legged helpers that come from backgrounds as varied as fox hunting, show jumping, trail riding, dressage, 4-H, parades, and even a retired Monroe County Sheriff’s mounted patrol horse.

EquiCenter, Inc. began its programming in Mendon in May of 2004. They offer therapeutic riding, hippotherapy, vaulting, and “horsemanship” which for them means equine facilitated mental

health. They say their goal is to provide a safe, appropriate, productive, and enjoyable environment where participants can work toward their individual goals.

The EquiCenter was founded by and is directed by Stacy and Jonathan Friedlander who believe that “anything is possible.” The Friedlanders, who live in Fishers, have two small children, ages 4 and 6. The EquiCenter is always looking for volunteers, horses, equipment, and financial support as they grow and expand the dynamic program.

In the Beginning

EquiCenter began its first full year of providing therapeutic equestrian programming to people with disabilities, at-risk youth and their families at a 23-acre farm in Mendon owned by Anthony Conti. Anthony and his daughter Barbara offered the newly formed nonprofit use of their land, barn and indoor riding arena at no

expense because of the Conti's belief in the EquiCenter's dream.

Following two years of this generous gift, Anthony passed away at age 95, leaving EquiCenter without a permanent home. But there was an angel on the horizon in the form of Roger Gardner from the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation. The Rochester-based foundation helped EquiCenter buy the bustling facility.

Like many good ideas, EquiCenter galloped off in all directions quickly outgrowing the original farm site. Word about the program's early successes both with riders and others who benefited from creating caring relationships with the gentle "beasts," produced a waiting list.



Then, as now, the local climate limits year around programs. Founder Jonathan Friedlander explains that lessons can't take place in weather that is too cold or too humid due to the lack of a large, temperature-controlled indoor riding arena. When weather affects the continuity of lessons, EquiCenter participants risk losing flexibility, balance, and core strength that they have worked so hard to achieve.

A large moderately heated indoor riding arena is essential.

Enter Two More Heroes on Horseback!

Just as the Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation made a crucial investment in 2008 and 2009, Bill Levine and the Trustees of the William and Mildred Levine Foundation chose to make an "organization-changing" gift of \$1.5 million to the EquiCenter for what would become the William and Mildred Levine Ranch.

"The Levine's generosity set a series of events in motion that has made it clear that providence was at work," wrote Jonathan in the center's 5th Anniversary newsletter.

Thus the search began for approximately 75-100 acres that would lend itself to horse pastures, barns, riding arenas, classrooms, and therapy facilities. Accessibility was key because participants were coming from such places as the Golisano Children's Hospital, Al Sigi Center, Hillside Family of Agencies, Norman Howard School, the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and from as far away as Syracuse.

And the waiting list continued to grow with no end in sight.

Surprise! The home for a new, expanded EquiCenter was found less than a mile down the road from the original farm. Here's how that story unfolds. During the search for a new facility many Mendon properties were identified, including the spectacular 178-acre Langpap Farm, known for raising winning thoroughbred race horses. It was owned by Deb and Dennis Petrisak who, alas, had no interest in selling the place they had loved and owned for 20 years. So the hunt continued.

Six months later, out-of-the-blue, Dennis and Deb Petrisak entered

discussions to turn their beloved Langpap Farm into the new EquiCenter. The place was ideal with acres of open land for everybody driving by to enjoy, trails, barns, a small indoor riding arena, over two miles of fencing, all the necessary farm equipment, and a house. Even more blessed was the couple's willingness to sell their farm to the EquiCenter for substantially less than its appraised value. They not only believed in the mission to help others, but they also wanted to have their horse farm remain a functioning horse operation. The Petrisaks are among that unique breed of humans known as "horse people."

Why Are Horses Therapeutic?

There is a book called *My Horses, My Teachers* which concerns itself primarily with the intellectual development and communication between people and their equine partners on the highway of life. Much more needs to be written about the physical exchange that also takes place. As Stacy, co-founder and director of programming for the EquiCenter explains, "The physical activities involved in horseback riding are effective tools for improving muscle stimulation, strength, coordination, flexibility, posture, and balance. In addition, relating to horses also increases communication, social and organizational skills, and encourages self-confidence, self-discipline, cooperation, teamwork, and independence."

She continues, "The multi-dimensional movement of the horse simulates the human gait unlike any other means of physical therapy. Horses are dynamic, sensitive animals that communicate through the subtle use of body language. They respond to

continued on page 13

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Old Building Update – Bridges of Mendon Continues to Be Home Sweet Home

You may have noticed the attractive turn-of-the-century colonial with a long addition and especially abled entrance at 3897 Rush-Mendon Road. Any one anticipating caring for a senior family member will quickly recognize the term assisted living. But it's not often that a small assisted living facility looks like a country inn. The comparisons don't end with the outside of the building.

The charming Bridges of Mendon main structure was built in 1909. A gentleman who was a nephew of the original owner visited the place a few years ago and left his impressions. He recalled visiting his grandmother and aunt who lived in the house every summer for many years. Little of the original welcoming interiors have changed. The colors, fabric, antique furniture, and people sitting out on the porch in nice weather are nostalgic to a quieter time in spirit.

Antiques abound, the homey dining room where breakfast is available nearly any time of day is welcoming. A modest happy hour precedes many evening meals. Soft music and candles compliment the beauty of nutritious home cooked meals.

The nephew said he traveled from Virginia to Mendon by train, arriving at the Mendon station behind what it now Cibi's. By the time he was in his teens, his grandmother had passed and his spinster Aunt stayed on. In time the house changed hands, becoming a doctor's residence and office.

Rene Ryan, owner of Bridges of Mendon says she has also heard that the reason there is wallpaper in the barn out back is that the barn was once of

the original home which was moved and added onto for livestock, principally horses and chickens. After all, patients had to park their horses someplace. What is certain is that patients entered from the porch by the living room. At that time the living room was the doctor's waiting room, and the current laundry room was used for examinations.

Rene believes that the current bathroom on the ground floor served as the doctor's office. The door on the new kitchen in the front of the building is also the entrance to the parlor from the living room. The cozy bedroom that a Bridges guest enjoys today was then the kitchen.

At Bridges the small, homey atmosphere is very different from traditional facilities for senior living. Bridges of Mendon has been a good neighbor in the hamlet for almost 15 years, the last 7 of which were headed by Rene. While the Bridges of Mendon is a full time, fully-staffed senior residence with 10 bedrooms, Rene also heads a home-care agency called Serenity Homecare. The focus of her homecare agency is very similar in spirit to the goals she set for Bridges. Independent adults who benefit from companion-level care as well as others requiring skilled nursing care have needs that are met by staff as the individual's needs dictate. When a person is ageing in a place where they feel safe and comfortable, it is important to not be doing too much or not enough. That flexible balance comes from having a very small number of guests and care giving recipients.

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(above) Residents sitting on the front porch appreciate the beauty of Mendon with a front row seat and delightful companionship.

(lower left) Flag waver: The residents at Bridges of Mendon, 3897 Rush-Mendon Road, share a family-like atmosphere in the hamlet where ageing gracefully is the goal.

(lower right) Interiors at Bridges reflect the Victorian era when the home was once also a doctor's office. Owner Rene Ryan has carefully preserved the building's historic charm and comfort.



can often do so as long as they are supported by trusted and capable caregivers who provide housekeeping, meal preparation, medication reminders, address personal care needs, go with them on grocery shopping trips, and provide transportation to doctors and other important appointments.

Best of all may be the contribution to their general health which improves through daily acts of friendship with the caregiver.

"We are proud to work and live in this beautiful community," says Rene who for the past two years has served as president of the Honeoye Falls-Mendon Chamber of Commerce. She adds a historic note of her own saying that the demographic of working women in Mendon is changing.

"For the first time in history, the Chamber has an all female executive board," she says.



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Sibleyville Nature Reserve



Honeysuckle, Multifloral Rose and Grapevines throughout the property to enhance the growth of natural woodland plants along the trail. Wildflower seeds were planted to encourage native growth.

A sign describing the historical aspects of the land is on the drumlin. Another sign illuminating the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program is located on the trail next to the warm weather grasses.

In October benches were installed on the top of the drumlin for visitors as a resting place to enjoy the spectacular views and sunset.

We would like to thank Senator Alesi for awarding us these funds. The Mendon Foundation continues to serve the community. This unique parcel of open space is one that we would like to continue sharing with the community.

New grant will mean selling an old friend

In 2008, Senator James S. Alesi secured a grant for the Mendon Foundation. The project was to develop the Sibleyville Nature Reserve for recreational use. The 46-acre parcel, in the Town of Mendon is owned by the Mendon Foundation, Inc.

Work was started in the fall of 2009 to include a parking driveway area off Plains Road, a two-mile combination athletic training and recreational trail, benches at the top of the drumlin, and landscaping.

The driveway construction and the installation of a wooden fence and landscaping of the cul-de-sac were completed by volunteers who included Mendon Foundation directors and members and a local Girl Scout with her father. Jim Engel, native plant expert and naturalist, worked with the group in planting and designing the natural habitat. He also removed invasive plants of Ailanthus (Tree of Heaven), Autumn Olive, European Buckthorn, Asian



We have been notified by New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) that they have approved our grant under the Federal Recreational Trails Program and we are now awaiting word from the Federal Highway Administration as to final approval and release of funds.

Assuming all goes as expected, we will be buying a new bigger and more powerful Kubota L5740 tractor with a front-loader and back hoe, as well as a swing flail mower. This new combination will substantially improve our trail maintenance capability, including being able to cut back the weeds and small tree limbs that are encroaching along the sides of the trail.

In order to meet our matching funds requirement, under the terms of the grant, we must part with an old friend. Our Kubota tractor, that for the last 7 years, has been seen so often on the Leigh Valley Trail, is for sale, with delivery upon receipt of grant funds.

Tractor Sale Price \$11,000.

- Kubota L3410- 34 hp. diesel (estimated to be 9 to 10 years old)
- Front loader – Kubota LA482
- 1,370 total hours
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If you are interested, call John Farrell at 233-0094, e-mail at drumlin5914@yahoo.com or Warren Wallace at 624-5754, e-mail warrfoote@aol.com.

Equicenter *continued from page 9*

situations giving immediate, honest feedback without judgment.”

“Horses are large and powerful animals, which naturally create an opportunity for some individuals to overcome fear and develop greater self-confidence. They have their own unique personalities, attitudes, moods, and backgrounds, which provide endless experiences and situations for growth, healing, learning, and relationship building.”

What's Next?

While the waiting list grows as more people become aware of the EquiCenter, the character of the programs has also expanded. In addition to the activities that launched the facility, they now have something called “Horses for Heroes” (with initial funding from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation), aimed at serving wounded veterans. Fittingly, the program launched on Veteran’s Day, November 2009.

It has been found that even Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and depression can respond positively through people’s relationships to horses, calling to mind an avid horseman, Winston Churchill who once said, “There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man.”

“Strong Strides Program,” another initiative linking the EquiCenter and the Department of Pediatrics, Golisano Children’s Hospital and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, is designed to increase a family’s ability to survive and thrive by focusing on helping teenagers deal with their lives while recovering from cancer. This program at the EquiCenter addresses the patient’s

post-traumatic stress, encourages their reintegration into the community, and supports positive family dynamics. “Strong Strides,” funded by the Pediatric Links with the Community (PLC) Grant Program and the Community Pediatrics Advisory Council aims to improve family functioning.

Even the approximately 200 volunteers benefit from the special herd of horses in Mendon. An April 2010 survey by United Healthcare and Volunteer Match (a national nonprofit) found that 84 percent of the volunteers surveyed said volunteering improves their physical health, while 95 percent found it boosted their emotional health, and a whopping 96 percent said volunteering makes people happier—much like offering a lump of sugar to a horse.

There are lots of ways people can support the activities of the EquiCenter in addition to being trained to become a certified volunteer to work in many different areas. Horses can be “adopted” for a fee of \$10 to \$3,000. There are upcoming festivals, golf tournaments, and other special events benefiting the therapeutic riding facility listed on the EquiCenter web site.

At the top of the current wish list is a large moderately heated indoor riding arena so that upstate’s weather will no longer intrude on the therapeutic sessions. In addition, a sensory trail course, therapy rooms, offices, and educational classrooms, and all hoped-for future developments.

For more information contact Jonathan and Stacy Friedlander at (585) 624-7777.

And trot on over to the website at www.equicenterny.org.



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Trail News

3 New Eagle Scout Projects Completed on the Trail



Ben Stewart (in the red shirt) and his dad Doug lay concrete in the new Baggage Cart Display Area.



Colin Prato uses a plate compactor to settle the new pathway's stone base.

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A while back, Hank Moffit, of Dipper Dan fame, was kind enough to donate a circa 1950 baggage cart, that had actually been used at the Rochester Junction Depot, to the Foundation for display. We subsequently designed a display area that would provide easy public access, while providing some protection from the elements.

Ben Stewart chose to build the display area for his Troop 10 Eagle Scout Project. With only a couple of months to go until his 18th birthday, Ben arranged for wood and roofing from Monroe County, got crushed stone left over from another scout project and negotiated a price reduction for the ready-mix concrete. He and his crew completed the project just days before he turned 18.

Colin Prato from Troop 10 in Honeoye Falls chose rebuilding a 65' pathway in Mendon Station Park for his Eagle Project. Colin arranged for removal of the old materials, changed the grade to smooth out the slope, deepened the pathway to increase the depth of the base, laid out a geo-tek grid and backfilled it with base stone. Then he compacted the base, installed Snap-Edging, filled and leveled the area with surface stone, applied Gravel- Lok Bonding Resin and changed the surrounding grade to create a smooth interface with the path. Technical and product support for Colin's Eagle Project was donated by STONE, WOOD, and WATERS, which is newly located in the Mendon Hamlet.

& Views



Tommy Bock's new picnic area at Rush Station.

Tommy Bock decided to build a Picnic area at Rush Station Park for his Troop 10, Eagle Scout Project. His project included building 2 8' picnic tables, arranging for the picnic area to be dug out, laying a weed barrier, then applying 4" of crushed stone. He also created 2 pathways connecting the Trail and parking lot to the picnic area and built and installed 2 bird houses close to the tree line, at the rear of the area.

Our appreciation and thanks go to Ben, Colin and ³Tommy and all those who help them make these projects a great success. Completion of these projects brings the total number of Scout projects on the Trail to 33, twenty-two of which are either Eagle Projects or Girl Scout Gold Award Projects.

Note: Because of its age, the baggage cart's wooden deck needs to be replaced. We are looking for a volunteer with hardwood carpentry experience, who be willing to take on that job. If interested please email Warren Wallace at warrfoote@aol.com or call at 624-5754.

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

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OUR VISION STATEMENT

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