

# TWI-LIGHTS

VOLUME 6 | SUMMER/AUTUMN 2022

## **Friends of Trail Works**

REMEMBERING JOHN  
FAULKS AND DAVE  
FEINDEL.

## **Fall Foliage at Casey Park**

SUMMER PADDLES END ON A  
HIGH NOTE AT CASEY PARK

## **Annual Meeting**

INFORMATION ON THE  
ANNUAL MEETING, BALLOT,  
AND MEMBERSHIP.

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## WHO WE ARE

### OFFICERS

Bethany Comella, *President*  
 Mark DeCracker, *Vice-President*  
 Barb DeRoo, *Treasurer*  
 Nancy Snyder, *Secretary*

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Gary Abbott, Gil Burgess, Marie Cramer, Sal Vittozzi,  
 Glenn Wallis, Rachel Wizeman

*The Trail Works board of directors meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Meeting information can be found on our website at <https://trailworks.org/events/>. Our Zoom link for meetings is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85855860605>.*

## ABOUT US

Trail Works, Inc., a not-for-profit organization, was founded in Wayne County New York in 1997 by a small group of individuals who are dedicated trail users who are interested in trail development and expanding trail use.

## OUR PURPOSE

Trail Works' purpose is to provide a unified voice for Wayne County trail users as well as to coordinate the development and maintenance of high-quality, year-round multi-use trails. Our purpose also embodies public education about trails and public awareness of trail issues. To carry out our purpose, we recognize the importance of the relationships Trail Works has established with local and county governments. These relationships are vital to moving ahead on any plans for trail development. Whether we are planning trails, cutting trails, maintaining them, posting signage or using trails by hiking, riding, kayaking, snowshoeing, skiing or biking... we are all about trails.

## COVER

Photo courtesy of Rachel Wizeman, from the Casey Park "Fall Foliage" paddle.

# From the President THE PATH BACK

On September 8, 2021, I was diagnosed with Stage 3 ovarian cancer at the age of 37. What followed was more tests and blood work than I could begin to count, seven chemos, four surgeries (two major), and about fourteen new incisions, which my doctors affectionately call my "constellation." It's been quite the journey over the past 15 months, and I would like to acknowledge those who made it a little easier. A special thank-you, therefore, to VP Mark DeCracker for running meetings in my extended absence, and to Nancy Snyder and Rich Ross for handling the newsletter—it was in excellent hands. A big thank-you to the entire board, also, for the "get well" cards, and all the support. A year later, I

am cancer-free, and am renewing my focus on Trail Works. It feels good to be back.

We're looking ahead to 2023 with a more strategic focus, and we always want to hear from YOU. What have you enjoyed? What could we do better? Would you like to lead a walk or a hike? Please feel free to email us at [trailworks@trailworks.org](mailto:trailworks@trailworks.org), or reach out to us via our Facebook page.

**Wishing you Good Health and Happy Trails,**

**BETHANY COMELLA**

*President, Trail Works, Inc.*

# HUNTING SEASON REMINDER—11/19 THRU 12/11.

NYS DEC Hunting (shotgun) season began Saturday, November 19, and runs through Sunday, December 11th. Be safe as you are out walking and hiking on trails, in State parks, and on private property, all of which may be open for hunting. Check the location you are headed to for hunting regulations. **Some State parks, such as Chimney Bluffs, allow hunting by permit, while Beechwood State Park does not.** *It's*

*important to check the hunting regulations before you head out.* Wear bright colors to be seen! Blaze orange, pink or even yellow are all good choices. If you are walking your dog, please consider a blaze orange hunting vest to keep your pet safe, too. Check this NYSDEC hunting link for more information. [https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife\\_pdf/huntseason22.pdf](https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/huntseason22.pdf)

## Annual Meeting Ballot

Trail Works Inc. is holding our annual meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 via Zoom. The meeting link will be sent closer to that date. Please join us to celebrate our accomplishments in 2022 and make plans for 2023.

Below you will find open Board of Directors positions and those nominated to fill open positions. All currently active (dues paid through end of 2022) Trail Works members are eligible to vote. If you are unable to attend Trail Works Inc Annual Meeting on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom please mail your ballot to: **Trail Works Inc PO Box 43 Williamson NY 14589-0043** by Friday January 13<sup>th</sup>. Please fold your ballot in half with the blank side out, label it BALLOT and mail it in an envelope with your return address on it.

**If you have not paid 2022 dues, please do so to vote. You may renew either by mailing a check to the address above or via PayPal on our website: [www.trailworks.org](http://www.trailworks.org).**

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**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

### PRESIDENT

☐ Bethany Comella (2nd term)

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### VICE-PRESIDENT

☐ Mark DeCracker (2nd term)

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### TREASURER

☐ Barb DeRoo (2nd term)

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### RECORDING SECRETARY

☐ Nancy Snyder (2nd term)

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

☐ Gil Burgess

☐ Gary Abbott

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

*A special thank-you to outgoing board members James Zeger, Marie Cramer, and Rachel Wizeman for their years of combined service to Trail Works. A special thank-you also to Nancy Snyder for her work as Corresponding Secretary.*





# The Trails at CRACKER BOX PALACE

Trails at Cracker Box Palace are the best kept secret of the Farm.

Each trail has their own unique characteristics that will beckon you return to discover the treasures that each one holds. With many natural features—Second Creek, drumlin formations, Sodus Bay, orchards, and meadows—and from easy to challenging, we have something for any hiker. Our woods abound with songbirds and flora and fauna for the curious naturalist.

The trail committee has been working this summer improving conditions throughout the ten mile system—improving drainage, installing wood chips, and performing regular maintenance. You will notice one big improvement as you enter each trail head—we have installed trail usage designations and directional way-finding to let you hike with assurance of not getting lost.

Come to the Farm and enjoy the trails, enjoy the fresh air, and the natural beauty of the area.

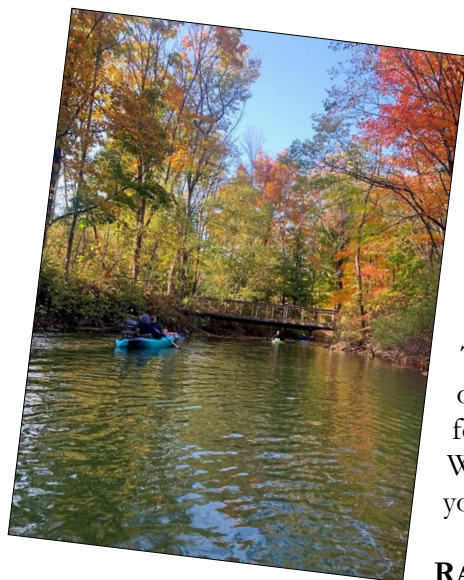
Just a reminder that Purple Trail is still closed to the public and we do not allow motorized vehicles on our trails.



JANET HALASINSKI



# FALL FOLIAGE PADDLE AT Casey Park



We had a beautiful Fall afternoon as the setting for our final paddle of this season; blue sky overhead and color abounding! The wind was strong but no match for the 18 hearty folk who launched forth, muscled through; one paddle at a time. And, boy, was it ever worth it! Stunning color, warm temps and good company made for an excellent afternoon on the water. Thank you to all who joined in our paddles for 2022! We look forward to exploring more of Wayne County's BLUE trails with you in 2023!

RACHEL WIZEMAN



## #OptOutside on Black Friday!

TRAIL WORKS BLACK FRIDAY #OPTOUTSIDE HIKE, FRIDAY, NOV 25, 10:00 AM @ ALASA FARMS

Why not #OptOutside instead of shopping the day after Thanksgiving? The #OptOutside movement was initiated by REI Outfitters in 2015 by closing its doors on Black Friday to offer its employees a chance to look at the day in a new light. The adventure this year will be held at Cracker Box Palace at Historic Alasa Farms, 6420 Shaker Rd, North Rose. Please join Trail Works VP Mark at 10:00 am in the event parking lot across from the main Shaker dwelling house on Shaker Road. We will hike the yellow trail then connect to the red trail north to Thornton Point. Dress for the weather and wear appropriate foot gear. Hiking poles may be helpful. We will also have our annual Passport drawing for a \$250 Wegmans gift card that day for those who have hiked 15 or 30 trails listed in the Trail Works Wegmans "Hit the Trail" Passport booklet or the "Hit the Trail" smartphone App, and have turned their entry into the Cornell Cooperative Extension Office in Newark. Watch our Facebook page for any

weather related updates for this event. Email us with any questions: [Trailworks@trailworks.org](mailto:Trailworks@trailworks.org). Alasa Farms is a Genesee Land Trust conservation easement property.

**Don't forget "A Day of Giving" at Books, ETC: Sunday, Nov 27, 78 W. Main Street, Macedon, from Noon—3:00 p.m. Stop in anytime from 12 noon-3pm for a cup of coffee, and while you are there, drop your donation in the "Trail Works, Inc" jar. The organization with the most votes (money) gets an additional \$50 from Books, ETC. Come join the fun and support Trail Works! Special thanks go to Trail Works member John Cieslinski at Books, ETC. of Macedon, for making this event possible. Hope to see you there!**





## DEDICATION OF THE

# JOHN FAULKS Sunset Pavilion

Trail Works joined the Town of Sodus to dedicate the new pavilion at Beechwood State Park on Saturday, June 18. John Faulks was a beloved Sodus town councilman and past chairman of the Beechwood Committee. He was instrumental during the years before his death in breathing new life into Camp Beechwood.

It was a cool and windy day on the bluff, but it didn't stop around 100 people from gathering for good music, good food, and to share memories of John. The afternoon started off with music by the *Beechwood Family Band*, including Trail Work's own Sal Vittozzi on guitar. The formal dedication included speakers Scott Johnson, Sodus Town Supervisor, Brian Manktelow, NYS Assemblyman, and John's wife, Lynda, and son, Josh. The afternoon concluded with the music of *Johnny's Band*. Trail Works collected over \$400 in donations for the Camp Beechwood fund that afternoon. Thank you to all who attended and for your donations to this wonderful place!

Lastly, here are a few of the words Scott Johnson shared with the crowd that afternoon for his special friend, John.

*Charlie Chaplin lived 88 years. He left us four statements:*  
*-Nothing is forever in this world, not even our problems.*  
*-I love walking in the rain because no one can see my tears.*  
*-The most lost day in life is the day we don't laugh.*  
*-The six best doctors in the world...the sun, rest, exercise, diet, self-respect, and friends.*







## Dedication at Montezuma Heritage Park

The Town of Montezuma has completed a grant-funded project from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's (OPRHP) Environmental Protection Fund Grant Program to make improvements to the Montezuma Heritage Park. The project included the construction of a public parking area and the installation of a restroom facility and informative kiosk on the north side of the park property near Route 31 and the Seneca River connecting to eleven nature trails and historic canal sites along the Seneca River.

In celebration of the completion of the project, on Saturday, September 17, 2022, the parking lot was dedicated to former Town Supervisor, David Butler, Jr. David served in the US Marine Corp stationed at Washington, DC as a guard detachment. After his enlistment, he eventually settled back in his hometown with his wife, Elaine, and three children, Loretta, Linda and David. As Town Supervisor, he served our town from 1954 to 1965. David successfully applied for funding on behalf of the Town to acquire 136 acres of parkland through the Outdoor Recreation Development Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965. It is because of David's foresight and understanding of this significant Erie Canal historic property, we have the park today.

Thanks to him and his successor, Byron Lapp Jr., the Town has been able to receive additional funding from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor. We have devoted the last twelve years to turning this property into a historically significant recreational nature park and preserving our proud heritage. Both men were dedicated to serving their country, family, and community providing leadership while leaving a legacy that lives on today. If they were still with us today, I'm sure they would be proud to see their vision a reality.

With the completion of the parking lot, visitors traveling the New York State Canalway Trail and Empire State Trail will now have direct access to the park. Residents and local visitors have a place in nature to explore and enjoy for generations to come. The Town recognized the important partnering organizations, volunteers, and in-kind donations who without their generosity and dedication would not have made the completion of the project possible.

### **CHERYL LONGYEAR**

*Registered Historian, NYS*

*Montezuma Town Historian/Planning Board*

# Remembering **DAVE FEINDEL**

David Arthur Feindel of Nantucket, MA passed away peacefully from leukemia on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. He was 79. David was the beloved husband of Margaret (VanderBurgh) Feindel. Born in Danbury, CT May 28, 1943, he was the son of Clifford and Genevieve (Vachowski) Feindel who were both teachers. He grew up with his three brothers in a rural area of Framingham, MA where they helped his father build their family home.

David met and dated Margaret through their years at Framingham High School and at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst where David earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1966. They married in 1967 and set off for upstate New York where he pursued a 35 year career at Eastman Kodak Company in Rochester, and Margaret a career in science, teaching and administration in West Irondequoit. David's first assignment at Kodak was participating in the development of the pre-Apollo Lunar Orbiter and aerial surveillance program.

He later focused on commercial manufacturing and development of photographic products that supported the Kodak slogan "You push the button, we do the rest."

In high school and college David embraced a variety of extracurricular opportunities. He was a member of the varsity gymnastics and cross country teams. He played the French horn in both band and orchestra throughout his school years and was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity at UMass. His interest in flying led him to begin training for a private pilot's license in college. After several intervening years, he completed his training, attained his pilot's license and became an active member of the Williamson Flying Club in Upstate New York.

David was the hub of his family and an ever present

source of strength and resilience. He held most precious his faith, his family, and the community he lived in, continually seeking opportunities to help others in his quiet yet purposeful way. David's love of the outdoors and respect for the environment was passed on to his two young sons during weekend camping trips and hiking, canoeing and fishing excursions.



The family most treasured their vacation time on Nantucket where he designed and built a summer cottage in 1972 that eventually became David and Margaret's retirement home where the family continues to gather. Later David and Margaret moved from Rochester to Pultneyville, NY, a hamlet on Lake Ontario in the town of Williamson. David had a passion for local history and became an active member of the Pultneyville Historical Society, helping to acquire a historic home for their program and headquarters.

He was a strong advocate of land planning in Williamson that included development of hiking trails. David promoted the formation of Trail Works, Inc., extending trails by connecting points of interest that drew hikers and nature lovers from throughout the region. His concern for town planning acted in synergy with his interest in history and creation of nature trails when he became an active member and then chairman of the Williamson Planning Board, organizing a town wide charrette, inviting ideas to retain the historic and agricultural roots of the Town of Williamson.

In 2008, when David and Margaret retired to Nantucket, David continued his enthusiasm for local history, volunteering his skills at the Nantucket Historical Association and assisting in the construction and display of exhibits.

*(Continued on page 9)*



His four granddaughters were his pride and joy. He relished their arrival in the summer for birthday parties, beach outings, hikes, story telling and evening games of bocci, each in turn learning to ride bikes with their grandfather's help. David encouraged them to experiment with building and design, teaching them to use tools and opening up his wood shop for spur of the moment Rube Goldberg projects. He encouraged collections of sea shells, stones, pine cones, twigs and bark that the girls transformed into unique and creative decorations. David could pretty much fix, solve, re-assemble or improve on anything they asked him.

David lived his faith. His kindness, generosity and steadfast belief will be long remembered by those who knew him. At St. Mary's on Nantucket he served as a Parish Council member and a Eucharistic minister. He enjoyed active membership in and was a tireless advocate for the Knights of Columbus, an organization

close to his heart with a strong commitment to helping others.

In addition to his loving wife of 55 years, Margaret, he leaves his sons, Timothy David (Kathleen) of Las Vegas, NV and Scott Clifford of Scottsville, NY; granddaughters, Emily, Ellie, Gillian, and Ivy Feindel; brothers, Thomas (Muffie) of Berlin, MA, Joseph (Eileen) of Hillsboro, NH, and William (Cindy) of Framingham, MA; sister-in-law, Laura VanderBurgh of Rockport, MA. In addition he leaves many beloved nieces and nephews. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, October 3, 2022 at noon at St. Mary's, Our Lady of the Isle, Nantucket, MA. In lieu of flowers, gifts in David's memory may be made to Trail Works, Inc., PO Box 43, Williamson, NY 14589 or Nantucket Conservation Foundation, PO Box 13, Nantucket, MA. 02554.

*Trail Works extends its heartfelt condolences to Margaret, Timothy, David, Scott, and all of Dave's family and loved ones.*

## IN HONOR OF ONE WHO WALKED THE TRAILS WITH US

Hiking trails and walkable communities lost a good friend on September 19, 2022 with the death of David Feindel after a battle with leukemia. Dave joined Trail Works in 1998, shortly after we formed. He became a board member in 1999 and served as our president from 2003 to 2007. He stayed on the Trail Works board until he and his wife Margaret retired to Nantucket in 2010.

Dave firmly believed that all communities should be walkable communities and trails should be a part of the master plan of every Wayne County town. He worked quietly and tirelessly on these goals during his time with us. Dave was instrumental in the development of trails as part of the new Williamson Town Park. As a member of the town planning board, he made sure that Williamson's master plan included the development of a trail system.

The next step toward this goal commenced in 2002 with Dave's proposal of creating a Bicentennial Trail as a legacy for Williamson's bicentennial celebration. The Williamson town board approved his plan, and the Bicentennial Trail was born on town property on Maken Road adjoining the sewage treatment plant. Dave was involved every step of the way from recruiting Wayne County Vocational Center students to log and clear the trail to organizing the ribbon cutting

ceremony on October 2, 2004.

He served our entire region by participating in the Genesee Regional Trails Initiative and was on the team that formulated the Wayne County Recreational master plan. Dave attended Land Trust seminars on behalf of Trail Works with the goal of preserving open space in Wayne County.

On March 27, 2004, a public meeting "Yes in My Backyard- Trails in Williamson" was held as an initiative of Dave and the Williamson Planning Board. Dave invited landowners, town officials, and business owners to discuss the benefits of public trails to Williamson. The forum laid the foundation for the Williamson Town Loop Trail. Dave obtained easements from the property owners on the 4.5 mile loop, oversaw construction, and organized the first hike on the newly completed trail on June 9, 2005.

Dave Feindel was a gentle, soft-spoken man who stirred little but accomplished much for Trail Works mission. He was a trails visionary who could always see the big picture and worked steadily and without fanfare to achieve his goals to create walkable communities and public access to trails within his sphere of influence.

**BARB DEROO**

# The Taylor House

## TRAIL WORKS' LATEST POMEROY MARKER

In front of the Italianate structure at 51 Broad Street, once part of the first Lyons Community Center, now home to Wayne CAP, and on the Trail Works' Historic Lyons Trail, a Pomeroy marker was recently erected commemorating two previous occupants: Lyman Sherwood and Myron Taylor. The building has been known locally as "the Taylor House".

As with the previous two structures for which my wife Joan and I were granted a marker, the research was the most interesting part of the process. In the case of 51 Broad Street, there are stories that have been handed down of its having been part of the Underground Railroad. But as it was the nature of the Underground Railroad conductors to be secretive, this could not be confirmed.

The signage allows for only so many characters and this had to be divided between both Sherwood and Taylor.

The founder of the Lyons Musical Academy, the Reverend Sherwood was an ordained deacon in the Episcopalian church. His true love though, was music. According to his 1901 obit in the Rochester D & C, he was a self-taught musician who devised a much sought-after novel system of harmony. His academy was only the second such institution in the country and persons in Boston music circles sent a delegation to Lyons to convince him to relocate to Boston. After he declined the offer, the Boston Conservatory came into being. Not surprisingly, Sherwood's son William became a highly acclaimed musician and pianist.

Myron Taylor was an extremely accomplished man: an industrialist, financier, diplomat and philanthropist. To get a more comprehensive understanding of his life, look online. Search: "Myron Taylor Man with a Mission."



As CEO of US Steel, Myron Taylor wrote what was to become known as the Taylor Formula: "The Company recognizes the right of its employees to bargain collectively through representatives freely chosen by them without dictation, coercion, or intimidation in any form or from any source. It will negotiate and contract with the representatives of any group of its employees so chosen and with any organization as the representative of its members, subject to the recognition of the principle that the right to work is not dependent on membership or non-membership in any organization and subject to the right of every employee freely to bargain in such manner and through such representatives, if any, as he chooses." This was a first for the steel industry.

Locally, he donated the property for Taylor Park in Lyons, the site of his father's tannery and mail bag factory. Later, he gave his home, in front of which the Pomeroy marker now stands. to the Village of Lyons as their first community center.

**GLENN WALLIS**





# TRAIL WORKS 2023 MEMBERSHIP

Dear Trail Works Members and Friends:

Trail Works is a nonprofit organization dedicated to being a unified voice for Wayne county trail users and to coordinate the development and maintenance of high quality, year round, multi-use trails.

If you have not yet renewed your Trail Works membership for 2023, your membership in Trail Works expired effective December 31, 2022. Thank you for your previous support for Trail Works ' mission. If you are a first-time member, thank you for joining us! If you've been a member in the past, we hope we can continue to count on your support for the coming year.

Please take a moment to return your membership dues (Individual-\$15.00, Family-\$25.00, and Corporate-\$50.00), along with the renewal form.

Your dues help us to embody public education about trails and increase public awareness of trail issues. We recognize the importance of the relationship Trail Works has established with local and county governments. These relationships are vital to moving ahead on any plans for trail developments. So, we are all about trails—planning trails, cutting trails, maintaining trails, posting signage and enjoying trails.

We strive to preserve Wayne County heritage and green spaces for the enjoyment and recreation of our future generations.

Please renew your membership today. Thank you.

**The Trail Works Board & Membership Committee**

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## Trail Works, Inc. 2023 Membership Form

**Please check the type of membership:**

- ☐ single (\$15)
- ☐ corporate (\$50)
- ☐ family (# of family members: \_\_\_\_\_ ) (\$25)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make all checks payable to:**

**Trail Works, Inc.**  
ATTN: Membership  
PO Box 43  
Williamson, NY 14589

TRAIL WORKS, INC.  
PO BOX 43  
WILLIAMSON, NY 14589

trail works calendar  
NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, & JANUARY, 2023

date	event
NOV 25	<b>#OptOutside hike</b> Alasa Farms, 10:00 a.m.
NOV 27	<b>Day of Giving</b> Books, Etc., 12:00-3:00 p.m.
DEC 14	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> Zoom, 6:00 p.m.
JAN 1	<b>First Day Hike</b> Beechwood, 10:00 a.m.
JAN 17	<b>Annual Meeting</b> TBD, 6:00 p.m.
JAN 17	<b>Monthly Meeting</b> following Annual Meeting



*Beavers have been hard at work at Casey Park.  
Thanks to Carol May for the photo!*