

# Canal trail plans discussed

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ervation (DEC), could result in measures that would assure the future of the world's largest herd of white, white-tail deer. Action to protect the deer is essential before the Army leaves the depot, which is now expected by 2016.

In light of the Army's announcement it will complete reclamation work at the depot in 2015 and leave the site by 2016, the Seneca County Board of Supervisors asked Nozzolio to hold a "White Deer Summit" that would explore the options for protecting the deer after the Army leaves. Nozzolio has arranged for the Finger Lakes Institute in Geneva to coordinate the event.

IN A LETTER inviting Seneca WhiteDeertoparticipateinthesummit, Nozzolio and Assemblymen Brian Kolb and Philip Palmesano said, "Your input, ideas and suggestions are needed to insure that Seneca County does everything possible to preserve and protect this

most important natural resource."

In his announcement of the Summit, Nozzolio said, "As one who has fought hard over the last decade to ensure that the appropriate level of redevelopment takes place at the Seneca Army Depot, I believe that there needs to be a strong focus on protecting and preserving the white deer herd as well as other unique wildlife at the depot."

Seneca White Deer President Dennis Money said, "I think we all recognize the importance of this herd of white deer and its potential value to the region. Our challenge now is to bring together the parties that can make the deer the centerpiece of another world class tourist attraction here in the Finger Lakes."

Money added, "We are encouraging all our supporters to turn out for this summit, to show how important the white deer are to the people of this region."

A SECOND EVENT that could critically affect the future of the

white deer herd is the state Open Space Plan hearings. This plan identifies priority areas for environmental protection and sets the stage for funding that protection through the state's Environmental Protection Fund.

New York's Open Space Conservation Plan serves as the blueprint for the state's land conservation efforts, which during the past several years has conserved over a million acres of land. The Open Space Plan is required by law to be revised every three years. The last revision in 2009 identified the former depot as a "regional priority conservation project".

According to Money, "The 2013 revision of the Plan has been drafted and we expect there will be hearings sometime this year to review that draft. It's important that we make the DEC's Regional Advisory Committee aware of how important it will be to protect the lands of the former depot and its wildlife. When hearings are scheduled, SWD will spread the word to make our concerns known."

## 'I wish I had a million dollars ... Hot dog!'

A cross country road trip will kick off a 40 day crowdfunding campaign for The Seneca Falls It's A Wonderful Life Museum & Archives. As the trip begins, online fundraising through the Indiegogo crowdfunding site was launched with a special event at the Museum at Wednesday (July 23).

With a goal of raising \$500,000, the campaign's theme will utilize lines from the film: "I wish I had a million dollars ... Hot dog!" (George in Gower's Drugstore) and, "... I'll settle for half that in cash" (George to his father). Money raised will help acquire the building in which the museum is currently a tenant, prepare for expansion of its exhibits and create a physical and online archives. The campaign will also facilitate preservation and ongoing maintenance of this historic building constructed in 1913 as the community's first movie theater. The museum believes if every fan of this classic movie and its message donated just \$10 each, the half a million dollar goal would become easily attainable.

For the event the museum, in partnership with the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce, representatives from Buffalo,

Rochester and Elmira – all mentioned in the movie – were invited to help spread the word about the campaign. Attendees also learned how the stars for the Hollywood Walk of Fame, including director Frank Capra's, were manufactured here in Seneca Falls until 1975.

Museum Board Member Francis Caraccilo said, "This is just another example of how things associated with this film keep coming back to Seneca Falls. Sure there are a lot of coincidences, but they all add to the fun of having this important link to film history."

THE FUNDRAISING LAUNCH date coincides with the 68th anniversary of the last days of filming *It's A Wonderful Life*, including such scenes as Zuzu in her room with her father George Bailey, played by Jimmy Stewart, and the critical "Pottersville" sequences. Production call sheets, from The Goodson Collection, provided confirmation of the filming of these and other scenes at this time in 1946. Copies of original call sheets with "doodles" by Art Director Jack Okey were displayed at the event.

The cross country trip will offi-

cially begin in Washington state, home of Karolyn Grimes, the actress who portrayed little Zuzu Bailey in the film. Embarking on the trip to promote the crowdfunding campaign will be Museum Board Members Anwei and Henry Law. They will leave Grimes' home and travel to several archives and other places significant to people and/or themes associated with the film. Several National Park sites will also be included.

People interested in donating to the campaign can securely do so through the Indiegogo site, and everyone is encouraged to spread the word to fans of the famous film. Those interested may follow the trip and the campaign's progress on Facebook, Twitter and on the museum's website, [www.wonderfullifemuseum.org](http://www.wonderfullifemuseum.org), as the Laws make their way back to Seneca Falls.

The museum is located at 32 Fall Street, Suite A, Seneca Falls. It opened in December 2010 in the former Seneca Theater built by Charles Fornesi, the first Italian immigrant to permanently settle in this upstate New York community. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is free.



## Partnership continues

IESI Seneca Meadows recently renewed its membership with the Waterloo Library & Historical Society. "This organization is bringing a tremendous value to the community, and it is a place for the community to get together and discuss important issues that we face as a community," said Mark Benjamin of Seneca Meadows. The Waterloo Library is one of the oldest libraries in New York State in its original building that was constructed specifically as a library and has operated continuously as a library in its original building under its original charter. Membership dues from individuals and businesses provide the funds necessary to develop programming and exhibitions. A recent book discussion was held connecting participants with greener living practices, and the group designed and will build a container for the community to recycle old books and magazines with the assistance of Seneca Meadows. The container is being built with reused and reclaimed materials by local Boy Scouts. A summer book discussion is starting next Wednesday (July 30) and will cover topics of interest. "Seneca Meadows landfill has been a valued partner of our organization for many years, and they have given of their time as well as provided critical funding to help us provide important educational services to our community," said Cyndi Park-Sheils. For more information on joining the Waterloo Library & Historical Society, call (315) 539-3313 or visit [www.wlhs-ny.org](http://www.wlhs-ny.org).

## Car show set for Sunday

The seventh annual Seneca Falls Classic Car Show will bring car enthusiasts, family and friends together in Downtown Seneca Falls Sunday (July 27) from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Awards Ceremony at 2 p.m.

In addition to the classic cars, there will be arts on Fall Street, vendors with food,

music and a family-fun experience.

Participants can register for the show online at <http://senecafallscars.com/reserve.html>. There is no entrance fee.

SET-UP BEGINS at 9 a.m.

Seneca Falls Classic Car Show is sponsored by a committee of volunteers. Feel free to donate during the show!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR  
Readers are encouraged to express their views. Letters should be short and to the point, preferably no longer than 250 words. Preference will be given to letters that pertain to local issues. Only signed letters will be considered and no form or fund-raising letters will be published.

CALENDAR ITEMS  
All items for Bits 'n Pieces must be received at the *Reveille/Between the Lakes* office no later than two weeks prior to the event. Bits 'n Pieces is designed to bring activities of interest to the attention of area residents. Items should be submitted in writing or by e-mail and must include the sender's name and complete phone number. It should include what the event is, where and the time(s) it will be held, costs (if any), registration information (if applicable) and a contact person and daytime phone number or address for more information.

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