

Village Dedicates Phase I of Trail System

The Chittenango Creek Walk and Neighborhood Trail Committee and the village of Chittenango held a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday to celebrate the completion of Phase I of the trail project in the village of Chittenango. Pictured from left are Co-Chairman Bill Nickal, Martin Daley of Parks & Trails New York, Mayor Ronny Goeler and Co-Chairwoman Donna Lynch.



Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Takes Place Under Beautiful Fall Skies

(Chittenango, NY – Oct. 8, 2010) Phase I of a village trail project designed to connect several neighborhoods in the village of Chittenango with village schools and parks has been completed.

The Chittenango Creek Walk and Neighborhood Trails Committee held a dedication and ribbon cutting Friday to celebrate the completion of a section from the Genesee Street trail head between Freunsch Realty and Skeele Insurance Agency downtown and Stonehedge Nursing Home further east.

Committee Co-Chairman Bill Nickal provided a background and history of the project and ran down a list of those who helped with the construction so far.

Mayor Ronny Goeler spoke of the six-year-long trek to completion of Phase I as an optimal example of shared services, cooperation, collaboration and partnerships.

"This couldn't have been done with just taxpayer dollars," Goeler said, explaining that it was a joint effort among the local municipalities and community and church organizations.

Goeler emphasized that it was the private property owners who gave permanent easements who were first and foremost responsible for the project's moving forward. He also thanked Oneida Savings Bank, businessman David Muraco, Michael Mann, Stonehedge Nursing Home, Martin Daley of Parks & Trails New York, Central New York Community Foundation, Trout Unlimited Madison County Chapter 680, Assemblyman Bill Magee (D – Nelson) and Sen. David J. Valesky (D – Oneida).

Goeler also thanked – for their work on creating a pedestrian bridge connecting the trail system with Sullivan Park off of Lake Street – Sullivan Supervisor John M. Becker, Sullivan Highway Superintendent Elwin "Sonny" Centner, the Sullivan Parks & Recreation Office Board of Directors, Parks & Recreation Director Justin Pokines.

Committee Co-Chairwoman Donna Lynch said community contribution by the numbers were outstanding. She said the project received \$52,000 in grants, \$19,000 in donations, and 3,000 hours of labor and in-kind professional services and materials valued at \$49,000.

Lynch also thanked the Chittenango Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary, Chittenango Garden Club, Dunkin Donuts and Tops Market for their donations for the dedication ceremony.