

Ellenville Sanitation Facility and the Eastern New York Correctional Facility, bordered on the East by **Berme Road** and on the West by the **Sandburg Creek**.

The stretch where the **Sandburg** is immediately adjacent to the trail is quite beautiful. Walking quietly, one can see deer, osprey, wood duck, and woodland birds, and even the occasional bald eagle. This section of trail is passable, and is about 1½ miles in length.

The Town of Wawarsing also owns land from **Rte. 55** north to Kerhonkson. It is hoped that this section will be completed this year. The Town was helped in planning this section by work performed by the National Parks Service in cooperation with the **D&H Canal Heritage Corridor Alliance**. Recently, the Town has attempted to purchase lands on the **Canal Corridor** that had belonged to Herda Diener. This parcel extends from the lands of the **Ulster Correctional Facility** north to land presently owned by Open Space Institute.

In order to complete the **Heritage Corridor** from Ellenville to Kerhonkson, there are a few private property owners from whom rights-of-way would have to be secured. Construction of three bridges would also be essential. The Village of Ellenville has entered into agreement with the **Ellenville Central School District** for the use of their land where the Canal was located. The Village will be in receipt of a grant to rehabilitate the berme along the Canal and start refurbishing **Lock 30** across from the old **SunRay Plant**, now the home of **JM Originals**.

Further, the Village will extend the trail from **Graham Place** to the **Ellenville Sanitation Facility**. Students of the Ellenville Central School under the leadership of Ron Irwin will do some of the smaller tasks in this work plan. This work should add another three-quarter mile of trail starting at the **D&H Ticket Office** (the **Ellenville-Wawarsing Chamber of Commerce Office**) on the corner of **Canal Street & Berme Road**. It has been suggested that a Lock Tender platform be placed over **Lock 30** for viewing the interior of the lock, and an informational kiosk to show how the lock operated.

The Corridor to the south of Ellenville has not been worked on to date. Immediately south of Ellenville, the Canal ran through the property presently in use as the **Nevele Grande** golf courses. One proposal is to have a trail marked through the Village of Ellenville, south along **Rte. 209**, to a point where the Corridor can then reconnect to the Canal and eventually link up with the Sullivan County portion of the Canal.

Although there has been significant work performed by volunteers, community service people, and Boy Scouts, there is still a lot to be done. The **Canal Committee** in the Town of Wawarsing needs to be revitalized with some energetic new members who will resurrect the plan to work in conjunction with the Town and Village to bring the **Heritage Corridor** in the township to fruition. Wawarsing needs to bring its Corridor section up to a level that has been attained by some of the other towns in Ulster County so that it may have a historical and recreational facility on a par with others in the County, thus sharing in the tourism revenues that this type of facility generates. The rewards this facility can bring to our town are financial, recreational, and educational.

Within the educational aspect, I had the grand experience of speaking to the fourth grade classes in the **Ellenville Central School** last year about the **D&H Canal**. It was indeed rewarding to see those young minds absorbing the information on the Canal and then being flooded with their questions. They were then taken out on that section of the Canal that is on school property, to get a

perspective for size and operation. It is amazing how this type of learning experience stimulated their interest in any number of ways.

Some older students have filmed videos and taken still pictures of the Canal that are quite good. There is a great potential for other educational projects for those who want to prepare for studies in hydraulics, engineering, photography, G.I.S., and survey work, in addition to environmental sciences and historical research.

It is hoped that this project, which is being worked on in Ulster, Sullivan, and Orange Counties, along with Wayne and Pike Counties in Pennsylvania, will help to preserve some of our history while providing our residents and visitors with an educational and recreational experience.

Can you answer:

1. Who conceived the idea of the **D&H Canal**?
2. What year did it open?
3. What year did it close completely?
4. What was its purpose?

To learn more about the **D&H Canal**, read: *Coal Boats to Tidewater*, by Manville B. Wakefield; *The Delaware and Hudson Canalway (Carrying Coals to Rondout)*, by Dorothy Hurlbut Sanderson; and *From the Coalfields to the Hudson*, by Larry Lowenthal



Buying or Selling
...See Us First

LUCILLE HAND

LICENSED REAL ESTATE BROKER

LucilleHand@realtor.com
Lhandrealest@catskill.net

28 N. Main St. (Rte. 209)
Ellenville, N.Y. 12428
Tel. 845-647-8020
FAX 845-647-5293

Rt. 32, P.O. Box 113
Mountainville, N.Y. 10953
Tel/Fax 845-534-5549



REGIONAL

Garage Doors • Automatic Operators

Sales - Service - Repair

7 Cape Road
Ellenville, N.Y. 12428

Phone 647-8182 Fax 647-4777



**Stedner
Printing**

135/137 Canal Street
Ellenville, NY 12428
(845) 647-6493
Fax 647-2065
stednerprinting@hvc.rr.com

Copying
Printing
Blank Paper
...And Much More

Quote of the Month

"If you're gonna get caught in the act, make sure it's an act of Kindness"