Black River Canal Museum Boonville, NY Ed Fynmour & Daphne Larrabee

The 77-mile long Black River Canal was an engineering marvel of the 19th century. Built between 1837 and 1855, the Black River Canal ran uphill, connecting the waters of the Erie Canal with those of Black River.

For more than a half a century, the Black River Canal played a central role in the life of the North Country. Appreciating the rich historical legacy of the canal, a group of interested Boonville residents secured a charter from the New York State Board of Regents to construct a museum that will preserve, house, and display artifacts from the canal era. The museum grounds are located near the Main St. bridge in Boonville, NY. Three buildings are planned for the site: an exhibit hall, a small theater, and a gift shop. A full-scale replica of canal boat is located on the museum grounds, a recently restored original warehouse that will house some exhibits, and soon to be constructed building to hold artifacts, exhibits, and more.

The Boonville Black River Canal Museum is located on a site formerly occupied by the Titus Powers Iron Works, built circa 1850 near the Main Street Bridge. The site later became the Holdridge and Gilbert Foundry and Machine Shop.

About the Locations

Lyons Falls Village Updates Mayor Katie Liendecker

Mill Site Demolition: the demolition started up again in May. Presently they are crushing brick and testing it to be used for fill. The next major demolition is taking down the last "milk bottle" structure which is next to the Kruger/Northbrook Hydro facility.

Sidewalk, Trail and Crosswalk Project: NYSERDA Grant Funded. Sidewalks were put in where they were in major disrepair or none at all.

BOA Step 2: Lyons Falls has a BOA Designation. This will enable our Village to qualify for additional funding. **We have been awarded BOA step 3**, work to commence with this next step soon.

Three Way Bridge Monument Landscaping: The Lyons Falls Alumni Association is supdating the landscaping in this area. The walkway will be bricks from the paper mill site.

Kruger/Northbrook Lyons Falls Hydro Facility Expansion: they recently sent their application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to amend their license to authorize the redevelopment of the mill hydro project.

ReEnergy Plant Lyonsdale, NY Bruce Proven, Plant Manager

ReEnergy Lyonsdale uses biomass as fuel to produce ~162,000 net megawatt-hours of electricity each year — enough to supply about 21,000 homes. Steam is produced to generate electricity, which is sold directly to customers such as utilities and energy services companies. The facility also provides process steam to an adjacent manufacturer.

The 22 megawatt facility, which opened in 1992, was acquired by ReEnergy in March 2011. ReEnergy provides direct jobs at the facility, indirect jobs associated with the use of the forest residue fuel supply, and other jobs tied to local goods and services related to the facility.

The electricity from this plant come from sustainably harvested forest residue material known as biomass. This material would have been left to decompose on forest floors or in urban lots, resulting in the production of methane, a greenhouse gas. Biomass power facilities enhance forest health, mitigate climate change, support jobs in the forest products industry, contribute to fuel diversity, and represent reasonably priced forms of renewable baseload energy.

About the Locations

Village of Port Leyden
Mayor Sandy Sexton
And
Nichelle Billhardt, Lewis County SWCD

The Village of Port Leyden is in the process of finalizing work on a preliminary engineering study to address its aging sewer system.

Last summer, a part of the Village was heavily damaged by flooding that resulted from a severe rainstorm. The response effort will be discussed during the bus tour.

Conway Farms Derrick and Randy Conway Turin, NY

Separate handout by Nichelle Billhardt

The Hayloft at Moonshine Farm Port Leyden, NY

Moon Shine Farm overlooks the Black River Valley and Adirondack Mountains. Purchased in June of 2003 by Pam and Robin Hoskins, it was operated as a family run dairy farm for many years. Farming has been a long standing tradition in Pam and Robin's families. However, their children, like so many other children who have grown up on farms, have decided not to carry on the tradition.

Barns are more than just buildings on a farm. They represent the heart of the American rural community and the farming industry. To remind us of days gone by and our rural roots, many barns are being preserved. Therefore, in June of 2013 renovations were started to turn the barn into a unique rustic country venue with the pasture being turned into landscaped lawns.

Legend has it that in days gone by, moon shine was made in stills located at the bottom of the hill below the barn. Hence the name "Moon Shine Farm."

The hayloft will offer the perfect combination of elegance with warm country charm, a place where memories can be made in a unique country setting.