

THE MONTOUR TRAIL-LETTER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MONTOUR TRAIL COUNCIL

ALLIANCE HIGHLIGHTS TRAIL BENEFITS AT SPRPC PUBLIC PANEL HEARING

Montour Valley Alliance Chairman, Stan Sattinger presented testimony on Airport-area transportation projects to the Allegheny Northwest Public Participation Panel at a March 31 hearing sponsored by the Southwestern Pennsylvania Regional Planning Commission (SPRPC) and PennDOT. Such regional panels were recently established by SPRPC to set up a pilot process for public involvement in transportation decision-making.

Sattinger explained that a River Conservation and Land-Use Plan for the Montour Run Watershed is being created by professional consultants in the Alliance's Watershed Planning Project. This plan will reflect the desires of Airport-area citizens regarding the future of their communities, and it could influence transportation planning in the Montour Run Watershed.

Citing recent proposals for improved transportation access to Pittsburgh International Airport, he highlighted the beneficial resource values that could be

put at risk by the construction of new expressways or other transportation infrastructure near Montour Run:

* The recreation, transportation, and economic benefits of the Montour Trail.

* Control of stormwater runoff by existing forest cover and other vegetation in a watershed that is already impaired by an excess of runoff from buildings, parking areas, and roadways.

* Potential for trout fishing in Montour Run as a bolster for tourism.

* A designated tract in the Montour Valley that is one of the largest Landscape Conservation Areas in all of Allegheny County and is home to increasingly rare wildlife species.

* Historic features of the Montour Railroad right-of-way and structures, which have been declared eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places by a 1992 letter issued by the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission.

Sattinger recommended that the Panel identify no new Montour Valley highway, rail, or maglev project for funding and that it consider alternate solutions for improved Airport access that would cause less sacrifice to the area's valuable resources. ♦

FORMER RAIL YARD FUTURE SITE OF PARK

by Jeneane Fluharty, staff writer
reprinted with permission, Coraopolis Record



The Rivers, Rails, and Trails Project (RR&T) will convert the abandoned Montour Railroad yard into Montour Park. The park-building effort, sponsored by Montour Valley Alliance (MVA), aims to create a multi-faceted attraction for tourists and residents that will bring new business, employment and recreation opportunities to Coraopolis. RR&T has plans for food courts, bike rental shops, an excursion train, picnic areas, athletic fields, amusement rides, concert stages, a hotel and other facilities on the site.

The proposed Montour Park also will provide easy access to the Montour Trail and its network of bicycle and hiking paths, as well as access to trout-fishing spots, historic sites and natural areas throughout the Montour Run watershed.

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**MONTOUR TRAIL-LETTER
33 STERLING DRIVE
CORAOPOLIS, PA 15108**

Or E-mail to: debho@juno.com

All other trail correspondence should be addressed:

**MONTOUR TRAIL COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 11866
PITTSBURGH PA. 15228-0866**

MONTOUR TRAIL COUNCIL PHONE NUMBERS:

For information: 412-831-2030

**For administration and
business: 412-257-2328**

Newsletter Editor Deborah Hoerster

Circulation Manager Joan Schweiger

Trail Talk

from the Editor's Desk

You would think that my fast walking abilities and all the fitness that it affords me, would make me a natural on a bike. Not so, amigo! You might do better to shoot me from a cannon than to expect me to make a sudden stop and remain upright.

Whether it's the quick decision to stop or the shortness of my legs, the result is always the same - me on the ground and the bike on top of me.

It's almost laughable, now. I feel like Artie Johnson's character on "Laugh-In." (You remember the man in the trench coat on a child's tricycle... he stops and then he topples? That's me!)

Thank heaven for helmets and all the other safety equipment they have for active people nowadays. It's saved me more than once!

Make sure you check out all the safety gear for your particular sport, **BEFORE** you decide to do it. It's definitely worth the extra money. And try to observe the rules of the Trail and always be courteous.

Now, if only they could find a cure for "KLUTZ"-ism...

Safe Trails to you!

Debby



Newsletter Deadline

All articles for the
Sept./Oct. Trail-Letter
will be due **no later than**
August 1, 1998.

Please see Page 2 for
submitting correspondence.
Thank you.



Letters



THE MONTOUR TRAIL- LETTER welcomes all questions and comments. Please send all correspondence to the address on the left.

The Montour Trail Council is an *all volunteer* organization founded in 1989 to convert the abandoned Montour Railroad right of way and the abandoned Peters Creek Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad into a fifty-five mile recreational trail for non-motorized activity regardless of physical ability or financial wherewithal.

Calendar of Events

- ◆ **MTC Board Meeting**, every **third Monday** of the month - at Chartiers Valley High School, in the faculty lounge. Turn left off of the- Kirwan Heights exit of I-79. Turn left at the next light, go under the Interstate, and the school is on your left. Call Dick at 412- 859-6864 for more information or to get on the agenda.
- ◆ **Cecil Friends of the Trail meeting**, every **first Tuesday** of the month - at the Cecil American Legion, Rt. 50, at **7:30 pm.** Call 412-221-6406 for more information.
- ◆ **Work & Clean-up party**, Cecil segment, every **third Saturday** of the month - **9:00 am.** Meet at the Storage shed at Hendersonville. Call 412-221-6406 for more information.
- ◆ **Moon/Robinson Friends of the Trail meeting**, every **Thursday** before the second Saturday of the month at **7:00 pm.**, at the All Occasion Catering party room near the intersection of Silver Lane and Clever Rd. in Robinson Twp. Anyone from the communities near Moon and Robinson are encouraged to attend. Call 412-859-3020 for more information.
- ◆ **Work & Clean-up party**, Moon/Robinson segment, every **second Saturday** of the month - **9:00 am.** Meet at North Star Petroleum (formerly Robinson Petroleum). Call 412-262-3748 for more information.
- ◆ **Findlay/North Fayette Friends of the Trail**, call Don at 724-899-3695 or Pete at 412-788-4136 for more information.
- ◆ **Work & Clean-up party**, Findlay/North Fayette segment, every **fourth Saturday** of the month - **9:00 am.** Meet at the Enlow Ballfield. Call 412-788-4136 for more information.
- ◆ **Bethel Park Friends of the Trail meeting**, every **first Tuesday** of the month at **7:30 pm** in the Bethel Park Municipal Building Council Chambers. Anyone interested in the Bethel Park Trail segment is encouraged to come. For various committee meetings (such as fundraising) contact Peter Kohnke at 412-854-1835 for more information.
- ◆ **Work & Clean-up party**, Bethel Park segment, every **second and fourth Saturday** of the month - **8:30 am.** Call Bob O'Connell at 412-833-6259 for location and information.
- ◆ **South Hills Friends of the Trail Work & Clean-up party**, **last Saturday** of every month. For more information call Dr. Joe Rudolph at 412-653-4900.
- ◆ **MacDonald Friends of the Trail Work & Clean-up party**, tentatively held on the **first Saturday** of every month. For more information, contact Ray Johnston at 724-356-2621.
- ◆ **Allegheny Rib Cook-Off**, at South Park over **Labor Day** weekend, **Sept. 4, 5, 6, & 7.** Please consider volunteering a couple of hours to help at the booth. It is an easy and fun way to raise much needed Trail funds. See article, page 7.
- ◆ **Ikea 1/2 Marathon, 5K Run and 5K Walk**, at Montour Trail on **Saturday, Sept. 12.** All are welcome to participate. Volunteers are needed. See article, page 7.

CECIL BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION UPDATE

by Dennis Sims

The reconstruction of the southbound span of I-79 over Cecil Henderson Road, McPherson Run, and the Montour Trail continues to have little impact on trail users. So far, the only trail closings that have taken place have been short-lived while crews from Brayman Bridge Builders of Gibsonia were working overhead removing the spans directly above the Trail, the day the remaining spans and piers unexpectedly collapsed. And a closure occurred while workers from

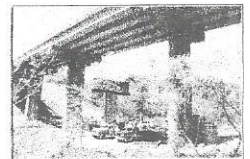
Lane Construction, the general contractor for the I-79 reconstruction were doing streambank work along McPherson Run above the construction project. To allow Brayman to remove and reconstruct the pier adjacent to the Trail, a temporary run around has been built to keep the trail open.

Plastic fencing has also been installed along the Trail to keep Trail users from wandering into the construction area by mistake. Similar plastic fencing will be placed across the Trail to prevent Trail traffic, (signalling Trail closure), during hazardous construction periods in July and August.

As of this writing, the reconstruction is moving right along. The pier adjacent to the trail is nearly complete and the other pier next to Cecil Hen-

derson Road is about halfway to completion. The re-bars and forms are being placed for the abutments. The former bridge had five piers and the superstructure was reinforced concrete box beams. The replacement structure will have only two piers and the superstructure will be steel rather than concrete.

The schedule calls for the southbound span to be completed in early August and for the reconstruction of the northbound span to begin once traffic has been rerouted on to the newer bridge. Completion of the northbound span is expected by November.



Reconstruction of I-79 span over the Cecil Trail

...and the PREZ sez...

Friends of the Trail were described in the last issue as individuals - you and I - who promote, support and help repair and maintain OUR Trail. Friends however, organized in groups local to specific sections of the Trail can be more effective.

In fact, for some time now, there have been three such groups following Township designations: Moon/Robinson, North Fayette/Findlay and Cecil Friends of the Trail. Each has their own officers, membership and agenda for monitoring, maintaining, repairing and enhancing the Trail in their neighborhoods. They relate to the Montour Trail Council through one of their own members who is designated a field representative and is charged with

the responsibility to communicate between the Friends and the Council Board and coordinate related events and activities including their needs.

These Friends groups may raise funds to support their local agenda and conduct or sponsor organized community activity on the Trail. They also generate support of the Trail by municipal governments and civic organizations through cooperative functions.

Within the last three months two additional Friends groups have been formed - the Bethel Park Fiends of the Montour Trail and the South Hills Friends of the Montour Trail. The Bethel Park Friends are intent on constructing nearly two miles of Trail in their own township which

will then be connected to the Arrowhead Trail and the Montour Trail at Library Junction. The South Park Friends are helping to complete portions of the Trail from Library Junction, through Library to near South Park joining two completed miles of Trail there. Another Friends group is being formed now in the area served by the Fort Cherry School District - McDonald, Midway and the townships of Cecil, Robinson (Washington County) and Mount Pleasant.

So, to be even more of a Friend, consider joining one of these Friends groups. More information about them appears in the Calendar of Events. Or call 859-6864. Thanks, Friend! ◆

Dick Quasey, MTC President

MTC WEB
ADDRESS



Visit the Montour Trail web-site at: <http://trfn.clpgh.org/orgs/mtc/>

"PENNIES FOR YOUR TRAIL" CAMPAIGN A MAJOR SUCCESS

The day was copper bright and made-to-order for the 3rd annual "Pennies for your Trail" campaign - an all-out effort by the Moon/Robinson Friends of the Trail to raise much needed funds for maintaining their section of the Trail.

Chairman, Dean Arlett and his many volunteers, including State Rep., John R. Pippy (R-Moon) and his family, manned the "penny" stations at Groveton (mile 0) and Park Manor intersection (mile 4.5) by either collecting or weighting the pennies being donated. Moon/Rob. Friends, Barb Arlett and Karen Boyce manned the Walmart Station, wonderfully provided by Kim Smith, Walmart's Green Co-ordinator. All money collected at Walmart was matched by the company as a gesture of goodwill.



Moon/Rob. Friend, Jay Schwartz, garners donations for Penny Day at Park Manor Boulevard.

Everyone knows by now that it's quite lucrative to donate to Penny Day. Most of our prize-winners receive gifts either equal to or above the value of their donations.

Our top three winners this year were: Jim & Cindy Washburn of McK-

ees Rocks, Alan & Gail Hiney of Moon Township, and Ron Saputski, also from Moon.

The grand total for the Penny Day campaign came to a whopping \$5,051, well exceeding last year's total of \$3,600.

Words just can't express our appreciation to all those who supported "Penny Day", donated, or volunteered in any way.

Many thanks to Buffalo Scale Co. of West End for the loan of their scales again this year, to Polar Water Co. for quenching the thirsts of so many volunteers, and to Kim Smith and Walmart for those wonderful matching funds.

A very special thanks goes to our sponsors for their donation of so many lovely prizes: Kangaroo's Outback Cafe, Eat 'n Park, Bronze Hood Lounge, Red Lobster, Bruster's, Butya's Restaurant, Max and Erma's, Showcase Cinema West, Best Buy, Dingbat's, ADP Corporation, and Not Just Toast.

Finally, we saved the biggest thanks for last. It goes to our Chairman, Dean Arlett for his unending enthusiasm and organizational efforts. ◆



Jerry Bates (l) and Pete Merther (r) weigh coinage while Angie Lake looks on.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Membership Chairman

Jerry Agin

* Ms. Maryann Abruzzi
* Lark Altman and Lou Vecchi
* Diane L. Anderson
* Charles M. Angelo
* Susan M. Cambridge & James R. Headley
* Richard J. Carter
* Ed & Gina Childers
* Philip J. Costanzo
* Helen F. Cox
* Thomas M. Fenio
* Robyn Gallimore
* Mr. Wayne A. Gallo
* Mr. Glenn A. Gerner
* Lois Gnagey
* Lieutenant Chris Hale
* Mr. Michael J. Hiltermann
* Sheila Klages
* Tony Livorse
* Mr. Barry T. Lowen
* James Lyons
* Susan McCoy
* Thomas McKinnis

* Daniel Mehaffey
* Ms. Eileen E. Metz
* Don Miller
* Jeff & Joyce Mulkern
* Dorsey O'Connell
* Mark Schnurer
* Thomas D. Shope
* Ms. Marlene L. Sienicki
* Darryl Sigel
* Scott Smith
* Mr. Edward D. Snarey
* Mike and Lynn Spataro
* Don Trust
* Joseph, Rita, and Joan Ulicny
* Elizabeth Vargo
* David & Karen Volk

The Montour Trail Council would like to welcome these new members and thank them for their support. We would also like to thank all our members who have renewed their membership and remind all that a growing membership is one of the criteria foundations look for when we apply for grants.

BENEFACTORS:

Mark J. Smith
Nancy Reed
Kris & Linda Rouch

Thank You!

COMPUTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

by Jack Swisher

When the MTC applies for grants and major donations we are frequently asked questions such as: how many people use the Trail on the average weekend, what is their gender, and how old are they, etc.? Before an organization donates money to the Trail they want to be sure that a broad range of people is using it.

Therefore, last summer the MTC conducted an extensive survey to determine demographic information about Trail

users. Volunteers completed over 1000 survey forms over the course of a weekend. We have the completed surveys, but we need volunteers to enter the data into a spreadsheet. The data will then be consolidated and analyzed for use in fundraising and Trail management.

If you are computer literate and have access to a PC with Excel, we can certainly use your help. If your PC has a spreadsheet other than Excel, we may be able to work something with it.

Interested volunteers should call Jack Swisher at 412-221-7708 (evening) or 412-344-1810 Ext. 256 (day). ♦

Yes, I want to help build the Montour Trail!

- ☐ I want to spread the word. Please send me additional flyers.
- ☐ I have written my Legislator and County Commissioners asking them to support the trail.
- ☐ My organization would like to provide a letter of endorsement.
- ☐ I know a group interested in a presentation.
- ☐ I wish to become a member of the Montour Trail Council.

- ☐ STUDENT \$5
- ☐ INDIVIDUAL \$15
- ☐ FAMILY \$25
- ☐ ORGANIZATION \$50
- ☐ SUPPORTING \$50
- ☐ SUSTAINING \$100
- ☐ BENEFACTOR \$250 + up

(Membership is tax deductible)

- ☐ I wish to make an additional tax deductible contribution of \$_____ to the Montour Trail Council to help make the Montour Trail a reality.

(Make your check payable to the Montour Trail Council)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (day time) _____ (evening) _____

By applying for membership in the Montour Trail Council, I indicate my support of its goals.

SIGNATURE _____

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling tollfree, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Please fill out this application and return it with your check to:

MONTOUR TRAIL COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 11866
PITTSBURGH PA. 15228-0866

**DON'T FORGET! The Montour Trail Council
may be designated as your United Way Contributor
Choice option #3308 where you work.**

FORMER RAIL YARD

continued from Page 1

Bill Sweterlitsch, president of Coraopolis Economic Revitalization Corp. (CERC), the group behind RR&T, said the proposal to turn the former railroad site into a park emerged from more than two years of efforts with creation of a major regional attraction that can become a nationally known tourist destination as the goal.

"It will present the story of the transportation network that enabled western Pennsylvania to become the steel capital of the world," he said of the project.

Construction on RR&T's Montour Park project likely won't begin until 2000, according to Sweterlitsch.

He said he is hopeful about the park and the future of a Coraopolis railroad-museum project CERC and RR&T have been looking into for some time.

He said CERC is raising funds to develop a business plan for the railroad-museum.

CERC already has a master plan for the railroad-museum project and has been looking into hiring a fund-raising firm to assist with finding support, but has not yet chosen such a firm to help with that aspect of its efforts.

MVA's involvement in the Montour Park project grows out of quality-of-life concerns. "This is the kind of land use that can bring major economic benefit to a community and yet be totally compatible with resource preservation," said Janet Thorne, MVA's Montour Run Watershed project manager.

She said Montour Park would employ many people and bring dollars to the community while encouraging creation of a protective buffer between development and recreational and cultural features in the watershed.

To support the project, MVA plans to hold a major cleanup of the future park site on Saturday, June 20, in conjunction with the 1998 Ohio River Sweep sponsored by the state Department of Environmental Protection.

For further information on the Montour Park project, call the CERC office at (412) 264-4930. ◆

MONTOUR VALLEY GRANGE #2005 GIVES AWARD TO MTC

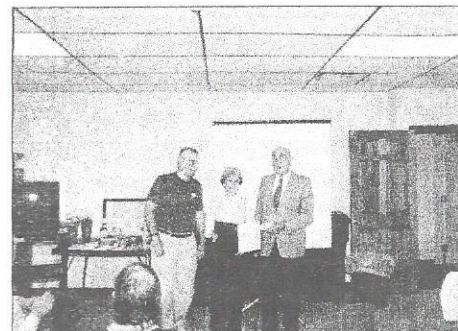
by John Peter Merth

On Thursday, April 23, 1998, Grange #2005 of Findlay Township held their annual open house meeting at which organizations are invited to come and present the Grange with information about themselves. The Montour Trail Council was invited to give a presentation about the Trail, from its rail yard beginnings all the way to the present and, of course projections for the future.

Representing the Montour Trail Council at the meeting was president, Dick Quasey, Findlay field representative, Don Behnke and MTC board member Pete Merther.

Ron Nelson and Doris Scott, Lecturer of the Montour Valley Grange #2005, introduced the MTC representatives to the group of 20 Grange members.

Dick Quasey did an outstanding job explaining the Trail from past to present using a Trail slide presentation. For information on the future of the Trail, the group was shown the Allegheny Trail Alliance's recently completed video. There were many positive comments on the benefits of the



Doris Scott (center), Lecturer of the Montour Valley Grange #2005, present Don Behnke (left) Findlay field representative, and Dick Quasey (right) MTC president, with certificate and \$50 check for the Montour Trail.

Trail to the community following the presentation.

The Montour Trail Council was presented a Certificate for its community service and a check in the amount of \$50. After the meeting, all were invited to enjoy the homemade refreshments provided by the Grange.

The Montour Trail Council would like to thank the people of the Montour Valley Grange #2005 for their donation and their hospitality. ◆

DCNR GIVES KEYSTONE GRANT TO MTC FOR DEVELOPMENT

by Dave Hoerster

The DCNR (Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) has selected the Montour Trail Council as a recipient of a \$100,000 matching grant for the development of the Trail between Jefferson Borough and the City of Clairton.

This project has been approved from the Rails-To-Trails Grant Program, a component of the Keystone Fund. Additionally the MTC has received resounding support from the communities of Jefferson and Clairton for the support of this project. Both

have indicated their willingness to supply manpower and equipment where feasible.

The Borough Council of Jefferson has adopted an update of their 1970 Comprehensive Plan, which makes mention of the Montour Trail and has changed the Zoning Ordinance to create a Conservation District in Peters Creek.

Kudos to all involved especially Dave Wright, our Director of Trail Development, for this significant achievement in the development of the Trail. ◆



IKEA RACE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

by Marshall Fausold



On September 12th will occur the third annual running of the IKEA-Montour Trail 1/2 Marathon & 5K Walk/Run. For the past two years IKEA has organized this event, but with the departure of race director, Molly Bovard they no longer wished the burden of the many details involved. IKEA is still the major sponsor, donating valuable prizes and their facilities. The Montour Trail Council is undertaking to organize the race this year. We'll have to see how well we do! It has been one of the major races in our area, with around 800 entrants, and has produced lots of good recognition for the Trail.

We will need lots of volunteers, both from the ranks of our members and

from other friends in the community. This comes the weekend after the Labor Day Rib Cook-Off in South Park, where our volunteers pour beer in return for a generous contribution to the Trail from the event organizers. It will be a definite strain on our resources, but we trust our dedicated members will rise to the occasion.

We will need about a dozen people to stuff the packets of race entrants with instructions, promotional material and T-shirts. This will probably be done about Sept. 1 or 2, (date and time to be finalized). We need 8 to 12 people on both Sept. 10 and 11, between 5:15 and 8:30 PM to hand out these packets and take registrations. Finally, on race day we will need many volunteers to help with the dozens of jobs that need to be done then, including staffing water tables, traffic direction, packet pickup and others.

And with all that - don't forget we need you on Labor Day to pour! ◆

RIB COOK-OFF COMING SOON

Volunteers needed
by Tim Killmeyer

Here it is, July already! Labor day is right around the corner, then Halloween and first thing ya' know Christmas is... WAIT A SECOND! Let's slow down a little bit.

Going back to Labor Day, that's the weekend of the annual Allegheny County Rib Cook-Off and that is the weekend that the Montour Trail volunteers band together to serve beer in South Park to raise money for the Trail. Over the last five years the Montour Trail has received at least \$4,000 every year from the Mon-Yough Recreational and Educational Committee (MYREC) for supplying volunteers to pour beer at the Rib Cook-Off. We have come to rely on this money as part of the unrestricted funds for our operating budget. Another organization checks I.D.s and sells beer tickets. All we do is open the taps, fill the cups,

and enjoy a shady spot in the festival-like surroundings for 3-4 hour shifts - not to mention the free parking and the live entertainment. All volunteer work assignments should be this good!

This year our Rib Cook-Off Coordinator is John Hooton. If you can donate a little of your time on **September 4, 5, 6, or 7**, please call him and he will pass your name along to the proper captain, who is in charge of the day you can work. Our day captains for Friday and Saturday are yet to be determined at this time, but Dennis Pfeiffer will handle chairmanship of Sunday, and Don Berty will chair Monday. These captains will be in touch to get you your passes and tell you where to park, etc.

So call John today at 412-257-4101 (day) or 412-942-0115 (eve.) and let him know when you can work. You'll be glad you did! ◆



THE MONTOUR TRAIL

by Betty Liddle

I love to run on the Montour Trail.

I love to run on warm, sunny days, when the trail is alive with activity.

Families on bicycles make slow progress, as their children stop to notice all of nature's wonders. Older couples stroll hand-in-hand. Runners and bikers hurry along, not seeming to notice the beauty of the trail on which they travel.

I love to run on cold, rainy days, when the trail seems empty.

On these days, I rarely see people walking. I pass only a few diehard runners and bikers, intent on completing their mileage. I can hear the sounds of animals and birds and the wind blowing through the trees. I am alone with my thoughts and the voice of the trail.

I love to run on the Montour Trail.

I try to acknowledge everyone I pass. I say "hello" or wave to walkers and bikers and give my fellow runners a "thumbs up." Almost all of them acknowledge my greeting. Some just say "hi." Some alert me to potential dangers, such as, a snake on the trail ahead, or to some beauty of nature, such as, deer drinking from the stream nearby. One exhausted runner only has the energy to wave as he struggles by. I feel a bond to all of them. They are all part of my family - the family of people who enjoy the trail.

I love to run on the Montour Trail.

That is why I am happy to support the trail. I know that, without support from people like me, the trail could not continue to host the walkers, bikers and runners who I have come to know and love and the many more who I may never see.

I love to run on the Montour Trail.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to do so. Please accept this small donation in gratitude from one of the many people who enjoy the trail. It is my sincere hope that, long after I am gone, there will still be a Montour Trail. ◆

Editor's note: Betty Liddle sent this verse along with her donation. We hope you enjoy it as much as we did.

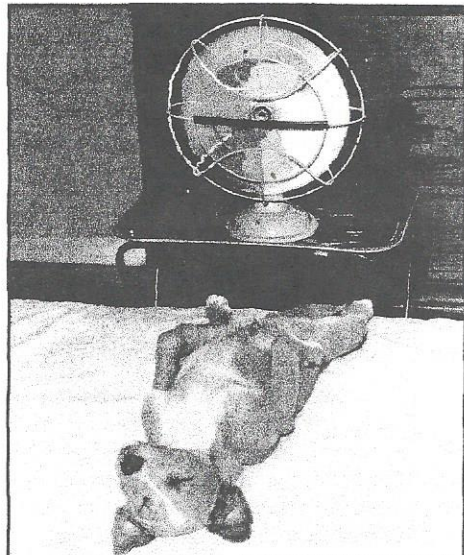
Thank you, Betty!



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After those long, hot workouts on the Montour Trail, don't forget to cool down!

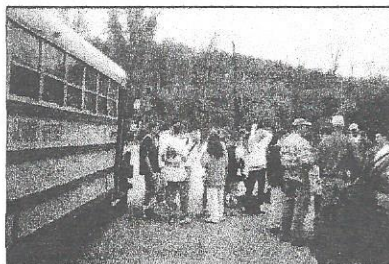
MONTOUR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ON THE TRAIL

Little by little, the Montour Trail is gaining importance as a teaching tool for school districts.

On May 12, 1998, students from Montour High School's G.A.T.E. and Environmental Science classes spent a day on the Trail getting first-hand knowledge about community service by doing lots of manual labor.

Under the direction and supervision of teachers, John Wasco and Bill Kutzavich, the students were divided into 6 work groups. Each group had a crew leader (a Moon/Robin-son Friend of the Trail) and a work assignment. These assignments included: trash pick-up, Trail prep, grass cutting, painting, and culvert tagging.

The students, 29 in all, started their work day at 9:00 a.m. Crew leaders returned them to their busses by noon for lunch and fun time on the Trail.

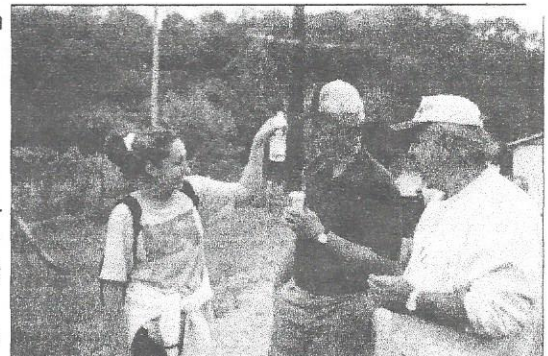


Montour High School students and their teachers ready to start their day on the Trail.

They were then transported back to their school by 2:00 p.m.

As always, it's very productive and so enjoyable when the students spend a day on the Trail. Our thanks to all of them for their wonderful ef-

forts. And deepest appreciation to "Friends of the Trail": Joan & Carl Schweiger, Dick Quasey, Drew Eskra, Tim Killmeyer, Mitch Chowelinski, Jerry Bates, and Debby Hoerster, who donated their time and many talents to make the day a success. ♦



Cathi Ferene shows teacher, Bill Kutzavich, and Mitch Chowelinski her tadpole "catch of the day" that she is taking back to Science class.

A Tribute to Nature

"In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous."

Aristotle