



CPF SIGNATURE PROJECT CONCEPT

If you have been following CPF's work, you may recall that during the recent strategic planning process, one of the strategic objectives described in the five-year plan is to complete a signature project. We're excited to update you on the progress of our signature project. Through community conversations during the planning process, CPF gathered several possible project ideas. Over the last year, the Signature Project Committee developed preliminary plans for a short-list of projects for further review and evaluation. **The CPF Board proposes to reconfigure CPF Gorge Trail hiking and bike access at the Buyea's Parking Lot entrance to better connect the trail from Albany Street and other village trails.**

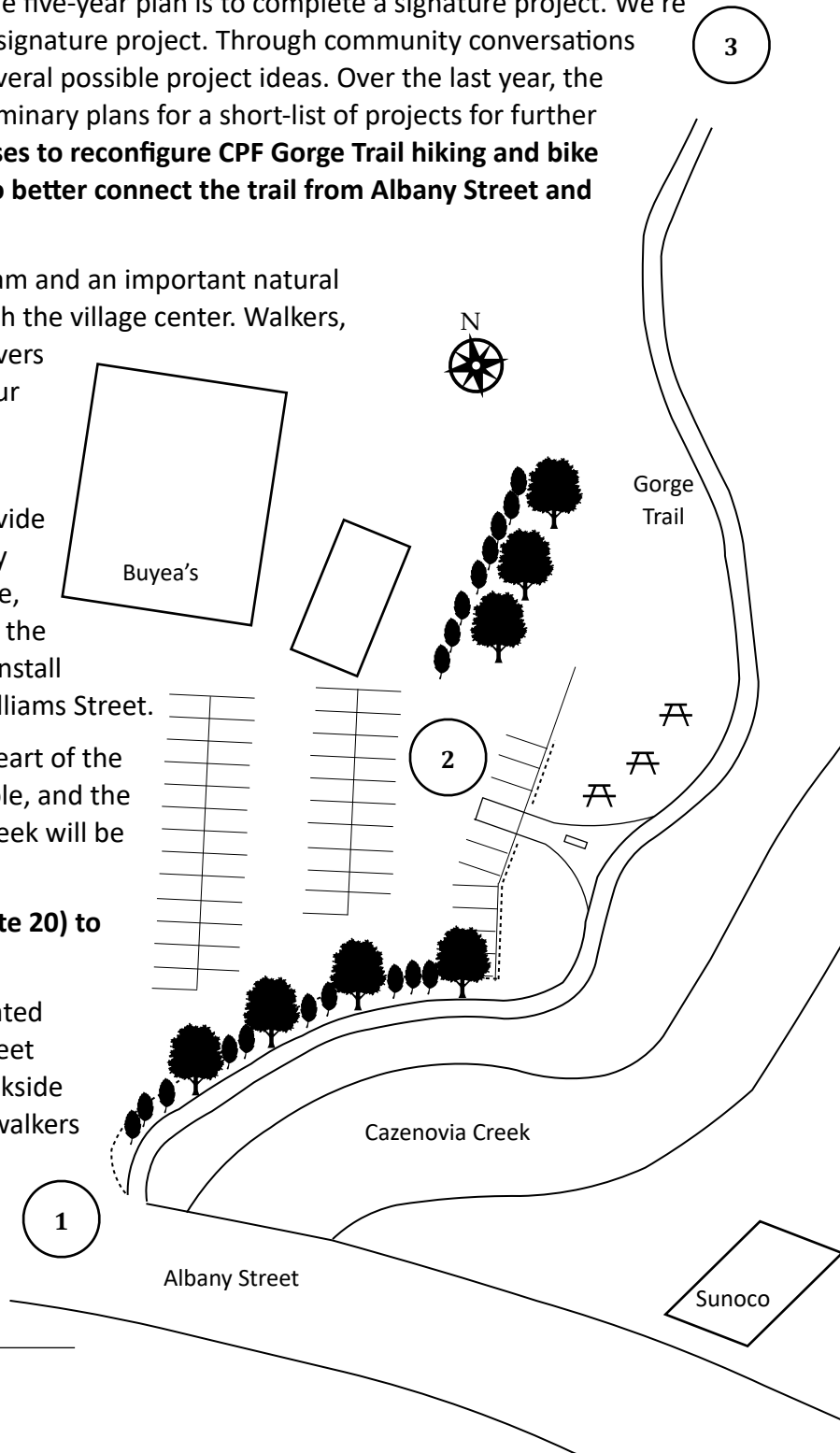
Chittenango Creek is a blue-ribbon trout stream and an important natural feature worthy of protection that runs through the village center. Walkers, bikers, fishermen and -women, and nature lovers access CPF's Gorge Trail at this location. It's our mission to protect properties like this for the enjoyment of future generations.

There are three aspects of the project: 1) provide dedicated pedestrian/bike access from Albany Street (Route 20) to the creekside green-space, 2) create designated trail parking and reroute the trail to more closely follow the creek; and 3) install pedestrian crosswalk and trail entrance at Williams Street.

Upon completion, the trail and creek in the heart of the village will be much more visible and accessible, and the under-utilized green-space areas along the creek will be inviting and easy to use.

1 Enhance connectivity of Albany Street (Route 20) to the Creekside Green-Space

Section one of the project will create a dedicated pedestrian and bike pathway from Albany Street (Rt. 20) to the new trail parking area and creekside green space. This will improve the safety for walkers and bikers and enhance the connectivity of Albany Street to the trail. CPF will install a gravel trail surface along the east side of the current driveway and place a



decorative physical barricade along the western edge of the new pedestrian area to delineate and differentiate pedestrian and vehicular traffic routes.

2 **Designated Trail Parking & Creekside Trail Reroute**

For section two, CPF will reroute the trail to more closely follow creek contours from the parking lot. We will then add a defined trail parking area.

Visitors will be able to use amenities, including picnic tables and a kiosk. The kiosk will have maps and informative exhibits. A bench with an overhang to provide hikers shelter from the rain is a consideration. Future options include a trash receptacle, bike rack, and an EV charging station.

We will be seeking volunteers to help with overall clean-up and brush removal and to plant trees and shrubs. The new plantings will further define the trail while also screening the current view of the backs of the commercial buildings on the property and enhance the experience.

3 **Trail Entrance to Williams Street**

The final section of the project will be to add a crosswalk at the Williams Street trail entrance. The crosswalk will better define trail routing and provide safer crossing options for Burton Street student walkers and trail users.

We expect to break ground in 2021 on the Parking Area and Creekside Trail rerouting, with project completion expected in 2022, depending on project approvals. CPF is currently working to develop more detailed project cost estimates. We will be seeking grant funding and community contributions to support this critical project, so be on the lookout for opportunities to help either as a project volunteer or by making a financial contribution in support of the project.

The CPF Signature Project Committee and Committee Chair, David Beam, wish to thank the Cazenovia Area Community Development Association, Village of Cazenovia Mayor Kurt Wheeler, and the Buyea family for their assistance with this project.

Message From the E.D.

I am excited to be serving as CPF's Executive Director at such a momentous time for land conservation. The importance of the work that we do to preserve open space for public recreation has been unmistakably evident during the last 14 months since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you're tuned in to conservation news, you have likely noticed that a lot is happening at both the state and national levels. In January of 2021, President Biden signed an executive order to protect at least 30 percent of our lands and inland waters and 30 percent of our ocean areas by 2030 (the 30x30 initiative). In April of 2021, the \$3 billion Restore Mother Nature Bond Act was included in the enacted 2021 New York State budget, and the measure will be placed on the November 2022 ballot. If approved, it will provide an unprecedented level of state funding to restore fish and wildlife habitats, preserve open space and enhance recreational opportunities, and prepare New York for the impacts of climate change. Importantly, we have also started to see a nationwide COVID-related shift in the places that people are choosing to live, as more of us are continuing to work remotely and choosing rural and suburban areas over cities, potentially placing greater development pressure on land in communities like Cazenovia.

The need for conservation now is great, but so are the potential opportunities. Together, we can work to preserve the historical, agricultural, and natural resources in and around Cazenovia for the benefit of us all.

Thank you for your continued support. See you on the trail!



Jen Wong

Cazenovia Preservation Foundation
Executive Director

Under Construction

Fairchild Parking Area Completed



The clearing of the utility right-of-way near the Fairchild Hill Trail Parking Area in April fast-tracked our planned 2021 trail parking area improvements. The upgraded trail parking area is open and ready for you, and we think that you'll agree it's a significant improvement! Many thanks to property owner Glen Trush for his work at the site and the Saturday morning work crew that braved the May 1st snow to help get the job done!

Willow Patch

Work on the Willow Patch began in 2020, with a targeted effort to remove vegetation from two large areas overgrown with the highly invasive plant *Reynoutria japonica*, commonly known as Japanese knotweed. The plant is very tenacious, and work to eradicate it from the Willow Patch continues this spring. CPF Board member and SUNY-ESF professor, Scott Shannon, is preparing a planting plan of native trees, shrubs, and perennials for installation on the slope at the base of Allen Street, one of the areas where knotweed removal is currently ongoing. This work is funded by the Madison County Planning Department through the Finger Lakes - Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance (FLLOPA) Grant Program.



Kiosks – Fairchild (from Lorenzo/Meier's Creek Connector Trail) & Carpenter's Pond

CPF's Stewardship Committee is preparing for Summer 2021. Earlier this spring, stewardship volunteer Ken Reger reviewed all the CPF trail kiosks and prioritized two for replacement this summer: Carpenter's Pond and Fairchild Hill Trail (from Meier's Creek Brewery/Lorenzo entrance). The Kiosk Team will be making some minor cosmetic repairs to other kiosks throughout the season as well. If you are interested in assisting with these projects please e-mail us at info@cazpreservation.org.

Grants & Projects

NYS Conservation Partnership Program Grants

In early 2020, CPF was awarded two grants under the New York State Conservation Partnership Program and New York's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). The New York State Conservation Partnership Program is administered by the Land Trust Alliance in coordination with the state Department of Environmental Conservation. Funds related to those grants, which were delayed due to COVID, have now been made available to CPF, and we have begun work on both projects.

One of these grants provides CPF with funding to upgrade our member database, develop a marketing and communications plan, and enhance our communications materials. We hired marketing expert Levi Spires in April 2021 to launch this project. Over the coming months, look for improved modern communication that will help us better connect with our members, reach a broader audience, and inform the Cazenovia community about our mission and activities.

CPF is also working on a project to survey and mark the boundaries of all CPF-owned properties. Delineated boundaries will benefit CPF as well as neighboring landowners when planning for property improvements.

A Note on Trail Etiquette

CPF's trails and trail parking areas are open from dawn to dusk to benefit the community. Unfortunately, our volunteers are reporting higher volumes of trash and pet waste discarded in parking lots and along the trails in recent months. Misuse of these facilities, including littering, overnight or after-hours parking, or disobeying posted parking instructions, may result in the temporary or permanent closure of these areas. Please do your part to keep these areas open and in good condition for the enjoyment of all trail users. CPF trails and parking areas are pack-in/pack-out; please properly dispose of all your garbage and pet waste bags.

Thank you!



conversations about the essential ecological and climate-change mitigation benefits of land conservation.

In the coming weeks, CPF will be seeking to hire a part-time Conservation Planner with solid GIS skills and work experience in landscape planning, conservation, land stewardship, or similar fields.

visit: www.nature.org/en-us/newsroom/ny-resilient-connected-network-grant/

Events

Historical House Workshop - March 2021

Every house has a story. In Cazenovia, some of those stories go back hundreds of years. In March of 2021, CPF hosted the workshop "Researching Your Historical Cazenovia House". It was a virtual panel that included: Ted Bartlett, Cazenovia Heritage; Elisha Davies, Cazenovia Library; Michael Roets, Lorenzo State Historic Site; Sarah Tietje-Mietz, Stone Quarry Hill Art Park; and Matt Urtz, Madison County Historian. Go online to learn more about the research resources described by the panelists or CPF's historical house sign project.

The Nature Conservancy New York - Resilient & Connected Network Grant (TNC-NY RCN Grant)

CPF was recently awarded a capacity-building grant from The Nature Conservancy of NY. Over the last eight years, TNC has developed a map-based tool to identify lands of high conservation value for creating a connected network of lands to support climate-driven species migration. The award of this grant represents a fundamental shift in CPF's approach to conservation planning by providing the analytical tools needed to support a comprehensive approach to identifying essential areas for preservation within our service area.

The land conservation aspect of CPF's mission has always had implicit environmental benefits. This project provides CPF with the opportunity to more directly engage our community in

Poetry on the Trail 2021 Cazenovia Community Poetry Contest

Find your inspiration in trees!

Announcing this year's winners!

Magnolia Tree, Bridget Dougherty (Gr. 2-4)

Tree, Caleb Crawford (Gr. 5-8)

Growing Up, Morgan Schaffer (Gr. 9-12)

That Tree in the Park by the Lake, Maureen Marion (Adult)

Honorable Mention

Initials, Paige Blair (Gr. 5-8)

Praying with Trees, Rachel Guido DeVries (Adult)

Inner Bark, Wendy Everard (Adult)

📅 *Preservation Property Tour & Picnic -
May 15, 2021*



On a lovely recent May Saturday, CPF guides led two groups on a driving tour showcasing several of CPF's protected properties and scenic views. Participants learned about property history, conservation purposes, and CPF's ongoing stewardship role. After that, everyone gathered at Stone Quarry Hill Art Park for a gourmet picnic lunch.

📅 *4th Grade History Tours - Ongoing*



We are pleased to be bringing this program back again for its sixth year, after last year's COVID-19 cancellation. CPF Conservation Manager, Judy Gianforte, and Executive Director, Jen Wong, met with the Burton Street 4th Grade Classes via Zoom on April 29 to introduce the three-part series of walking tours covering the early economic history of Cazenovia, historical architecture, and transportation. The tours began on May 9 and will continue through the end of the month. Many thanks to volunteers Gene Gissin and Bob Ridler.

Upcoming

📅 *National Trails Day - June 5, 2021*

The first Saturday in June is National Trails Day, and for this year, CPF will be hosting the "Gulch to Gorge Hike." Hikers can complete some or all of the approximately 8-mile route, which begins at the CPF Burlingame Road parking area near the Sherman's Gulch Trail and ends at Chittenango Falls State Park. Refreshment stations along the route for registered participants.

Trail Appreciation Day is a chance to get out and give back by supporting organizations that work to maintain the beautiful area trails that we all have access to 365 days a year.



Trail Appreciation Day

📅 *Photography Contest - October 15, 2021*

Grab your camera and get outside! CPF is hosting a community photography contest, "Capturing the Best of Cazenovia." Creative photographers of all ages are encouraged to submit up to five of their best local photos (taken within the Cazenovia Central School District and vicinity). Cash prizes will be awarded in each of the following categories: Professional, Adult amateur, High school and college students, and Youth (Grade 8 or below at the time of entry). The winning photographs will be featured on the CPF website, social media, and printed photo note cards. Photographs showcasing the best of Cazenovia in all seasons will be accepted until the contest deadline of October 15.

📅 *Fall Harvest Supper - October 24, 2021*

Mark your calendars! We are looking forward to the return of our fall fundraiser dinner this year. CPF will be hosting a Fall Harvest Supper on the evening of Sunday, October 24, at the beautiful Windridge Estate RedBarn 20.

New Board Members

James Dungey

Jim brings his decades of fundraising and arts administration development and leadership experience to the board. His most recent position was the Senior Director of Development and Director of Major Gifts at Syracuse University's College of Visual and Performing Arts. Before working at Syracuse, he was a director at Syracuse Stage, a director at the Schweinfurth Art Center, a high-school art teacher; and has held many other philanthropic leadership roles. James graduated from SUNY Geneseo with a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts and Psychology and Syracuse University with a Masters in Fine Arts. He lives on East Lake Road.

Lynn Hart

Lynn earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Auburn University. She has been a licensed real estate agent since 2010 and is highly passionate about historic preservation. She has overseen the historic renovation of her primary residence and was awarded a CPF Restoration Award in 2006 for the project, and she has led the restoration of several other properties in the area. Lynn currently serves on the Village Zoning Board of Appeals. She enjoys running on the many trails throughout Cazenovia and has been a village resident for 17 years.

Chuck Stormon

Chuck and his wife Gyata have lived in Cazenovia since 1994. For many years, the Stormons have granted a trail use agreement on their Route 20 property that connects the Fairchild Hill and Burlingame trails, and Mr. Stormon has volunteered countless hours to mowing and maintaining the Fairchild Hill trails. In his professional life, Chuck is the CEO of Acumen Detection, Inc. and Managing Partner of StartFast Ventures, both in Syracuse. Chuck graduated from Syracuse University with a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Computer Engineering. Chuck enjoys hiking, canoeing, and outdoor cooking.

New Staff & Interns

Cassie Ferrante

CPF welcomes recent Colgate University graduate Cassie Ferrante for the summer. She will be working through Colgate University's Upstate Institute Internship Program on a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) project about solar energy generation project siting. Cassie will be adapting the "*How to Solar Now*" GIS toolkit, created by Scenic Hudson for the greater Hudson Valley region, to our service area here in Cazenovia. The decision support tool incorporates data about topography, natural resources, agricultural soils, proximity to transmission facilities, zoning, and other features to identify those areas that are most, or least, suited to solar development. The toolkit will be a resource for CPF, Town and Village officials, and community residents.

Will Kmetz

We are glad to report that Will Kmetz will be returning for his third season as a summer stewardship assistant at CPF. Will is a senior biology major at Clarkson University with an interest in wildlife management. He'll be working on a variety of ongoing maintenance and stewardship projects over the summer, as well as working with the survey crew to get several of CPF's property boundaries marked. If you're a frequent visitor to CPF properties, you'll likely see him out on the trail!

Levi Spires

Levi joined our team in late April as the Development Specialist, funded by a capacity grant from the New York State Conservation Partnership Program and New York's Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). Levi will use his 15 years of marketing and business experience to upgrade our donor database and modernize our communications and outreach. The Spires Family has lived in the village since 2007 and uses the Gorge Trail daily.

Thank these supporters for helping to protect Cazenovia's resources:

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The Upland Journal

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info@cazpreservation.org
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ANNUAL MEETING

May 26, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Virtual via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87960284685>

Meeting ID: 879 6028 4685

Dial by phone; voice only: 929-205-6099



CPF Members and the public are cordially invited to the CPF Annual Meeting:

Presentation of Awards:

Lifetime of Service: Carl Stearns

Robert C. Webster Award: Carlos Gavilondo

Community Award - Individual: Amy Mann

Community Award - Commercial: McKenzie Houseman & 20East

Community Award - Restoration: The Village of Cazenovia (Kayak Launch and Lakeland Park Canal Wall Reconstruction)

Election of Directors and Officers:

New Directors for a three-year term: Jim Dungey, Lynn Hart, and Chuck Stormon

Officers for one-year terms:

President: Jim Steinberg

Vice President: Cynthia Maxwell Curtin

Treasurer: Craig Buckhout

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