Mildred Johnson

Speaks

What a great week to see Mandela in person. I leave for Washington tomorrow. I call Washington and will be able to attend the reception for Mandela on Tuesday, which will be held at the Convention Center. I will report to you on my next writing just how exciting it was and what was done at this historic event.

The Greater Rochester Metro Chamber of Commerce celebrated their 36th Annual Civic Awards Luncheon at the Stouffer Rochester Plaza Hotel at the end of March. Yours truly Mildred Johnson, Director, Virginia Wilson Center was awarded the Social Service Award. Other awards were: Commerce and Industry to Donald L. Edel, Education Award to Alice M. Raymond, Government Award to the Hon. Roger J. Roach, Science and Technology Award to Robert W. Gundlach, Culture and Arts Award to Albert Paley, Education Award to Kay Whitney of Kodak; and the International Relations Award to Dr. Harald Odell.

Mr. Eldred Johnson writes out-standing poetry. Here is one of his poems, "The Only Songs I Can Sing." 

The Gift of Life

Think, for a moment, of the roads we have traveled. The hills and valleys have not stopped us. Everything we could have brought us destruction. God was with us in all our silent companionship.

Today I am leaving for Washington D.C. to hear and see the greatest person of our race, Mandela of South Africa, who will address the United States Congress on Monday. Traveling with me will be Dr. Josephine Pitts, Miss Ina戟and Mrs. Manibonts. Mrs. Borden will join me Tuesday. We expect to attend the reception Tuesday night at the Convention Center. We will be with the Great Douglass. He said Douglas said in three words: "Agitate, agitate, agitate." He said our problems cannot be solved unless we continue to do just that — agitate, agitate, agitate. He closed his speech by rededicating himself to the cause of justice and freedom which Douglas fought for and asked the people present to rededicate themselves to the cause of Great Emancipator Douglass.

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Governor Mario M. Cuomo today announced the award of a $34,000 New York State Conservation Corps grant to the Monroe County Employment and Training Bureau to employ young men and women in needed conservation programs this summer.

"The 20th anniversary of Earth Day earlier this year sharpened our understanding of the difference each of us can make in protecting the environment," Governor Cuomo said. "The young men and women of the New York State Conservation Corps are provided the chance to make a valuable contribution to their communities' environment. In working for a cleaner, greener New York, they also gain important employment skills and experiences."

The grant is part of a statewide package totaling over $540,000 awarded today to 21 local conservation organizations in 18 counties.

Crews of seven to ten young men and women, aged 14-18, will work on 21 projects this summer in their own communities around the state. The projects include developing a community garden in a vacant lot in Harlem, building a handicapped accessible boardwalk in Erie County, and converting abandoned railroad rights of way into recreational trails in Jefferson and Madison counties. At least 20% of the cost of each project will be paid for by the project's sponsor, which may be a municipality, state agency, not-for-profit corporation, or Indian Nation.

Commissioner Orin Lehman, whose state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation administers the Conservation Corps in New York State, noted, "We are proud of the many positive impacts of this fine program. There is the impact on project communities, the individual skills development in participating young workers, and the instilled sense of environmental awareness and appreciation they gain."

Since 1988, the New York State Conservation Corps has been fostering environmental education while enhancing basic employment skills of our youth. In the past two years, more than 900 young adults have participated in the program.
Local Student Receives Degree From Keuka College

Patricia Ann McCullough of Avenue A, Rochester, NY, graduated with a bachelor of science degree in management at Keuka College’s 82nd Commencement ceremony recently.

Founded in 1890, Keuka College began its centennial celebration with this Commencement. McCullough is a member of the last graduating class in Keuka College’s first century.

A 1985 graduate of East Junior-Senior High School, McCullough is the daughter of Pamela A. McCullough.

Keuka College is an independent, four-year coeducational college located four miles south of Penn Yan, NY, on Keuka Lake. The college offers 24 degree programs and is a recognized leader in experience-based learning.

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