



## HISTORIC TRACK BEING REFURBISHED

By John Manzi for Goshen Historic Track

Harness racing at the “Cradle of the Trotter”- Goshen, NY, has been ongoing since the late 1830's and this past summer marked the 171<sup>st</sup> season of Standardbred racing and the 98<sup>th</sup> year of Grand Circuit action at what has long been known as Historic Track.

Over the years many of the sports greatest horses have competed there including Greyhound, Uhlan, Speedy Rodney, Stars Pride, Matastar, Tassel Hanover, Titan Hanover and even Goldsmith Maid , to name a few, and though he didn't race there Dewetcheatumnhowe calls Historic Track home because the horse's trainer-driver Ray Schnittker stables at the National Historic Landmark.

In the early 1980's the track surface at Goshen was changed to stone-dust from the original clay base which allowed for a safer racetrack during inclement weather and the new surface was and is better suited for year-round training which has been a staple for the not-for-profit organization.

Recently the Board of Directors, spearheaded by President Bernie White, voted to refurbish the racetrack and elevate the turns which have always been close to being flat with very little banking.

Currently that refurbishing is under way and being done by Charles E. Coon and Sons. Dan and Gregg Coon are on the scene and are adding many tons of stone dust on each turn and elevating them to a degree which they deem favorable for allowing horses to be at their best when rounding the bends.

The project is currently scheduled to be completed by the weekend and when finished Ray Schnittker has agreed to harness Deweycheatumnhowe and have the great trotter be the first horse to go a training mile over the newly renovated racetrack.