

Ticonderoga Sentinel

RESPECTING OUR PAST, SUPPORTING OUR FUTURE

FOUNDED IN 1874

VOL. 164, NO. 9

PERIODICALLY UPDATING THE TICONDEROGA MAIN STREET PARTNERSHIP AND LOCAL NEWS

SEPT. 2007



A word of gratitude and apology

Dear Readers of the Sentinel,

Please accept our thanks for your interest in the reborn Sentinel and our apologies for missing a few numbers of the publication in the late winter and spring. In response to overwhelming demand, we determined during the winter to expand from 4 pages to 8, an enormous change in terms of time, material, editing and compositing. This effort unfortunately coincided with a spate of illnesses and injuries, major distractions to several of our key staff members and more than a month's worth of computer glitches, as well as round-the-clock preparations for the out-

standingly successful spring visit to Ti of the National Trust Main Street Center (as to which, please see the story immediately to the right of this note). Thus, the interruption in publication.

Thank you for sticking with us and standing by us. As you will see here, we are back with you again and will make every effort to keep the paper coming out on a regular basis. We hope you continue to enjoy the Sentinel. Please be sure to forward your comments to Editor Brick Howe at 585-2746/7762 or eahowe@rosevilleco.com.

—Ed.

National Main Street visits Ti Main Street Partnership

by Teresa Lynch,

Program Director,

National Trust Main Street Center

When Brick Howe asked me to write a personal account of the resource team visit my colleague Todd Barman and I made to Ticonderoga on May 8-10, the Tony Bennett standard — “I Left my Heart in San Francisco” — popped into my mind.

No, I am not comparing Ticonderoga to San Francisco's physical and social attributes. The song's title references a feeling I have about Ticonderoga based on the warmth the community has displayed during my prior reconnaissance and training visits — and intensified on this visit, when Todd and I were made to feel part of the Ticonderoga family.

The jam-packed schedule for the resource team visit only seemed to heighten the level of enthusiasm and can-do spirit I have come to see as particularly “Ti.” I formed this impression during my first encounter with the community several years ago when Chooch Dechame, Walt Lender and Brick visited the National Trust offices in DC, on behalf of Ti, to find out everything they could about the Main Street Program.

Before Todd and I arrived in town for our visit, we already had a good deal of information about the downtown in hand, so that our limited time on the ground could provide us with an opportunity to listen to as many voices as possible and to observe existing political, social, and economic and physical conditions. The candid responses and good

ideas we got from the many community individuals Todd and I met gave us a deeper insight into the issues and challenges the Ticonderoga Main Street Partnership (TMSP) will need to meet as it leads the downtown revitalization efforts. But those meetings also gave us a keen understanding of the many assets that Ti citizens have at their disposal as they work on revitalization of the central business core.

Downtown stakeholders — merchants, members of the tourism community, professionals, town and county officials, academic leaders, realtors, property owners, restaurateurs, hoteliers and the cultural/preservation community — attended interviews in force, told us about their businesses or organizations, and spoke about their relationship to downtown revitalization activities. They asked questions and told us about the outcomes they would like to see from our visit. Some of the most important were:

- Tell us what can be done to enhance the rear ends of buildings facing the river.
- Look at the entrances and gateways to town and to downtown in particular — give us some ideas for improvements.
- Tell us how to integrate students in meaningful ways to assist the revitalization process.
- Tell us what incentives are needed to encourage existing businesses to expand and to attract new business development.

Continued on page 4, col. 3

Venture start-up seminar: What new entrepreneurs should know at outset

by Wayne St. Clair

Interested in starting a business but don't know where to begin? The North Country Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at the State University of New York College at Plattsburgh, in partnership with the Ticonderoga Main Street Partnership, Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce, Ticonderoga Federal Credit Union and PRIDE of Ticonderoga, hosted the free seminar, “New Venture Start Up: Helping People Achieve Business Success,” on August 23.

The seminar took place at the Ticonderoga campus of North Country Community College, through the College's gracious cooperation with SBDC and the seminar sponsors. The seminar brought together a team of experts, under the leadership of SBDC Director Dee Clark, to discuss topics new entrepreneurs should know before they put the “Open for Business” sign.

“Steps to Take to Start a Business” answered such questions as “When should I register my company?” and “Do I need a federal ID number?” “Planning for Your Business” discussed the importance of advance planning and research to ensure business success. Attendees were introduced to business plans and how to write such a plan during the start-up phase and as a reminder of goals as the business grows.

Also explained was how to research potential markets for a new product or service to evaluate the chance of business success before investing money in the idea. “Financing Myths” addressed what new entrepreneurs should know about financing their new businesses and provided an overview of financing options available to new businesses, including information on SBA loan guarantees, what a banker looks for when evaluating a business loan application, alternative lenders and other financing options. During the “Local Business Resources” segment, presenters discussed other options for business assistance. Materials and tips from the seminar are available through the Main Street Partnership. If such excerpts from the program would help you, please contact Robert Pell-deChame, chair of the Main Street Partnership's Economic Restructuring Committee, at 585-2556 or mercure615@aol.com. The Committee itself offers one-on-one consultations and introductions to expert consultants at SBDC. It also periodically in the future when demand presents itself and resources permit.



Opportunity to improve Ti: Signage tangle noted and photographed by NTMSC during their visit to town

**SHOPPING IN DOWNTOWN TI SERVES US ALL!
THAT MEANS ALL OF US!**

Ticonderoga Sentinel

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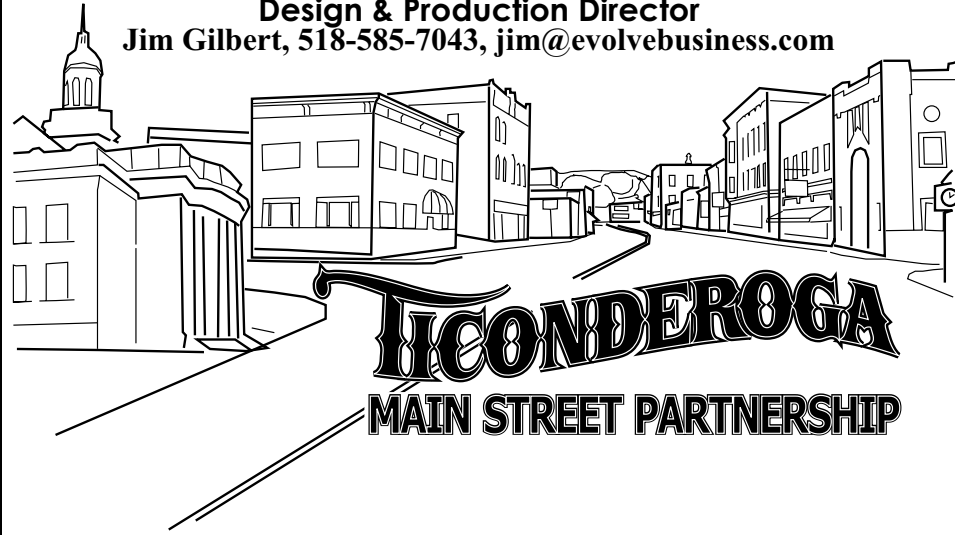
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Publishers Emeriti
Ken and Sue Weidner

Publisher
Robert Pell-deChame, 518-585-2556, robdcee@aol.com

Editor
Brick Howe, 518-585-2746/7762, eahowe@rosevilleco.com

Design & Production Director
Jim Gilbert, 518-585-7043, jim@evolvebusiness.com



Update on Lowe's status

by Robert C. Dedrick, Ticonderoga Town Supervisor

Plans for the Lowe's Home Improvement Store are progressing and are in their final stages.

A wetland mitigation dilemma with the Army Corps of Engineers has been solved.

SHPO, the State Historic Preservation Agency, is reviewing both the wetland mitigation site and the avoidance plan for disposal of excess soil at the location on Shannahan Road. The permit from SHPO, which was necessary because significant artifacts were found immediately adjacent to Shannahan Road, will be forthcoming shortly.

Once SHPO signs off, both the Army Corps of Engineers and the Adirondack Park Agency are expected to issue the final permits quickly.

The easements and dedications for the sewer and water lines have been secured. The work on the sewer problem at St. Clair Street and Wayne Avenue has commenced and

is in its final stages. Approval for a traffic light on the Wicker Street entrance is also being finalized.

The store is being constructed 800 feet from 9N. Ticonderoga Property Development LLC will develop the site so it is "pad ready" for a lease to Lowe's Company, which will construct and operate a 153,000-square-foot retail store. The Lowe's store will face the Wicker Street/9N entrance to the property from behind a 400-car parking lot.

The initial excavation work on the project has begun, with an opening date scheduled for early 2008.

The Town of Ticonderoga has been wholeheartedly behind this project. Lowe's will provide jobs, sales tax and new assessment which will all be beneficial to our Community. Hopefully it will also help attract ancillary businesses to this area.

The Lighter Side

Les Jongleurs

A woman walks up to a movie theatre box office with a sheepdog. She buys two tickets to the show, and she and her dog proceed into the lobby. There, while awaiting the start of the film, she buys two enormous tubs of popcorn (extra butter and salt), a gigantic box of JubeJubes, and two extra-large Cokes.

They enter the theatre-proper. The feature film rolls. But the sound track is drowned out entirely by the sheepdog — crackling his popcorn, gumming the JubeJubes and lapping and slurping his Coke. The other patrons howl in protest and the manager is summoned, but he can do nothing because the sheepdog is a ticketholder.

On the way out, after the feature, the manager, now purple-faced, sarcastically addresses the woman with the dog: "Well! I certainly hope your dog enjoyed the movie!"

"Actually," she replies, "I think he liked the book better!"

Piece of Mind

by Lois Gunning

SNOWS OF YESTERDAY

This year's snowfalls reminded me of the past. Snow was falling steadily and purposefully and the weatherman said it is a real Nor'easter. The chickadees turn to face the winter's wind hoping to soothe their ruffled feathers as I watch the driven snow redress the landscape and swiftly end the shortening day. The wind in the balsams that surround the meadow takes me back to yesterday's snows of the 40's and 50's — the kind we don't seem to get anymore.

It is the winter of 1945. The war is still going on, but we are somewhat isolated from it except for when we gather 'round the RCA console. It is morning and I awaken to the rattle of the pancake griddle and the smell of fried sausage. My father has come in from the barn for breakfast amid loud voices and stamping of feet.

There is a single window beside

father. The town's ancient grader is stuck in drifts six feet high up the road, they say, and the drivers are looking for men to help shovel. My father pulls on his wool socks and then wraps his legs with strips of army green wool that are called leggin's. Uninsulated rubber boots, wool shirt and cap and leather woodsman's mitts with wool liners prepare him for the work ahead.

I watch the men as they make their way toward the buried snowplow. This is an exciting day for me with lots of snow to play in, the banks that nearly reach the electric wires, and neighbors in and out to visit. Then, after the road is cleared, there will be hours of sledding.

The storm of Valentine's Day 2007 was very similar to those of my childhood. With it the winds of winter brought the same mysterious sounds and the same sparkling quilt of knee-deep snow.



**An Adirondack cabin in the snow.
Wouldn't this have felt great in mid-summer?
Just wait: It won't be long!**

my bed with four ice-covered panes and I run my fingers over a light layer of snow on my windowsill. The snow reaches halfway up my window and the paths to the chicken house and cattle barn are a sea of white. The sky is gray and threatening, but the snow and wind have stopped.

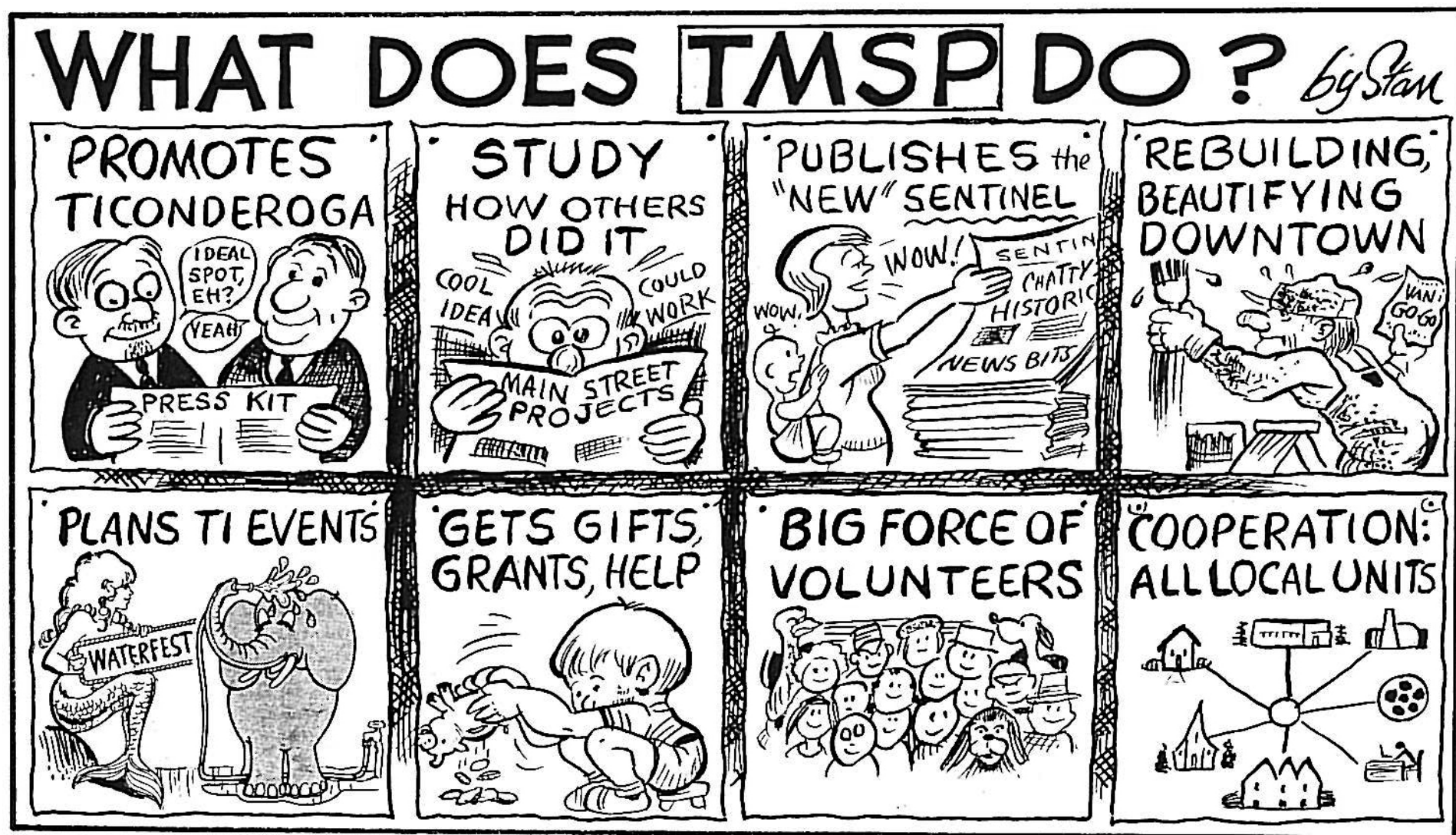
Our neighbors, Jim Fleming and Vern Armstrong, are talking to my

But today's equipment is a formidable opponent of any storm, and the roads and the activity of everyday living were too soon back to normal. Today has its charms, though some of those charms have come with a degree of danger to the environment. And I miss that endless snowed-in feeling of my youth when the whole neighborhood shoveled and all the kids went sledding on the hill.

**TICONDEROGA IS OUR HOME. LET'S KEEP
THE TOWN LOOKING FORWARD AND MAKE IT
EVER STRONGER!
THIS BENEFITS US ALL TODAY AND
WILL BENEFIT US ALL TOMORROW!**

The View From The Portage

Stan Burdick



Boys basketball 2006/7

by Bill Herrmann

The 2006-2007 Boys JV and Varsity Basketball teams did an extraordinary job this past season. The JV boys showed that you don't mess with the Sentinels. The Varsity team did the same. Under coaches Matt Cossey and Dan Dorsett, what could go wrong? With both teams making it to the finals, the boys showed that they did the best they possibly could.

The JV Boys Basketball team of 06-07 showed not only the people of Ticonderoga, but the people of Upstate NY, that you have to treat the Sentinels with respect. Having lost only one game out of the twenty played, the boys really did the best they absolutely could and then some. "We were 19-1 overall and 16-0 in the league," stated Coach Cossey when asked about the season. Even with that loss, to Hudson Falls, they showed that they would put up a fight until the very end.

The boys also showed teams from Ausable, NAC, Seaton, Lake Placid, and Moriah that if you come back for a second game, the long season did not make our team weaker, but stronger. Hopefully next year, whether or not Mr. Cossey loses some of his boys to Varsity, the JV team will strive just as hard and do even better.

The 2006-2007 Varsity Basketball Team showed that the Sentinels are a great team. With the leadership of Coach Dan Dorsett, the boys made it to the finals. The team proved that, whether it was a player's last year as a Sentinel or he's coming back next year to play, the Sentinel boys are dead serious when it comes to

basketball. They showed Lake George, Lake Placid, Moriah and NAC not to mess with the Varsity boys of Ticonderoga. Facing Lake Placid twice in the regular season with scores of 57-33 and 54-38 and once in the semi-finals with a score of 68-28, the Sentinels showed that basketball is something to take pride in. In the end, even when losing, the Varsity boys showed that, if you fight to the end, you can still have scores like 41-38 and 61 to 55.

The JV and Varsity Boys Basketball teams of 2006-2007 showed how the game should be played. Along with the girls teams, the boys did not let any of the teams from NAC win. The boys also wiped out Lake Placid to show that the Sentinels take on a challenge and don't end until the win is theirs. Good job, JV and Varsity Boys Basketball teams of 2006-2007!

CYC powers LaChute spring housecleaning

by Kristi Mars, CYC Director

As part of a Community Service Learning Project, youth from the Ticonderoga Middle and High Schools hosted a cleanup on May 5th along the LaChute River Walk, and they received the help of a wide spectrum of community residents. More than 100 people showed up for the event, focusing on the area between Frazier Bridge and the Verizon Wireless Building in preparation for the installation of six fitness trail stations.

The project gave the youth an opportunity to be part of improving a major feature of the community and also supported the Ticonderoga Main Street Partnership's "Waterfest" event set for the LaChute and for Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park on July 14th. In addition, having the fitness trail available for use by the

community event will be a major community asset and will also help build a positive relationship between the youth and the community.

The Ticonderoga-Putnam-Hague Connecting Youth and Communities Coalition (CYC) and PRIDE of Ticonderoga Inc. received an \$8,000 grant from The Vermont Community Foundation under the Kelsey Trust Fund for the project.

The youth need as much support from the community as possible. Revitalizing and cleaning up our community, for the benefit of all its stakeholders, are the main goal of the organizations mentioned above. Your help for our youth to "Revive Ti" is appreciated enormously, and all of us hope that that spirit will continue in our community. For more information about CYC and its programs, please contact Kristi Mars at 585-6366.

The "Road to Recovery" from cancer

by Brick Howe, Kiwanis Communications Chair

The American Cancer Society's "Road to Recovery" program provides rides to treatment centers for patients without access to other transportation. It is greatly in need of volunteer drivers for patients living in the Ticonderoga area, program coordinator Audrey Shaw told the Ticonderoga Kiwanis Club.

Audrey works out of Glens Falls, where a large number of this area's patients go for treatment. She advises that, for patients receiving radiation on a daily basis, only one ride each way every several days is required. For such patients, the "Amanda House," an ACS home near Glens Falls Hospital, provides comfortable overnight accommodations.

The RSVP Program of Essex County affords significant mileage reimbursement to Road to Recovery volunteer drivers, provided the drivers themselves are over 55 years of age. Similar arrangements, unlimited as to driver age, are also available for drivers of patients from Warren County.

If you can help this important program, you owe it to yourself to call Audrey today at 792-5377!

Ti high and elementary schools turn dramatic

by Rich Strum

Ticonderoga High School's Sentinel Productions presented its production of "Invitation to Murder" at the high school auditorium on Saturday and Sunday, April 28th and 29th. The play was described as "a murder-comedy" by English teacher and play advisor Amy Crannell.

During a preperformance interview with members of the cast, students talked about what they like best about performing. "I like playing dress-up," said Kat Major; "and I like the immediate feedback." Katie McBride enjoys the positive atmosphere, while Alex Walters likes taking on a role and becoming that other person.

When asked what was the most challenging, the cast almost groaned in unison "Lines! Memorizing lines." Keegan Forgette added that time management is a challenge as well, squeezing in rehearsals and time to go over lines in the midst of all the other demands on high school students. Another problem acknowledged by cast members is figuring out where to stand. One described it as "Doing nothing in an interesting way."

The reward comes when the work comes together in the public performance. Because the stage also functions as a classroom, Crannell said permanent sets for the play don't go up until the night before the first performance. The cast first rehearses with the full stage set Saturday morning, only hours before showtime.

When asked what they liked best about the play itself, one actor, who asked to remain anonymous so as not to ruin the play's ending, blurted out, "I get to die!" Several of the cast enjoy mysteries—everything from watching "CSI" and mysteries on the Lifetime network to reading the works of authors like Lilian Jackson Braun.

Crannell said that the play's author, Whitney Ryan Garrity, was intrigued by the title "Sentinel Productions," and contacted Crannell by e-mail. He has e-mailed several times since, seeking feedback from the cast. Garrity says he most enjoyed writing the role of Carlotta, but Nettie is the audience favorite.

Several cast members have been involved in acting since elementary school. Five participated in the musical productions at Ticonderoga Elementary School.

Over sixty Ticonderoga Elementary School students presented the annual school musical, "The Light Under the Sea," on Wednesday, March 21. The students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades started rehearsals in January for the musical, directed by elementary school music teacher

Wayne Chagnon, with the assistance of first grade teacher Mike Edson.

When asked what he enjoys the most about working with students on the play, Chagnon responded, "I love acting. I love watching the students enjoy themselves." He added that being in the play is a learning experience for the actors. This is the eighth year Chagnon has directed the elementary school musical. Annual elementary school musicals at Ticonderoga date back to the 1970's.

Of the 62 Elementary School students involved this year, 40 had speaking roles. Chagnon noted that participating in the musical teaches students responsibility. Moreover, "being in the play teaches them the importance of teamwork," He said. During the course of rehearsals, Chagnon saw "great strides in overall ability. Their confidence level grows. They have an opportunity to be proud of themselves and their accomplishments."

National Main Street, continued from page 1

- How can we move TMSP into an organizational structure that is financially secure and capable of meeting revitalization challenges?
- What do we need to know about way-finding and directional signage that can help locals and visitors find downtown attractions?
- How can the downtown, the Fort, and other historic and cultural organizations cooperate in a tourism effort that will benefit all parties?
- How can we market downtown through effective special-event and retail promotional activities?
- What sort of image development materials can be produced that will show the variety of activities available in the downtown district?
- How can we improve downtown's business mix so that it combines shopping, dining, entertainment, residential, pro-

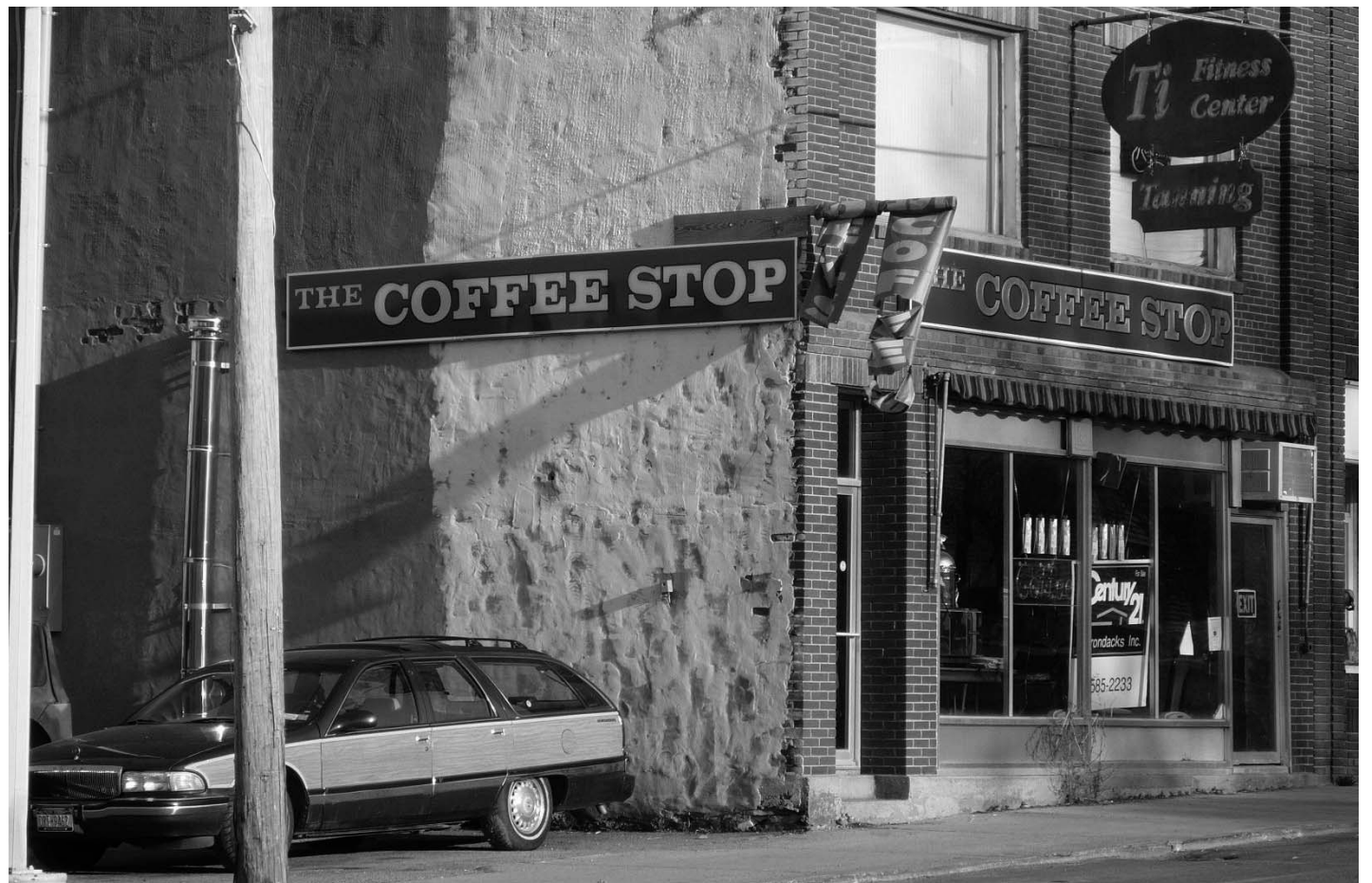
fessional office use and some light manufacturing?

- Help us to address parking issues.

At our public summing-up session our last afternoon in town, Todd and I sought to deal with many of these questions. The resource visit report will respond to all of them and many other topics and will provide specific recommendations to guide the TMSP team and its four standing committees as they move forward in the work areas of promotion, economic restructuring, design, and organization.

Our report should be available by August and anyone who wishes to access a copy can do so through TMSP.

I particularly want to thank all of you who participated in any way to make Todd's and my "work" visit to Ticonderoga so enjoyable. We have found that it's rather easy to leave our hearts in Ticonderoga.



**Still more sites:
Opportunities for
civic improvement
brought to our
attention by
NTMSC**



Putting out the old Sentinel: Memoir of a former editor— Part One

by Lohr McKinstry, Former Sentinel Editor

In 1981, I was the editor of a weekly newspaper in southern Pennsylvania that had just been sold. The now-defunct chain that bought the paper had its own editor. I was out of a job.

I scanned the back pages of Editor and Publisher magazine every week looking for jobs. I found one listed as “Editor wanted for resort area weekly. Must be able to do it all.” That seemed fine to me. As the editor of the Tri-County News, I had been writing, photographing and designing the whole paper already.

I quickly sent off a résumé and some story clippings. Just as quickly, I heard back from Kenneth Weidner, the owner and publisher of the weekly Ticonderoga Sentinel. He wanted me to come to Ticonderoga for an interview.

I packed my American Motors Gremlin and headed for Ticonderoga. I had no idea where Ticonderoga was in northern New York. I’d never been north of Scranton, PA, at that point.

I soon decided I’d greatly underestimated the time it would take to drive from southern Pennsylvania to Ticonderoga. I’d told Mr. Weidner I’d be there in the afternoon, but it was almost 9 p.m. when I approached exit 28 on the Adirondack Northway.

As I drove Route 74 from Schroon Lake to Ticonderoga, I marveled at how remote the area seemed. There were long stretches where no one lived, miles of wilderness. I’d grown up in rural farm country, but this was *remote*.

I could barely make out huge, dark shapes in the distance -- the Adirondack Mountains.

Arriving in Ticonderoga, I quickly found the White Swan boarding house at Montcalm Street and Wayne Avenue. Mr. Weidner had made reservations for me there. The place’s kind and elderly owner allowed me to use the phone to call Mr. Weidner at home, and I explained I’d gotten in late. He said that was OK. I could come by at 9 o’clock the next morning.

After throwing my bag in my room at the White Swan, I walked down Montcalm Street toward the center of the downtown. I hadn’t stopped for dinner, so I was looking for someplace to eat. Nothing seemed to be open, and I finally got to Champlain Avenue, where a place called Ross’s Red Baron was serving pizza and subs. I later learned the Red Baron in the name came from the brand of frozen pizza served there. Since then, the

Red Baron has been torn down, and that space is now the parking lot for the Ticonderoga Post Office. It was a bustling place in 1981, and I ordered a sub to take back to my room.

The next morning, I drove to the Sentinel building at 10 Park Place, a two-story former house with offices for editorial, advertising and layout. It’s now a private residence again. Ken Weidner had his office on the first floor, and Renee Titus was the office manager. She’d been expecting me, and she took me in to see Ken.

Back then, I was in my 20s and Ken was probably in his late 40s. I sat down after the introductions and we talked about my career in journalism, the Sentinel, Ticonderoga, Essex County and what Ken had in mind for an editor: someone who could write all the stories, edit copy from correspondents, take all the photos, develop and print the film and lay out the paper. The editor also had to cover public meetings, most of them at night, and attend all the festivals, Junior Miss pageants and other community events in southern Essex County.

The Sentinel covered Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Moriah, Port Henry, Schroon Lake and North Hudson, along with Hague in Warren County and Putnam in Washington County. The broadsheet-sized paper sold about 4,000 copies every Monday.

I also met Cherie Van Atter, the advertising manager who I later discovered was mostly responsible for the Sentinel’s success at that time. She sold a lot of ads.

At the end of our interview, Ken handed me a season pass to Fort Ticonderoga, told me to drive around the area, check out the Fort and come back to see him that afternoon. A couple of hours later, I meandered back to the Sentinel office. “Well,” Ken said, “are you interested in the job?” I was, and I was hired.

Although Ken wanted me to start the next day and cover a Champ monster symposium at the Crown Point State Historic Site, I had obligations back in the Pennsylvania that I had to fulfill, and it was two weeks before I would return as editor of the Ticonderoga Sentinel.

**Next Issue: The New Editor
of the Old Sentinel**

Achieve Fitness opens

by Robert Pell-deChame

The Ticonderoga branch of Achieve Fitness is now open in the K of C Building on Montcalm Street. Achieve is offering a broad range of fitness, yoga, personal wellness and strength-building programs.

Stop in at Achieve Fitness Ti for full details of its operations. For Achieve’s hours of opening, call 585-5203 or visit www.bonniesprinkle.com.

Guided instructor classes offer spinning, Pilates/yoga, and bosu. And both guided and unguided spinning and machine circuit resistance training are available.

If you’ve tried exercise in the past, but gave up, or did not maintain the levels of results you had developed, Achieve Fitness of Ti warmly invites you to come in for safe, effective, guided, and long-lasting results.

Achieve has issued race, endurance and balance challenges. On “Race Day,” to be announced in the near future, entrants will compete, using the spinning bikes and bosu balls available at Achieve’s Montcalm Street facility.

The spinning bikes race will take challengers on a video-guided tour over our favorite back country bike trails. It is recommended that participants have had 8 to 12 weeks’ recent spinning experience. The second event on Race Day will challenge participants to compete for the longest time balanced on the bosu balls, used in Achieve Fitness’s balancing classes.

Watch this space for announcement of the Race Day date — and meanwhile take advantage of all to be found at Achieve, with the goal of preparing yourself for the challenges and improving your core body skills, as well as making yourself feel the way you’d really like!



The Recipe Box

from Margaret Howe
TACO PIE

The recipe presented here is authentic — to the extent that Anglo versions of Mexican cuisine are ever authentic — in that no two bites are ever the same.

Moreover, the suggested quantities of several ingredients are left vague, for you the chef to tie down from time to time — your eye and your taste buds will tell you when the proportions are about right.

Shredded cheese — either cheddar or prepackaged taco cheese mix
Iceberg lettuce — half a head should do it

1 can refried beans

½ jar taco sauce or picante sauce

1 cup sour cream

½ cup mayonnaise

½ package taco mix

Sliced scallions — up to 5 —

including some of the green part

1 small can sliced ripe olives

1 small can chopped chili peppers

Chopped fresh tomatoes — 1 is probably enough

Shred lettuce to make a bed on a dinner plate.

Mix refried beans with taco sauce or picante sauce and place mixture on top of lettuce.

Then mix sour cream, mayonnaise and taco mix and place this mixture on top of refried-bean mixture.

Top that layer with tomato, olives, chili peppers and scallions.

Finally, top the entire dish with shredded cheese.

Serve cold (optionally, refrigerated), with tortilla chips for scooping.

Serves about 12 but is infinitely expandable.

Where is it? contest

by Robert Pell-deChame

Okay readers, get your spectacles out, dig up those binoculars, or sharpen your eyesight for this contest! The photograph to the left shows a feature of a downtown Ticonderoga building, located somewhere on Montcalm Street. All you need to do to win this contest is to identify the location of the building in the photograph correctly and be the first to submit the correct answer, on paper with your name, address and phone number, care of “TMSP Where Is It? Contest,” Supervisor’s Office, Community Building, 132 Montcalm Street, Ticonderoga, NY 12883. The winner’s name will be announced in next issue of the Ticonderoga Sentinel. Happy searching!

A short history of the Frazier Bridge

by Sharon Reynolds, Executive Director,
PRIDE of Ticonderoga

According to the recent Adirondack Architectural Heritage Newsletter highlighting Adirondack bridges, the Frazier Bridge in Ticonderoga is "among the oldest bridges in the [new] world."

The bridge is a double masonry arched bridge with a cast iron rail. The masonry arches on which the load of the bridge is carried can be seen from the both ends of the LaChute River Walk Trail.

When D. Kelley surveyed the lower falls in 1822, a bridge was built on or about today's site of the Frazier Bridge. In 1836, B. F. Frazier ran a planing mill on river, and in 1845 the same family opened a cabinet-making shop near the existing bridge, which takes its name from that enterprise.

On March 7, 1874, the *Ticonderoga Sentinel* noted the old bridge becoming dilapidated and the need for a new bridge. This led to construction of a Cooper Patent iron bridge, which collapsed in early 1892.

The May 19, 1892, issue of the *Sentinel* reported "a petition . . . to replace the collapsed iron bridge . . . with an arched stone structure." The August 25, 1894, *Sentinel* reported, "Alex Lee is rushing work on the stone bridge. . . . [which] should be completed in about a week."

The new bridge was used as a

public means of transportation until 1959, when International Paper built Building Number 7 and closed North Main Street (now Champlain Avenue) from Exchange Street (now Montcalm Street) to Burgoyne Road.

From 1959 to 1972, the road was used as a footpath for mill workers, but in 1972 International Paper built the present plant on Airport Avenue and began demolition on all of the old mill buildings downtown.

Today, the bridge stands as one of the "few reminders of the water-related manufacturing activities that were once centered at the lower falls on the LaChute River."

The Frazier Bridge, listed on the *National Register of Historic Places*, is now benefiting from the first of three phases of its restoration.

The initial restoration is funded by a grant from the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation administered, through the town, by PRIDE of Ticonderoga.

The funding needed to complete the second and third phases is yet to be identified.

The PRIDE staff and board of directors will be working hard to research funding sources and begin a community-wide fundraising appeal to complete the project in time for the dedication scheduled among the key events of the Quadracentennial in 2009.

Main Streets Conference 2007

by Robert Pell-deChame

The Ti Main Street Partnership (TMSP) merited special mention at this year's National Main Streets Conference, held in Seattle, Washington, March 25-28.

The annual meeting of this National Trust for Historic Preservation gathering, open to all member communities, featured "Building A Sustainable Future" as this year's theme and consisted of over 95 training sessions, events, and workshops, all geared toward the revitalization of downtown business districts. TMSP members Robert Pell-deChame and Jim Gilbert attended.

At the opening plenary session, Doug Loescher, director of the National Trust Main Street Center (NTMSC), highlighted the latest trends, research and innovations from the field. The overflow audience of 1,600 — the largest NTMSC conference to date — heard the Ti Main Street Partnership mentioned prominently as one of New York State's pioneering NTMSC partner communities. Loescher also included in his presentation a photograph of TMSP members taken during Senior Program Officer Teresa Lynch's January visit to Ti.

The plenary session's main speaker was Pulitzer Prize-winning *New York Times* reporter Timothy Egan, on why the issue of sustainability is appealing, particularly to young people, who will become the next leaders on Main Street USA. Taking due account of the "green theme," Egan drew the connection between preservation of our towns and cities and what he called the "civically unselfish act" of sustainable development.

The Bridge Table

by Michael Rogers, Director
Ticonderoga Duplicate
Bridge Club

March-April Masterpoint Winners:

1. Rose Marie Viscardi	1.01
2. Michael Rogers	.99
3-4. Bob Dickson	.90
tie Phil McLaughlin	.90
5. Barbara McLaughlin	.63
6. Lloyd Burroughs	.60
7-8. Cathie Burdick	.59
tie Liz Swanson	.59

May Masterpoint Winners:

1. Rose Marie Viscardi	1.42
2. Michael Rogers	1.30
3. Dolly Kennedy	1.11
4. Babette Rogers	.98
5-6. Doris Deswert	.91
tie Chaire Phillips	.91
7. Bob Dickson	.88

June Masterpoint Winners:

1. Rose Marie Viscardi	3.54
2. Doris Deswert	2.66
3. Michael Rogers	2.08
4. Babette Rogers	1.84
5. Phil McLaughlin	1.62
6. Claire Phillips	1.44
7. Bob Oshins	1.22
8-9. Cathie Burdick	1.12
tie Liz Swanson	1.12

July Masterpoint Winners:

1. Babette Rogers	4.73
2. Michael Rogers	4.45
3. Claire Phillips	3.66
4. Phil McLaughlin	3.45
5. Gloria Singer	3.12
6. Eleanor Sapakoff	2.91
7. Bob Dickson	2.77
8. Rose Marie Viscardi	2.17

All bridge players are welcome to play – **Monday afternoons at 12:30** and **Thursday evenings at 7:00**. For information please call Michael Rogers at **585-3322**.

The Frazier Bridge earlier this year



Basketball: Girls 2006/7

by Bill Herrmann

The 2006-07 season for the Girls Basketball teams has come to a close and the results are in. It was a "roller coaster" season for both the JV and Varsity teams. Under the leadership of Mr. Rick Smith for Varsity and Ms. Shelly Young for JV, the girls did pretty well.

The games started off with a close win for the JV girls and ended the same way. With the leadership of Coach Young, the girls had all the support that was needed to lead them to a respectable season, although not the best ever. They ended with six wins and eleven losses.

And when the girls were winning, they did more than win. With scores of 40-21 and 44-26, the girls showed they could do awesome things. They also showed that when you bring the Sentinels and NAC together, "We are the Champions."

Although having only ten wins out of the twenty-two games played, the Varsity Sentinel girls showed that they could play ball. They either beat the opposite team or pulled close to it.

With wins like 56-13 and 53-23, the girls showed that they could play top-flight ball. They pulled close games with Ausable but came out on top with scores of 35-30 and 47-44.

The girls also showed that close games could be played with other teams such as Plattsburgh (40-30) and Moriah (32-31). The girls beat Moriah every time that they played. The girls of the Ticonderoga Sentinel Varsity Basketball team showed that basketball is meant for players of professional caliber and that they truly are pros.

The Girls JV and Varsity teams of 06-07 showed teamwork. They worked together as teams and did the best that they possibly could. Along with the boys teams, they completely took over the games against NAC no matter who was playing. Congratulations to the girls of the JV and Varsity teams of the Girls Basketball season of 2006-2007.

**WHEN YOU THINK
OF
SHOPPING,
THINK FIRST
OF
DOWNTOWN
TICONDEROGA
FOR ALL
YOUR NEEDS!
WE ALL
WILL
BENEFIT!**

Remembering Something of our Ticonderoga Past

by James D. Neddo

Every once in a while, I, like all of us, think a little on the past. My thoughts tonight go back some forty or so years when I was Chef at the Ti Country Club. I spent many long, hot hours in that kitchen.

The club was managed by Catherine (Kitty) Fortino Brooks (later Garrand), then by Gloria and Leon Mongue, none of whom are with us today. It was a pleasure to work with people such as Mary Lou Greenough, Joan Charboneau, Jane Neddo, Sally Carr, and Tom and Mike Gunning, as well, to name only a few.

Back then, the club was open for lunch and dinner and catered to large banquets and parties.

In the winter months we also catered to sledgers, tobogganers, and snowshoers. They would run in from the cold for hot chocolate and gather around the fireplace that Leon always had blazing, enjoying the lounge and comfortable furniture.

It was also a favorite get-away for many whom I dare not mention.

The guests were for the most part great people. Eileen and Jerry Lawson frequented the club, Eileen, still the lady she always was, so perfectly attired.

Tom and Carolyn Malaney, who were always associated with the club, may be seen much of the time there even today. Tom is now eighty-seven. He says with a twinkle that Carolyn is ninety-two. What a kidder, that Tom!

I still remember Howard Rathbun opening the kitchen door and asking what kind of pies I'd made that day.

Susan and Howard were seen at the club often, Susan still as pretty as she always was.

And of course Joyce Martin (Barker) who we always knew had arrived by her contagious laughter — it could be heard from here to the Monument!

One memory I have is the time Leon and I went to the railroad station to pick up our meat order. It was a very hot day and Leon didn't like the hot weather any more than I did.

So we went straight to Michalak's Tavern, later to become the Lang Branch, then the General's Gate, and now Roofers. From there we headed to the Indian Kettles.

Well, Gloria was out to get us as we never made it to the railroad station to pick up the meat order. As usual she was on top of things and found us. "Here you are!!!" From that day forth she went with us when any order was to be picked up!

Forty years ago Ticonderoga was a bustling, prosperous little town with a variety of top-notch shops and restaurants (the Wagon Wheel, among others, is still here). Though the club has always held its own, the village had an impact on the club.

Wouldn't it be great to see Ti once again become the quaint and bustling community it was not so long ago? Let's all get behind the Ti Main Street Partnership and help that happen!

The Olde Mill Café

by Byron Millar

The Olde Mill Café opened about three years ago at the corner of Montcalm Street and Tower Avenue, across from the Community Building in one direction and from the 1888 Museum in the other.

The building was originally used to manufacture small batches of fine paper and as an International Paper executive office. Then it served as the home of the original Ticonderoga telephone company and as a law office.

Owner/chef Matt Michalak and his father, Deputy Town Supervisor Joe, converted it to restaurant use. The building is now being extensively remodeled with the aid of a grant from PRIDE of Ticonderoga.

The Olde Mill was originally open during Ticonderoga's high season only, but now is open year-round. During the warmer months, its hours are Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 to 9 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. During the winter, it is open Wednesday through Saturday only.

Matt, the holder of culinary arts and baking degrees from Paul Smith's College and formerly a banquet chef in Lake Placid, is a Ticonderoga native and graduate of Ticonderoga High School.

Matt cooks everything to order, including his wonderful hand-made potato chips. Matt calls this technique "the antidote to fast food." Patrons should schedule their meals accordingly.

Matt carries most of his recipes in his head. Here is one that he is generous enough to share with readers of the Ticonderoga Sentinel:

Olde Mill Café Chicken Pot Pie

1 pint chicken stock
5 small cooked and diced boneless chicken breasts
7 peeled and diced full-size carrots
7 diced celery stalks
1 diced large onion

Sauté chicken until brown, then carrots, celery and onions (last until translucent).

Add stock and bring to a boil. Thicken with 1 tsp. cornstarch, dissolved in water.

Place mixture in four crocks. Top crocks with puff pastry (store-bought does fine). Brown pastry in broiler or oven.

Serves 4 heartily.



The refurbished Olde Mill Café and its chef/proprietor

**AND THE SAME
PRINCIPLE APPLIES
TO DOWNTOWN
RESTAURANTS!**

Clayton Harris Delano, early industrial titan in Ti

by Fred V. Provoncha,
Coordinator, Ticonderoga "1888" Heritage Museum

Here is a history of one of Ticonderoga's favorite sons.

Hon. Clayton Harris Delano, a descendant of the Mayflower Pilgrim Richard Warren(e), and the man sometimes called Ticonderoga's first industrial tycoon, was born in Ticonderoga on the 8th of February 1836, married here to Anna Marie Thompson on the 1st day of 1867, died here on the 18th of June 1920, and was buried in the Mt. Hope Cemetery. He fathered three daughters, Kate, Nora and Florence.

He was in a very real sense the industrial father of the town itself.

While a young man, he taught school in South Ti, an experience that he never forgot. No doubt some of those very same hellions who disrupted his classroom later ended up working for him.

It seems that he and Joseph Cook also were the guiding lights behind the Ticonderoga Academy that preceded the old Central School, and Delano endowed a scholarship at Ticonderoga High School.

Delano started out studying law, and was even admitted to the state bar, but poor eyesight shunted him into farming and industry. Never was a man more born to the job.

He pioneered the pulp and paper industry in Ticonderoga. In one way or another, all six pulp and paper mills on the LaChute owed their start to him, as does, in part, the current International Paper mill.

He built the "1888 building" at the corner of Montcalm Street and Tower Avenue as his main office for the Ticonderoga Pulp and Paper Company, which he had founded in 1877. This building is the only remaining 19th-century mill building in the town.

A founding member of the local Masonic Lodge, Delano also ordered built, paid for, and dedicated the soldiers monument in the old central school park as a memorial to our Civil War veterans.

And he served as Ticonderoga Town Supervisor for eight years, and served in the New York State Assembly, there taking a notably active part in the overthrow of the irresponsible bosses then in charge.

As Ticonderoga Supervisor, Delano extensively toured of most of the towns in Essex County, speaking in support of the re-election of President Lincoln. He also made extensive speaking tours in the campaigns of 1866 and 1868.

The very first edition of the Ticonderoga Sentinel was printed in 1874 in a building owned by Mr. Delano, then a part of the Delano-Ives planing mill situated on the old island in the LaChute River.

Here was a man who seemed to embody every desirable quality of his day — honest, pious, trustworthy, loyal, diligent, resourceful, aggressive, pleasant and engaging. While living much of his later life in Boston, he remained closely tied to Ticonderoga and was among its greatest champions.

Of the names that should never be forgotten in Ti, I submit that Clayton Delano's is among the first — perhaps the very first.

To the right:

The "Delano House," as it appeared around the New Year



by Truman Pendiennis

Speaking of Clayton Delano, as we have in the two columns to the left, here is a picture of his house, at the corner of Father Jogues Place and Lake George Avenue. It was originally built in the Italianate style by mason Ephram Blood for Joel W. Holcomb, a large local landowner, in 1857. However, historically speaking, it is most closely associated with Mr. Delano, who remodeled it extensively in its present Queen Anne style between 1884 and 1891. After a number of years, the house fell into a state of considerable disrepair, but it has been restored with

love and care by Judge and Mrs. Dominick Viscardi, who have lived in the house for a number of years and raised their family in it. The house, as the photo shows, exhibits an interesting verticality, notwithstanding its expansive footprint. Among other things, the Delano House features Eastlake-style porches, a porte-cochère, and many panels of colored glass and, on the interior, rooms that are graciously proportioned and sized and extensive dignified wood paneling. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in November 1988.



To the left:

The Church of the Cross, not far from the Delano House, a structure displaying a complementary verticality

More of the Light Side

A turtle walks into a coffee shop. "A prune Danish, carrots Vichy and a coffee malt," he orders. After consultation with the chef, the waitress sets him up and says, "That'll be \$24.75, please." The turtle pays his tab, eats and drinks his meal, leaves a tip and departs. The next day, the turtle walks into the same coffee shop, orders

D. Grappenmaker

a prune Danish, carrots Vichy and a coffee malt and, when the waitress says, "That'll be \$24.75, please," pays the bill, consumes his meal, leaves a tip and goes on his way.

The following day, the turtle walks into the same shop and places the same order. Before turning to her duties, the waitress idly remarks, "You know, we don't see that many turtles in here."

"I'll bet you don't," the turtle retorts, "and, at the prices you charge, I bet you won't see many more!"

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INTERNATIONAL PAPER

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