

July-August-September 07

## **Successful Summer Comes to an End**

Summer events in town have proven successful. I listened with interest to Damien Gormley as he gave an interview to National Public Radio right before **New Land Trust held its Bee Fest** on the Plumadore Road. The **Saranac Flatwater Challenge** -- to benefit asthma sufferers -- in which over 90 paddlers from around the state competed in various races starting from the boat launch behind the town pool to the Cadyville beach, was another hit. Saranac's own **Hill and Hollow** helped celebrate the Battle of Plattsburgh with "The Macomb Ball" featuring period music for their English Country Dance.

The summer town **pool program was a success** with many thanks to the life guards for their supervision and lessons and to Ken Carter for his management, which included a 100% successful Clinton County Health Department inspection. Brent Cringle's summer baseball and softball programs gave town youth the opportunity to grow in vigor and athletic skills.

Art teacher Noreen Sadue brought to Town Hall and the Court House **27 new pieces of high school art that are still on display**. There were many families in town who took advantage this summer of the Town Hall pavilion and meeting room for various family celebrations. We did have to buy a new stove for our kitchen as the old one was no longer safe to use.

We also had a **costly lightning strike** hit Town Hall. It damaged parts of our computer system and fax line. Insurance, less deductible, covered a part of the damage. I've put together a tentative 2008 budget inserting numbers given to me from the department heads. We met twice as a board since then to evaluate and adjust the numbers and will meet some more before bringing it to you later in the fall.

Be sure to read Assessor Steve Petrashune's article in this issue of the Town Crier regarding the "**Middle Class Star**" tax relief program.

A Land Use Specialist visited the Town Planning Board as it started gathering ideas for a vision as to what the town might look like in 25 or 30 years from now.

JCEO worker and Planning Board member Cindy Waldron somehow found time with her family to volunteer over **200 hours to refurbish the historic** markers around the town. She and her family certainly have set an extraordinary example for others in the town who might like to volunteer in a civic project.

Judge Jill Myers, with the help of Court Clerk Carol Plumadore and Judge Karen Waldron-Munson, has written a **Justice Court Assistance Program grant** to fund some security cameras for the court house. The Town Board passed the needed resolution at our August meeting and forwarded it to Cohoes as part of the grant. We will wait and see how the grant evaluators regard Judge Myers's requests.

The DEC dropped its year-long case against the Reed residence in Redford; the town's case will now move forward and is to be heard in late October.

I spoke with a NYSEG official regarding the level of the water in the Saranac River. He said crews are working on the dam in Cadyville and he anticipates that work will continue until the end of October. Therefore, **the water level will not change until the work is done.** More of the same work is scheduled for next year at the same time.

We had two leaks in the Saranac Water District this summer. **Many thanks to volunteers** who helped newly certified Water Treatment Plant Operator Glen Hamel deal with these two incidents: Wayne Lavarney, Bob Parker, and Barney Pfeiffer.

I have delivered ten Welcome Packets to new residents in town. The packets contain a brief history of Saranac, phone numbers, dog registration form, town map, and various other bits of information. The packet is not as fancy as I had originally envisioned, but things have amped up at Town Hall lately.

As I reflect on all the summer's actions from the town's people that I've mentioned in this article and am grateful for their deeds, we head into the splendor of a rural Saranac autumn. I suspect that the next season will be as rewarding -- as Archibald MacLeish writes in his poem, "Immortal Autumn."

I praise the flower-barren fields, the clouds, the tall  
Unanswering branches where the wind makes sullen noise.  
I praise the fall; it is the human season.