

THE PORT HENRY FACT FINDER

Reporting the News and Needs of Port Henry and Surrounding Area

vol. 5, issue #19

May 30, 2015

This issue has been made possible by the generous support of:

The Beebe Family in Memory of Anna Beebe

OOPS!

YES! A giant error occurred in the last issue (vol. 5, issue #19) of the Fact Finder! One that *had* to be corrected immediately, and was, but probably not before some people had read the erroneous statement. For those who may still think the Moriah Chamber of Commerce voted to melt into the Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce, it is quite the opposite! *It was voted that we would NOT become a part of the Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce.* Fact Finder repeats: *It was voted that we would NOT become a part of the Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce.*

It is amazing the power such a small three letter word can hold. Not only can it change the meaning of a sentence by its omission but create the exact opposite meaning by this omission. And a young woman's "yes" or "no" can change her whole life and another's life as well. It makes one wonder, is the weight of that one last snow flake just too much and an avalanche storms down the mountain?

THE LATEST PORT HENRY BUSINESSES NEWS

When you walk up Broad Street to visit the *Made in the Mountains Craft Gallery* you will discover it now has two sides to it, each addressing a different purchasing need. The Craft Gallery continues to offer a large variety of crafts, from jewelry in glass, copper, hand-painted, etc. to one-of-a-kind felt hats and aprons, small tables and burl bowls and pottery ware and more.

Now, on the south side there is *Made in the Mountains Port Resale*. It has lovely old dishes, pottery pots for plants, 1950's, '60's. and '70's costume jewelry (a few may be even older). There are two snowshoes being used as a wall decoration until sold. I had never really looked at snowshoes before, they are beautiful, they are art, at least this pair is. Soon there will be a very old Singer Sewing Machine and other pieces of furniture. The shop is open Wednesday – Saturday, 12 noon – 5 pm. I believe I can safely say, once you have visited it, you will want to come back more than once, if only for its relaxing ambience.

Fact Finder made a visit to Wheelock's old garage to see how **Rich Sleeper** and his son are progressing with upgrading and renovating the huge space for the expanded needs of their *Customizing and Repair Shop*. They have gutted the space and redone the electric and other functional aspects necessary to have a smoothly running, full-service garage. I suggested he should also put in a complete bicycle repair shop. He said he had already planned on that.

Rich said they have to remove the once-very-modern semi-circular show-room window because it is dangerously rotted in many places, but they are going to paint the building. This will be a real pleasure to see as you head north into town proper. When I arrived Rich had just cut a lot of sumac and other fast-growing brush so that the results of their painting efforts will be easily visible, inviting people to pull into the large parking area for their automotive repair needs. Rick said he hopes he will be able to open here in September, but it is just the two of them working here while they also keep the business going in their previous Dugway Rd. location.

Go up, up, up on Edgemont Road and at a slight leveling-off, on your left, just a bit before you get to Beebe's farm, there is a wonderful old house set among its trees and out-buildings and looking out over Lake Champlain, soon to be **Edgemont B&B**. It was built by Truman Bigalow as a home for his wife Bertha and their four daughters. Now it belongs to Vincent and Ceci Dupont since June 2012.

I had heard rumors, from very reliable sources, but this is the Fact Finder and I had to verify these rumors from Vincent Dupont himself. Sitting on the porch of this great old house, I found out that the "reliable sources" were exactly that, quite reliable. It is, as its official name indicates, to be a B&B, focusing on important needs of bicyclists, such as having laundry facilities and air readily available and also providing some of the basic tools a bicyclist might need for adjustments and small repairs, and having a covered bike park. Eventually, Vincent hopes to add a storage service. The bicyclist will send his bike and clothes ahead to be stored until he arrives to use them.

It is quite understandable why this B&B will be a haven for the sweaty, the tired bicyclist. Vincent, himself is a bicyclist, in fact, bicycling helped him find this farm on Edgemont Road. He and his family have been summering in the Adirondacks for about fifteen years and during their drives and bicycling around they discovered Port Henry. They fell in love with the looks of the village on the side of its mountain, the lake at its foot and its views and history. Port Henry and this wonderful old house seemed just right for such a venture as a B&B geared toward bicyclists. However, it is not exclusive, everyone is welcomed. In fact, Vincent said he hopes people will drop in and say "Hi.", and a formal open-house is in the plans for the future.

I am obsessed with old houses and things of wood, so I felt I had walked into heaven when I walked through the door into paneled room after paneled room and not just paneled but gorgeous paneling. One room's ceiling was paneled! Vincent hopes to have his B&B in comfortable operation in June, but he expects it will be a work-in-progress for years to come.

About **King's Inn**. Sadly, King's Inn is back on the market. It was going to be the perfect sale. The new owner-to-be wanted to retain the same staff and reopen the bedrooms to travelers. All the pieces needed to complete a sale just didn't fall into place; and it took months to realize this "perfect sale" was simply not going to happen. However, while waiting for another "perfect buyer" to appear, King's Inn is still functioning as usual and **King's Corner** is filling its food niche quite nicely for all who come through the door.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Friends of the Sherman Free Library**, Port Henry, are sponsoring a wine and cheese tasting on Saturday, June 13, from 6-8 pm at the library. There will be twelve different wines to sample, a variety of cheeses to taste, and hors d'oeuvres. New this year will be strawberries to dip in chocolate. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door on the night of the event. Tickets are available at the library. For further information call Jackie Viestenz at 546-9855.

Luci Charpenter will be opening **Synchronicity** – a unique boutique by Light Works Reiki, on June 1st from 2 – 6 pm. Fact Finder dropped in today, Friday and was so intrigued by what I saw, I have to go back on Monday! Hope to see a lot of my friends there! __

pH7 IS WEARING ITS SPRING HAT

reported by Jackie Viestenz

Six volunteers planted annuals in the Village of Port Henry on May 19, We were very lucky with the weather; the predicted storm held off until after the planting was done. The areas planted are: three boxes in front of Mac's grocery, two planters by the war memorial (by the Village Hall), by the library, the big planter in the Park, three pots in front of the Chamber of Commerce office, two planters on the porch of the information booth, the Broad Street circle (aka the Oval), seven pots on Main and

Broad Streets and four boxes by the Johnny Podres sign. Fact Finder is breathless just reading about all this work!

Note: this could not have been done without the help of volunteers. Thank you to everyone who helped. Also, thanks go to the Village of Port Henry who pays for the plants and to Mountain Lake Services who planted the planters on the two bridges. Mountain Lakes has also volunteered to water these planters and the trees on Main and Broad Streets. Fact Finder also would like to add a big “thanks” to all these volunteers whose efforts will make Port Henry beautiful and welcoming, for ourselves and visitors, this summer and fall.

Look for the next issue on **Saturday, June 13, 2015** at Mac’s, Moriah Pharmacy, Sherman Free Library, George’s Restaurant, John Eisenberg’s Service Center, Ken and Paula LaDeau’s Champlain’s Best Wash, Don Foote’s “Miss Port Henry” Diner, and TFCU. NOTE: The Fact Finder may also be found on-line at porthenrymoriah.com. “Fact Finder” is the first item on the third drop-down menu.