

The Tupper Lake Free Press

and Tupper Lake Herald

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from the free press files...

October, 1986

The Town of Altamont board agreed, 23 years ago this month, to sell the Big Tupper Ski Area to Roger Jakubowski, the flamboyant New Jersey millionaire who had been buying up properties and businesses all over the Adirondacks.

The price Mr. Jakubowski would pay for the popular ski center and the 630 acres of Mt. Morris property on which it sat was \$550,000.

Under the conditions of the contract of sale, a \$50,000 down payment would be held in escrow by Mr. Jakubowski's attorney, Timothy Smith of Lake Placid, until the real estate transaction closed May 15, 1987. Interest on the sum would be split between the town and Mr. Jakubowski. The balance of the sale price would be paid to the town at the closing.

The American Legion Mountain Camp on

Big Tupper Lake- for 57 years a convalescent care and vacation retreat for thousands of New York State veterans and their families- was expected to be sold to three businessmen who intended to develop and subdivide the magnificent shorefront parcel as home sites.

The executive committee of the American Legion Mountain Camp Inc. had narrowed a field of five sales offers down to only one, submitted by Carl DeSantis of Lake George, Edward Smith of Bolton Landing, and Robert Rider of Bridgeville, Delaware.

Kenneth Denning, a quiet and caring man who had spent nearly half a lifetime helping accident and illness victims here to overcome their crippling disabilities, was honored as Tupper Lake's Citizen of the Year during the annual

chamber of commerce awards banquet 23 years ago this month.

The restoration and reconstruction of the commercial premises at 80 Park Street earned the four people responsible, the chamber's "business recognition" award for 1986.

Haile North, his real estate associate, Maggie Gillis and her sons, Rob and John Gillis were honored for their bold investment of time and money in the revitalization project 23 years ago, which brightened the entire Park Street area.

The property, vacant for several years, was purchased by the group earlier in the year from Franklin County, which held title to it for back property taxes. The reconstruction work spanned most of the summer and fall construction season. Just finished, the building featured two storefront

offices, one for the headquarters for Haile North's H.N. Realty, and three modern and spacious apartments.

A new town committee was established here 23 years ago to go after a state or federal run prison for the community, and one of the volunteer group's first jobs would be to find suitable building sites for such a facility.

The group was formed at a meeting called by Supervisor Dean Lefebvre, who in August began talking about attracting a prison or similar facility to Tupper Lake.

Members of the Tupper Lake Business and Professional Women's Club honored Linda Provo as the club's "Woman of the Year" at a ceremony held at the Pine Grove Restaurant 23 years ago this month.

Editorial

Ballot proposition No. 1 must pass!

Ballot Proposal One on the November 3 ballot has special importance to the people of Tupper Lake. Our lives could be dramatically altered by its failure.

Both houses of the state legislature, at the urging of Senator Betty Little and others, agreed to place on this fall's ballot a constitutional amendment that would allow a land swap along Route 56 near Sevey's Corners so that the New York Power Authority and National Grid could avoid an environmentally sensitive detour through the woods in order to bring the new power line to Tupper Lake. The measure was passed by two consecutive state legislatures- in 2007 and this year.

Taking the new line on the six-mile detour through the woods made no sense. It would have involved building a road through old growth forest and in and around 95 ponds and wetlands. By contrast, using alongside Route 56 disturbs nothing. For some reason, many years ago, pioneers were either permitted to build the north-south route across the state forest preserve- and it continues that way today- or he highway may have predated the creation of the forest preserve.

For decades Tupper Lake suffered from frequent and often long electrical outages, due to our dependence on a single, heavily treed utility line from the Lake Clear substation. There were times in recent memory when people could have frozen to death in their homes in long outages here.

Finally a few years ago, a new Tupper Lake Electrical Commission, chaired by Ben Peets, was able to persuade state officials that Tupper Lake needed and deserved reliable power. Considerable help came from Senator Betty Little and Governor George Pataki.

In September, 2004, an agreement was executed between the villages of Tupper Lake and Lake Placid, National Grid and the Power Authority to alleviate this long standing reliability problem.

One of the elements of the solution was a new 23-mile transmission line from Stark Reservoir at Colton to Tupper Lake. All of the line followed the state highways from there to here, including the two-mile stretch of Route 56 that sits in the forest preserve.

The constitutional amendment put forth to state voters on November 3 permits the line to run through the two miles of forest preserve next to the highway, and avoid the environmentally-costly six-mile detour through the woods. The chosen route not only protects the environment, it saved National Grid from building four extra miles of transmission line through undeveloped territory. It also offers much easier access for maintenance crews in the future.

John Sheehan of the Adirondack Council stopped by our office recently as part of a sweep of New York State he and his colleagues are doing to educate media people on the importance of a "yes" vote on the ballot question.

While we don't agree with the preservationist-leaning Adirondack Council on most things, we certainly do on this one. -And we appreciate what John and others are doing to spread the word about its importance.

The curious things about the ballot question is that the utility line across the two-mile stretch of forest preserve near Sevey's Corners is already up and operating. Tupper Lake has been enjoying a reliable supply of electricity via that line since May.

"What if the proposition fails?" we asked Mr. Sheehan. He said he shuddered to think of the consequences.

If state voters were to nix the ballot question, that could possibly put Tupper Lake back in that precarious and dangerous position of reliance on the old Lake Clear line until a solution could be found. We can't imagine that would happen, but it could.

Yesterday, local officials were joined by New York Power Authority and National Grid leaders at the Tupper Lake substation to celebrate the line's completion and point up the importance of support for the constitutional amendment on the \$30 million project.

Asked about what would happen in the event the question failed, Richard Kessell, NYPA's president and chief executive officer, said his authority and National Grid are committed to getting the amendment passed, even if it takes years.

Hopefully it won't come to that. We would encourage local residents to spread a message in the next 14 days to friends and family members in other parts of the state to urge them to vote "yes" on ballot "Proposal One, An Amendment."

-Dan McClelland

Letters to the Editor

Don't flush household pharmaceuticals

To the editor:

On Wednesday, October 21st, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., the New York State Department of Environmental Protection Agency will be accepting unused and unwanted household pharmaceuticals for safe disposal. The collection site will be at the DEC offices at 1115 NYS Rt. 86, Raybrook.

This collection is part of the DEC's "Don't Flush your Drugs" campaign. It's aimed at raising awareness about the environmental impact of flushing either prescription or over the counter drugs, where they enter the ground

water. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove pharmaceuticals.

North Star Prevention Programs and the Franklin County Prevention Task Force support this initiative and safe disposal of prescription drugs for several reasons. It's estimated that everyday, 2,500 youth ages 12 to 17 abuse a pain reliever for the first time. Parents, grandparents and neighbors need to lock up and secure their prescription medicines. When a prescription is no longer used, the pills need to be disposed of immediately and safely. Collection sites

like the one in Ray Brook ensure the safety of our youth, as well as our water sources.

Other suggestions to help monitor pill use is to count the number of pills you have- are any missing? Does anyone ask to "borrow" pills from you? Are you surprised by the number and varieties of pills you yourself are taking? Is your doctor aware of what medications other health care professionals may have prescribed for you?

We encourage the residents of Franklin County to be aware of how their

prescriptions are stored, used, and how they're disposed of. Take advantage of the collection event in Raybrook this week. For more information, you can contact Richard Wagner at DEC (518) 897-1241 or contact your local school's Student Assistance Counselor.

Sincerely,
Brooke Hample, North Star Student Assistance Counselor, TLCSD, Staff at North Star Prevention Programs, Citizen Advocates, Inc. and County Prevention Task Force

Thank you for following school dress code

I am delighted to express my gratitude for a positive and smooth start to the 2009-2010 school year. With new rules and expectations, particularly to the middle/high school dress code, I was somewhat anxious about the students adapting to the new policies. I am proud of the students who routinely remove their hats upon entering the building and those who respectfully acknowledge a friendly reminder from the faculty and staff.

In addition to hats, hoods and other head coverings, the latest addendum to the dress code includes bandanas. Bandanas are a universal gang symbol and specific colors represent exclusive

gangs. Although the Tupper Lake community is fortunate enough to not have widespread gang activity, it is my duty to ensure the school is a safe place for students to learn and grow.

Every policy the school develops is a step in the right direction to strengthen an environment that compels students to achieve their goals and become responsible citizens of our society. I am confident the

students will continue to comply with the bandana policy.

I am pleased with the respect the students have demonstrated during the first month of this school year. I appreciate the parents' support of the school dress code and the teachers' vigilance to remind the students of the school's expectations. It is my goal to provide a safe, positive and caring environment that

fosters learning. Student safety is of utmost importance in the Tupper Lake Central School District. Thank you parents, for encouraging your child to abide by the code of conduct. I look forward to a wonderful year at Tupper Lake Middle/High School.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Pamela Martin,
Middle/High School Principal
Paid thank you letter

Support Doug Hoffman for Congress

To the editor,

Why is this election so important? Because who controls the House of Representatives controls the purse strings of the federal government. Because the nation is so far in debt. Because people who are deep in debt can never be free.

Send the Republican party a strong message. Return to your Conservative constitutional roots. We will not support Liberal, NEOCON, Republican in name only. You have a choice between a Liberal Republican, a Liberal Democrat and a Constitutional Conservative. Help restore the vision of our forefathers. Vote Doug Hoffman for Congress on November 3rd!

Bill King
Tupper Lake
pd political letter


Insurance tips...

Did You Know?

Q: Is it true that one of the fastest growing crimes in America is identity theft?

A: Yes, but there is good news. Many insurance companies now offer the option to add identity theft coverage to home or auto policies.

-this insurance tip presented by Insurance Broker Dan McClelland and the agents at CBNA Insurance Agency.



ARISE of Northern New York -Big Tupper Ski Area Initiative

P.O. Box 1200 Tupper Lake, New York 12986

Help is on the way to reopen Big Tupper !

In recent weeks many people have started to step forward in many ways to help ARISE reopen the Big Tupper Lake Ski Center this winter. One part of the effort to raise the \$60,000 that ARISE officials estimate it will take to reopen and operate the ski center is a financial drive from local and area patrons and supporters. Four patron levels have been established: A Double Black Diamond Patron (\$1,500); Single Black Diamond Patron (\$1,000); Intermediate Trail Patron (\$750) and Novice Trail Patron (\$500). "Supporters" are those who donate under \$500 to the capital campaign. Double Black Diamond patrons will receive a family season pass for four plus their name or their business name on a tower. Single Black Diamond patrons will receive a family season pass for four plus their name or their business name on a chair. The intermediate trail level of patronage entitles the holder to a family season pass for four plus their name on a wall plaque in the lodge and the novice trail patrons will receive a family season's pass for four.

Here are some folks who recently became financial patrons:

<p>Double Black Diamond Patrons-</p> <p>Black Diamond Patrons-</p> <p>Green Novice Trail Patrons-</p>	<p>Johnson & Roalsvig, attorneys</p> <p>Jim & Mary Shaheen</p> <p>Tim & Rosi Littlefield</p> <p>Mary R. Mosher</p> <p>Jeffrey Powell Co. Inc.</p> <p>Pam and Dana Savard</p>
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Here are some folks who recently became supporters:

Tony and Cheryl Mercurio
Shaheen's Motel
Tim Wennrich
Jean Felio
Alfred Aseel

Here's how you can become a patron or supporter of the Big Tupper Effort:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Patron or supporter level: _____

As a 501-3C not for profit corporation all donations to ARISE of Northern New York are tax deductible. Checks should be made out to ARISE of Northern New York and sent to the above address.