

**Cattaraugus County Planning Board**  
**May 27, 2004**  
**County Center**  
**Little Valley, NY**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Paul Bishop, Chairman  
William Sprague, Vice Chairman  
Ann Padlo, Secretary  
Tina Abrams  
Kameron Brooks  
Robert Keis  
James Rich  
David Rivet

**PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Paul Mager, Assistant Secretary  
Jack Berger  
Charles Couture  
Florence Fuller

**PLANNING STAFF PRESENT:**

Thomas M. Livak, Director  
Terry H. Martin, Chief Planner  
David P. Paoletta, Planner  
Margaret E. Puszcz, Stenographic Secretary

**GUESTS:**

James Ellis, County Legislator  
James Beach, Councilman, Town of East Otto  
Joan Petzen, Ag & Farmland Protection Board & Cornell Coop Ext.  
Kathy Kellogg, Buffalo News

Chairman Bishop called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*David Rivet moved with a second from William Sprague to approve the April 29, 2004 meeting minutes as submitted.*  
*Carried.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

**East Otto Historic School Building**

Terry Martin reported that this Planning Board, at its February 27, 2003 meeting had supported the nomination of the East Otto School (currently the East Otto Town Hall) to the National and State Registers of Historic Places.

James Ellis, County Legislator and James Beach, Councilman, Town of East Otto are requesting that the Planning Board look at this issue again and put into the record the cover letter from Michael Lennon, AIA on the Existing Conditions Report for the East Otto Union School which states that "...not only does this building have significant architectural value, but in its present form it would have great merit as a community center that could service East Otto and the surrounding area..."

Mr. Ellis and Mr. Beach reported to the Planning Board that there is not a consensus of the Town Board to support the nomination. Some would prefer to demolish the school building and build a new Morton building. Years ago the Cattaraugus School District deeded the Union School and a playground to East Otto on the conditions that it forever be used as a municipal facility. This is one of the reasons that the building has not been torn down already. The community

is in favor of restoring the building.

Terry Martin stated that he has reviewed the school building in light of the recently adopted Planning Guidebook for Cattaraugus County. He described how this school building and its nomination to the National and State Registers of Historic Places is consistent with county visioning and with Volume 1 of the Smart Development for Quality Communities Guidebook Series, Elements of A Countywide Vision.

Upon considerable discussion, the following motion was made and passed:

*Robert Keis moved with a second from William Sprague that a letter of support be sent to the Town of East Otto Councilmen giving the following reasons the nomination of the East Otto School to the National and State Registers of Historic Places is consistent with county visioning and with Volume 1 of the Smart Development for Quality Communities Guidebook Series, Elements of A Countywide Vision and respectfully ask them to consider this information in their decisions regarding the East Otto School (page number references are to Volume 1):*

- A community needs to create a sense of place and identity (p. 13.)
- The future of our communities depends upon maintaining and preserving a distinctive rural community character as a vital part of local economic development. (p. 19).
- Existing community centers and hamlets and their historic nature need to be preserved and enhanced (p. 20).
- Current and future generations can enjoy sustainable, quality communities if they are based on a shared vision (p. 24).
- The distinct history and heritage of Cattaraugus County should be celebrated (p. 26).
- Historic buildings and small town character need to be promoted and preserved (p. 28).

*Carried.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **General Municipal Law Section 239 (1) & (m) Referrals**

#### **City of Salamanca – Zoning Map Amendment – 262, 231, & 17 Crawford Street, Front Avenue Lot, and Hillview Homes**

David Paoletta reported that the City of Salamanca has submitted a Zoning Map Amendment to change 5 parcels from R-1 to R-2. The reason for the change is that R-1 doesn't allow multi housing where R-2 does with a Special Use Permit. The City is in the process of amending its zoning and eventually, R-1 will allow multi housing with Special Use Permit. But this process will not be completed for another six months; therefore they wanted to change these parcels at this time. They have completed SEQR and held a public hearing with no negative comments being made. Staff recommendation is approval.

*Tina Abrams moved with a second from William Sprague to approve the City of Salamanca's Zoning Map Amendment for 262, 231, and 217 Crawford Street, Front Avenue Lot and Hillview Homes from R1 to R2. Carried.*

#### **City of Salamanca – Site Plan Review – 191 Center Street – Storage Building**

David Paoletta reported that the City of Salamanca has submitted a Site Plan Review and SEQR to construct a 60' x 40' metal building for storage use to include 200 amps electric and a bathroom at 191 Center Street. The building will be used to store maintenance equipment to take care of the complex. The building will not affect parking and will improve maintenance of the complex. A SEQR form was submitted. Staff recommendation is approval.

*Robert Keis moved with a second from Tina Abrams to approve the referred City of Salamanca Site Plan Review and SEQR to construct a 60' x 40' metal building for storage use at 191 Center Street. Carried.*

#### **Village of Ellicottville – Special Use Permit – 1 Monroe Street – Floral Design**

Terry Martin reported that the Village of Ellicottville has referred a Special Use Permit request to operate a floral design

store in an existing building at 1 Monroe Street, which is in the Village Commercial District and has existing off-street and on street parking. Staff recommendation is approval.

*Ann Padlo moved with a second from Kameron Brooks to approve the referred Village of Ellicottville Special Use Permit request to operate a floral design store at 1 Monroe Street. Carried.*

#### **Village of Ellicottville – Special Use Permit – 9 Monroe Street – Real Estate and Property Management Company**

Terry Martin reported that the Village of Ellicottville has referred a Special Use Permit request to operate a real estate and property management company in an existing building at 9 Monroe Street, which is in the Village Commercial District with existing off-street and on street parking. Staff recommendation is approval.

*Ann Padlo moved with a second from Kameron Brooks to approve the referred Village of Ellicottville Special Use Permit request to operate a real estate and property management company at 9 Monroe Street. Carried.*

#### **Village of Ellicottville – Special Use Permit – 27/29 Washington Street**

Terry Martin reported that the Village of Ellicottville has referred a Special Use Permit request to operate a gourmet food store in an existing building at 27/29 Washington Street (corner of Washington and Monroe Streets), which is in the Village Commercial District with existing off-street and on street parking. Staff recommendation is approval.

*William Sprague moved with a second from Ann Padlo to approve the referred Village of Ellicottville Special use Permit request to operate a gourmet food store at 27/29 Washington Street. Carried.*

#### **Village of Ellicottville – Special Use Permit – 38 Jefferson Street**

Terry Martin reported that the Village of Ellicottville has referred a Special Use Permit request to convert an existing garage into a rental apartment (30 day rental) at 38 Jefferson Street, which is in the Village Residential District. Village Code requires a parking plan with one space per bedroom, which they have provided. Staff recommendation is approval.

*Ann Padlo moved with a second from Kameron Brooks to approve the referred Village of Ellicottville Special Use Permit request to convert an existing garage into a rental apartment (30 day rental) at 38 Jefferson Street. Carried.*

#### **Village of Ellicottville – Special Use Permit – 25 Washington Street**

David Paoletta reported that the Village of Ellicottville has referred a Special Use Permit request to operate a real estate business to be located at 25 Washington Street within an existing business known as Gone Wild Creations, which is in the Village Commercial District. Staff recommendation is approval.

*William Sprague moved with a second from Ann Padlo to approve the referred Village of Ellicottville Special Use Permit request to operate a real estate business within an existing business at 25 Washington Street. Carried.*

#### **Village of Ellicottville – Special Use Permits – 32 E. Washington Street, 43 Jefferson Street and 17 Elizabeth Street – 30 Day Rentals**

David Paoletta reported that the Village of Ellicottville has referred three Special Use Permit requests to rent dwelling units in the Village Residential District for rental periods less than 30 days at a time. They all meet the parking requirements. They are all Type II actions under SEQR. They all have qualified parking plans. Staff recommendation is approval.

*James Rich moved with a second from William Sprague to approve the referred Village of Ellicottville Special Use Permit request for rental of a dwelling unit located at 32 E. Washington Street for rental period less than 30 days at a time. Carried.*

*Tina Abrams moved with a second from Kameron Brooks to approve the referred Village of Ellicottville Special Use Permit request for rental of a dwelling unit located at 43 Jefferson Street for rental period less than 30 days at a time. Carried.*

*Robert Keis moved with a second from Ann Padlo to approve the referred Village of Ellicottville Special Use Permit*

*request for rental of a dwelling unit located at 17 Jefferson Street for rental period less than 30 days at a time. Carried.*

David Paoletta stated that he has spoke at length with Robert Miller, Village Planner concerning the Village of Ellicottville entering into an agreement with the County Planning Board to exempt these types of referrals. Mr. Miller is currently drafting a listing to be reviewed and discussed in the near future.

### **Request for Letter of Support / Onoville Marina Floating Dock Project**

Terry Martin reported that we have received a request from Jeff Davis, Recreation Area Manager of Onoville Marina for a letter of support for the proposed replacement of floating dock system No. 56 to be included with their grant application to New York State requesting funding assistance under the State's Environmental Protection Act of 1993 and / or the 2005 Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Mr. Davis explains in his letter of request that these docks are currently the oldest at the facility and were installed in the mid-1970's and had an estimated life span of approximately 20 years. He also states that it is anticipated that the "footprint" of the new dock system would be approximately the same as the existing dock system but would probably contain fewer slips than the current system as more room would be allowed between the fingers in order to accommodate today's wider, taller and longer boats. In addition to the replacement of the floating docks an additional component would be the design and replacement of a new electrical shorepower system to a portion of the new dock system. The estimate project costs, which include design and engineering, will probably exceed \$500,000.

Terry Martin stated that these proposed improvements are consistent with Cattaraugus County's Allegany State Park Perimeter Study which encourages new, higher quality development that will financially benefit the surrounding businesses. He also stated that it was through the efforts of the County Planning Board and staff in resolving the differences between Federal and State Agencies in 1969, that the development and operation of this project, known as the "flagship project" of the County Planning Board, became a reality. Staff recommendation is a letter of support highlighting these points.

*Ann Padlo moved with a second from William Sprague to send a letter of support for the proposed replacement of Floating Dock System No. 56 at the Onoville Marina Park Facility and the design and installation of a new electrical shorepower system to a portion of the new dock system. Carried.*

### **Village of Delevan Storefront Restoration Project**

Terry Martin reported that the Village of Delevan Storefront Restoration Project is drawing to a close with submittal of drawings and sketches from Randall Arendt. Randall had spent November 24, 2003 in the village with elected officials and business owners, touring the streets and storefronts in the morning and meeting 30-40 people in the afternoon, giving them ideas on how to restore their storefronts to the original 1800's décor. He has included suggestions for tree plantings to enhance the Village streets.

Joan Petzen stated that Cornell Cooperative Extension has a Community Tree Program, which inventories the trees and gives recommendations for replacements.

David Paoletta suggested that the Village of Delevan should be made aware of the Cooperative Extension Program.

Joan Petzen indicated that she would be happy to supply the information for dissemination to the Village.

William Sprague stated that the residents should be included this type of program.

Joan Petzen assured him that residents are included.

### **Intergovernmental Reviews**

David Paoletta reported that four Intergovernmental Reviews numbered STW#04.010, 012, 013 and 014 have been received. He noted that 014 is a public water supply project in the Town of Perrysburg. Staff recommendation is received, reviewed, no comment. The Planning Board concurred.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Adoption of Guidebooks**

Chairman Bishop reported that the Cattaraugus County Legislature, adopted Volumes 1 and 2 of Cattaraugus County's Smart Development for Quality Communities Guidebook Series (see attached descriptions) after holding a public hearing on May 26, 2004 on the adoption of the guidebooks. He stated that he had addressed the Legislature (see attached) encouraging the adoption of the guidebooks. He also reported that Charlie Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State also addressed the County Legislature via speaker phone and encouraged the Legislature to adopt these guidebooks.

William Sprague stated that it was very impressive to have the State call the County Legislature concerning these guidebooks and to have the State publish and distribute them as models to all the 1600 municipalities in the State.

Robert Keis stated that the Board should note and thank Terry Martin for his role in shepherding this project from conception to adoption. It's a reflection of his dedication to Planning. Bill Sprague seconded and all of the Board concurred by giving Terry a round of applause.

Terry Martin thanked Thomas Livak for protecting him from other issues while he was doing it. This was a true example of teamwork to accomplish advance planning as maybe contrasted with current planning.

Thomas Livak stated that he would echo Bob Keis' comments and give recognition to Terry for this work.

Terry Martin stated that Harry Willis, requested that we put in our public record, that these visioning guidebooks are not a substitute for a full-blown comprehensive plan, but are the foundation and initial part of a new comprehensive plan for Cattaraugus County.

### **Annual Dinner Meeting**

Location and Speakers: Chairman Bishop reported that the Annual Dinner Meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2004 at the Premier Banquet Center, Olean, New York. Robert Reinhardt, Planning Director and Victor Wood, Snowmobile Program Administrator for NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation will give the keynote address with their theme being "Snowmobiling and Associated Economic Impacts in the Allegany Region".

Community Leadership Awards: Chairman Bishop reported that with the renaming of the Community Leadership Award from the "Torrance Brooks" to the "Brooks Patterson" (see attached description), invitations to the dinner have been sent to the Brooks and Patterson families. Per the Board's unanimous decision last month, two awards will be given this year. First, Lois Bobseine Eaton will be posthumously awarded the Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award for 2004 for outstanding leadership in community planning and development and for the creation in 1961 of the Cattaraugus County Planning Board and Planning Department (see attached bio sheet). Second, James "Jim" Toner, Senior Landscape Architect at Allegany State Park will be awarded the Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award for 2004 for outstanding leadership and years of dedicated work in community planning and development for snowmobile trails in Cattaraugus County. His efforts in promoting snowmobiling at both the local and state level have led to untold economic benefits for our County and many hours of winter enjoyment for the numerous snowmobilers in our area (see attached bio sheet).

### **Changes to General Municipal Law Section 239-c**

David Paoletta reported, as was discussed at last months meeting, that he has drafted a letter, with input from Terry Martin and from discussions with Orleans County to Senator McGee and Assemblywoman Young on behalf of the Planning Board concerning the change in General Municipal Law Section 239-c which becomes effective on July 1, 2004. This change will prevent County Planning Board members who also serve in an elected or appointed capacity on another municipal board from participating in discussions on any matter before the County Planning Board if the matter has also been the subject of an application or vote before any board in the municipality on which he or she serves.

David Paoletta distributed a copy of the draft letter which states that the measure will affect four of the thirteen members of the Board and will prevent their participation in discussions pertaining to development proposals that they, in all likelihood, would be more familiar with and better informed about than any other County Planning Board member. It also states that contrary to the assumption of this provision of State Law, information provided by Planning Board members who also serve on local boards is not inherently biased and, in fact, provides valuable information to the County Planning Board in evaluating proposals and making informed decisions. A change is needed that makes a distinction clear. Without the contributions of these local board members with respect to their knowledge of local issues, the County Planning Board's advisory capabilities and their responsibility to provide sound recommendations to local

municipalities are diminished.

The letter also states that the Planning Board is concerned that this new legislation will lessen the effectiveness of the Board's function and interfere with its charge of providing valuable and constructive planning and zoning assistance to the County's constituent municipalities. The letter also asks that the State Legislature rescind this legislation or otherwise narrow its adverse impact on the practical processes of the Cattaraugus County Planning Board.

*Upon discussion, Kameron Brooks moved with a second from Jim Rich to authorize Chairman Bishop to send the letter to Senator McGee and Assemblywoman Young. Carried.*

### **Trails Study Update**

Terry Martin reported that the Planning staff will be doing a rewrite on the Trails Study. Fifteen comments have been received along with new information concerning trails, which will be incorporated into the study.

Mr. Martin also reported that a cut through the berm behind the County building has been completed so that there is access to the START Trail from the County's parking lot. County employees can now walk to the trail during lunch breaks, and in the winter, snowmobiles are expected to use the new access to conduct their business at the DMV offices in the County building.

David Rivet stated that START had contracted the work for this cut through the berm.

### **Emergency Management Committee**

Terry Martin reported that he is on the Emergency Management Committee, which is chaired by Mark Burr, Engineer in the Department of Public Works. This committee is currently working on an Emergency Management Plan and anticipates more funding in the future. Crystal Gross, Department of Public Works and Dan Martonis, Department of Real Property, have completed GIS mapping of all flood zones and community facilities countywide, which can be utilized during natural disasters and for Homeland Security activities.

Robert Keis stated that he has had opportunities to show individuals how to use their home computers to access the county tax maps. There is a need to get the word out about the availability of these maps on the county's web page. It is a great service.

### **Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board**

David Paoletta stated that as reported last month, the County Legislature on April 28, 2004 has authorized the development and submission of a matching State grant application to develop an Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan for Cattaraugus County in the amount of \$50,000 and also authorized the appropriation of \$10,000 to meet the required County cash contribution for the project. He is currently working on a draft scope, which will be reviewed at a meeting of the Ag Board on June 17th.

## **REPORTS / OTHER BUSINESS**

**Chairman's Report** – Chairman Bishop stated that he had covered what he had under Adoption of Guidebooks and Annual Dinner.

### **Members Forum**

Ann Padlo brought up the topic of a plaque to honor all past, present and future Planning Board members.

Robert Keis stated that there are too many other volunteer boards within the county government system. If you do for one, you would have to do for all of them.

Chairman Bishop stated that we have two "Hall of Famers" with Torrance Brooks and Donald Patterson. We should leave it at that.

Kameron Brooks agreed. He doesn't believe that it's necessary to list everyone.

## **Director's Report**

Thomas Livak distributed copies of the Departments Annual Report for 2003 and stated that it is also available on the County's web page for viewing.

Mr. Livak reported that the County Legislature created a Senior Planner's position yesterday, May 26th. He thanked the Planning Board for hanging in on this request for so many years. The timing was right with the Route 219 announcement, the opening of the Casino and the many other development projects that the Legislature moved on it.

William Sprague stated that there was no opposition and nothing was said on either side of the aisle. It is the first time that this position got past the budget process.

Tom Livak stated that the Legislature also increased the amount of money that it puts toward the Tourism Matching Funds Program.

Chairman Bishop thanked Tom for his work behind the scenes on the planning position.

Tom Livak stated that we need to budget time to get all our studies implemented and grant work done.

Tom Livak stated that the snowmobile trails have been GPS'd and we have some of the best quality mountain bike trails in NYS, which could be another growing market.

Kameron Brooks stated that Zaepfel Nature Center has been approached about the possibility of hosting an extreme running event.

Jim Rich stated that the mountain bike trails need to be marked better.

Tom Livak stated that there is grant money available to get markers for trails.

William Sprague stated that we need to help individuals to establish Bed and Bridle/Barns if we are going to continue promoting equestrian trails.

Terry Martin agreed and said this is an area for business planning and assistance.

Tom Livak stated that the Empire Zone has been enlarged again for the industrial base.

## **STW Report**

Robert Keis reported that STW held its 34th Annual Dinner on May 20, 2004 at the Nic-L-Inn, South Valley, NY with sixty-five people in attendance. He also reported that the STW Board did mirror the Cattaraugus County Legislature in endorsing inclusion of enough funds to complete the four-lane limited access highway project for Route 219.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received:

Town of Mansfield – Area Variance for a 20-foot easement in lieu of road frontage at 7228 Maples Road (County Road 13) – granted.

Town of Mansfield – Special Use Permit for a home occupation to open a dog grooming business at 6253 Toad Hollow Road (County Road 14) – granted.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*Robert Keis moved with a second from James Rich to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. Carried.*

**APPROVED AS AMENDED JUNE 24, 2004. Amend p. 8, last sentence under "Trails Study Update" replace "DPW" with "START", p. 9, last line, replace "isle" with "aisle".**

## **SUMMARY CATTARAUGUS COUNTY'S COMPREHENSIVE VISIONING GUIDEBOOKS**

The following two guidebooks (as a set) were adopted by the Cattaraugus County Legislature on May 26, 2004 as the initial components of a new Comprehensive Plan for the 21st Century. These two guidebooks (as a set) received the **New York State Governor's Quality Communities Award For Excellence in October 2002**. Cattaraugus County's guidebooks were cited because of the new ideas the county uses for rural areas from Randall Arendt, the fields of smart growth and new urbanism, New York State's Quality Communities Initiative, and from our "bottom-up" grass-roots process that added brainpower to local home rule power. These guidebooks are:

### **Volume 1: A Planning Guidebook for Cattaraugus County - Elements of a Countywide Vision (Smart Development for Quality Communities Series, Cattaraugus County, New York, June 30, 2001).**

The Saratoga Associates and Cattaraugus County collaborated in the preparation of this comprehensive planning guidebook. Volume 1 presents a new vision for Cattaraugus County in the 21st Century, as a new foundation for comprehensive planning. It includes topics from traditional planning methodologies, and new topics (e.g., cumulative effects).

Six focus groups were held across the county to develop a consensus on community values and priorities, based on participant's comments, and based on previous work that produced a countywide vision framework, findings from in-depth studies on special topics, and visual preferences among a cross-section of community leaders. This guidebook is the cornerstone for Comprehensive Planning in Cattaraugus County.

### **Volume 2: A Design Guidebook for Towns and Villages in Cattaraugus County (Smart Development for Quality Communities Series, Cattaraugus County, New York, April 2001).**

Randall Arendt and Cattaraugus County collaborated in the production of this design guidebook, with assistance from the Natural Lands Trust of Pennsylvania. Volume 2 includes numerous design concepts and techniques that, when used, allows growth and conserves open space at the same time. Randall Arendt is a nationally recognized consulting expert in the field of rural design and planning.

The ideas and techniques that Randall Arendt presents can be applied to residential, commercial and light industrial land uses for Cattaraugus County and its 47 municipalities. This guidebook includes findings from a visual preference survey, and presents demonstration projects on specific sites for two rural villages (Franklinville and Little Valley, New York). These demonstration projects are meant to serve as local models, and to suggest creative, new ideas to community officials and citizens.

This Design Guidebook won the **"2002 Livable Community Award"** from a regional group of retired people called Partners for A Livable Western New York for urging better education and designs for the county and its 47 municipalities.

## **A NEW BEGINNING FOR A BETTER FUTURE (On the Adoption of the Planning and Design Guidebooks)**

**By Paul Bishop**

It is an honor for me to be here today as you consider the adoption of these guidebooks as the first portion of a Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan. The last Comprehensive Plan of any kind for Cattaraugus County was adopted in 1978 and was titled "Cattaraugus County Land Use Plan - Year 2000". The land use challenges facing our County today and in the future dictate that an updated comprehensive plan is long overdue.

Planning Guidebook (Volume 1) - "Elements of a Countywide Vision" - is the product of a series of community forums and focus groups that began in the mid-1990's. The citizens of our County told us what values they considered important to protect in the future. Those values are the "vision" of this guidebook.

Design Guidebook (Volume 2) - "A Design Guidebook for Towns and Villages"- is based on a visual preference survey

done by nationally recognized conservation planner Randall Arendt. It presents practical and useable concepts for promoting rural growth while protecting the natural landscape. His designs are called "twice green" because they succeed both environmentally and economically.

In short, Volume 1 describes what we want our landscape to look like in the 21st century and Volume 2 details how we get there. All future plans in this County will use these guidebooks as their starting point.

These guidebooks have won two different awards - "The New York State Governor's Quality Communities Award for Excellence" and the Partners for a Livable Western New York "Livable Community Award". They are the first two Guidebooks in a series titled "Smart Development for Quality Communities". A listing of the other guidebooks in the series is found on the Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism website.

Planning, by its nature, can solve current problems, only when the planning has been underway before those problems arise. What planning strives to do is to shape a future quality of life that conforms to the vision of the people. The pressure for development in our County is ongoing and will only increase in the coming years. By acting now, with the adoption of these guidebooks and the eventual completion of a comprehensive plan, we can minimize future land use conflicts and protect the values and landscape that make our area unique. Your official adoption of these guidebooks shows commitment, and ensures that there is a continuity of this vision across the County.

The County Planning Board is very proud of the success of this on-going program and we want to thank each of you again for your foresight and vision in supporting it. Thank you.

### **Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award**



**Torrance  
Brooks  
1918-2000**



**Donald  
Patterson  
1927 - 2004**

The ***Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award*** is presented annually by the Cattaraugus County Planning Board to one or more community leaders who exemplify the outstanding spirit and example that Torrance Brooks and Donald Patterson set during their lifetime of dedicated service to their respective communities, County Legislature, County Planning Board, and regional agencies.

**Torrance Brooks** was a wonderful presence in Cattaraugus County for 81½ years (1918 - 2000). In his lifetime:

- He raised 6 children, and was married to Lenora Brooks for 58 years.
- He conducted a successful law practice for 53 years.
- He served on the Cattaraugus County Board of Supervisors for 8 years.
- He served as a Charter Member and Chairman of the County Planning Board (1961-2000).
- He was a Charter Member of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board, which was originated and nurtured through the Cattaraugus County Planning Board with Torrance's direct participation and foresight, and he served as a member and chairman of the regional Environmental Committee for two decades.
- He participated in the region's largest projects, including reviewing and assisting in re-writing the proposed Master Plan for Allegany State Park.
- He was an active and valuable member of both the County Planning Board and the Southern Tier West Board

right up to his death.

- He was an avid pilot for most of his life, flying on business as well as on vacations throughout Cattaraugus County and the United States; he served as a “forward observer” reconnaissance pilot during the Allied Invasion of Italy in World War II.
- He loved life in Cattaraugus County and always took vacations in the winter, because he thought that in the summer months this was the most beautiful place on earth.

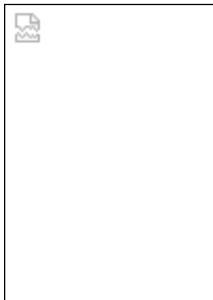
**Donald Patterson** was an effective community leader in Cattaraugus County for 77 years (1927 – 2004). In his lifetime:

- He raised three children, and was married to Gloria Patterson for 52 years.
- He owned and operated a dairy farm, raised beef cattle and had grape vineyards and did custom harvesting of grapes.
- He served as a Charter Member of the Cattaraugus County Planning Board (1961 – 2004).
- He served as Chairman of the Cattaraugus County Planning Board from 1990 to 1997, Vice Chairman in 1989 and Secretary from 1968 to 1988 and 1965 to 1966.
- Under his leadership as Chairman, the County Planning Board created an annual Three Year Plan and laid the groundwork for major planning projects for Route 219 highway expansion, Route 16 community revitalization, and the countywide, 21st Century Goals and Visioning project.
- He received the Total Quality Management Award in 1994 from the Cattaraugus County Legislature for Outstanding Achievement in Total Quality Management of the County’s Planning Program, for reducing the program while improving its effectiveness with public participation utilizing community forums and focus groups.
- He created, in 1993, the County Planning Board’s slogan, “Sunrise in Cattaraugus County”.
- He was a member of Shriner’s No. 1 of Gowanda, the Masonic Lodge of Gowanda, Ishmailia Temple, and the Gowanda Moose, and was a past member and President of the Erie County 2 BOCES and Gowanda School Board.
- He served in the Navy during World War II, including field-testing original radar technology.
- He was an avid hunter, fisherman and nature lover and loved life in Cattaraugus County for these reasons.

The recipients of these annual awards are chosen to give countywide recognition to leaders and volunteers who make lasting contributions to the people and communities of Cattaraugus County and its region.

#### Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award

The Cattaraugus County Planning Board’s theme for this award is “People Are Our Greatest Resource”. In this spirit, we present the Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award for the Year 2004 in memory of:



**Lois Bobseine Eaton**  
**1918 – 2004**

For outstanding leadership in community planning and development and for the creation in 1961 of the County Planning Board and Planning Department.

**Founder, Member and Chair of the County Planning Board** – Mrs. Eaton served on the Cattaraugus County Board

of Supervisors from January 1960 to December 1967 as the first elected female Supervisor in Cattaraugus County for the Town of Otto, during which time she led the fight to create professional planning services within county government.

As Chairman of the original Planning Committee of the Cattaraugus County Board of Supervisors, she sponsored the resolution that created the Cattaraugus County Planning Board and the County's Planning Department in 1961.

Mrs. Eaton served on the Cattaraugus County Planning Board from January 10, 1968 to July 31, 1993 and was Chairman from February 1976 to December 1982. As Chair, she defended the quality of life for residents of Cattaraugus County, and set an example for improving the quality of life and the future for Cattaraugus County and its people.

**Community Volunteer** – Mrs. Eaton was a founding member and president of the Cattaraugus County Women's Republican Club and actively served her community as a fund drives volunteer for the American Cancer Society, the American Red Cross, and the March of Dimes, and was chairman of the Tri-County Hospital Auxiliary for the Town of Otto, and a member of the Home Bureau. She was a former president of the Parent Teacher Association, and American Field Service coordinator at Cattaraugus Central School, and youth activities advocate.

**Education/Employment** - Mrs. Eaton was a graduate of Bryant and Stratton Business Institute in Buffalo, and was employed by the Bank of Cattaraugus and the ASCS offices of Cooperative Extension in Ellicottville.

**Family** - Mrs. Eaton is survived by three daughters: Gale L. Bobseine of Ellicottville, Greta Bobseine of Chautauqua, and Gwen L. Colton of Great Valley; a son, Gary L. Bobseine of Cattaraugus; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one brother, Bud Besecker of Virginia; and two sisters, Dorothy Nelson of California, and Winifred Mabry of Indiana.

**In Memory** - The County Planning Board honors Lois Bobseine Eaton, who passed away on January 24, 2004 at the age of 85, as the "Founder of Planning in Cattaraugus County" and for her valuable contributions as a member and Chairman of the County Planning Board with this Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award.

#### **Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award**

The Cattaraugus County Planning Board's theme for this award is "People Are Our Greatest Resource". In this spirit, we present the Brooks Patterson Community Leadership Award for the Year 2004 to:



**James "Jim" Toner**

For outstanding leadership and years of dedicated work in community planning and development for snowmobile trails in Cattaraugus County as shown on the map behind him.

**Snowmobile Trails Development** - Jim belongs to 2 of the 9 county snowmobile clubs: the Elibomwons from Randolph and the Enchanted Mountains Border Riders from Olean. He is also a member of the Cattaraugus County Federation of Snowmobile Clubs. He has served as an Alternate County Director to the New York State Snowmobile Association since 1999, and served as the county director from 1980 – 1998.

Along with a group of concerned snowmobilers and the county snowmobile federation, Jim has been a long time advocate for Snowmobiling in Cattaraugus County. Over the years, their goal was to have the county government involved with the promotion of Snowmobiling. As of two years ago, the county government accepted the challenge to be a "local sponsor" for distribution of trail funds to county snowmobile clubs. Over the last two years, this has been a very positive thing for snowmobilers and the county as a whole. These funds come from the state Snowmobile Trail Maintenance and Development Fund. Money in this fund is generated by snowmobilers when they register their snowmobiles.

Jim is a certified snowmobile safety instructor for the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP) sponsored snowmobile operator safety courses for youth and adults. He was one of the first certified snowmobile safety instructors in Cattaraugus County at the start of state sponsored safety training program. He

has been a member of the Southern Tier Area Rails to Trails (START) and helped the Cattaraugus Local Development Corporation in their efforts to convert an abandoned railroad into a trail from the City of Salamanca 12.2 miles north to the Village of Cattaraugus.

Jim is responsible for the coordination and planning of the Winter Funfest held in Allegany State Park. This snowmobile oriented event was developed from an idea spawned at a brain storming session with Vic Wood in 1989, and has been an annual event ever since. This event is accomplished with the cooperation and participation of many park staff members, volunteers from many snowmobile clubs in both Cattaraugus and Erie counties, snowmobile manufacturers and dealers as well as after market product dealers.

**Senior Landscape Architect** – Allegany Region - NYSOPRHP - Jim is a graduate of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse University receiving his BLA degree in 1966. In 1975 he obtained his professional license to practice Landscape Architecture in New York State from the NYS Education Department.

Jim started his state park career in the Central New York State Park Region in 1966 as a Junior Landscape Architect. After his promotion to Landscape Architect in 1968, he moved to Salamanca to work in the Allegany State Park Region. In August of 2002, he was promoted to Senior Landscape Architect in the Allegany Region.

Jim's job responsibilities in the Allegany Region have been varied. They include: landscape design for various facilities, collection of field data for design purposes of new structures, roads, trails, camping facilities and their associated infrastructure. These job responsibilities also have included SEQR fieldwork; planning rehabilitation, repair and retrofitting of facilities to comply with historical preservation guidelines as well as accessibility standards related to use of the facilities. During the initial phases of projects, Jim is involved with budget development, collection of field data, preparation of plans and specs, as well as the construction inspection. Other responsibilities include boating facilities, and trail programs, especially snowmobile trails and preparation of the annual snowmobile trail grant proposal for the park region. He serves as the regional bulk petroleum storage coordinator tracking the regional bulk petroleum storage facilities for compliance with NYSOPRHP, NYSDDEC & EPA rules and regulations.

Since 1970 he has been instrumental in the development of the existing 70+ mile snowmobile trail system within Allegany State Park. This has only been possible with the cooperation of many park staff members.

On a larger scale, Jim contributed to the development of the New York State Snowmobile Trail Master Plan, authored by Victor Wood.

Jim contributes to both Salamanca Press supplements annually, has been a photographic contributor to the Cattaraugus County Tourism Guides, and has had photos on display at the Greater Buffalo Niagara International Airport as part of their promotional campaign highlighting different facilities in western New York.

**Memberships** - Jim is a member of the Ellicottville Sportsman Club, past member and past officer in the Salamanca Chapter of Kiwanis International, is a member of the UCCUMC church of Salamanca where he has served in many capacities. Jim has served on the Town of Salamanca Board of Assessment Review for the past 15 years and is currently the chairperson.

For 12 years Jim was a coach in the Salamanca High School Odyssey of the Mind program, commonly know as "OM". "OM" is an international creative problem solving competition. In the twelve years as a coach, 8 of the teams he has been involved with have won first place at the regional competition level and earned a trip to the state competition. Of the 8 teams that went to the state competition, 2 teams have won the state competition and gone on to compete at the world level. At the world level, they competed against teams from as many as 52 different countries. Working with the students and fellow coaches in this program has been one of the most challenging yet rewarding activities he has been involved with. Congratulations, Jim!