



Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance

A non-profit 501(c)3 Local Development Corporation whose mission is to restore economic prosperity in the Ticonderoga region by serving as a catalyst for innovative ideas and resources, and for public-private partnerships and investment opportunities.

Issue #23 - August 2023

Please join us for our Annual Meeting on August 23 at 4pm.

Knights of Columbus | 103 Montcalm Street | Ticonderoga, NY

From the Board

These are very exciting times in Ticonderoga. Planning for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), the \$10M State grant, is underway, we're building childcare, we just awarded eight scholarships for the 2023/2024 academic year, we have new school programs for this fall, we've got housing projects in process, Ti-Works is flourishing, and so much more.

Thanks to you, 2023 has been a great capacity-building year for Ti-Alliance. Our ability to take on foundational economic projects has grown a lot. And, our staff has grown a little. We're excited about what the future holds for our organization and our community. We're starting to see a clear path to realizing our shared vision.

Join us at the Ti-Alliance Annual Meeting on Wednesday, August 23, at 4 pm at the Knights of Columbus Building for the scoop on what's happening, good food and drink, fun conversation with our scholarship students, project partners, board members and staff, and even some touring of the KOC building.

The Ti-Alliance Board of Directors

Nancy Archer Lance Clark
Scott Hearburg Pat Ida
Chris Mallon Sandy Morhouse
Pam Nolan Bobby Porter
Peter Reale Mark Wright (Ex Officio)



Sylvamo Supports Community Childcare Initiative

It was an exciting night at the Sylvamo Ticonderoga Mill Advisory Council Meeting on July 31, and a packed room of community leaders was on their feet as Tim Stocker, Manager of Sylvamo's Ticonderoga Mill, presented Alliance Executive Director Donna Wotton with a check for \$50,000 to help develop a new 50-child childcare center in Ticonderoga.

In making the presentation, Tim Stocker summarized how severely the lack of childcare impacts both the company and employee families. "Childcare availability is a challenging issue for our employees and is a significant factor in recruiting and retaining people. This is a critical need for the region, and we are excited to play a leading role in making childcare a reality for the Ticonderoga Area."

Business Unit Manager Phil Graf is part of the Ticonderoga Childcare Committee working with Ti-Alliance and Donna Wadsworth, Mill Communication Manager, facilitated the partnership with Ti-Alliance and Sylvamo for the donation. She encouraged the business community and other individuals to join Sylvamo and become involved in this essential project for all of the employers, families, and children in our community.

People can't work. Family income suffers. Children have diminished educational and health outcomes. Companies can't be productive without childcare. If you believe, as we do, that we can build childcare for our community, please contact Ti-Alliance Executive Director Donna Wotton at 415-385-4544 or donate securely online at www.ticonderoga-alliance.org by clicking on any DONATE button (specify "Childcare Fund" for your donation).

Ticonderoga DRI Underway

Planning for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), the \$10 million State grant awarded to the Town of Ticonderoga earlier this year, is underway. Community participation is critical to the success of the DRI. All of the meetings and workshops are open to all area residents that are served by Downtown Ticonderoga, including the residents of Hague, Putnam, Crown Point, and other towns. The Alliance recommends checking the Ticonderoga DRI website regularly at www.ticonderogadri.com to stay informed on when community meetings are happening, recordings of past meetings, and project updates. It's your downtown. Help us revitalize it.



Donta Brown Class of 2023 Connor Rafferty Class of 2023 Samantha St. Denis Class of 2023 Yarr Tyler Class of 2023 Kimberley Wojcik Class of 2023 Andrea Cooke Class of 2022 Jack Michalak Class of 2022 Eman Qamar Class of 2022

Ti-Alliance Awards over \$40,000 to Eight Local THS Graduates

We are so proud to announce that the Alliance will award eight Skilled Career Training Scholarships to Ticonderoga High School graduates for the 2023/2024 school year.

Congratulations to our five new scholars in the Class of 2023 on their graduation from Ticonderoga High School.

- Donta Brown - Bricklayers Union Apprenticeship Program (see feature story below)
- Connor Rafferty - CV-TEC Class B Drivers Academy
- Samantha St. Denis - North Country Community College, Nursing
- Yarr Tyler - Culinary Institute of America
- Kimberley Wojcik - Erie Community College, Dental Assistant or Nursing

These three students are 2022 scholars who will continue their studies this year on Ti-Alliance scholarships:

- Andrea Cooke - returning to SUNY Adirondack, Accounting
- Jack Michalak - returning to North Country Community College, Nursing
- Eman Qamar - returning to Siena College, Nursing

These scholarships change lives. Removing the financial barriers to education ensures that students in our community can pursue their dreams in skilled careers. Thank you to all of our generous scholarship fund donors. Because of you, we were able to award over \$40,000 in life-changing scholarships to local youth this year.

Donating to the George C. Singer Scholarship Endowment Fund and the Skilled Career Training Scholarship Fund helps scholars in our community access the education needed to pursue great career opportunities in our community and beyond. You can help make these dreams come true. Donate and learn more about our Skilled Career Training Scholarships on our website at www.ticonderoga-alliance.org/career-training-scholarships.

From our Intern Eman

I'm interning at Ti-Alliance this summer, and I love being a part of the team. The Ti-Alliance Family has been instrumental in helping me achieve my lifelong dream of becoming a nurse, and I'm grateful for everyone's support.

Although some people may find an office job and staring at computer screens tedious, I've been enjoying it. It allows me to utilize my hobbies, like photography, in a professional setting. Working alongside Donna, my mentor, is also an honor. Over the last two months, I have acquired diverse and valuable skills. These include managing Ti-Works, effectively communicating with a team, working with various software programs, and developing my customer service skills.

Being part of the Ti-Works community is fulfilling, and it's so fun chatting with the "Ti-Workers" about their summer plans. I enjoy the office environment and working behind the scenes on projects that make a positive impact on my community. I'm excited to continue my work here this summer and learn even more to benefit my career and college life.

Donta Builds a Strong Foundation (Literally)

Ti-Alliance congratulates Donta Brown on his successful completion of the Bricklayers Union Apprenticeship Entry Program. Donta spent 5 weeks at union headquarters in Albany getting a crash course in the fundamentals of masonry. The course is a requirement to enter the Local Number 2 Bricklayers Union and begin a 3-year apprenticeship as a working mason. His first assignment? He'll be part of the crew working at Fort Ticonderoga on the restoration of the granite demilune walls around the Fort. Donta attended the program on a Ti-Alliance Skilled Career Training Scholarship. Congratulations, Donta! You are on your way!

A special shoutout and big thank you to CV-TEC Mineville's Construction Trades teacher, Kevin Shaw, and Ticonderoga High School's Special Educator, Maria Bagneschi, for being great champions for Donta. They define what it is to be an educator and the power of finding resources and true partnership on behalf of our students. You guys are awesome!



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