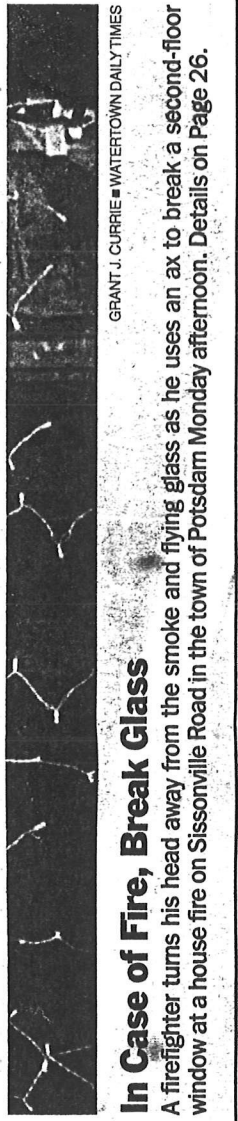


...the city... J.C. Penney building on Arsenal Street and the J.R. Miller annex off Public Square. The quote said renovation of the two buildings would cost \$75,251 and demolition would cost \$119,135.

About \$35,000 worth of work will have to be done whether the city de-

See Demolition — Page 26



GRANT J. CURRIE ■ WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

In Case of Fire, Break Glass

A firefighter turns his head away from the smoke and flying glass as he uses an ax to break a second-floor window at a house fire on Sissonville Road in the town of Potsdam Monday afternoon. Details on Page 26.

nal St., and Smith building, 109-111 Arcade St., Mr. Hiller said.

He said that if the city chooses to destroy the hotel and Smith buildings, it would have to pay an additional \$19,000 to restore the sidewalks in front of the downed structure.

Cleanup of Former Sackets Harbor Oil Storage Site Nearly Half Done

By Shula Neuman
Times Staff Writer

SACKETS HARBOR — The company responsible for cleaning the former oil storage site by the battlefield here has completed nearly half of the work and is awaiting approval to clean up the rest.

The company that is cleaning up the former Augsburg Corp. oil storage site, Empire State I, a subsidiary of Colorado-based LandBank Inc., is waiting to hear from the state Depart-

ment of Environmental Conservation about the state of the 111-acre parcel, said Thomas J. Dupuis, attorney for the company.

LandBank specializes in acquiring and rehabilitating contaminated land. In addition to the property in Sackets Harbor, the company purchased 14 other old petroleum storage sites in 1998 around the state that it is also working on. Mr. Dupuis said six of those sites have already been cleaned up and closed.

The cleanup on the half of the property north of Ambrose Street may be deemed com-

plete by the DEC, Mr. Dupuis said, because the bulk of the problem is south of Ambrose Street, where the contamination source existed.

Although half of the project appears to be complete and ready for sale and development, the other half must still jump through DEC hoops before any work can be done, said Dennis G. Whelpley, attorney for the village.

"It is typical of how petroleum spill cleanups work," Mr. Whelpley said. "You do a little work, get more information back and

then go back to the DEC for more approvals. It's a constant give and take. As more information becomes available more remediation is needed."

About a month ago Empire State I submitted a report to the DEC requesting approval of the methods the company proposes to take a sampling of the soil that will determine the qualitative properties of the contamination on the land south of Ambrose, Mr. Dupuis said.

Once the DEC approves that testing method **See Oil** — Page 26

Local Paragraphs

- Clayton is seeking applicants for acting village justice. The person would serve when Village Justice Clarence F. Giles Jr. is unavailable. Those interested should call village offices at 686-5552.
- Kevin J. Patenaude, who has been village police chief in Clayton on a provisional basis, pending results of a civil service examination, has passed the test and has received the permanent appointment.
- The Thousand Islands Inn, Clayton, is being recognized as one of the state's "fine dining" restaurants in the August issue of Gourmet Magazine. The inn, on Riverside Drive, is owned by Allen and Susan Benas.
- The regular June meetings of the South Jefferson Central School District board have been canceled and rescheduled for one meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at the district offices, Wilson Elementary School, Adams Center.
- The Lowville Academy and Central School board established a new off-reservation Indian casinos



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Bursting Their Balloon

Edward J. Slade, 9, right, gets doused as he and Eric J. Tyo, 12, both of Massena, struggle over water balloon.

Proposal Would Broaden Casino Approval Process

By Eric Durr
Times Albany Correspondent

ALBANY — The state legislature and local voters would decide on new off-reservation Indian casinos

Thruway in Greene County.

The state Senate bill is modeled on legislation Gov. George E. Pataki introduced in March. But the Senate bill, unlike the governor's version, does not allow the Indian casino

Brunswick, said.

The legislation prohibits governors from entering into gambling compacts with Indian tribes when the property in question is former non-Indian land being held in trust

Judge Orders Firm To Honor WPBS Contract

By Ed Perkins
Times Staff Writer

Watertown's public television station and an affiliated company sued and won an \$18,448 judgment against a sponsor of "Cabin Country."

WPBS, run under its corporate name St. Lawrence Valley Educational Television Council Inc., claimed Oneida Eagle Bow agreed to pay \$5,000 to help underwrite "Cabin Country" and have its name seen nationally. Eagle Bow failed to pay any of it, so the station sued.

The station's lawsuit also claimed that its affiliated company, Quality Production Inc., did \$16,448 worth of work for the Fulton company but was paid only \$3,000 for it. WPBS sued in state Supreme Court for \$18,448 owed under its previous call letters WNPE-WNPI.

home," she said. "Who knows how long she could have sat there."

Because of the incident, the district is having buses double-checked until it can put in a system that will require drivers to walk to the back of the bus to put a flag in the rear window to indicate the bus had been checked.

On Friday, the driver had not checked the last few seats of the bus and didn't see Skyler sitting there. The district is not releasing the dri-

matter.

"So if the flag is up it is a good indication the driver has actually gone to the back of the bus," Mr. Huntley said. "The point is to reduce human error as much as possible."

Ms. Alaimo said she hoped this was a wake-up call for the district.

"It was a mistake, a big one," she said. "I hope that it never happens again. If she checked the bus the whole way she would have seen my daughter."

Oil Field Cleanup...

► From Back Page

and the company takes the soil samples, Empire State I must submit another request to the DEC for approval of another series of tests to determine the extent of the contamination. Once those tests are performed, Empire State I must obtain approval for its chosen method of cleanup.

"If the DEC is responsive, then Empire State I would like to be able to perform the physical remediation of the site by October or November of this year," Mr. Dupuis said. "If the DEC approves the plans and the sampling methods more quickly, we could even do it more quickly, but we have to be conservative in our estimates."

The approximate cost of finishing

the cleanup could be anywhere from \$100,000 to \$150,000, he said. The company has already spent about \$100,000 in investigation and cleanup expenses since it purchased the property in November 1998.

Once clean, the property will be ready for sale to an environmentally responsible buyer. Even before Empire State I receives the DEC's stamp of approval, the property north of Ambrose Street is ready for sale as long as a buyer agrees that the land is clean, Mr. Dupuis said.

There have been some discussions about the village's buying the land back from the LandBank, but no deals have been closed yet.

Empire State I expects to hear from DEC any day, Mr. Dupuis said.

the sandstone to varying degrees, depending on the market. One market requires the stone be crushed to about three-quarters of an inch in diameter, while a second market requires the stone be finely ground for use in the manufacturing of glass.

It says noise from the crushing operation will be minimized by locating the plant as far off the road as possible. The operation will move south toward the road over the 30 to 50 years the company says it will operate, but will not come closer than 150 feet to Bailey Settlement Road. The company says it will place berms and plant trees at the front of the site to limit any negative visual impact.

The company says it does not use chemicals in its operation and intends to use an "extensive" dust collection system to limit environmental impacts.

Its trucks will proceed east on Bailey Settlement Road, north on Route 26, then west on Route 12 before entering Interstate 81. The speed limit on that section of Bailey Settlement Road will be reduced to 25 mph, which the company said its drivers would observe.

Mr. LeClerc said he and his wife, Monica, are not convinced all of these measures will be effective.

Demolition More Co's

► From Back Page

that could even the former hotel bricks are loose the chimneys and

For stabilization of the buildings, it is estimated the city will spend \$40,151, Mr. Hiller said.

But if restoration is chosen, the city can knock some more money off the price tag because it has \$4,000 left over from the Arcade Revitalization Area Study that can be used toward architectural fees, the city manager said.

If the city chooses to demolish the structures, it won't be allowed to use that leftover cash.

Mr. Hiller said the interiors of

13 million to 14 million viewers.

Mr. Carroll said Eagle subsequently told him the firm was having cash-flow problems.

The station said Quality Production Inc. made a video catalog valued at \$6,500 and printed a flier at \$45 an hour for graphic work and 15 percent of the cost for printing. Eagle Bow subsequently asked for an additional printing.

Eagle also arranged for Quality Productions to film an archery event during the summer of 1998 in Penn-

Public TV Station Sues...

► From Back Page

credit for Eagle Bow on its syndicated show "Cabin Country" for part of the 1998 season in return for a \$5,000 sponsorship.

The station's sales director, Thomas E. Carroll, said he told Oneida Eagle, which is run by Sandra and Roger Loomis, there was no archery sponsor and it would give the firm national exposure for a modest cost.

The popular outdoors show was

He said that says it will capture many years to know said there have been accidents of homeowner insurance policies their proximity to

He has met with owners and is not a member of jobs — 26 — says it will create rejected tonnage would require that would be trucked not a large truck within the town. This service will with a trucking side the town.

"If there are resulting from this to us," he said.

Mr. LeClerc said people on both to attend the 7 Town Hall. He said all town residents to gain as much as possible on the subject of an opinion at

"Although not involved, this is the future of our com-

However, if th