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Date: August 2, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Addison County Chamber of Commerce Announces August Business of the Month

Middlebury, VT - Darcy Tarte, Chair of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce's Publicity and Promotions Committee is pleased to announce that the August Business of the Month is Cattails Restaurant located in Brandon.

Cattails Restaurant was opened in 2004 by Lance Chicoine and his wife Stephanie Kellogg. Lance got his start in the restaurant business at age 14 when he was employed washing dishes at a restaurant. When he got out of high school, he decided his goal was to own his own restaurant by the time he was 28. He and Stephanie bought the building (formerly the Smoke Rise restaurant) in 2004 when he was 29, so he was very close in reaching his goal! Lance enjoys the restaurant business and his customers, and tries to keep the menu prices stable.

Stephanie grew up in Brandon and Lance grew up in Pittsford, so they are both familiar with the Addison/Rutland County region. They looked at two other locations before deciding on the Smoke Rise building. One of the locations was in Middlebury, but it would have taken a lot of work to develop it into a restaurant. They also looked at Sawdi's in Pittsford, but then Steve Kellogg, Stephanie's dad, suggested they take a look at the Smoke Rise building. After coming to an agreement on how much land would be included with the restaurant, Lance and Stephanie started the bidding process in 2003. It took a year to get everything in order to open.

Recent improvements to the building include a brand new screened in porch! The porch provides fabulous outdoor dining without the worry of getting bothered by the mosquitoes! The new porch can be used for private parties and seats about 30 comfortably. Otter Creek Awnings is currently working on awnings for the new porch, and Lance says customers are just thrilled with the new addition!

There is also a creamee stand and take out window attached to the building, which is open from April to early October. Not only can customers get great creamees, they also can chose from a mouthwatering take out menu that includes pulled pork sandwiches, chicken fingers, and homemade fish and chips, just to name a few.

Lance and Stephanie's future goals include keeping the restaurant a thriving business. They would like to incorporate new food and new ideas. They would also like to look into owning some more restaurants in the future. Lance's new goal is to own three by the time he is 40! Stephanie is still working hard in the insurance business, but provides essential support to Lance. Cattails is truly a family affair!

Lance and Stephanie would like to thank Donald Billings, their head chef, for his help. Donald makes it possible for Lance to be out in the restaurant interacting with the customers. They would also like to thank their loyal customers, their family and friends, as well as the Chamber for helping them get the restaurant started.

The Addison County Chamber of Commerce is proud to have Cattails Restaurant as a member and congratulates them on being chosen as the August Business of the Month!