

# The Chamber Plans to Beautify Candor

by Jaime Cone

The Candor Chamber of Commerce discussed giving out welcome bags to greet new local homeowners, Senator Fred Akshar's upcoming visit to the town, and a new Candor Pride revitalization campaign at a meeting at Punk's Place on the afternoon of Thursday, March 10.

David Astorina, Candor resident, spoke about a new initiative he's developing called Candor Pride. The main crux of the plan is to use Candor's location on Route 96 between Ithaca and Owego (or Binghamton) to its advantage, making it a destination for people who may want to eat dinner or shop in the town, like the parents of Cornell and Ithaca College students who are passing through.

He said he hopes the efforts to improve the town will go much deeper than surface level, but the first phase of the project will be beautification. "The first year, doing as much cleanup and beautification as we can is going to be important," said Astorina. A meeting to discuss the project was scheduled for April 5 at 1 p.m. at the Candor Resource Center.

"I want to organize subgroups of people who want to explore the local history and look into other places that have gone through transformations, all that stuff we need to get grants," Astorina said. "We've got to move forward with that."

"Locally, Trumansburg has turned itself around," he said. "It's really kind of cool to hang there now, and they were worse off than we are."

The meeting was purposely scheduled to give a month to make revisions based on feedback so that the plan can be presented to Senator Akshar when he comes to speak May 12 at 7 p.m. at the Candor Fire Hall. The entire community is invited to attend.