

NEWS
F R O M

STATE SENATOR JAMES L. SEWARD

51ST DISTRICT

Cortland, Greene, Herkimer, Otsego, Schoharie and parts of Chenango,
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SEWARD ANNOUNCES DOWNTOWN COBLESKILL **IMPROVEMENT FUNDING**

Grant to help bolster facade upgrades and downtown development

COBLESKILL, 02/12/10 – Joined by area merchants and local community leaders, Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) today announced that the 2009-2010 state budget includes, at his request, a \$40,000 senate grant toward improvements throughout downtown Cobleskill.

“The senate funding will help the Cobleskill Partnership protect and enhance the historic characteristics of this wonderful downtown district while at the same time opening the door to new businesses and visitors,” said Senator Seward.

“Senator Seward is one of the people that gets it; someone who realizes that solutions to the challenges facing villages like Cobleskill require a public, private partnership,” said Brian Kaiser, president, Cobleskill Partnership. “On behalf of the Cobleskill Partnership and all the volunteers that have worked so hard over the years to preserve and revitalize the Village of Cobleskill, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Senator Seward for his tireless efforts on our behalf.”

The grant funding will allow Cobleskill Partnership to continue the work it began last year to reinvigorate the historic downtown district through facade improvements. A portion of the grant will be used for restoration of the Newberry building, a downtown gateway. The balance of the funds will be set aside for matching grants to assist with other building upgrades.

“The Newberry building is a centerpiece of Cobleskill’s historic downtown district,” Seward added. **“Revitalizing this Main Street anchor will help provide quality residential and commercial space and pay substantial community-wide dividends moving forward.”**

“First impressions are everything,” added Kaiser. “Investing in facade restoration will allow us to continue to position the Village of Cobleskill as a community on the move: a place where the public private partnership is working to enhance the quality of life and promote the kind of positive business climate that helps create jobs and opportunities that will help lead upstate NY into the future.”

The Cobleskill Partnership, Inc. is a registered 501-©-3 corporation staffed entirely by volunteers dedicated to the mission of educating the public as to the vital need to preserve, revitalize and develop the central business district in the Village of Cobleskill.

“A vibrant, productive Main Street translates to overall economic growth and improved quality of life. Downtown Cobleskill is certainly headed in the right direction with growing businesses, a budding relationship with SUNY Cobleskill, and numerous festivals and events. I am confident the expansion of the facade improvement program and other Cobleskill Partnership initiatives will usher in a new wave of development,” Seward concluded.