



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHOW YOUR NIAGARA COUNTY PRIDE BY SPONSORING A BICENTENNIAL STREET BANNER

M&T Bank is also named "Platinum" sponsor of yearlong celebration

NIAGARA COUNTY, NY – With the Bicentennial year less than two months away, preparations for the Niagara County Bicentennial continue to be in full swing and county businesses and residents have a chance to play a role in the celebration right now! Businesses, organizations, families and individuals have the opportunity to sponsor a 30 inch by 60 inch street banner, imprinted with the sponsor's name that will proudly announce the 200th anniversary celebration along the main streets of Niagara County.

"This is a great opportunity to not only spread the word about the Bicentennial celebration, but gives businesses, organizations, friends and families an opportunity to show their Niagara County pride," said Wendy Roberson, co-chair, Niagara County Bicentennial Committee. "From businesses displaying banners outside of their stores to local governments and families contributing to help line the main streets, we would love to see the Bicentennial logo prominently visible throughout our all of our county's cities, towns and villages next year."

Currently, the Village of Lewiston, the Town of Newfane and North Tonawanda's Impressive Imprints have a street banner on display. Cost for the sponsorship of a street banner is \$200 and the banner would be displayed now through December 31, 2008. All imprints will have the same typeface and can be personalized to match a company, organization, family or individual name, but no logos. For more information about sponsoring a street banner, visit www.niagara2008.com for an order form or call Rob Albert at Impressive Imprints at 716-692-0905.

The Niagara County Bicentennial Committee also named M&T Bank as a major sponsor for the 2008 celebration. The M&T Bank Charitable Foundation recently made a donation to the Bicentennial making them a Platinum sponsor.

"The generous support from M&T Bank assisted us in funding the largest public art project in Niagara County – the painting of the Bicentennial logo on twelve barns throughout the County," added Roberson.

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"The Bicentennial is a great opportunity to promote the natural and built wonders of beautiful Niagara County," said Shelley C. Drake, President of The M&T Charitable Foundation. "We are glad for the opportunity to sponsor this distinctive and fun public art project which we hope will draw new tourism and economic benefits for our region."

Other sponsors of the Niagara County Bicentennial Celebration include Grigg-Lewis Foundation, Inc., Calamar, Niagara Falls Bridge Commission, Wendel Companies, Maid of the Mist, NTS Data Services, Toshiba Business Solutions, Niagara Falls Coach Lines, C&S Engineers, Inc., Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, Brown & Company CPA's, Sherwin Williams, LCTV, E-3 Communications, Greater Niagara Newspapers, Niagara Frontier Publications, Niagara Tourism & Convention Corporation and Kenan Quilters Guild.

For more information on the Niagara County Bicentennial, please visit www.Niagara2008.com.

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