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**SGF Marathon
Dance: Next**

Local craft beer boom

By Cathy DeDe

Chronicle Managing Editor

Booming sales, customers willing to spend upwards of \$20 on a six-pack, eager drinkers begging for the latest microbrew touted online.

Word from the local craft beer business is, yes, it is booming in the North Country and beyond.

3 already established; 3 more to open soon

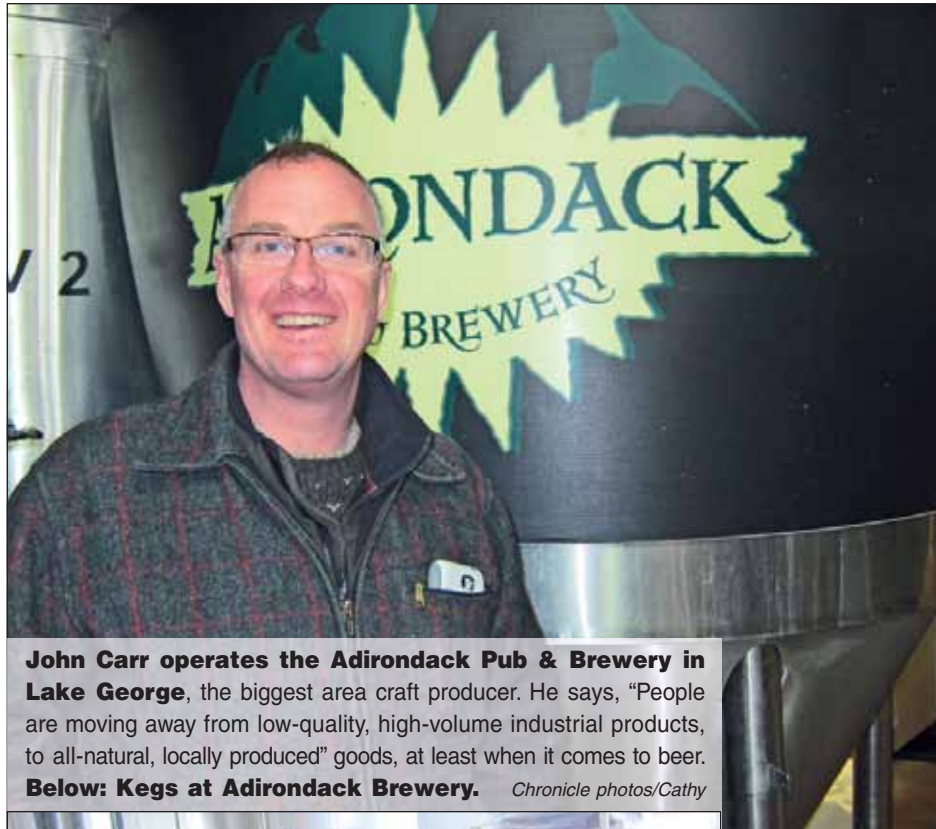
The Chronicle spoke with three established local breweries and three that plan to open this year.

Adirondack Brewery among biggest micro brewers in the U.S.

Adirondack Brewery in Lake George opened in 1999 and expanded two years ago to increase production from 750 barrels to 6,000 barrels a year.

"We're a production brewer and artisan brewery that can produce, at the same time, seven to 100 barrels of any style with equal efficiencies," says owner John Carr. "In 2013, we were among the top 75 microbreweries in the country, in terms of barrels produced." They sell 1,000

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John Carr operates the Adirondack Pub & Brewery in Lake George, the biggest area craft producer. He says, "People are moving away from low-quality, high-volume industrial products, to all-natural, locally produced" goods, at least when it comes to beer. Below: Kegs at Adirondack Brewery. Chronicle photos/Cathy

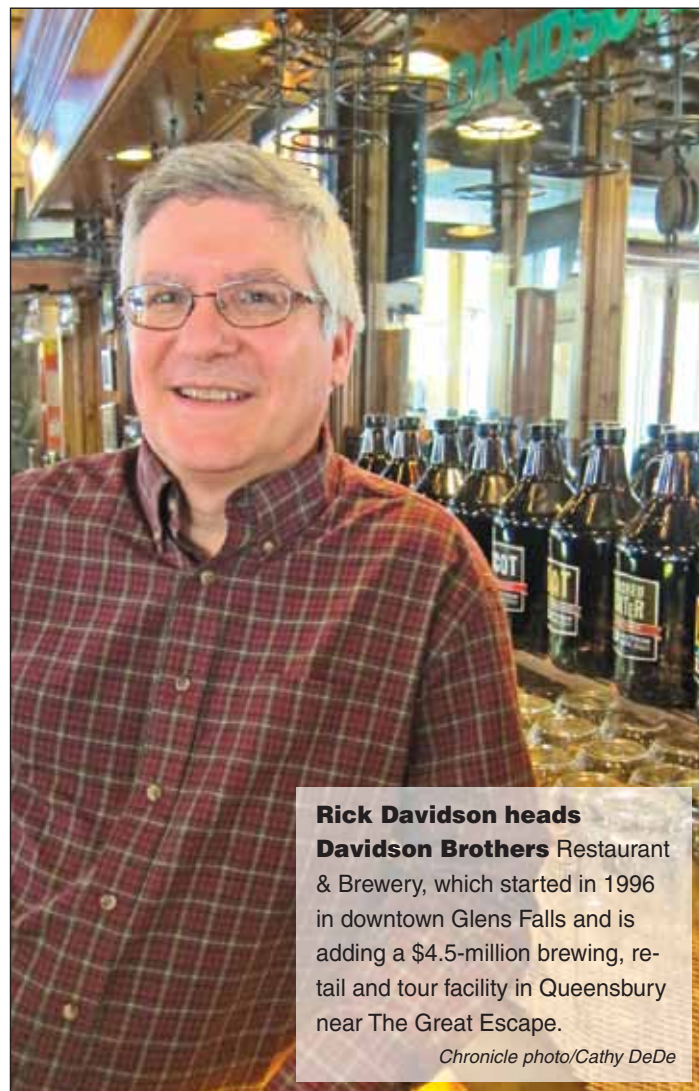


Chronicle photo/Gordon Woodworth



The Bethel family business is Cooper's Cave Ale Company in Glens Falls. Patty Bethel, son Adrian, who manages it, and Ed (not shown), the brewmaster.

Chronicle photo/Cathy DeDe



Rick Davidson heads Davidson Brothers Restaurant & Brewery, which started in 1996 in downtown Glens Falls and is adding a \$4.5-million brewing, retail and tour facility in Queensbury near The Great Escape.

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