

Merry Christmas!

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**Next issue:
New Year's Eve!**

15th Christmas Eve Road March

By Cathy DeDe

Chronicle Managing Editor

The 15th annual Christmas Eve Road March founded by Retired Sgt. Arthur Coon, will take place Monday morning, Dec. 24, beginning at 9 a.m.

The four-mile march in Glens Falls and Queensbury begins and ends at the Cool Insuring Arena downtown.

It honors American soldiers serving away from home at Christmastime.

"We don't do a sign-up, so we are never sure of who is coming," says Sgt. Coon.

"We think last year was roughly 2,000 — and like I always say — to think that at the first one there were 10 of us. We have come so far. What a great community we have that has supported this for 15 years. Wow."

When Sgt. Coon started the march in 2004, local National Guard soldiers were still deployed in Iraq.

There is no cost to participate and it is "open to absolutely everyone," Sgt. Coon writes. "Soldiers, veterans, civilians, kids, dogs, and even strollers! Prizes awarded and will be announced as we get closer."

Thousands walk, honor deployed troops; 9 am Monday from Cool Arena



2012 Chronicle photo — Sgt. Arthur Coon and his wife Julie.

Spectators are also welcome. Military members are invited to dress in uniform. All are invited to wear backpacks with

personal supplies to donate to deployed soldiers.

In a series of Facebook posts promoting the march, Sgt. Coon quotes American novelist Peter DeVries: "We are not primarily put on this earth to see through one another, but to see one another through."

Sgt. Coon adds, "That's how I think of the Road March — that even though I don't know most of those who are deployed, I want to send a message that we are thinking of them...no, not merely thinking of them, but road marching in their honor when we could easily be home in our warm cozy houses doing Christmas stuff!"

"To me, the Road March is what road marches always are, or were, in this retired soldier's

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Matt Funciello, outside his Rock Hill Bakehouse Cafe. Chronicle photo/Cathy DeDe

Rock Hill Cafe will close; GF is stunned

By Cathy DeDe

Chronicle Managing Editor

The bottom dropped out after Labor Day, Matt Funciello told *The Chronicle* Monday in the wake of his announcement that he'll close his Rock Hill Bakehouse Cafe on Exchange Street in downtown Glens Falls on Jan. 31 after 15 years.

The news has many people reeling — check the Facebook responses to see — but Mr. Funciello says, "Don't be sad." And, with a laugh, "I can't bolster everyone up."

He says the Rock Hill Bakery in Moreau is "strong as ever" after 30 years. He aims to grow it.

Mr. Funciello, the progressive Green Party activist who twice

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Downtown hub's sales plunged post Labor Day; its Moreau bakery keeps on rolling

Chronicle fan: Deserve a bigger sign; appreciates the fun things the paper has alerted his family to

Hello Mark,

A long-time reader here saying you have such a great newspaper but why such a small sign outside your building? You deserve better!

— James Minnick

Editor Mark Frost replied: James, thank you for your kind words,

long-term support and your sign suggestion. Maybe we should do a big vertical neon like Davidson's! That would be exciting but I suspect that the city won't be on board! May we publish your email as a letter to the editor? It would be interesting to see what feedback if any ensues.

James Minnick replies:

Dear Mark,
You sure can. I have to tell you that because of the *Chronicle* me

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Hyde's new CEO

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Norman Dascher



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