

"I'm not sure what the dynamics are [in] the banking industry, but from our perspective we're in need. We want a bank that is community minded."

Parish Mayor Kathryn Perkins

Biospherix, a manufacturer of health research equipment, moved to the heart of the village not long ago. There is also a Dollar General and Subway, and Dunkin' Donuts now has an outlet in a local gas station, the mayor said.

There are tentative plans for an industrial park and the mayor said the community hopes to get a grocery store, too.

Currently the village is working on getting gas and water lines. Most businesses and residents use wells and oil, propane or wood.

Myers of KeyBank said bank officials looked at branch traffic and demographics when considering opening a branch.

"There are a whole host of other things that are...proprietary," she said. "They have a formula or a process they use to determine branch locations. You figure out who your clients are and where they are."

Online banking has affected all banking, including community banking. In a statement KeyBank Central New York Market President Steve Fournier said his company's customers have shown a definite preference for digital banking.

Online and mobile transactions have been double the number of traditional branch banking transactions, he said.

Despite the obstacles, Mayor Perkins holds out hope for a new bank or credit union coming to her community. She said she is determined and not giving up.

"I'm still optimistic that something will come about, but it's just a matter of being persistent and continuing the search and seeing what we can do," she said.

By Matthew Liptak



Jeff Vandeyacht got hooked on flying in 1990 when he received a gift certificate to learn how to fly. He took several courses, became an instructor and ultimately the owner of True Course Flight School, based at Oswego County Airport.

Flight School Flourishes at Oswego County Airport

More than 30 people have received a pilot's license in the last few years at the local airport

Anyone can train to get a pilot's license at the expansive fields of the Oswego County Airport Volney. Lessons are given by instructors working for True Course Flight School, based at the airport.

BUSINESS UPDATE Having discovered their own love for flight, instructors and the owner are determined to share their love of flying with anyone interested in flying.

Jeff Vandeyacht remembers when he started. It was 1990 when he received a gift certificate — an introduction to

learn how to fly.

"One time was all it took," Vandeyacht says. "I was hooked."

In his new-found hobby he worked to obtain his private pilot's license (which allows a pilot to fly friends and family), then instrument training (which certifies pilots for a variety of weather conditions), followed by training to be able to offer commercial flights to others. Once he met his goal, and was able to fly in prime capacities, he found out he still missed the training environment ... and went on to become an instructor.

Currently Vandeyacht is one of four professionals available as instructors at

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True Course Flight School has two well maintained airplanes — a Cessna 172 and a Cessna 152 — both of which are basic gas, single engine, 'prop planes' (with a propeller) for students to fly.

True Course. Class and flight times are offered each day of the week and on the weekends, all year round.

Since taking over as new owner for True Course nearly five years ago, Vandeyacht says that the flight school has graduated about 30 new pilots, and currently has about 35 students enrolled in their flight training programs.

Also at the flight controls as instructor is Cameron Shepard, who says he has been in love with planes and flying since he was a kid.

It was back in 2007 that Shepard had the chance to take a "Discovery Flight" at True Course.

"Once I got a taste of it I never looked back," the instructor says.

The "Discovery" flight is still an option, just for adventure or, for some, as the beginning of something more.

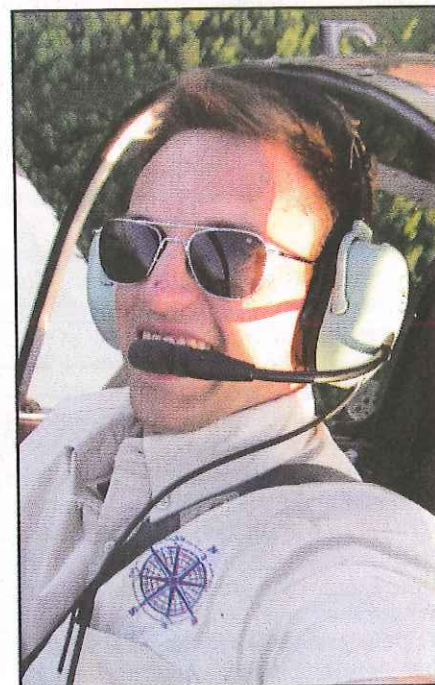
The instructors said to obtain a private pilot's license, students must take a minimum of 40 hours of flight time, with the national average logged at 60 hours. In addition, there is the ground school element of the process, with even more hours of study taking place on the ground.

Use of an airplane is a part of the hourly or package prices offered to potential flight training students, along with the textbooks needed, in addition to online video instruction and demonstration for study.

True Course Flight School has two well maintained airplanes — a Cessna 172 and a Cessna 152 — both of which are basic gas, single engine, 'prop planes' (with a propeller) for students to fly.

Vandeyacht said it usually takes about a year for students to get a pilot's license, depending on how many classes the students take.

Airplanes rent for \$115 per hour, and



Cameron Shepard is one of the four instructors at True Course Flight School. "Once I got a taste of it I never looked back," the instructor says.

instructor time for private pilot training is \$40 per hour. To go from zero time to private pilot can cost close to \$10,000, according to Vandeyacht.

"We try to keep flight training costs as low as possible, and affordable," Vandeyacht said.

Anyone interested in information on flight training or to schedule a Discovery Flight, can call 315-598-4482. For more information, visit www.truecourse-flighttraining.com.

By Diana Cook