

To All Local Business Owners

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO REVIEW SOME OF THESE WEBSITES AND ARTICLES..... IT COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE

Wal-Mart, Small Business and the Community

“...Neighborhood businesses contribute to local charities, advertise in local papers, buy from local suppliers, utilize local professionals (e.g. accountants, lawyers)...” “With this ‘multiplier effect’ local business dollars are three times more likely to re-circulate within the community than those of mega-retailers like Wal-Mart...” “...open up a discount store, drive out all competition and then close...” “...forcing competing stores to either lower their workers’ wages and benefits or face extinction...”

Read more at: <http://www.momandpopnyc.com/fact%20sheets/smallbusiness.pdf>

Wal-Mart and county wide poverty:

“.....retail workers displaced from existing mom-and-pop type operations work for Wal-Mart at lower wages because they have no alternatives...” “....even though Wal-Mart Corp. presents itself as a “good local citizen” and engaged in local philanthropy.....this type of philanthropy may not be as extensive or effective as that which the displaced mom-and-pop type stores would have provided....” “....by destroying the local class of entrepreneurs, the Wal-Mart chain also destroys local leadership capacity....”

Read more at: <http://cecd.aers.psu.edu/pubs/PovertyResearchWM.pdf>

Paying the Price at Wal-Mart

Whenever a new Wal-Mart opens, small businesses—from dress shops and pharmacies to hardware, auto supply and music stores—close their doors and good jobs disappear. According to the city of Los Angeles’ 2003 report on big-box retailers such as Wal-Mart, big box retailers and supercenters “often can result in the reduction of consumer choice due to their tendency to cannibalize competing retail businesses.”

Read more at: http://www.aflcio.org/corporatewatch/walmart/walmart_4.cfm

You can read more on Wal-Mart by searching the word “Wal-Mart” on the internet. A couple of well-known sites are <http://walmartwatch.com/> or <http://www.sprawl-busters.com/>. We have a local resident who keeps up on local and national Wal-Mart news at www.adirondackwalmart.blogspot.com. If you do not have the internet, there are books out there as well. Two of these are *The Wal-Mart Effect* or *The United States of Wal-Mart*.

The Save Saranac Lake Coalition formed in November 2005 when the rumors of Wal-Mart started. We have a steering committee comprised of young and old(er), native and non-native folks. We also have a large group of members who contribute in many ways. We understand your position in the community and we understand your reluctance in speaking up. We want you to know that we are here and we are fighting to keep this wonderful community with our unique downtowns and their integrities. We support you and we would like you to support us

Please contact us to find out more:
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