

LG supervisor Vinny Crocitto: How we keep history alive

By Mark Frost

Chronicle Editor

On June 27 at Lake George Battlefield Park, restoration of its three classic statues — The Battle of Lake George, 1903; The Mohawk Warrior, 1921; and Father Isaac Jogues, 1939 — was celebrated.

Lake George Town Supervisor Vinny Crocitto was among the speakers and, in my view, expressed the moment perfectly in his short pithy speech.

Vinny Crocitto said:

Good afternoon, esteemed guests, residents and friends of Lake George.

Today we gather in Battlefield Park to celebrate the restoration of three cherished monuments.

These monuments are a testament to our rich history since our founding in 1810, a time when colonial America, the French and Indian War, and the American Revolution were fresh in our memories.

In 1903, when the Battle of Lake George Monument was dedicated, the lumber industry, which once defined us, was giving way to tourism. That same year, 1903, the village of Caldwell was incorporated, later becoming the village of Lake George.

In 1939, the father Isaac Jogues monument was dedicated. By then, the Great Depression had tested our resilience and we were a nation on the brink of war.



Chronicle photo/Mark Frost

Since these monuments were erected, Lake George has seen remarkable change, but one thing has remained constant — our community's commitment to preserving our history.

In 1903, 1921 and 1939, residents came together to erect these monuments, ensuring that the stories of colonial battles, Native American heritage, and missionary sacrifice would endure.

Today, in 2025, we stand here because of people who continue that legacy, who honor those who walked in this path before us.

I want to thank the Battlefield Park Alliance, led by John DiNuzzo. We honor the late sculptor Dan George, who left a mark on this project in our town, the Lake George Park Commission, the Society of Colonial Wars, and all the volunteers and donors who made this happen.

Together, we keep history alive. Thank you.