

Jack's Bistro takes root in Qby.



Chef Chris Gates (left), his father Jack and brother David operate Jack's American Bistro.

By Mark Frost

If you didn't know where to look for Jack's American's Bistro, you might miss it.

In-between Wendy's and the Red Lobster on Route 9 in Queensbury, it's situated at the back of a suburban building, behind stores that sell Sprint cell phones and NASCAR collectibles. (Regulars know to use the side door.)

Yet Jack Gates and his sons Chris, the chef, and David, the bartender, now in their third year, are managing to make the place go. This is the first restaurant they've started, but they bring years of local experience to the table. Jack Gates long managed the Coach House restaurant when the DeSantis family owned

Tucked almost out of sight, a family manages to make headway

it (now it's The Great Escape's Trapper's Adirondack Grille).

The Gateses practice an old-fashioned warmth and reliability that builds customer relation-

ships for the long term. It's a place that locals especially identify as their own. I see lots of people I know there.

Our recent dinner ranged from NY Strip steak (\$20.95) to Chicken Parmesan (\$13.95) to kids' Spaghetti & huge meatballs (\$6.95) and Onion Soup (\$3.95). House wine, just \$5.25 a glass. It's comfort food that comes complete with bread, salad, vegetable, side dishes — and the knowledge you're genuinely appreciated. **Jack's Bistro: 798-1797.**