Written by ANDREA VanVALKENBURG, Staff Writers
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and LOHR McKINSTRY TICONDEROGA — A Hague mother and daughter were airlifted to Fletcher Allen Health Care Wednesday with serious injuries after their car crashed into a stopped school bus. None of the Ticonderoga Central School District students were injured in the afternoon crash. Car passenger Colleen Smith, 40, was rushed by LifeFlight helicopter to the Burlington hospital in critical condition after the car she was riding in slammed into the back of the stopped bus.
Her mother, Janice Smith, 76, who was driving the 2001 Chevrolet Cavalier at the time of the crash, was initially transported to Moses-Ludington Hospital with her granddaughter Jesse Frasier, a backseat passenger, but was later airlifted to the Burlington hospital.
She was listed in stable condition there Wednesday night.
Frasier, 22, was later treated and released from the hospital.
According to Ticonderoga police, the bus, which had its red lights flashing, was stopped on Route 9N to let a student off when the collision occurred around 3:15 p.m.
Neither bus driver David Iuliano, of Ticonderoga, or any of the five pupils on board the bus were injured. They were taken to the Ticonderoga hospital for evaluation and were later picked up by their parents.
School Superintendent John McDonald Jr. said he went to the crash site to check on everyone. "The kids were all fine. Our bus driver handled it very well. The emergency services folks were very concerned about the kids and the people in the car."
Ticonderoga Emergency Squad rendered medical care at the crash, while personnel from the Crown Point and Hague fire departments responded to the accident with additional assistance.
Police said they are continuing to investigate the crash and charges are possible.