



Tug Hill Times

Tug Hill Times is published semimonthly by the Tug Hill Commission for its board members, staff and associates, and the local representatives of the region's communities.

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Would you like to receive this newsletter electronically and help us reduce our costs? Send an email request to gwen@tughill.org or call 785-2380. Electronic versions appear in full color!

Congratulations!!!

RENEE BEYER

Winner of a **FREE** registration to the 2013 Local Government Conference. Please call our office for your registration.

Check out Tug Hill Trivia on the back page and you could be the next winner!

Watertown Urbanized Area Upcoming Meetings

Based on the 2010 Census, the U. S. Census Bureau has designated 36 new "Urbanized Areas" across the country, including one for the greater Watertown Area. There are 17 municipalities (9 villages, 7 towns and the City of Watertown) in Jefferson County that are affected. The Commission has helped organize two upcoming meetings to learn more about what the implications might be.

On February 7th, 2013 at 7 pm at the West Carthage Municipal Building chief elected officials from the affected municipalities have been invited to hear some general information about impacts to transportation, stormwater, and housing.

On February 12th, 2013 at 11 am at the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County offices, chief elected officials as well as interested code enforcement officers, highway superintendents and planning board members have been invited to hear more detailed information from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation on stormwater regulations that will come into effect. Attendees will also watch a webinar by the Environmental Protection Agency with an overview of the stormwater regulations and lessons learned from other communities.

For more information about either of these meetings call the Commission offices at 1-888-785-2380 or email gwen@tughill.org.

Pavement Management Summer Intern Project Available to Town, Village and County Highway Departments!

Deadline for 2013 Internship is February 28

Apply now! Contact Geoff Scott. Email: grs78@cornell.edu or call 607-255-2806.

The Cornell Local Roads Program has just developed a brand new network-level pavement management system software package. This program, based on the previously released University of New Hampshire Road Surface Management System (RSMS), provides information on the condition, traffic, and importance of roads in a network to create a long-term maintenance program. This helps municipalities apply limited budget resources where they will provide the greatest benefits. This software will be given to municipalities participating in the intern project as part of the \$60 fee. Otherwise, it will likely be available in fall 2013 at a probable cost of \$100.

The **Pavement Management Summer Intern Project** provides municipalities with a way to overcome some of the time constraints that limit the implementation of a pavement management system. Since most pavement management systems are implemented using computer software, the project also helps municipalities overcome the difficulties associated with learning to use the computer by providing a computer literate college intern to help get the software up and running.

For more information about this project, go to: www.clrp.cornell.edu/RSMS/PMS_brochure_2013.pdf.

Headwaters Annual Newsletter In The Mail

The latest version of the Commission's annual newsletter/report should be arriving in your mail box (email or "snailmail") soon! This 2012 issue highlights the new Regional Economic Development Councils, 2010 census data for the Region, large land sales, the latest class of Tug Hill Sages, and more! We hope you enjoy it.

Winona Forest Recreation Association Receives Parks & Trails NY Grant

Parks & Trails NY announced last week that the Winona Forest Recreational Association (WFRA) was chosen to receive one of their Capacity Building grants. WFRA will receive \$1,400 to produce a new brochure and newsletters designed to increase use of the forest and increase membership in the organization. Commission staff assisted in the grant application and are helping WFRA update their trail map for inclusion in the new brochure.

The Winona Stonewall Classic 5K Snowshoe Race was just held last weekend and the 2013 Winona Forest Tourathon 12.5 km, 25 km, 37.5 km, and Walter Chapman 50 km Classical races are to take place on February 23rd. WFRA can be found on line at www.winonaforest.com or on Facebook.



Minnowbrook Local Leaders Conference Scheduled for April

Syracuse University's Environmental Finance Center will hold its annual conference for local leaders April 23-25, 2013. The program is titled "Smart Management for Small Communities: Practical Resources for Governance" and will be held at Minnowbrook Conference Center in Blue Mountain Lake. The training topics include project finance tools, state and federal funding updates, community engagement, land use planning for rural communities, energy and water resources, and sustainable materials management.

The cost, including all meals and lodging is: \$240 for local municipalities, \$300 for government agencies and non-profits, and \$475 for for-profit organizations. Supervisors, mayors, council members, clerks, and other interested community leaders are encouraged to visit efc.syracusecoe.org for more information and to register.

Regional Economic Development Council Meetings

**Central New York
Regional Economic Development Council**
Public Meeting
February 6, 2013
9:00am – 12:00pm
Location: Cayuga County Community College, Auburn, NY

**North Country
Regional Economic Development Council Meeting**

Thursday, February 21, 2013
11:00am – 2:00pm
Public Session
1:00pm – 2:00pm
Location: Barrington Student Union at SUNY Potsdam

Path Through History Public Meeting

Thursday, February 21, 2013
2:15pm - 4:00pm
Barrington Student Union at SUNY Potsdam

The Path Through History workgroup for the North Country is seeking public input on Governor Cuomo's Path Through History initiative through an informational meeting. Please register by close of business on February 19th by going to the website at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/content/north-country>.

In August 2012, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo unveiled New York's new "Path Through History," a statewide roadmap that ties historically and culturally significant sites, locations and events throughout the Empire State.

This new effort to highlight New York's rich heritage aims to not only showcase New York State's history and cultural significance but also promote tourism and economic development in communities in every region of the state.

"The Path Through History will highlight the rich history that exists in New York State by showcasing more than two hundred of our most significant sites and historic milestones," said Governor Cuomo. "From Mark Twain writing Huckleberry Finn in Elmira to John Coltrane's one of a kind jazz being played on Long Island, we have done and seen it all in New York and now we are putting our state's heritage on display for the world to enjoy. The regional tourism plans highlight the best our state has to offer and will give us a deeper appreciation of our past."

The public meeting planned for February 21st will be an opportunity for stakeholders to attend and share their thoughts about significant cultural and historic resources in the region. It will also be an opportunity for stakeholders to suggest interesting and effective ways to promote these resources in the North Country.

**Mohawk Valley
Regional Economic Development Council**
Public Meeting
February 26, 2013
9:00am – 12:00pm
Location: Herkimer County Community College, Herkimer, NY

Contact us at:**NYS Tug Hill Commission**

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We are located on the 6th Floor of the
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Assisting communities and citizens for over 39 years.



**WIN A FREE
REGISTRATION**

Tug Hill Trivia???

How many inches of snow did
Highmarket get in 2011-2012?

The **FIRST** person to email the correct
answer will receive a
FREE registration to the
2013 Local Government Conference
on March 28!!

Send your answer to gwen@tughill.org

If you have already registered and are
the winner, your registration will be
reimbursed.

*** Not eligible to participate if you
have already won.**

Looking Ahead



Third Annual Black River Watershed Conference June 4, 2013

The Third Annual Black River Watershed Conference is in the planning stages. The conference will be hosted by the Tug Hill Commission, Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District and NYS DEC Region 6.

Tentative topics include planning and recreation. For more information or if you have additional ideas, please contact Jennifer Harvill at jennifer@tughill.org or 785-2392.

Updated information including a time and location will be announced in upcoming editions of the Tug Hill Times.

68th Annual School for Highway Superintendents June 3-5, 2013

The Highway School is held in Ithaca, NY and features short sessions of general interest in the mornings and 24-28 afternoon workshops lasting 75 minutes each. A partnership with statewide vendors supports the Pothole Picnic on the first day. Over 700 participants, the majority being local highway and public works officials, attend the Highway School every year.

The [Association of Towns of the State of New York](http://www.associationoftowns.org) co-sponsors the Highway School, and handles all of the registrations.

For more information about the Highway School, check the website at www.clrp.cornell.edu/trainingevents/highwayschool.htm.