



February 27, 2015

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Governor Cuomo Visits the Tug Hill
- Osceola Couple Highlighted on North Country Public Radio
- Security End-to-End
- Calendar of Dates for Annual Village Elections
- Constantia Supervisor Remembered
- DOS Announces Local Government Citizens Reorganization Empowerment Grant (CREG)
- Town of Wilna Awarded \$1,510 for Energy Conservation Study
- Drone Workshop, March 19th at SUNY Polytechnic
- Pre-Qualification Workshop Held by the Thousand Island Area Habitat for Humanity



Set clocks March 8th

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.



From left to right, Commissioner Arnie Talgo, Associate Director Katie Malinowski, Governor Cuomo, Executive Director John Bartow and Commissioner Roger Maciejko.

Governor Cuomo Visits the Tug Hill

Governor Cuomo, for the second time in two years, took to the Tug Hill snowmobile trails in Lewis County to take advantage of the great snowmobiling the area has to offer and encourage tourism. Last week daughters Michaela and Cara joined their father for a ride on the trails, along with several legislators and senior staff members. While at the Ridgeview Inn in Lowville the Governor also announced that a free snowmobiling weekend will be offered the weekend of March 7th, where there will be no registration fee for out of state snowmobilers who come into state. Tug Hill Commissioners and staff had an opportunity to talk with the Governor during his visit.

For more on the free snowmobiling weekend go to <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-free-snowmobiling-weekend-march-7-8>

Osceola Couple Highlighted on North Country Public Radio

Osceola Town Supervisor and Tug Hill Sage Francis Yerdon and his wife, Carol, were recently interviewed by North Country Public Radio with the story released on Valentine's Day. Please listen to the interview, found at the link below, for a beautiful story. There should be more stories coming from NCPR highlighting different people and places on Tug Hill.

<http://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/27495/20150213/true-love-waits-in-the-tug-hill-wilderness>

Security End-to-End

The Internet plays an integral part in our daily lives and being constantly connected at work and at home brings increased risk of theft, fraud, and abuse. Government, law enforcement, the private sector, and members of the public, must work together to create a safer cyber environment.

Consider this:

- 38% of mobile users have experienced mobile cybercrime, yet only 50% of mobile users take even the most basic security precautions¹
- Ransomware attacks grew by 500 percent in 2013²
- 12% of social media users say someone has hacked into their social network account and pretended to be them³
- 18% of users will visit a link in a phishing email⁴
- 8 Mega Breaches occurred in 2013 - each exposing more than 10 million identities; a total of 552 million identities were exposed for the year – an increase of 493% over the prior year⁵

Learn more about these issues, how they impact you, and what you can do to improve your cyber posture by attending the 18th Annual New York State Cyber Security Conference (NYSCSC '15) and 10th Annual Symposium on Information Assurance (ASIA '15) at the Empire State Plaza in Albany, New York on June 2 - 3, 2015. This year's Conference focuses on a comprehensive approach to security and will allow attendees to:

- Stay current on cyber security threats, vulnerabilities, and exploits
- Find solutions for information security issues
- Participate in cost-effective security training
- Network with peers
- Learn about industry developments by visiting the Exhibit Hall
- Earn Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits

A variety of sessions, including topics for business managers, law enforcement, educators, information security professionals, technical staff, and others will be offered. Registration is **free** to government and public sector employees, including kindergarten-higher education. The Conference agenda will be available in the early spring. Plan to attend now and check back for updates at <http://www.its.ny.gov/eiso/conference/2015/>.

NYSCSC '15 and ASIA '15 are co-hosted by the New York State Office Information Technology Services Enterprise Information Security Office (NYS ITS EISO), the NYS Forum, Inc. and the University at Albany's School of Business and College of Computing and Information. If you have any questions, please contact the NYS ITS EISO at cyber.outreach@its.ny.gov.

Symantec 2014 Internet Security Threat Report, Volume 19
http://www.symantec.com/security_response/publications/threatreport.jsp

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ 2014 Data Breach Investigations Report
<http://www.verizonenterprise.com/DBIR/2014/>

⁵ Symantec 2014 Internet Security Threat Report, Volume 19
http://www.symantec.com/security_response/publications/threatreport.jsp

Calendar of Dates for Annual Village Elections

For a complete guide on village election process and procedures, check out NYCOM's publication at <http://www.nycom.org/images/Feesfines/Managementseriesreports/calofdates14.pdf>.

March Election
Wednesday, March 18, 2015

June Election
Tuesday, June 16, 2015

New York State Conference of Mayors & Municipal Officials

Constantia Supervisor Remembered

Town of Constantia Supervisor Charles R. Gilkey passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, February 21, 2015 in Constantia. He was 68 years old. Gilkey was in his sixth year as town supervisor; prior to that, he had served on and chaired the Constantia Planning Board. Gilkey also served on the Oswego County Planning Board, and was a regular attendee at the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council. He was one of the town's representatives on the North Shore Council of Governments, and participated in the public forum on the current edition of the Tug Hill Commission's Strategic Plan. Gilkey was tireless in working on improvements such as water, sewer, natural gas, and waterfront access for the town, and was instrumental in the town's land use planning work and cooperative ventures with other area towns and villages.

His obituary can be found online at <http://obits.syracuse.com/obituaries/syracuse/obituary.aspx?pid=174225856>.

26th Annual Local Government Conference
Jefferson Community College
March 26, 2015
Early registration ends Marcy 4th

DOS Announces Local Government Citizens Reorganization Empowerment Grant (CREG)

The CREG program assists local government entities that are studying or implementing a “local government re-organization,” which includes 1) the dissolution or consolidation of a local government entity in accordance with General Municipal Law (GML), Article 17-A; or 2) the establishment of a new town-village, which operates principally as either a town or a village (but not as both) in former place of a town and a village. The term “local government entities” includes most general purpose local governments and special improvement districts (SFL section 54(10)(q)(i)). The goal of the Local Government Citizen’s Re-Organization Empowerment Grant Program is to reduce municipal expenses and property taxes through local government re-organization or through alternative actions if re-organization is not feasible.

- 1) **Re-Organization Planning**-*A re-organization planning project includes data gathering, analysis, and discussion to understand the current services and responsibilities of each involved local government entity. Additionally a re-organization planning project includes an examination of the financial impact of reorganization on all involved local governments, an assessment of potential management and service delivery changes, a review of potential impediments related to re-organization, and a list of recommended steps to complete the re-organization, as well as an inventory of other efficiency options if the re-organization is not completed*
- 2) **Re-Organization Implementation**-*Implementation of the dissolution plan or consolidation agreement will proceed if it is determined, either by the governing board or by citizen referendum, that re-organization is in the best interests of the local government entity and its residents. Implementation activities pursuant to the plan are eligible for funding.*
- 3) **Expedited Re-Organization Assistance**-*A referendum on the question of local government re-organization is required when the electors of a local government entity file a petition pursuant to Article 17-A of the General Municipal Law. Local government entities that receive such a petition are eligible to apply for Expedited Re-Organization Assistance to cover costs associated with the development and dissemination of information to the electors prior to the required referendum.*

The due date for questions is March 18, 2015. Answers will be available on March 25, 2015 at <http://www.dos.ny.gov/funding/>. Applications are due April 01, 2015. For a Local Government to apply for this opportunity, please go to www.grantsgateway.ny.gov, click on the login link and search “Available Opportunities.” Department of State contact for this program is Kyle Wilber at kyle.wilber@dos.ny.gov.

Contact us at:

**NYS Tug Hill
Commission**

317 Washington St.
Watertown, NY 13601

We are located on the
6th Floor of the Dulles
State Office Building.

Phone: 315-785-2380
Toll Free within the
region:
1-888-785-2380

Email:
tughill@tughill.org
Website:
www.tughill.org

**Assisting Communities
and citizens for
over 40 years.**

Town of Wilna Awarded \$1,510 for Energy Conservation Study

The Town of Wilna Development Authority has been awarded \$1,510 through the New York State Energy Research & Design Agency (NYSERDA) under the Flex Tech Program to contract with Barton & Loguidice (B&L) Engineering Firm, a Certified NYSERDA Consultant, for professional services to complete an energy conservation study at the town hall. Building upon ongoing efforts to reduce energy consumption, the study will evaluate the cost/benefit of replacing the existing cooling and natural gas heating & cooling system with a high efficient replacement unit.

According to B&L, a final report will be submitted to the town & NYSERDA for review and next step consideration in 4-6 weeks. Once complete, members of the board will review the information and consider next steps.

Drone Workshop on March 19th at SUNY Polytechnic

The Local Government Education Committee is sponsoring a workshop entitled "*Drones & Nothing but the Drones, What Every Municipality Should Know!*" on Thursday, March 19 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at SUNY Polytechnic (formerly SUNY IT) in Utica. The presentation will be given by the *Northeast UAS Airspace Integration Research Alliance (NUAIR)*, which is a regional alliance of private industry, military and academic institutions, working together to establish a Federal Aviation Administration — designated test sites for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) in the Northeast, based in New York and Massachusetts.

There is a \$15 fee to attend the workshop. The full workshop brochure and registration form can be found at www.lgec.org. Registrations are due by March 13.

Pre-Qualification Workshop Held by the Thousand Island Area Habitat for Humanity

The Thousand Island Area Habitat for Humanity sponsored a pre-qualification workshop from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on February 24th at the Carthage Free Library located at 412 Budd Street in Carthage. Representatives through the United States Development Authority (USDA) under the Rural Development Program were available to interested participants seeking more information about the Single Family Housing Direct Loan Program and/or provide technical assistance through the application process.

According to Lynn Morgan, Executive Director of Thousand Island Area Habitat for Humanity, applicants are applying for one of four building sites at the Braman Block along Alexandria Street in Carthage and will go through a selection process before construction begins. If selected, they will be expected to provide sweat equity in to the construction of the new home and work with community volunteers to complete the project.

**SUPPORT
FORT DRUM**

Sign the petition at
Drum2025.com

FORT DRUM

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, MARCH 20
5pm Public Rally & Listening Session at JCC