

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.

May 10, 2013

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New York State Tug Hill Commission's 40th Anniversary

**The New York State Tug Hill Commission's
40th Annual Meeting and Dinner will be
May 30, 2013, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
at The Beeches in Rome.**

Cost is \$30 per person.

RSVP at gwen@tughill.org or 1-888-785-2380.

**The commission is celebrating 40 years of service to
the Tug Hill region.**

Third Annual Black River Watershed Conference

June 4, 2013

8:45 am - 4:00 pm

Lowville Fire Department

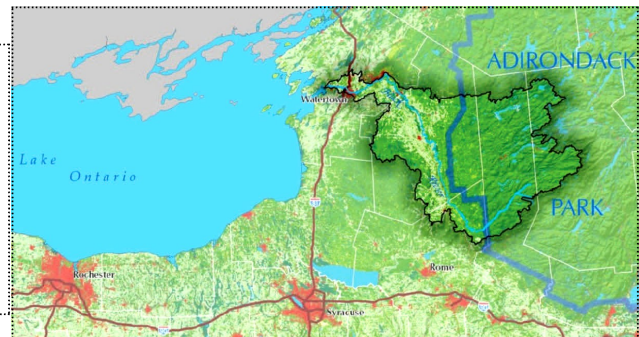
5420 Parkway, Lowville, NY 13367

Cost is \$15 per person.

Registrations must be received by May 28, 2013.

If you are interested in attending you can download a registration form at this link:
<http://www.tughill.org/proj/register-for-the-black-river-watershed-conference/>.
For further information call 315-376-6122 or email Carla Luther at cluther@lewiscountyny.org.

The Black River Watershed is ~ 1.2 million acres in size covering parts of Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis and Oneida Counties and contains 1 city, 37 towns and 18 villages.



Organized and hosted by the Lewis County Soil & Water Conservation District, NYS Tug Hill Commission & the NYS Department of Conservation Region 6.

Happy Mother's Day!



About Path Through History Weekends

What is Path Through History?

The Path Through History [PTH] is an initiative that will connect historic and cultural attractions throughout New York State. The PTH will not only showcase New York's unparalleled network of museums, historic sites, and other cultural institutions, it will also help promote tourism, economic development, and create jobs.

What are the goals of PTH?

The goals include increasing visitation to heritage and cultural sites, telling New York's story, and integrating seamlessly with New York State's larger tourism efforts. Heritage tourism already has a \$5 billion annual impact on New York's economy.

What happened to Heritage Weekend?

New York's history is a profound competitive advantage for the state. Protecting, preserving and promoting our heritage resources is a critical component of economic development and revitalization of communities throughout the state. Heritage Weekend has been so successful that it will now be integrated into the overall statewide heritage tourism plan, Path Through History. As such, the name will be changed to Path Through History Weekends, which will take place June 1-2 and 8-9, 2013.

What are Path Through History Weekends events?

Path Through History Weekends events can include special programs, discounted or free admission, or any event that celebrates national, state or local heritage. Historic sites, museums, architecturally significant buildings, local historians and historical societies, battlefields, historic districts, community groups and any resources that connect directly with New York State heritage are all invited to participate and get involved.

My organization already has our 2013 calendar set –can we still participate?

We understand that at this time in the year, many of you have already set your event calendars. While we encourage special events, you may choose to promote your site or organization's regular programming. If you have the opportunity to partner with other sites or to do a special event that would be wonderful, but more important is to connect whatever is going on that weekend with Path Through History Weekends events. Themes for PTH Weekends events can be found on the website at www.paththroughhistoryweekends.com/about_Path_Through_History_Weekends/PTH_themes.aspx.

Where can PTH Weekends events take place?

Anywhere in New York State.

How do I submit my PTH Weekends event?

As with Heritage Weekend, events will be submitted through the website and approved by an administrator. The event submission form can be found on the website at http://www.paththroughhistoryweekends.com/Events/submit_your_event.aspx.

How will I be notified about PTH Weekends?

Once your event is submitted and approved, you will get updates about PTH Weekends through email from the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. If you would like to sign up to receive these emails, see the sign up form below.

Will all events taking place on the PTH Weekends be cited on the Path Through History Weekends website?

If your event is approved as a Path Through History Event, it will appear on the website.

Do all events have to take place on June 1-2 and 8-9?

In general, Path Through History Weekends events should take place on June 1-2 and 8-9. However, if your organization has an event that will take place during that week, June 3-7th, you may list that event as well.

Who do I contact about PTH Weekends?

Please feel free to email or call the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area at **518-473-3835** or [hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov](mailto:hrvq@hudsongreenway.ny.gov). **Please note:** *If you send us an email, please include a contact phone number for follow up.*

NYS DOT Announces Transportation Enhancement Program

NYS Department of Transportation has announced that applications are available for transportation projects, such as construction of bicycle paths and streetscape improvements, through the federally-funded Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP). Municipalities and non-profit incorporated groups are eligible to apply for funding.

TEP is a federal reimbursement program administered by NYS DOT that helps finance projects not generally eligible for funding through traditional transportation programs, including projects that emphasize cultural, aesthetic, or environmental significance. This application round will be the last under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) surface transportation act.

For this round, NYS DOT has chosen to focus on five of the 12 federally established eligibility categories. Specifically, eligible projects must fall into one or more of the following five federally-specified categories:

- **Provisions of facilities for bicycles and pedestrians;**
- **Scenic or historic highway programs, including tourist and welcome center facilities;**
- **Landscaping and other scenic beautification;**
- **Preservation of abandoned railway corridors, including conversion and use for pedestrian and bicycle trails; and**
- **Environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reducing vehicle-caused wildlife mortality.**

TEP project selection is a competitive process in which eligible applications are rated and prioritized based upon environmental enhancement, connectivity to the existing transportation system, availability of matching funds, level of community support and proof of competency in project management and implementation. Projects must have a relationship with the surface transportation system and must be available for public access and use. Successful applicants are expected to implement projects expeditiously and in conformance with all federal and state regulations.

Applications for funding may be developed by any municipality or non-profit incorporated group, but must be sponsored either by a municipality, a state agency or public authority other than the New York State Thruway Authority or Canal Corporation.

Applicants must pay the full project costs up front, with up to 80 percent of eligible costs reimbursable by NYS DOT and a minimum of 20 percent of costs paid by the applicant or sponsor. Eligible projects must have a total cost of at least \$200,000; federal reimbursement is limited to \$2.5 million per project.

Up to \$30 million is available for this application round. The deadline for submitting an application is August 16, 2013. Successful applicants are expected to be announced by the end of 2013. Information, including a TEP Guidebook and application, are available electronically at <https://www.dot.ny.gov/programs/tep>.

TEP Workshop

DATE: June 11, 2013

TIME: 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Watertown Dulles State Office Building

1st Floor Conference Room

317 Washington Street

Watertown, NY 13601

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 39 years.



Please help us reduce our costs and let us send you this newsletter electronically. Send an email request to gwen@tughill.org or call 1-888-785-2380. Electronic versions appear in full color!

Land Use Planning Workshop

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The Jefferson County Department of Planning and the Tug Hill Commission are co-sponsoring a land use training session on Common Real Estate Transactions and Procedures featuring Attorneys at Law, David B. Geurtsen, Esq. and Victoria Hasseler Collins, Esq.

Wednesday, May 29, 2013

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Jules Center Amphitheater Room 6-002

Jefferson Community College, 1220 Coffeen St., Watertown, NY 13601

RSVPs are strongly encouraged by Friday, May 24.

Please call Jefferson County Planning Department at 315-785-3144 or email planning@co.jefferson.ny.us.

Q&A Session Scheduled on Community Resource Packets in Oneida County

Over the course of the past year, agencies in Oneida County have been asked questions regarding the regulations impacting the Amish population to our area. A "Community Resource Packet" of information that includes various brochures, pamphlets, and fact sheets has been compiled to assist local residents that have limited access to resources. These packets have been distributed to a number of local Amish residents during the month of April. A similar packet will be mailed to municipal clerks the first week in May.

Staff from the Oneida County Sherriff Department, NYS Troopers, Oneida County Health Department, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the Farm Bureau will be available to answer questions from local officials about the information in the Community Resource Packet at a Municipal Q&A Session on Monday, May 20th at 7:00 pm at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County, 121 Second Street, Oriskany, NY. Please RSVP by contacting Caroline Williams at 315-736-3394 ext. 133 or email jcw28@cornell.edu.

CTHC Associate Circuit Rider Search

The Cooperative Tug Hill Council is bidding goodbye to long-time Associate Circuit Rider Jeanne Wooding. She is retiring as of May 31st of this year, and will be dearly missed by all of the Council. We wish her the very best of luck in her future endeavors whatever they may be. The CTHC Executive Committee is searching for someone to replace Jeanne in this important job. This is a part-time position and requires someone with a flexible schedule. The job description and details about applying can be found at www.tughillcouncil.com. Anyone who is interested in applying or who might know an interested party is encouraged to check out the information. The deadline to apply is May 20th, 2013. Interested parties can also contact Angie Kimball, Circuit Rider at angela@tughill.org or at (315) 408-6857 for more information. We look forward to hearing from you!