

Commissioners Meet in Osceola

The Tug Hill Commission board met in Osceola on Monday, May 20th and toured recent improvements made at the Osceola Community Center and the Osceola Public Library.

The former one room schoolhouse in Osceola has served as a community center and meeting space for the town for many years. Thanks to hard work by the town, volunteers and funding through a Justice Court Assistance Program grant, the town is putting the final touches on what will soon be called the Osceola Municipal Building.

The former Methodist Church in Osceola has served as the public library and historical society for many years, and recently finished significant renovations as the result of several state grants.

May 24, 2019 Issue

- Commissioners Meet
- Court Study Approved
- Constantia Plan Update
- Cleveland Elementary
- Fort Drum Day
- Amish & Codes Workshop June 20
- Dr. Phil Video
- Planner Resumes May 30
- Outdoors Day June 8
- Cyber Security Conference



Left to right: Osceola clerk Ginny Churchill, commissioners Roger Maciejko, Tom Boxberger, Mike Yerdon, Jan Bogdanowicz, and Gerry Ritter.



Commissioners hear from Leona Chereshnoski at the Osceola library.

Lorraine and Worth Approve Court Study

The Lorraine and Worth town boards are moving forward with a consolidation of their town justice courts under the NYS Uniform Justice Court Act Section 106b, which authorizes multiple municipalities to elect a single justice to preside in justice courts of two or more adjacent towns in the same county. To begin the process, both towns passed a joint resolution to conduct a study on the feasibility of the court merger, which was recently completed by the Tug Hill Commission. Following town board review, each town held a public hearing this spring to allow town citizens to review the study and offer comments on the process. Each board then approved a resolution to approve the study and move forward with the consolidation process as outlined.

The next step in the process is for the two town boards to approve a joint resolution outlining the final steps to be taken to abolish the existing town justice position in each town and elect one justice for the newly created joint election district. This resolution will be sent to the New York State Legislature for legislative action, and once the consolidation is approved by the state legislature a single justice will be elected to preside over the two courts by the voters of both towns every four years.

There is already one functioning consolidated justice court in the Cooperative Tug Hill Council, in Harrisburg, Montague and Pinckney, which is working very well. Additionally, the Tug Hill Commission helped Lewis and Boylston expand their pool of potential justice candidates by assisting in state legislation to alter the residency requirement for this elected position. If anyone would like more in depth information on the court issues and solutions to judicial vacancies, the commission has an issue paper at <https://www.tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Justice-Court-Consolidation-Solutions-Final.pdf>.

Constantia Begins Comprehensive Plan Update

The town of Constantia Planning Board has begun meeting monthly to update the town's 2002 comprehensive plan. Early work will include updating demographic and land use information, updating mapping, and holding a visioning/scoping session with town officials and residents. The updated plan will provide guidance for the physical development of the town and provide a framework for land development and subdivision controls. It will also help assure that the growth of the area will be in tune with plans for infrastructure and road development and will not negatively impact natural resources and rural character.

Cleveland Elementary to become NYSDEC Training Academy Site

Five years after the Central Square Central School System closed the Cleveland Elementary School as no longer being necessary to meet current or projected enrollment needs, the school is on the verge of taking on a new role as a training academy for forest rangers and environmental conservation officers of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC). The Central Square school district is in the process of selling the school to NYSDEC.

NYSDEC currently operates a training academy at the former Portly Angler site in the town of Richland. It is envisioned that the new Cleveland facility would supplant the current training academy facility.



Albany Fort Drum Day

The Tug Hill Commission participated in the 8th annual Fort Drum Day, where soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division and community partners showcase Fort Drum at the State Capitol. Sponsored by Senator Ritchie, it is an opportunity to teach legislators around the state about Fort Drum. Other partner organizations participating in the day were Advocate Drum, Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust, and the Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization.

From left to right: Assemblyman Mark Walczyk, Jefferson County Chairman Scott Gray, Tug Hill Commission Executive Director Katie Malinowski, Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust Executive Director Linda Garrett, Major General Brian Mennes, Senator Patty Ritchie

The Amish, the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, and Your Local Regulations Workshop June 20

Thursday, June 20, 2019, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Check-in: 6:00 p.m. at Town of Trenton, Municipal Building, 8520 Old Poland Rd, (Intersection of Rt. 12), Barneveld, NY

There is a \$10.00 fee to attend the workshop. Fees will be collected at the door. To register call Jennifer at 315-371-7612, go to www.LGEC.org or email lgec@lgec.org. The workshop is sponsored by the Local Government Education Committee.

This session will provide a general overview of how state and local regulations apply to the Amish community. Speakers will address issues relating to their agricultural practices and New York State Agricultural Districts, compliance with the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, zoning, and other local regulations. The session will end with an open Q & A period.

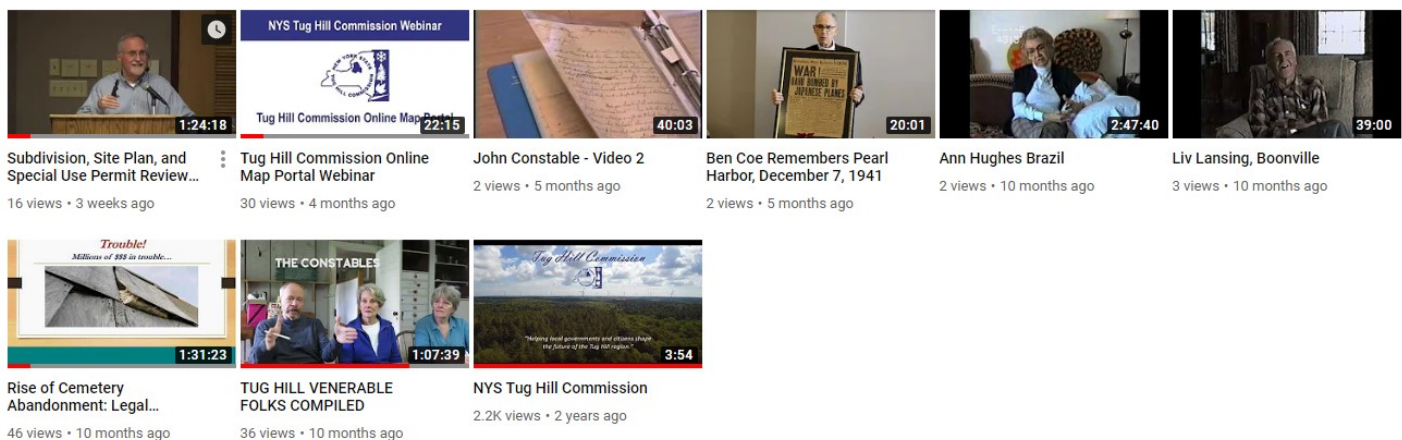
Speakers:

- ⇒ **Christopher Eastman**, Training Manager, New York State Department of State, Local Government Training Program
- ⇒ **Robert Somers, Ph.D.**, Manager, Farmland Protection Unit, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
- ⇒ **Gary A. Traver**, Assistant Director of Oversight Division of Building Standards and Codes New York State Department of State

Dr. Phil Land Use Planning Video Available

The Process of Site Plan and Subdivision Review Workshop including SEQR was explained in detail by Philip Street, THC Planning Director, at a workshop held at JCC on April 22, 2019.

To view the video, Phil's presentation and handout, go to the commission's website at <https://www.tughill.org/services/training/workshops/>. For all Tug Hill Commission videos, go to the commission's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvolFp3AbYIQW0DNDSTNHww>.



Planner Resumes Due May 30

The New York State Tug Hill Commission is hiring an entry level planner to provide assistance to local governments in the rural Tug Hill region in the areas of land use planning, local law development, and general technical support to planning boards and other involved municipal boards. Required skills include: knowledge of the principles and procedures of planning and related research; ability to present oneself well and communicate effectively both orally and in writing; proficiency with word processing, spreadsheet, database, and presentation software; and proficiency with Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Minimum qualifications are a Master's degree in City and Regional Planning or related field or a Bachelor's degree in City and Regional Planning or related field plus two years of full-time paid experience in municipal, county, or regional planning or directly related work. For more information about the position, see our website, www.tughill.org

NYS Cyber Security Conference June 4-5

Interested in learning more about today's cyber challenges and what you can do to protect your personal information and your organization's data? Register to attend the **22nd Annual New York State Cyber Security Conference and 14th Annual Symposium on Information Assurance (ASIA)**, which takes place at the **Empire State Plaza in Albany on June 4 and 5** with post-conference training opportunities on June 6.

The conference offers something for everyone – whether you're an end user, IT professional, business manager or educator. More than 45 breakout sessions, led by industry experts, are available covering topics ranging from access management, legal issues, security awareness, cyber defense tactics and more. Be sure to check out the interactive sessions on June 6 for additional training opportunities.

Register today at <https://its.ny.gov/2019-nyscsc/registration>

Free to government and public sector employees, \$50 for not-for-profit employees*, \$200 for private sector employees*

*Group discount of 20% for 5 or more employees from the same organization.

For more information on the conference agenda, visit the conference website at <https://its.ny.gov/2019-nyscsc>. The conference is cohosted by the New York State Office of Information Technology Services, the University at Albany's School of Business, and the New York State Forum, Inc.

Contact Us

NYS Tug Hill Commission

317 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601

Phone: 315-785-2380

Toll Free within the region:

1-888-785-2380

Email: tughill@tughill.org

Visit us at:

Web: www.tughill.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/TugHillCommission

If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically please email your request to gwen@tughill.org or call 1-888-785-2380.

Electronic versions appear in full color!

DEC Hosts 'Outdoors Day' at Lowville Office June 8

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Region 6 will host "Outdoors Day" on June 8th at its Lowville office, 7327 St Rt 812, Lowville, NY 13367 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The family-friendly activities include fishing, paddling, archery, birdwatching, and outdoor safety. Outdoors Day coincides with National Get Outdoors Day, an annual event to encourage healthy, active outdoor fun. Details, including schedules, registration requirements, and a map of activities planned for [Outdoors Day](#) can be found on DEC's website.

