

July 1, 2022

Tug Hill and Wind Energy Update



Number Three under construction.

Tug Hill has a long history of wind energy development, starting with the construction of the Maple Ridge Wind Farm in the early 2000s, which is still one of the largest operating wind farms in the eastern part of the United States. The Number Three Wind Farm is currently under construction in Lewis County (pictured below). Once complete, the nameplate capacity of wind farms on Tug Hill will be approximately 585 MW. The commission just completed an update to its issue paper, The Next Generation of Wind Farms on Tug Hill, available on our website at: <https://tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Final-2022-Wind-Paper-Update-With-Cover.pdf>

Another interesting facet of wind development is transportation of the wind turbine elements, particularly towers and blades which are very long and require a significant turning radius. Components are largely built overseas

and transported via ship to ports, and then transported via large trucks to various wind farm construction sites. The Port of Oswego is receiving many wind farm components, and moving them from the city of Oswego to final destinations is creating the need for improvements to road infrastructure. Pictured below, site improvements have started to facilitate construction of on-ramp improvements to allow turbines to be safely transported on the interstate on their way to construction sites in the Southern Tier.



Parish on-ramp improvements.

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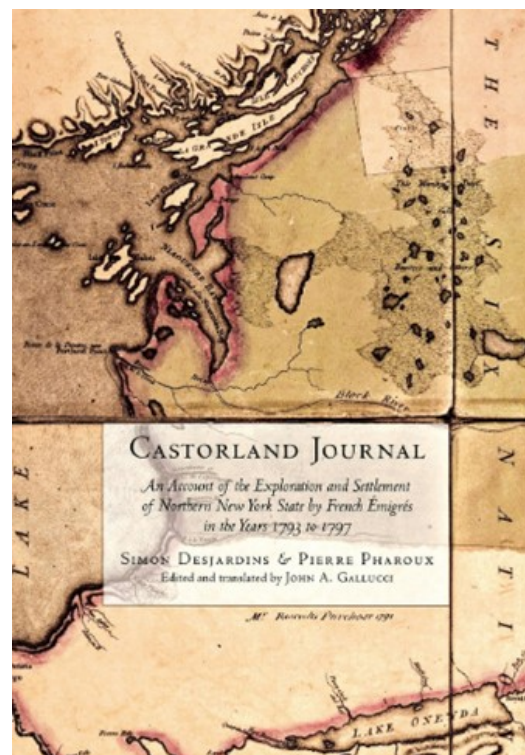


Landscape view of wind turbines.

Castorland Journal Presentation Scheduled for July 28 Riverfest Kickoff

The Lowville Academy and Central School (LACS) History Department and the Friends of the Black River, an *ad hoc* community group, will host a presentation by Dr. John Gallucci on Thursday, July 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the LACS high school auditorium or virtually via Zoom. Doors will open at 6:30. His presentation on the *Castorland Journal* will be free and open to the public, coinciding with the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce's RiverFest 2022 weekend festivities. Registration is required for this free event at tinyurl.com/castorland.

The first-person accounts of Pierre Pharoux and Simon Desjardins are reminiscent of the famous Lewis and Clark expeditions to the American Southwest in the early 1800s. In 1793, Pierre Pharoux and Simon Desjardins were sent to the United States to develop newly acquired French holdings in Lewis and Jefferson counties in upstate New York. They documented their explorations in what were then largely unknown regions along New York State's northwestern frontier. The Compagnie de New York (New York Company) named its tract *Castorland*, from the French word for beaver, castor, found to be plentiful here. The story is heroic and heart-breaking. Once a promising attempt by the French to speculate American lands, the duo experienced tragic disappointments. The death of Pharoux, who drowned in a flooded Black River, is chief among them. Yet, the story told through the journal entries brings to life the character of these historic individuals and along with it the land and people they encounter. This translation of their journey is a unique document of American history with national significance that happened in our own hometown.



Dr. John A. Gallucci, editor and translator of the *Castorland Journal: An Account of the Exploration and Settlement of Northern New York State by French Emigres in the Years 1793-1797*, was born and raised in upstate and northern New York. His book, published in 2010, has allowed him to combine his life-long interest in French literature with his on-going interest in the early history of New York State. Dr. Gallucci is a Professor of French at Colgate University.

This event is being held in collaboration with the Lewis County Historical Society, the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District, the River Area Council of Governments, and the New York State Tug Hill Commission. Please visit the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce website for information on all RiverFest 2022 events at adirondackstughill.com/event/riverfest/.

ARPA Reporting Best Practices

As municipalities continue to work to allocate and spend their ARPA allocations, it is important to maintain accounting information for future reporting. The Office of the State Comptroller has an October 2021 bulletin outlining best practices, available at www.osc.state.ny.us/files/local-government/publications/pdf/american-rescue-plan-and-crrsa-guidance.pdf. A few key items are:

- These monies cannot be recognized as a revenue until the expenditure the aid will be used to pay for has been incurred by the local government. Therefore, local governments need to recognize a liability (A688 Other Liabilities) until all eligibility requirements are met. Once all eligibility requirements are met, local governments can then recognize the revenue (A4089 Federal Aid, Other).
- ARPA allocations are an example of a non-recurring or "one-time" revenue that is not repeatedly received by local governments. To maintain a structurally balanced budget, local governments should not use these allocations to finance recurring expenditures. A better use for these revenues would be to finance "one-time expenditures" such as equipment purchases or capital improvements.
- Governing boards need to ensure that ARPA monies are used in accordance with expenditure guidelines set forth by the Department of Treasury.

If communities have questions about this or other accounting/budgeting issues, Laird Petrie continues to be available for consultation as a service provided by the Tug Hill Commission. Contact Carla Fowler, carla@tughill.org, if interested.

Adams Playground Gets a Boost From NNYCF

The results of the Northern New York Community Foundation's (NNYCF) most recent Youth Philanthropy Council grant cycle were [announced](#), with \$20,000 total awarded to five North Country non-profit organizations. These grant awards, determined by local student leaders, help support a wide variety of community projects.

This year's recipients included the Adams Revitalization Committee, also known informally as the Adams Community Park Committee or simply, the Adams Playground Committee. The committee plans to transform a nearly barren plot of land behind the former Adams Elementary School at the intersection of Institute and Wardwell Streets to create a new playground and park area. This year, the Adams Playground Committee has retained the expertise of Barton & Loguidice to plan for an inclusive space for community members of all ages and their families to gather and enjoy.

The community gathered at the site of the future park on Thursday evening for a free ice cream social to witness a check presentation from the NNYCF to the committee and to dedicate the park's little library in honor of Josh Sullivan. Part of the park will include a place near the little library for children to sit and gather for story time and reading.

Carrying forward the positive momentum, the Adams Playground Committee is preparing to submit a Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to further support this capitol project, assisted by Barton & Loguidice and members of the Tug Hill Commission.



Golden Anniversary for South Jefferson Little League, Looks to the Future

Beginning in the Fall of 2021, a group of South Jefferson school administrators, South Jefferson Little League (SJLL) officials, Pop Warner officials, community members, local businessmen, and Tug Hill Commission staff formed a committee to explore opportunities to improve undeveloped school property in Adams Center. Currently leased from the school district to the Little League and used for practice space, the project aims to develop the property into a walking trail with room for improved baseball fields, football space, and other complementary uses. Long term, community members have a vision for an integrated recreational space with the potential for the walking trail to eventually connect to other trail systems in the area.

As part of that effort, Tug Hill Commission staff were invited to attend the South Jefferson Little League's closing ceremonies on Friday, June 17 in Rodman. The Gordon E. Cole Memorial Park overflowed with families and supportive community members to mark another successful baseball season and celebrate the 50 year milestone of the South Jefferson Little League's charter with the Little League Baseball organization.

Fifty years later, the SJLL's Board of Directors honored Larry Clark, the league's founding member. In 1972, Mr. Clark was initially discouraged to start a Little League team in the area and was told that there as "no way" establishing a youth organization of this scale could be done in a year. By 1973, however, the Little League fielded nine full teams, with 135 kids enrolled. Today, the SJLL regularly recruits more than double that number, and continues to expand. Larry Clark threw the first celebratory pitch, which was caught by his great grandson, a player in the U10 division.

The Charles F. Burdick Memorial Character Award was announced for the first time, conferred to one player and one coach in the league. Recipients were nominated and chosen by popular vote among coaches and assistants for their embodiment of five core values: respect, responsibility, integrity, sportsmanship, and leadership. Other events included a home-run derby, awarding of trophies, announcement of all-star teams, base-running competition, and team throwing competitions.



Larry Clark with the coach and player recipients of the Charles F. Burdick Memorial Character Award. Photo credit: Taylor McKinney, Tug Hill Commission Staff

Association of Towns Fall Planning and Zoning Schools - Three Locations

Registration for fall training with Association of Towns opens on July 1. Three planning and zoning schools in September, each day offering four hours of land use training. Registration cost is \$110 and includes materials, breakfast, and lunch. On-site registration opens at 8:30 a.m. classes begin at 9:10 a.m. and end at 1:40 p.m. More information at members.nytowns.org/Towns/Common/2022_Fall_Planning_Zoning_Schools.aspx.

Tuesday, September 13, 2022, Wallace Center @ FDR Library and Museum, 4079 Albany Post Road Hyde Park, NY 12538

Wednesday, September 29, 2022, New York Kitchen, 800 S. Main St. Canandaigua, NY 14424

Thursday, October 6, 2022, Conference Center At Lake Placid, 2608 Main St. Lake Placid, NY 12946

NY Conference of Mayors Fall Training School September 12-16

The New York State Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) is holding its fall training school at the Saratoga Hilton in Saratoga Springs September 12-16, 2022. Complete information available at www.nycom.org/2-uncategorised/1053-fall-school-agenda

There are both full program and one-day registration rates available. Early bird rates are good until August 18.

Topics to be covered include accounting and finance; terms of office/vacancies/resignations/removals; first amendment hot topics; various employee and employment topics; emergency services; and more!

Lewis County CCA Survey Still Open

The Lewis County Planning Department is looking for residents to answer a short, five question survey regarding interest in Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). CCA enables municipalities to pool local energy demand together at a large enough scale to dictate and negotiate more favorable terms, decrease electricity costs, choose clean energy, increase consumer protection, and reap the benefits of solar or other renewables to the entire County.

Survey link: https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0NESaBL5H54qbNc?fbclid=IwAR3gMh5XY7naS8A23Sy_a5Tqcex1cBOSgZX6QfNFa5fk4C-MvLhV11rXak

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For upcoming trainings, grant deadlines, and meetings, view our [calendar](#).

