

November 4, 2022

2022 NOCCOG Annual Dinner Held

On Thursday, October 27, the Delta Lake Inn once again hosted the annual Northern Oneida County Council of Governments (NOCCOG) dinner meeting. During the meeting, the minutes outlining the business actions of 2022, the 2023 budget, and the 2023 slate of officers were all approved. Bob Sauer will remain in his position as Chair. Also returning to the Executive Committee are Fiscal Officer Betsy Mack, and directors John Dorion and Tom McDonald. Chair Sauer touched upon the passing of Director Ed Davis, and the many attributes that Ed brought to the board and to the community.



Attending from the NYS Tug Hill Commission were Katie Malinowski and Jennifer Harvill. Also in attendance were former NOCCOG Municipal Advisor Steve Hunter, current Associate Advisor Lisa Bellinger, retired Associate Advisor Harlan Moonan, and NOCCOG GPS Mappers Mark Clark and Mike Thompson.



Presenters included Khristina Dodson and Patrick Lynch, from the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center, and Hannah Phillips, from Mohawk Valley Edge. Khristina spoke on the importance of knowledge transfer and succession planning. His goal was to get everyone thinking about the role they hold in their municipality, the knowledge and experience they have, the jobs they do, and how best to make sure others know that knowledge as well. Hannah presented on the mission of Mohawk Valley Edge, and the work they do for the local business community. She focused on the Griffiss Business and Technology Park in Rome, its history, where it is today, and what the continued investment and development mean for the area.

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Commission Board Meeting December 12

The Tug Hill Commission will meet on Monday, December 12, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Town of Watertown Municipal Building, 22867 County Rd 67, Watertown, NY 13601. The public is welcome to attend.

Save the date

Local Government Conference

Turning Stone Resort and
Conference Center

Thursday April 6, 2023

Optional afternoon session
and evening reception on
Wednesday April 5, 2023

More information will be
coming soon!

Comprehensive Plan Update for the Town of Camden

The Tug Hill Commission is beginning work on a comprehensive plan update for the town of Camden. Commission staff will be meeting monthly with the Camden Planning Board to discuss the updates.

As part of the update process, a survey will be constructed and sent out to garner input from the public. The survey will be sent out in the coming weeks. Along with the survey, SWOT exercises, meaning Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats, will be scheduled and held to gain feedback that represents a local community view. These exercises allow for residents to give their opinions on different aspects of their community and what they would like to see, or not see, moving forward.

The comprehensive plan is the guiding document for the town for years to come. All Camden residents who wish to have input should participate in the update process through the surveys and the SWOT exercise.

Free Virtual Trainings in Clean Energy

Click [here](#) to register for this series of training sessions being presented by NYSERDA, ANCA and Jefferson, Lewis, Clinton, Essex, Franklin, and Hamilton Counties. **All courses are from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. EST on Zoom** and are free for anyone to attend. All training sessions will be recorded. Please go to [Free Virtual Clean Energy Trainings | ANCA \(adirondack.org\)](#) for more information. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Bernstein at nbernstein@adirondack.org.

Overview of the Model Solar Energy Law -- Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Provides an in-depth review of the customizable template zoning law contained in NYSERDA's Solar Guidebook for Local Governments. Municipal board members, code enforcement officials, and staff are encouraged to attend.

Solar PV Permitting and Inspecting -- Tuesday, November 15 (Approved for 2-hours of In-Service training credit)

Offers an in-depth review of permitting and inspecting solar energy systems in New York State from start to finish; topics covered include the NYS Unified Solar Permit and various components of the NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. Code enforcement and building officials are encouraged to attend.

Overview of the Model Battery Energy Storage System Law -- Tuesday, November 29, 2022

Provides an in-depth review of the customizable template zoning law contained in NYSERDA's Battery Energy Storage System Guidebook for Local Governments. Municipal board members, code enforcement officials, and staff are encouraged to attend.

Battery Energy Storage for First Responders -- Monday, December 5, 2022 (Approved for 2-hours of In-Service training credit)

Introduces key safety considerations for battery energy storage systems for codes and building officials; covered topics include fire prevention considerations and compliance with the 2020 NYS Uniform Code. Code enforcement and building officials are encouraged to attend.

Budget and Accounting Training November 29 and 30

Instructor Laird Petrie will provide a two-day, comprehensive training on town governments financial requirements and regulations, Tuesday, November 29 and Wednesday, November 30 at Tailwater Lodge, 52 Pulaski Street, Altmar, NY 13302.

Partial and full-event pricing are available (\$75/\$125). For full agenda and session descriptions and to register, visit [THCommissionBudgetSchool.eventbrite.com](#) by November 14.

CONSTABLE CHRONICLES

Into the Adirondack Wilderness



THE FIFTH INSTALLMENT OF THE CONSTABLE CHRONICLES TAKES US FROM CONSTABLEVILLE INTO THE ADIRONDACK WILDERNESS.

THE FIVE CHILDREN WHO GREW UP AT CONSTABLE HALL IN THE EARLY 1800S WERE ALL OUTDOOR-ORIENTED. BY THE 1830S THEY WERE RANGING THROUGH THE WESTERN ADIRONDACKS FROM BIG MOOSE TO BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE - SOME OF THE VERY FIRST NON-NATIVE PEOPLE TO SEE THE AREA.

COME AND LEARN HOW THESE TUG HILL PEOPLE EXPERIENCED THE PRISTINE WILDERNESS AND THEN SAW IT CHANGE RAPIDLY WITH THE ARRIVAL OF A NEWER GENERATION OF NATURE SEEKERS.



REGISTRATION

NOVEMBER 30, 2022
7:00PM EST

Available via Zoom
Register online at

tinyurl.com/constable5

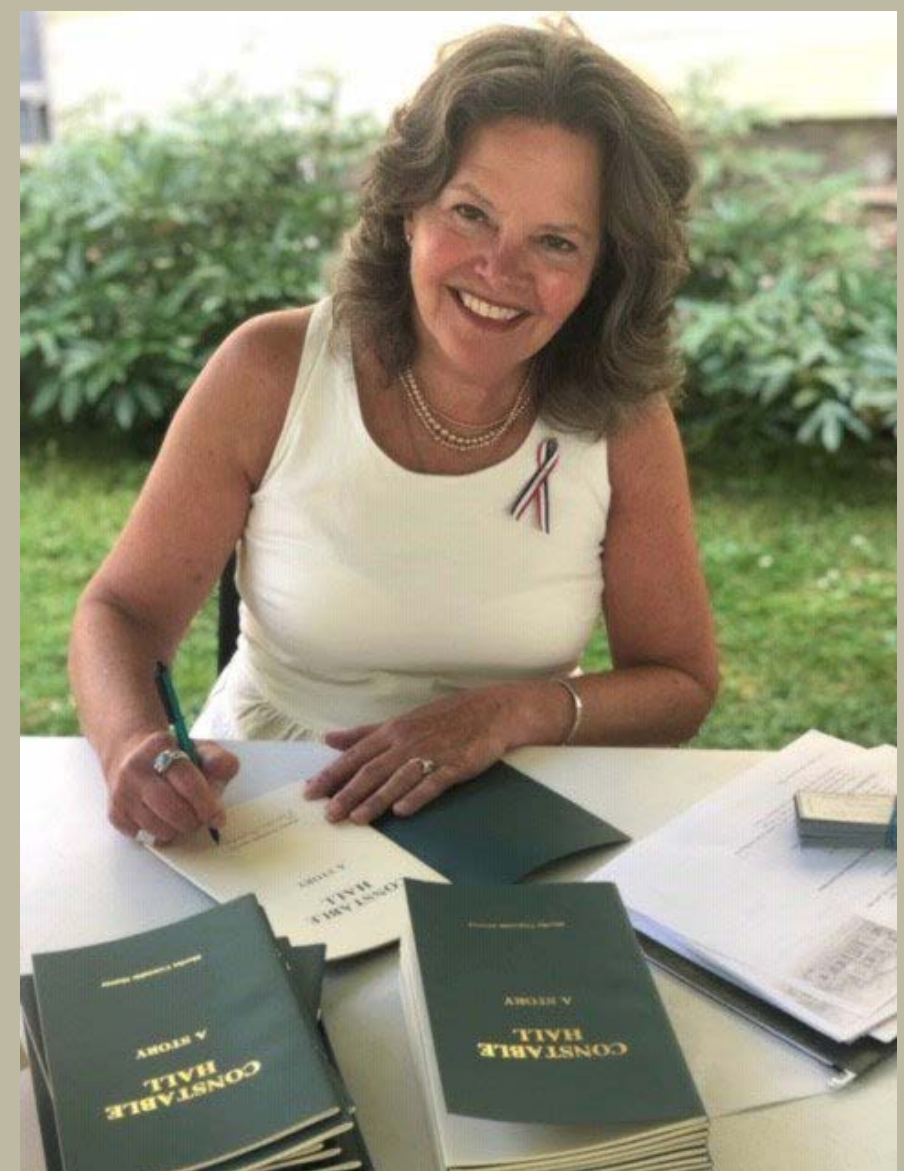
or call the Tug Hill
Commission at
(315) 785-2380

SPEAKER

Martha "Marty" Constable Murray

The daughter of John
Pierrepont Constable Jr., the
last Constable family
member to own Constable
Hall in Constableville, NY.

M.S. in Education and M.S. in
Literacy. Author of
"Constable Hall, a Story."



Parks & Trails New York Grants Available

The [Park and Trail Partnership Grant](#) program, administered jointly by Parks & Trails New York and the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), is a \$2 million capacity-building matching grants program funded through the NYS Environmental Protection Fund. The program was designed to increase the sustainability, effectiveness, and productivity of non-profit organizations that support public lands affiliated with OPRHP or the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). In 2022, funding for the grant program has doubled to \$2 million.

There are four categories of grants:

STEWARDSHIP AND PUBLIC ACCESS CAPACITY (MAX \$150,000)

Goal: Assist organizations with stewardship, interpretation, promotion, education, and public access of a NYS park, trail, historic site or public land, or a partnership which significantly enhances the organization's visibility and capacity.

Example projects: Public access or engagement improvements such as new trails with signage, implementation of a community outreach plan, community-building initiatives resulting in greater public involvement, especially from new and presently underserved audiences, and those which enhance age-friendly recreational opportunities.

CAPACITY AND ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (MAX \$100,000)

Goal: Strengthen the capacity and expertise of individual organizations to aid them in fulfilling their mission and to improve their reach, effectiveness, and impact.

Example projects: Training for board/ staff, strategic plan creation, partnership development, program implementation.

STEP-UP GRANTS (MAX \$20,000)

Goal: Assist organizations with the administrative and legal fees needed to secure 501(c)(3) status, along with the costs associated with completing a consultant facilitated organizational assessment and resulting plan(s).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (MAX \$150,000)

Goal: Support the hiring of permanent staff in order to advance organizations to a higher and sustainable level of professionalism, fiscal and administrative stability, and outreach that in the future they will be able to sustain on their own.

Examples: Hiring the organization's first staff member, hiring additional staff members, upgrading part-time staff to full time, hiring staff to be shared by two or more organizations.

Deadline: Intent to Apply due November 30. Applications due on or around January 27 by 3:00 p.m.

DEC Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants Open

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is now accepting applications for nearly \$640,000 in Volunteer Fire Assistance grant funding to help rural fire departments protect public safety and natural resources. The deadline for applications is Nov. 15. The Volunteer Fire Assistance grant program is funded by the U.S. Forest Service and administered by DEC Forest Rangers. Fire departments will receive 50/50 matching funds up to \$1,500. Last year, the program provided \$1,500 grants to 412 fire departments.

Only expenses directly related to wildfire suppression efforts are eligible for funding. These include the purchase of portable pumps, portable backpack pumps, hand tools, hoses, approved lightweight fire-resistant clothing, hard hats, turnout gear, portable radios, generators, and dry hydrants. Expenditures not directly related to firefighting, such as search and rescue, acquisition of land, construction of buildings and facilities, major apparatus purchases, and maintenance items are not eligible for funding.

Eligible fire departments include: those that serve a single town with a population under 10,000; those that serve multiple communities, one of which is a rural town of less than 10,000 residents; and fire departments in towns with a population of 10,000 or more that meet the application requirements. Fire departments that receive a grant award must complete all required grant paperwork.

For applications and additional information about the grant program, contact DEC at (518) 402-8839; write to NYSDEC, Division of Forest Protection, 625 Broadway 3rd Floor, Albany, NY 12233-2560; or visit the DEC website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/regulations/2364.html>.

Upcoming Live Webinar Training Opportunities from NYS Archives

New York State Archives has some live training webinars available in the upcoming weeks. "Using Historic Records in the Classroom: Consider the Source NY" will be presented on November 10 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. This class will help you learn how you and your organization can make your records more accessible to educators and students.

"More than CDs and Thumb Drives: Real Life Stories in the Adventures of Preserving Digital Records" will be presented on November 16 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. It will be a panel discussion and panelists will discuss their experiences preserving records, demonstrate the tools they use and offer a Q&A session to conclude.

Finally, "Legal Discovery: The Role of Records Management" will be presented on December 7 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. The webinar (which is designed for non-attorneys) will focus on the role of records managers in supporting their government employer's response to litigation-related document requests, from document creation or receipt through disposition.

All this training is free and can be found on the [Workshops Registration](#) page. The NYS Archives also has many recorded webinars that are available for viewing at your leisure, which are available on their [Webinar](#) page.

Contact Us

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Visit us at:

Web: www.tughill.org

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/TugHillCommission

To request our newsletter electronically please email gwen@tughill.org or call

1-888-785-2380.

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

Tug Hill 2021-22 Winter Season Snowfall

As one of the most remote regions in New York State, Tug Hill is recognized for its natural resources and distinct seasons, facilitating its reputation for year-round outdoor recreation. Depending on who you ask, the region is famous – or infamous – for its snowy winters. The Tug Hill Plateau (as it is often referred too – it's actually a cuesta!) is geographically well-situated to receive natural snowfall during the winter: the combination of wind patterns traveling over the long axis of Lake Ontario and the plateau's high upland elevation are the two major factors that produce heavy lake effect snow.

The Tug Hill region is generally considered the snowiest region in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains, although it is closely rivaled by the Michigan's Upper Peninsula, New Hampshire's White Mountains, and Vermont's Green Mountains.

The most recent seasonal data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration continues to provide support for Tug Hill's "Snowiest Place in the East" truism. Based on the [National Gridded Snowfall Analysis](#) 2021-22 data, certain towns on Tug Hill were recorded having more snowfall than the mountains in Vermont and New Hampshire in the previous year. Even in the areas of highest accumulation, the town of Martinsburg, received nearly fourteen more inches of snow than the Upper Peninsula in Michigan.

Locally, the paths of lake effect snow bands cause considerable variation in snowfall accumulation throughout Tug Hill. In general, however, most towns receive at least 200 inches of snow per year. Based on last winter's data, the towns of Osceola (246 inches) and Martinsburg (264 inches) received the highest amount of snowfall for the season.

