



April 22, 2011

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.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- New Courthouse
- 2010 Deer Harvest
- Oswego County Training
- Amboy News
- Vienna News
- ATTC
- SuperCOG
- Champion News
- Home Depot Grants
- Staying Connected

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Town of Leyden and Village of Port Leyden Inaugurate New Courthouse

An open house was held on Tuesday, April 19th to formally open the new courthouse in Port Leyden that will serve both the town and village. Judge Anthony Cerulli, who serves as justice for both the town and village, formally thanked Senator Joe Griffo, Judges Tormey and Giddeon and all others who helped in securing funding for the project.

The new courthouse sits on the site of a reclaimed brownfield in the village. Town of Leyden board members led by Supervisor Rosalie White applied for a brownfield grant to reclaim the site of an old fuel station on NYS Rt. 12. Lewis County legislator, Jerry King, assisted with building design and site layout. Justice Cerulli indicated that, to date, \$72,000 towards funding the project has been secured. The new building includes the new courtroom, two attorney-client rooms, an office for the court clerk, prisoner holding area and rest room.

2010 Deer Harvest Results

In 2010, hunters harvested slightly more than 230,000 deer across New York, which is a 3% increase in the number taken in 2009. In 2010, around 123,100 adult females and fawns were taken and just under 106,000 bucks were harvested. In the northern zone, deer harvests were comparable to 2009 with 16,100 adult bucks being harvested and 12,500 antlerless deer being harvested. For more information, the 2010 and previous year's deer harvest by county, town, and Wildlife Management Unit are available at www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/42232.html on the DEC website. Summarized to the right are 2010 deer take numbers for the four Tug Hill Counties.

County	Adult Buck Take	Total Take
Jefferson	3,157	7,261
Lewis	1,853	3,363
Oneida	2,372	4,445
Oswego	2,275	4,238



Oswego County Training for Local Planning and Zoning Officials—May 17, 2011

Oswego County will be hosting an evening of training on May 17th beginning at 5:00 pm at Oswego County BOCES, Room C110 (The Mall), 179 Co. Rte. 64 in Mexico, NY. There will be a break from 7:00—7:30 pm.

Planning in Rural New York (5:00 pm—7:00 pm): Rural communities face challenges—both in the form of development and lack of it—that threaten the natural and cultural resources that define their character. This course offers an overview of how comprehensive planning and a variety of land use tools can help preserve rural landscapes and revitalize established village and hamlet centers. Local officials are encouraged to take a proactive approach to meeting such challenges with easy-to-understand and administer zoning regulations, conservation subdivision regulations, the use of conservation easements, and more. *Code Enforcement Officers may receive 2 hours of In-Service Credit.

Making a Good Record: Minutes, Findings, and Decision Documents (7:30 pm—9:00 pm). Department of State presenters will discuss why board members and support staff should strive to make records that are of value to enforcement personnel, applicants, municipal attorneys, and current and future boards. The course then turns its focus to the components of the record: minutes, findings, and the decision document. *Code Enforcement Officers may receive 1 hour of In-Service Credit.

Please RSVP by May 13th to Deb Wise: dwise@oswegocounty.com, 315-349-8292.



Town of Amboy Adopts “One-Zone” Zoning Law

After adopting a comprehensive plan in 2003, the Town of Amboy adopted its first "one-zone" zoning law last summer and has been organizing to administer it. A one-zone zoning law treats the entire town as a single mixed-use zone. The new zoning law helps implement many of the recommendations of the 2003 plan. The Amboy planning board has been delegated the responsibility of administering site plan reviews and special use permits. The town is now in the process of establishing a three member zoning board of appeals with an additional alternate member. The training so essential to the legal and proper operation of a ZBA is being provided by Tug Hill Commission director of planning Phil Street. Phil has met with the town twice in this phase of the ZBA becoming operational. In March, Phil met with the town board, town codes enforcement officer, planning board and ZBA to review and discuss their respective roles under zoning. This was followed up with a meeting between Phil and the new ZBA on board of appeals fundamentals.



Vienna Holds Public Meeting on Zoning Changes

The Vienna Town Board held a public information meeting on the evening of April 18th to discuss proposed changes to the town zoning law. The amendments are the result of a year-long effort by the planning board to bring the town's land use regulations in line with its 2007 Master Plan. Members of the community engaged in a thoughtful question and answer session with the town board and members of the planning board. Next, the law will be reviewed by the Oneida County Planning Board under General Municipal Law Section 239-m.



Reminder:

SuperCOG Meeting May 5th

Council of Government representatives and other interested municipal officials are invited to attend the annual "SuperCOG meeting" on Thursday May 5th at Katie and Karl's restaurant in Camden from 6 pm to 9 pm. Dinners for municipal official and COG representatives will be paid for by the Commission. If you bring a guest, the cost is \$15 per person.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

Please contact the Commission by April 28th to confirm your attendance.

Katie and Karl's is located at 9501 Harden Bd, Camden, NY 13316.



Adirondack-Tug Hill Tourism Council

As a follow up to a recent report on tourism promotion and related economic development, the Lewis County Legislature, County Planning and Economic Development Department Office and Lewis County Chamber of Commerce are working on creating the Adirondack-Tug Hill Tourism Council (ATTC) to enhance the benefits of tourism for Lewis County residents, businesses, attractions and events. The group has met a couple of times and is being lead by interim co-chairs Liz Hirschy and Kathleen Merrick. ATTC will be an affiliate organization of the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce and composed of a board comprised of tourism businesses representatives and tourism interested individuals. Currently the interim board is working on by-laws, a mission statement and a budget for the upcoming year. Folks who are interested in the organization may contact Anne Merrill at the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce (376-2213) or Eric Virkler (376-5422) at the Lewis County Planning and Economic Development Department.

Champion Forms Fire and Emergency Task Force

The Town of Champion recently formed the Fire and Emergency Task Force in an effort to enhance communications between the town and response providers while exploring opportunities for more efficient and effective service. Members of the task force will discuss shared topics of interest through a series of monthly meetings scheduled through August to gather information about the day-to-day needs and challenges in providing fire & emergency services to the town. To provide a first-hand-view of the fire & emergency resources and insight into operations & management, each department will serve as host to the Task Force. In preparing to advance next step recommendations, members of the fact finding committee plan to submit a final report summary to the Town of Champion Board at the September/October 2011 meeting.

**NYS Tug Hill
Commission**

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Thank you!

Home Depot Community Impact Grants Program

www.homedepotfoundation.org/how-we-help/grants.html

This program provides support to nonprofit organizations, public schools, and public service agencies in the U.S. that are using the power of volunteers to improve the physical health of their communities. Proposals for the following community improvement activities will be considered: repairs, refurbishments, and modifications to low-income and/or transitional housing or community facilities (schools, community centers, senior centers, etc.); weatherizing or increasing energy efficiency of low-income and/or transitional housing or community facilities; planting trees or community gardens and/or landscaping community facilities; and development of community parks or green spaces. Grants of up to \$5,000 are made in the form of The Home Depot gift cards for the purchase of tools, materials, or services.

**Deadline: Requests will be accepted from
April 4 through October 31, 2011**



Staying Connected Maps

Presentations were made earlier this month to town officials and interested area residents in Ava, Steuben and Western to share the results of a community mapping exercise that was held in Western in December.

Participants who attended the December 6th meeting were asked to draw circles on a map around places they care about in the three town area and say why they feel they are important. This input was used to produce a general map showing places that are valued in each of the towns. A copy of the finished map was presented to town officials in Ava, Steuben and Western. The towns will be able to use this current and helpful information and the maps as they continue to work on updating their respective comprehensive plans, as well as other future planning efforts.

The mapping and presentations are part of the Adirondack-Tug Hill Wildlife Habitat Connectivity project that is being sponsored by NOCCOG, the Tug Hill Commission, Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust, the Nature Conservancy, and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Please feel free to contact Katie Malinowski at the Tug Hill Commission, 785-2380 or katie@tughill.org or NOCCOG Circuit Rider Gerry Ritter, 392-2260 or at gerryritternocog@frontiernet.net for more information. DVDs with the digital version of the maps are also available.