

## **Issues and Programs, WSLU-FM Repeater Station**

### **January, February, and March 2023**

This station operates as a satellite of the North Country Public Radio network (flagship station is WSLU, Canton, NY). WSLU, Canton, NY and its satellite stations and translators make up the North Country Public Radio (NCPR) network. North Country Public Radio produces extensive coverage of local and regional stories and issues in order to serve all of its listeners in this rural region. NCPR's news director and reporters, as well as the station manager and other department directors, talk with listeners regularly and frequently, gathering information about community concerns and issues. In addition, the station uses broadcast and digital platforms to encourage listeners to share their thoughts and concerns by phone, mail, email, and social media. These comments receive a reply from station management and are often the basis for local and regional news and feature content. This content is aired during the weekday morning regional news program *Northern Light* and/or *Story of the Day*, which airs weekdays at 5:48pm, and/or *North Words*, which airs on the last Friday of each month at 12 noon. All three programs are also available as a podcast, and online for reading and listening at [ncpr.org](http://ncpr.org). Here are some examples of the station's treatment of key stories and issues in the coverage area. These stories can be referenced at [ncpr.org](http://ncpr.org) using the links included.

### ***Format:***

#### **Title of Story**

Date, 2023 — Description

Length: x:xx

Web link

### ***Education & Child Care:***

#### **Franklin County program offers support (and money) to new child care providers**

Feb 14, 2023 — The North Country lost a lot of childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic, and about 10,000 slots in childcare facilities. New York is investing \$7 billion into the state's childcare over the next four years. That money is filtering down to the local level, to programs like Franklin County's Pipeline Project.

Length: 4:15

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47324/20230214/franklin-county-program-offers-support-and-money-to-new-child-care-providers>

### **A children's museum helps fill a childcare hole in Ticonderoga**

Mar 14, 2023 — Katie Andersen, the owner and creator of Ticonderoga's children's museum, Punky Noodles, says the space is all about "interactive play, and learning through play." Her mission is simple: to get parents and children playing together, and to make it accessible. In addition to the museum, Andersen runs morning and after-school programs here, for dozens of children. She also runs a lot of summer camps when school is out.

Length: 4:36

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47430/20230314/a-children-s-museum-helps-fill-a-child-care-hole-in-ticonderoga>

## ***Housing:***

### **Not in Old Forge's backyard? Despite housing crisis, there's pushback against project**

Feb 28, 2023 — A Utica-based developer wants to build 52 new units north of downtown. That could help ease the housing crisis there, but some locals and town officials are pushing back.

Length: 3:59

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47420/20230228/not-in-old-forge-s-backyard-despite-housing-crisis-there-s-pushback-against-development>

## ***Regional Economic, Business, and Agriculture Stories:***

### **In new hands, Plattsburgh's Koffee Kat remains 'the working man's coffee shop'**

Jan 03, 2023 — The Koffee Kat in Plattsburgh, NY, has got this "come as you are" reputation that's been built up over the last 24 years by its previous owner, Patty Waldron. That reputation for acceptance was

something Merritt and her husband, Durgan Zappala, — who is also Waldron's son — wanted to preserve when they took over the business in October.

Length: 5:52

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47123/20230103/in-new-hands-plattsburgh-s-koffee-kat-remains-the-working-man-s-coffee-shop>

### **If Lake Placid hosts it, will they come? Reactions to the World University Games**

Jan 12, 2023 — The 2023 World University Games will include more than 1,400 athletes, competing at venues across the North Country, many in Lake Placid and Wilmington. Business in Lake Placid knows how to cater to visitors. There are big events in the small village year-round. But some shops are stepping it up for the World University games.

Length: 4:42

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47179/20230112/if-lake-placid-hosts-it-will-they-come-reactions-to-the-world-university-game>

### **North Country at Work: a church becomes a general store in Black Brook**

Feb 07, 2023 — The Black Brook General Store used to be a church. Michelle Timmons and her husband Robbie bought the building, renovated it during the pandemic, and opened a general store and community gathering place.

Length: 4:58

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47217/20230207/north-country-at-work-a-church-becomes-a-general-store-in-black-brook>

### **All-electric airplanes are coming. Students in Plattsburgh are learning to paint them**

Mar 03, 2023 — For years, career and technical education programs in the North Country have trained students in things like construction, health, and education. Last month, CV-TEC in Plattsburgh announced a new partnership with a rising Vermont-based company that could play a major role in the future of flight.

Length: 3:22

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47437/20230303/all-electric-airplanes-are-coming-students-in-plattsburgh-are-learning-to-paint-them>

## ***Stories of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice:***

### **Adirondack queer ice climbing fest opens sport to more LGBTQ climbers**

Feb 24, 2023 — Ice climbing is exactly what it sounds like. Imagine a waterfall. Now, imagine it's frozen. Now imagine you have to climb it. About 50 people gathered in Keene Valley this past Saturday to do just that as part of Queer Ice Fest, a free LGBTQ ice climbing event.

Length: 6:14

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47402/20230224/adirondack-queer-ice-climbing-fest-opens-sport-to-more-lgbtq-climbers>

### **Meet the new director of the Adirondack Diversity Initiative**

Mar 09, 2023 — There are 2.7 million acres of public land in the Adirondacks, but the park doesn't always feel open and welcoming to everyone. The Adirondack Diversity Initiative was created a few years ago to try and change that. Tiffany Rea-Fisher is the new director of ADI.

Length: 6:06

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47464/20230309/meet-the-new-director-of-the-adirondack-diversity-initiative>

## ***North Country Politics and Elected Officials:***

### **Stefanik speaks at CPAC, makes false claims about the FBI**

Mar 07, 2023 — North Country Rep. Elise Stefanik spoke last weekend at CPAC, the annual conference for conservative lawmakers and activists. Stefanik was notably the only member of the Republican congressional leadership at this year's CPAC. She made three false claims about the FBI and the Department of Justice.

Length: 2:58

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47449/20230307/stefanik-speaks-at-cpac-makes-false-claims-about-the-fbi>

### **Warren County honors Lake George Mayor, who is retiring after 52 years**

Mar 20, 2023 — After 52 years, Lake George Mayor Bob Blais is retiring at the end of this month. honor Blais, who is the longest-serving active mayor in America, the Warren County Board of Supervisors declared Friday, March 17, 2023 as "Mayor Bob Blais Day."

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47524/20230320/warren-county-honors-lake-george-mayor-who-is-retiring-after-52-years>

## ***Immigration:***

### **Migrant's death at Roxham Rd. "the worst consequence" of Canada's asylum backlog**

Jan 26, 2023 — The recent death of a Haitian migrant has renewed attention to a popular unofficial border crossing between northern Clinton County and Quebec.

Length: 7:52

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47245/20230126/migrant-s-death-at-roxham-rd-the-worst-consequence-of-canada-s-asylum-backlog>

### **Thousands make their way to the North Country to seek asylum in Canada**

Mar 15, 2023 — Last year, most of the 39,000 asylum seekers who crossed into Quebec outside official ports of entry came through here the northern Clinton County town of Champlain, at Roxham Road, which is the most popular unofficial crossing on the entire northern border.

Length: 5:53

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47502/20230315/thousands-make-their-way-to-the-north-country-to-seek-asylum-in-canada>

## ***Environment, Climate, and the Natural World:***

### **Warm winter weather hits Adirondack snowmobile towns hard**

Jan 10, 2023 — When snowmobiling rose in popularity in the 1960s, the area around Big Moose and neighboring Old Forge invested heavily in the snowmobile trail system, now boasting 500 square miles of trails. But winter is changing in northern New York, bringing warmer winters and less snow. This area is adapting, it's selling itself as a year-round destination for hikers, bikers, and paddlers.

Length: 4:28

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47159/20230110/warm-winter-weather-hits-adirondack-snowmobile-towns-hard>

### **Here's the latest in the debate over using herbicide to kill an invasive weed in Lake George**

Mar 08, 2023 — Last week, a state Supreme Court judge put the brakes on a plan to use an herbicide, ProcellaCOR, to kill off an invasive weed in Lake George. David Sommerstein speaks with Tony Hall, co-owner and editor of the Lake George Mirror, who has been following the efforts to kill milfoil for years

Length: 5:27

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47460/20230308/here-s-the-latest-in-the-debate-over-using-herbicide-to-kill-an-invasive-weed-in-lake-george>

### **This weird winter is rough on New York apple trees, but this expert says don't panic**

Mar 16, 2023 — Apple growers in New York are keeping an eye on this mild, rollercoaster winter and the impact it could have on the region's crop. NCPR caught Jason Londo, a crop physiologist at Cornell University, to find out how apple trees and growers are faring.

Length: 9:45

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47491/20230316/this-weird-winter-is-rough-on-new-york-apple-trees-but-this-expert-says-don-t-panic>

## ***North Country People, Culture, Arts, and Music:***

### **Listening to the Wallflowers and finding catharsis in songwriting**

Mar 03, 2023 — Kingston, Ontario singer-songwriter Julia Finnegan might be youthful in age, but her music will have a familiar vibe to Gen X children of the '80s and '90s. Finnegan's most recent album is called "Listen to the Wallflowers." On *North Words*, Mitch Teich talks with Julia Finnegan about her songwriting, and her life as an up-and-coming Kingston musician.

Length: 17:56

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47431/20230303/listening-to-the-wallflowers-and-finding-catharsis-in-songwriting>

### **Where can you find live music, free ham and beer? January Jams in Upper Jay**

Jan 27, 2023 — A lot of traditions were put on pause during the pandemic. This month marks the return of January Jams at the Upper Jay Art Center, an open mic event every Sunday of the month from 2-6 pm. Reporter Emily Russell attended a January Jam and explains the event.

Length: 5:32

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47256/20230127/where-can-you-find-live-music-free-ham-and-beer-january-jams-in-upper-jay>

### **North Country maple producers prep for a weekend of tours and tastings**

Mar 17, 2023 — Hundreds of sugar houses across the state will open their doors for the annual Maple Weekends starting tomorrow morning. Half the maple syrup produced in New York State comes from North Country farms and forests. There are pancake breakfasts, sugar bush tours and plenty of places to watch bubbling vats of sap and taste the freshest maple syrup. You'll find more information about Maple Weekends at [www.mapleweekend.com](http://www.mapleweekend.com)

Length: 4:49

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47518/20230317/north-country-maple-producers-prep-for-a-weekend-of-tours-and-tastings>

## ***North Country History: The Ice Storm of 1998***

### **25 years later: Remembering the 1998 Ice Storm**

Jan 06, 2023 — On January 5, 1998, freezing rain started to fall across the North Country. It kept falling for the next five days, coating much of the North Country and southeastern Canada in inches of ice for weeks. Millions of people lost electricity; some for just a few days, others for over a month. An overview of this massive storm, and its impact on the North Country.

Length: 8:49

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47147/20230106/25-years-later-remembering-the-1998-ice-storm>

### **'People would cry in my arms': the '98 Ice Storm as an insurance adjuster**

Jan 09, 2023 — In January of 1998, Edwin Roulston was in his early thirties and had just started a new job as an insurance adjuster based in Syracuse, but serving the North Country. Roulston recounts his experience in the aftermath of the Ice Storm of 1998, noting that it was especially strange to enter a disaster zone every day, and then return to Syracuse, where life was going on as normal.

Length: 4:43

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47154/20230109/people-would-cry-in-my-arms-the-98-ice-storm-as-an-insurance-adjuster>

### **NCPR's Mitch Teich on the limericks, generators and sounds of the 1998 Ice Storm**

Jan 12, 2023 — Twenty-five years ago, people across the North Country and much of southern Ontario and Quebec were getting used to life without power after the massive ice storm of 1998 knocked out most of the region's power grid. Most people owned radios powered by batteries, and that meant that NCPR played a pivotal role in connecting people with information and providing companionship. Mitch Teich, a young reporter in a two-person newsroom, spent the first eight nights of the ice storm sleeping on the floor of his office in Canton, and much of the days on the air or in the field. He recounts that experience.

Length: 9:16

<https://www.northcountrypublicradio.org/news/story/47181/20230112/ncpr-s-mitch-teich-on-the-limericks-generators-and-sounds-of-the-1998-ice-storm>