

WWNY ISSUES – JANUARY 2024

NOTE: Because of the extraordinary events of the last couple years, we are adding a separate category for COVID-19 coverage.

January 31, Military, North Country Weather Events – Fort Drum soldiers participate in cold weather training and competition in the winter weather. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 30, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Alexandria Bay Fire Department is building a garage to store a historic 1922 fire truck. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 29, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Watertown officials learn there are 22 privately owned streets in the city and residents of those streets feel they aren't getting services they should with their city taxes. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 26, North Country Weather Events, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Inclement weather between the month's heavy wind storm and heavy snowfall have put some North Country schools in a predicament as they are running out of snow days. We talk to area school superintendents to figure out what running out could mean for the schools. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 25, North Country Weather Events – St. Lawrence County is shoveling out and chipping away at ice after freezing rain coated the county in ice. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 24, Military – Fort Drum's 10th Combat Aviation Brigade will be deploying in the Spring. The Association of the U.S. Army is looking for groups willing to sponsor deployed platoons while they are away. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 23, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Three North Country communities hit the jackpot winning funds from the state's Downtown Revitalization Initiative. Canton and Alexandria Bay each received \$4.5 million and Lowville received \$10 million. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 22, North Country Weather Events – As we are in the middle of winter, many ask what to do with icicles hanging off roofs and how to safely remove them or let them hang. We talk with contractors about safe practices. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 19, North Country Weather Events , Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The Tug Hill is thriving after a big snowstorm brings feet of snow to the North Country. Story ran 1:20, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 18, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Buried deep in the proposed state budget is a small paragraph that could be a big deal as the proposal could close up to 5 state prisons. Local lawmakers are outraged. Story ran 2:10, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 17, Military, North Country Weather Events – Fort Drum Garrison Safety is continuing to hold a winter driving and snowblower operator course to help provide safety tips to soldiers new to the brutal winter elements. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 16, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy, The Great American Eclipse – Parts of the North Country will get to see a total solar eclipse. It's bringing people from out of the area flocking to the region. We learn the significance of the eclipse. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 12, North Country Weather Events – Close to 45,000 customers were without power in the tri-county region after heavy winds knocked out a lot of power. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 11, North Country Weather Events – Wind storm damage is impacting farms and farmers have to combat the damage to survive. Story ran 1:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 10, Military, North Country Weather Events – Fort Drum releases a message to the community urging soldiers to reach out to their chain of command if they don't have power or are concerned about their safety during the windstorm. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 9, Military, North Country Weather Events – As heavy winds are expected to tear through the North Country, Fort Drum and Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield secured aircraft, defueling aircraft and wheeling them inside hangars. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 8, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy, North Country Weather Events – National grid is moving extra crews to the North Country to prepare for the inevitable damage and power outages to arise when heavy winds come through. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 5, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The Town of Alexandria is eyeing renovations for the municipal arena. The town supervisor says the building is outdated. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 4, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – St. Lawrence County has extended its State of Emergency for a ninth month due to migrants crossing into the U.S. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 3, Military – A Watertown veteran will be a guest of honor at a Sunday night football game as the 99-year-old World War II and Korean War veteran will be honored at the Miami Dolphins vs Buffalo Bills game in Miami. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 2, North Country Weather Events – December's warm weather goes into the history books, marking the least snowy December in Watertown since 1896. It was also the 5th warmest since 1894. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

January 1, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Hundreds of bills were signed into law effective in the new year. Story ran 1:20, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

WWNY ISSUES – FEBRUARY 2024

NOTE: Because of the extraordinary events of the last couple years, we are adding a separate category for COVID-19 coverage.

February 29, North Country Weather Events, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Ice clearing on the St. Lawrence River is starting to help open the seaway on time for the season on March 22nd. Story ran 0:20, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 28, Military – Fort Drum landscaping is actually fighting invasive species on post. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 27, Military, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy, The Great American Eclipse – Along the path of totality for the upcoming solar eclipse is Fort Drum. The military installation has their own plans for the event. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 26, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Very little money is set aside in the proposed state budget for the care of retired seniors. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 23, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The Massena Salvation Army is getting a new kitchen. The state is providing \$50 thousand for the major renovations. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 22, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy, North Country Weather Events – A Watertown City Council Member thinks Watertown needs to do better for residents after a snowstorm and better clean sidewalks. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 21, Military – The Life of a Soldier, a one man show, will be playing at the Dulles State Office Building and will recount the stories of soldiers. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 20, Health Care, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – A Jefferson County survey discovers much about thousands of local students' mental health and experiences with drugs and alcohol. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 19, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – New York State is looking to close up to 5 state prisons in the proposed budget and North Country communities are looking to protect their prisons after several area prisons have been shut down in previous years. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 16, Employment, Taxes and the North Country Economy, The Great American Eclipse – Estimates for people coming to the Watertown area have climbed to 174 thousand people. The city is preparing as well as first responders for the influx of visitors. Story ran 1:20, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 15, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The St. Lawrence Seaway is weeks away from opening for the season and officials have announced then expect an increase in cargo being moved along the seaway. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 14, Military, Health Care – Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin was released from Walter Reed Medical Center after prostate cancer treatments. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 13, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – City of Watertown Council Members are mulling over the possibility of spending millions on investing in the Court Street parking garage. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 12, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – An assemblyman uses the state budget hearing to question the rejection of a bid from a Watertown boat builder as Metalcraft Marine was disqualified 3 times for bidding on a state contract for boats for state parks and recreation in favor of a Washington State company for a similar cost. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 9, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – A Watertown man is looking to provide consistency to concessions at the Thompson Park Golf Course. He wants to ensure the site doesn't become a revolving door. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 8, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – 15 workers at the Kraft Cheese Plant in Canton are losing their jobs as the plant intends to close. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 7, Military – Watertown native Brandon Brusco prepares for damage control drills aboard the U.S.S. Dewey in the Philippine Sea. Story ran 0:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 6, Opioid Problem in the North Country, Health Care – Ogdensburg Free Academy provides a lesson in the dangers of vaping and opioids. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 5, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The City of Watertown is set to pay more to find a new lead city engineer as they struggle to get applicants. Story ran 1:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 2, North Country Weather Events – The City of Watertown will be picking up debris from the windstorms of January as the Department of Public Works will be collecting brush piles by the side of the road. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

February 1, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Watertown is opening bids for the demolition of a building on Cooper Street. Story ran 0:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

WWNY ISSUES – MARCH 2024

NOTE: Because of the extraordinary events of the last couple years, we are adding a separate category for COVID-19 coverage.

March 29, Military – Houses were rattled across the North Country and we learn that National Guard training on Fort Drum was the cause as they were dropping bombs on their ranges. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 28, Health Care, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – A new designation will mean better reimbursement rates for Massena Hospital as they will be labeled a “critical access hospital”. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 27, Military – A parade in Carthage welcomes Vietnam Veterans home as they never got a proper welcome home near 50 years ago. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 26, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy, The Great American Eclipse – With the total solar eclipse 2 weeks away, Governor Hochul speaks safety tips for the thousands expected to travel to the North Country for the event. Story ran 1:20, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 25, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Hundreds are on a waiting list for affordable housing in the Canton and Potsdam areas. A project to build more housing is looking to solve that problem. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 22, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – North Country schools that have military community students could see more federal money next year as a \$1.2 trillion dollar spending deal was passed in Washington D.C. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 21, Health Care – New York State is making it easier to get birth control by approving an over-the-counter option. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 20, Military – The Carthage Elks Lodge is set to honor Vietnam veterans who were not provided a proper welcoming home 50 years ago. They plan to host a breakfast and parade in the veterans’ honor. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 19, Development of Energy in the North Country, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The Potsdam Town Supervisor is looking into hydropower as a renewable energy source and is looking at how the source can save residents on their power bills. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 18, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority are looking to invest in railroads to assist with imports along the St. Lawrence River. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 15, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy - The Town of Morristown is making efforts to restore and preserve the only known grist windmill in St. Lawrence County. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 14, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Watertown may have found the leak in one of its reservoirs which was costing the city 400,000 gallons of treated water per day. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 13, Military – Hermon-DeKalb Central students are working on a project to honor veterans and active duty service members who attended their school as part of the senior Capstone project. It will hand banners along Main Street in both Hermon and DeKalb. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 12, Health Care, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Change Healthcare had to shut down its systems due to a cyberattack. The Cyberattack disrupted services and the North Country with billing and insurance. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 11, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Carthage Central School District has been found to be violating state law in regards to the district's budgeting practices. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 8, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – 2023 mortgage rate were high with rates at 8% or more at one time. It also explains how home sales have dropped. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 7, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Millions of dollars are being invested into the Ogdensburg Airport. Groundbreaking has begun. Story ran 1:20, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 6, Military – A new commanding general has been named for the 10th Mountain Division after the Department of Defense announced Major General Scott Naumann will be leading the post. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 5, Health Care – Parents of children in contact sports are invited to attend a concussion-specific training seminar to recognize the signs and treatment options for TBIs. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 4, North Country Weather Events – A record warm day brings March in like a lamb. The North Country saw its 2nd warmest February on record. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

March 1, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Easter chocolate will cost most this year as the price of cocoa continues to inflate. Story ran 1:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.