

## WWNY ISSUES – JULY 2023

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

July 31, Development of Energy in the North Country, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy, Health Care – Firefighters are no longer putting water on a fire at a Lyme solar farm. The fire blazed for days, restricting people from going near the area. Story ran 2:15, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 28, Development of Energy in the North Country, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy, Health Care – Firefighters are still on scene at a solar farm fire. Though they say there is no immediate threats to health or safety, several area events have been canceled out of caution. Story ran 3:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 27, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – A shortage of concrete is jamming up projects for many contractors. It has also halted several City of Watertown street work projects. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 26, Military, Health Care – Several North Country hospitals teamed up with Fort Drum training on how to respond to an active shooter situation. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 25, Health Care – the American Red Cross says they are low on blood donations and their supply is thinning with the natural disasters and storms over the summer. They are encouraging anyone who can donate to do so. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 24, Military – Vito's Gourmet in Watertown spent the morning making over 200 sandwiches for Fort Drum soldiers to eat as their plane boards for deployment. Story ran 0:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 21, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Colesante's Tavern in Watertown celebrates 90 years open. The bar was the second in Watertown to get its liquor license after prohibition ended in 1933. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 20, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Area UPS workers part of a local union are holding a practice strike, though they are optimistic for upcoming contract negotiations. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 19, Military – Fort Drum prepares for a new Garrison Commander as Col. James Zacchino, Jr. is leaving post and Col. Matthew Myer is coming in. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 18, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – 170 Court Street in Watertown has undergone some extensive renovations in the last two years and is now reopening as an events center that can hold more than 300 people per event. Story ran 1:20, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 17, North Country Weather Events, Health Care – Air quality levels hit unhealthy levels due to Canadian wildfires and we learn it might be a trend for the summer. Story ran 1:50, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 14, North Country Weather Events, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – After a storm with heavy winds and rain ripped through, a Jefferson County corn field was knocked down. Story ran 1:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 13, North Country Weather Events – A tornado was confirmed in the suburbs of Ottawa, Canada. The tornado confirmed by Environment Canada. The storm's remains hitting the North Country and impacting travel into Canada. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 12, Military – U.S. Lawmakers seem to agree on an idea to aide the military's struggles to meet recruitment goals. They propose to ease the Pentagon's marijuana policies to expand the recruiting pool. Story ran 0:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 11, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The City of Watertown breaks ground with a ceremony at the city's Flynn Pool, a pool that was recently approved for a rebuild after much controversy on City Council over whether a third city pool is needed. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 10, North Country Weather Events – There's been flash flooding in Lewis County after heavy rain hit the area Sunday, damaging several roads and properties. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 7, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – St. Lawrence County's lawyer is telling people not to blame the county's Department of Social Services after getting two court rulings. The county's DSS has been under fire in recent years over how they've handled foster care, however court rulings have been in favor of the department. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 6, North Country Weather Events – The North Country has registered sweltering 90 degree temperatures, tying a record high. People across the North Country look for ways to keep cool in the heat. Story ran 1:15, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 5, Military – Fort Drum Mountain Community Homes has teamed up with the Jefferson County SPCA to offer reduced price spays and neuters for military family pets. Story ran 0:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 4, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Watertown City Council discusses removing flower boxes installed outside of Key Bank and bringing back some parking spots after their building's owners raised concerns over the downtown street-scape project and how much parking has been sacrificed in the construction. The majority of City Council wants to see some parking spots restored. Story ran 1:15, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

July 3, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The City of Watertown's Planning Department has proposed a handful of parking alternatives to change parking outside of the Key Bank building after several parking spots were taken away and planter boxes have been installed. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

#### WWNY ISSUES – AUGUST 2023

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

August 31, COVID-19, Health Care – As COVID cases are up, Samaritan Medical Center is bringing back its masking policy. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 30, Military – Retiree access to Fort Drum is changing as they must obtain a new “Real-ID”. It's all thanks to security enhancements occurring at Fort Drum gates. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 29, Development of Energy in the North Country, Health Care, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – A state senator wants answers to health concerns for the public regarding a days-lasting fire at a Town of Lyme solar panel farm. Story ran 1:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 28, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The Village of Evans Mills is notifying residents and customers that their water will be turned off for hydrant replacements. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 25, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy, Health Care - \$500 thousand has been awarded to Canton Potsdam Hospital to support its new Family Medicine Rural Residency Program. The grant will help the hospital construct a new building to house the new program. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 24, Health Care – Department of Public Health Director Jolene Munger is warning parents to ensure their children don't confuse their candy with parents' cannabis as packaging is getting more and more similar. They warn of the dangers of THC poisoning in children. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 23, Military, Health Care – Military service members and their families are encouraged to attend a “chill fest” meant to help relax people with meditation, music, therapy dogs and more on hand. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 22, Health Care – A new vaccine is being added to the fall lineup routine and will be available to North Country seniors soon as the FDA approved two vaccines to combat RSV. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 21, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The New York State Department of Transportation is rehabilitating a bridge on State Route 12E in Chaumont and warns people to expect travel delays while crews work. Story ran 0:20, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 18, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Adding a new flight and a place to eat are just some of the changes coming to the Watertown International Airport with a \$28 million terminal project. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 17, Health Care – As students had back to college, health officials warn students, and the public in general, to be cautious of fake pills and the dangers they come with. Story ran 1:15, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 16, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Gas prices are climbing and many in St. Lawrence County are paying more than \$4 per gallon. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 15, Development of Energy in the North Country, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Town of Canton officials have questions about a planned solar farm project after a recent solar farm fire in the Town of Lyme. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 14, North Country Weather Events, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Snow Ridge Ski Area is cleaning up damage with the help of neighbors after an EF-3 Tornado touched down on their property, knocking down trees and destroying their ski lifts. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 11, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The back taxes owed on a Massena hotel have been paid in full after falling three years behind on payments to the county. Story ran 0:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 10, Development of Energy in the North Country, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Financing still needs to come together for a new solar manufacturing facility in Watertown. Convalt Energy is expected to get between \$15-20 million in funding through the state for the \$50 million project. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 9, North Country Weather Events – An EF-3 Tornado ripped through the Town of Turin with wind speeds reaching 140 mph. The tornado cut a 16 mile path's worth of damage. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 8, North Country Weather Events – A strong storm has hit the North Country with heavy rain and winds across the area. Damage has stretched from Chaumont to Southern Lewis County with an unconfirmed tornado touching down. Story ran 4:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 7, North Country Weather Events – A lightning strike is believed to be the cause of a house fire in Watertown as active weather moved through the area at the time. Story ran 0:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 4, Development of Energy in the North Country – In the wake of a solar farm fire in the Town of Lyme, legislators are looking to put together a new safety bill to allow the appropriate response to occur in case another fire or hazard were to arise at another solar farm. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 3, Health Care, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Officials from Ogdensburg and the State of New York are looking to salvage the St. Lawrence Psych Center property and bring new use to it. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

#### WWNY ISSUES – SEPTEMBER 2023

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

September 29, Military – General Mark Milley, departing Joint Chiefs Chairman took a swipe at former president Donald Trump during his farewell speech. Milley formerly was Commanding General of the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 28, Health Care, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Samaritan Medical Center is expanding its mental health unit, citing a rise in the number of emergency mental health patients. Story ran 0:50, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 27, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Tenants react to the rising rent rates and how the cost of living is having many staring homelessness in the face. Story ran 2:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 26, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – We take a look at why rental rates have increased and how that rise can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic. Story ran 2:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 25, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Ogdensburg City Councillors get a look at the 2024 proposed city budget as it leans even more on property owners. Though the tax rate won't increase, property values are. Story ran 2:10, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 22, Military – A can and bottle drive has been set up in support of a veteran's Honor Flight to send North Country Veterans to Washington, D.C. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 21, Military, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – A Fort Drum workers union calls on Congresswomen Elise Stefanik and Claudia Tenney to pass a budget to avoid a costly government shutdown. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 20, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – A Lewis County law looks to allow a property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. Story ran 0:45, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 19, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – The Lowville DMV is closed while it moves onto its new building, the new facility part of a \$2 million project. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 18, Health Care – A Norwood Norfolk student saves a life, knowing how to properly care for someone who had an allergic reaction to a bee sting. Story ran 1:15, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 15, North Country Weather Events – The United Nations says Earth just had its hottest three months on record in June, July, and August, however Watertown had its 3rd coolest summer on record in 130 years. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 14, Military, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Two state election officials urge Albany to build a state-owned veterans home in the North Country to provide housing assistance to area veterans. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 13, Military - Fort Drum's Major General Gregory Anderson is asking those to keep the families of deployed soldiers on their minds and to provide them support while their families are over seas. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 12, Development of Energy in the North Country, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – In an effort to make the North Country more electric vehicle friendly, electric charging stations have been built in Potsdam. Story ran 1:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 11, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Private investors are looking to turn closed New York State prisons into housing. It's what is being proposed to Ogdensburg lawmakers and Watertown is expected to follow. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 8, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – Congresswoman Elise Stefanik is admonishing President Biden and Governor Hochul for a surge of illegal border crossings along the northern border, including the area of the St. Lawrence River into Massena and Akwesasne. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 7, COVID-19, Health Care – St. Lawrence Health System is bringing back masking requirements as COVID-19 infections climb. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 6, Development of Energy in the North Country, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – School districts are set to go through some major changes as a state mandate requires all new school bus purchases on the state to be on electric vehicles by 2027. Story ran 2:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 5, Health Care – Children as young as 6 years old are showing up in a Watertown emergency room suffering heart problems and clots resulting from vaping and electronic cigarettes. Health officials warn of the dangers of children vaping, especially if it is a marijuana vape. Story ran 1:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

September 4, The Opioid Problem in the North Country, Health Care – Over the Counter Narcan, an overdose reversing medication, has officially hit store shelves, allowing the product to be more easily accessible. The country's first box to sell was sold in the North Country at a Kinney Drugs in Clayton. Story ran 2:00, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 2, Military – Starting August 1<sup>st</sup>, protective services civilian employees such as security, police, and fire fighters can now go to the Fort Drum commissary. Before, it was only available to retired and active duty, reserves, and their families. Story ran 0:30, aired at 6 and 11 PM.

August 1, Development of Energy in the North Country, Health Care, Employment, Taxes, and the North Country Economy – People living near the Town of Lyme solar farm that caught fire are demanding water testing, worried that toxins from the fire are making its way into their water. Story ran 1:40, aired at 6 and 11 PM.