

Tax levy up 2.46 percent in new county budget

by Mary Peryea

Franklin County legislators adopted a budget for 2015 last week, raising the tax levy by 2.46 percent but remaining under the state-mandated tax cap.

The total budget for 2015 is \$109,460,804, an increase of 6.84 percent over this year's budget.

Total estimated revenues for the coming year are \$91,432,601, up 6.73 percent over last year.

The amount to be raised by taxes – the tax levy – is \$16,011,661. This represents a 2.46 percent increase over last year, but is \$45,890 under the state-mandated tax cap.

Tupper Lake accounts for 12.99 percent of the total county tax levy. The tax rate for local land owners will be \$4.58 per

\$1,000 of assessed value.

County Legislator and Village Mayor Paul Maroun told the Free Press that he voted reluctantly for the budget for a variety of reasons.

First, he said, he had a problem with North Country Community College's increase in its advertising budget of over \$100,000. The college wants to reach out to places like New York City to attract students. "They've lost the theory of a community college," Mr. Maroun asserted, "which is to serve the residents of Franklin and Essex counties."

He went on to say that the tax cap mandated by New York State is unsustainable when other costs continue to rise. He cited as examples a

14 percent increase in health insurance costs and a five percent increase in retirement costs. He stated that Medicaid costs alone account for over \$10 million of the county's total budget. "You can't deny food and medical care to kids and young families," he said.

Legislator Maroun has a well known problem with

the sheriff's department as well, saying the legislature gets no cooperation from that quarter. "It's costing taxpayers an exorbitant amount of money!" he exclaimed. "The sheriff called in the Department of Corrections in 2011 and he continues to call them. The county doesn't need to have a higher ratio of officers to prisoners at its jail than

New York State does."

"We'll continue to work," he said. "We're looking at a lot of ways to cut."

He added that he was happy to hear that the Adirondack Club and Resort has cleared the last hurdle to its development, as he said he knew it would. "When the ACR starts

selling lots, assessments will go up. The whole county will benefit from that. And when they begin building and buying from place like Tupper Lake Supply, sales tax will go up, and the whole county will benefit from that, too."

The county budget can be viewed on the Franklin County website at www.franklincony.org.



Helen Kentile



Skip & Joanie O'Donnell

Long Lake weekly meetings and events

Monday-Friday

12pm- Long Lake Nutrition Site. Serving lunch to our seniors. All welcome! Call Teresa Tice at 518-624-5221.

Wednesday, December 24th

9am-12pm- Long Lake Archive building is open to the public (518) 624-5374.

6pm- Christmas Eve Service at the Raquette Lake Chapel.

Thursday, December 25th

Merry Christmas

Saturday, December 27th

1pm- Feelin' Long Lake Polar Bear Plunge at the Long Lake Town Beach. Fundraiser for the Wounded Warrior Project.

6pm- Adult Worship Service, Student Ministry (7-12th grade) at Sullivan House, Kings Kids (3-6th) in the Lower Level at the Wesleyan Church.

Tuesday, December 30th

7pm- Raquette Lake Trivia at the Tap Room. Come out with your friends to test your trivia knowledge.

7pm- Community Volleyball at the Raquette Lake School.

Wednesday, December 31st

9am-12pm- Long Lake Archive building is open to the public (518) 624-5374.

4pm- Special New Year's Dinner at the Adirondack Hotel. DJ Bolinsky starts the music at 9pm.

5:30, 6:30, 7:30 & 8:30pm- Special New Year's Dinner seating's at The Cellar Restaurant and Pub. Check out www.mylonglake.com calendar for menus. Free Jukebox music starting at 10pm for dancing! Call 518.624-5539 to make a reservation.

The Town of Long Lake Parks and Recreation Department has announced the Winners of the 2014 Holiday Decorating Contest. Criteria for the judges included originality, design, creativity and theme elements.

Awards for Best Decorated Residence: Third Place, \$50, Bobbi and Brian Nadeau, Second Place \$75 to Joanie and Skip O'Donnell and First Place, \$100 to Helen and Bob Kentile.

Winners for Best Decorated Business: Third Place, Long Lake Diner/Owls Head Pub, Second Place, Adirondack Hotel and First place, Hoss's Country Corner.

Other prizes included \$10 gift cards donated from Stewart's Shops. Honorable Mentions were awarded to: Harry and Kathy Buxton, Jim and Paula Piraino, David and Sheryl Hunt, Dillion Tristram and Katie Beaudette.



Photo by Steph Hample, left to right, Paul Roalsvig, Tom Scahill, Rose Carey, Trevor Montayne.

Winners of fall trivia contest announced

The Town of Long Lake announces the winners of the 2014 Fall Trivia Contest. Team Capers with (left to right) Paul Roalsvig, Tom Scahill, Rose Carey and Trevor Montayne won the cup in a fierce battle by one point.

Trivia is held on the second and fourth Wednesday's of each month (except December) from September until

June. It alternates from the Long Lake Diner, Cellar Restaurant and Pub and the Adirondack Hotel.

Trivia Nights are also happening in Raquette Lake on alternating Mondays on the WW Durant, Winter Boat starting on Monday, January 5th at 6pm.

The next trivia night in Long Lake will be on Wednesday, January 14th at the Adirondack Hotel.

Check out our website for more stories and photos @ TupperLake-Press.com



Bobbi & Brian Nadeau

Snowmobile Safety Course

New York State is a leader in snowmobile education and offers one operator training course for snowmobilers of all ages beginning at age 10. This course provides fundamental information which all snowmobilers should possess in order to ensure the safety of riders and other trail users. Successful completion of this course results in the award of a NYS Snowmobile Safety Certificate. Join the Town of Long Lake On January 3rd from 9am-6pm for this year's course. Lunch will be provided. Call 518-624-3077 ext. 13 to sign up.

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St. Alphonsus-Holy Name Parish
Rev. Douglas Decker: Parish Center- 40 Marion St.- 359-3405. Weekend Mass Schedule: Sat. @ 4:00 pm at St. Alphonsus Church; Sun. @ 8:30 am at Holy Name Church; Sun. @ 11:00 am at St. Alphonsus Church; Confessions: Sat. 3:30-3:45 pm; Sun. 8:00 am - 8:15 am; Religious Education: Sun. 9:30- am - 10:30 am Holy Ghost Parish Center.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church:
Anglican: 8 Brentwood Ave., Tupper Lake; Tel. 359-8786; The Rev. Bill Cooper; Sunday Worship- Holy Eucharist- 10:00 a.m. First Saturday of the month- Healing Service 7:00 p.m.

United Community Church:
Presbyterian: 23 High St., Tupper Lake; Tel. 359-9810; No Summer Services. Will resume on Sept. 7th, 2014.

Tupper Lake Baptist Chapel:
Baptist: Corner of Lake & Mill Street, Tupper Lake; Tel. 359-3402; The Rev. Richard Wilburn; Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.; Sunday morning Bible Study for all ages 9:00 a.m. Wednesday Prayer and Praise service to 2:00 p.m.

Tupper Lake Christian Center:
114 Park St., TL; Tel. 359-7889; Pastor David Boyea; Non-denominational. Sunday services- 10 a.m.- Check out our website: <http://www.tupperlakechristiancenter.org>

Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity:
(Qtrs. in St. Luke's) Corner of Church & Main St., Saranac Lake; The Rev. John V. Matern, Pastor; Services & Communion 11:30 a.m.; Sunday school at 10:30 a.m.

St. Henry's Church:
Catholic: Long Lake, NY; Tel. 624-2541; Pastor: Rev. Peter Berg; Mass- Sat. at 4:00 p.m. & Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

Calvary United Methodist Church:
Sunday Worship- 11:00 a.m. Long Lake, NY 518-624-6975. Rev. Carol Ames, Pastor.

Newcomb United Methodist Church:
Worship and Sunday School 9 a.m. Bible Study 10 a.m. Newcomb, NY 518-582-2299. Rev. Carol Ames, Pastor.

St. Therese's Church:
Catholic: Newcomb, NY, Pastor Rev. Peter Berg; Mass Sat., at 7:00 p.m. & Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Confession: 1/2 hr. before each mass and/or by appointment.

Wesleyan Church:
Long Lake, NY; Tel. 624-2411; Pastor John Goeke; Sunday School -Bible Discovery- 10 a.m.; Sunday service at 11 a.m.; Sunday eve service at 6 p.m.; Tues. 6:30 a.m. Men meet for prayer; Wed., 6 p.m. Bible Study. See: <http://longlakewesleyan.wordpress.com/>.

Seventh Day Adventist:
10 St. Bernard's, Saranac Lake, NY; Pastor John Livergood; Services on Saturday, Sabbath School 10 a.m.; Church Services 11:30 a.m. Visitors are welcome! Come and stay for vegetarian potluck.

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