



and lots of laughter and memories during the Holiday Season!  
 good times with family and friends . . . .  
 wishes you all safe journeys . . . . .  
**Southern Tier West Staff**

DECEMBER 2009  
 A publication of the Center for Local Government & Community Services  
**Municipal News**

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Southern Tier West Regional  
 Planning & Development Board  
 Center for Regional Excellence  
 4039 Route 219, Suite 200  
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# Municipal News

A publication of the Center for Local Government & Community Services  
 DECEMBER 2009



**Editor and Community Assistance Specialist**  
 Eileen Weishan

**Chairman**  
 James Cooper

**Executive Director**  
 Donald Rychnowski

**Publisher**  
 Sarah Phearsdorf

**Southern Tier West RP&DB**  
 Center for Regional Excellence  
 4039 Route 219, Suite 200  
 Salamanca, NY 14779  
 Ph. 716-945-5301  
 Fax. 716-945-5550  
 Web. www.southerntierwest.org

**Serving Local Governments of**  
 Allegany, Cattaraugus, & Chautauqua Counties

## EDITORIAL *by Eileen Weishan*

Elections are over for one more year. To the officials ending their term in office I offer our thanks to you for committing time and effort serving in a public position. We hope you were able to contribute positively to your community. Being a "public servant" is not an easy task, as you will be able to tell those newly elected to positions in your municipality. To the newly elected officials, Congratulations! You will have many challenges ahead of you. It takes time to learn the details, schedules, laws and intricacies of government. Take that time to learn as much as possible. It will help your decision making in the future. You will receive much information from Southern Tier West on programs being presented around the state, regionally and locally to help you with your tasks. Give the office a call. We have staff willing to assist you, answer questions, or direct you to another source.

We look forward to meeting and working with you in the future.

## Southern Tier West Announces RETIREMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR *Donald Rychnowski*



Southern Tier West announced the retirement of Don Rychnowski as Executive Director of the organization this fall. Don Rychnowski began his career at Southern Tier West in 1979 as a planner and Energy/Housing Coordinator. Following two years in the private sector, Don was named Director of Southern Tier West in 1986 and will retire from that post at the end of the year.

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# TRAINING SCHEDULE

## Code Enforcement 2010

WSTBO - Western Southern Tier Building Officials ([wstbo.com](http://wstbo.com)), the professional association of building and code enforcement officials in and near Chautauqua County, will provide an expanded program of certified training in 2010.

WSTBO over the last years has provided quarterly training for 6 credit-hours per session and expects to offer the same in 2010, with classes usually at the fire training facility in Mayville. In addition, WSTBO will have a 3-day 24-credit-hour Fall conference at Chautauqua Suites, Mayville, NY on September 27 - 29, 2010 with plans to have this yearly.

All nearby enforcement officers, and all nearby design professionals, are encouraged to join WSTBO for 2010 and to attend the training sessions and monthly luncheon business meetings. Application forms and further information are available at [wstbo.com](http://wstbo.com) and will also be mailed to each town supervisor and village/city mayor as 2010 begins.

**NYS DOS** - The Basic Training Course has been scheduled by DOS Codes Division for Cheektowaga beginning January 4, 2010. You must register online with NYS at [www.dos.state.ny.us/code/edu.htm](http://www.dos.state.ny.us/code/edu.htm). Most classes are held from 8am to 4pm.

## Planning and Zoning

For those of you who are still in need of four hours of training for 2009, go to the New York State Department of State Division of Local Government website and look for their multi-media options for land use and local government training. Online Training link - [www.dos.state.ny.us/lgss/OnlineTraining.htm](http://www.dos.state.ny.us/lgss/OnlineTraining.htm). The videos are viewable with either Windows Media Player or Real Media Player. They recommend printing a hard copy of the presentations to follow along and take notes as the video plays.

The link for the printable copy of each presentation is located on the website. At the end of the printed presentation there will be a certificate noting completion of the video training, which can be submitted to your municipality. At this time, attorneys can NOT receive Continuing Legal Education and Code Enforcement Officers will NOT receive In-Service Credit from the Office of Fire Prevention & Control for these videos. If you cannot access the videos, DVDs of these two courses are available. Please contact us at (518) 473-3355 or email [philip.burke@dos.state.ny.us](mailto:philip.burke@dos.state.ny.us)

## STW Local Government Conference

The next Local Government Conference has been scheduled for May 5, 2010 at Houghton College. As part of the planning process, I always ask for input from local officials. Please let me know of topics or issues that you would like to have included in the day's agenda. Contact Eileen at 716-945-5301 ext 207.

## NYS Archives Region 8 Workshops

A list of NYS Archives Workshops to be held in Region 8 this spring will be listed at [www.archives.nysed.gov](http://www.archives.nysed.gov), by the end of the year. If you have any questions, contact Jim Tamarro at 716-847-7903 or [jtamarro@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:jtamarro@mail.nysed.gov).

## Statewide Training

DECEMBER 8, 2009

*NYS OSC Satellite Downlink*

*"Just Elected? What do you do now?"*

*6:30 - 8:45, JCC Jamestown, STW Office, and a location in Allegany County*

JANUARY 13-15, 2010

*Association of Towns*

*"Training School for Newly Elected Officials" Rochester*

FEBRUARY 14 - 17, 2010

*Association of Towns Training School New York City*

FEBRUARY 21-23, 2010

*NYCOM Winter Legislative Meeting Crowne Plaza, Albany*

# STW STAFF

This is a new section to our Municipal News - an introduction to STW staff members in each issue. We have had a turnover in personnel within our organization and thought it would be an ideal time to let you meet the newer staff members as well as those "long timers". This summer two people joined the staff of Southern Tier West - Rudin Emborsky and Alyssa Dechow both life time residents of Cattaraugus County.

**Rudin Emborsky** graduated from Salamanca High School in 2004 and from SUNY Fredonia in 2009 majoring in Environmental Science. At STW, Rudin works closely with John Buzzard as a GIS Specialist. He assists municipalities in mapping and inventory of their infrastructure using GIS and GPS technologies.

Rudin is definitely an "outdoor person". While in college he worked with Forecon, Inc. as a Forest Technician. Plus, he gets outdoors a lot with the hobbies of hiking and hunting. He currently lives in Little Valley area.

**Alyssa Dechow** is from Coldspring, NY where she grew up on a small family dairy farm and graduated from Randolph Central School in 2005. She went on to attend Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY where she earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in Political Science and Public Policy Studies, as well as a minor in Economics. Alyssa spent the spring of 2008 studying in Geneva, Switzerland where she interned at the United Nations. She was an active member of her college Debate Team and coordinated a tutoring program at the community elementary school.

Alyssa first began with Southern Tier West as an intern during the summer of 2007. After she graduated in May 2009, she began working part-time at STW, updating STW's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Alyssa has since been working full-time as a Regional Development Coordinator. She is administering STW's energy and small business loan program and is very excited to be part of the STW staff.

## *Retirement of Executive Director Donald Rychnowski Continued . . .*

During his tenure as Executive Director, Mr. Rychnowski has had the opportunity to complete many important projects. Most notable are the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad from Cory to Hornell, obtaining Interstate designation for Route 17, securing Federal and State funding for many projects in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties and creating the local government assistance

program - one of the largest technical assistance programs in the State.

Rychnowski also served in a variety of other roles while Executive Director, including member of Governor Cuomo's Blue Ribbon Commission on Local Government Consolidation, board member of the National Association of Development Organizations, past president of the Development Districts Association of Appalachia and past



executive director of the National Association of Regional Councils.

Don's leadership and insights will be missed among the Southern Tier West Staff some of whom have been with the organization for over 25 years. Richard Zink, currently Assistant Director, will step into the position of Executive Director beginning January 1, 2010.

# STW IS A DATA CENTER AFFILIATE

The New York State Data Center is New York's primary repository of economic and demographic data. The New York State Data Center operates through about 50 state, local, and university coordinating and affiliate organizations around the state. These affiliates maintain Census and related economic and demographic data and provide local information services to local government, business and the public. Southern Tier West is one of these data center affiliates providing data resources for Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua Counties. If you're having difficulty locating data or have questions about the program in general, contact John Buzzard (jbuzzard@southerntierwest.org) or call him at 716-945-5301 ext 208.

## Political Party Enrollment New York State by County — March 1, 2008

Counties	Total*	Democratic	Republican	Conservative	Independence	Working Families
New York State	11,363,178	5,438,800	2,995,982	148,827	355,934	37,595
STW Region	167,239	55,334	64,697	3,401	7,471	775
Allegany	28,069	7,098	14,468	395	1,003	139
Cattaraugus	50,952	17,469	20,191	1,025	1,881	249
Chautauqua	88,218	30,767	30,038	1,981	4,587	387

Counties	Green	Libertarian	Rent Is Too Damn High Party	Socialist Workers Party	Blank, Void, and Scattering
New York State	28,727	1,175	1	9	2,356,128
STW Region	437	41	—	—	35,083
Allegany	86	13	—	—	4,867
Cattaraugus	133	5	—	—	9,999
Chautauqua	218	23	—	—	20,217

— Represents zero.

\* Political party enrollment is not required of registered voters. Enrollment data are now collected both in November and March. Essentially, both sets of data reflect registered voters broken down by party.

SOURCE: New York State Board of Elections; www.elections.state.ny.us.



# COST OF TRAINING NOT GOOD?

Many Associations offer scholarships their members to attend training programs. The New York State Society of Municipal Finance Officers (NYSMFO) is offering scholarships to their members to help defer continuing education costs related to the government finance officer position. Applications are available at [www.nysmunicipalfinanceofficers.org](http://www.nysmunicipalfinanceofficers.org).

New York Association of Local Government Records Officers offer full scholarships to attend the June Training School being held in Rochester, June 13-15, 2010. Members can obtain a scholarship application by calling Pat DePasquale at 716-558-3215 or online at [www.nyalgro.org](http://www.nyalgro.org).

NYS Association of City and Village Clerks offer scholarships to attend the Municipal Clerks Institute at Cornell. Application information is available on their website: [www.nysclerks.com](http://www.nysclerks.com).

NYS Town Clerks Association also have scholarships to NYSTCA Annual Conference and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) program. Information and applications are available to download at [www.nystca.com](http://www.nystca.com)

Many local organizations also provide scholarships. The Chautauqua County Municipal Clerks Association raises money throughout the year to help Municipal Clerks offset costs of training during the year. Contact your association to see if help is available for continuing education.



## NYS ARCHIVES GRANTS WINNERS - CONGRATULATIONS

**Cattaraugus County**  
County Land Records  
\$74655.00

**Town of Dayton**  
Historical Records Preservation  
\$2359.00

**Village of Franklinville**  
eGovernment Website  
\$16328.00

**Village of Gowanda**  
Disaster Recovery  
\$20000.00  
Storage and Retrieval of Inactive Records  
\$7047.00

**Chautauqua County**  
Imaging and Document Management of Active Records  
\$25116.00

**Jamestown City School District**  
eGovernment Active Records  
\$54090.00

**Town of Ellington**  
Cooperative Indexing and Access  
\$6121.00

**Village of Sherman**  
Active Records systems  
\$19083.00

**Andover Central School District**  
e Government Active Records  
\$4398.00

**Canaseraga Central School District**  
Cooperative Records Inventory  
\$14958.00

**Town of Hume**  
Storage and Retrieval of Inactive Records  
\$26371.00

**Town of Wellsville**  
Cooperative Courts Records Inventory  
\$18100.00

## ATTN: COMMUNITY GIS USERS

The newly redesigned Community GIS website and viewer interface is now online at [www.communitygis.com](http://www.communitygis.com). The biggest change that users will find is that all members enter to view data through the same Viewer. To open the Community GIS Viewer, click the "VIEWER" button at the top of the webpage. To zoom to a specific Community GIS Member, select "Community GIS Members" under the "Bookmarks" menu at the top of the viewer. Then simply select the particular member you wish to view. To turn on and off GIS Data Layers, select "Table of Contents" under the "View" menu at the top of the viewer. This opens a list of all possible GIS layers that can be turned on and off by checking and unchecking and then hitting "Apply".

There are still a few bugs with the Viewer, so please bear with us as we fix any errors and add more tools, data and functionality. If any members have updates to add to your data, now is as good a time as any to get them to us so we can get them up on the web. Southern Tier West has recently upgraded our GPS Units to sub-foot level accuracy, and as always are available to do data collection. Rudin Emborsky is the newest employee in the GIS/Information Services Department. You may see him out collecting GPS data in the near future.

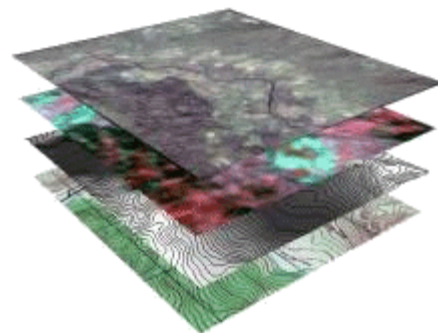
Also be sure to join the Community GIS E-mail List Serve to receive up-to-date information on:

- *viewer and data updates*
- *future upgrades*
- *viewer downtime*
- *new tools*
- *potential grants and projects to fund data collection*
- *trainings and user group meetings*

This list will also be used for asking questions, getting feedback, and any other information that has to do with the Community GIS Viewer. To join simply send an email to [jbuzzard@southerntierwest.org](mailto:jbuzzard@southerntierwest.org) with Add to CGIS List Serve" as the subject heading. In the email body, please provide the following:

First Name, Last Name  
Occupation, Company Name  
Email Address

If you have any questions about the Community GIS Program, new Viewer Interface, membership, or anything else related, contact John Buzzard at 716-945-5301 ext 208 or [jbuzzard@southerntierwest.org](mailto:jbuzzard@southerntierwest.org).



## SOUTHERN TIER WEST'S CORPORATE SPONSORS



*Funding for the Southern Tier West Center for Local Government & Community Services is received in part by a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission as well as through annual membership contributions by local governments and annual corporate sponsorships.*

## SOUTHERN TIER WEST'S CORPORATE SUPPORTERS



*Southern Tier West's homepage is [www.southerntierwest.org](http://www.southerntierwest.org). The page describes Southern Tier West's organization, programs, activities, and events and will contain data and links to other useful and interesting sites. We encourage you to visit our homepage and make suggestions for improving the page so that we can make it more useful to you in the future.*

*If you would like more information on any of Southern Tier West's programs, contact: Eileen Weishan at Southern Tier West RP&DB, 4039 Route 219, Suite 200 Salamanca, NY 14779  
Phone: (716) 945-5301  
Fax: (716) 945-5550  
E-mail: [eweishan@southerntierwest.org](mailto:eweishan@southerntierwest.org)  
[www.southerntierwest.org](http://www.southerntierwest.org)*

## 2010 CENSUS

### US Census Bureau Launches Campaign With New Web Site

The U.S. Census Bureau kicked off its communications campaign to reach every resident in America with the launch of its 2010 Census Web site, 2010CENSUS.GOV. The Web site will serve as a platform for a national dialogue about how the census develops a "Portrait of America."

2010CENSUS.GOV features an animated marquee that symbolizes the Census Bureau's place at the intersection of the American experience. By clicking on images representative of the population, visitors can view video vignettes that ease fears about the census and encourage participation in the once-a-decade population count. The marquee will evolve over time, bringing the diverse voices of America to the site.

"2010CENSUS.GOV puts the census in the hands of the public," said U.S. Census Bureau Director Robert M. Groves. "You can find out when you will get the form, and how to fill it out and mail it back. The site also provides a substantial amount of information regarding our commitment to privacy and confidentiality."

Inside the site, the director's blog will offer a look at census efforts nationwide. Comments will be enabled so that readers can share their thoughts and participate in the conversation. As they go live, social media sites and tools will provide additional opportunities for the public to get involved.

Site features include an interactive census form that provides a history and explanation for each of the 10 questions. This form is one of the shortest in history and takes less than 10 minutes to complete. In order to track census progress and motivate localities, next year the site will include a map widget that displays interactive mail back response rates.

The Web site also demonstrates the Census Bureau's commitment to reaching traditionally hard-to-count populations. In mid-November, a one-page destination about the census will be available on the site in 59 languages. In addition, users will be able to download an in-language guide about how to answer the form. By the end of 2009, the entire site will be presented in Spanish.

If you have any questions on the 2010 Census or any other related programs, feel free to contact John Buzzard at (716) 945-5301 ext: 208 or [jbuzzard@southerntierwest.org](mailto:jbuzzard@southerntierwest.org).

