



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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FEBRUARY 1992

MOSES LUDINGTON HOSPITAL PLANS FOR REFERENDUM

The Board of Trustees of the Moses-Ludington Campus in Ticonderoga and its various committees have been meeting several times a week to prepare a plan for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the seven town boards which will sponsor a referendum on a financial plan to save the hospital. It is anticipated that the hospital's plan will be ready by the end of February for presentation to HUD and the town boards.

HUD owns the \$6 million mortgage on the hospital which is in default. Any feasible plan must include some substantial relaxation of the terms of this mortgage. HUD's consent to any workout plan is essential and there have been a number of preliminary conversations with HUD.

The referendum legislation passed by the New York legislature requires the seven effected towns (Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Moriah, Schroon, North Hudson, Hague and Putnam) to agree upon the terms of the financial rescue plan which will be presented to the referendum voters for a yes or no vote.

Two residents of Hague - Bruce Craig and Charles Parlin, Jr. - are officers and trustees of the hospital. The questions involved are difficult and complex and this has required a great deal of detailed study and discussion by the hospital trustees. Discussions between the hospital and HUD and with the Town Boards will have to review the various questions involved.

The referendum proposal will unavoidably be costly to the taxpayers. The question the referendum voters will have to decide is whether they are willing to bear the cost necessary to continue a hospital in Ticonderoga. The alternative would probably be some kind of an emergency facility with fewer doctors in the area and with ambulance runs to Glens Falls. Even this reduced level of health care would entail substantial costs for the seven towns. The hospital is attempting to quantify all of these costs so they can be part of the public discussion.

The hospital intends to share all of its thinking and its financial information with the voters prior to the referendum so that the people can make an informed judgment on the level of health care they are prepared to support. Under the terms of the referendum legislation, to be eligible to vote at the referendum a person must be either a registered voter in the town or the owner of taxable real property in the town.

The date for the referendum has not yet been fixed but because of the timetable prescribed by the legislation, petitions being prepared and filed,

preparation of the terms of the referendum, public hearings, etc. - the referendum date will probably be late spring at the earliest.

Prepared for The Hague Chronicle by Charles Parlin, Jr., Silver Bay.

Ed. Note: In talking with many people about the issue of closing the hospital, I have not come in contact with anyone who says we don't need it. The big issue is "how do we pay for it?" If you agree that the hospital is a necessity in this area, why don't you write a letter to The Times of T to tell others how you feel. Also, a letter to our Supervisor Dan Belden would give him an insight as to how his constituents feel about the issue. It is an equally important issue to our summer residents as it is to our year round residents. **PLEASE GET OUT YOUR PEN AND PAPER AND WRITE LETTERS NOW!**

Here is one that has been written recently by Wendy Heritage:

"With the Moses Ludington Hospital's new public relations push, I believe it's the right time for this letter.

"I live in Hague, have been employed as a nurse at MLH and presently drive an ambulance for the Hague Emergency Squad. I've been an EMT/Paramedic for 14 years and am well aware of the need for quick trips to the "local" hospital in times of emergency.

"A few scenarios, if you will - it's 2AM and a family member wakes up with all the classic signs of a heart attack. You're scared, you call 911 and the ambulance arrives. Enroute to the hospital the patient's heart stops, CPR is started. The nearest hospital is 10 minutes away, a life could be saved OR the hospital is 40 minutes away and your chances of a save diminish to practically nothing.

"There is a boating accident and you have a near drowning with other injuries besides; do you want a 15 minute trip to medical assistance or do you prefer an hour to Glens Falls or longer still to Burlington?

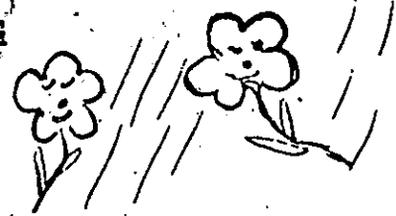
"There's a car accident with broken limbs or bleeding or pain; how long a trip are you looking forward to?

"I could go on forever, but I think most of you get the point. There are times when a patient is transferred to a larger facility but only after he's been stabilized and this is safer by far whether it be ambulance or helicopter.

"The choice remains in the hands of our citizens. Are we willing to put forth the needed effort to save our hospital or not?

"For those of you who think this has nothing to do with you - you've never needed a doctor, let alone a hospital; I pray that your good fortune continues. BUT maybe . . . just maybe someday a relative or a friend might have a turn of bad luck . . . and will you stop and think, (when you overhear someone say "she could have just gotten to the hospital a little sooner . . .") maybe you should have listened closer, maybe expended a little energy to support the hospital when they needed it. You should. **THINK ABOUT IT**

ONLY 35 DAYS TIL SPRING



FISH AND GAME CLUB

January '92 marked the kickoff of the "Raise the Roof" Fish and Game Fundraiser. An appeal has been sent out to members and non-members asking for donations to help put a second story on the Fish and Game building. The Club feels there is a need in town for a facility where receptions, small parties and get-togethers can be held with kitchen and bar facilities. To date, \$957.00 has been received. The Club thanks all those who have donated thus far, and welcomes others to send their contributions, checks payable to Hague Fish and Game Club, to Margaret DeSignore, Treasurer, Hague, NY 12836. Further progress on the campaign will be noted in future Chronicle editions.

KS

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

At their January meeting, \$208 was donated from the Chamber of Commerce to the Hague Volunteer Fire Department, representing the monies collected in December from the 1991 Memory Tree project. The donation is to be used for ALS equipment for the Emergency Squad. Many thanks to Diane and Emogene Frasier for their help with the Memory Tree project.

Saturday, March 28, 1992 has been designated "Chamber Day" at the Knickerbocker Arena in Albany, NY. That day, seats for the "Walt Disney's World on Ice" will be discounted for Chamber of Commerce members and their families. Tickets are \$10.00 and \$8.00 for the noon performance only. The Hague Chamber would like to extend this opportunity to any Hague resident who would like to go. Transportation is up to you. If you would like to buy tickets, call Kathy Santaniello, 543-8441. Deadline for ordering is March 15, 1992. . . KS

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our first meeting of 1992 will be held Thursday, March 26 at The Hague Community Center. Social hour starts at 7:30PM and the meeting at 8:00PM.

The program will be "A Memory to Share." Each attendee is asked to come prepared with a favorite memory. This may be humorous, historical, important or a pleasant interlude.

Ethel Andrus will present the April meeting with the story of Chataugua, that still active summer educational center that has been so influential over the years. Date April 23.

May 15 the society hosts the Ticonderoga Historical Society in our fourth year of a joint meeting. Ticonderoga supplies the program which will be on underwater historical research by Ludwig Kasal.

A trip is planned for June; exact itinerary and date are both in the planning stages.

All meetings are open to the public. Input for programs is always welcomed too. . . RMC

HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Hague Senior Citizens Club will hold its annual covered dish luncheon on Tuesday, February 25 at twelve o'clock noon at the Hague Community Center. Please register by phoning the Community Center (543-8161) prior to February 20. To find out what is needed in the way of food or money contributions, phone either Betty Van Sleet (543-6770) or Fran Clifton (543-6501).

Beat cabin fever, come and enjoy your friends and neighbors and feast on the productions of all of our good cooks. Anyone in Hague who is 50+ is welcome to attend not only this event, but all of our meetings. . . ewa

HOME BUREAU

The Mohican Home Bureau will hold its next regular meeting on February 18 at 10AM. March meetings are scheduled for March 3 and 17. New members are always welcome.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

The Church Women United will hold its World Day of Prayer on March 6 at the United Methodist Church, Ticonderoga. Coffee hour will begin at 10AM.

HANCOCK HOUSE GALLERY

The Ticonderoga Historical Society has announced its latest show in "The Gallery." Opening Friday, Feb. 7, and continuing through Saturday, March 7, this is an exhibition only, featuring photographs by two long-time Ticonderoga residents.

Mason Smith, known by generations for his studio portraits, as well as the events he captured on film, is now retired. He has also saved for posterity such scenes as the old paper mill and the upper falls of the La Chute River.

Jerry Abbott has titled his entries, "From My Point of View." The former proprietor of Grimes Floral Company said he is busier than ever in retirement. Indulging himself for fun and personal pleasure, his camera subjects are diverse ranging from wild mushrooms to politicians and grandchildren.

This well lighted little gallery occupies its own room on the second floor of the Hancock Building at Moses Circle. The building is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10AM to 4PM. All are welcome and children accompanied by an adult are invited. There is no admission fee.

There is a hospital bed stored in the basement of the Community Center available to any Hague resident who needs one. Please contact Ursula Montbrial 543-6407 for information about its use.

THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS regular January meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.

PLANNING BOARD - 2/6/92

Regular Planning Board meeting opened at 7:35 PM with all members present. Temporary Chairman Craig welcomed the numerous guests and Ron Pote, the newly appointed Board member.

Land surveyor, Harry Bly, presented the proposed 5-lot major subdivision of 153+ acres of land owned by Winston and Susan Disbrow on Split Rock Road. The Disbrows have proposed the creation of four 2.5 acre lots, each with approximately 200+ feet of frontage on Split Rock Road; the 5th lot would be in excess of 136 acres. All proposed lots exceed the required minimum lot size for the zoning district.

Rosemarie Serdinsky presented her plans to convert her existing retail shop into an ice cream and sandwich shop. The existing Taxidermy shop would be walled off from the proposed food service area and would have a separate entrance. The food service would utilize existing space within the structure. A 15' x 20' outdoor dining deck is also proposed. The proposed shop is located in Hague's primary Hamlet zone immediately east of the Hague Fire Dept building. The proposed use is allowable within the Hamlet if approved by Site Plan Review and required permits are obtained from other involved regulatory agencies.

The Town Board appointed councilpersons Laundree and Frasier as their representatives to the Planning Board. Councilman Karen Laundree addressed the Planning Board in regard to: 1. proposed storm water regulations; 2. re-activation of the zoning revision committee; and 3. arranging a meeting with the town's insurance carrier to review insurance liability coverage for the volunteer members of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25PM.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 2/11/92

A large crowd gathered in the meeting room at the Community Center for the February 11 meeting of the Town Board.

Several people accepted the supervisor's invitation to speak out on subjects that concerned them.

"A gas bill for the workers who helped the new Snogoers Club will be paid by that group," said Art Steitz, member.

David Martucci wondered why Supervisor Belden was not going to the Association of Towns meeting. Mr. Belden responded that this year Hague would have to pick up the costs that are no longer paid by the county. Supervisor Belden felt we could not afford it. The board had approved John Breitenbach, Jr., Solid Waste Director to attend the 8th annual Solid Waste Convention sponsored by NYS Legislative Committee for Solid Waste - a town board approved and budgeted item.

Sal Santaniello said 5% of the budget allocation (\$500) for the Winter Carnival would be returned.

Mr. Martucci asked about town expenses and was told the finance committee is working on this. Mr. Patchett asked about Cable TV revenues and was informed this will go into a special fund for future extension.

Mrs. Yaw was interested in the number of landfill personnel and a job description for Recycling Coordinator, both of which are under discussion in committee involved.

Bob Patchett mentioned a special fund (bag money) that was to have been set up to cover landfill closing costs. Belden will check.

In Communications and Petitions:

1. Resolution #4 was presented designating the polling place in Hague (the Community Center)

2. Reminder of school budget workshop on 3/11/92 at 7:30PM in the Community Center. (See p5)

3. Reclamation proposal by Clough Harbour for landfill was approved. There is a possibility of 50% funding.

4. Naturalist Laura Meade's report.

5. On a possible conflict of interest letter from John Silvestri, Town Attorney, Mrs. Lindquist requested a ruling from the Attorney General's office.

6. Another letter from Mr. Silvestri states he has no record of contract negotiations concerning Harold LaRose, assessor. Any other questions should be directed to the Town Board or to Mr. LaRose.

7. The alleged employee overpayment has been resolved.

8. Contract with John Silvestri, town attorney, has been renewed.

Special Committee Reports:

Highway: CHIPS program cut 35%

Finance: Still discussing 5% cut in various departments. There are mandates that cannot be ignored and with a \$23,618.97 cut in sales tax, "something's gotta go."

Youth: A committee is being formed and figures for basketball court will be available soon.

Stormwater: Karen Laundree has had meetings with Michael White, Lake George Park Commission and Dan Belden and will continue to do so.

Scott Patchett commended Supervisor Belden on committees he has instituted. Belden took this opportunity to say he intends to reactivate the Community Center comm., abandoned early in 1990.

Regular Committee Reports:

Buildings and Grounds: Service contract with George Wilson, Honeywell for additional thermostats. Feasibility of logging 113 acres associated with landfill. Need suggestion for old town hall use. Will get handicapped parking signs at Community Center. Filed for dredging permit at boat launch.

Planning and Zoning: Ron Pote transferred to Planning Board from ZBA. There are now two openings on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Applications accepted at Community Center

There have been two changes in committee chairmanship: Dick Frasier for landfill, Linda Coffin for Recreation and Promotion. Dan Belden will serve on School Tax Committee, replacing Linda Coffin. (Cont. on page 4 - TOWN BOARD) 2/92

(TOWN BOARD, cont. from page 3)

In New Business:

The board voted NO to returning the ballfield backstop to the Ticonderoga School District as requested.

A meeting will be set up with the Ticonderoga Town Board re: Youth.

Nancy Trombley has applied for a grant to cover office furniture.

Supervisor Belden held a productive meeting with Charles Parlin, Jr. concerning Moses Ludington Hospital.

Belden resigned as chairman of the Winter Carnival Committee. Kathy Santaniello will be the new chairman. . . gl

GLEANING PROGRAM

The next Gleaning Program will be held on Wednesday, February 26, 1992 from 10AM - 2PM in the Community Center. Bring proof of eligibility.

RUMMAGE SALE

A rummage sale will be held Feb. 22 and 23 from 10AM - 4PM at the Community Center. Proceeds will benefit Mary Meehan, fire victim.

GOLD COUNTRY HAS COME TO TOWN

For those of you who are not as blest as we in Hague and wonder what we do to entertain ourselves - we eat a lot! Besides all the wonderful church suppers recently, we have a new Chinese Restaurant in downtown Ticonderoga called GOLD COUNTRY. Manned almost entirely by Chinese who speak English, they have an extensive Chinese menu. There is a small eating area but probably their biggest business is in takeouts. There are special Cantonese dishes and Szechuan specialties, besides appetizers, soups, fried rice, sweet and sour, etc. etc. They have an order sheet measuring 17" x 11", filled with all kinds of delicacies. One can call in an order and have it ready for you when you get there. Open seven days a week, this restaurant will prove to be a real asset to our area.

ADIRONDACK CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE SEEKS 100-YEAR ADIRONDACK PARK ROOTS

In celebration of the Adirondack Park's 100th birthday, the Committee for the 1992 Adirondack Park Centennial is gathering history of other Adirondack 100-year-olds, including families, homesteads, people, and businesses.

People that have been in the Adirondack Park for 100 years or more have been contacting the Committee with historical information about themselves, their families, groups and businesses. The information will be compiled by the Committee into a booklet as part of the Centennial celebration.

"The Adirondack Park is special in large part because of its people and their history," said Barbara McMartin, chairman of the Centennial Committee. "We would like to find others in the Park celebrating their birthdays and include them in the celebration in this special way. Without the people and businesses and groups and homesteads, what would the Park be? After all, our slogan is "A Park of People and Natural Wonder."

A candidate for recognition by the Committee must supply the name of the 100-year-old person or entity and the date they arrived in the Adirondacks. A brief history should be supplied, including where they came from and why they came to the Park, the occupation of the original family, and details about the descendants living in the Adirondack Park today.

The Committee invites the public to help in this search. Please contact Sally Daly, the coordinator of this project, at 11 Birch Drive, RD #1, Albany, NY 12203-9727

Anyone who would like to get together with a group to paint (pictures; that is) in the Community Center, please contact Mary Lou Doulin, 543-6554.

The town of Hague is still taking applications for a custodian for the Community Center. Apply to the town office or call 543-6161 for further information.

The following letter was written by Mrs. George Traver, Sabbath Day Point. Your viewpoint on the hospital situation is welcome.

"When I pass Moses Ludington hospital, way up on the hill in the village of Ticonderoga I find it hard to believe that some day it might not be there.

"What memories I have of my stay there five years ago. I had a bout with cancer and two wonderful doctors helped me to get well. They had the foresight to recommend my taking Tomoxiffin citrate for the rest of my life, and so far no sign of that dreaded disease.

"Today my husband visited his physician in the village as he had a bout with arthritis and what does he come home with? - a video tape explaining the medication that the doctor had prescribed. The tape explained all about its dosage, when to take it - its probable side effects, good and bad, and not to become discouraged etc. etc.

"Don't tell me Ticonderoga does not have physicians who keep up with all new treatments! But these doctors need this hospital, as do we all.

"We live in Harvey Moses' home at Sabbath Day Point and as you know it was years ago that Harvey's family gave money to start this institution. Now there is need for financial help in keeping it going. Don't you agree?"



THINK SPRING

ASSESSMENTS

This is the fifth and final installment in a series from Harold LaRose, assessor for the Town of Hague:

APPEALING YOUR ASSESSMENT

Taxpayers are justifiably concerned about rising property taxes. But how can anger at higher taxes be turned into effective protest and a successful appeal of assessed value? Act according to three important principles and you may halt rising taxes and file a successful appeal. Even if you can't change anything, you will understand more about what really needs to be changed.

1. Separate the issue of higher taxes from the issue of the accuracy of the assessed value of your property. Elected officials, school boards, and other special taxing authorities establish your tax bill. Assessors estimate the market value of your property. An increase in value doesn't mean your taxes will go up.
2. Understand how the assessor arrived at the value of your property. If you do file an appeal, this information will help you construct your case. Find several properties similar to yours (called comparables), preferably in a similar neighborhood. Find out what their assessed values are or the prices at which they sold, if they have sold recently.
3. Establish a cooperative, not an adversarial, relationship with the assessor's office. The office can and will provide you with the information you need to evaluate your assessment, find similar properties, and file your appeal. Be sure to follow instructions carefully. A missed deadline or incorrect filing can cause an appeal to be dismissed.

THE BLIZZARD OF 1888

Clifton West, Town Historian,

From recollections of Burton West, his father

The year 1888 will always be remembered as the date of the Big Blizzard. It began on March 11 and lasted three days or longer. At that time Mother was visiting relatives in Bridport, VT. Her recollection of the event was slight. To Dad it was far more vivid.

Dad was eleven years old at that time and his brother Charles was older. The Wests lived on the property where Ward's Boat Storage is now located on Route 8. Grandpa operated the grist mill by the deep gorge in Hague Brook by the upper falls. Having no grain to be ground at the time, he decided to take the family over to Horicon to visit Grandma's family, the Bentleys, at the head of Brant Lake. There were no phones in those days and parcel post was a slow means of communication. One did not just turn down the thermostat and leave for a few days. With no indoor plumbing, it was safe to let the house cool off. March was not too cold anyhow.

That particular weekend was warm with no hint of storm in the air. The entire family, six in all, piled onto the sleighs and left for Brant Lake early in the morning of March 10. The first two houses built on the lake are still standing, tho greatly reconstructed. They were the John West home at the foot of the lake and the Bentley residence at the head of Brant Lake. It

was to the latter that the family travelled. My grandmother was Lucinda Bentley, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Remington) Bentley. The trip to the upper end of the lake was uneventful. We can imagine that there was a happy reunion with lots of news to be talked over.

The following morning when the family arose it was snowing. It was not just an Adirondack flurry such as we get now, but a real honest-to-goodness blizzard. My grandfather had to get back over the mountain and could not afford to be snowed in somewhere along Brant Lake far from home. After breakfast he hitched up the team, the family piled onto the sleighs and started to Hague. By the time they reached the Spuytendevil Brook at the foot of Hague Mountain, the snow was already a foot deep. The strain of pulling the loaded sleigh through so much drifted snow was too much for the horses. My father and his brother Charles were sent ahead to break trail for the team. It must have been hard work for the two boys, hardly into their teens, to wade through the deepening snow up Hague Mountain with the wind blowing hard as it did.

To reach the top of the mountain and down past Swede's Pond was an all day journey. The old road followed a different course than present Route 8 so the distance was greater than now. About a half-mile from where Ray Monroe lives now they came to the residence of Solomon Robbins and his family. Here they were invited to spend the night and give the team a deserved rest as well as the boys who broke trail through the deep snow. Solomon was a Civil War veteran. His son Solomon, a veteran of the first World War, often reminded my Father of the time the Wests spent the night with the Robbins. The boys had to sleep on the floor.

In the morning they finished the trip to their home in Hague. By that time there was snow to a depth of four feet on the level. Drifts were as much as thirty feet deep. The weather turned warm and the snow did not last long. The snow went so fast that streams were very high and the roads nearly impassable for several days.

Memories of this event die slowly. Groups of people met each year in March to relive their memories of the great storm. The last member of that trip to die was Hattie who passed away in 1967.

SCHOOL BUDGET WORKSHOPS UNDER WAY

The Ticonderoga School Board is holding open workshops for the purpose of keeping the public informed and also receiving input from the public. The next workshop will be held on March 4 and will be on transportation, community, employee benefits, debt service and cafeteria expenditures. Review of total expenditures and available revenue. ON MARCH 11 at 7:30PM, a budget workshop will be held in the Hague Community Center at 7:30PM. If you are interested in knowing how your tax dollars are spent, be sure to come. The School Board welcomes any suggestions that you might have. A complete schedule of workshops is found in the February District Newsletter.

NATURE NEWS

Laura Meade

In January Fred LaPann reported seeing 17 bluebirds in a field near a hedgerow behind the Grand Union in Ticonderoga. They were feeding on berries in the fields and shrubs. About a week later he saw 7 bluebirds while walking in fields near Salem and they were feeding in the same manner. So when Patty Bartlett told me that her parents, Rosemary and Frank Carney had been seeing 3 to 5 bluebirds on a regular basis at Sabbath Day Pt., I began to wonder how these birds (which are usually seen only in summer, spring or all in the Adirondacks) were able to survive cold temperatures and snow covered terrain.

The Carneys said they saw the bluebirds flying in and around a bird house quite often. They also noticed that the birds were eating bugs which appeared on warm, sunny days and some small berries on nearby bushes. The berries had been alternately frozen and thawed in temperature changes.

This information prompted me to search in a book titled "The Bluebird" by Lawrence Zeleny to see if he mentioned anything about bluebirds spending the winter in the North Country. In a chapter titled "What Can We Do to Save the Bluebird" he said, "In winter bluebirds depend almost entirely on wild berries for food. The supply of this natural food has been greatly reduced in many years. Food supply is of decisive importance in determining not only the winter ranges but ultimately the survival of all species of bluebirds." Zeleny went on to give a partial list of 29 plants which are attractive to bluebirds. Some of these plants, including red cedar, staghorn sumac, bittersweet and mountain ash are found in our area. According to Zeleny, the supply of wild berries from these plants has diminished greatly in recent years due to the clearing of land for crop production and building of highways, shopping centers and residential developments.

That led me to realize that some hardy bluebirds have been wintering in the Adirondacks all along, while most migrate to warmer climates in the fall and return in early spring, usually between March 10 and 24th.

Perhaps with the increase of bluebird nest box houses for shelter and more available food due to planting of desirable trees and shrubs in landscaping in our area, bluebirds have found a way to avoid the strenuous migration to the South and back.

Like some of the Homo sapiens species who came to Hague for a vacation in the summer, some tough bluebirds have decided to stay year-round. Or maybe the bluebirds were here long before Homo sapiens.

I have many back issues of Parents and Parenting magazines that I am about to throw out. In the interest of recycling, if anyone is interested in any of these magazines, please give me a call, 543-6441.
Kathy Santaniello

IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN CLASSES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT DIABETES, PLEASE CALL MARILYN PRIORE, 543-6645.

CUB SCOUT PACK 21 NEWS

Karen Costello

Be on the lookout... for some "Scouting" messages around town. Many Cubs have made some nice posters to display. Five special ones were sent to the Mohican Council for display at the Aviation Mall. Good job! to all and especially Nate Lawrence and Tavish Costello of Den #2, Pete Hutchinson of Den #1, Luke Frasier and Thomas Decker of Den #4.

Den #1 has been working on Craftsman, Readyman and Scientist while helping to "raise the roof" at the Fish and Game Club. (Leader Ralph Denno holds his meetings there.)

Den #2 had a "movie marathon" sleepover at Leader Gautreau's house in January. Grand finale was a hearty breakfast at McDonald's. They have been working on Communicator and have almost completed the requirements for Craftsman. The Scholar activity pin was earned by Tavish Costello; Thor Gautreau and Nate Lawrence. Helping to fill the requirements, guest speaker, Heather Denno, substitute teacher and attorney-at-law, recently spoke with the boys of Den 2 about the value of education. Future plans for the den include skating, sliding, fun stuff!

Den #3, the Bears, are back in action after a mid-winter break, and are working on their arrow point trail.

Den #4 has had some awesome games of broom hockey and some good ice skating experience. They have been kind to their feathered friends by feeding them Birds' Delight; now they're building some homes for them. Congratulations to Thomas Decker and Matt Ward for joining the other fellows in Bobcat rank and to Den 4's first Wolf badge earner, Kris Stonitsch!

As always, thanks for all the bottle and can contributions. Keep 'em coming!

WEATHER NOTES

Mary Lou Doulin

Excluding the presence of much snow, the previous four weeks have finally felt as though winter has arrived. The days have been relatively cold, vacillating mostly between 10 and 20 degrees F. The highest temperature for January was 30° on the 30th. The thermometer has been dipping below 0° most of the nights, making the air clear and delightful.

Our beautiful lake froze on January 21, just a little later than average. We've had plenty of ice and freezing rain so far but not much snow. Extremely icy road conditions have been the norm. Lots of danger exists on the spots on the road where the sun hits the ice on the shoulder making it thaw and run across the road. At night it refreezes and creates a condition called black ice. One can't see it until it is too late.

According to the ground hog's shadow, we should have six more weeks of winter!

DIED - Paul L. Penfield, 90, Lakeland, FL and Silver Bay, NY, on January 9 in Lakeland. He is survived by his wife Charlotte, two daughters, Eleanor P. Spencer and Martha P. Brown and a son, Paul Penfield Jr., 9 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Mr. Penfield has been a summer resident of Silver Bay since 1908. His father was a member of the committee that visited the hotel at Silver Bay and recommended its purchase by the YMCA. This led to the creation of the Silver Bay Association. Mr. Penfield happened to be present about the time the Boy Scouts of America were formed at Silver Bay, and he became Boy Scout No. 83.

DIED - Dr. Charles S. Steurer, 94, of Tarrytown, NY and Silver Bay, on January 12, 1992 in Tarrytown. Dr. Steurer is survived by his wife, Charlotte, Tarrytown, daughters Doris Odell of Portage, WI and Janet Breitenbach, Silver Bay, six grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren and several nephews.

DIED - Helen A. Belknap, 78, Overbrook Drive, Hague, at her home on January 21, 1992. Mrs. Belknap had been a resident of Hague for the past 25 years. Survivors include her husband, Herbert, one daughter, Mrs. Raymond White, Scarsdale, one brother, one sister, two granddaughters and two great-grandchildren.

DIED - Beverly Joseph Dunklee, 63, West Hague Road, Hague, on February 4 at Moses Ludington Hospital. Mr. Dunklee was a life long resident of Hague and a U.S. Army veteran. Survivors include a son, Beverly Jr. and a daughter Tina Blackburn, both of N.C., one brother Jordon, Hague, two sisters and one grandchild.

DIED - Mildred Merz, 92, Madison, NJ, on February 11, 1992 in Madison. Mrs. Merz is survived by her daughter, Shirley Bryant, Pine Cove Road, Hague, two sons, 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

THIRD MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

Included in the 134 students who attained honor roll status at Ticonderoga High School are the following students from Hague:

FIRST HONORS: Treva Braisted, Elizabeth Brunet, Elizabeth DeFranco, Tony DeFranco.

SECOND HONORS: Richard Cobb, Carolyn Dykstra, Alison LaCourse, Jesse McKeever, Michelle Waters, Vickie Waters.

The staff of The Hague Chronicle congratulates you and hopes for your continued success.

Sean Amann, son of Mr & Mrs. Thomas DeGraff and grandson of Billie and Erv, Hague, a senior at RPT, Troy majoring in mechanical engineering, has been named to that institute's Dean's List for the fall semester.

"Enter your town in the "Best Small Towns in America Contest" and be eligible to win \$1,500 in prize money, plus \$10,000 toward an official town fund of your choice. The contest is open to any resident of the U.S., age 21 and over, who is a resident of a small town, which has its own local government and a population of 1,000 or less. Entrants should mail completed, signed entry blank and an essay, not to exceed 1,000 words, describing why they think their town is one of the "best" in America. For more details call or write Dorothy Henry, Publisher The Hague Chronicle, Hague, NY 12836 or call her at 543-6633.

DIALING CHANGE FOR TOLL CALLS

Beginning January 20, 1992, telephone customers in Elizabethtown, Hague, Keene Valley, Lake Placid, Mineville, Port Henry, Putnam and Ticonderoga no longer need to dial the digit "1" before making toll calls within the 518 area. This dialing change will not affect the size of local calling areas or toll rates. Customers should continue to dial a "1" on all calls to places outside the 518 area code.

•The local calling areas for communities throughout upstate will remain the same as they were prior to the dialing pattern change.

•The change in dialing does not affect the rates customers are charged for toll calls. A call that previously was a toll call will remain a toll call.

•In an effort to make the transition easier, callers will still have the option of dialing the digit "1" in placing a toll call within their area code. The call will be completed if the customer first dials "1".

•The option of dialing the digit "1" when placing a toll call within an area code will be phased out by 1994.

Customers with questions can call a NY Telephone representative at 890-8300.

TAX DEDUCTIONS FOR VOLUNTEERS

A fact sheet is available to you by contacting the Cornell Cooperative Extension Office, Warrensburg. Telephone Warrensburg: 623-3291; Lake George: 668-4881.

NEW LOOKS IN TOWN?

For the past three weeks on Mondays and Fridays, the Richard E. Bolton room at the Community Center has been alive with the bouncing, stretching and dancing of approximately forty women participating in the aerobics classes being conducted by Marie Collins. Enthusiasm is there in abundance. We are all hoping for "new yous" by the end of the six weeks' course. When you all come back from your relaxing in the sun, you will see how the ladies of Hague have been utilizing their spare time in the clear cold winter months!

February

- 18 Fish and Game Club - 7:30PM - Clubhouse
- 19 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls
- 21 Blood pressure clinic-Hospital lobby , 1-2PM
- 22 Washington's Birthday (Traditional)
- 25 Senior Citizens Covered Dish Lunch (see p 2)
- 26 School Board meeting - 7:30PM THS cafeteria
- 27 Zoning Board of Appeals - 7:30PM

March

- 2 Fire Department meeting - 7:30PM
- 3 Home Bureau - 10AM - Community Center
- 4 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls
- 4 American Legion meeting - 7:30PM - Legion Hall
- 4 Chamber of Commerce - 7:30PM - Comm. Center
- 5 Planning Board meeting - 7:30PM
- 10 Town Board meeting - 6:30PM
- 11 School Budget workshop - Hague Community Ctr - 7:30PM
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 18 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls

WRAPPED IN WINTER

*The world was wrapped in winter
 This tiny world called home,
 A blanket soft as cotton
 As nature's beauty shown,
 A touch of magic wonder
 In snowflakes as they fell,
 And life held quiet beauty
 That wintertime could tell*

*The lane was wrapped in winter
 Each tree wore ermine white,
 With fence posts capped in splendor
 Within the dark of night,*

*The pathway snug and cozy
 Between the banks of snow,
 And stars shone down from heaven
 Touched by the afterglow.*

*The earth was warm with winter
 In peaceful, quiet bliss,
 Beneath snow's magic blanket
 A silent happiness
 Within the arms of nature
 All safe and glowing there,
 God wrapped His world in winter
 Then left a sunbeam fair. . . Garnett Ann Schultz*

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is published monthly by volunteers and supported by contributions from its readers. Send news items to Publisher Dorothy Henry, Box 152A and tax deductible contributions to EVERT LINDQUIST, Box 748, Hague, NY 12836.

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