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SUPERVISOR'S STATEMENT - TOWN OF HAGUE

March 29, 2020

Currently, a major concern for our town is that seasonal homeowners are returning during this time. The impact on the community is that they fear the virus is being brought here with them.

Thus, Warren County Public Health Services continues to request that seasonal homeowners who have come to the county in recent days self-quarantine for 14 days. In addition, seasonal homeowners are asked to contact the agency at 518-761-6580 to go over resources for assistance and local protocols.

To stay informed on Warren County COVID updates, go to www.warrencountyny.gov/COVID/

You can also sign up for the Warren County e-mail newsletter on that site.

Updates are available on Warren County's new Facebook page - Warren County, New York.

Please cooperate with us during these uncertain and difficult times. Our priority is the health and safety of all.

Thank you, Edna A. Frasier



HHHN IMPLEMENTS COVID-19 PLANS

Hudson Headwaters Health Network (HHHN) has implemented plans to care for patients and keep patients and staff safe, while managing the rapidly-evolving COVID-19 outbreak.

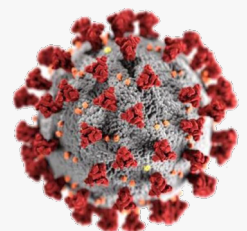
Dr. Tucker Slingerland, CEO at Hudson Headwaters, said they are ensuring that all of their 19 centers are prepared to evaluate, provide information, and care for people as safely as possible, while following screening protocols.

Hudson Headwaters continues to test those throughout the region with COVID-19 symptoms, especially those in higher-risk categories including health professionals, first responders, nursing home residents and patients whose care plan would be changed due to a positive result.

Hudson Headwaters Health Network has also expanded its telehealth capabilities to enable provider-patient visits by computer. The service has proved to be an incredibly valuable option for patients, increasing both convenience and access. Providers can conduct visits for new patients who are fighting an illness, meet with patients requiring follow-up appointments, have newly prescribed medication follow-up conversations, or routine chronic disease management appointments. ▣

SUGGESTIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

1. Support your local restaurants by ordering take-out and be sure to tip!
2. Buy gift cards now and enjoy a shopping spree or night on the town later.
3. If an event you were planning on attending is canceled, don't ask for a refund. Consider it a donation to your community when it needs it.
4. Exercise daily.
5. Spend time outdoors. Fresh air rejuvenates.
6. Stay in touch with friends and family by calling, texting, and doing video meetings using Skype, FaceTime, or Zoom ~ or even write an old-fashioned note or letter!
7. "Pay it forward." Find a way to help others ~ you'll both feel better!



TO OUR READERS, FROM THE STAFF OF *THE HAGUE CHRONICLE*

We hope that you are safe wherever you are during these unprecedented, sad, and challenging times. May we all use this time to slow down, clarify what's important to each of us, and learn to appreciate each other. We hope we'll emerge from this time as a stronger community, grateful for all we have, and, above all, more patient and loving toward each other. ▣

SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

Our April meeting and our Spring Dinner at Caldwell House Restaurant have both been canceled. We'll let our club members know when we'll be back up and running.

Why don't you reach out and touch other club members by phone today? I'm sure they would love to hear from you! Thank you!

Please stay safe! We hope to be together again soon! ▣



HAGUE CHRONICLE NEWS:

Please send all news items to Editor Bobbi Bryant Taylor at: editor@thehaguechronicle.org.

COVID-19 UPDATE

As of April 18, 2020:

A NYS executive order, effective Friday, April 17th at 8 pm, said all NY residents in public need to wear a mask or face covering when in situations where they are unable to socially distance.

LOCATION	CASES	DEATHS
Worldwide	2,222,686	153,959
US	706,830	37,086
NYS	235,395	2,754
Warren County	94	4
Essex County	16	3

Sources:

— <https://www.statnews.com/2020/03/26/covid-19-tracker/>
 — <https://www.facebook.com/Warren-County-New-York-covid19tracker.health.ny.gov>

Local resources during COVID-19:

Warren County Public Health – 518-761-6580
Mental Health Assistance – 518-792-7143
Domestic Violence Assistance – 518-793-9496
State COVID-19 Hotline – 1-888-364-3065 ▣

HVFD

by Meg Haskell

For the month of March, we had 14 fire calls and drills and five EMS calls using 147.5 volunteer hours.

During these trying times, we continue to be available 24 hours a day to our community. We have EMTs on site Monday through Saturday from 7 am - 5 pm and our volunteers cover the rest of the time. Our firemen are also available to respond to any emergencies that may arise.

At present, we have had no positive cases of COVID-19 in Hague. As EMS providers, we are receiving daily updates from NY DOH and have appropriate protective gear for responding. Please remember that the best way to protect yourself is good hand washing and avoiding crowds. Remember, if you are returning to your summer home, you are requested to contact Warren County Public Health. ▣



AND THE PEOPLE STAYED HOME

A poem by Kitty O'Meara

And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply.

Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently. And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed. ▣

HAGUE MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION by Maureen Cherubini

Due to COVID-19 and the resulting shelter-in-place orders, we have had to cancel this year's Memorial Day Celebration in Hague. ▣

THIRD QUARTER HONOR ROLL

Students from Hague on the Ticonderoga School Honor Roll for the third marking period:

Grade 1: High Honors - Noah Mydlarz and Cerina Swinton
 Honors - Maddison Smith

Grade 2: High Honors - Allison DeBuque
 Honors - Ryker Mott and Markenna Winter

Grade 3: Honors - Cohen Winter

Grade 4: Honors - Wyatt Barnes

Grade 5: High Honors - Zebulon Denno, Brady Mydlarz, Miya Savage, and Kaiden Smith

Grade 6: First Honors - Aidan DeBuque, Dunavinn Harrington, and Brady Kennedy

Grade 7: First Honors - Alyssa Mydlarz

Second Honors - Peyton Granger

Grade 8: First Honors - Sofie Hubbard

Second Honors - Lydia Luberto

Grade 9:

First Honors: Quentin Gargan

Grade 10:

First Honors: Madalynn Hubbard

Second Honors: Teegan McLaughlin and Nevaeh Trudeau

Grade 11: Second Honors: Madison Fish

Grade 12: First Honors: McKenzie Harrington

Second Honors: Kiela Jordon and Haileigh Rivard

BESTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONORS

by Kathy Santaniello

We sincerely appreciate everyone's continued support of the scholarship program, now enabling us to expand the awards to include up to four years of higher education.

And it's never too late to give! Send your donations to: Beste Scholarship Fund, Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836.

The following people made donations to the Beste Scholarship Fund between May 2019 and March 2020:

Belden Property Services –
Peter and Tory Belden
Bruno and Dorothy Brauner
Bud and Pam Bresett
Cathy Clark
Richard and Susan Liddell
Lu and Linda Megow
Northern Lake George Rotary Club
Sal and Kathy Santaniello
David and Bobbi Taylor
Trout House Village Resort –
The Patchett Family ■

BOAT INSPECTIONS DELAYED

On Monday, April 6, 2020, the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) decided to delay the start of its 2020 mandatory boat inspection program out of concern for the health and safety of its staff and the boating community in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. Executive Director Eric Siy of the FUND for Lake George says that he wholeheartedly supports that decision.

Boats must still be clean, drained, and dry before launching and are required to have a 2020 Lake George Inspection Sticker.

It is hoped that those who launch and enjoy their boats during this temporary absence of the inspection stations will do so with public health and safety foremost in their mind and the long-term interests of a healthy Lake George at heart. ■

HAGUE SNO-GOERS

by President Tom Haskell

The Hague Sno-Goers have had a short, but positive snowmobile season. We did lots of trail work that was necessitated by ice storms. We groomed a few times and the conditions were awesome!

Our trails are now closed, but our business keeps moving forward. We have elections coming up, plus there is trail grant paperwork to be done. Our trail coordinators are already lining up work days for when mud season is over.



Meg Haskell

I would personally like to thank everyone who worked to keep our trails safe. I also want to thank the private landowners who allowed us to use their properties, especially our two biggest landowners: NY DEC and Lyme Timber. Without them, we would have no trails for everyone to enjoy.

Presently, we have 39 members who are mostly from downstate or other states. Our members receive a \$55 discount on their snowmobile registration.

If you have questions or would like to join, contact me at 518-543-2015, haguesnogoers@yahoo.com, or like us on Facebook. ■

HELPING CHILDREN DEAL WITH COVID-19

from Michigan State University Extension

Many parents and grandparents are wondering how to talk to their children about COVID-19. They wonder: "Should I say anything at all?", "What should I say?", and "How much information should I provide?"

Here are some suggestions:

DO talk about COVID-19 with your children. Children have active imaginations and will fill in the blanks with what they hear from others. Not talking to children can make them worry more.

DO explain the facts in a developmentally appropriate manner. Answer their questions factually and simply.

DO focus on what you and others in your community are doing to stay safe. Children feel they have more control when they know steps they can do. Explain that washing their hands is the best thing they can do to keep the coronavirus germ from making them sick. In a simple way, explain social distancing and mask wearing.

DO keep an open line of communication. Assure your children that you will answer any questions they have about COVID-19. Your goal is to be their trusted source of information so they will come to you when they have questions. Take time to be prepared, focused, and calm in your responses.

DO your best to stick to routines. Children do best with structure, so do your best to maintain normal routines at home. Maintain usual mealtimes and bedtimes.

DO NOT show your anxiety. Children look to you for cues in how to react in frightening situations. Model calmness. Limit children's news exposure by watching after they are in bed and by reading the news when they are not with you. ■

TOWN BOARD - 4/14/2020

Present were: Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Martin Fitzgerald II, Joshua Patchett, and Steve Ramant. Jack Bast, was absent. A moment of silence was held for Muriel Schwarz.

When the state of NY told Frasier was instructed to reduce the workforce in Hague to essential workers, Eric Kramer was furloughed for two weeks, as were the workers in the highway department. They are all now back at work. All three employees at the waste water treatment plant have been considered essential. The community center is locked, but Edna Frasier and Diane Trudeau are there Monday - Friday from 8 am – 1 pm. Cathy Clark and Dave Martucci work there in the afternoons. Town Clerk Melissa Patchett's hours vary at the community center.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administrative: Frasier

Frasier said Assessor David Martucci has been working on assessments, with Bill Gourley assisting him. His reports are due to Warren County Monday, April 20th.

Highway: Ramant/Bast

Work needs to be done and it can be done while maintaining proper safety and distancing protocols. The staff has been supplied with masks and gloves.

Planning/Zoning: Fitzgerald/Patchett

Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) Cathy Clark stated that compliance visits were done. She expressed concerns for the safety of contractors working alone due to COVID-19 regulations. All Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) and Planning Board (PB) meetings are canceled until further notice due to COVID-19.

Town Park/Beautification: Ramant/Frasier

Ramant made suggestions for the transfer station, including establishing a traffic pattern, signage, and educating the public on proper recycling. Boat inspections have been postponed until June by

the Lake George Park Commission. Marinas have been deemed non-essential by New York State (NYS). Two launches remain open: Mossy Point and Million Dollar Beach.

The fact that there are no inspectors on site causes concern that invasive species will be brought into the lake. It is unknown at this time when NYS will lift its regulations and therefore whether our town park, visitor center, beach, or boat launch will be open this season. Fitzgerald expressed concern that the town could lose a lot of county funding due to COVID-19.

Sewer Districts #1 and #2: Bast/Frasier

Clark is preparing eight sewer enforcement "Second Notice" letters. The staff at the waste water treatment plant is working alternating days to comply with distancing protocols.

Environmental Concerns: Ramant/Patchett

Ramant hopes to resume the Knotweed Project.

As a public hearing had already been scheduled for this date regarding reducing the membership on the Town of Hague PB and ZBA and, as the town attorney John Silvestri confirmed the hearing could still be held in spite of the COVID-19 protocols, the hearing was held. The board unanimously voted to reduce the membership on each board from seven to five, with one alternate each.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The board determined that all 2019 town books are in order.
2. ZEO Clark already submitted her resignation letter, but said that given the COVID-19 situation, she is willing to continue until the PB and ZBA are operational again. She outlined the requirements for her position and indicated she will help find her successor. The board voted to accept her retirement notice as Hague's ZEO. ■

TENANT INFORMATION FOR RENTAL PROPERTIES

According to Town Code 160-59.2, if you rent your home to others, you must complete a Tenant Information for Rental Property and display it next to the main entrance of your home.

This is not a new requirement; the form was first added to the Town of Hague website May 24, 2016.

The cards can be printed from the form under "Application Forms" at <https://townofhague.org/departments/codes-zoning-officer/application-forms/> or homeowners may pick up pre-printed cards at the community center.

Please inform all of your guests that nothing except toilet paper should ever be flushed down the toilet, even if you are in one of the town's sewer districts. ■

TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL

The Tentative Assessment Roll will be available for inspection after May 1, 2020 at the Hague Community Center, Monday - Friday from 9 am to 2 pm, if the building is open (it may be closed due to COVID-19). The roll can also be viewed online at townofhague.org/departments/assessor.

David Martucci, Sole Assessor, plans to be in attendance with the roll on the following dates, by appointment only: Monday, May 4th, Monday, May 11th, and Monday May 18th, from 10 am to 2 pm and Saturday, May 16th, from 4 to 8 pm. Appointments can be held via telephone or in person if the community center is open. Please call 518-543-6161 for an appointment.

The Board of Assessment Review will meet on Tuesday, May 26th from 4 to 8 pm at the Hague Community Center to hear complaints. Complaint forms (RP-524) are available at the community center or online at http://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/orpts/rp524_fill_in.pdf. ■

COMFORT FOR NEW YORK CITY

by Captain Chad Henderson, USN, a longtime summer resident of Hague

Flash back to 1987: I was a relatively young naval officer and was called by the Navy Surgeon General and offered the opportunity to go to San Diego to oversee the conversion of the tanker SS Rose City to a 1000-bed hospital, rename her USNS COMFORT, and bring her to the east coast. This COMFORT was to be the third in a line of Navy hospital ships. Her predecessors were the USS Comfort (AH-6), launched in 1943, and a Civil War vessel.

Her primary mission: to provide trauma care to those who would go in harm's way. Secondary mission: to support disaster relief and humanitarian care at the direction of the National Command Authority. Thus began a three-year tour of duty that would be challenging and totally rewarding for me.

The conversion required the tanker to be stripped of all piping and tanks. The hospital structure was built using a "hands down" technique perfected in Japan (it is much easier to weld hands down than up in the air), and was then lifted, flipped, and lowered into the hull of the ship. The superstructure and upper decks were added and included a helicopter deck, a huge warehouse for medical supplies, an oxygen-producing plant, and a galley and kitchen capable of feeding 2,500. The hospital includes a 50-position trauma receiving area, CT Scan, four radiology rooms, 12 operating rooms located at the geometric center of the ship, 20-bed recovery area, 80 ICU positions, and 900 bunk-type care areas. She was designed and built as a trauma center for a combat theatre of operations.

I was proud to have led less than 45 active duty women and men in moving the concept to completion. The transit from San Diego through the Panama Canal to the home port of Baltimore was a memorable voyage.



Captain Chad Henderson



Several experiences highlighted my three years. The first, in 1988, was meeting the reunion crew from USS Comfort (AH-6), which had seen service in World War II, including an attack by a Japanese Kamikaze and the loss of 29 lives. I spent a couple of days listening to the stories from the Army medical personnel who provided the care and the Navy sailors who operated the vessel. When asked who our ship's mascot was, one medic produced and handed me a well-worn patch of Bugs Bunny saying "Some Comfort, EH Doc." I accepted the patch with gratitude and contacted Warner Brothers who gladly

updated Bugs to the current version and we had our mascot!

Each crew member had an individual training plan; mine included Landing Signal Officer training. I checked in at the LSO School and noticed that all my classmates were very junior officers while I was a senior Commander. The classroom learning was detailed and well done by all. The final afternoon was the live practicum on the tarmac with a huge H-53 helicopter. We assembled as a group and the instructor asked for a volunteer to step forward. His next words were, "Thank you,

Commander," as the remainder of the class had stepped back, leaving me exposed. Quite an uplifting experience!

As COMFORT responded to NYC for the Covid-19 Pandemic, it brought a long history of humanitarian and disaster relief support, including NYC after 911, New Orleans for Katrina, Puerto Rico for Maria, and numerous

humanitarian missions to South and Central America and the Caribbean. She was deployed for both wars in the Persian Gulf.

While she has tremendous capability, she has never had to operate at maximum capacity. To me, she is a national asset and treasure.

I wish she and all those who serve and receive care on her "Fair Winds and Following Seas." ▣

WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by Mike Strutz

Well, by now you are probably stocked up with toilet paper, have bought enough food to last a few weeks, created a list of fix-it projects to do while you weather the coronavirus storm, and are wondering what to do next. (For those of you actually working, thank you.) Glad you decided to catch up on some light reading on water quality.

As you recall, last month I talked about the Town of Lake George Septic Initiative Report and mentioned the use of the Palmer Pollution Index (PPI) as one of the criteria used to focus attention on those areas of the shoreline with organic pollution problems. It is likely intuitively obvious to the most casual observer that if the water looks green or there are great gobs of green goo growing



“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”

in the water, you might have a problem. But, it turns out there is also a scientific method through algae biomonitors of quantifying the severity of the problem.

In 1968, C. Mervin Palmer published an article summarizing his review of 269 reports by 165 authors who used algae biomonitors at locations of sources of human waste such as sewage treatment plants and polluted water bodies.

Of the more than 1,000 algal taxa that were identified as pollution tolerant, the most prevalent ones boiled down to a list of 20 genera that were most important. These were rated on a one to five scale with five being the most important in terms of pollution tolerance. Two algal genera, *Euglena* and *Oscillatoria*, were rated a five.

In the microscopic analysis of a particular sample of water, if 50 individuals could be found in one milliliter (20 drops), then they were considered “present” and a score of five would be recorded. Similarly, all of the other 20 genera present were

identified and the scores added up. A score of 20 or more indicates high organic pollution, 15 - 19 indicates probable evidence of organic pollution, and less than 15 indicates low levels of pollution or other factors, for instance a low pH, that might be inhibiting the growth of algae.

Biomonitoring surveys that were done in 2016 - 2017 in the Town of Lake George showed that 14 percent of the shoreline testing sites had PPI scores that indicated probable organic pollution. These areas became the focus for further study of septic system issues.

Now, you can go work on all those fix-it projects!

For more information on how you can help, please visit the Hague Water Quality Awareness Committee on Facebook or contact one of our Steering Committee members: Al Rider (Chairman), Jim Beaty, Lance Clark, Ginger Kuenzel, Josh Patchett, Steve Ramant, or me. ▣

NATURALLY SPEAKING

by Connie Smith

On Thursday, March 19, 2020, a special moment happened. At 11:49 pm EDT in the Northern Hemisphere, the sun was exactly above the earth's equator and day and night were of equal length. The vernal equinox marks the beginning of spring, which lasts until the summer solstice, which occurs in June.

The word equinox is derived from Latin meaning “equal night.” If you want to be exact, day and night then are not precisely equal in length, but close enough! The vernal equinox is important to the Christian church, which calculates Easter as the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the vernal equinox.

The Old Farmer's Almanac reports that this year's vernal equinox means spring is earlier than it has been in 124 years, since 1896. The reason is



complicated, but basically, the earlier date is caused by the number of days in a year not being even. A year lasts 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds. If the year were only longer by 11 minutes or 365.2500 days, we could simply add one day every fourth year and take care of the fraction forever.

According to folklore, a raw egg can be stood on its end on the equinox. This lore is partly true. You could have balanced an egg on its end on March 19th, but you can balance a raw egg on its end on other days as well. It helps if the egg surface or the other surface is rough and/or bumpy. Try it and see!

Did you know that the full moon in March is called the Full Worm Moon because worms and grubs are reappearing? Did you know that blooming crocuses are cues to plant radishes, parsnips, and spinach?

Take time to make a spring tonic to revive and invigorate the body. Boil tender young dandelion leaves in



water and drink the “pot likker,” which is loaded with water-soluble vitamins to rejuvenate your body and spirit. Use the plant's tender leaves in salads or in soups. Just be sure the dandelions have not been treated with chemicals!

Enjoy the lengthening days and glory in the warm kisses of the sun. As of March 19th, spring officially came to the North Country! ▣

SILVER BAY OFFERS FACILITIES AS A TEMPORARY HOSPITAL

The Silver Bay YMCA has offered its facilities to NYS should a temporary hospital site in the North Country be needed.

According to Chief Executive Officer Steve Tamm, "Silver Bay, with our own fresh water plant and waste water treatment plant, full kitchen and dining space able to feed and accommodate several hundred people, lodging space with ample bedding, plus various large conference spaces that can accommodate a triage or other hospital set-up seemed like the right thing to offer."

Tamm continued, "We want to be a resource if needed and do our part to help in this time of crisis." ■

GOINGS ON AT SILVER BAY

Some of the employees at Silver Bay YMCA have unfortunately and reluctantly been laid off during this COVID-19 pandemic, but many others are still working, preparing for the summer season we all hope will happen.

The YMCA is offering a variety of online exercise classes that you can join for free. Just click [HERE](#).

Read more about Silver Bay's spring activities [HERE](#). ■

Dear Readers,

There were no SOUNDINGS submitted this month, but *The Hague Chronicle* is happy to publish important happenings in the lives of our readers. Please send announcements of births, marriages, graduations, anniversaries of 50/55/60/65+, awards, or deaths to editor@thehaguechronicle.org and we'll publish them as space permits. Thank you.

OUTDOOR RECREATION DURING COVID-19

The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) and the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) encourage New Yorkers to recreate locally, practice social distancing, and use common sense to protect themselves and others.

Getting outdoors to walk, jog, hike, ride a bicycle, or visit a park or state lands is a healthy way to stay active, spend time with your immediate household family members, and reduce stress and anxiety, while practicing physical distancing. While indoor spaces and restrooms at State Parks and DEC's public facilities may be closed, parks, grounds, forests, and trails are open during daylight hours, seven days a week.

While enjoying outdoor spaces, continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/State Department of Health (DOH) guidelines:

- Stay home if you are sick or showing or feeling any COVID-19 symptoms, such as fever, coughing, and/or troubled breathing
- Practice social distancing by keeping at least six feet between yourself and others

- Avoid close contact, such as shaking hands, hugging, or high-fives
- Wash hands often or use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid unnecessary contact with surfaces that are often touched such as doorknobs and handrails

Visitors to State Parks, State Lands, and other parks should:

- Stay local and keep visits short
- Limit your group to household members
- Maintain distance from others in parking lots, trailheads, and scenic overlooks
- Avoid games and activities that require close contact, such as basketball, football, or soccer
- Avoid playground equipment
- Do not share equipment, such as bicycles, helmets, balls, or frisbees
- If you arrive at a park and there are crowds, choose a different park, a different trail, or return another time/day
- Do not park along roadsides or other undesignated areas

If you are sick or have had contact with someone who is sick in the last 14 days:

- Stay home
- Spend time in your personal outdoor space

If you are over 70 or have a compromised immune system:

- Avoid public outdoor spaces
- Spend time in your personal outdoor space
- Ask visitors to take their temperature from a safe social distance
- Require visitors to wear masks, if available

At this writing, all campgrounds, cabins, cottages, and pavilions/shelters are CLOSED to visitation through April 30th. All visitors with reservations will be issued a full refund.

New York State has suspended all new camping, cabin and cottage, and pavilion/shelter reservations for the 2020 season until further notice. They are assessing campground and pavilion status on a daily basis. If you made a reservation for the season beginning May 1 and they determine your facility is safe to open, your reservation will be honored. Visitors who wish to cancel an existing reservation may do so and receive a full refund.

All entrance fees have been waived. All public programming and events have been canceled until further notice.

For more information, here is an additional resource: [New York State Health Department COVID-19](#) ■

LOOKING BACK

HAGUE SCHOOLS, PART II

by Mary Behr



Last month's column covered the beginnings of the school system in Hague, which had eight districts before the consolidation of 1926. This month, we continue with the next two districts.

District No. 3 of the Hague schools was called West Hague. It was formed in 1812 and served the geographical area between West Hague Road and Route 8, including Summit Drive, but these boundaries changed over time. The first record of state aid for education was in 1870, when \$70 was allocated for the district – that's \$1,382 in today's dollars.

Over the years, the school for District No. 3 was located in several places. It was, at one time, in a log house on New Hague Road. Another location was along Tannery Brook (near today's Transfer Station on Summit Drive). Before 1900, at least three school buildings located on the "de Larm turn" (near the turnoff from Summit to Wintergreen Lake) burned. In 1918, it happened again; suspicion pointed to an illiterate neighbor who did not want his children to go to school.



In 1919, a different piece of property was purchased nearby and a white schoolhouse was built by Carl Olmstead. (We're not exactly sure where this property was; if anyone knows, please contact us!) It was a one-room building about 20 feet by 30 feet. It had a belfry, but no bell. Five high windows faced the Graphite Mill. There was an organ and a Victrola, the wind-up kind. Initially the school offered chemical toilets, but they were abandoned after one year for the more conventional type of outhouse.

The Big Marsh, now Wintergreen Lake, was a popular place to skate during the hour-long lunch break. If the weather was bad, sometimes desks were pushed aside for square dancing. Much of the above information comes from reports by Clifton West, former historian.



The District No. 4 school was located in Graphite, the hamlet at the top of Route 8, where the Graphite Mill was. The school was located close to Route 8 and had two rooms, two teachers, and 60 students at one point. We're lucky to have all the people in the 1910 photo below identified. Back row: Victor Smith (teacher), Lillian Denno (Scripter), Liltha Lesperance, Daisy Waters, Ellen Denno (Lamb), Blanch Robbins, and Leonard Scripter. Middle row: Charles Duell, William Bartlett, Alvin Bolton, Agnes Frasier, Sara Bolton, Sophrona Frasier, Ethel Bolton, Mahala Newton, and Pauline Scripter. Front row: Leland Lesperance, George Curtis, Gerald Duell, Sherry Hart, Jean Denno, and Charles Hart.

The following are clips from the *Ticonderoga Sentinel*:

February 15, 1912, *Ticonderoga Sentinel*

Miss Kathryn McKee, teacher in West Hague (accompanied by Lawrence Rodd of West Hague), attended a Grange meeting at Ticonderoga last week.

October 1, 1914, *Ticonderoga Sentinel*

Miss Eloise Galusha, teacher in the New Hague School, accompanied by the teacher of West Hague School, were visitors of Miss Bradley, teacher of the Graphite School, Saturday evening. ▣



CORRECTION: In last month's Looking Back column, the photos were in the incorrect order. The top photo on the page with the white school building is the District No. 1 Hague Village school and the photo below is the first school building in District No. 2.

UPCOMING TACC EVENTS

At this time, all events that were scheduled by the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) have been postponed except for the After Business Mixer/Networking Opportunity at The Hague Market/The Juniper Shoppe on Thursday, May 21st from 5 – 7 pm.

For up-to-date information, visit www.ticonderogany.com or call 518-585-6619. ▣

TACC RESOURCES DURING COVID-19

To keep its members and the Ticonderoga area business community informed, the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) has created a virtual "COVID-19 TACC Business Resource and Assistance Center" at <https://ticonderogany.com/covid-19-resources/>. You can also read about it here: <https://conta.cc/2X8YalA>

It has also launched a "Supporting Local Businesses - TACC Member and Business Update Center" on the TACC website at <https://ticonderogany.com/supporting-local-businesses-covid-19-member-business-updates/>. ▣

LGLC RENEWS LAND TRUST ACCREDITATION

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) has renewed its land trust accreditation by providing extensive documentation and undergoing a comprehensive third-party evaluation.

"Renewing our accreditation shows LGLC's ongoing commitment to permanent land conservation throughout the Lake George watershed," said LGLC Executive Director Jamie Brown.

The LGLC's efforts have resulted in the permanent protection of 11,530 acres of Lake George lands and 6.7 miles of shoreline. In addition, the LGLC owns and/or manages 31 parks and preserves that are open to the public year-round or by special request, with nearly 40 miles of recreational trails. ▣

TICONDEROGA GOLF COURSE AND COUNTRY CLUB

The new clubhouse is coming along! The course fared well over the winter. They'll continue to work on it and will be ready for opening day, whenever that may be.

Governor Cuomo added golf courses to the non-essential list, which will delay opening of the course until at least May 15th. ▣



Photo courtesy of Tom Morhouse

NCCC ON MODIFIED PLAN THROUGH SPRING SEMESTER

North Country Community College (NCCC) suspended classes on all campuses on March 16, 2020. Since then, the college has shuttered all its facilities to students, staff, and the public and non-essential employees have been working remotely.



Out of a continuing commitment to ensure the safety and health of their students, faculty, and staff, and based on the guidance of the Governor's Office, SUNY, and regional public health leaders, NCCC will extend this plan through the Spring semester.

President Joe Keegan announced that the college will transition its in-person end-of-the-year ceremonies (graduation, commencement, nursing pinning ceremonies, and awards ceremonies) to remote ceremonies and find alternative ways to celebrate student achievement. He stressed that this does not affect one's ability to graduate, only the public ceremony celebrating it.

"We are a resilient lot and together we will find our way through this and emerge as a stronger version of ourselves," President Keegan told the students.

For information, visit www.nccc.edu/coronavirus-response. ▣

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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

April 2020

— MAY —

1		MAY DAY	22		The May issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> will be published
7	7 pm	Planning Board			
10		MOTHER'S DAY	24	4 pm	Hague Board of Assessment Review Grievance Day
11		Deadline for the May issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>	25		MEMORIAL DAY Hague Town offices closed
12	10 am	Hague Historical Society Meeting	28	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
	6 pm	Town Board			
21		TACC Networking Event at The Hague Market / The Juniper Shoppe			<i>The above is what is planned at this time. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and shelter-in-place orders, please check with these groups to be certain they will, in fact, be held.</i>

TRANSFER STATION HOURS: September 2 through June 30

Wednesday: CLOSED until further notice | Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm | Sunday: CLOSED
Check <https://townofhague.org/departments/transfer-station> for updates.