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WINTER WEEKEND RECAP

by Katy Wells

The Hague Winter weekend was organized by the volunteers of the HVFD and the Sno-Goers, with most of the events being held at the Fire Department. There was a Friday night karaoke followed by a delicious breakfast on Saturday morning.

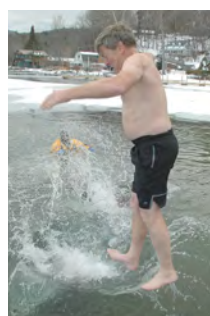
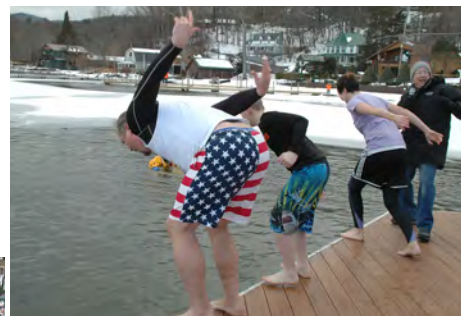
There were 12 delicious entries in the popular Chili Bake-Off. The winners were Tom Haskell - 1st, Michele Holman - 2nd, and Pat Hintze - 3rd.

The Sunday Polar Plunge was at the Trout House Village Resort dock. The two members of the HVFD who braved the frigid water as lifeguards were Jamer Belden and Mike Nyisaolosky.

Facing shock and a brief period of disorientation, about 50 entrants took the plunge and over \$2,000 was raised for the Big Change Round Up, benefitting the Vermont Children's Hospital.

The announcers were Steve Pelkey of WOKO radio, which serves the Burlington-Plattsburgh area, and Dr. Lewis First, chief of Pediatrics at Vermont Children's Hospital at the University of Vermont Medical Center. They shared entertaining witticisms before each group made its jump. ▣

Photos courtesy of Seddon Beaty and Judy Stock.



SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze



On March 23, 2018, at noon, the club will bowl at Adirondack Lanes and our last bowling event of the season will be on April 20th. Our March meeting will be held at 1:30 pm on the 27th and will feature Bingo. Game Night will be on April 4th. On April 12th, we'll head to Glens Falls to visit the Chapman Museum and have lunch. Next month, we'll have a report on our St. Patrick's Day event, including photos. Check out our new Facebook page, "Hague Senior Citizens" created by Maria Waters, where there will be more photos. ❑

CORRECTION

We apologize that Alvin Middleton's name was left off the Memory Tree published in the February issue of *The Hague Chronicle*. ❑

ALISON V. CRAIG REALTY'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY



Alison Craig began her career in real estate by running the Martin Agency's Real Estate office in Hague from June of 1983 until she

opened her own firm in June of 1987. Kim Seerup, Kathy Allen, her husband, Bruce, and her son, Dean, were long-time agents with her firm.

Dean is now an active associate broker and Bruce is the webmaster of the alisonvcraigrealty.com website. The office is open seven days a week, 359 days a year.

In addition to selling real estate, Alison has served on the board of the Lake George Association, the Hague Planning Board, and *The Hague Chronicle*. Congratulations, Alison! ❑

HVFD

by Meg Haskell



For the month of February, there were 14 fire calls and drills, with 125 volunteer hours and seven EMS calls with 30.5 volunteer hours.

We had a busy Winter Weekend with a great turnout for the Chili Bake-Off and the breakfast. Thank you to all who attended the events!

The Fire Department also supplied scene support for the Polar Plunge. I personally want to thank all the volunteers for their assistance. Katy Wells took the plunge, representing the Fire Department. Ti Fire had several participants and raised over \$500. Total monies raised were over \$2,000!

Did you remember to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors when Daylight Savings Time began? ❑

FISHING TOURNAMENT

by Steve Ramant and Bobbie Jean Fish

With another "No winter winter," the Hague Fish & Game Club's "Northern Lake George Ice Fishing Tournament" was renamed simply "Fishing Tournament." That was a good move for sure, as the conditions the weekend of February 24th and 25th, 2018 were anything but perfect for "iced over" waters. In spite of the weather not cooperating the way they wanted, the club again drew a fine group of registrants.

The **JUNIOR DIVISION** had nine entrants. Each one received a bucket of ice fishing items, gift cards, jig poles, tip ups, and more.

Lake Trout: 1st - Nevaeh Trudeau (Hague) 5.85 lbs.; 2nd - Leigh Barnaby (Thurman) 4.96 lbs.; and 3rd - Richard Austin (Lake George) 4.94 lbs.

Perch: 1st - Leigh Barnaby (Thurman) .68 lbs.; 2nd - Maggie Price (Ticonderoga) .54 lbs.; and 3rd - Neveah Trudeau (Hague) .35 lbs.

There were no junior salmon or pike entries.



The **ADULT DIVISION** had 61 entrants. The winners each received cash.

Lake Trout: 1st - Nathan Monroe (Brant Lake) 12.84 lbs. - \$205; 2nd - Garrett Monroe (Brant Lake), 10.70 lbs. - \$86; and 3rd - Scott Austin (Lake George) 10.27 lbs. - \$52

Perch: 1st - Pat Collins (Fort Ann) 1.01 lbs. - \$205; 2nd - Brett Holmes (Hudson)



Photos courtesy of Steve Ramant and Lara Smith.

.87 lbs. - \$86; and 3rd - Randy Rivette (Lake George) .86 lbs. - \$52

Salmon: 1st - Eugene Barnaby (Pennsylvania) 6.46 lbs. - \$205; 2nd - Zachary Debroski 4.09 lbs. - \$86; and 3rd - Harry Crannell (Queensbury) 2.95 lbs. - \$52

Northern Pike: 1st - Joel Clark (Lake George) 14.13 lbs. - \$205; 2nd - Randy Dooris (Brant Lake) 13.56 lbs. - \$86; and 3rd - Alvin Frasier (Hague) 6.96 lbs. - \$52

The Hague Fish & Game Club and The Town of Hague would like to thank all who registered and everyone who helped make this event again one of the PREMIER Tournaments in the North Country. See you all next year! ❑

RYPKEMA GIVES IMPACT STATEMENT

Jim Rypkema gave his victim's impact statement in Warren County Court on Friday, March 2, 2018. "If it hadn't been for luck or divine intervention, you would be sentencing this man for murder," he told Warren County Judge John Hall.



Photo courtesy of The Post Star.

Jim became emotional as he described the terror and pain he went through after he was left bleeding on the floor of The Hague Market, wondering if he would survive. "I thought I was going to die," he said.

He explained the damage that five shots from a .22-caliber handgun did: breaking a rib, puncturing a lung, and shattering a vertebra and two shots that passed through an arm, causing permanent nerve damage. At least three of the bullets remain lodged inside his body. He said doctors dubbed him "Mr. Lucky" for surviving.

Hall sentenced Vittorio Campano to 30 years in state prison and five years on parole per a plea agreement. His girlfriend, Christine Tomko, served as the lookout during the holdup. She also pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 20 years. They will also have to pay an estimated \$14,200 in restitution. ▣

HBYC PROPOSAL TABLED *by Al Rider*

In 2016, the Harris Bay Yacht Club (HBYC) made an application to the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) for a variance to expand their docks. The application was discussed at length by the applicant and the public during a commission meeting on May 23, 2017. Due to having a short board (less than their quorum of six members) and, at the request of the applicant, the commission agreed to continue review of the subject's application at a later date. Subsequently, the



HBYC requested the application be reviewed at the LGPC meeting at the Ft. William Henry Hotel and Conference Center on February 27, 2018. The application was again discussed and the application was formally tabled.

About 50 people attended the meeting. The commission received several letters and petitions prior to the meeting from residents around the lake, including from Hague, in opposition to the application. Chris Navitsky, Lake George Waterkeeper, stressed five points in his letter, which were echoed by several others:

1. Larger boats will create increased shoreline erosion and turbidity.
2. Larger boats will increase the potential spread of Eurasian watermilfoil.
3. Information should be submitted on the wastewater treatment system for the facility.
4. Any marina permit should include improvements for water quality including stormwater management to protect the lake from pollutant input.

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FREE TAX HELP

REMINDER: The AARP Tax Aide team continues to prepare 2017 Income Tax Returns on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Hague Community Center. There is no age or income limit. Call Bertha Dunsmore at the Hague Community Center at 518-543-6161 to make an appointment. ▣

LIFEGUARDS NEEDED

The Town of Hague is seeking lifeguards for the Hague Town Beach Park this summer. Interested parties should contact the Hague Town Office at 518-543-6161 to request that an application be mailed to them. The pay for each lifeguard will be based on experience and years of service.

Terrie Davis will hold classes for prospective lifeguards on June 2, 2018. Others who would like to take this course to re-certify are welcome, but the course is limited to the first ten applicants.

In addition, a CPR class will be held at the Hague Volunteer Fire Department on June 7th at 5:30 pm.

The cost for the CPR class only is \$80. The cost for the lifeguard class (which includes lifeguard, first aid, and CPR) is \$250. Attendees of the lifeguard class will receive a fanny pack with mask, gloves, and a whistle. Those who take the class and are then hired by the Town of Hague will be reimbursed for the fees at the end of the summer.

Please contact Terrie at 518-543-6176 for more information. ▣

RESERVE A BOOTH NOW

On Saturday, June 23, 2018, Hague will host the Hague Endurance Festival. Businesses can reserve space for a booth at the lakefront of the Hague Town Beach Park to highlight what they offer. Ten dollars NOW reserves a 12' x 12' space; businesses must provide tables, chairs, and tents, if desired. There are many options such as a trade show booth, kids' games (like a duck pond, face painting, or arts and crafts), or demonstrations. Creativity is encouraged. The goal is to make the event a family fun festival atmosphere.

Contact Tonia at 716-353-1288 or tonia@coachmarkwilson.com. ▣

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 2/22/2018

Deputy Chairman Jon Hanna and Board Members Ray Snyder, Chris Navitsky, Maureen Cherubini, Linda Mury, and Lindsay Mydlarz were present. Robert Goetsch was absent.

MURY (25.4-1-31) 11 Sunset Hill Road (OCI)

Linda Mury recused herself and the board approved the application for a variance for a Lot Line Change with the condition that a new survey is provided at the time of the Planning Board meeting.

RYTHER (60.5-1-14) 31 Pine Cove Road (TRI)

The applicant is applying for an after-the-fact variance for a 92 sq. ft. staircase, with railing, which is attached to an existing dock, which is needed by the applicants so they are able to access the beach. A site visit date was set. ❑

PLANNING BOARD OF APPEALS - 3/1/2018

Chairman Dick Frasier and Board Members Dan Belden, Martin Fitzgerald, Sr., Bob Whitaker, Pam Peterson, and Meg Haskell were present. Judy Gourley was absent.

HASKELL-LAUNDREE-WELLS (26.17-2-42.13) 9110 Lakeshore Drive (Hamlet)

The applicants wish to subdivide a 15,421 sq. ft. lot into two parcels. If approved, Lot One, which is improved by a single family dwelling, will consist of 10,088 sq. ft. and Lot Two will remain vacant land, with an accessory structure on it, and will consist of 5,333 sq. ft. of land. The ZBA approved a variance in January with the condition that no principal dwelling may be built on proposed Lot Two.

Meg Haskell recused herself for the discussion. The board deemed the application complete and a public hearing will be held at the April 5th meeting.

SANTANIELLO (59.20-1-25 & 26) 8417 Lakeshore Drive (OCIR)

The board approved the application for a Lot Line Change for two abutting parcels in their ownership.

UMBRELLA HOUSE/LEDGETOP, LLC (76.8-1-6.1 & 7.1) 8382 Lakeshore Drive (Hamlet Secondary)

The board approved the application for a Lot Line Change between two lots in the same ownership.

SANDMAN (43.5-2-37 & 37) 9 & 11 Streeter Hill (Hamlet/OCI)

The board approved the application for a Lot Line Change of .25 acre on each of two parcels.

WINTERGREEN LAKE, INC. (25-1-3) 213 Summit Drive (OCI & OCII)

The applicants are applying for commercial use of their property. The proposed use would include weddings, special events, retreats, and celebrations. The board is waiting to be able to get onto the property for a site visit.

MOUNTAIN MOTOR RESTORATION (25.4-1-15.2) 9663 Graphite Mountain Road (OCI)

The board approved a recommendation for a modification of a LGPC Marina Permit for boat storage and repairs. They have been approved to store 90 boats on this site and now would like to add another 50 boats for a total of 140 boats. ❑

TOWN BOARD - 3/13/2018

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Michael Cherubini, Joshua Patchett, and Steve Ramant were present. Martin Fitzgerald, II was absent.

A moment of silence was held for Peter Spencer, Fred Klingler, Robin Wells, Bob Diaz, and Carol Feibusch.

The board approved a six-month extension of the solar moratorium after a public hearing.

The board approved the proposed revisions of Chapter 4 of the Comprehensive Plan after a public hearing.

Under public comments, former Councilwoman Ginger Kuenzel suggested that the board consider having a town committee on the highway banners.

The supervisor reported that letters were sent out to property owners who had not yet connected to the sewer. Some responses have been received from people for whom this will be a financial hardship. Options will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

The board approved a resolution to oppose a change that Governor Cuomo wants to make in the way NYS-owned land is taxed.

The board extended a contract with the Armstrong Company for sand and gravel.

The board continues discussions with the LA group about the proposed new docks. The group has plans to present the information, which may include using articulated docks, to the public in April.

In response to a question from former Councilwoman Ginger Kuenzel on setting goals, Supervisor Frasier mentioned doing more research on solar energy. Councilman Cherubini said he thinks our town would be a good center for area safety training. Councilman Ramant said he is getting quotes for bandstands at the park. ❑

ONGOING EVENTS

1st Monday:	Fire Department, 7 pm
2nd Monday:	Seniors to Glens Falls, 8:30 am
Every Tuesday:	Champlain Chorale, 7 pm
3rd Tuesday:	Ti School Board, 7 pm
3rd Tuesday:	Fish & Game Club, 7 pm
1st and 3rd Wednesday:	TiCoustics, 7 pm
4th Wednesday:	Extra Helpings Distribution, noon
3rd Thursday:	Carillion Garden Club, 10 am
Every Tuesday:	Rotary Club, 7:30 am
Every Thursday:	Kiwanis, 12 pm
1st Friday:	Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7:30 am

SOUNDINGS

DIED: Sherry A. Gibbs, 79, of Hague and formerly of Cornwall, VT on February 6, 2018.

Sherry was born September 22, 1938 in Los Angeles, CA. She and her husband lived in Middlebury and Cornwall, VT before moving to Hague.

She was very talented in crocheting and knitting and she loved watching wildlife in Hague, especially deer, ducks, and birds. She was also an avid fisherman.

Sherry was predeceased by her son, Scott Walter Gibbs and her daughter, Terry Arlene Gibbs. She was also predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Walter Gibbs, who died in November 2017.

Survivors include her daughter, Vicki (Alvin) Frasier, of Hague and her son, Troy Gibbs, of Rutland, VT; her granddaughter, Jennifer (Nate) King of Willsboro, NY; two great-grandchildren, Raegan King and Dalton King; her brother, Vernon Bowen of CA; her sister-in-law, Nancy Wanke, and her family of CT; and her sister-in-law, Betsy (Bruce) Bicknell, and their family of FL.

DIED: Richard A. Mariani, 84, of Suffern, NY and Silver Bay on February 22, 2018, surrounded by his family.

Richard was a graduate of Ohio University School of Journalism. After college, he entered the US Army and became the editor of the Army newspaper, where he received many awards for outstanding journalism. He then pursued his career as a writer in advertising and public relations.

He was an avid golfer and skier, but his great love was being at Lake George. He spent summers on the lake for the past 37 years, volunteering at the Silver Bay YMCA for over 25 years.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Carole Blake; his daughter, Carolyn (John) D'Antonio and his son, Robert; and the three joys of his life, his granddaughters Julia, Ava Marie, and Ella Rose.

DIED: Peter D. Spencer, 88, of Cleveland, OH and Hague on February 23, 2018 of congestive heart failure, surrounded by his loving family. He was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather.

Pete married Heidi almost 67 years ago after graduating from Cornell. At age

70, he went back to school and earned a master's degree in engineering and math, just for the fun of it.

His kindness, intellect, sense of humor, creativity, and patience were inspirations to everyone. He was known for his great love of conversation, preferably over coffee. He was a ferocious learner and a loyal friend.

Pete lost his vision years ago, but that didn't slow him down. If anything, his blindness made him more social. He could talk and listen to anybody. He was known for his long walks along 9N, happily listening to books on tape, seemingly oblivious to the vehicles whizzing by at 60 mph.

There will be a celebration of his life in July in Hague. ▣

The Hague Chronicle is happy to publish the important happenings in the lives of our readers. Please send announcements of births, marriages, graduations, awards, or deaths to editor@thehaguechronicle.org. Thank you.

HBYC PROPOSAL TABLED

continued from p. 3

5. There are feasible alternatives to the variance and this variance would result in environmental impacts.

Several members of the public addressed the commission with their concerns:

Jim Beaty of Hague stated he had been in the boat business since 1959. He said that back then, an 18-foot boat was all you needed. He pointed out that boats have grown and problems have grown. He objected to the proposal, emphasizing their need for larger slips is "self-imposed, to a large degree."

John Caffrey agreed that this was a "self-created hardship." He pointed out that this is not a unique situation on the lake; therefore it doesn't qualify for a variance. He suggested that HBYC should replace their docks in kind. "If it costs more, that's life.

Everything costs more these days," he concluded.

Bill Wetherbee pointed out that the HBYC board has allowed very large boats to "overhang" their slips by as much as five feet in the past.

Bev Potter, of Assembly Point, emphasized that the size of the boats is of grave concern to her. She said, "We pay a lot of taxes and it's very disturbing to think that our property will be further eroded in this project."

Commodore Cindy Quade of the HBYC argued in favor of the application, repeatedly stating that this application was not about having larger vessels docked there. She also answered questions posed by the commissioners.

During the meeting, Jim Kneeshaw pointed out that the commission's mission that day was to act on the application and that it seemed that they were drifting into playing the role of an engineering firm. Commission

Vice-Chair Kenneth Parker, who was conducting the meeting in Chairman Bruce Young's absence, agreed and that part of the discussion ended.

Parker also stated that he believed that this proposal would establish a precedent as to what would be allowable for other marina projects in the future and that therefore, the commission needed to proceed with caution.

At the applicant's request, the commission formally tabled the proposal to allow the applicant an opportunity to redesign the proposal to reduce or eliminate the requested variances. So, what's next? The HBYC will be required to design a new plan to rebuild their dock system "in kind." (That means with no expansion and with slips the same sizes as before).

An edited video version of the meeting can be found on the Hague Water Quality Awareness Facebook page. ▣

NATURALLY SPEAKING

by *Connie Smith*



Sing with me, "When the red red robin comes bob bob bobbin' along..." Yes, American Robins are usually the early springtime birds that "get the worm." They are a common sight on lawns tugging earthworms from the ground.

Robins are well-known for their warm red-orange breast and cheery song. They are city birds, mountain forest birds, and Alaskan wilderness birds, so they cover a large part of North and South America.

One American Robin can produce three successful broods in one year. On average, though, only 40 percent of those survive to November. Only about half of the robins alive in any given year will make it to the next year.

Many American Robins spend the

whole winter in their breeding range, but because they spend more time roosting in trees than on the ground, you aren't likely to see them. The number of robins present in the northern parts of the range varies each year with the local conditions. The birds eat a lot of fruit, such as crab apples, hawthorns, and holly in fall and winter. When they eat honeysuckle berries, they sometimes become intoxicated!

Robins use many senses to find their prey, but vision is the predominant mode of prey detection. Robins are frequently seen running across lawns, picking up earthworms. Their running and stopping behavior is a distinguishing characteristic. Robins also have the ability to hunt by hearing. They can find worms underground by cocking their heads left, right, or forward to detect the movement of their prey. Robins may visit bird feeders if mealworms or animal-fat suet is offered.



The American Robin has a place in Native American mythology, which says that the robin got its red-orange breast by fanning the dying flames of a campfire to save a man and boy.

The robin is more than a symbol of spring. There is an old Quebec superstition that whoever sees the first robin of spring will have good luck. So, be on the lookout! ▣

WATER QUALITY MATTERS

By *Mike Strutz*



In the last few issues, we have been talking about various changes that the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) is proposing to the stormwater regulations. These changes are in five key areas: timber harvesting, stormwater retrofits and device setbacks, fertilizers, and stream corridors. The last area for us to discuss is stream corridors, meaning main streams, tributaries, and the land adjacent on both sides. You might think of this as the whole drainage basin, but, as a practical matter, we will be focusing on a narrow corridor of land, which includes 35' from the high water mark on both sides of a main stream or tributary and is referred to as the "riparian zone."

The LGPC is proposing that the Adirondack Park Agency (APA)

“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”

shoreline cutting standards be applied within the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) stream corridors and that there should be no new impervious structures within these corridors. These are streams where the DEC has defined water quality classification standards. In the Town of Hague, that includes all of the continuously flowing streams such as Hague Brook, Jenkins Brook, Jabe Pond Brook, etc. All of those brooks are classified AA-S, which is the highest water quality classification.

APA's cutting standards state that no more than 30% of the trees greater than 6" in diameter at breast height (4.5' feet above the ground) may be removed in any 10-year period and that no more than 30% of any vegetation may be removed within 6' of the high water mark. This is a well-known and well-understood standard and is based on the scientific evidence that these stream side buffer zones are an efficient natural way to remove suspended solids and nutrients from stormwater runoff. These cutting standards have already been applied to stream corridors in

the towns of Queensbury and Bolton. The LGPC proposal would extend this regulation to the entire Lake George Basin.

It is the goal of the LGPC to implement this change to the stormwater regulations by year's end. Watch for further information on times and places for public meetings and hearings on this topic. Comments on the proposed modifications can be made to LGPC Executive Director Dave Wick at dave@lgpc.state.ny.us.

Spring will arrive this month. On some warm day, you may be sitting on a bench in downtown Hague or enjoying peaceful moments beside one of our cold, clear, babbling brooks. You'll probably be saying to yourself, "What wonderful Class AA-S water quality we have!" and you will be hoping that everyone is helping to protect our riparian zones. Have a great spring!

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, Steve Ramant, or me. ▣

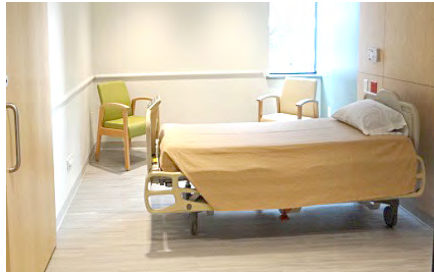
IMPROVED HOSPITAL EMERGENCY FACILITY *by Judy Stock*

An updated and larger emergency facility is now in use in our area. This modern and efficient space is a model for other emergency departments in other areas of the state.

An open house was held on March 1, 2018 at Moses Ludington Hospital in Ticonderoga for the public to view the facility's renovations.

Among the changes are a new registration area, a larger triage area, four large exam rooms, four observation rooms for patients needing more time for evaluation, improved patient and family waiting areas, and replacement of building infrastructure such as electrical, plumbing, and ventilation systems.

Among those speaking at the celebration were John Remillard, president of Elizabethtown Community Hospital/Moses Ludington, who has presided over the reconstruction, Hague resident and Chairman of the Board of Inter-Lakes Health Rolly Allen, and NYS Assemblyman Dan Stec. President and Chief Executive Officer of the University of Vermont Health Network Dr. John Brumsted congratulated the team on the completion of this phase of the project. Plans are underway for Moses Ludington to become part of the UVM Health Network. ▣



NYS Assemblyman Dan Stec and Rolly Allen



Dr. John Brumsted

CONFERENCE PLANNED

The global climate is changing, bringing socio-economic challenges for our Adirondack region. Our response, be it proactive or reactive, will determine the future of the Adirondack Park. North Country Climate Reality (NCCR) (www.northcountryclimate.org) is holding the first Climate Realities/Economic Opportunities (CREO) Conference on October 27, 2018 at the Silver Bay YMCA, co-sponsored by SUNY Plattsburgh at Queensbury.

The purpose of the conference is to proactively develop community awareness and plans for:

1. Disaster Preparedness: How communities will provide shelter, food, electricity, and communication in the event of a natural disaster.
2. Economic Contingency: How we can foster tourism during increasing periods of elevated temperatures and adverse weather.
3. Population boom: How communities can prepare for the predicted mass migration to the Adirondack region due to megastorms, flooding, or wildfires.

For now, mark your calendars for this conference that will bring those of us living in the North Country together to help our community become more resilient and sustainable. The cost is \$80 for adults and \$65 for students. The cost for vendors is \$500. For further information, contact Stephen Danna, Dean, SUNY Plattsburgh at Queensbury 518-792-5425 or Linda Kasal Fusco, CREO Chair 914-380-2130. ▣

STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

by Kathy Santaniello

The following Ticonderoga High School graduates from Hague received Beste Scholarship awards at the ceremony held during the Hague Winter Weekend at the Firemen's Breakfast on February 17, 2018.

First-year students receiving awards included:

Kaylee Coon, daughter of Alicia and Eric Coon. She attends Adirondack Community College and is majoring in nursing.

Nicolas Fitzgerald, son of Martin and Heidi Fitzgerald. He is attending the University of New Hampshire and is majoring in history and political science.

Connor Lawrie, son of Lara Smith. He attends Rochester Institute of Technology and is majoring in mechanical engineering.

Kristen Palandrani, daughter of Robert and Pam Palandrani. She is attending Florida Gulf Coast University and is majoring in nursing.

This is the first year that second-year college students have received Beste awards. These students were:

Cassandra Martucci, daughter of David and Bonnie Martucci. She attends Adirondack Community College and is majoring in English education.

Cassidy McKee, daughter of Glenn and Lori McKee. She attends Adirondack Community College and is majoring in marketing and business administration.

The Hague Chronicle joins the whole Hague community in congratulating our local scholars!

The Beste Steering Committee sincerely thanks all those who have donated to the fund. Additional donations to the Beste Scholarship Fund may be sent to the Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836 with checks payable to "Beste Scholarship Fund." ▣

TO OUR READERS: Please check the date on the label on the back of this issue of *The Hague Chronicle*. If it is in red, we have not heard from you in over a year! After a grace period, your name will be removed from our mailing list, as we'll assume you are no longer interested in receiving the issues by mail. ▣

LOOKING BACK: ELEPHANT ROCK

by Judy Stock

As I rounded the tight curve by Elephant Rock, I wondered again about its story. Most local folks and many of our visitors know of this ice-age rock on Route 8, which has the unique shape of an elephant. In looking back through the archives of *The Hague Chronicle*, the first mention of it was in November 1977, on page one. This duet of poems was printed there.



OWED TO A CITIZEN

An elephant in ivory?
I've seen a lot of those!
I'd never seen an elephant
In granite, in repose.
But I have seen an elephant
Upon a traveled highway
Who almost was avoided
To linger on a byway.
And when the blasting highway folk
Just put him up for grabs,
They never thought they'd reckon with
A guy named Edward Crabbs.
So when you drive thru Graphite
And see his doughty face,
Remember that it's one of ours
Who kept him in his place.

— Harry de Buys - 8/4/77

IN RESPONSE

There is a guy who hails from the South
Who has quite a way with words, oh my!
But this time he put his foot in his mouth
When he told of the feat of another guy.
Now his doggerel I really like
But I feel that it should be known
That the Elephant Rock on Route Eight
Was not saved by my effort alone
For when told of the words of the road crew
Keith DeLarm also got on the phone.
But some good has come of all this
For in cleaning up brush & debris
Instead of an elephantine head poking out
The whole gigantic form we now see
So in good conscience I really must say
The Elephant Rock was saved by Keith as well as me
Now a poet I'm not – okay?
But thank you anyway, Harry de Buys!

— Edward Crabbs - 9/5/77

In an addendum, DeLarm said, "No. It was Ed all right. It was a close call, too. Drilling, to place the dynamite, was scheduled to start in about two hours when we finally got the stop-work order from the contractor in Albany..."

Ed said, "At one point, we thought they might change the route to cross some private land and leave Elephant Rock on a side road..."

So: Slow the car where the rock stands firm.
Thank Ed Crabbs as you make the turn,
We can all see the pachyderm.

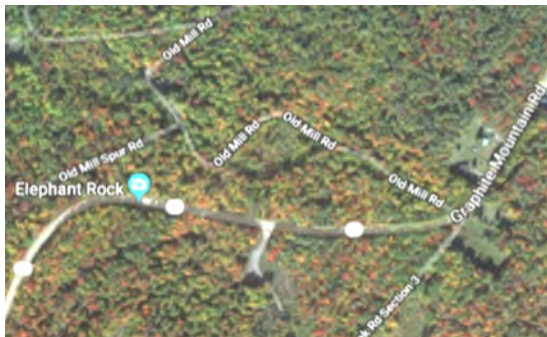
The author of the initial ode was Harry de Buys, longtime seasonal resident from Birmingham, Alabama and unofficial "poet laureate" of Hague, whose poems were featured several times over the years in *The Hague Chronicle*. His good friend and "Rock Saver" was Edward Hamilton Crabbs whose family members were also longtime seasonal residents. He and his wife Bertha retired to Hague after their teaching careers. Ed and Bert

were both involved in town activities and Ed was the chairman of the Hague Planning Board. Keith DeLarm was the town supervisor from 1958 through 1977.

In a subsequent issue of *The Hague Chronicle* (February 2002, on page eight), Editor Dottie Henry recalled the history and wondered who was responsible for painting the face on the rock. Although no one came forth with any specific evidence, we had heard enough rumors to continue to investigate. As it turned out, Graphite resident Art Belden had been familiar with Elephant Rock his entire life. When Route 8 was being widened and the state work crews were in



Elephant photo courtesey of Christine Ianson.



the Graphite area, Art learned of the plan to blast through the rock. He mentioned it to his wife Joan, who worked for Ed and Bert, and thus Ed was alerted. With help from Supervisor DeLarm he was able to forestall the blasting until the official word from Albany gave the final reprieve.

Although we still do not know who the very first person was to paint the face of the elephant, we do know that Mike Coffin, owner of the Beachside and Cave, painted it in the 1970's. He also had a hat and ears for the mammal, which Kim and Matt Coffin found when they moved into the family homestead. Alas, being in rough shape and not knowing what they were for, they did not keep them. A few years ago, Art Belden noticed that the elephant's face was in need of repainting and hired Bernard Smith to do the job. We have heard other rumors of people who have scaled the rock to affix a hat or flag, so clearly there are many folks who are attached to our special landmark, which even is noted on Google maps!

Kim Coffin suggests, "Beep at the elephant when traveling out of town to bring safe travels and beep at the elephant returning home to thank him." ▣

REGISTER TO VOTE

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo has announced ways for New Yorkers to register to vote. Here they are:

1. Online through the NY DMV
2. Download a voter registration form to mail in
3. Call 1-800-FOR-VOTE to request that a voter registration form be mailed to you
4. Click here: <http://www.ny.gov/services/register-vote> ▣

TACC SEEKING SPONSORS

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC), of which *The Hague Chronicle* is a member, will hold its 16th Annual Fundraiser Dinner and Auction on Friday, June 15, 2018 at The Barn at Lord Howe Valley.

TACC is now seeking monetary contributions, auction items, or a combination of the two. The following sponsorship levels are available: Chamber Champion - \$1,000, Diamond - \$750, Platinum - \$500, Gold - \$250, Silver - \$125, and Bronze - under \$125. All donations must be received by Monday, June 4, 2018. Donations can be mailed or dropped off to the TACC office during normal business hours. Call 518-585-6619 or go to chamberinfo@ticonderoga.ny.com. ▣

UPCOMING EVENTS IN TI

April 7, 2018 - The King's Garden Seventh Annual Garden and Landscape Symposium, Mars Education Center.

April 14, 2018, 6 – 9 pm - Fundraiser at Madden's Pub to benefit the Best 4th in the North Celebration. ▣

FARMERS' MARKET

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) organizers are planning for the 2018 Farmers' Market. Sponsors, farmers, vendors, businesses, local artists, and organizations interested in participating should contact the TACC office at 518-585-6619 or via email adminassistant@ticonderogany.com. ▣



June Curtis, Ticonderoga Area Farmers' Market Advisor and Katelyn Chevier, TACC Administrative Assistant and 2018 Farmers' Market Manager.

WEBSITE UPDATED

Thanks to the efforts of Chris Quinn, our layout editor, *The Hague Chronicle* website has been updated and redesigned. View our monthly issues in color and find out about our staff, our history, our town, FAQs, and lots more on any of your electronic devices anytime, anywhere! ▣

HIKE-A-THON REGISTRATION

Go to lakegeorgehikeathon.org for more information and to register for this year's Hike-a-Thon, which will be on July 5th. It's filling up fast! ▣

REGISTER NOW FOR 2018 TICONDEROGA STREETFEST

The 10th Annual StreetFest will be held on Saturday, July 28, 2018 from 10 am to 3 pm. The committee is now registering merchants and vendors. Applications have been mailed or emailed to 2017 participants. Each vendor must fill out a Merchant/Vendor Form, which is available at www.timainstreet.org or 518-585-6619. Return completed applications to the TACC Office, 94 Montcalm Street. ▣

HAPPENINGS AT THE FORT

March 24, 2018 - Living History Series - "Ordered to Join the Northern Army in Canada." How veteran New York soldiers and raw recruits assembled at Ticonderoga in the spring of 1776.

April 14-15, 2018 - Winter Workshop Series - "Hunting Shirts." The origins and construction of this military garment worn during the War for Independence.

April 15, 2018 - Fort Fever Series - "Somewhere in France - Stephen Pell's Great War." Curator Matthew Keagle will explore the service of Fort Ti's co-founder Pell during World War I. ▣

BEST 4TH MAKING PLANS

The Best 4th in the North Committee is now accepting parade applications/registrations and nominations for the Grand Marshal of the 2018 Best 4th in the North Parade in Ticonderoga. The theme will be "Superheroes and Villains." The committee would like floats from attractions, businesses, sports teams, clubs, organizations, etc. Theme colors are red, white, and blue. Parade participants should register as early as possible.

Grand Marshal Nominations can be submitted on the Best 4th in the North Facebook page or by emailing tmstp@timainstreet.org. The deadline is April 9, 2018. Parade applications are at www.timainstreet.org, or can be gotten from the TMSP Coordinator at the TACC office. ▣

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is mailed out monthly by volunteers. The news deadline and the date of publication for the next month are listed on the calendar at the end of each issue. Please send all news items to Editor, Bobbi Bryant Taylor, at: editor@thehaguechronicle.org. Please send address corrections or account questions to the Publisher, Judy Stock, at publisher@thehaguechronicle.org.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers; you may send your yearly check as a tax deductible contribution (due date on label), made out to *The Hague Chronicle*, at: **THE HAGUE CHRONICLE, PO Box 748, Hague, NY 12836-0748**

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THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

March 2018

MARCH

- 22 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 24 Living History Series at Fort Ti
- 27 1:30 pm Senior Club Meeting

APRIL

- 5 7 pm Planning Board
- 7 Landscape and Gardening Symposium at the Kings Garden
- 9 News Deadline for the April Issue
- 10 6 pm Town Board
- 12 Seniors Club to Chapman Museum in Glens Falls
- 14-15 Winter Workshop Series at Fort Ti
- 14 6-9 pm Fundraiser at Madden's Pub for Best 4th
- 15 Fort Fever Series at Fort Ti

TRANSFER STATION HOURS:

September 2 through June 30

Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday: CLOSED