



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

VOLUME 20 NO. 5

HAGUE, NY 12836

MAY 1991

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL

(Pursuant to Section 506 & 526 of the Real Property Tax Law)

HEARING OF COMPLAINTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Assessor of the Town of Hague, County of Warren has completed the tentative assessment roll for the current year and that a copy has been left with the Town Clerk at the Town of Hague Community Center, where it may be seen examined by any interested person until the third Tuesday in May.

The Assessor will be in attendance with the tentative assessment roll on Monday May 6th between the hours of 1:00 P.m. and 8:00 p.m., and on Thursday May 9th between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., and on Tuesday May 14th between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

The Board of Assessment Review will meet on Tuesday May 21st between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Town of Hague Community Center located on Route 8, in said Town, to hear and examine all complaints in relation to assessments, on the application of any person believing himself to be aggrieved.

A publication containing procedures for contesting an assessment is available at the assessor's office.

Dated this First day of May, 1991.

/s/ Harold A. LaRose
Sole Assessor

NOTICE

As of April 22, 1991, a fee is required for all solid waste deposited at the Hague Landfill. Fees are payable at the Community Center Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Household garbage must be contained in a Compactor Bag obtained from the Town before being placed in the compactor at the Landfill. Bags are available in 33 gallon size for \$2.00 and 15 gallon size for \$1.00. All other refuse must have a Disposal Ticket. This ticket will serve as verification of payment to the Landfill Attendant as well as a receipt. Disposal Tickets are available at the Community Center.

It is now unlawful not to recycle in the Town of Hague. Recyclable items must be properly prepared and deposited in the appropriate container at the Landfill. Recyclables will be accepted free of charge. The list of recyclable items will expand periodically. Please check with the Landfill Attendant or the Town offices for information regarding recyclables.

For further information, please contact John

Breitenbach, Jr. at the Community Center, 543-6161.

FI: Household garbage (kitchen waste etc.): Must be in town bags. Remove all recyclables.

Glass containers; (clear only, at this time) Must be clean, dry; remove caps & lids, plastic labels & wraps, metal & plastic neck rings, foil neck wraps. Paper labels OK. Sort by color. Leave intact. NO light bulbs, fluorescent tubes, wire mesh glass, plastic laminate glass "tram" glass (window pane, mirrors, etc.)

Steel Cans: "tin" cans (food and beverage cans that will stick to a magnet). Must be clean, dry. Remove labels, ends & flatten if possible. NO aerosol cans, paint cans, pesticide cans, propane cylinders, aluminum cans, screw caps or lids, scrap metal

Newspaper: (Black and white newsprint). Must be clean, dry; remove inserts, color sections, color comics. Must be loose or in brown paper bags. (Color headlines and pictures in black and white sections o.k.) No tied bundles.

Plastic Containers: #2 HDPE Milky white; Must be clean, dry. Labels OK. Remove caps & lids. May be flattened. Remove any metal neck rings and handles. No tied bundles, bags, tags, utensils, other plastic besides #2 HDP

Office Paper: White ledger & computer paper. Must be clean, dry. Sort by type. No staples, carbon paper, NCR (carbonless), envelopes, thermal copy or fax paper, wadded or crumpled paper, paper clips, metal or plastic fasteners. This may be left at the Hague Community Center.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

The Hague Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. will be holding a SPAGHETTI DINNER on Thursday, May 25, 1991 at the Hague Community Center. Dinner will consist of spaghetti, green salad, bread, dessert, and beverage and will be served from 5PM to 7PM. Take outs will be available; bring your own containers

ADULTS - \$5.00

CHILDREN to age 12 - \$3.50

CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5 - FREE

Profits from the dinner will benefit our Ambulance Equipment Fund.

COMING UP: BASS TOURNAMENT - June 15 and 16. FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE ITS ANNUAL STEAK ROAST ON SATURDAY NIGHT, THE 16TH. As of publication date, the place has not been determined.

WELCOME TO SPRING AND HAGUE ON LAKE GEORGE. WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE YOU BACK! So are our cute little black flies!

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Robert M. Cole, President

The May meeting of the Hague Historical Society will be held on Thursday the 30th of May at the Hague Community Center. The social hour will begin at 7:30PM and the meeting will start at 8:00PM.

The story of "The Rent Wars of the Upper Hudson Valley" will be retold by Past President Ethel Andrus. This was shortly after the Revolutionary War when formerly indentured servants of the Old Dutch Patroon System found that they were still paying rent for property that they were supposed to have fully earned by their efforts. Indians reappeared and tarred and feathered the sheriff's men who were hired to dispossess them. Exciting times times that can be shared by those interested in listening.

June 11th will see The Historical Society in Essex, NY on a walking tour of that town to see its well kept architectural treasures.

All are welcome to come to the meeting. Please join us.

MAY IS 'OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH

To celebrate, Fort Ticonderoga will be hosting Senior Days at the Fort on Friday and Saturday, May 17 and 18. All seniors in the Ticonderoga area, including Hague will be given free admission to the fort on those days. Fort Ticonderoga opened for the season on May 10. Hours are from 9AM to 5PM daily.

HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

Ethel Andrus

The regular meeting of the Hague Senior Citizens Club will be held on Tuesday, May 28. For those who would like to go to the Bolton Meal Site for lunch prior to the meeting, please call the Community Center, 543-6161, no later than Wednesday, May 22. We will meet at the Community Center at 11:30AM to carpool to the mealsite. We will return in time for our business meeting at 1:30PM.

WANTED: Items of interest for the newsletter published every two months by the Office for the Aging, Warren County. Material can be newspaper clippings of items of interest to Seniors (identify source and date of source), original poems, short versions of historical material, personal reminiscences. So far we have received items from the GREATER GLENS FALLS CLUB. Present editors are Mildred Stockholm and Ethel Andrus and your articles can be sent to either editor. The present edition of IN PRAISE OF AGE is at the printer's now and is supposed to be ready for distribution on Senior Citizen Lunch Day on May 16th. Let Mildred or Ethel know what you think of it; what you'd like to see in it. It's YOUR newsletter and the editors, within the guidelines set by The Office for the Aging, will do their best to reflect your interests.

MOHICAN CHAPTER - HOME BUREAU

Betty Van Sleet

Hague Historian, Clifton West requested the membership make up a pillow from small woven mats

that belonged to his family. The mats were from advertisements for Turkish cigarettes of the 1800's. Member Jackie Ambra accepted this project and has returned the finished product to the Historical Society for display in their cabinet. This was one of many projects donated by the Mohican Chapter this year.

Many members from Hague and Ticonderoga attended the Annual Easter District meeting on April 27th in Glens Falls.

The May 21st meeting will include a Tea Cup Auction and the regular business meeting will be held on June 4th.

The Chapter's Annual Spring Luncheon will be held on June 18 at 11:30AM at the Hague Community Center. Our guest speaker will be our own Laura Meade on "Wildflowers".

HANCOCK HOUSE GALLERY

The Essex County Arts Council Cover Art Show will be featured in the Hancock House Gallery, Ticonderoga from May 3 to May 30. Hours are from 10AM to 4PM, Wednesdays through Saturdays. Public is invited. No admission.

CUB SCOUT PACK 21 NEWS

Karen Costello

Spring has sprung and the Scouts are full of energy. Putting that in the right direction is the challenge.

Den #3, the Wolves, have been busy making bug boxes to capture and study insects and birdhouses to help their feathered friends. They've been doing lots of fun stuff to earn arrow points. The count stands at 3 new silvers for Tyler Wells and Stephen LeBarron, 2 for Kenny and Kevin Stonitsch and 1 each for Ryan Lawrence and Josh Plass. Good work boys!

Den #1, the Bears, are pretty good at knot tying and they sure like to play games. They're gaining on that Bear Badge.

Den #2, the Webeloes, have been studying an important aspect of life, fitness. The fitness activity pin has been earned by David Fitzgerald, Thor Gautreau, Nate Lawrence and Jim Ward. Now let's see you all keep fit!

On Saturday, May 11 Pack 21 held its first annual Raingutter Regatta. It was a perfect sunny day, with the wind to the sails. After many "heated" heats it came down to Adam Williamsen in first place, Wyatt Wells in second and Kenny Stonitsch in third. All the boys did a fine job of racing (all lung power!) and the boats were real "racy". An honorable mention goes to James Jones for doing his best.

Thanks to all who contribute bottles and cans to Pack 21 at the landfill. Keep 'em coming (but hold the garbage!) Den #2 is collecting this month.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY CHORALE

The Champlain Valley Chorale, under the direction of Linda Azer will present its annual spring concert on Sunday, June 2 at 4:00PM in the First United Methodist Church, Ticonderoga.

The theme of the program is CELEBRATION OF PEACE and will feature Joyce Mouradian, harpist and the First United Methodist Church Handbell Choir. The public is cordially invited to attend. A free will offering will be accepted to help defray expenses.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 4/25/91

At the April meeting of the ZBA, Kathryn Santaniello submitted a variance application to subdivide a portion of the lot 48-1-33 and add it to lot 48-1-32.1, to allow for a suitable septic system to be installed.

Both lots are undersized, but the result of this subdivision, if approved, will not increase the overall density in the area. The Board, upon initial review, suggested that Mrs. Santaniello consider moving the requested line change to allow for separation of the store and house lots. A public hearing has been scheduled for May 23 at 7 PM to hear comments pertaining to this variance.

A public hearing was scheduled for Mr. James Ward Jr. on May 23 at 7 PM to hear comments on a variance requested to allow for placement of a 6 foot fence along the property line next to the Busy Bee Trailer Park. Considering the nature of his business, a marine storage and service facility, Mr. Ward feels that this fence would help prevent trespassing onto his property and reduce the risk of potential liability.

A discussion followed concerning the general risk of potential lawsuits and the liability of individual board members.

PLANNING BOARD - May 2, 1991

March minutes approved as read. No meeting was held in April due to lack of an agenda.

A sketch plan for a minor 2-lot subdivision of 44.84+ acres owned by Dorothy Engler located west side of Rt. 9N between the Warren/Essex County line and lands of NY State Rogers Rock Campsite was presented.

A 12.83 acre parcel with 148'+ of road frontage and a 32+ acre parcel, contiguous to the state campsite, without road frontage, was proposed. Prior to the board approving a land-locked parcel the board will require a written statement from Mrs. Engler or her legal representative, that the disposition of the land-locked 32+ acre parcel would be limited to contiguous land owners since the board cannot create a land-locked parcel.

A proposed minor subdivision of land owned by John Braisted was presented. Basically, the proposal is for a lot line change between lands of the Braisteds and the Santaniellos due to the need to upgrade the septic system on the Santaniello property and no new lot would be created. A public hearing on the proposal was scheduled for June 6 at 7 PM.

The board reviewed the application for an area variance from Jim Ward to construct a 6 foot high fence along the property line of his marine storage facility located on NYS Route 8 and the neighboring trailer park. The board voted to recommend, with two conditions, that the Zoning Board of Appeals approve the area variance on the basis that the fence would provide greater safety and improved visual appearance in the area and #1, the 6' fence not extend any closer to Rt. 8 than 35' to provide a clear vision zone for ingress and egress from the property and #2, the "best-side" of the fence be toward the trailer park.

Alison Craig, board member, presented a possible plan to simplify the problem facing homeowners who have houses located on lots created after May 22, 1973,

the date of the APA Ordinance and before Dec. 12, 1977, the date of the Hague Ordinance, that do not conform to the minimum lot size as stipulated by the APA. Board members were asked to review the proposal prior to the June meeting and to offer constructive criticism and/or alternative suggestions addressing this concern. Any actual change in procedure can only be done by APA; Hague can only make recommendations.

Henry Karmazin, board member, questioned the authority of this board's November 1990 approval of a subdivision under Section 8.020, Gifts and Devises, since the gifted lot has less than 100' of road frontage.

Alison Craig informed the board that the July meeting will mark the completion of 10 years and her final meeting as a Planning Board member...AC

TOWN BOARD - May 14, 1991

The Hague Town Board meeting began with a report by Laura Meade, town naturalist, see p. 6.

In communications and petitions - a sign costing \$1100.00 has been ordered for the main entrance for the community center (roadside of bridge). The style will be similar to that over the main building and a personal donation may cover the cost.

Harold LaRose, assessor has reported an increase in total assessment of \$1,685,197.00. This increase is accounted for by state land and new construction.

Mr. Ron Vanselow, town of Johnsbury, has written to all supervisors asking them to consider carefully their vote on the Warren County version of a solid waste Control Law. Tom Lawson, county attorney, assured Richard Bolton, Chairman of Supervisors that the letter was accurate in stating that the county law as written had serious drawbacks.

Peter Foster will start the landscaping project (Phase I) on May 22 in conjunction with The Carillon Garden Club (see p.4). Frank Koenig will replace all three flower boxes on the entrances to town.

The Adirondack Council supports local governments in state tax fight on state owned lands.

Speaker of the Assembly Mel Miller wrote a thank you for the community's response to the 1990 state census.

State land assessments are near solution.

In Committee Reports: Work to be done on boat docks is awaiting permits. This will cost \$4,750.00 for shoring up and a deck.

The boat slip has been dredged and hand dryers installed in the restrooms.

In addition to the disposal bags for \$1 and \$2, a 50¢ bag is now available.

Burning permits are available. Place your name on the Community Center list and they will inform the area ranger.

In New Business: We now have a new "scenic view" sign on Tongue Mt. . . . Linda Coffin will work with the Carillon Garden Club on the Center landscaping. . . The summer youth employment program will provide jobs for four to six youths for a nine-week period this summer. Anyone interested should contact John Breitenbach, Jr., Development Administrator at 543-6161. . . (Cont. on page 4)

Town Board (Cont. from page 3)

The school budget voter registration will be June 11 from 1-5PM. The budget vote will be held on June 19 from 1-9PM. . . The sewer project is right on schedule with Clough Harbour Associates performing soil borings at the Hague Ball Field on Dodd Hill Road. They will also install three temporary wells on the site. . . The Bridge work on Rts. 8 and 9 (Overbrook Rd.) will be discussed at an on-site meeting on May 22 by Supervisor Bolton and a state engineer. . . Tom James, chairman of the Committee formed to investigate the acquisition of North Pond is in the midst of discussion with Dixon Crucible, owners. . GL

SILVER BAY ASSOCIATION HOLDS OPEN HOUSE

The Silver Bay Association will hold its first annual Open House on Monday, May 27 from 10AM to 2PM. The free event is open to the public.

The Silver Bay Association is a YMCA conference center set on Lake George. The 600-acre campus is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Open House is for families and individuals of all ages. Participants can tour the conference center, which includes many classic examples of Adirondack architecture, as well as extensive conference and recreational facilities. Recent renovations have upgraded many facilities, while restoring their original character.

There will be door prizes, free hay rides, volleyball, tennis, games for children, hiking, shuffle board, hot dogs, punch and chips. A clown will entertain and boat rides will be available for a fee.

For more information, call 543-8833.

HAGUE AMERICAN LEGION

Memorial Day will be celebrated by Hague Post 1538, American Legion with services to be conducted on May 27 at both local cemeteries; May Memorial at 10AM, immediately followed by the observance at Hague Cemetery. The public is urged to attend these services in honor of our departed servicemen.

The Legion now has 3' x 5' flags for sale and 4' x 6' flags on back order, which should be here before Memorial Day. Call Bernie Clifton, 543-6501 to get yours.

The Legion will be hosting its annual Memorial Day barbecue for members and guests at the Legion Home on Monday, May 27 in the late afternoon.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5 at 8PM (note change in time).

GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA TO APPEAR IN TICONDEROGA

The Glenn Miller Orchestra, under the direction of Larry O'Brien will be performing in concert at the Ticonderoga High School on May 28 at 7:30PM. The concert is being sponsored by The Ticonderoga Festival Guild and is a tribute to Karl LaPointe. Reserved seat tickets are available at the BookMark in Ticonderoga at \$15.00 each.

Come relax, enjoy the music of the 40's.

HAGUE COMMUNITY CENTER TO TAKE ON NEW LOOK

With a very sizeable contribution from The Carillon Garden Club and the forward thinking of the Hague Town Board in budgeting, plans are underway to begin Phase I of the landscaping of the Center. Peter Foster, a landscape architect, and a Hague homeowner has worked out a plan for landscaping which will be esthetically pleasing. He has met with a Garden Club committee, consisting of Penny Bolton, chairman, Claire Best and Fran Clifton, and Town Board liaison, Linda Coffin, and the work will get underway on May 22 and should be completed within three days, weather permitting. When you come to the Spaghetti Supper on Saturday night, Phase I, which consists of landscaping across the right front of the building to the raised flower bed and across the left side to the ramp, should be completed. It will also include a tree planted in the left corner.

We are indeed indebted to Peter for his work in laying out the design. The entire landscaping project plans can be seen at the Community Center. We are also indebted to Jack Carney for his generosity in supplying rocks for edging, etc. and to The Carillon Garden Club for making The Hague Community Center their landscaping project for the next three years.

We do have plans for community participation. If you would like to donate towards this landscaping project in memory of, or in honor of someone, there are plans to have the names placed on a plaque and displayed in the building. This will be living tribute to those who are near and dear to Hague.

The Garden Club has already committed an additional sum in memory of Florence Gelhaar who died recently and was a member of the club. The Senior Citizens Club is looking favorably into making a contribution. Perhaps other organizations will follow suit. We already have a beautiful building and when the landscaping is complete, it should be a landmark in the north country.

Checks for contributions should be made out to The Carillon Garden Club and mailed to Penny Bolton, Hague.

... djh

MORE SOUNDINGS

Page 7 had been completed when the following were received. Just couldn't wait until next month to tell you!

BORN: A boy, Shane Barth King, to Tina (Barth) and Daniel King on May 11 in New Jersey. Grandparents are Betty and Jack Barth and Perry and Jessie King. Both families are long time summer residents of Hague.

CAROLYN DYKSTRA, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dykstra, Hague, was one of 50,000 National Merit Scholarship "High Scorers". Of more than 1,000,000 students taking qualifying exams, she and Julie Stacy, Ti, were the only juniors cited locally for this national honor. They will compete for semi-finalist honors next fall. WAY TO GO CAROLYN. CONGRATULATIONS!

And to our Chronicle collator, Julia Middleton, who battled with a ladder recently and lost - our very best wishes for a VERY speedy recovery! We will miss you at our monthly sessions, for a short time, we hope.

UPDATE ON SCHOOL BUDGET

Due in part to the feet dragging of our legislators in Albany, with the result that school districts don't know how much aid can be counted on, the calendar for the school budget vote has been changed:

May 20 - final date by which petitions are due from candidates for Board of Education, 5PM, District Office. (We are still hopeful that one of our Hague residents will toss his/her hat in the ring)

May 22 - Discussion on draft of proposed budget to be presented at Public Hearing (if necessary)

May 29 - Public hearing, 7:30PM - High School Cafeteria

June 5 - Special Board Meeting - Adoption by the Board of Education of the 1991-92 budget.

June 10 - Latest date for copies of the proposed 1991-92 budget to be available for public release.

June 11 - Voter registration, 1:00 - 6:00PM - Hague Community Center for Hague residents

June 19 - Vote on proposed 1991-92 school budget and election of members of the Board of Education.

This editor has attended all of the budget workshops, which have been held weekly, including the one in Hague on April 29, which was very poorly attended. The Board of Education has been very receptive to comments and suggestions from the public. They are under a great deal of stress trying to propose a budget that will be able to continue the excellent education now being provided in Ticonderoga and still not be too hard on the taxpayers' pocketbooks. My hat is off to them for the many hours they have spent trying to accomplish this. And remember, they are all dedicated VOLUNTEERS.

As spelled out in the "DISTRICT MISSION FOR EXCELLENCE", on page 1 of the Budget Report - "The mission of the Ticonderoga Central School District is to assure that all students acquire knowledge and develop the skills and work habits to enable them to become productive members of society. In pursuing this mission of excellence all school personnel will provide educationally and culturally enriching experiences for all students."

IMPORTANT ISSUES AFFECTING 1991-92 BUDGET

The budget process is a difficult one in the best of times. And there have been years, believe it or not, when outside influences were relatively stable and the only problems we had to deal with were our own internal needs. But we all know that life has a way of throwing obstacles in the path of our good planning, and this year promises to be a real taste of reality!

Obviously, the Gulf War and the economic turn-down lead the list of outside factors to be considered. They will cause ripples for years to come as far as gasoline and oil prices, earnings on investments, the cost of supplies and a whole host of other financial items. We will listen to the experts and then try to add our own knowledge of the situation to come up with future estimates of costs and revenues

OTHER MAJOR FACTORS - A. Negotiations with the Ticonderoga Support Services Association begin this spring. If both the District and Association act in good faith and are willing to bargain, the end result is usually a contract both sides can live with.

B. State of New York - Gov. Cuomo has warned us that we may possibly lose approximately \$200,000 in State Aid in 1991-92. Net effect on taxpayers will be about \$120,000. State aid was cut in 1989-90 by \$415,000 and in 1990-91 by \$123,000., a total reduction of \$738,000. There were offsetting reductions of \$250,000, so the net overall negative effect on the taxpayers is approximately \$400,000 for the three years. By laying off five people and cutting back on spending in other areas, we reduced the tax levy increase by almost \$250,000. As the state aid figure goes down, the tax levy automatically goes up in order to make up the difference. Even if we cut spending to zero, the tax levy would still go up!

C. Bond Payback Starting in 1991-92 we will begin paying back principal and interest on the \$3,146,100 we borrowed for the 1991 reconstruction project. The cost to the District for this budget year will be approximately \$445,000. Net cost to the taxpayers will be substantially less. Since the reconstruction project was delayed six months, \$48,000 was not spent and is available to go toward the 1991-92 costs.

D. Lawsuits - Real Property Taxes The 1990 revaluation of property values in Ticonderoga has triggered a rash of lawsuits where property owners are seeking to have their assessments reduced. Based on information received by the District, the net effect on District revenues in 1990-91 could be as high as a \$23,000 reduction. The State of NY is seeking to reduce the value of State owned lands in Hague. If they are successful, we stand to lose approximately \$30,000 of tax revenue in 1990-91. It will have to be made up by increasing the tax levy in 1991-92. The final lawsuit concerns IP, and if it is successful, IP stands to get a refund of approximately \$357,000. The town of Ticonderoga is fighting this suit and the School District has asked to be part of the suit as well. Not only are we exposed to this huge loss, there is also a possibility of spending a substantial amount of money on legal fees, appraisals and court costs. No definite amount has been determined yet. From a practical standpoint, there is no way we could refund \$357,000 out of our current available funds. So it probably will have to be budgeted to be paid next year. In addition, since IP's assessments would be lower, the burden for future tax years would be spread among all of the remaining taxpayers. Because of a large shift in assessed valuation from industrial and business property to residential property, IP's 1990 taxes were \$188,000 less than what they paid in 1989. If they are successful with the lawsuit, a total of \$545,000 of IP's school taxes will be shifted to other taxpayers.

The above statements were all excerpts from one of the many documents that I received at the workshops. You can see for yourself that the School Board really has problems. If you need to know more specifics, I have left all my documents at the Community Center for you to peruse.

I would strongly urge you to become informed and be sure to vote on June 19. . . . djh

*There is so much good in the worst of us,
And so much bad in the best of us,
That it ill becomes any of us
To find fault with the rest of us*

HAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Wendy Heritage

What is a volunteer? A volunteer is you or a neighbor who is willing to spend some of their free time in service to their community. The dictionary says a volunteer is "a person who enters into any service of his own free will; or a person who enters into any transaction of his own free will with no promise of compensation; or to offer or give of one's own free will without being asked or obliged."

Mr. Webster's definition seems to explain the concept and makes volunteering sound like a pretty serious commitment. Many look at volunteerism as a necessary evil that is best avoided. One thing about volunteering is inevitable, the number of volunteers is directly proportionate to the population; that is large population. large number of volunteers and vice versa. This fact seems okay, but think about it logically and you realize still there's never enough. Keeping these facts in mind, let's discuss volunteering in small towns.

A small town volunteer has the least enviable position; there's not many of him and he's expected to do so much. The volunteers of your local fire company and ambulance squad have got to be very dedicated. Most of them have paying job sand a family to come home to but are still expected to attend meetings, drills and classes (most of these classes are mandated by NYS and must be taken or you can't fight fires or ride with the ambulance). After all of this you find you are needed to help out at fund raising events too.

The volunteer cries out "I'm a volunteer! Is all of this really necessary?" and the answer is always "yes". Yes, we need you to fight a fire or save a life; yes, the fund raisers are necessary for new or updated equipment, vehicles, gear, etc. Lastly, all of you are expected to lend a hand in every aspect. Too much is expected, on this we all are, so we get stubborn or complain and choose to do only those things that individually, we deem necessary. So, unnecessarily, the same people wind up carrying the heaviest load time and again.

There is one thought to keep in mind, dedication is the key, while teamwork is the door it unlocks.

Suppose you don't want to fight fires or ride with the ambulance; there's plenty more things you can do. Have you a suggestion for a fund raiser? Can you help cook, serve, or clean up at one of the breakfasts, lunches or dinners? Can you donate baked goods for a bake sale? You don't have to join the fire company to participate in fund raising events. To become a active part of your community is the only commitment we ask you to make.

Being a volunteer can be thankless work and at times you may feel taken for granted but still there's something special about working together with your neighbors for the good of the community. Don't hesitate to ask what you can do to help

A BIT OF HAGUE HISTORY

Clifton West, Town Historian

The former Beachside started out as the Garfield

Tavern built about 1810 when Nathaniel Garfield came to Hague and erected the only building in what is now the village. The family came to this country in the 1600's. Capt. Benjamin had two sons, Thomas and Samuel. The former founded President Garfield's line and Samuel was the ancestor of Nathaniel who came to Hague. Nathaniel was a Justice of the Peace, and was elected Supervisor in 1825, 1830 and 1836. The Garfield property included the present Holman farm and much more.

At first it was a two-story building with a large addition in back. The lower part of this was for wood storage. Upstairs was a single room where Town meetings were held, also dances, etc. Around 1860 William Arthur bought it. It burned in 1863. Then a new building was erected and named the Phoenix, after the bird of that name who arose from the ashes of the old one. This was a three-story hotel. The Cave Bar was in the basement. While owned by the Burgey family it burned in 1956. Then a large building was erected and called the Beachside. Besides being a motel, it contained the Cave Bar in the basement and a large room on the first floor used as as a restaurant.

Owners over the years, not in order: Nathaniel Garfield, William Arthur, Joel Rising, Frank Snow, Ed Norton, Grimes, Gilligan, George Streeter, George Marshall, Sarah Miller, James Leach, Forrest Wood, Charles Burgey, Michael Coffin. The Cave closed in 1989. David Darrin then bought the property. David DeFranco razed it in 1991.

NATURE NEWS

Laura Meade

As of May 10, birds that have been heard in Hague singing their territorial sounds in the woodlands are white-throated sparrow, yellow-rumped warbler, least flycatcher, wood thrush, hermit thrush, ovenbird, robin, tufted titmouse, house finch and purple finch. A common loon has been seen at Jabe Pond and a spotted sandpiper was seen flitting along the shore at the Silver Bay Association. Yet to arrive are the rose-breasted grosbeaks veerys, scarlet tanagers, redstarts, and wood pewees. Has anyone seen a great blue heron?

April showers brought these May wildflowers to the highlands of Hague: red trillium, wild oats, perfoliate bellwort, early meadow rue, bluets, fringed polygala, painted trillium, early saxifrage, wild sarsaparilla, field pussytoes, hop clover, jack-in-the-pulpit and blue and yellow violets. Some of these are protected by New York State law, so it is best not to pick or remove any of them. A seldom seen lungwort has been spotted in a ditch at Sabbath Day Point - perhaps it was planted there years ago, or it may be a wildflower.

*May is as green as no other
May is much seen through small leaves
May is soft earth,
And apple blossoms.*

... Amy Lowell

SOUNDINGS

BORN: A girl, Sierra Alice, to James and Trudy Schaeffer, Woodbridge, NJ on April 24. Proud grandparents are Trudy and Henry Karmazin, Dodd Hill Road, Hague.

BORN: A girl, Tyler Perley, to Kathryn Bullock and John Hutton on April 16 in Hanover, NH. Proud grandma is Audrey O'Brien, Hague.

ENGAGED: Tracey Mayne Leonard, daughter of Mrs. Richard M. Leonard, Scotia, NY and Friends Point, Hague, to John Edward Barth, Jr., son of Mr. & Mrs. John E. Barth of Oak Ridge, NJ and Hague. Tracey is a Research and Development Chemist with Bertek Inc., Vermont. Her fiance is a senior associate engineer for IBM in Burlington, VT and currently studying for his Masters of Science in Computer Engineering with National Technology University.

MARRIED: Jo Ann Fitzgerald, daughter of Virginia and the late Eric Fitzgerald, Overbrook Drive, Hague, to Dr. David Johnston of Scotland. They were married in Bermuda on April 27, 1991

PETER BELDEN, son of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Belden Sr. of Hague, received the annual Student Honor Award from the Albany Chapter of the National Association of Accountants. Belden recently completed his studies at Bryant & Stratton Business Institute in Albany and will graduate in the top of his class.

DOUGLAS A. SMITH, son of Elaine and the late Stan Smith, Friends Point, has recently been appointed president of Kraft Canadian Unit of General Foods. He has been with General Foods for the past twenty years and was most recently executive vice-president of General Foods, U.S.A., where he was in charge of the beverage division. He and his wife and sons will be moving to Toronto shortly.

NOT TO BE REDUNDANT, BUT we have had inquiries about when readers' contributions are "due". Again, let us say that this newspaper is strictly a volunteer effort and we rely exclusively on contributions from our readers. You will note a date above your name on the mailing list - this is the date you last contributed. The editor sends a gentle reminder (by circling the date in red) the first month, and attaching a note the second month. If we still do not hear from you, we have to assume you are no longer interested in receiving the publication and we reluctantly delete your name from the mailing list. If you don't get a reminder, it is because the editor probably skipped you, or much better still, it is because your last contribution was an unusually generous one! It is very helpful (and saves a lot of time and effort) if your contribution is received before the editor has to make the notations.

We want you to know that we do appreciate all contributions. It has made our work easier, since we have fine equipment, thanks to your generosity... djh

WEATHER NOTES

Mary Lou Doulin

To write about the weather in Hague this past month is an exercise of pleasure. Gone are the snows, freezing rain and ice, and here to stay (for a while) are idyllic weather conditions. If you know of a more beautiful place to be in the month of May, please inform me.

It has been so beautiful with Lake George sparkling in all its splendor, cool temperatures, clear days and such blue skies. Mid-April temperatures stayed between 50° and 60° mostly, but on Saturday, April 27, the temperature reached 78°. April 21 brought much rain and it stayed about 42° all day. May 1 (70°) we had cold and warm fronts battling which resulted in thunder storms and high winds. The winds continued throughout the next day, May 2. The week of May 5 brought 5 days of magnificent weather, one partly cloudy and one day of needed rain.

The flora seemed to be especially bountiful this year as the blossoms are so rich in color and density. Wild flowers abound on the roadside and in rock crevices; the forsythia, tulips, daffodils and lilacs have all made a splendid appearance, as have other fragrant tree blossoms.

Mother's Day got a little too hot - 88°, but the steady breeze made it pleasant.

If you are concerned about planting, a guideline that gardeners have used is, if the day's temperatures reach 50° or more there will be no frost that night. If it was less than 50° that day, cover your plants as a frost is most likely.

PRIDE WANTS YOUR PICTURE

In an effort to showcase Ticonderoga's unique historical and architectural character during National Preservation Week, May 12-18, hundreds of volunteers are invited to show up at the Ticonderoga Community Building to participate in a group photo on Saturday, May 18

This year's theme for the 19th annual National Preservation Week, "Celebrate YOUR Heritage," was chosen to emphasize a banner year in the historic preservation movement.

Sue Rathbun, Executive Director of PRIDE believes that having a photo taken at the Colonial Revival style Community Building, built in 1927 by Horace Moses, can symbolize the town's reverence for its colonial to 20th century history. She has invited all area citizens to participate in making this photograph.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION in Warren County has a monthly publication, designed specifically for parents of preschoolers, called "Growing Together" There is a nominal charge of \$300 for 12 issues to cover postage and handling costs. For additional information or to order the letter series contact Cornell Cooperative Extension in Warren County, Schroon River Road, Warrensburg, NY 12885 or call 668-4881 or 623-3291

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MAY - JUNE 1991

May

- 20 Final date for School Board petitions - see p5
 - 21 Home Bureau, 10AM, Community Center - p.2
 - 21 Board of Assessment Review - Comm. Ctr. 4-8PM-p.1
 - 21 Hague Fish and Game Club meeting - 7:30PM
 - 22 School Board public hearing on draft of budget (if necessary)
 - 23 Zoning Board of Appeals - Hearings 7PM, Meeting 7:30
 - 25 Spaghetti Dinner - Comm. Bldg - 5-7PM - p 1
 - 27 American Legion observances - 10AM - p4
 - 27 Silver Bay Assoc. Open House - p. 4
 - 28 Senior Citizens Meeting, 1:30 - Meal site, 11:30 AM- p2
 - 28 Glenn Miller Orchestra - Ti Hi School, 7:30PM - p4
 - 29 Public Hearing, 7:30PM on school budget. p5
 - 30 Hague Historical Society, 8PM - p2
- Veterans' Administration representative is in Community Center every Thursday, 11AM. (Call first)

*O say can you see
 By the dawn's early light
 The piles of debris
 That were thrown here last night?
 Above, the flag flutters
 Broad stripes and bright stars.
 Below, all the clutter
 Tossed out of the cars.*

June

- 2 Champlain Valley Chorale Concert, 4PM - p.2
- 4 Home Bureau ; 10AM - p2
- 5 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls
- 5 American Legion - 8PM - p4
- 5 Chamber of Commerce - 7:30PM, Community Center
- 5 Special School Board meeting to adopt budget, p5
- 6 Planning Board - 7:30PM, Community Center
- 10 Copies of school budget available for public release, p5
- 11 Voter registration, 1-6PM, Hague Community Center
- 11 Town Board Meeting
- 11 Hague Historical Soc. Trip to Essex - p2
- 15-16 - BASS TOURNAMENT
- 15 Steak Roast, benefit Fire Dept. - see p1
- 16 FATHERS' DAY
- 19 Vote on proposed school budget and election of Board members, p5

*Bottle, box, beer can
 Descending like rain
 From far purple mountain
 To near fruited plain
 Oh, say shouldn't we
 Start recycling, to save
 The land of the free
 And the home of the brave?
 ... Helen L. Coffey, LONG ISLAND GARDENER,
 with apologies to Francis Scott Key*

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