



VOLUME 29 No. 4

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

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#### 55-ALIVE SAFE DRIVING COURSE

An AARP 55-ALIVE SAFE DRIVING COURSE will be held on Thursday, May 4 at the Community Center. Class starts at 9AM - 5PM and will be taught by Charles Antonetti. It is open to anyone over 50 years of age. Please register as soon as possible by calling the Community Center, 543-6161. A fee of \$10 is payable to AARP. Upon completion of the course, in most cases, a deduction will be made from your insurance policy.

#### HAGUE CLEANUP DAY

On May 15 the Town Highway Department will pick up "junk" from senior citizens (age 62 and over) and disabled residents. This **DOES NOT include normal household garbage, brush, and leaves.** However it does include white goods, i.e. refrigerators, stoves, other appliances and construction materials (C&D) If possible, doors should be removed from refrigerators and freezers. All items should be sorted and placed at the roadside, if possible. Call the town offices at 543-6161 or the town shed at 543-6500 and leave your name, address and items to be picked up. The highway department will begin picking up very early on May 15, so unless you are a really early riser, better get it to the road the night before.

Also this year as a help to our "junior citizens", you will be permitted to take one pick-up truckload of trash (per residence) with the same restrictions as above, to the transfer station free of charge on the same day - May 15. Remember - it must be sorted (no garbage, brush or leaves, and transported to the Transfer Station on that day only. There will be attendants there to direct you. If you have any questions about these services, please call the Highway Dept. at 543-6500.

#### ARBOR DAY - A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

The Carillon Garden Club will celebrate Arbor Day on April 28 by dedicating a new garden in the Triangle Park at the intersection of Wicker St. and Old Chilson Road. This garden has been landscaped by David

DeFranco Landscaping of Hague for the Garden Club. The garden will be dedicated in memory of Mrs. Peter Cook and will be known as the Marjorie Werther Cook Memorial Garden. The dedication ceremony will take place at high noon on Friday April 28. A reception will be held for all those attending at the Hancock House following the dedication. The public is cordially invited to attend.

#### ANTIQUÉ SHOW TO BE HELD IN HAGUE

Dealers are being solicited now for the third annual Antique Show to be sponsored by the Hague-on-Lake George Chamber of Commerce September 9th and 10th.

All antique dealers are invited to participate at a reasonable cost. Show site is the Hague Community Center. Both inside and outside space is available.

The deadline to sign up is August 15, 2000 but preferred spaces are available now. Call Mitzi Fillare at 518-543-6344 for further details.

#### THE HAGUE CHRONICLE TO REORGANIZE

For the past twenty-one years Dottie Henry has served as editor and for most of those years as both editor/publisher of *The Hague Chronicle*, with a lot of help from Mary Jo Keeler and Mitzi Fillare, who takes care of the books. We also have a number of women and one gentleman who meet once a month to fold, staple and stamp.

It has gotten to the point where we feel we need more help in an advisory capacity - an editorial board. We hope to have this board in place before our next issue. They will meet a day or so after our deadline and help make decisions on what to publish etc. This means that our deadline will have to be pushed back a couple days so that the publisher will have time to get it together and to the printer in Glens Falls.

Beginning with the May issue our deadline will be **THE 12TH OF EACH MONTH.** The paper will still be published on or about the 20th of each month.

We hope that our readers will cooperate with this change... djh

## ROTARY CLUB OF NORTHERN LAKE GEORGE

This year the Rotary Club of Northern Lake George will be sponsoring its first student in the Rotary International Student Exchange program. Ryan Davis, a student at Ticonderoga High School and son of Mr. & Mrs. Gary Davis, Ticonderoga, will be traveling to Finland for the next year. This coming year will be exciting for the club, as well as Ryan, as we venture into this new area. Ryan will be speaking to the club at the meeting on May 2 and we would like to see others in the community, as well as the club members for this event.

Stephanie Rozelle will speak about mentoring and how it makes a difference on May 9. On May 16 Debbie Cox will come from the Better Living Center to talk about coping with stress. The Glens Falls Lions Club will be represented by Betty Schriener on May 23. We will be assisting in their project of collecting used eye glasses, so remember to bring or send any old glasses to the club on that date. The month will end with a club assembly on May 30.

Visitors are welcome to attend the weekly breakfast meetings at the Watson Arts Center on the Silver Bay Campus. Meetings are held on Tuesdays at 7:30AM.

For more information call 543-8833.

## HAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Our firemen responded to 6 calls in March; these included a mutual aid to Horicon, a communications emergency, one EMS assistance, 2 motor vehicle accidents and 1 structure fire. Seventy-one man hours were used. There were 4 drills, with a total of 58 man hours.

Thanks to those who assisted in cleaning the firehouse and providing food for the Warren Co. Chiefs and Officers meeting.

Chief Hoffay thanked Supervisor Belden and his secretary, Diane, for help in securing FEMA monies. In return, Mr. Belden thanked Dave for the great records which enabled Diane to do the paperwork for these dollars.

Our ambulances made 10 runs, using 84 1/4 man hours. Ambulance 740 covered 322 miles, Ambulance 741 - 107 miles.

Also, Supervisor Belden announced that with any luck the tower on Swede Mt. should be functional; it is hoped that this will contribute to better communication with the rest of the county.

And now, the BIG news: at the site of the new firehouse, ground has been leveled, the old motel demolished, trees removed and grade stakes are in place. All who turned up to do this work are thanked; some extra special thanks to Pat Armstrong and Walt Waters for equipment and assistance. Special Request: Please **DO NOT** touch the grade stakes.

A safety reminder for our community: we are entering the brush and grass fire season. Use extra special caution with open burns. In your home, check your

detectors and change the batteries. . . ewa

## HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

On April 25 we will be travelling to the Meal Site in Bolton Landing for the noon meal. (Too late for reservations on this one!) We will car pool from the Community Center. Please be on hand by 11:15AM. Anyone NOT carpooling from the Community Center **MUST** notify Janet Hoffay (543-6807) or Ethel (543-6098) so we won't be looking all over to match you up on our list and wondering if you've changed your mind.

On May 9 we will be going to UP-YONDA FARM in Bolton. Arrangements have been made for us to see the video depicting the history of the Farm, and to visit the museum. Afterwards, we'll be turned out to wander around. There is a charge for the program (\$2.00 per person) and a charge for car parking (\$2.00 per vehicle). We will also car pool from the Community Center for this, but we don't at this point know the time of departure, due to anticipated lunch arrangements. We hope to have this settled by April 25. Please call 543-6161 and register for it.

## HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Hague Historical Society will meet on Saturday, April 22 at 10AM to work on the old cemetery at the intersection of Route 9N and Pine Orchard Road. Bring rakes, shovels, and hammers (fence needs repairing too). The rain date will be April 29.

On May 18 at 7:30PM we will meet at the Hague Community Center to hear Lois Gunning, author of the book UP YONDA ON CHILSON HILL, who will present a slide program.

On June 15 Bruce Cole of the Chapman Library, Glens Falls, will be with us to tell us all about "ORAL HISTORY AND STORYTELLING IN THE NORTH COUNTRY."

Please plan on being with us on both nights. Refreshments are offered prior to each program, and the coffee pots are full and hot by 7:30PM. Programs are scheduled to begin at 8PM. Do join us . . . maybe you'd even like to become a member, and we'd love to have you!

. . . ewa

## U. M. WOMEN'S FAMILY FUN NIGHT

The United Methodist Women are planning a Family Fun Night to be held on Wednesday, May 17 at the 1st United Methodist Church, Wicker St., Ticonderoga

Dinner will be served at 6:30PM and will consist of jello salad, roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, bread, coffee, tea, milk with a brownie and ice cream for dessert.

\$4.00 for adults, \$2.50 for children 4-12 and free for children under 4. Dinner by reservation only. Deadline for reservations is Sunday, May 14 and is limited to the first 100 people. A program of music from 7:30-8PM will be presented by "JALASAMAGAP", otherwise known as the "G Sharps"

4/00

## ZONING BOARD

The Zoning Board did not convene during March

... mjk

## PLANNING BOARD

April 6, 2000

Alice Patchett, Trout House Village and Steve Davis, builder, presented a master plan and reviewed their past projects. In 1996 they replaced "3 Doors" cottage with "Seneca", which received variance approval after a discussion of the "knee wall" in the second story. This became a loft. In 1997 they removed Cabin 7 and built "Seneca Patio" under "Seneca". In the fall of 2000 they plan to take down Cabins 5 and 6 and build two 1 bedroom chalets. The chalets would increase the total sq. footage for tourist accommodations by 1000 sq. ft. (but reduce the number of bedrooms from 3 to 2) over the cabins removed.

The Board again requested a copy of the master plan for the entire Trout House property, which was agreed upon.

The second item on the agenda was "Dockside". They would like relief from a 1986 Planning Board restriction not to have water or toilets in the log structure. This is a "Type 1 (g) development within 100 ft. of the lake."

Mike Stafford, attorney representing Craig Merrill, owner of Dockside presented a review of the history of Dockside, which included the condition in 1986 Planning Board ruling to prohibit any plumbing in the log structure without coming before the Board. There were three bathrooms in the structure that was burned. An engineering report, done at the request of Mr. Merrill, stated that the present waste water facility was sufficient to handle the bathrooms. in question. Mr. Merrill stated that the gazebo had been reduced in size to meet the 100 sq. ft. maximum size. He also stated that there there will be nothing in the log home except for bathrooms. at the present time. The Board voted to recommend approval to the Zoning Board with a 5-0 vote; Ralph Denno and Nancy Harrigan abstained.

John Breitenbach, Jr., representing the residents on Lakeshore Terrace, had asked to be heard before the meeting. However, because it was not a Public Hearing he was not allowed to speak until after the approval had been granted. He presented many points which were in direct violation of the Zoning Ordinance: (1) Granting the application for the outdoor bar is not appropriate within a 50 ft. setback from the lake. (2) Any buildings within 50 ft. of the lake cannot exceed 100 sq. ft. (3) On Dec. 12, 1986 the previous owner, Ward, had exceeded the allowable 30% of occupancy. (100% of the property is now covered, which includes blacktop). (4) Bars are not permitted in the zone in which it is located and must have a use variance ... djh

## HAGUE TOWN BOARD - 4/2000

A Moment of Silence was held for William Peters and Dewitt Reehl.

## PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

David J. Decker, Project Director for Lake George - Planning for the Next Century. This Committee is putting together a long term consensus plan for the preservation of the lake. He mentioned that the towns (Village of Lake George, Queensbury, Hague, Bolton, Town of Lake George, Putnam, Fort Ann, Dresden and Ticonderoga) got together and made application for grant funding. The funding has been received and is to be used with local matching funds. The local matching funds are based on volunteer participation. Their time involved equals the dollar match of the funds and therefore money does not have to be expended from the Town's budget. To date, two water quality issue meetings have been held. The next meeting is scheduled for May 2 at 1:00 p.m. in the Lake George Town Hall and the public is invited.

Rudy Meola addressed the Board with his concerns about drilling a well at the beach. His concern is that the expense is not a budgeted item. He was told the well discussion was scheduled for later in the meeting.

Sal Santaniello also addressed the Board as spokesperson for the Chamber of Commerce. They would like the Town to support the Mohican cruise ship's use of the Town Dock.

He also read a letter from Stan Burdick who would like the Board to pay \$300 (half the cost) to print cards that would be distributed promoting the Town of Hague on one side and the Cartoon Museum on the other. The Chamber of Commerce would pay the other \$300.

Mr. Santaniello also asked the Town about taking over the staffing of the Visitors' Center. Supervisor Belden told him that the budget is already in place for that. R. Hourigan suggested having a workshop to discuss this further.

Tom James addressed the Board about Expo 2000 which was held on March 18. There were approximately 5,000 people in attendance and he felt the Town received good exposure.

## REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Assessor & Justice (Steitz) - The Assessor will be available from May 1 - 10 for people who wish to discuss their assessments. Grievance Day will be held on May 23 from 4-8 pm.

2. Buildings & Grounds (Megow) - The Town has received a check from the Insurance Co. to cover the damages from the winter storms. R. Hourigan will be putting out Requests for Proposal (RFP's) on the roof.

3. Finance - Nothing  
(Cont. on page 4)

(Cont. from p. 3 - Town Board)

4. Fire Department (Fitzgerald) - The work at the site for the new fire house has been started.

5. Highway (Fitzgerald) - There is an ongoing problem with the culverts on Sabbath Day Point which the Highway Dept. is going to look into.

Charles Chase on Terrace Rd. contacted Supervisor Belden regarding the land washing down the hill and threatening the walls of his garage. R. Hourigan asked why that wouldn't be the problem of the developer but Supervisor Belden said that when a water problem crosses Town property the Town needs to fix it. In this case, the land does wash over a Town road before it comes to the Chase property. Mr. Hourigan agrees the Town should fix the problem, but should bill the developer. M. Fitzgerald will call Bill Bothe to discuss the problem.

6. Insurance - Nothing

7. Personnel (Hourigan) - The open position at the Transfer Station has not yet been filled. In order to avoid misunderstanding, Mr. Hourigan emphasized that the position will pay \$6.25 per hour and during the height of the season the person hired will work 5 hours per day and 5 days per week.

8. Planning/ Zoning/ Stormwater Management (Steitz) - The Planning and Zoning reports are listed on page 3.

Stormwater: Supervisor Belden reported that he and A. Steitz met with Dave Meyer (the engineer who did the previous study on the Hague Brook) regarding the problem along the brook and under the bridge. There are problems there that have to be corrected before the delta can be addressed. He also reported that the Lake George Association (LGA) agreed to pay for the engineering report.

R. Hourigan mentioned that he received many phone calls about interpretations of the Zoning Ordinance. He feels that because so many people are concerned, he will write letters to the Zoning Board for interpretations.

9. Recreation/Promotion

Sal Santaniello announced that the Bass Tournament will be June 17 and 18. Saturday will be the practice day. The Town will be paid \$350 for launch fees on Sunday which is the actual day of the tournament.

The Rotary Club was granted permission to use the Visitors' Center June 6 - 10. They will have their annual Americade Canteen at this time.

M. Fitzgerald announced that he would like to open the restrooms at the Visitors' Center this weekend (April 15 and 16) for the season. They will remain closed during the week.

10. Sewer District (Belden) - The date for the Appellate Court hearing is May 4 at 10:00 a.m.

11. Town Park & Beautification (Fitzgerald) - All of last year's attendants will be returning.

12. Transfer/Recycling Station (Megow) - Revenue for

the month of March was \$1,197.00.

13. Youth (Hourigan) - Mr. Hourigan will be meeting with Rudy Meola for pointers on planning the youth program.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Town has been looking into leasing the Baptist Church parking lot for additional Town parking. M. Fitzgerald is hesitant to put Town money into this endeavor; R. Hourigan agreed that improvements to a church parking lot should be done by lease agreement only; Supervisor Belden has already applied for grant money to help offset the cost; A. Steitz is in favor of the project because it would help town beautification. A motion was made and passed that the Town will look into the possibility of drawing up a sketch to present to the church.

The first meeting of the Master Plan Committee will be held on May 10 at 6PM at the Community Center. Supervisor Belden is arranging for an engineer to come to the meeting to help the Town put the plan together.

A motion was made and passed that the Town will pay \$300.00 for half the cost of printing the advertising cards for the Cartoon Museum/Town of Hague.

#### NEW BUSINESS

A "Clean Up Day" will be held for the Town again this year. See related article on page 1.

Three proposals were received for the well at the Town Park. The lowest bid was for \$6,370 but because the Town will be doing some of the work, the cost will be lowered to approximately \$5,800.

Resolution #57 of 2000 to use sonar for treatment of Eurasian Milfoil in Lake George was passed.

Resolution #58 of 2000 to designate the Community Center as the polling place in the Town of Hague was passed.

Supervisor Belden was given permission to invite Mr. Lowenthal of the National Park Service to make a presentation to the Board.

The copy machine in the small meeting room will be checked to see how expensive it is to operate.

Supervisor Belden received a letter from the Department of Transportation (DOT) denying the light request on 9N (requested last September).

DOT will be reducing the speed limit on 9N to 40 MPH to south of Cape Cod Village and 45 MPH to the Scenic Overlook. Signs will be erected. . . mjk

*Where there is greed, there is war  
Where there is love, there is peace.*

**HAPPY EASTER**

NATURE NEWS  
by Laura Meade

Local residents often talk to me about something unusual in nature that has intrigued them. I am pleased that many are aware of such things and find delight to describe incidents to me.

One might expect to see a family of otters at Jabe's Pond in the Fall, but Diane Martino was surprised to watch a playful adult otter near the shore of her lakeside property this Spring. The animal thought it was fun to catch a fish through the mushy, honey-combed, wind-blown ice, and to face Diane while it was eating the fish, as if to say "See what I can do?" The incident brought to mind the TV animated show "Emmett Otter's Jug Band," forerunner of the Muppet Show.

While sitting on the bench at the beach, the first day after all ice had disappeared from Hague Bay, I was surprised to see a pair of Common Loons paddling in the water of the boat launch. I asked myself "How did they know the ice would be gone?" Loons cannot land on ground or ice because of the configuration of their legs and feet. How did they estimate their time of arrival so accurately?

And storms challenge birds. After Sunday, April 9th snow storm, small, gray dark-eyed Juncos invaded the yards and roadsides at every bird feeder in town. I tried to count them but it was impossible. What a party! A lone Hermit Thrush, silent but hungry, joined the frantic feeding at the top of Lakeshore Terrace. He was coping quite well (under the circumstances) and the Juncos seemed to welcome the stranger.

Soon after Sunday's snow left lawns white, on Monday another species seldom seen here (except during Spring migration) appeared as a solitary visitor. Did it feel welcome? Probably not, because it took a lonesome stance at the edge of a driveway, looked toward the snow where green lawn should have been, and seemed to ask, "What's this stuff?" Parading gracefully, and sipping from puddles, it stayed aloof, as if it felt superior over the other "locals."

Meanwhile, early Monday (4/10) a flock of robins was seen perched in a tree at the mostly likely location, the yard of Ruth Robbins! Was it a family reunion with Ruth as hostess?

Some birds become exhausted and disoriented in a blizzard. One such was a cute, immature song sparrow that crashed into a window at Ursula Montbriand's and died. Not even Lu Megow could save that one, although he did drive the ambulance up and down Lakeshore Terrace twice (in less than 12 hours) to transport an ailing local fellow during the storm.

Julia Middleton has a question for ornithologists: After she definitely identified a red-bellied woodpecker among the flocks of other species in her yard, she wonders "Why did they name that bird a red-bellied woodpecker, when it does not have a red belly?" No way I can answer that!

Fortunately a bright yellow American goldfinch had no navigation problem as it mingled with other breeds and put on a fashion show which deserved the Oscar for best outfit.

How lucky we are in Hague to enjoy the presence of a wide variety of nature's wonders - the birds, the animals, the wildflowers, the forests, the ponds, the majestic mountains, and a deep, clear, ever-changing fresh water lake. Let's keep it that way for generations to come!

WEATHER NOTES  
by Mary Lou Doulin

Didn't we get a surprise Sunday morning, April 9 when we looked outside and discovered a real nor'easter snow storm had arrived - especially since the day before the temperature was 70 degrees - a real spring fever day. While doing outdoor work Saturday it was invigorating to experience the warm, whirling winds and feel the heat of the sun simultaneously. The next day I was back shoveling nine inches of heavy wet snow. It turned out to be one of the largest April snowstorms in 51 years.

Actually April snows are not all that uncommon, but when it happens, it is always a source of wonderment. I was happy for the robins when I found a large flock dining on last fall's sumac berries.

The ice went out March 27. It was earlier than usual, but was undoubtedly aided by the warm temperatures and rainfall. The average ice out date is April 15.

March had several days in the 50's with ample rainfall. Despite April having two major snow-filled days, on the 9th and 11th, and some hail too, we are still headed in the right direction. The sounds, (of tree frogs and birds), smells (wet earth) and visual delights (early sprouting) are all indications of an Adirondack spring. This, combined with the extended daylight, contributes to that exhilarating feeling of renewal. Let the "greening" begin!

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Annual meeting - 11AM May 5, 2000. Luncheon at 12 Noon at the First United Methodist Church, Wicker St., Ticonderoga.

The program will be conducted by Jan Putnam, who will talk about the Nutrition Program and its history in Ticonderoga. Everyone is welcome. Please make reservations by May 1 to Evelyn Burleigh, 585-3348 or Ursula Montbriand, 543-6407. Everyone is welcome!

**HAVE YOU RETURNED YOUR CENSUS FORM? IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO THE TOWN THAT YOU DO SO. IF YOU HAVE THROWN IT OUT, PLEASE ASK FOR ANOTHER ONE. THE CENSUS TAKERS MUST CONTACT ALL THOSE WHO HAVE NOT TURNED THEM IN, SO DO THEM A FAVOR AND GET YOURS IN IMMEDIATELY.**

## WARREN COUNTY COUNCIL SENIOR LUNCHEON

The Warren County Council of Senior Citizens will be holding its 27th annual luncheon on Thursday, May 18th at the Ramada Inn at 12 Noon (registration begins at 10:15AM. The luncheon will honor all seniors, but two special seniors from Warren County and two from Hamilton County. If you wish to attend this luncheon, call The Community Center at 543-6161 and include your choice of entree. The entrees are a choice of beef, chicken, fish or a vegetarian pasta dish. The charge for the lunch is \$12.00 which includes all taxes and tips. Send a check payable to Kay Caldera, Box 797, Hague, NY 12836. Last day to register is April 25.

Warren County's two special honorees this year are Marge Souran and Lynn Hades both of Chestertown. Please turn out to help honor these two very special ladies. . . ewa

### THE LUNCH BUNCH

Despite the price of gasoline, the Lunch Bunch (so named thanks to the late Al Van Sleet) is beginning a new season. Anyone with suggestions should get in touch with Ethel (543-6098 - preferable very early in the day - let the phone ring many times before giving up. (Please, no calls after 8PM) By the time this paper goes to press we will have made our first expedition to the Silver Star Diner in Chestertown. Other places in mind: House of Scots in Bolton, The Fair Haven Hotel, the Cambridge Hotel, a pizza party at the Roma in Whitehall, our old favorite, the Westport Hotel and we will wind up the season at the Fort View Inn. Then we will hunker down for the winter (again!)

### CHINGACHGOOK SUMMER TRIPS

Groups of active youth will spend part of their summer biking along the St. Lawrence River or across the Adirondack Park. The trips are sponsored by YMCA Camp Chingachgook on Lake George as part of the camp's Adventure Trip program.

The "Biking in Canada" Trip takes place July 2-15 and is open to campers ages 13-17. The group will ride from Quebec City, along the St. Lawrence to the Gaspé Peninsula. They will cycle 30-45 miles per day and carry all their belongings.

The "Adirondack Bike Tour" is for campers ages 11 and 12 and occurs July 16-22. This group will cycle from the western border of the Adirondack Park to Lake George, covering 25-30 miles daily. A van will accompany them to carry their equipment.

Each day the groups will visit historical, regional or environmental sites to experience local culture. They will camp at state parks and meals will be prepared at the campsites each day. Open to both boys and girls. For more info. on these and other Chingachgook Adventure Trips, call (518) 656-9462, Kenis Sweet.

## TICONDEROGA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Ti Historical Society will be hosting Birch Bark Basket Workshops at the Hancock House. The workshops will consist of two parts: a class on birch bark gathering and a class on making birch bark containers with Porcupine Quillwork. Two gathering classes will be held May 13 at 10AM and 1PM. The gathering portion will enhance the participants' appreciation, understanding, and respect for the natural environment and the lifeways of the region's first residents. The two dates for the basketmaking workshop are either May 20 or May 27 from 10AM to 1PM.

Tom Mowatt will be the instructor for these workshops. Native Americans in traditional woodland culture and crafts have trained him in this beautiful art. The workshops are open to the public and children over 12 are encouraged to participate. The cost for the two-part class is \$30 for members of the Ti Historical Society and \$40 for non-members. To register or for more information, contact the Ticonderoga Historical Society 585-7868. Tom Mowatt can be reached at 796-6629.

The Society is also offering a class titled "HOW TO USE THE INTERNET FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH" on April 26 from 10AM - 12Noon or 7-9PM. Class will be taught by Karla Staudt and will introduce students to using the Internet to conduct genealogical research. Enrollment fee will be \$15 (\$10 for THS members). To register please call Steve at the Hancock House at 585-7868 or e-mail [ths2@capital.net](mailto:ths2@capital.net).

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, Warren County, is offering an 8-part money management newsletter containing information that can help make keeping our income in balance with the family's needs and wants. Some of the topics covered are Ways to Stretch Your Money, Basic Banking Accounts, How to Handle Your ATM Card, Why an Emergency Fund is Your Best Friend, Plugging the Black Holes in Your Spending Plan, Keeping More of What You Earn, and Wise Shopping and When to Use Credit.

To request a copy(s) call Cornell Cooperative Ext. at 668-4881 or 623-3291 or write to 377 Schroon River Rd, Warrensburg, NY 12804. All information is free of charge.

PLANT DOCTOR LANETTE BOWMAN will be offering two workshops, May 4 and 11. The May 4 workshop is entitled "Interior Landscaping" and will cover the art of placing plants and containers to enhance a living working interior. May 11 workshop "Exterior Container Gardening" will cover outdoor enhancement. Both workshops are from 7--8:30PM at LARAC. \$8 for members, \$10 for nonmembers. Preregistration deadline is May 1. For info. call LARAC at 798-1144 Ext. 6.

## SOUNDINGS

**DIED:** William Gerard Peters Jr., 83, Forest Bay, Hague, on March 30, 2000 in Burlington. Survivors include his wife of 45 years, one daughter, Linda Squillante, Palisades Park, NJ; one sister and two grandchildren.

**DIED:** DeWitt G. Reehl, East Greenbush, NY on March 27, 2000, in Albany. Mr. Reehl was a long-time summer resident of West Hague Road. He is survived by a daughter, Marilyn A. Hadden, a granddaughter and grandson and three great grandchildren.

**DIED:** Helen Beadnell Brown, 76, on April 14 in Plattsburgh, NY. Mrs. Brown was born in Hague and spent most of her life here. She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Wyatt Wells, son of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Wells, Split Rock Road, Hague, was honored for his cinematography. Author Bob Bearor visited the high school and presented a copy of his book, "The Battle on Snowshoes" to the library. A dedication was inscribed to Wyatt for his work in videotaping the reenactment of the battle earlier this year.

### TICONDEROGA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following Hague students have been listed on the Ticonderoga High School 4th Period Honor Roll:

Grade 12 - First Honors: Andrew Mack, Kathryn Rutkowski, Bradford Zeyak  
Second Honors: Michelle Bissell, Brandi Jordon, Eve Trombley, Wyatt Wells

Grade 11 - First Honors: Tasha Braisted, Katie Breitenbach  
Second Honors: Josh Plass

Grade 10 - First Honors: Lucas Frasier, Heather Hassett, Joee Plass, Alison Rutkowski, Theodore Santaniello  
Second Honors: John Costello, Peter Mack, Angela Mascarelli, Tyler Wells

Grade 9 - First Honors: Katie Belden, Jessi Frasier,  
Second Honors: John Evans, Andrew Patchett

**CORRECTION:** Apologies to Bryce Gurney, Graphite, and Derek Ross, Hague for omitting their names from the second marking period Middle School Achievement Roll. Congratulations to both of you. Keep up the good work.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Ti Middle School Band and Chorus who have been invited to perform at Lincoln Center Plaza in New York City on May 3 from 12:30-1:30PM. Following their performance they plan to tour the Metropolitan Opera House, Lincoln Center, Avery

Fischer Symphonic Hall, Lincoln Center Library for the Performing Arts and the Julliard School of Music.

The band, under the direction of Pat Cornell will perform several Sousa marches and movie music. The chorus, directed by Phil Henry will sing Gospel songs along with music from movies.

The "Dynamics" and the "Guys", the select school choruses will also perform.

The Ticonderoga School District should be very proud of its music program, from elementary through high school. We wish this group well as they travel to NYC. It is a real treat for these kids and I'm sure they will do us proud.

Anyone who is interested in joining this group on its trip to NYC should contact Pat Cornell at 585--7442.

The seventh grade class of Ti Middle School will be taking a 3-day, 2-night trip to Provincetown and Boston, MA for its annual Whale Watch on May 17, 18 and 19, 2000. The first day they will visit the New England Aquarium in Boston and will be treated to a pizza party that evening. Later they will meet with the Naturalists from the National Seashore Center who will present a slide show presentation on whales and an overview of the geology, history and ecology of the Cape. The second day will include a four-hour whale watch, the Pilgrim Museum, and the Pilgrim Monument. On the third day they will travel to Boston to view the New England Museum of Discovery including the Imax Theatre to see an incredible feature titled "Dolphins." While in Provincetown they will stay at the Provincetown Inn, located at the tip of Cape Cod on the exact spot where the pilgrims first landed!

Jonathon Van Sleet, son of Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Van Sleet, Scotia, recently joined his three older brothers in reaching Eagle Scout status, the highest rank in Boy Scouting. It is interesting to note that only 4% of Boy Scouts actually achieve Eagle status and having four in the same family is a rarity. Jonathon is the grandson of Betty and the late Al Van Sleet, Hague.

Congratulations to Ethel Andrus, Silver Bay, who was presented the Community Award for her work as a driver taking people to doctor's appointments, etc., as well as a volunteer officer of the Warren County Council on Senior Citizens and an originator of the home delivered meals in Hague. Her award was part of the VOL-ABRATON on April 13, sponsored by the Voluntary Action Center of Glens Falls, which brought together about 200 volunteers who donate time and services to many non profit organizations.

### BESTE FUND DONORS

Many thanks to the following folks for their recent response to the Beste fundraising appeal via *The Hague Chronicle*: Frank Fowler, Roderick and Mynema Geer, Dan & Nancy McGowen, and Lynn & Patricia Stote, and a reminder that it's never too late to send a donation to the Beste Scholarship Fund, c/o Hague Community Center, Hague, NY 12836.



## EDITORIALS

What has happened to regulations enforcement in Hague?

It's beginning to look a lot like spring in Hague. The trees are budding, the flowers are blooming and the many dumps are beginning to show themselves again.

I have had a personal crusade on illegal dumping for the past few years. As is evidenced, I have not been successful.

There is a state regulation that more than two cars that are not licensed or usable in one place are considered a dump. An 8ft. fence is necessary to be excluded from this regulation. (However Hague's ordinance only allows a 4' fence.) If the state says this, why can't the Hague officials enforce it? They would not have to be the bad guys - blame it on the state!!

However junk cars are not the only issue which upsets me. We are also getting tremendous amounts of trash and junk which are not only a real blight to the landscaping, but present a health hazard, particularly when they are leaking into a brook. We are working very hard to beautify the town so that our residents and tourists will enjoy it. We are wasting our efforts if we allow these junk and garbage pits to continue.

I have been told that if we "pick on" certain violators, it would be called selective enforcement. I feel very strongly that we should NOT pick on any one violator, but notify them all that they are in violation. We need to give them a reasonable time to "clean up" or be faced with a day by day fine. It seems to be getting worse - shouldn't we nip the desecration immediately?

Let's all us "Hagueites" get together and take pride in our village.

We would appreciate your comments. . . Dorothy J Henry, Editor

I was appalled at the procedures in which the Planning Board meeting of April 6 were conducted. According to the agenda there was to be a "presentation of Trout House Master Plan by Alice Patchett and Steve Davis.". Alice made her presentation It was by no means a master plan. In fact, it was only a plan for the replacement of two small cabins with two one- bedroom-chalets and more than doubling the tourist accommodation space. The map which was used was a 1990 map. There was no mention about what was intended for Trout House property behind the resort and up the hill, which had been mentioned several years ago, but not in writing. I believe the Planning Board deserves to get the whole story, not just what they already know.

The second item on the agenda was "Dockside would like relief from a 1986 Planning Board restriction not to have water or toilets in the log structure. This is a Type 1 (g) development within 100 ft. of the lake."

Dockside's owner, Craig Merrill, had his lawyer present the plans to the board. Within a few minutes it was approved. According to our ordinance, there should have been a site review before approval, and more

importantly, the gazebo (bar) which is in violation (it is not a temporary structure, nor is it more than 50 ft. from the lake) should have been taken care of before granting of approvals for anything. Although I found the procedures very confusing, it was my understanding that there will not be a 20 seat bar at the gazebo and 20 seats at tables. In other words this is a 40 seat outdoor bar, within 50 feet of the lake. The residents on Lakeshore Terrace are in opposition to this plan, citing the noise and traffic, and had their representative, John Breitenbach, there to speak for them. However, he was not allowed to present his case until after the vote had been taken, although he had asked well ahead of the meeting for permission to speak. Some of his statements gave cause for concern about the project. However the Board did not second Mrs. Harrigan's motion that a public hearing be scheduled for review of the project.

. . . Dorothy J. Henry, Editor

In my view as a private citizen I believe that the residents of Hague were poorly served Thursday night April 6 by the Town Planning Board. When the Dockside issue came to the floor all consideration was allocated for the business interest and not a word was mentioned on behalf of the residents. The attorney for the residents was not given the opportunity to speak until the vote was passed, even though he had requested permission to speak before the meeting. Proper procedure was forfeited. The issue was passed even though the application was incomplete. There was no public hearing, no site review by the board members or inaccurate information on the site review form.

It is unfortunate that in this little town the policies are dictated by a few individuals whose motives are less than altruistic. In recent times the interest of the residents have been disregarded all for that mindless mantra called "tourist promotion".

It is deplorable that citizens have to be placed in harm's way, face decreased property values, have their sleep and health disturbed, and are forced to live with unsightly blight and rotting septic odors. This is not to mention the detriment to our beautiful Lake George. We have good zoning laws designed to protect our people and their property. Unfortunately in this instance they have been trampled upon and ignored.

From my perspective, the Planning Board meeting was a travesty. Of course the Dockside was a popular place to dine and no one wishes to deny it, but if it is to operate, it must abide by the zoning codes that apply to all. If those standards are met, we the community will all benefit. . . Marylou Doulin

At the April 11 meeting the town board authorized the drilling of a water well at the town park. While three proposals were received the process used is a clear violation of the town's procurement policy. This policy requires a written request for proposals with



(Continued from page 8 - Letters)

specifications and requirements. There is no record that this was done. The three proposals were delivered to the Community Center Tuesday afternoon, April 11, a few hours before the meeting in which a vote was to be taken on the project, thus effectively precluding all board members from reviewing and comparing the proposals. Yet the project was approved.

In the 2000 town budget no funds were earmarked for a water well so this was not a planned expenditure. A budget is a fiscal plan for spending money and when well over \$6,000 of taxpayers' money is going to be spent, it behooves board members to do a little planning. Other options are available for providing drinking water at the town park. Bottled water may have been the answer for this seasonal facility, but it wasn't given much consideration, perhaps because it makes too much sense. . . Rudy Meola

### HAGUE WESLEYAN CHURCH ACTIVITIES

On Good Friday, April 21 a service will be held at 12 noon, followed by luncheon at 1PM. Those attending lunch should bring finger food to share. Easter will be celebrated with the regular 11AM service.

Beginning May 3 a Family Time will be held at the church each Wednesday. Kids can get off school bus at the church. Supper will be served following the session.

Each Saturday at 7PM the men's group will meet at the church for a time of fellowship.

Just a note of appreciation for the gift of the St. Patrick's Day ring found in a piece of cake which the Carillon Garden Club left for me after their meeting. I may turn it over to my granddaughter Jolean Jensen, whose birthday is March 17. . . . Clifton West

### ALUMNI BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The third annual "Best Fourth in the North" Ticonderoga Alumni Basketball Tournament will be held Saturday, April 22 at the Ti High School gym. Four games will highlight the evening with the final contest as the championship game.

This year for the first time the female alumni basketball players will be competing. There will be two female teams who will be entertaining the public in a featured game played between half-time of the consolation and championship boys game. For more info. call Dan Crossman or Bob Dedrick.

Silver Bay Assoc. and Prestige Services, Inc. announced a partnership in which the Clifton Park based food service organization will provide management leadership to food service hospitality at the 100 year old Lake George Based YMCA Conference Center in Hague.

Prestige Services has assigned Larry Young,

Culinary Institute of America graduate from Queensbury and John Piombino, also a CIA graduate, with a degree in Restaurant Management, to manage the account. Service under the new partnership began March 21, 2000.

### HAGUE ARTS FAIR

Vendors are being solicited now for the 28th Arts & Crafts Show to be sponsored by the Hague-on-Lake George Chamber of Commerce August 5th and 6th , 2000, 10AM - 4PM.

All vendors are invited to participate at a reasonable cost. Show site is the Hague Community Center. Both inside and outside space is available. The deadline to sign up is June 1. Preferred spaces are now available. Call Mitzi Fillare at 518-543-6344 for further details.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS - April 1 - April 30 - Open 5 days, 12N to 5PM Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun. May 1 thru Sept 10 - Open seven days 12-5PM.

Fort Ticonderoga Opening Weekend, May 6-7. Residents of the Ticonderoga area, including Hague will be admitted to the fort free.

### A Bit of Hague history from Clifton West, Historian EARLY SCHOOLS

The building of the Hague Central School was started in 1926 and was opened for use in September 1927 on the foundation now occupied by the Hague Community Center. All our rural schools were closed and the students were bussed to the new location. In 1931 a large addition was built to provide a gymnasium below and four classrooms upstairs. This continued in operation until the close of the 1978-79 school year. At that time the school was consolidated with the Ticonderoga Central School.

The early settlers were concerned with the education of their children. A school system was organized in 1809, two years after Hague's first town meeting. Three persons were named to be Commissioners of Schools: Paul Burdick, Jethro Kinney and James Ackerman. The names changed over the years to rotate more people but the number in office remained the same. Their jobs included laying out the district boundaries, and building the schools. They hired the teachers for all the districts, bought supplies and saw that the schools were operated properly.

In 1817 the position of School inspector was added. The duties of the inspector were not explained in the records. We can imagine that they snooped on the kids' classes and quizzed them on their studies. Maybe the inspector looked to see that the drinking water was not frozen and that the path to the privy was shoveled in the winter. Sometimes it was necessary to enlarge a district as more people homesteaded. In 1820 a school meeting was held to enlarge Dist. No. 3 to include the properties of Austin Shattuck, Phineas Reed and Lorin Allen. Allen's farm was where I was born in 1908. I attended that school nine years later. Shattuck was my great-great-great Grandfather. I do not know where he lived.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR APRIL/MAY 2000

## April

- 22 Hague Historical Society Cleanup Day - p2  
 23 Easter Sunday  
 25 Senior Citizens meeting - 1:30PM Go to Bolton Mealsite  
 at 11AM (See p2)  
 26 Secretaries Day  
 27 Zoning Board of Appeals - 7PM

## May

- 1 Fire Dept. meeting  
 2 Home Bureau - 10AM  
 3 Sr. Citizens bus to Glens Falls  
 4 Planning Board meeting - 7PM

- 5 Church Women United - p5  
 9 Town Board meeting - 6:30PM  
 12 HAGUE CHRONICLE DEADLINE  
 15 Hague Cleanup Day - p1  
 15 Chamber of Commerce meeting  
 16 Home Bureau - 10AM  
 16 Fish & Game Club  
 17 Blood Pressure Clinic - 1-2PM  
 17 U.M. Women's Family Fun Night - 2  
 18 Carillon Garden Club - 11AM  
 18 Hague Historical Society - 7:30PM  
 18 Warren County Sr. Cit. Lunch p6

## BLACK FLIES FIND HIKERS DELICIOUS

As a person with a strong record in support of the environment, perhaps I will have some credibility when I tell you that, on reflection, the environment is significantly overrated.

This revelation occurred on an unstable slide on the west face of an Adirondack peak known as Mt. McComb, as blood trickled down my face, arms and legs.

A fall? I wish. A fall may be painful and inconvenient, but at least a fall is accidental, explainable and unemotional.

No, my wounds were from a brutal, calculated attack by the most lawless and sadistic insect on the planet, a species known by the deceptively innocuous title of "black fly."

The black fly is mindful of a fruit fly that has fallen out of comfort with its vegetarianism and instead has developed a rabid blood lust matched only by a politician's thirst for tobacco-lobby cash.

Whoever wrote the 1943 edition of the New Columbia Encyclopedia (The Herald-Mail believes an encyclopedia, like a complex Bordeaux, improves with time) must have had some first-hand experience with the critters because he loses his normal, dispassionate encyclopedia voice when he says the black fly has "large eyes, short legs, a stout humped back (no smart guy, this is not the entry for 'Rosie O'Donnell') broad, gauzy wings and piercing-sucking mouthparts.

"The female insect inflicts a painful bite, sucking the blood out of birds and mammals, including humans.

Large mammals may be bitten to death by swarms of black flies; the black fly problem in some subarctic regions is so severe as to make human settlement impossible."

And that's just the female black fly. Imagine if the male black flies would ever put down their beers and their remotes and become motivated to get up off their sofas in their little black fly trailer parks long enough to join their wives during these hideous blood shopping trips. The flies would easily collect more pints than the American Red Cross.

I always made a point of climbing around Memorial Day because these winged desperadoes never hatched before mid-June. Now the talk-radio hosts who never leave their studios and get their information from studies paid for by the chemical industries assure us there is no such thing as global warming.

This proves, conclusively, that not enough black flies listen to talk radio. Because over the past few years, it's warmed up enough for them to begin their blood feed about two weeks earlier in the spring than they used to.

The talk-radio hosts are obviously right about one other thing too: We should have never gotten rid of DDT.

There was a substance that knew what to do with a black fly: Rip its lungs out of its throat in the most painful way possible. This brings me back to my initial point - there are some species on this planet that mere endangering is too good for, and these groups include bick flies and Rosie O'Donnell.

DDT causes cancer? Perhaps, but I think you need to weigh the alternatives. That, after all, is why we drink sugar-free soft drinks. We reason, what's a little bladder cancer if you have good teeth?

And when you're on an 800-ft. slide and swatting would result in unspeakable, balance-losing consequences. I think you can begin to see my point.

Particularly when blood starts running from open bites and you realize these beasts have a native intelligence that allows them to know precisely when your hands are otherwise occupied and they are free to land and nosh at will. When you are able to slap at them, they only take it as applause. Netting only encourages their sense of sport. Bug spray to them is A1 sauce.

I still consider myself a supporter of the environment, but with one disclaimer. I now support an environment free and clear of any creature whose encyclopedic entry has any reference whatsoever to piercing-sucking mouthparts.

Tim Rowland, columnist for The Herald Mail, Hagerstown, Md. June 1999

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