

## MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

by Ginger Kuenzel

With the purple mountains' majesty as a backdrop, this year's Memorial Day celebration in Hague once again paid tribute to all the veterans who have fought through the centuries for the freedom we enjoy today. That fight for freedom dates back to the 18th century when American patriots fought the British, perhaps even on the very soil on which we were standing. Many decades later, men from Hague marched off to preserve the Union in the battles of the Civil War. And over the next century and a half, others from Hague donned their country's uniform to do their patriotic duty – in wars fought on foreign soil. It was to honor these veterans that we gathered in the park that May afternoon. Some we might have known, some we never did. But there was no doubt in anyone's mind about the huge debt of gratitude we owe to each and every one of them.

The ceremony was the culmination of the day's events, which included a lively parade down Route 8, ending in the park. From Uncle Sam to the lady on stilts, from the country's oldest marching band to Fort Ticonderoga's fife and drum corps, they were all there. Individuals, clubs and groups from the Town went all out in creating floats that demonstrated their allegiance to the community. "Every year, our parade and our celebration gets bigger and better," Supervisor Dan Belden said in kicking off the ceremony in the park. "This proves that, even though we're a small town, anything is possible if we work together."

Dan thanked Madeline Pelkey for her tireless efforts in organizing the parade and celebration. After greeting everyone and announcing the winning entries in the parade, Madeline



Guest speaker Lee Woodruff

turned the podium over to Lee Woodruff, this year's guest speaker. Lee is the wife of ABC special news correspondent Bob Woodruff, who was gravely injured in a roadside bombing in Iraq in 2006. And, although Bob miraculously survived the ordeal and is now back on the job, she pointed out that it was only through the valiant efforts of the military medics who rushed to his aid and the subsequent care he received that he is alive to tell the story. "Those military medics are amazing," she said. "And so are the thousands of men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan fighting for us." She urged everyone to remember and honor

not just those who have given life or limb for their country but also the soldiers who have returned from the war, but who are the 'walking wounded.' These are the men and women with brain injuries, or who are suffering from post traumatic stress disorder or other psychological wounds, she explained. To help all those who have sacrificed so much, Lee and Bob are asking everyone to get involved in Remind.org, which is an arm of the Bob Woodruff Foundation. The goal is "to educate the public about the needs of injured service members, veterans and their families as they reintegrate into their communities." (Visit <[www.remind.org](http://www.remind.org)> to contribute and/or get involved.)

As the ceremony ended, we all turned toward the lake to watch the firing of Fort Ticonderoga's cannon and listen to two young patriots solemnly play taps. The strains of 'America the Beautiful' rang out over the park. In this land stretching from sea to shining sea, we indeed have a lot to be grateful for. But the Memorial Day celebration also served as a reminder that there are many, many men and women who have paid dearly over the centuries to gain and preserve that freedom for the rest of us. And no matter what our views are on the current war – or any war -- can there be any doubt about the gratitude we owe to all those who serve our country?



## NORTH COUNTRY TRIATHLON THIS WEEKEND

Starting at 8 am on Saturday, June 27, 2009 at the Hague Town Beach.



## MUSIC IN THE PARK

The July schedule for Wednesday nights at 7:30 pm at the Hague Town Park;

- July 8 LOOSE CONNECTION**  
Progressive rock, alternative and country blues snug and played in the blue grass style.
- July 15 MARY JO VON TURRY & DWINAL SMITH**  
Rhythmic music numbers, lyrical melodies and old country blues.
- July 22 THE SILVER BAY QUARTET**  
Romantic symphonic themes, classical music and catchy pop tunes.
- July 29 GARY FINNEY**  
Traditional folk songs and rhythmic music with a driving modern beat.

## SENIOR CLUB NEWS

May's Swinging Senior Luncheon "Catered by Katy" with dessert by member Imogene Frasier was a very tasty success. The menu was most ample and I must say, the chicken salad was uniquely scrumptious. It's rather doubtful that Katy Wells will share that recipe with you, but it doesn't hurt to ask! This gathering was our THANKS TO US luncheon as a treat for all the effort extended in sponsoring Hague's Memorial Day Celebration on May 23, 2009. Members of the Parade Committee were introduced and thanked individually for their specific tasks accomplished during this event, and words of appreciation given to all the Club Members who take part in this endeavor.

The Senior Parade Float, BETSY ROSS - BIRTH OF AMERICAN FLAG, designed by Joan Steitz and Diane Faranick, won the \$100 prize for Most Patriotic Theme. Their Float Committee (Pat Hintze, Maureen Cherubini, Carol Paul, Shirley and Don Carey, Ray Snyder, Gladys Graser and John Brown) combined their many talents, making props, etc. to a winning entry. Plus, during the Funfest, the Senior Cafe, Craft Table and White Elephant tables all made record profits. Jobs well done.

We also celebrated a special birthday for one of our 90+ Club Members - Marguerite West! She was treated to a card, gift and lovely tiered Birthday Cake along with the Club's harmonious rendition of HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

## PROPERTY SALES INFORMATION

From January through May 2009, 19 deeds for property in Hague were recorded in the Warren County Clerk's Office. Of these most were transfers among family members with no monetary value. The only significant sales were: More to Rappaport \$1,090,000, Whitney to Donohue \$55,000, McCarty to Donnelly \$115,000 and the McCormicks to Pickert \$866,666.

Alison Craig, of Alison Craig Realty, Hague, has given us comparison figures of all sales in Hague, Ticonderoga and Putnam sold through the multiple listing service from January to June 10th in both 2008 and 2009. In 2009, the average sale of sixteen properties was about \$171,600 per sale while in 2008 thirty properties were sold for an average of about \$300,200 per sale. Alison noted that it does not mean a drop in property values, rather fewer high-end properties were sold.

## BUSY TRAINING SCHEDULE AT HVFD



Recently Dave and Mark Martucci, James Belden, Ernie Trudeau, Robert Rafferty, Ted Conant, Linda and Ray Mury, Jocelyn and Pam Fischer, Doug Sham, Janet and John Hanna and Steve Ross completed Emergency Vehicle Operations Course Certification. This greatly increases our ranks of qualified drivers for both ambulance and fire.

Ernie Trudeau, Robert Rafferty, Bill Wells, James Belden, Craig Rypkema, Ray Mury and Jon Hanna completed Phase 1 of the Hybrid Vehicle Safety Awareness Training. This has become especially important considering the frequency of accidents involving hybrids and the danger that they present to emergency responders.

There will be a Fire Police Drill led by Sgt. Bartlett of the Warren Co. Sheriffs Office for Traffic Control on June 23 at our Fire House. All members and area mutual aid companies are welcome to attend.

During the 4th of July celebration we will be demonstrating our new Fire/Rescue Boat, and the recently refurbished Engine #344 will be on display as well.

At our last meeting we welcomed four new members: Harold Bresett, Jim Snyder and Kim Coffin as active members, and Bethany Devino as supportive member. Welcome all!

In the weeks leading up to the triathlon you will often encounter runners and cyclists on the roads in the area. Slow down and give them a break. ... Joe McCranels

## SCHOOL BOARD RESULTS

Unfortunately neither Hague candidate, Donna Van Wirt nor Glenn McKee, was elected to the Ticonderoga School Board. Therefore there is now no Hague resident on that Board.

The School budget passed.

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## MEMORIAL DAY 2009

Once again the weather chose to shine down on us even though rain was predicted, making our seventh Memorial Celebration truly a very successful day. The FAMILY FUNFEST was well attended and all the concessions did well. Linda Benway's Dog Show contestants were royally decked out in unique costumes and seemingly enjoyed all the flattering attention. This has proved to be a popular and fun filled event. The children enjoyed the games, face painting and Up Yonda's Educational Presentation. Food options were plentiful, WOKO Radio provided all day music along with the Cambridge Band Concert at noon, and of course, the Dunking Booth prompted abundant laughter.

The GOD BLESS AMERICA PARADE has gained itself a very positive track record. The Marine Colorguard leading Hague's Veteran Memorial quietly set the tone as the names of Hague's deceased Veterans were heard as the unit slowly passed by - names from the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War and deceased members of the Fire and Rescue - a solitary bagpipe was heard playing in the background. . . . there is no doubt, this is Our Memorial Parade! Our Grand Marshall, Margaret DelSignore, then led the formation consisting of six bands, clowns and classics, dogs and mini-horses, the Keystone Kops, Ragtime Calliope, youth groups, floats, etc. How wonderful it is TO BE FREE to celebrate our day in this manner! ... Madeline Pelkey

## NOTES OF APPRECIATION

The MEMORIAL DAY PARADE COMMITTEE - Madeline Pelkey, Emily Cobb, Pat Hintze, Gladys Graser, Joan Steitz, Ray Snyder, Shirley and Don Carey, Maureen Cherubini, Carol Paul, Diane Faranick and John Brown - extends its appreciation to all those who supported, participated and/or attended Hague's Celebration on May 23rd. Special thanks go to the Hague Town Officials and Staff, the Hague Chamber of Commerce, The Kiwanis Club, the Stewart's Shops, Walmart and all the many private donors who contributed.

For advertising we thank the Chamber of Commerce, Hague Market, Northbrook Motel, Hacker Boat, Lonergan's Antiques, Alison Craig Realty, Snug Harbor South, Lake Shore Garage, Juniper Design & Goods, Hague Motel, Locust Inn, Best Electric, Ruah B&B, Emerald's Restaurant, Carillon Restaurant, Montcalm Manor, Lin's Dog Grooming and WOKO Radio. Thanks also to The Hague Chronicle, Post Star, Lake George Mirror, GF Chronicle, Times of Ti, Lake Champlain Weekly and Adirondack Pennysaver.

We thank the Marines, American Legion, Veterans and Reenactors. We thank the Parade Judges Joyce Barker, Craig Lonergan and John McDonald, Jr. For Traffic/Parking Control, we thank Ray Snyder, David Snow, the HVFD and Henry Bariteau, Jr. with his crew from the Fire Police Association of Hudson Valley, as well as Bruce Clark, Dan Steitz, Art Steitz, and Martin Fitzgerald, Sr.

We especially need to thank Lee Woodruff who graciously filled in for her husband, Robert, as Guest Speaker at our Me-

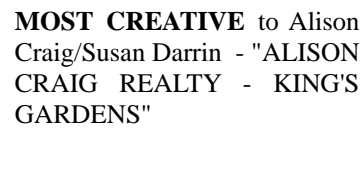
morial Service. We thank all of you who offered your helping hands to the Seniors that Saturday in numerous areas. Thanks to Linda Benway for the very popular Dog Show and to the Fire Department for the BEST BARBECUE IN THE NORTH!

... Madeline Pelkey

## MEMORIAL DAY PARADE WINNERS



**BEST IN PARADE** to Hague Post Office - "OUR TRUSTY MAIL CARRIER"



**MOST CREATIVE** to Alison Craig/Susan Darrin - "ALISON CRAIG REALTY - KING'S GARDENS"



**BEST ADIRONDACK** to Hague Fish & Game Club - "FISHING SPORT OF THE SEASONS"



**MOST PATRIOTIC** to Hague Senior Citizens Club - "BETSY ROSS BIRTH OF AMERICAN FLAG"



**BEST YOUTH** to Girl Scout Troop #3256 - "COOKIES & CREAM"

## HONORABLE MENTIONS

Heather Dolloff  
"VERY TALL STILT WALKER"



Nevaeh Trudeau, Anthony & Nicholas Fenimore  
"RECYCLING MUNCHKINS"

## TOWN BOARD MEETING - 6/9/09

Supervisor Belden and Council members Gladu, Meola, Martucci and Frasier were all present.

Prior to the regular meeting, a representative from Elan Planners described the latest plans for the American Legion building and surrounding park area. They will be putting the building on the northwest corner of the property so that there will be more room for the open area and it will not infringe on the DOT right of way. There will be a large memorial bell as well as stone memorials with names of veterans. Included will be only persons who were in Hague when they went into the service. Council member Frasier reported that the American Legion was pleased with the plans.

The regular meeting opened and a moment of silence was held for Helen Jordan and Victor Gunther.

The Privilege of the Floor was extended to several people:

- John Goehrig asked about sewer EDUs which will be addressed in the special Board meeting on June 22, 2009.
- A complaint was heard about the Town parking lot next to the Baptist Church. It was reported that men have been seen from the street urinating in the parking lot. People have been leaving bottles and glasses and smoking pot in the area. At times they have been there until quarter of three in the morning. A discussion ensued as to what measures the Town has taken. Councilman Meola said that since it belongs to the Town it could be closed. Councilman Gladu noted that whether in the parking lots or woods there is partying and “we don’t have a set of solutions that goes after the problem.” Supervisor Belden said he will draft a letter to see if more police patrols could come through the Town.
- Chris Navitsky noted that the proposed resolution on Town opposition to the stream corridor regulations was based on some reasons that were not correct. Others felt that they should go ahead with the resolution. The Town Board seemed to be most upset that they were not involved in the decision making by the LGPC.
- Councilman Meola introduced Donna Wotton, a professional event planner, who has volunteered to work in conjunction with a committee organized by Meola to plan an Oktoberfest event. This event will help promote the Town and local businesses. The date the committee originally hoped for was September 26, 2009 which is the date already scheduled by the Republican Party for their annual Oktoberfest so the date is not finalized.
- In response to a question from Gene Moran it was noted that the charge for recyclables of \$1 is only if you aren't taking up any garbage. Gene expressed concern about recyclables being tossed away..

### Town Board Committee Reports:

#### 1. Assessor & Justice:

The final tax roll will be ready on July 1st and at the end of July the real tax levy will be known.

After much discussion the Board passed a motion to have the Town Attorney write a letter to a property owner with dogs who has been asked to “abate a nuisance” due to barking. The motion calls for “an immediate resolution for the barking problem by July 14 and if not done by then, the next step will be a summons of complaint.”

#### 2. Buildings & Grounds/Enhancement:

Work continues on Community Center projects. Councilwoman Frasier reported that the three entrances into Town have been planted and thanks are extended to the Carillon Garden Club.

#### 3. Finance & Insurance:

An audit report has been received from the independent auditor hired by the Town for \$6600. Councilman Meola complained that although it had a couple of recommendations it was very vague. The report referred to the Supervisor by the wrong name, which might indicate a generic type letter. Also it is customary for an examiner to meet with body that hired him.

#### 4. Fire Department:

Councilman Martucci reported on the HVFD and mentioned that they are having special training on fighting fires of hybrid cars.

#### 5. Highway:

Superintendent Don Smith was not able to be at the meeting but appreciates all the good wishes for recovery from his accident.

#### 6. Museum & Historian:

Councilwoman Frasier noted the Hague Historical Society will have a program on the Sexton sisters.

#### 7. Personnel:

No report.

#### 8. Planning/Zoning/Stormwater:

Councilman Gladu reported on Planning Board activity and noted that it has the exclusive jurisdiction over site plan review.

#### 9. Recreation Promotion & Youth:

Councilman Meola reported on the summer music program for youngsters at Silver Bay and on the County youth bureau.

#### 10. Sewer Districts #1 & #2:

A little glitch reported but everything should be back on track by now. Supervisor Belden noted that the engineers are doing a good job and actually are ahead of schedule.

#### 11. Town Park:

Councilman Meola reported that Phil Swanson had made and donated new signs for the lifeguard area. There was contin-

ued discussion about the geese “problem” at the beach. The Town has a sweeper that picks up after them and it was noted that it needs to be done every day. The Board is continuing to look at other solutions to the problem - the netting would be quite expensive.

**12. Transfer Station:**

A new contract has been agreed upon with Casella Waste Management.

**Under some of the other business the Board:**

Announced receipt of information about the September 18-20, 2009 celebration at NYS Crown Point Historic Site and Campground commemorating the 400th anniversary of the first European exploration of Lake Champlain by Samuel de Champlain.

Approved 3-2, a resolution to urge the WC Board of Supervisors to continue to fund operations for the Warren County Fish Hatchery.

Authorized signing the amendment agreement for use of County Motor Fuel System.

Authorized \$1250 to help retain the WC GIS program.

Tabled a resolution opposing the LGPC’s decision on revised stream protection.

Approved a resolution in opposition to the APA’s NYS new proposed regulations to ban the use of burn barrels.

**PLANNING BOARD - 6/4/09**

Chairman EJ Siwek, Dick Frasier, Pam Peterson, Bruce Clark, Mike Cherubini, and Martin Fitzgerald were present and John Brown was absent.

LAPOINTE (24-1-43), 9042 Graphite Mt Rd, (TR-3)

Applicant applied for a minor subdivision of a 40.47 acre parcel creating three lots consisting of a 2.25 acre (with house, barn and garage apartment), a 1.32 acre parcel and a 36.90 acre parcel. The application was deemed complete and a public hearing will be held on 7/9/09.

LTP HOLDINGS, LLC - Uptown Store (43.5-1-5) 9819 Graphite Mt Rd (hamlet)

Applicant requested a modification to the approved use of the property, which was as a retail bakery, to include a restaurant with outdoor and wine service. A public hearing was held and several people from among the 30 present spoke in favor of the application with none opposed. The application was deemed complete and then approved with conditions relating to noise, lighting and fencing.

GINN/DELARM - Firehouse Restaurant (43.5-1-3), 9813 Graphite Mt. Rd (hamlet)

The applicants requested approval to serve food and alcoholic beverages on the restaurant’s rear concrete patio and in front of the Restaurant. The PB approved the application with service times as follows: the kitchen will be opened until 11 pm and last call is between the hours of 1 am and 2 am. Smoking will be allowed at the front of the building and the DOH final approval must be provided.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 5/28/09**

Chairman Robert Goetsch, John Hanna, Glenn McKee, Martin Fitzgerald, II and George Ianson were present while Bill Pittman and Lindsay Mydlarz were absent.

NAVITSKY (93.19-1-10), 7763 Lakeshore Drive, RC

A public hearing was held and then the ZBA approved the variance for a fence with the condition that it would not be erected until a work permit is approved by the NYS DOT since part of the fence will be on the State right-of-way.

**SILVER BAY INTERIM DIRECTOR**

When Silver Bay Executive Director Martin Fink left last fall to pursue other interests, the Silver Bay Board of Directors turned to its Vice-Chairman to lead the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks. Vincent Smith is now serving as Interim Director, having served seven years on the Board.



*Vincent Smith*

After graduation from Harvard and then Yale Law School, Mr. Smith started a 30 year career as a NY real estate lawyer working mainly with commercial properties. Coming from a family interested in the theater, Vincent began acting at age 8 and his involvement continued over the years as he was intrigued by creating set design to create the proper atmosphere. This interest led to studying feng shui and a parallel career as an interior designer and an environmental psychologist business consultant, currently affiliated with a national consulting firm, Panergetics (see <www.panergetics.com>).

Lawyer, design consultant, teacher, author and now interim director of Silver Bay, Vincent Smith brings a varied background and a special appreciation for the spiritual energy and healing nature of Silver Bay with a vision for its future.

Vincent was originally introduced to the Silver Bay area through his wife, Alice (Silkworth) and has been coming to vacation at Silver Bay for over 30 years. He and his wife have 3 children and 4 grandchildren.

**LGLC EVENT**

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) will hold a family hike to the great blue heron rookery in Gull Bay Preserve, Putnam on Saturday, June 27, 2009 from 9 am - 1 pm. You can watch the majestic birds as they interact as a colony and get their young ready to leave the nests. Along the way you can learn about the natural landscape and its plants and animals. The 2 1/2 mile round-trip hike is of moderate intensity and appropriate for most ages. Pre-registration is required so call Sarah at 518-644-9673 right away. Visit <www.lglc.org> for more information.





## GRACE CHAPEL CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

Grace Chapel, on Sabbath Day Point, will be celebrating it's 125th year in 2009 and welcomes all to the Worship services scheduled for Sunday at 9:30 am. The services and the celebrants for the first half of the summer are as follows:

- June 28 - The Rev. Dr. John B. Paterson
- July 5 - The Rev. Charlotte P. Gosselink
- July 12 - The Rev. Bruce Tamlyn
- July 1 - The Rev. James Neevel
- July 26 - The Rev. Deadra Bachorik Aston

On August 8th the Chapel plans an ice cream social, with an afternoon of fun and games. There will be a special service, commemorating the 125th year and completion of the stained glass renovation on Sunday, August 9th at 9:30 am. All are welcome and further details will be in the July issue of The Hague Chronicle.

## GRACE CHAPEL CHAMBER MUSIC

Prometheus Brass will open the *Chamber Music at Grace Chapel* series, "Music for Summer Evenings," with a concert at 7:30 pm on Friday, July 3, 2009 at Grace Chapel on Sabbath Day Point. The brass quartet will play works by Gabrieli, Gershwin, Joplin, Ramsoe, Sousa and others. Join them for a fun evening to kick off the holiday weekend.

This year the series presents 5 concerts. The remaining concerts are Saturdays: July 11, the Silver Bay String Quartet; July 18, Thomas Wolf, tenor singing music from American Musical Theater; August 1, Trio Threed, a trio of 2 oboes and English horn playing music from Beethoven to Gershwin; and August 15th, Gramercy Brass Quintet. Each concert begins at 7:30 pm at Grace Memorial Chapel and will include music from the 1880's in honor of the Chapel's 125th Anniversary this year. A freewill donation will be taken at the door. For further information, please check <[www.gracememorialchapel.org](http://www.gracememorialchapel.org)> or call Sandra Coffin at 543-6044.

This series is made possible, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts Decentralization Program and Warren County, administered locally by the Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council.

## FARMERS MARKET

The Warrensburgh Riverfront Farmers' Market on the banks of the Schroon River in Warrensburgh continues every Friday through the end of October. From plants to poultry, gourmet greens to goat cheese, pies to peanuts, soaps to spices, granola to Granny Smiths, maple syrup to meats, hickory barbecue sauce to chunky chocolate brownies, summer wines to cider donuts, every Friday afternoon they are "Bringing the Farm to You" in the heart of the historic Mill District.

## SAVING PUTNAM CHURCH

The Putnam Presbyterian Church, a beautiful and significant landmark in the Putnam community, was organized in 1803. The present building with its soaring steeple is framed against granite cliffs, with sweeping views over the woods and farms of Putnam. It is a community treasure but is in serious need of "fixing up"; a new coat of paint, steeple repairs, attention to drainage.

The cost of painting the building, addressing the repairs and drainage needs exceeds \$40,000 based on recent bids. The Church has received several very generous gifts from members and former members, a wonderful first step to the capital campaign needed to address the on-going issues of an aging structure. Now the congregation is entering the campaign phase of going to the members, supporters and friends of the Church in the surrounding communities, asking them to help us raise the balance of the funds we need - \$15,000.

We have a unique plan to raise the money - we are asking people to "buy buckets of paint", with each bucket representing a \$30.00 donation to the capital needs of the building. Our goal is to "sell" 500 gallons to raise our goal. (We also are offering "quarts of paint" for \$10.00). Whether or not you are a member of Putnam Church, you have an opportunity to join with others to protect this beautiful historic landmark. Your contribution can be sent to Putnam United Presbyterian Church, Putnam Station, NY 12861.

## FISH & GAME CLUB STEAK ROAST

The Hague Fish & Game Club will hold it's Annual Steak Bake on Saturday, July 11, 2009. The dinner will consist of a grilled NY Strip Steak, baked potato, salad, roll and dessert for \$13. There also will be a Horseshoe Tournament, with a \$5 entry fee per person, starting at 2 pm and prizes will be awarded. A famous, local DJ will be spinning your favorite tune for your enjoyment in the sunset hours.

## NEW GROOMER FOR SNO-GOERS

The Hague Sno-Goers have purchased a used Bombardier Bombi 100 and 04-08 Mogul Master Drag. This equipment will help make the trails safer and smoother for snowmobilers riding the Hague trails. The new paint job was shown in the Memorial Day Parade.



There are 20 miles of trails that go to Jabes Pond and downtown Hague. There are many scenic views along the trails and there was even a picture of some local riders in the March '08 issue of New York Snowmobiler.

The Sno-Goers will soon have a fund raising raffle.

... Tom Haskell

# Looking Back



*Researched by the Hague Historical Society*

Here's a snippet from a column entitled "The Glorious Fourth" in the July 1980 Hague Chronicle: ". . . The first fifty years after the birth of our nation, the observance of the FOURTH was a fairly solemn occasion accompanied by Church services, especially in New England. The first recorded July oratory (later known as "oratorical over-indulgence") was given by David Ramsay in 1794. "Let us forward this desirable Revolution . . . that other nations, struck with the fruits of our excellent Constitution, may be induced by free choice to model their own, or similar principles." These words have been echoed by Jefferson, Lincoln and other public figures up to the present day.

"Starting in 1830, however, the day was given over to festivities, firecrackers and gorging. At Cadiz, Ohio, in 1840 the spirited 'log cabin boys' consumed 2,100 pounds of bread, 1,100 pounds of ham, 15 young pigs, 500 pounds of cheese, a barbecued ox weighing 1,500 pounds, and needless to say plenty of hard cider."

"Quotations from A SEASON OF YOUTH by Pulitzer Prize winner, Michael Kammen."

## HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The publication date of The Hague Chronicle this month precluded us from including any news of our June Annual Meeting. Look for details in the July issue.

In the meantime, be sure to mark your calendars for Tuesday, July 28, when our Natural History program on birds will be given by Mike Peterson. Program starts at 7 pm and we hope to see many of you there!  
... Pat McDonough

## MOHICAN CRAFTERS CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY



The nimble-fingered group of ladies pictured above celebrated Marguerite West's birthday earlier this month. These crafty ladies -- with an age spread of 40 years -- meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 10 am for an hour of needlework and chat and then a brief interlude for refreshments. They are truly "the last of the Mohicans"; the original group was the Mohican Chapter of the NYS Home Bureau that once numbered 55 women. Pictured are: seated, Blanche Hanna, Marguerite West, and Gertrude Raczkowski; standing, Jo Wray, Jackie Ambra, Maureen Cherubini, and Pat McDonough.

## Weather Report by JoAnne DeFranco

### Weather Report for 5/15/09 — 6/19/09

The past four weeks have been like spring – cool and rainy. This is a bit unusual for Hague and the North Country. We don't usually have spring-like weather. We go from winter right into summer heat. The last day for possible frosts in our Zone 4 growing season is May 31st. This means if you plant tender annuals and vegetables outside before this date there is the possibility that a frost could kill them. We had frost warnings this May on May 18, 19, 25 and 26 and on June 1. Although areas around the Lake did not freeze, the higher elevations of Graphite and Chilson did experience a late season frost.

There were three gorgeous days during the past few weeks. May 15th was sunny and warm (82) and June 16th was sunny and clear at 72 degrees. Our warmest day occurred early in the reporting period on May 21 at 90 degrees. Since then a cooling trend has dominated our weather pattern varying from 72 degrees to mid 60's and even high 50's.

Rain has been plentiful especially on May 16th with an extreme downpour at 5:30 pm that continued into the night. I noticed several driveways had washouts as did Route 8. May 27th was an all day rain of .62". Then rain again on May 28th with 1.1". On June 9th, there was .55" rain and again on June 12 at .95". June 13 started out sunny but by 3 pm it was raining. Sunday, June 14th was a clone of Saturday. Monday, June 15th brought afternoon thundershowers with .49" rain. Albany received violent storms and hail. Thursday June 18th was an all day rain amounting to .5 by 5:30 pm. The forecast as we go to press is for two more days of rain. At least we won't have to water the gardens for awhile!



## GARDEN TIPS

Known for her beautiful gardens, JoAnne DeFranco has shared these special tips:

1. With all the rain we have experienced, the slugs are making an early appearance in the garden. I have found the best way to get rid of these creatures is to put out empty tuna fish cans and fill them with beer. Slugs can not resist the yeast aroma. They climb in and drown. They can have one last grand party in the beer before passing on – not a bad way to go. You should empty the cans frequently and refill with fresh beer. Move the cans around to get all areas of your beds.

2. My second tip concerns mugho pines. If yours are looking like many of the needles are missing, you may want to take a second look. Look closely and you will see many small green/grey worms at the base of the shoots that are eaten. These are pine sawfly larvae. They hatch out at the end of May to mid June. To get rid of them, simply knock them off into a can or bucket of water to drown them. If this is unappealing, you can spray them with pesticide



## ~SOUNDINGS~

**BORN:** A son, Brady Michael, on May 25, 2009, to Lindsay and Michael Mydlarz of Hague. Brady, grandson of Edna and Dick Frasier of Hague, joins sister Alyssa.

**BORN:** A daughter, Alaythea Joy, on June 12, 2009, to Jennifer and Bryon Lockhart of Mt. Laurel, NJ. Alaythea is the granddaughter of Jim and Madeline O'Toole of Hague. She joins three brothers and two sisters.

**ENGAGED:** On June 4, 2009, Julia Fach, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Fach of Poway, CA to PFC Robert Underwood III, son of Robert and Elizabeth Underwood of Silver Bay and Haymarket, VA and grandson of John and Jan Breitenbach. A May 2010 wedding is planned in California.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Willa Shakeshaft who has received another award for her art work. Her entry in the "Picture Washington County" Youth Art Competition earned an Honorable Mention and is on display at the Washington County Fair Farm Museum.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Michael Michela, son of Joe and Deb Michela of Clifton Park and Hague, who graduated from the State University of New York at Cortland with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Education in December 2008. While attending Cortland, Mike was a member of the Division III junior varsity and varsity Red Dragon football team. Since graduation Mike has obtained his teacher certification and is currently substitute teaching.

**DIED:** Helen Jordan, 96, of Hague on June 1, 2009. She is survived by her daughter, Helen Goetsch of Hague and a son, Stephen Jordan of New Jersey as well as many grandchildren.

**DIED:** Victor Gunther, 89, of Hague and Tucson, AZ on June 7, 2009 in Ticonderoga. Victor and his late wife, Ethel became summer residents of Hague in the 1960's. He is survived by his sons Wayne and wife Lori, of Ridgecrest, CA, and Barry and his wife, Dee, of Tucson, AZ and by his daughter, Wendy and her husband Steve Kroft, of Marina Del Rey, CA.

**MEMORIAL:** The family of Cynthia Bovard McCranels, who died on February 23, 2009, invite her friends to a reception in celebration of her life on Saturday, July 11, 2009, from 4 - 6 pm at the Boathouse at Silver Bay Association.

**MEMORIAL:** A Celebration of Life will be held on July 12, 2009 at 3 pm at the Northern Lake George Yacht Club in Friend's Point, Hague for Delmar Dhein, who died at home on February 20, 2009.

### LGA EVENTS

The Lake George Association (LGA) is holding several interesting programs and events this summer. They include "Build your own Rain Barrel" on July 1, 2009 at 5:30 pm at the LGA office, a talk on "Inspiring the Writer's Life" with Nancy Scarzello on July 2, 2009 at 7 pm at the LGA, Carl Heilman Book Release Party and BBQ dinner on July 9, 2009 at 5:15 pm at Canoe Island Lodge, "Aquatic Invaders" about invasive species on July 10, 2009 from 10 - 11 am at Shepard Park, Lake George Village, Volunteer Stream Clean Up on July 15, 2009

at 9:30 am meeting at Bolton Landing Town Hall, "LGA Summer Splash", dinner and dancing at The Inn at Erlowest, Lake George on July 17, 2009 at 6:30 pm, Annual Loon Census on July 18, 2009 from 8 am - 9 am and "Food Webs" on July 24, 2009 from 10 - 11 am at Rogers Park, Bolton Landing.

Advanced registration and fees may apply to some of these events. For further information call the LGA at 668-3558 or see <[www.lakegeorgeassociation.org](http://www.lakegeorgeassociation.org)> .

### TICONDEROGA FESTIVAL GUILD

The Guild has announced the schedule of summer events for 2009. Opening the season for the Tuesday evening concerts will be Woods Tea Company on July 7 at 8 pm. The traditional opening night buffet will be offered during intermission. Because of the necessity of booking another group in August, the Ti Talent night will be July 14 instead of at the end of the season. Local artists may sign up to participate in this "open mic" format. On July 21, Rich Bala, the Baladeer, will offer songs of lakes and canals as a salute to the 400th anniversary of Champlain's discovery of the lake. Vintage and contemporary music will be offered by Town Meeting on July 28. The evening concerts have an admission fee of \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

The Wednesday morning Arts Trek programs for children will begin with the Zucchini Brothers on July 8. One very exciting program will be presented by Two of a Kind, who with their twin sons, will hold a songwriting workshop at the Heritage Museum (across the street from the Guild tent on Montcalm Street) on July 15 followed by a program under the tent. They will help children write a song about Lake Champlain, its heritage and use, which will be performed by the songwriters during the program. The Seagle Colony will present their children's opera, Carmenella, on July 29. Thanks to funds raised by contributions and donations, the Wednesday morning Arts Trek programs are free for area children and those who bring them.

With no children's summer program this year in Ticonderoga, the summer Arts Trek programs will provide a local event for young children. For further information or to find out how to help support these programs, call 585-6716, or see <[www.ticonderogafestivalguild.org](http://www.ticonderogafestivalguild.org)> or contact the Guild by email at <[tfguild@capital.net](mailto:tfguild@capital.net)>.

### TMS HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to the following students in the Ticonderoga Middle School (TMS) who were on the honor roll for the third marking period

- Grade 6— First Honors  
Ian Lawrie
- Grade 7—First Honors  
Jeanette Coon, Ty Denno, Sean Lawrie, Kimberly Porter
- Grade 8— First Honors  
Grace Ginn, Bryana Goetsch, Karney Manning,  
Jordan McKee
- Grade 8—Second Honors  
Michael Ferrer



## Nature News by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

### Close Encounters of the Snapping Turtle Kind

Until last week, my experiences with snapping turtles were limited. When my children were little we named the route into town after the large snapper that crossed the road in front of our car, “the snapping turtle way”. Over two feet long from head to tail, the kids thought the stegosaurus-like tail made it a living dinosaur. The next time I encountered one, I ended up moving it out of the bike path by approaching it from behind, picking up the 30-40 pound beast by the sides of its shell and with arms outstretched, walked it into the woods toward the river where I carefully set it down and backed away! (Don’t move them this way ~ big mistake!) And my grandmother liked to tell the story of when my father was a kid and got tangled up with one of the little monsters. A young snapper had clamped down on his finger and the only way she could get it to let go was to cut the turtle’s head off with a knife! It must have been a young one because even a small snapper can sever a finger while an adult is capable of amputating a human hand! Generally, we are not on the menu with fish and young waterfowl making up the majority of its diet ~ oh, look out baby ducks!

But during the first week and a half of June ~ this June ~ I became immersed in snapping turtles ~ up close and personal. The first encounter came early Sunday morning when I was birding with my parents (that’s a bird story in itself!) and my father pulled the car onto the narrow shoulder of the Corduroy Road along Putnam Creek behind my home. We got out of the car to look for birds but found a female snapping turtle in the



Snapping turtle laying eggs

midst of laying her eggs in the hole she had dug in the gravelly shoulder of the road under our rear bumper! Barely missing being run over hadn’t slowed the process of egg laying, and we were able to witness the ping-pong-sized eggs dropping one by one into the hole beneath her. Since then I’ve seen

five more turtles laying eggs along the same stretch of road and four others on this side of the creek near my house! They seem to like the soft, sandy gravel along the road’s shoulders where they can dig a hole about a foot deep with their hind legs, lay up to two dozen eggs and cover them back up fairly easily. This process can take a few hours ~ remember they move with the speed of a turtle. The one that decided to nest in the newly-plowed potato field took a day and a half to accomplish the task! Nests are vulnerable to predators at this stage where the fresh dirt-covering is a clue for foraging raccoons, foxes and skunks that a meal of fresh eggs lays beneath.

For those that escape detection, the warmth of the sun will incubate them until late August/early September when they’ll hatch and emerge from their sandy nest looking like half-dollar-sized dinosaurs. They may roam around the nest area for a little bit before orienting themselves and heading for the water where they will live for the next 30-40+ years. Many hatchlings will die before they ever reach the water; emerging near roads they fall victim to cars, over land they become a meal for other animals. Even once they make it to the slow running and muddy, river, pond, creek or marsh (how do they know where to go? a

mystery!), many will not make it to a defensible size.

The snapping turtle is the largest freshwater turtle in the U.S. An adult weighs upwards of 40 pounds with a shell about 14” long. Its tail is long with stegosaurus-like crests along the ridge, the head massive is as vicious as it looks. The snapper’s neck is as long as its shell and can maneuver its head far over its back or strike a good distance sideways so picking it up by its shell, like I did, was not a good idea! I learned this bit about the reach of their strike zone *after* I had decided that the best photo of the one laying eggs next to the road by my house would be taken if I lay down on the road in front of it and zoomed in for a close-up. Thankfully she was too busy with the task at hand to care. Although most turtles can withdraw their head and tail into their shell for protection, the snapper cannot. The huge and powerful jaws terminate in hooks meant for ripping and tearing, and so the massive head remains exposed and poised to strike for both food and protection. Under water, partially embedded in the mud, these turtles look like a flat rock on the bottom of the pond. Here they can stalk their prey with head and neck ready to strike with the agility of a rattlesnake, hence the Latin name, *Chelydra serpentina*.

The turtles I saw all had moss-covered backs and coupled with the wear and scarring on their 14” long shells, indicated their maturity and age to be well over 20 years. The snapper’s survival as a species relies on its longevity and access to egg-laying sites year after year. The ease with which the hatchlings can get back to the water ~ without being run over or eaten on the way ~ is also as important as maintaining naturally vegetative shorelines for them to travel. Late summer, I’ll be ready with my camera again when the hatchlings emerge and will readily help them out of the road. Next time though, I’ll let their mother move along unassisted by me ~ unless it’s to stop traffic while she passes by at her own pace.

### SEEN ABOUT TOWN ON MEMORIAL DAY



### HAGUE CALENDAR

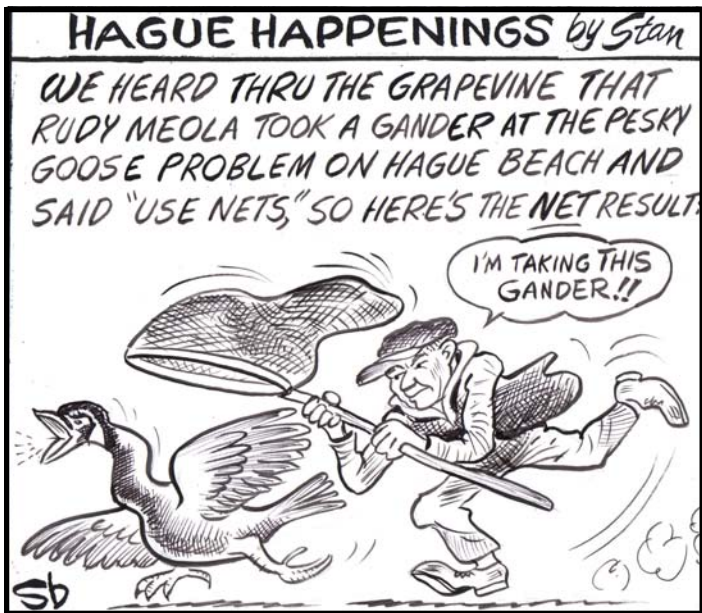
#### June 2009

- 25 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 27 8 am NC Triathlon



#### PHOTO CREDITS

Thanks to Seddon Beaty, Chris Ianson, Kathi Ramant and Judy Stock whose photographs are being used this month.



#### July 2009

- 9 7 pm Planning Board
- 11 2 pm Fish & Game - Horseshoes & Steak Roast
- 14 6:30 pm Town Board
- 17 News deadline for July issue
- 17 LGA to host "Summer Splash Gala"
- 17 Celtic Music Festival at Fort Ticonderoga
- 23 Mail July issue of The Hague Chronicle
- 23 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals



**HAGUE FIREWORKS**  
**FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2009**  
**9:30 pm at the Town Park**

#### TRANSFER STATION 2009-2010

Summer Hours—July 1 - September 1

- Wednesday: 9 am to 5 pm
- Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm
- Sunday: 12 noon to 3 pm

Transfer Station rates:

- 15 gal bag \$3
- 30 gal bag \$4
- 50 gal bag \$6.50

Copies of the complete schedule and price list are available at the Community Center.

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE  
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