



VOLUME 29 NO. 11

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

NOVEMBER 2000

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### SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Everyone is invited to join the faith communities of Hague as we celebrate the beauty of the season in the "Spirit of Christmas" in an ecumenical Christmas concert presented by The Hague Baptist Church, The Hague Wesleyan Church and the Church of the Blessed Sacrament. Celebrate with us as the story of the first Christmas unfolds through scripture and song, with traditional and contemporary carols performed by the community choir.

The concert will be held on Friday, December 1, 2000 at 7PM at the Hague Wesleyan Church, located on Rt. 8 in Hague.

Come join with us in the "Spirit of Christmas" as we rejoice in the blessings of the season.

### ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

The whole Hague community, from tots to totterers, is invited to attend the annual Christmas party sponsored by the Hague Chamber of Commerce. Saturday, December 2 is the date; 6:30PM is the time. Entertainment will include the lighting of the BIG community Christmas tree, the Memory Tree and the Community Christmas tree "downtown". A contest is being held to count the total lights on all the trees and town decorations. Food for thought - Who will be the Senior of the Year? Come find out for yourself.

Cathie Burdick is again chairman of the refreshment committee and she will gladly accept your Christmas goodies. Be a good citizen - call her at 543-8824 and volunteer! Kids - get your picture taken with Santa Claus and he will give you a treat. **WHATEVER YOU DO - BE SURE TO COME TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY!!**

### HAGUE COMMUNITY MEMORY TREE

Each year a felt tree is placed in the lobby of the Community Center on which the names of deceased loved ones or those who you would like to remember and honor, are placed. A tree will be lighted in the center of town along the brook during the Christmas party on Dec. 2 (see above). Donations of \$1.00 per name should be sent to Imogene Frasier, Hague, NY 12836. Checks

may be made payable to the Hague Chamber of Commerce. All funds raised are donated to the Hague Emergency Squad by the C.C. A list of honorees will be published in this newspaper.

### CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT WALK

*The Hague Chronicle* is pleased to sponsor the second annual Christmas Carol Candlelight Walk. This is a community event. Last year we had a fair turnout and everyone seemed to enjoy it. This year we expect a bigger and better event. The date has been set for Thursday, Dec. 21 at 6:30PM, meeting at the Community Center. Luminaries will light the way to the town park. At the park we will light candles, have a short Christmas message and sing favorite carols around the Christmas tree.

Please feel free to join us. Those who cannot walk the distance should meet us at the park. Upon return to the Community Center we will warm ourselves with hot chocolate and cookies. **PLEASE JOIN US!!** . . . ed.

### TINY TIM BENEFIT BAND CONCERT

The Community Band under the direction of Pat Cornell will perform in concert on Friday, Dec. 8 at 7:30PM at the First United Methodist Church. A free will offering will be accepted for the benefit of the Tiny Tim Program.

It isn't too late to join this great band. Dust off those instruments and show some community spirit. Rehearsals are on Mondays from 6:30-8PM at the Middle School. For info. contact Pat Cornell at the school, 585-7442 x 267.

### HOLIDAY MAGIC

The Champlain Valley Chorale under the direction of Linda Azer, will be joined by the Pleasant Valley Chorale directed by Susan Hughes, for a concert which includes the Christmas portion of the Messiah and several selections by each chorale. The concert will be held in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ticonderoga at 4PM on December 3 and again on December 10 at the Elizabethtown school at 3PM. There will be featured soloists from each group. (Cont. on p2-Holiday Magic)

(Cont. from p. 1 - Holiday Magic)

A free will offering will be accepted to help defray the expenses of the music used.

Following the concert, the Carillon Garden Club will host those present for its annual Holiday Magic in the gymnasium of St. Mary's School. Decorated wreaths, trees, table centerpieces, and creches will be on display and delicious cookies and sandwiches will be served. This is the Garden Club's annual gift to the community and is a great way to open the Christmas season.

**TICONDEROGA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
HARMON GALLERY**

The Ti Historical Society will be host to the Bruce Mitchell Family Nov. 8 through Dec. 30. The title of this "family" presentation is "MIXED MEDIA" and will feature the work of Bruce and Annette Mitchell and their daughter.

The art work of the family will also be highlighted on the web page of the Ticonderoga Historical Society at [www.capital.net/~ths2/index.htm](http://www.capital.net/~ths2/index.htm) beginning Nov. 15.

For further info. contact Steve Blanchard at the Hancock House, Wed. through Sat. between 8AM and 4PM. Telephone 585-7868 or e-mail [ths@capital.net](mailto:ths@capital.net).

**THE FESTIVAL OF THE TREES** will be ushered in on December 15 at an open house at the Hancock House. Community organizations are invited to participate in the fun of decorating the Hancock House with a tree, centerpiece, gingerbread house, cookie tree or any other type of festive decorative art in either a traditional or modern style. The Trustees and staff of the Historical Society will be voting for their favorite decorations and awarding first, second and third prize ribbons as well as three certificates of honorable mention at the open house. Because of fire regulations participants are asked to use only artificial materials. Participants are asked to bring their creations to the Hancock House anytime after Thanksgiving. (Wed. through Sat. 10AM-4PM. For info. call 585-7868 or e-mail at [ths@capital.net](mailto:ths@capital.net)

**FLU SHOTS**

will be available at the Community Center on November 29 from 1:30-3:30PM. Pneumonia shots also available. Flu shot - \$10; Pneumonia shots - \$15. Both are covered by Medicare.

**ROTARY SPONSORS 20 WEEK CLUB**

For \$1.00 a week, you can be a \$20 weekly winner or a \$100, \$75 or \$50 grand prize winner in a new fund raiser for the benefit of the area Literacy Program. The Rotary Club of Northern Lake George is sponsoring this event. Contact any member of the Rotary Club, or for

information call Dottie Henry, (518) 543-6633. This is how it works:

You may purchase one or more 20-week tickets for \$20.00 each or you may purchase it at \$1.00 a week for 20 weeks. Each week beginning at the December 19 meeting, a name will be drawn from those ticket holders that are paid up for that week. This person will receive \$20.00. There is no limit to the number of weeks you can win!! (as long as you are paid up to date). At the end of the 20 weeks the Rotary Club plans to hold a spaghetti dinner at which all ticket holders will be served free. Any others who would like to attend may do so for a small dinner fee. At the dinner three tickets will be drawn. The first will be for \$100.00, the second, \$75.00 and the third \$50.00. Sounds like a win-win situation. You have 20 chances to win money and a wonderful way to contribute to the literacy program. **GET ON BOARD THE ROTARY TRAIN AND BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW.** Any member of the Rotary Club will be happy to sell you a ticket. Remember you have 20 chances to win in a weekly drawing plus three final winners.

**FIRST U.M.C. CHURCH FAIR**

The First United Methodist Church Wicker St., Ticonderoga, NY will hold its annual Christmas Fair on Friday, Dec. 1 from 7-9PM and on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10AM-1PM. Prior to the opening of the fair a roast beef dinner will be served at 5:30PM. Dinner by reservation only. \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Call for dinner reservations at 585-7995.

On Saturday Santa Claus will be there to have your child's picture taken with him, along with other children's activities.

The Thrift Shop will be open both days. The fair will feature Christmas crafts, bake shop, white elephants, and gifts from SERRV (Mission benefit).

**SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

The Kiwanis Club, in conjunction with Ticonderoga Central School, will host its annual Christmas luncheon for senior citizens on December 6 at 2PM (snow date, Dec. 7) in the Middle School Cafetorium. Reservations may be made by calling the Community Center at 543-6161 by November 29.

This has become an event that the seniors in the area really look forward to and the Kiwanis Club and school are to be commended for their service to the community. Entertainment will be provided and Santa will put in an appearance as well.

**FUEL ASSISTANCE**

**NOVEMBER 28**

**11:30AM-1:00PM**

**INCOME ELIGIBILITY REQUIRED**

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS- 10-26-00

A public hearing was held immediately prior to the Zoning Board meeting. No objections from neighboring property owners were voiced against the approval of a variance for RENZA, Robin Hood Dr., Lakeside, north of Cape Cod Village.

At the regular meeting the Zoning Board unanimously proved BEST for RENZA (42-1-43.3) Var-03-00 requesting a ...16' relief from the Hague Zoning Ordinance Section 160-23A rear yard required setback of 25' for the construction of a 12'x12' 3 season porch.

Other Business: 1) The Board made a preliminary review for a variance by Cameron, 8748 Lakeshore Dr. to subdivide a 1.151 acre lot into two lots, merging the resulting .697 acres to lot 46-1-3.3 and creating as a separate lot, the remaining 454 acre. 2) Regarding the need for the Town of Hague Zoning Board to make an interpretation: "How should a boat launch rail system tracks and trolley/frame and tarp be interpreted by ordinance? Boat house, dock, or other? The board again discussed details including setbacks from lake and side yard, definitions of "dock" and "boathouse", as well as a new information from the LGPC, APA and OGS (which has jurisdiction of the bottom of Lake George.) As a decision would set a precedent, and as formal application for a variance has not yet been made, the board again tabled this issue for further study.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE - 10/30/00

Under the direction of Stuart Messinger, The Chazen Companies, the following committee members met for further discussion on Hague's Master Plan: Alison Craig, Dave Darrin, Chair, Michelle Gautreau, Dick Frasier, Tom LaPointe, Rudy Meola, Art Steitz, Dave Swanson. Absent: Paul Barone, Bob Patchett, and Nelson Waters.

One of the improvements that could be made would be to keep the streets swept all year round. Should take a look at sidewalks, lighting, street furniture (benches, trash receptacles, etc.) and making the hamlet, at least, a more attractive (physical) place. Grants are available for funding and will be pursued.

Density should be addressed. How do we attract people? MUST address parking problems. Do we want to allow smaller lot sizes? On some lots buildings could be torn down and bigger buildings could be built. Should we allow more businesses in residential zones?

Growth is hampered in Hague topographically. We have the lake on one border and many slopes and rocky areas which cannot be developed. Wet lands also play a part. We need to find properties off the lake that are more affordable.

Mr. Meola questioned the responsibility of the town to provide parking. Most businesses supply their own. Mr. Messinger said that legally the town was not responsible, but most towns did offer parking.

The median income for Hague is \$10,000, which makes 25% of the population classified as poor. However on the whole, Hague is considered a wealthy community, hence the high taxes. Affordable housing is a paramount issue.

Hague has a declining population. It is older than average due to the growth of the retirement community. Only 35% of the population is in the working class. Just who are we planning for? 69% of the residences are seasonal. 5% of the parcels in town are vacant. 2,000 acres are vacant. There are 27 parcels used for commercial businesses.

There has been a doubling of traffic on Rt. 9N. Some believe it is due to the building of Walmart in Ti.

A secretary has been hired to take minutes of future minutes. She is Joyce Serdinsky of Hague.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7PM on Nov. 27.

Comments were received from the audience. Skip Hourigan suggested that we should look into parking for boats also, since this would encourage people on the lake to stop in Hague for shopping etc . . djh.

PLANNING BOARD - 11/2/00

A public hearing was held on the Karmazin minor subdivision on Dodd Hill Road to divide a 35+ acre lot into 3 lots of 9+, 15 and 20A. lots. Nobody spoke for or against the project.

At the regular meeting of the board, Dave Swanson, Chairman, introduced the new clerk to the board, Joyce Serdinsky.

The Karmazin subdivision was approved.

Alison Craig for Katzman, Tall Pine Lane, Arcady Bay Estates. This was a request to move the southern property line 45 ft. north and the northern property line the same distance north. This change will put the Arcady shed completely on Arcady property and provide a suitable location for a sanitary drain for this property. Approved

Cameron - minor subdivision . A request to divide a 1.151 acre lot into two lots of .454 acre and .697 acre and merge the .697 acre lot with lot 46-1-3.3. They have also applied for a variance since the .454 acre lot will remain as a separate lot. This would result in potentially having three primary residences on insufficient land. Other options should be looked into. Request tabled until spring when Mr. Cameron will be back in Hague.

TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

Six special Town Board meetings were called to address urgent business prior to the regular monthly meeting on Nov. 14, 2000. The Board unanimously voted to appoint R. Meola as Acting Clerk and L. Megow to record minutes at special meetings.

(Cont. on p. 4 - Town Board)

(Cont. from page 3 - Town Board)

Oct. 12, 2000, 4PM - A partial payment of \$10,465.00 to be made to contractor for new roof at Community Bldg. The balance is to be paid after a successful inspection of new roof. Rented street lights on highway garage property to be removed and all overhead wires to be buried. Review 2001 of preliminary budget. Work on budget to continue on Oct. 18.

Oct. 18, 2000, 3:30PM. Discussion of payment of \$20,000 to the Chazen Co. consultants. Monies may come out of 2001 budget. Discussion of applying for grant money for this project.

Oct. 18, 2000, 4:00PM. Continued to work on 2001 budget. Unanimous vote to accept resolution #75 of 2000 authorizing the Supervisor to sign contract for the Hague Radio project for \$5,000. Unanimous vote to change part-time position at the recycling center to a full-time position. Discussed changes in pay scale to be incorporated in the Employee Guide. Continued work on tentative 2001 budget. Approval by a vote of 4 ayes (with one abstention by Supervisor Belden) appointed James Belden to full time position at the recycling center effective Nov. 6, 2000 at \$10.40/hr. Rate will increase to \$11.80/hr. with benefits after 90 days. Next budget workshop scheduled for Oct. 26.

October 26, 2000, 4PM. Absent: Councilmen Fitzgerald and Hourigan. Agreement reached to make several changes on the proposed budget. Unanimous vote to purchase a Ford F 550 4X4 truck listed on State Contract for \$25,611.00

October 30, 2000. Absent: Councilmen Fitzgerald and Hourigan. L. Megow appointed as acting clerk for the purpose of recording minutes. Unanimously voted to hire Joyce Serdinsky to position of recording secretary to the Planning and Zoning Boards, and Comprehensive Plan Committee at \$8.00/hr. Completed work on 2001 budget. Scheduled public hearing on budget for Nov 8, 2000 at 6:30PM.

Public Hearing Preliminary Budget 2001, 11/8/00. Absent: Councilman Steitz. Vote unanimous to authorize the Supervisor to change A-OO General Fund Unexpended Balance to \$120,000. The Town of Hague tax rate for 2001: 1. Town: 0.8508097; 2. Light District. 0.321877; 3. Fire Dist.: 0.5117925. Unanimous yes vote to adopt the 2001 budget.

#### TOWN BOARD MEETING 11/14/00

I. Following the Call to Order by Supervisor Dan Belden, a moment of silence was observed for: Philip Barnaby, Dr. Robert Cole, Virginia Fitzgerald, John Glading and Lela Holman.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Rudy Meola, who acknowledged that the Town Park lights have been turned off. Re the Audit meeting of 11/13: R. Meola advised that transactions unrelated to the main business of auditing bills, should be addressed at regular (planning and board) meetings.

Mr. Meola noted that too many special meetings (5-6 per month) have been called, and he believes that most

of the business could be handled at regularly scheduled Town meetings, when more people can be present. In rebuttal, Supervisor Belden emphasized the need to call special meetings, i.e. to make the deadlines and certain cut-off dates on State contract bids.

Mr. Meola also remarked that to date the cleanup of junk yards is not moving forward and advised the board to stop new ones from forming.

II. The motion to pay General and Highway claims as per audited at the Nov. 13 audit meeting was unanimously passed.

III. Minutes were amended with the following motion by Skip Hourigan: with a motion to rescind the motion made on Oct 25 at the Special Town Board meeting to purchase a Ford F 550 4x4 truck listed in a State contract for \$25,611.00. Carried unanimously. (See item #5 - Highway/Fitzgerald).

IV Public Hearing/or Bid Openings - none.

#### V. REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Assessor/Steitz. New GSI computer software has been installed. This will help with assessments by showing property lines and tax maps. A training seminar will be held at Adirondack Community College's branch in Wilton. A report will be mailed early next year to the taxpayers to show how GSI program is working.

2. Buildings and Grounds/Megow - Community Center. Outside work is all finished and looks very good. The building will need to be re-coated outside with a clear coating after a six month period, as recommended by the manufacturer. Staining is still ongoing. The kitchen floor was flooded and tiles need to be replaced. Waiting for a report about the new vent system before work on it can begin.

3. Fiance/Megow None

4. Fire Department/Fitzgerald As per contract, the new firehouse is to be completed Thursday, Nov. 16. It is now very near completion. Inspections are scheduled this week.

5. Highway/Fitzgerald Motion made and passed: That we buy a new 2000 Ford F 5509 Chassis Truck for \$30,938.00 (The reason for this motion and for rescinding the previous motion is that this truck runs on diesel fuel and the other on gasoline.) This price is within the funding limit as per the State contract and is coming out of this year's budget.

Highway/Bothe - Have received three quotes for a sander body, central hydraulic system and plow to be mounted on a new 2000 Ford 4-wheel drive chassis. Lowest bid was \$20,000. Approved.

Preventive Maintenance is nearly completed i.e. annual oil and filter changes, lights, brakes and wire inspections.

Snow and Ice Preparation: All trucks are set up.

Building: Still waiting for two roof quotes for two months. With onset of winter weather, we can't delay longer. Supervisor Belden asked Skip Hourigan to work (Cont. on page 5 - Town Board)

11/00

(Town Board cont. from page 4)

with Bill Bothe and the Highway Dept. to begin the job.

Radio Conversion: All radios not in yet, waiting for shipments from suppliers. \$2500 to be provided to Warren County for Highway Dept. Radio Enhancement project.

Diesel Fuel Supplier . . Need clarification of type of fuel and number of gallons to be ordered. Skip Hourigan will prepare a letter to be sent to the supplier which will include the highway garage for heating oil.

6. Insurance/Skip Hourigan: Some repairs will be made to buildings that were damaged last winter. Cost of repairs will be covered by insurance money, which has come in, and will not come out of the general fund.

7. Personnel/Hourigan: James Belden has been hired to work at the Transfer Station and will start on Nov 22.

8. Planning & Zoning & Stormwater Management/Steitz.

Planning Board

a. approved Karmazin's request for property subdivision into three lots.

b. approved a property line change for Mrs. Katzman, Arcady Bay

c. Joyce Serdinsky was hired to take the minutes for the Planning Board, Comprehensive Planning Committee, and Zoning Board.

d. Nancy Diamond, Pine Cove, contacted Skip Hourigan concerning a stop-work order. She obtained a building permit and began construction until a complaint from a neighbor. Diamond is waiting to hear from the ZBA to commence building. The ZBA is still researching to arrive at a precedent-setting "definition" for the proposed boathouse/dock/trolley system before construction can be resumed. The Zoning Board has not yet received Ms. Diamond's application for a variance.

Zoning Board

The Zoning Board approved a variance for Renza. Variance for Cameron is held off until spring.

Stormwater Management/Dan Belden

Dan applied for a grant of \$44,000 to the Secretary of State for storm water funding for deposits in the Hague Brook, including the bridge.

9. Recreation/Promotion/Dan Belden The Town Christmas party sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled for Dec. 2 (see p. 1)

10. Sewer District #1/Dan Belden At the county meeting, new plans and designs were discussed. The Town of Hague has been allotted \$60,000 in grant money to hire someone from Hague when sewer construction starts. (This amount is not necessarily the salary amount).

11. Town Park and Beautification: None

12. Transfer/Recycling Station/Megow Report: Income amount for the month of October was \$3,233.25. Comment by Mr. Megow re \$11,000 grant for junk yard cleanup and requests for free pickups: "It's just getting out of hand." Requests that the town dispose of fiber-

glass cars cannot be honored. Mr. Hourigan suggested the board set up a fair schedule of managing requests for pick-ups.

13. Youth None

I UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Resolution: 76-2000 - Blight (cleaning up of junkyards) - that the town supervisor be authorized to enter into a contract with NYDHCR to implement this grant. (\$11,000).** Resolution was defeated 4-1. One aye voted by Supvr. Belden.

II COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Letter from Myers Engineering

Letter from DEC: Bill for the landfill sent on for payment

Letter from Fish and Game Club requesting permission to use the old rain gutters from Community Center for the clubhouse. Unanimous to grant permission.

III NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution for snow and ice removal and sweeping on the paved County roads in Hague for fiscal year Jan 1, 2001 to Dec. 2001. Passed unanimously.

2. Horicon wants us to haul their C&D for \$100 a trip. Passed unanimously.

3. Resolution to request change in election law to eliminate mandated in-person voter registration. (Presents financial burden to the town). Unanimously approved.

4. Resolution to approve Lake George Watershed Partnership Plan for the Next Century. Unanimous

5. Request to move general election to new firehouse. The board will gather more information before presenting this request for a vote.

6. Resolution authorizing supervisor to sign contract for EPA monies for environmental program - unanimous approval.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Hague residents:

Kudos to all those who provided and took care of the lovely floral displays in town. It added so much to the charm of the surroundings. Keep up the good work.

/s/ Shirley Halliday Nov. 4, 2000

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Hague Historical Society will hold its annual Show and Tell program on Monday, December 18 at 7:30PM at the Hague Community Center. Please bring an item, 50 or more years old, and be prepared to talk a few minutes about it. All are also asked to bring along a Christmas goody to share. Everyone is urged to attend this always-interesting program

NATURE NEWS  
by Laura Meade

By coincidence, late in October, in my quest for a nature topic for the Nov. *Hague Chronicle*, I happened to notice a crop of healthy-looking mushrooms emerging from Dick and Annette Dunklee's lawn on the West Hague Rd. We were all curious about them. Dick picked a variety of them and as we sat at an outside picnic table we wondered: "Were the mushrooms edible? Were they poisonous? Why had they appeared during the Fall? How could we find answers to our questions?"

Some answers were available from the Reader's Digest "North American Wildguide" or "Mushrooms of the Adirondacks" by Alan E. Bessett or Ticonderoga resident Gerry Abbott. All references advised: "Be careful!" So, do not eat a mushroom unless you are positive that it is not poisonous.

After such a comment, Gerry went on to describe his pleasure to "discover" those that he could cook and eat. Sometimes, on impulse, he will go for a trek through woodlands, fields and lawns, searching for mushrooms in this area. He explained that each type has a Latin name which is universal throughout the world. (And he could actually spell many of the species with which he is familiar!)

The Dunklees and I noticed a black substance on one type that Dick collected. It discolored our hands and the table top. Gerry said that these "ink caps" are common here. One may pick, cook and eat these before the caps ooze the black stuff, but always avoid any alcohol beverage at the same time. In the Middle Ages monks realized they could use the black "ink" for writing on parchment.

All mushrooms are a type of fungus. Many of these appear on trees at a place where the bark has had a gash or injury. Artists enjoy cutting these Angels' Wings, also known as the Oyster Mushroom (*Pleurotus ostreatus*). Designs can be imbedded on its semi-soft surface. The *Aplanatum Ganaderna* (Artists' conk) is also suitable for creating a design.

If you see what appears to be a large, white mushroom similar in size and shape of a basketball, it is a puffball, with a white shell and a firm marshmallow-type inside. Some consider these a delicacy when sliced and sauteed in oil and butter with garlic powder. But be careful! There are similar ones that are green and ugly which are not good to eat.

It is interesting that the weather which brings on a flourish of mushrooms is usually in mid-September into later fall, when there are warm days and cool nights. Such had been the case just prior to my notice of the Dunklees' crop.

Several years ago, in mid-Sept., I saw a wide variety of mushrooms along a trail that leads from Jabe's Pond to Little Jabe's Pond. There were at least 230 species along that trail. I was intrigued then and now wish that Gerry Abbott or Alan Besette could have been with me.

P.S. a few days after the Dunklees talked with me, Dick mowed down the mushrooms in his yard. Better safe than sorry!

WEATHER NOTES  
by Mary Lou Doulin

The mild pattern of pleasant fall days has lasted through the middle of November. Daytime temperatures have been holding in the upper 40s and 50s.. While deciduous trees are mostly bare now and cloudy days increasing, that monochromatic November gray quality is occurring more often. It is a subtler kind of beauty but very attractive nevertheless.

The ground is not frozen yet and some flowers are still blooming outdoors in protected areas. We have only had a few frosts. There is an abundance of leaves this year. Some believe that it is a sign that we are going to receive ample amounts of snow and cold but the weather man predicts a mild winter.

A major change is occurring as of November 17. Colder temperatures and snow flurries are headed our way for the week before Thanksgiving.

'TIS (Almost) THE SEASON!

Cold Water Canyon Farm will be opening its Christmas Tree Farm the day after Thanksgiving. Come cut your own "perfect" tree. Bring the kids - they'll love it! The Dykstras will be there to assist you if you need it. Cold Water Canyon Farm is located at the end of West Hague Road. Go up the road next to the sign. For more info. call 543-6535.

HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Hague Senior Citizens Club will meet at noon on Tuesday, Dec. 12 for its traditional Christmas luncheon. The food is being prepared by the Hague Market, which is always very special. We will be offered a choice of beef or turkey, and when registering, please state your choice. Register by phoning 543-6161. DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS DECEMBER 1 and no registrations will be accepted after that date.

Non club senior citizen members may attend by paying \$10.95 for the meal. In addition to the meal, an appetizer table will be available for those who want pre-luncheon munchies. Entertainment will be provided. . . ewa

An error was made in the telephone number of Assemblywoman Betty Little in the Kiwanis report in the Oct. issue of *The Hague Chronicle*. Her number should read 792-4546. Her e-mail is: [littlee@assembly.state.ny.us](mailto:littlee@assembly.state.ny.us). We regret the error.

Did you know? A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.  
11/00

## SOUNDINGS

**DIED** - Leila Rork Holman, 97, on Oct. 22, 2000 at Moses Ludington Nursing Home. She was the widow of Clarence Holman and resided for many years on Holman Hill, Hague.

**DIED** - Nicholas Angelo Mosca, at birth, son of Michelle and George Mosca of Saratoga Springs, NY. Nicholas is the grandson of Michele and Timothy Gautreau and great-grandson of Bernard and Anna Denno, all of Hague.

**DIED** - Phillip Barnaby, 92, of the Montcalm Manor, Ticonderoga, on Oct. 24, 2000. Surviving are Imogene Frasier, niece, Eugene Barnaby, nephew and Diane Trudeau, Great niece, all of Hague.

**DIED** - Dr. Robert M. Cole, DDS, ABO, Silver Bay and Tarrytown, NY, on Nov. 6, 2000 in Sleepy Hollow, NY. He was 80. Dr. Cole was an orthodontist in Tarrytown from 1948-1986, when he retired to Silver Bay and continued practice on a part time scale. He was very involved in many community activities, in Tarrytown and in Hague and Silver Bay. He was past president of the Tarrytown Rotary and received the Paul Harris Award. A founder of the Rotary Club of Northern Lake George, he served as its first president. Dr. Cole is survived by his wife, Helen, one son Douglas and daughter Dr. Jeanne Cole, one stepson and two stepdaughters and two step granddaughters. Contributions in his memory may be sent to the Hague Baptist Church, Hague, NY 12874, Att: Landscaping. A memorial service will be held in Tarrytown on December 2 and another service will be held at Silver Bay in May.

### HAGUE ATHLETES AT THIS

Ticonderoga High School Athletic Director Jim Wells announced the names of Ticonderoga's first group of Scholar-Athletes for the fall season. These students are currently involved in a Junior Varsity or Varsity sport and were on Ticonderoga High School's Honor Roll in June 2000. Following each marking period a new group of honored student-athletes will be posted on the Scholar-Athlete bulletin board.

**First Honors Scholar-Athletes:**

Katie Breitenbach, Lucas Frasier, Heather Hassett, Alison Rutkowski.

**Second Honors Scholar-Athletes:**

Adam Charboneau, Peter Mack, Jaimie Russell, Josh Plass.

### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY ELECTS OFFICERS

The 45 members of the Black Watch Chapter of the National Honor Society selected its leaders for 2000-01.

This year's leaders are representative of both the senior and junior class. Congratulations to: President Katie Breitenbach; Senior Vice President. T. J. Morhouse; Junior Vice Presidents Heather Hassett and Krista Dreimiller.

Josh Plass, Sabbath Day Pt., a member of the class of 2001, wants to leave a legacy. While in technology class with Bob Palandrani early in September discussing Senior Project ideas, the conversation turned to youth activities in our communities. Josh reached a decision. It was time for students to get involved.

In order to initiate action, Josh formed a student committee to discuss the problems youth have, brainstorming possible solutions, and a plan of action. Group members met on Sep. 20, 2000 with Bob Palandrani and Phil Kneller as adult mentors, and again on Sep. 24. Members Josh Plass, Matt Kuhl, Vito Fortino, Veronica Barber, Kaelyn Vincentz, Joe Contarino, Mark Anderson, Amanda Laslow and Jenna Porter first set the long term goal of approaching the Ticonderoga Town Board to propose two projects: the regular scheduling of Coffee House nights and the construction of a skate park. The group hopes to include as many students as possible in its efforts.

In addition, as a result of Josh's efforts, students have now been appointed to two Ticonderoga Town committees - Josh and Veronica will sit on Parks and Recreation, and Vito and Kaelyn will be members of the Youth Commission.

Sal Santaniello, Silver Bay Store, just called to let us know that he has just received a shipment of the book *Images of Lake George*, written by Gale Halm and Mary Sharp. A great Christmas gift. Hurry on down to the Silver Bay Store before he sells out!!

### A LITTLE HAGUE HISTORY

by Clifton West, Hague Historian

When the Volstead Act ended the sale of alcoholic beverages, people who sold it had to find ways to evade being arrested if they continued. Farmers still had their cider as long as the local mill kept in operation. Hard cider is neither refreshing, or even palatable, but it does have a "kick". Making home brew soon became a favorite cottage industry. Many Hague families were making and selling this beer, poor as the quality was. Stores sold malt openly and the market was good. I doubt if the quality of the finished product compared favorably with Genny or Bud but the men bought it for the "kick".

Alcoholic inspired accidents were few compared with today's statistics. Plenty of beer and ale came in from Canada. Some few people in Hague sold the imported product rather than make a substitute at home. Raids on the locals occurred sometimes, but (Cont. on page 9 - HAGUE) 11/00

## HAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The HVFD responded to 3 fire calls in October, one being a mutual aid.

17 man hours were used for drill.

The new building is nearing completion. We still don't have a definite completion date, but are assured that it will be SOON.

Our ambulances made 7 runs last month, covering 390 miles, a with a total of 86 3/4 man hours expended.

Our safety tip: Winter driving conditions will soon be upon us. Black ice has already caused one accident in Warren County, and soon we will have snow covered roads. Be sure that your vehicle is ready for winter, and that your windshield scraper and brush are available.. A snow shovel and a bag of kitty litter have been known to come in handy. Like Boy Scouts, a winter driver must be prepared! . . ewa

## HAGUE ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

The Hague Enhancement Committee (formerly the Tourism Committee) met on October 27, 2000. At the previous meeting it was decided that the name of the committee should be changed from "Tourism Committee", since the goals of the committee encompass much more than just tourism or beautification. The committee, after reviewing several suggestions, decided to rename it "The Hague Enhancement Committee". The primary goal is to enhance the life of the residents and visitors to the community by trying to make Hague a more interesting and beautiful place to live. The committee consists of the following members: Kay Barton Dan Belden, John Brown, Diane Farinich, Art Hatfield, Dottie Henry, Rudy Meola, Jim O'Toole, Bruce Rust and Art Steitz.

The first project for the coming year is refurbishing the island at the intersection of Rts 8 and 9N. With the cooperation of the Highway Department, you will note that we now have three garnet boulders placed in that island. Kay Barton and her son Peter coordinated the acquisition of these boulders. Garnet is the New York State stone. When we get these cleaned and polished, they will be a great addition to the island. This is just the first step in this project. The mound in the center will be leveled and low evergreen shrubs will be planted in the spring. We will also plant some spring bulbs next fall and perennials and annuals this spring. Unfortunately it was too late to do all that this year, but we do have a head start. This will make a beautiful addition to the town all year round.

The Kiwanis Club has agreed to sponsor this project and the Carillon Garden Club is waiting in the wings if extra help is needed.

Our immediate project is to fill our hanging baskets with greens and red ribbons and Christmas flags will replace the ones that are hanging now.

Since the town could not budget money for flowers

due to the negative vote on the publicity proposal last summer, a suggestion was made that the good citizens of Hague might like to sponsor a basket in honor or in memory of a relative or friend. We are confident that we have enough people in Hague that would be more than willing to do this. Since we already have the baskets and hangers, the cost should be reasonable. We are considering placing a small plate on each basket with the name and donor. You could consider this your basket and every time you go by, you can say to yourself "I really did make a difference!" The logistics and costs have not been worked out as yet. We will keep you posted. One of you might like to adopt one of the flower boxes on the bridge, or one of the square flower boxes. Let us hear from you. Do you like the idea? Would you support it?

The committee also has come forth with another idea for community improvement. We would urge anyone who would like to participate, to take a half roll of film between now and July 1 of things you like about Hague i.e. home and property improvements, decorations, etc. The other half of the film should be taken of those things you don't like, i.e. junk cars, unsightly properties, etc. (This is the first thing that the Hague Comprehensive Plan Committee asked the citizens at the first open meeting that was held.) We hope to have a relationship with that committee and work with them on this aspect of the comprehensive plan. If you would like a disposable camera, we have arranged to have some available at the town office. Please call to reserve one. You should take half the pictures of the things you like and half of them should be things you don't like. We will get them all together and have a grand unveiling in July. Start now - Christmas decorations would be good to have - and go from there into more winter, spring and early summer. If you need any further information, please call 543-6633 or 543-6057

## LARAC HOLDS HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

The Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council announces tht it will hold its second annual Holiday Shopping Showcase in LARAC's Lapham Gallery beginning on Sat., Nov. 25, Monday through Saturday, 10AM-5PM. On Friday, Dec. 1, extended hours will be offered until 8PM. Call LARAC 798-1144 for further info.

## GLENS FALLS SYMPHONY

The Glens Falls Symphony under the direction of Charles Peltz will present "Holiday Pops" on Saturday, Dec. 9, 2000 at 7:30PM and again on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3:00PM. Both concerts will be held in the Glens Falls High School, Glens Falls. The concert will include works by Anderson, Prokofiev, Bach/Ormandy, Tchaikovsky and Humperdinck (Prelude to Hansel and Gretel). A children's chorus will also be featured along with an audience carol sing. Come enjoy!



## FEATURED HOME OF THE MONTH

We are trying to take a more positive attitude on home improvements in the town of Hague. For the past two months we have featured a home each month that deserves to be recognized for its owners' efforts. As the third home in our series, we would like to honor Alicia and Eric Coon who own a home on Summit Drive. Eric is the son of John and Cindy Coon and Alicia is the daughter of Chuck and Georgiana Merritt, Ticonderoga. They are also the parents of two little girls, Jeannette, 4, and Kaylee, 2.

The house is the former residence of Elwin (Curly) Monroe who worked long and faithfully for the town of Hague, particularly in the town park. He gave the house to the town in 1988 with the stipulation that he could live there the rest of his life and when it was sold the money derived from the sale would be used for the town park, which he loved. In 1996 the town decided to sell it to the highest bidder, who was John Coon.

John and Eric and Alicia worked diligently on the house, added a second story, gutted the interior and produced the beautiful home which Eric's family now enjoy.

CONGRATULATIONS to Eric and Alicia for helping to make our town more attractive!!

## EPISODIC VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is a sporadic, one-time activity for 41% of volunteers. More than one third of those who volunteer (39%) prefer to serve at a regularly scheduled time (weekly, monthly, etc.) Only a small number of people (9%) report that they volunteer only at specific times of the year such as Christmas or Chanukah.

America's youth have the volunteer spirit. Thirteen million teens, more than half of America's teen population (59%) volunteered in 1995 (latest available statistics). They gave an estimated 3.5 hours per week, totaling 2.4 billion hours of volunteer time. Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Ed. Be a volunteer. You will get more out of it than you put in. Ask any member of *The Hague Chronicle* staff!

## CARTOONISTS RALLY

A recent rally of all cartoonists from a wide area of the Adirondacks and beyond was held at the Hague Cartoon Museum.

Fifteen amateur and professional cartoonists attended from Glens Falls, Queensbury, Essex, Lake George, Hague, Bolton Landing, Hudson Falls, and three towns in Vermont.

Guest speaker was well-known retired editorial cartoonist and sculptor Hy Rosen of Albany.

Sixteen other cartoonists and cartoon enthusiasts have previously joined, and a new organization has been formed, to be known as the Northeast Cartoonists Club.

Coordinator of the club is Stan Burdick, Hague, who has invited any interested youth and adults to ask about membership. Those interested may call (518)543-8824 or write Burdick at PO Box 2678, Silver Bay, NY 12874.

## CHRISTMAS IN WARRENSBURGH

This is the twelfth year of an old fashioned Christmas in Warrensburgh in the Adirondack Mountains. The theme this year is *Twelve Days of Christmas*. Beginning on Friday, Dec. 1 with a candlelight tour of B&B's in Warrensburgh from 6-9PM, and going through Sunday, Dec. 3 with a Holiday Craft Fair from 10AM-5PM at Lazy River Farms on Rt. 9, many things will be going on in between. For more info. and a schedule of events, contact Teresa A. Whalen, Chairperson at 623-4243.

(Cont. from page 7 - HAGUE)

not often. The victims were soon back in business. My neighbor across the road was searched sometimes but never had more than a bottle or two in the house. He kept his supply in a barn cellar beneath a trap door covered with a pile of hay. Another man up on the Graphite Road set up a still and was in the business until the "revenoors" smashed it. An out of town outfit rented a barn off the road in West Hague. They were turning out alcohol in quantity until someone reported them. Maybe the traffic was suddenly heavy for that part of town. Hague's potent industry was raided and put out of business. The owner of the property said he did not know why they rented the barn.

An Army doctor who was a guest at our farmhouse could buy grain alcohol for \$10.50 a gallon. With this he made what was then called "bathtub gin". To flavor this I scoured the pastures for juniper berries. By that time the blackberries were ripe so some of the men paid me ten cents a quart to pick this luscious fruit. This was put into a big crock, combined with raisins, slices of oranges and yeast to start off the fermenting process. Every day some of the men tested its progress. By the time the product should have been finished they had reached the bottom of the crock. I found the remaining orange slices very palatable. The doctor knew where he could buy a small still made of Pyrex glass made by Eimer & Amend in New York City. He did that for a price somewhat under \$25.00. The heating retort was connected to the "worm" or condensing unit by rubber tubing. Heat was furnished by cans of Sterno. I do not know just what was used to make the fermenting process but it smelled so strong upstairs that the room door had to be kept closed and windows open. The condensing unit was surrounded by a glass water jacket. Alcohol dripped into a container like sap from a tree. After a sufficient amount had collected, I was back in the pasture picking juniper berries.

Hague was not on the most direct route from Montreal to New York City, but many of the cars carrying booze came through town, then over Hague Mt. to Chestertown and on south. Tongue Mt. had no road over it. Booze cars were usually seven passenger cars with the back and side seats removed to permit a bigger load. The springs were often sagging close to the ground. One man sat with the driver, often with a shotgun or rifle across his lap. In the old stagecoach days he would be "riding shotgun". When the state road was under construction from the cemetery to McKee's Corner, all traffic detoured past our house so we often saw booze cars.

Did you know? Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR <INSERT DATE>

NOVEMBER

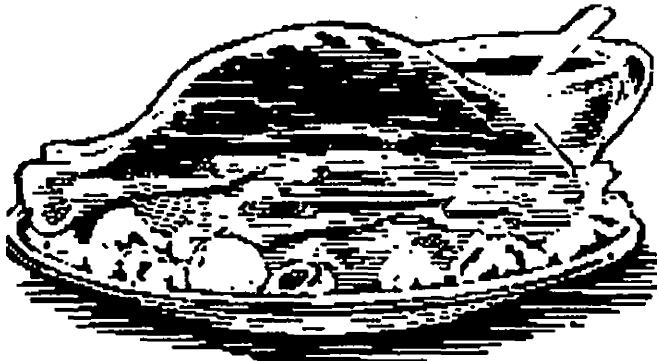
- 21 Home Bureau - 10AM
- 21 Fish and Game Club meeting
- 23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY
- 27 Comprehensive Plan Committee - 7PM (p3)
- 28 Fuel Assistance - 11:30-1PM (p2)
- 29 Flu Shots - 1:30-3:30 (p2)
- 30 Zoning Board of Appeals - 7PM

DECEMBER

- 1 & 2 United Methodist Church Fair and dinner - p2
- 1 "Spirit of Christmas" - Ecumenical service -7PM - p.1
- 2 Hague Christmas party, 6:30PM - p1
- 3 Holiday Magic, 4PM at St. Mary's Church - p1
- 4 Fire Dept. meeting
- 5 Home Bureau meeting - 10AM
- 6 Sr. Cit. lunch at Middle School - 2PM (p2)

December (Cont.)

- 6 Sr. Cit. bus to Glens Falls
- 7 REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR!
- 8 Community Band Concert (p1)
- 9 Glens Falls Symphony (p9)
- 7 Planning Board meeting - 7PM
- 12 Sr.. Cit. lunch at Comm. Ctr. (p6)
- 12 Town Board meeting - 6:30PM
- 14 Ti Hi's winter concert, 7:30PM Call 585-6661 for further info.
- 18 Home Bureau - 10AM
- 18 Hague Historical Society - 7:30PM p5
- 19 Home Bureau, 10AM
- 19 Fish & Game Club
- 20 Blood Pressure Clinic - 1-2PM in Comm. Ctr.



**HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

THANKSGIVING POEM

May your stuffing be tasty  
 May your turkey be plump  
 May your potatoes and gravy  
 have nary a lump.

May your yams be delicious  
 and your pies take the prize  
 and may your Thanksgiving dinner  
**STAY OFF YOUR THIGHS!!**

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TRANSFER STATION HOURS FROM NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 31 ARE  
 4 DAYS A WEEK: THURS., FRI., SAT., SUN. FROM 12 NOON - 5PM  
 CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY

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