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HAGUE WEATHER

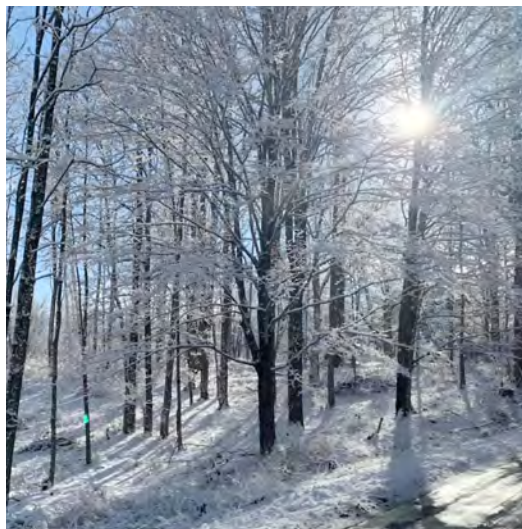
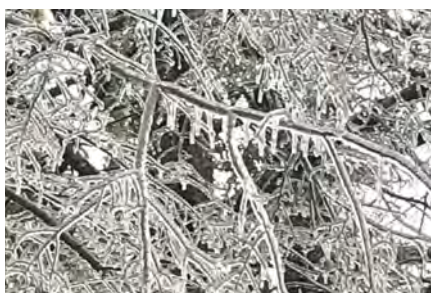
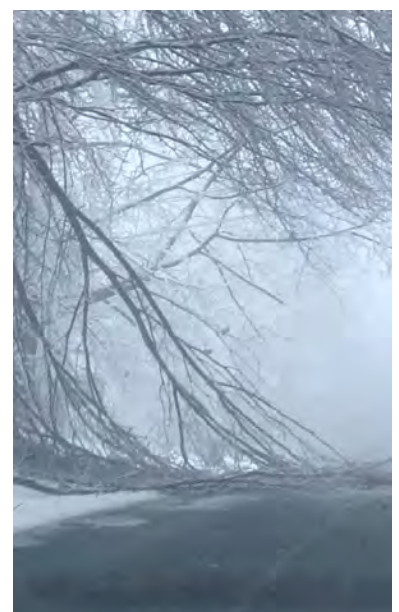
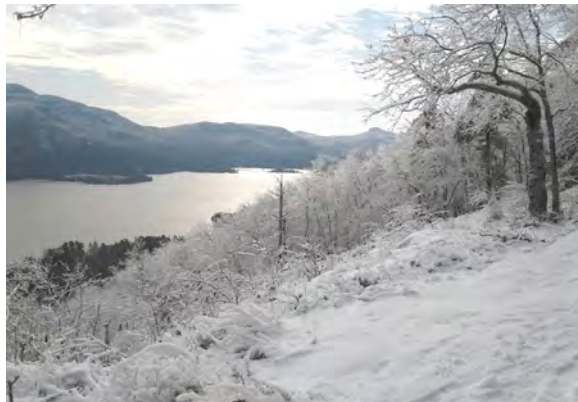
The weather, or actually the diversity of the weather, has been a hot topic in Hague this winter. Before the New Year, we had gloomy days of rain, snow, and sleet, as well as some days where the sun shone brightly on the glistening snow and ice. The ice encased each little branch of the trees. When compounded by additional snow, there were power line damage, road closures, and broken tree limbs. Parts of the town were without power for nearly two days.

The new year brought in some days of divergent temperatures such as nine degrees on the morning of January 9th and then nearly 64 degrees on the afternoon of January 11th. This brief January thaw melted all the snow in town.

It appears now that more seasonal temperatures are here to stay for a while. North Pond, Jabe Pond, and Brant Lake are all frozen. Overnight on January 15-16, the skies dropped several inches of new snow on the north country, so we are back to a winter wonderland!

The next question is when (or if?) the northern part of the lake will freeze. Many have their fingers crossed it will!

Photos courtesy of Sandy Powell, Judy Stock, Bob Whitaker, Mickey Fitzgerald, and Tony DeFranco. ▀



SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

We held our International Dinner at 4:30 pm on December 9, 2019 at the community center. There were great dishes and fun company.

We are going out to dinner on the 23rd of January at 4:30 pm at Olive's Ti Pi. If you would like to go, contact me at 518-543-6502.

The club's regular meeting will be January 28th at 1:30 pm. Bob and Jan Whitaker will talk about AARP Taxes and

we'll have the Installation of Officers for 2020.

February 6th will be Game Night at 6:30 at my home.

On February 13th, we will be having soup, sandwiches, salads, and desserts at 4:30 pm at the community center.

We'd love to have you become part of our group! You have to be 50 years young and pay yearly dues of just \$5. We look forward to seeing you all in 2020! ▣



TAMM SPEAKS TO LGLC BOARD

Silver Bay YMCA CEO Steve Tamm was invited by Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) Executive Director Dave Wick to present to the LGPC Board on December 17, 2019. The agenda listed his presentation as "Silver Bay YMCA, Cutting Edge Environmental Upgrades."

Tamm shared with the commissioners the many positive environmental protection projects that Silver Bay has taken in recent years. Of special interest were Silver Bay's newly-constructed wetland and its new Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) system. Tom Suozzo, P.E. and owner of Cedarwood Engineering Services and the designer of the MBR system noted, "MBR is a proven treatment technology that produces a very clear filtered high-quality effluent. This effluent exceeds the required groundwater discharge standards and also meets and exceeds NYSDEC intermittent stream standards, which are the most stringent standards set by the state."

The cost of its MBR system was \$3.5 million. To date, Silver Bay has raised \$1.5 million toward funding the new system and has applied for several private foundations for additional funding.

"Silver Bay is eagerly looking for partners to help fund the gap,"

stated Tamm. "We have taken a leap of faith by proactively living out our mission. We are committed to lake protection and we are hopeful that there are others in the Lake George and greater Adirondack community that share our passion in protecting the pristine beauty of Lake George and who will help us fully fund this project."

Tamm pointed out that the four largest wastewater treatment plants on Lake George are the systems of Lake George Village, The Town of Bolton, the Town of Hague and Silver Bay. ▣



TOP (L to R): Regional Permit Administrator for Region Five, NYS DEC Marc S. Migliore; CEO of Silver Bay YMCA Steve Tamm; Regional Director for Region Five, NYS DEC Robert Stegemann; Executive Director of the LGPC Dave Wick; and Environmental Analyst of the LGPC Joe Thouin
BOTTOM: MBR Wastewater Treatment Plant

HVFD

by Meg Haskell

For the month of December, we had 19 fire calls and drills and five EMS calls with a total of 192.5 volunteer hours.

Winter Weekend will be held February 14 -16, 2020 starting with a spaghetti dinner on Friday night at The Hague Fish and Game Club at 5 pm. On Saturday, we will have the Firemen's Breakfast from 8-11 am. On Saturday starting at 5 pm, we will hold the Chili Bake-Off. There will be live music, chili tasting, and beverages. The cost is \$10. Anyone wishing to enter a chili, call Katy Wells at 518-543-3020.

Sunday at 2 pm is the Hague Polar Plunge at Trout House Village. Food and beverages will be available after it at the Fire Department. Come out and join us for all these great events!! ▣



MURY'S STEPSON BECOMES NJ FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF

On New Year's Day 2020, Linda Mury, president of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department, proudly participated in the installation of her stepson, William Mury, as the chief of the New Milford, NJ, Fire Department.

It is obvious that service to their communities runs in the Mury family! Congratulations, Chief Mury and President Mury! ▣



From left to right: Carey Golick (Chief Mury's girlfriend), Chief William Mury, HVFD President Linda Mury, Gillian Mury (Chief Mury's daughter)

2019 HAGUE MEMORY TREE

The Hague Memory Tree began in 1987 when Imogene Frasier approached the Hague Chamber of Commerce to sponsor her in requesting donations for the Hague Ambulance Fund in memory of her son, Dale. She continued the Memory Tree for the next 23 years to help the HVFD purchase equipment for the ambulances. Since Imogene died in 2009, her daughter, Diane Trudeau, and niece, Bertha Dunsmore, continue the tradition. The names of those for whom donations have been made are put on a "Memory Tree" at the Community Center and are published in *The Hague Chronicle*.

Alkema, Peggy	Carpenter, Richard S.	Frasier, Clifford & Mary	Lambert, Topsy	Randall, Bill
Arata, Josephine	Carpenter, Zella	Frasier, Chet & Mimi	Lambert, Beach	Rawson, Barb
Balcom, James A.	Case, Edsal	Frasier, Mitchel &	Lambert, Harold	Robbins, Bertha
Balcom, Olive P.	Cassidy, Edward F.	Imogene	Lambert, Alice	Spaulding
Balcom, Ralph	Chappell, Jane	Frasier, Dale	Lambert, John	Robbins, Paul
Balcom, Cassie	Cherubini, Michael F.	Frasier, Christopher Lee	Lambert, Betty	Robbins, Benajah M.
Barnaby, Jr., Andrew N.	Cherubini, Mario	Frasier, Slip & Gerldine	LaVallee, Clara	Robbins, Ernest
& Marge	Cherubini, Jack	Frasier, Veril & Carl	LaVallee, Sr., Victor	Rockwell, Vern
Barnaby, Sr. Family,	Chester, Morgan	Frasier, Clint & Marion	Lindsay, Jean	Ross, Clara
Andrew N.	Collins, Jerry	Frasier, Janice	Lindquist, Evert &	Ross, Eunice
Barnes, Francis W.R.	Conlon, Wally	Frasier, Beatrice Robbins	Georgina	Ross, Wesley
Bartlett, Patty	Corscaden, Dr. Jim	Frasier, Lee & Alice Family	Locascio, Jim	Rypkema, Judy Hoffay
Bartlett, Brian	Costello, John "Bgood"	Frasier, Harold "Hoppy"	Lund, Cliff	Santaniello, Ted & Lucy
Beaty, Janet "Nootsie"	Costello, John M.	Frazier, William	Luyster, Dorothy	Santaniello, Sierra Rose
Beaty, Julia	Cronan, Cory	Frazier, Valeda	Luyster, Al	Santaniello, Anna &
Beadnell, Mary	Cunningham, Catherine	Fricke, Laura Robbins	Luyster, Wendy	Salvatore
Beck, George & Martha	(baby)	Fuller, Colleen	MacGregor, Bernice	Santaniello, Silvio
Bennett, Sr., Leroy D.	Dame, Roland	Fuller, Antonia "Sue"	Manning, Deb & Mike	Santaniello, Jasper
& Letha	Davis, Kathy	Gautreau, Theresa M.	Marapoti, Barbara	Scarzello, Richard
Bennett, John	Decker, Betty	Gautreau, Erene T.	Marcy, Don	Schoolcraft, Phillip T.
Bennet, Letha Decker	Decker, Clifford	Gautreau, Evelyn M.	Matarazzo, Mary	Scripture, Dale
Bennett, Jean	Decker, Wilbert	Girard, James	Mathews, Bill	Skahan, Donald R.
Bennett, Della Robbins	DelSignore, Margaret	Goss, Charlie & Evelyn	Mathews, Betty	Skahan, Elizabeth C.
Bernard, Alfreda Gautreau	Denno, Eugene & Marion	Graser, Ron	Mathews, John	Smith, Uncle Jim
Bevin, Dorothy A.	Denno, Bernard "Buck" &	Guerrieri, Patrick	Mathews, Richard	Smith, Mabel Barnett
Bevins, Steven A.	Anna Robbins	Guerrieri, Robert	McCannels, Cindy	Smith, Shirley Bly
Bevins, Stephen J.	Denno, Joseph J.	Guerrieri, Grace	McCoy, Beatrice Denno	Stanton, Patty & Jack
Bevins, Ernest C.	Denno, Robert A.	Guerrieri, Patsy	McGuire, Betty	Stratton, Leona Robbins
Bevins, Maud	Denno, Mabel Rock	Hardy, Betty Bennett	McCumber, Lucille	Sunderland, Carl
Bevins, Morris	Denno, Ralph H.	Henry, Dottie	Bennett	Swinyer, Clarence
Bevins, Frank	Denno, James R.	Hill, Pauline Robbins	Meeker, Roy	Swinyer, Dolly
Bevins, Thor E.	Denno, Nicholas (baby)	Hintze, Ron	Megow, Norma	Tilton, Edna Robbins
Blair, Winifred & William	Densmore, Floyd & Betty	Hirakawa, George &	Megow, Ludolf J.	Trudeau Family, Clifford
Bolton, Jack & Doris	Dickson, Ryan	Dorothy	Megow, Irene	Tuminsky, Mildred Fish
Bolton, Dick & Penny	Doyle, Bert	Hoffay, Janet	Meola, Rudy	Tyler, Barbara Denno
Bonestell, Sara	Dunsmore, Jack	Hogan, Father	Middleton, Leonard	VanAlstyne, Bill
Boyd, Gerry	Eddy, Mildred	Hostig, Greg	Middleton, Aaron	Van Kleeck, Bud & June
Braisted, John & Betty	Elethorpe, Nathan	Hudler, George & Marion	Middleton, Alvin	Van Kleeck, William
Braisted, Jody Lambert	Elethorpe, Anna	Hudler, Ron	Middleton, Emma	& Anna
Breitenbach, Debbie	Elethorpe, Asel	Huestis, Ruth	Middleton, Scott	Van Kleeck, Marion
Brink Family	Elethorpe, Myra	Hunter, Lura Bennett	Middleton, Beatrice	Van Kleeck, Hatch
Brock, Catherine	Elethorpe, Cecil	James, Tom	"Midge" Denno	VanSleet, Al
Brock, Louis	Elethorpe, Elwin	Johnson, Louis & Bessie	Middleton, Julia	VanSleet, Betty
Brock, Charlotte	Elethorpe, Normon	Jordon, "Mam" & "Pap"	Moran, Gene	Vargo, Betty
Broderick, Jim & Margaret	Elliott, Charlotte	Jordon, Margaret	Morin, Mary Hoffay	Vickerson, Henry & Lucille
Broderick, Father Rich	Engler, Sr., Kay & Ken	Jordon, Curtis	Mosca, Nicholas A. (baby)	Vickerson, John & Julie
Brown, John & Betty	Ergood, Bruce	Jordon, Gramp & Inza	Mury, Ray	WAZ
Brunsell, Punky	Fadding, John	Jordon, Cindy	Nestor, Juanita Robbins	West, Marguerite
Bryant, Bob & Shirley	Fadding, Bub	Jordon, Bea	Nielson, Margaret	Whitaker, Jim
Burgess, Arlene	Fish, Herm	Jordon, Brian	Nutt, Jim	Whitaker, Ed
Byrnes, George	Fish, Sr., Floyd	Jordon, Chuck	Ostrander, Irene	Wilson, Burke
Byrnes, Jeanne	Fish, Jr., Floyd	Jordon, Jay	Pendarvis, Makeisha	Wilson, Don
Cacici, Joe	Fish, Charlie	Jordon, John	Hoffay	Wilson, Marie
Calden, Irene Arsenault	Fish, Clifford	Jordon, Patty	Perkins, Ann	Withrow, Pryce R.
Caldera, Bob	Fitzgerald, Jane	Kennedy, Dolly	Perkins, Jackie	Woodard, Terry
Cameron, Hannah	Floor, Marjorie	Kennedy, Jack	Peters, Duke	Woody, Ruth Hudler
Carpenter, Harold	Floor, William	Knuetter, Patrick	Pinchon, Terry	Wotton, Robert L.
Carpenter, Jane	Foote, Charlie	Krueger, Alberta	Pomponio, Camille	& Harriet
Carpenter, John	Foote, Mary (Maggie)	Krueger, Richard H.	Santaniello	Yacavone, Dominic &
Carpenter, Jr., John	Forgette, Pat	Lamb, Betty	Prentiss, Louise Barnett	Camella

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

Each year the Town Board meets at the end of the year to pass any final resolutions. This year, the meeting was held on December 31, 2019. Deputy Supervisor Ramant and Board Members Patchett and Bast were present and approved the final warrants.

There was an organizational meeting on January 3rd, which was attended by all of the Town Board members. They approved all the resolutions necessary for 2020. These resolutions included agreements and contracts with other organizations, salaries, wages for town workers, and other items of business.

The official minutes of these meetings will be posted on the Town of Hague website townofhague.org/boards/town-board. ■

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 12/19/2019

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

BEATY (26.18-1-1.2) 9246 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)

The owners would like to extend an existing eight-foot wide deck an additional three feet six inches and install an attached pitched roof over existing docks. All of the proposed structures are over the waters of Lake George, but are attached to a legal non-conforming structure which is partially over land. The board approved five to one (Navitsky).

PANNELL (26.6-1-21) 3 Forest Bay Road South (TRIR)

The owners would like to replace an existing non-conforming house with a new single family house that will be more than a 25% increase in square footage. The proposed house meets sideline setbacks. The application was unanimously approved. ■



procedures for Clean-Up Day, additional buoys in the launch area, and the enforcement action plan on noncompliance with the sewer law.

The supervisor listed some goals for 2020 including park improvements, creating a plan for the transfer station, creating a permit system for rental properties, and plans for septic inspections.

In Committee Report discussions, Councilman Ramant noted that there have been good comments on the condition of the roads and that he is in discussions to see if the canopy can be cut back on Route 9N going over Tongue Mountain.

Councilman Bast gave a review of the work done by the Sewer Committee to improve the enforcement process.

The board approved a resolution to contract with Cedarwood Engineering for general engineering help during the year 2020.

The board approved a resolution related to an engineering planning grant for the purpose of identifying inflow and infiltration issues in the town wastewater system.

The town has advertised for new positions to help in various departments. After several interviews, Councilman Ramant moved to approve, and the board accepted, these recommendations for the listed positions.

- General Maintenance Worker, full-time @ \$14.75 per hour - Eric Cramer from Chestertown.
- Accounts Clerk working with Diane Trudeau, part-time 20 hrs./wk. @ \$15 per hour - Donna Denton Clark from Crown Point
- Administrative Assistant to ZEO Cathy Clark, part-time 16 hrs./wk. @ \$13 per hour - Beth Navitsky from Hague
- Mechanic Operator at the Highway Department, part-time 20 hrs./wk. @ \$12 per hour - Nate Swinton from Hague. ■

TOWN BOARD - 1/14/2020

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Jack Bast, Martin Fitzgerald II, Josh Patchett, and Steve Ramant were all present.

A moment of silence was held for Edna Middleton Butler and Anita Masten.

Supervisor Frasier and the board discussed their accomplishments for the year, including receiving grants and awards, infrastructure upgrades, a new truck for brining, partial knotweed eradication, improvement in

LGLC UPCOMING EVENTS

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) will host two upcoming events:

Guided Cross-Country Ski on February 1, 2020 from 9:30 am - 3 pm. It will be at Cat and Thomas Mountains Preserve and will be on the lower trail from Valley Woods Road to Edgecomb Pond and back. It's a new, easier route this year.

Walk on Water to Dome Island on February 15th at 10 am and at 2 pm. Meet at the LGLC office in Bolton, then walk to Dome Island. IMPORTANT: Registration must be done online (no email or phone calls, please) and it opened Monday, January 6th. For more information, click here: [Walk on Water to Dome Island](#) ■

SOUNDINGS

CONGRATULATIONS: To Joan and Jim Schnabel, of Annapolis and Hague, on their 60th wedding anniversary on January 2, 2020.

DIED: Anita Rose Masten, 89, of Hague and formerly of Norwalk, CT, peacefully on Friday, January 3, 2020, surrounded by her loving family.

She was employed as an Instructional Aide at West Rocks Middle School in Norwalk, CT for over 17 years, until her retirement in 1991.

Anita and Wes vacationed in Hague every year beginning in 1950, before becoming permanent residents in 1994. Anita was very active in this community. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Ticonderoga, the Hague Seniors Club, the Hague Historical Society, the Carillon Garden Club, and the Ticonderoga Elks Club. She was also a volunteer at Fort Ticonderoga.

Anita was known for her warm smile, compassionate spirit, and willingness to help anyone in need. She was a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt.

Survivors include her husband of 72 years, Wesley E. Masten. She is also survived by two daughters, Deborah A. Michela (Joseph) and Tammy M. Andrew (Keith); one brother, Richard J. Ramagli (Pamela); one sister, Doris S. Wright; two grandsons, Jason P. Poland (Sara) and Michael J. Michela (Christina); two granddaughters, Katherine E. Sitsis (Yanni) and Emily E. Frank (Jake Austin); and several devoted nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be scheduled in the future. ▣

The Hague Chronicle is happy to publish important happenings in the lives of our readers. Please send announcements of births, marriages, graduations, anniversaries of 50/55/60/65+, awards, or deaths to editor@thehaguechronicle.org and we'll publish them as space permits. Thank you.

GOVERNOR CUOMO PROPOSING CHANGES TO ASSIST COLLEGE STUDENTS

To create opportunity for more middle-class families, Governor Cuomo is proposing to raise the Excelsior Scholarship eligibility threshold from \$125,000 to \$150,000 of adjusted gross family income. By increasing the threshold, more than 230,000, or nearly 58 percent of New York resident students will go to a SUNY or CUNY college tuition free!

The Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) will establish policy to make more community college students, such as those at North Country Community College in Ticonderoga, eligible for essential SNAP benefits.

Additionally, OTDA will establish state policy that community college students engaged at least half-time in career and technical education courses of study are exempt from the requirement to work 20 hours weekly to qualify for SNAP. These students will then be able to apply for and receive SNAP if they otherwise qualify based on available income and other basic eligibility rules that apply to all SNAP households. ▣

NEW LAW FOR SAFER BOATING IN NEW YORK STATE

Brianna's Law is in effect as of January 1, 2020. It requires all operators of motorized boats and personal watercraft to take a safe boating course and get a boating safety certificate by 2025. This new law is named after Brianna Lieneck, an 11-year-old Long Island girl who was killed in a boating accident. For details, click here: [Governor Cuomo Signed Brianna's Law to Strengthen Boater Safety](#).

This new law has a phased-in approach: depending on your age, the date by which you will need to take the course and get your boating safety certificate will vary. Learn more about the full phase-in details by clicking here: [Brianna's Law](#)



Gina Lieneck (Brianna's mother) with Governor Andrew Cuomo. Photo courtesy of Governor Andrew Cuomo

If you were born on or after:	You will need a boating safety certificate when operating a motorized vessel in:
January 1, 1993	2020
January 1, 1988	2022
January 1, 1983	2023
January 1, 1978	2024
All motor boat operators regardless of age will need a boating safety certificate beginning in 2025.	

Boaters can obtain a boating safety certificate by taking either a classroom or approved online course-- both free and paid options are available, visit: parks.ny.gov for more information. Students 18 years of age and older will be required to pay \$10 for their permanent certificate. There is no charge for students under the age of 18. ▣

NATURALLY SPEAKING

by Connie Smith



This column was entitled “Naturally Speaking” because I wanted to combine two personal interests, nature and words. We use words every day and they have histories just like each of us has a unique history. So, let’s talk about January.

It is believed that the month of January is named after the Roman god of doors or entryways, Janus, because this month is the door to the year. Janus represents all beginnings and endings and all choices and is usually depicted with two faces, one on each side of the head. He is one of the earliest gods of Rome and is sometimes referred to as “the god of gods” or diuom dem.

Janus is usually shown with beards on both faces, but originally, Janus was depicted with one bearded face

and another clean-shaven face, which may have symbolized the moon and the sun or age and youth. It may surprise you to know that in 46 B.C., the Roman emperor Julius Caesar introduced the Julian calendar, which closely resembles the more modern Gregorian calendar that most countries around the world use today.

Caesar instituted January 1 as the first day of the year to honor the month’s namesake, Janus.

Romans would celebrate January 1 by offering sacrifices to Janus in the hope of gaining good fortune for the New Year. They decorated their houses with laurel branches and attended raucous parties. It was common for



friends and neighbors to make a positive start to the year by exchanging well wishes and gifts of figs and honey with one another.

Fast forward to medieval Europe and things changed. The new year celebration was considered pagan and unchristian-like, so in 567 A.D. the Council of Tours replaced January

1 as the beginning of the year with December 25 or March 25, but that’s another story!

Pagan or not, the new year is an opportune time to look back, like Janus

does, cherish our memories, and to look forward to a happy and healthy new year.

I say, “Bring on the raucous parties!”



WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by Mike Strutz



First, a retraction/ explanation of last month’s article. As you may recall, I gave a description of a situation in which we lost power and I needed to get some drinking water from one of my neighbors, both of whom had new septic tanks, but different depths of soil for their drain fields. That story was fictional and I should have explained that. My apologies.

In fact, most of my neighbors on the lakefront are hooked up, as I am, to the Town of Hague sewer system and have been since it became available about ten years ago. And thank goodness! Our old system was scary. Our grey water (washing machine, dishwasher, showers, sinks, etc.) went to a “dry well” (a glorified hole in the ground) on top of shallow,

“
Dedicated to
Protecting
the Water
Quality of
Lake George
”

fast-draining soil that led to a steep-sloping rock ledge. I doubt there was much in the way of significant treatment of that wastewater before it reached the lake. Algae was visible on the rocks at the lakeshore. The black water (toilet) went to a small 300-gallon translucent plastic holding tank that was perched on top of a pallet held up by some broken concrete blocks on the side of the steeply-sloping rock ledge. A disaster waiting to happen! Luckily, it never did. Thank you to the Town of Hague for having the wisdom to install a sewer system.

The point of last month’s article was that the depth of soil in the drain field of a septic system influences the final quality of the water that reaches the lake. Even if, hypothetically, you were to replace the septic tank (because, for instance, you had an old metal tank that was leaking) and reconnected the new one to the old drain field, you would improve the situation, but might not solve the whole problem. Like replacing the engine in your old car, something else would probably soon fail.

To be clear, the Town of Hague and the New York State Department of Health, have strict requirements for design and placement of septic systems and drain (leach) fields in new construction situations. And, the town requires that property owners within the current sewer districts connect to the sewer system. However, for those properties outside the districts, which includes about 400 properties on the lake and its tributaries, old systems exist. Unless there is a visible problem, there is currently no requirement for inspection. That is why the Hague Water Quality Awareness Committee is recommending a mandatory septic system inspection ordinance for environmentally critical zones. We need to protect the lake!

Happy New Year!

For more information on how you can help, please visit the Hague Water Quality Awareness Committee on Facebook or contact one of our Steering Committee members: Al Rider (Chairman), Jim Beaty, Lance Clark, Ginger Kuenzel, Josh Patchett, Steve Ramant, or me. ■

SILVER BAY YMCA TEEN CENTER HOSTS LOCK-IN

The Silver Bay YMCA Teen Center in Ticonderoga hosted over 60 local teens at its annual New Year's "Lock-In" event on December 31, 2019 - January 1, 2020. Brady Kennedy and Alyssa Mydlarz from Hague were there. Chief Executive Officer Steve

Tamm said two buses of local teens headed to The Sky Zone in Queensbury for several hours of fun to celebrate the end of 2019. The teens jumped, climbed, dove, bounced, and played

basketball and dodgeball to their hearts' content at the indoor trampoline park from 8 pm to 11pm.

"Everyone was full of energy, smiles, anticipation, and excitement, and the bus rides were full of holiday enthusiasm and chatter. Silver Bay YMCA Youth and Teen Director Jackie Palandrani said, "On the ride home, the bus pulled over moments before midnight so we could count down to 2020. It was a really fun and memorable event for both the teens and the staff!"



Once back at the center in Ti, the teens continued their celebration with hot pizza donated by Olive's Ti Pi, as well as fresh fruit and vegetables with dip. They enjoyed basketball, dodgeball, pool, ping pong, movies and quality time with their friends until the lock-in concluded at 6 am. "The teen event was a huge success, in no small part thanks to hard

able to support our teens and grateful to everyone who makes this event possible and accessible to teens on a yearly basis."

The Silver Bay YMCA Teen Center in Ticonderoga is offered at no cost to the community. Silver Bay YMCA currently does not receive any federal, state, or town monies to cover the cost of this

work of the Silver Bay Teen Center staff, local volunteers such as Brian Kennedy, Tammy Perry and Corina Woods, and our faithful donors and local business partners such as Olive's Ti Pi," stated Tamm.

"Our New Year's Eve Lock-In provides a safe and wholesome place for teens on an important night of the year when they may get caught up in unhealthy behavior," Tamm continued. "Of the 61 teens in attendance, several received full scholarships so they could attend this important event. We are honored to be

program, which is 100% funded by generous donations. The Silver Bay YMCA Teen Center costs Silver Bay over \$150,000 per year, and \$12,000 of the budget is paid directly to the town of Ticonderoga for use of the first floor and shared use of the gym in the Ticonderoga Armory.

"Please consider supporting our program through a tax-deductible contribution," stated Palandrani. "You can make a donation today by contacting Development Director, Nick Rama, at 518-543-8510." ■

LGV'S WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT GETS \$9.4 FROM NYS

On January 5, 2020, Governor Cuomo announced that New York State will provide an additional \$9.4 million to the Village of Lake George for replacement of its failing wastewater treatment plant. This will make possible the single most important Lake George protection project in generations. Congratulations on a job well done by Mayor Blais, local elected officials, and everyone who worked so hard to make this happen.

Left unabated, pollution from this treatment plant and aging private septic systems pose serious threats

to Lake George as a drinking water source for residents and visitors, and greatly increases the risk of harmful algal blooms like those that have wreaked havoc on the environment and economy of lakes across our state and beyond. ■

GOINGS-ON AT SILVER BAY YMCA

REMEMBER: A Community Winter Program Badge, which allows you to participate in activities at Silver Bay YMCA this winter, is free to residents in Essex County, Bolton, Brant Lake, Hague, and Putnam. Just stop by the main desk and complete the paperwork before March 1 to get yours.

The waters off Silver Bay are a popular destination for ice fishermen. If you choose to access the lake at Slim Point, please park in the top main parking area and hang your badge in the rear-view mirror.

Winter Weekend will be February 14-17, 2020. Reservations must be made by Monday, February 10th at 4:30 pm. Meals are available for on-campus guests only.

There will be sledding, pretzel-making, a climbing wall, crafts, snowshoeing, s'mores and hot chocolate at the annual winter bonfire and more.

NOTE: ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES ARE PLANNED IN THE EVENT OF NO SNOW OR EXTREME COLD. ■

LOOKING BACK

By Ginger Henry Kuenzel

Driving up Route 8, just before reaching Elephant Rock, you'll pass through Graphite. In the late 19th and early 20th century, a settlement grew up here when graphite was discovered. In addition to the graphite mines and administrative offices, it included a church, a post office, a school, boarding houses, a bowling alley, a social hall, stores, a sawmill, saloons and homes for 400 residents.

Mining operations began in 1880, and by 1912, the town was the largest American producer of graphite. Workers used shovels and dynamite to open the hillsides and create miles of tunnels. In their heyday, the mine diggings required 80 men, with another 20 supporting them above ground. Fifty more worked in the mill, which ran double shifts during peak periods. Beginners' pay was ten cents per hour. The average rate was \$1.25 for a ten-hour workday.

The raw material was brought to the surface with a tramway. It was shoveled into a crusher and then into stampers, which contained cubes of solid iron that pounded the ore into a fine sand. The fine graphite ore was washed out with water, which went into large vats. Nearby ponds and streams were diverted or created to assure a constant water supply. One carload of ore brought up from the underground mines yielded one bag of processed graphite. About 65 bags weighing 110 pounds each were turned out each day.

The processed graphite was hauled down the mountain by horse teams to a landing (today's Dockside Landing Marina), where it was loaded onto barges and taken the nine miles to Baldwin. From there, it was loaded onto wagons and taken to the Joseph Dixon plant in Ticonderoga. On the return trip, the barges carried supplies for the mill, the store, and the boarding houses.

The Hague Historical Society is fortunate to have detailed accounts about daily life in Graphite, thanks to Thomas Francis Lonergan, who lived in the town for almost 30 years, first as a child and later as deputy mine director. The following are from his recollections.



At all mining camps, and Hague was no exception, the boarding houses were crowded. If a person occupied a bed alone, they would need to double up when a newcomer arrived. Lonergan tells of George, who ward off all newcomers by scratching himself and asking the new would-be occupant if he knew of any remedy that would cure the itch. He thus managed to drive off all intruders. However, one evening, a newcomer was assigned to share a bed with George. Approaching the bed, he asked if he could sleep there. George's whispered reply: "Why yes, of course, but I have the itch in the worst form." The bedfellow did not mind in the least since, he said, "I have bugs myself." Thinking the fellow was joking, George accepted his company but soon found himself infested with bugs.

Lonergan purchased an Edison Home Phonograph and records, along with recording equipment and blank records. The foreigners at the mine – mainly Italians, Russians, Poles, Austrians, Germans and Scandinavians – enjoyed the records, but they were all in English. "Accordingly," Lonergan recalled, "I wrote to the Edison people asking if they catalogued records in the foreign tongue and shortly received a very large catalog of all records, including a list of foreign records. The foreigners at once ordered

a liberal supply of those alien records. After they arrived, the fun began, and the Edison machine was worked until it smoked. We had songs in every language, and while of course we Americans were not interested in alien sounds, nevertheless we had a bushel of fun, as they gave so much enjoyment to those people so far removed from home. They would jump to their feet and dance around the room in rapturous delight when an instrumental record of their home was played. Being called upon time and time again by those worthy people to record their music and singing, I fully enjoyed the time spent thereto, inasmuch as some of them were real sweet singers and musicians. Those people wished me to keep all the records. However, I insisted that they should keep their own records, which they did. No doubt many of those old records recorded at the mines are now in foreign countries."

The town of Graphite prospered until 1921, when it became cheaper to import the graphite from abroad than to process it domestically. ▣



TOP: Sign on Route 8; MIDDLE: Interior of the mine in 1890; Exterior of the mine in 1890

JUMP WITH JILL PROGRAM AT SCHOOL

Ticonderoga Elementary-Middle School will host the nationally-acclaimed rock and roll nutrition show *Jump With Jill* on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 1:30 pm.

Created by a registered dietician and musician, *Jump with Jill* has been performed 3,500 times in six countries for over a million kids. The nationally-touring show transforms nutrition education into a full-scale rock concert, with segments including: Enjoying Fruits and Vegetables, Exercising to "The Beat of the Body", Getting Goin' with Breakfast, Drinking Water, and Calcium for Strong Bones, just to name a few. ■

MASON/STAR DINNER

A roast beef dinner, sponsored jointly by the members of Mount Defiance Lodge No. 794, F. & A.M. and Fort Ticonderoga Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, will be served Friday, January 24, 2020, from 4:30 - 6 pm in the downstairs dining hall of the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street. Take-outs will be available. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 years old and under and will be sold at the door. Parking will be available along Montcalm Street and at the Hancock House. ■

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AS REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS FOR THE HAGUE CHRONICLE. CONTACT Bobbi Bryant Taylor at editor@thehaguechronicle.org.

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is a monthly news journal, which has been published by volunteers since January 1972. Please send all news items and Soundings by the deadline listed in the calendar, to editor@thehaguechronicle.org. Please send any questions to publisher@thehaguechronicle.org.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT

Fort Ticonderoga's Fort Fever Series features programs led by museum staff, who share their latest research and cutting-edge discoveries. Programs are held on Sundays at 2 pm in the Mars Education Center at the fort.

Sunday, February 9, 2020, at 2 pm in the Mars Education Center: *First in War, First in Peace*, George Washington's 1783 Visit to Ticonderoga and the end of the American Revolution. Curator Matthew Keagle will explore the forgotten conclusion of the Revolutionary War in the north. Admission is \$10/person at the door; free admission is offered to Fort Ticonderoga Members and Ambassador Pass holders.



Saturday, February 15, 2020: 1775 is the *British Garrison Event*. Events will occur throughout the day that will bring to life the experience of soldiers in the 26th Regiment of Foot and their families who made their homes in this frontier fort.

In the Winter Workshop Series, Fort Ticonderoga's professional staff and tradesmen will guide you as you make your own 18th-century clothing and accoutrement during these two hands-on trades workshops. Each workshop includes a coat kit, sewing materials and lunch. Pre-registration is required; call 518-585-6190.

Saturday and Sunday, January 25-26, 2020: *1777 British Canada Army Coats* - Learn the latest research on British enlisted regimental coat construction and their modification by the British Army in Canada in February 1777. Discover period shortcuts for these military garments, produced en masse for regimental contracts.

Saturday and Sunday February 22-23, 2020: *Canada Army & Foraging Caps* - Build a classically-inspired cap, first worn by the British Army in Canada in 1777. These warm, wool foraging caps were commonly worn by soldiers on work details or off-duty. ■

STUDENTS CREATE STATUE OF LORD HOWE

In a program called "Contractors in the Classroom," the Ti-Alliance is facilitating the building of a statue of Lord Howe by Ticonderoga high school students and local contractors. The statue will be in place by this summer between the Ti Community Building and North Country Community College. Until then, you can see it at the Ti Arts Gallery on Montcalm Street.

The creation of this statue has been the brainchild of Roberta Whiteley, who has also been the driving force for Ti'Coustics. In fact, the money for material and sculpting of the statue and for its related costs has come from the donations folks have made while attending the twice-a-month Ti'Coustics shows, which feature local musicians. ■



TI'COUSTICS

The Ti'Coustics music show for Wednesday, February 5, 2020 will be held at the Ti Arts Gallery at 119 Montcalm Street. The show on Wednesday, February 19th will be held at the American Legion at 104 Montcalm Street in Ticonderoga. The local musicians who will play will be announced at a later time. ■

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

January 2020

JANUARY

23	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
24	4:30 - 6 pm	Mason Star Dinner
25 - 26		1777 British Canada Army Coats at Fort Ticonderoga
28	1:30 pm	Senior Club Meeting at the community center

FEBRUARY

1	9:30 am	LGLC Cross Country Ski
6	7 pm	Planning Board
9	2 pm	First in War, First in Peace at Fort Ticonderoga
10		Deadline for the February issue of The Hague Chronicle
11	6 pm	Town Board

12	
14 - 17	
15	10 am
15	2 and 4 pm
15	
16	
17	
21	
22 - 23	

Jump With Jill
Winter Weekend at Silver Bay YMCA
Winter Logger Games at Hague Fish & Game Club
LGLC Walk to Dome Island
1775 British Garrison at Fort Ticonderoga
Hague Polar Plunge
Hague town offices closed for Presidents Day
February issue of The Hague Chronicle published
Canada Army's Foraging Caps at Fort Ticonderoga

TRANSFER STATION HOURS:

September 2 through June 30 | Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm | Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm | Sunday: CLOSED