



VOLUME 37 NO 3

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

March 2008

EMERGENCY IN HAGUE

The rain started in the early afternoon of Saturday, March 8, 2008 and froze on the trees and roadways. Later that evening as the Town Highway department was out working, a tree fell on one of the trucks. Shortly afterward, Supervisor Dan Belden declared Hague in a state of emergency and local agencies were contacted. All night long the cracking of branches and trees falling could be heard and roadways were littered with branches, trees and power lines.

By Sunday morning the Highway Department had put up detour signs on all roads leading into Hague as all were blocked by debris. The HVFD building was the headquarters for the state police, Warren County Disaster personnel bringing generators and cots, Supervisor Belden, Councilman Martucci and the volunteer members of the Fire Department. Generators were taken to the housebound, cellars were pumped out and the firehouse was open to residents for warmth and food. The Silver Bay YMCA also hosted those in need.

The Highway Department worked to clear the roads and truckloads of workers from National Grid, with help from neighboring states, descended on Hague to restore power. They were followed by Verizon and Time Warner to replace phone and cable lines. The only way out of Hague was by the West Hague/New Hague/Trout Brook back roads and even then it was a matter of skirting power lines and driving under downed trees.

By Tuesday most of the utilities were restored, roads opened and the emergency ended. Several downed branches caused property damage and a few trees landed on homes. The buzz of chainsaws could be heard as property owners started cleanup. One bright note is that with the sun out and the trees still covered with ice, the Town was a crystal wonderland.



photo courtesy of Bruce Clark



Dave Hoffay, Don Smith, Dan Belden & Mark Martucci at the Fire Department on Sunday, March 9, 2008

\$\$\$ REBATES \$\$\$

Most Americans will get a \$300 to \$600 rebate under the new 2008 Federal Economic Stimulus package. But you must file a tax return - even if you do not normally file one. Help is still available through the free AARP tax help program.

Call the Community Center at 543-6161 to set up an appointment.

Well, Old Man Winter has certainly done a number on us here in Hague this year! Among the cancellations we've endured, unfortunately, was our February Senior Club meeting. We'll have to have our Bingo party sometime later in the year so hold onto those "white elephants"!

Tuesday, March 25 is our next regular meeting. It begins at 1:30 pm and our guest will be Mae Pagan who will spend time familiarizing us with introductory T'ai Chi moves and breathing exercises. T'ai Chi is designed to reduce stress, increase vitality, and lessen arthritis symptoms, among other benefits. Should be a pleasant workout! Followed, of course, with our usual fellowship and refreshments. Be sure to join us!

Friday, April 4 will be a mini-trip to The Wells House in Pottersville for lunch. This historic inn and restaurant, originally built in 1845, is a charming place for an early spring outing into the heart of the Adirondacks. There will be a sign-up sheet at the March meeting.

Tuesday, April 22 will be our regular meeting and we're being hosted by the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks. More details will be available at the March meeting and in the April Chronicle. This should be a special meeting at one of the loveliest spots along the shores of Lake George.

Remember that membership in the Hague Seniors' Club is the best bargain around – for \$5 a year we feed you and entertain you! New members are always welcome and don't let that word "senior" scare you off – our membership ranges from 55 to 94 and we're all still "swingin"! See you on the 25th!

... Pat McDonough

FROM THE TOWN HISTORIAN'S DESK

For the last couple of weeks I have been working on computerizing the births listed in the town records from approximately 1888 - 1916. I have set them up alphabetically rather than by entry date. If anyone wishes to look over the data, please let Bertha Dunsmore know at the Town office and give her your name and phone number. I will arrange an agreeable time to meet with you and review the data.

...Gerald Crammond

Mark your calendars for the Hague Memorial Day celebration which will take place on Saturday, May 24, 2008. The Parade Committee's planning process is well underway. We are pleased to announce that during the FUNFEST at the Beach, Linda Benway has agreed to once again hold her DOG SHOW which was such a hit last year. All Pet owners with a 'pup' who wishes to take part in this program, give her a call at 585-6884. Anyone who wishes to set up a craft table or run a food concession that day, please contact Emily Cobb at 543-6325.

The Parade already has six bands on tap and several new units on board. Now, we need Floats; Clowns, Classic Cars, etc. This year the Prize Categories are: BEST IN PARADE, BEST ADIRONDACK THEME, MOST PATRIOTIC, MOST CREATIVE, BEST YOUTH PRESENTATION, HONORABLE MENTION/ADULT & HONORABLE MENTION/YOUTH. So, start planning now!! To sign up for the Parade, call Madeline at 543-6130.

Also, if anyone would just like to share in the fun of the day and volunteer a couple of hours to help out the Seniors in various areas, please do give us a call. It would be much appreciated.

One more note . . . DONATIONS WILL BE WELCOME! The fact is, your generosity makes this event possible and we thank you for it. All checks should be made out to HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB - PARADE ACCOUNT and mailed to the Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836.
... Madeline Pelkey

MOVIE & A PIZZA

Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks offers a movie/pizza evening on the 2nd Friday of each month (through May) at 6 pm usually in Watson Arts Center for the general public. It is a fun get-together where neighbors spend a little time with other neighbors. For a suggested donation of \$5 we offer a movie on the big screen as well as pizza, salad, and beverages.

The next event will be on April 11th with the movie "Ocean's Thirteen". We would appreciate an RSVP before that Friday to ensure that we have enough pizzas for all. Please contact us at 543-8833 x215 or x286 or <cdevenger@silverbay.org>.

... Chip Devenger

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is mailed out by volunteers on the Thursday after the third Tuesday of each month. The news deadline is six days earlier. Please send news or address corrections to Judy Stock at <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com>.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly tax deductible contribution (check your label) to: the Treasurer, George Ianson at:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
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Hague, New York 12836-0748

Editor/Publisher: Judith Stock (518-543-6517)

Editor/Publisher, Emerita: Dorothy Henry

Our website: www.thehaguechronicle.org

The Ticonderoga Festival Guild has kicked off its annual membership campaign. Among the events will be a special family presentation of Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory by the Adirondack Regional Theatre on July 1.

The adult concert season begins on July 8 and continues each Tuesday under the Tent in Ticonderoga. The Children's Arts Trek programs begin on July 9 and continue each Wednesday morning. The children's programs are at 10:15 am and are free to all area children and those who bring them.

Grants from several agencies have been applied for in order to subsidize these programs, and membership contributions to the Guild help enormously. For further information and/or membership materials, call the Guild office at 518-585-6716.
... Cathie Burdick

ARTS FAIR VENDORS SOUGHT

Vendors of hand-crafted items are being solicited right now for the 37th Annual Hague Arts Fair sponsored by the Hague-On-Lake-George Chamber of Commerce. Dates for the event are August 2nd 10 AM to 4 pm and August 3rd 10 AM to 3 pm.

All vendors are invited to participate at a reasonable cost. The show is held at the Hague Community Center, Route 8 in Hague. Both inside and outside spaces are available. Deadline for registration is June 15th.

For further information please call or contact: Karen Laundree, 9556 Graphite Mountain Road, Hague, NY 12836 at 518-543-8841 or Judy Schultz, 44 Overbrook Drive, Hague, NY 12836 at 518-543-6769 or e-mail <hagueartsfair@yahoo.com>.

BESTE COMMITTEE THANKS

The Beste Scholarship Fund Steering Committee sincerely thanks the following people/organizations who so generously sent in donations to the Fund in response to our recent fundraising appeal.

Bruno and Dorothy Brauner, Bud and Pam Bresett, Joanne and John Brown, The Costello Family - Rogers Rock Events, Peggy Darrin, Dossie Davis, Barbara Folkemer, Frank R. Fowler, Rod and Nema Geer, Hague Volunteer Fire Department - Breakfasts, Stu Harmon, Betty Heintzelman, Thomas M. James, Bob and Kay Maiaro, Dan and Nancee McGowen, Lu and Linda Megow, Rogers' Rangers Battle on Snowshoes Committee, Brian and Beverly Sann, Sal and Kathy Santaniello, Lynn Stanford, Judy Stock, Patty and Lynn Stote, Bob and Jan Whitaker and a special thanks to *The Hague Chronicle* for including our flyer with the January issue.

Donations are always appreciated and can be sent to: Beste Scholarship Fund, c/o Hague Community Center, Hague, NY, 12836.

...Kathy Santaniello

On March 8, just prior to the big storm, two dozen hearty Adirondackers gathered around a warm campfire to enjoy stories with our special guests, Bob and Holly Bearor and to participate or watch the snowshoe and skiing events. Bob is the foremost authority and author of "The Battle on Snowshoes", which took place 250 years ago on a site near Ticonderoga Country Club rather than Rogers' Rock Campsite.

Betty Peria and Toni O'Bryan, of Ticonderoga, true Adirondack women (and young 70 somethings), skied to a tie for first place. Heidi Karkoski of Ticonderoga, took first place, and best overall time, 12:31, in the snowshoe race. Second place went to

Katie Elling of Ticonderoga. From Hague, Jan and Bob Whitaker cruised to third places on their snowshoes.

Also on snowshoes were Frank Montbriand and Mark Moss of Ticonderoga. Martin Glazer and Matt Cook from Ti placed first and second place in youth category.



Susan Darrin

Tavish Costello and Susan Darrin were dressed in authentic garb. Nancy Young and Tim Costello tended the fire and served delicious hot dogs and hot chocolate.

Co-organizers Joe McCranels and Karen Costello would like to thank the local Hague businesses who donated prizes for the racers: Sew and Sow Embroidery, DeFranco Landscaping, The Hague Firehouse Restaurant and Juniper Goods and Gifts. Also thanks to the Town of Hague and the Hague Market for their support and Ticonderoga Elementary School for the loan of the snowshoes. Proceeds from the event go to the Beste Scholarship and John Costello Memorial Scholarship Funds in equal amounts.
... Karen Costello

MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Meals on Wheels Program for Hague is in desperate need of additional volunteer drivers to deliver nutritious meals to the homebound and those in need.

There are several driving options from once a week to sharing the duty with another driver or being on an on-call list. Please call Jane Crammond at 543-8054 if you wish to volunteer or to get more information.

CROSS COUNTY SKI TRAILS

The cross country ski trails at the Rogers Rock campsite are currently unusable due to the many branches that have come down.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 2/28/08

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 3/11/08

Chairman Robert Goetsch and members Martin Fitzgerald, George Ianson, Bill Pittman and Glenn McKee were present while Lindsay Mydlarz and Donna Charboneau were absent.

CONNOLLY, (26.18-1-8) 9236 Lakeshore Dr. TR-1

The application is for replacing a 20 sq. ft. walkway with a larger raised walkway for the purpose of relocating the entrance to the structure due to its proximity to the highway. A public hearing was set for next month.

On this property the entire structure will be renovated with a proposed 22% increase in living space but does not need a variance since it will remain within the original footprint. Also a lean-to, 28 ft from the lake, will be built which does not need a variance since the footprint will be only 96 sq. ft - under the 100 sq. ft limit for new construction within 50 ft of the lake. A storm-water plan has been submitted.

SPERLING (59.20-1-5) 30 Watts Hill Rd. TR-1

The applicant would like to construct a 26 ft. by 32 ft. two-car garage with a storage area above. Because of the contour of the land, the only accessible placement would locate the garage within 7 feet of the front property line and 12 feet from the rear line. A public hearing will be held next month.

PLANNING BOARD - 3/6/08

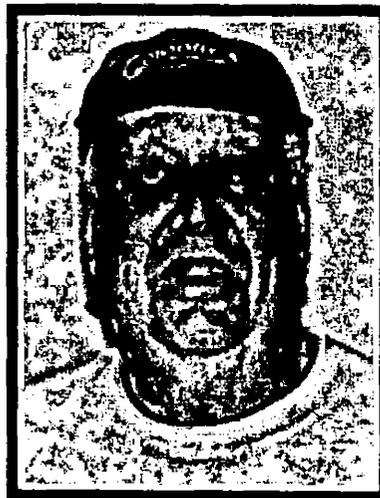
Chairman E.J. Siwek and members Bruce Clark, Martin Fitzgerald, Sr., Richard Frasier and Pam Peterson were present and Rolly Allen and John Brown were absent.

The Board discussed the variance application of CONNOLLY (26.18-1-8), 9236 Lakeshore Dr., TR-1 and recommended approval by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

They also voted to recommend the ZBA approve the request of SPERLING (59.20-1-5) 30 Watts Hill Rd. TR-1, with the condition that no part of the structure will encroach the town right-of-way.

Rypkema, (93.12-1-9.1), 7942 Lakeshore Dr. TR-1

The applicants have submitted plans for a two-car garage, with storage above and a breezeway to connect the proposed garage to an existing shed. Since the breezeway roof will be located 95 ft. from the shoreline, it requires Planning Board review for new construction within 100 feet of the lake. The application was approved.



New Planning Board Member
Martin Fitzgerald, Sr.

Supervisor Dan Belden and Town Board members Edna Frasier, Mark Martucci and Rudy Meola were present. Councilman Dick Gladu was absent.

A moment of silence was observed for Virginia Shattuck, Egbert Ferguson and Jennifer Fenimore.

Many thanks were extended to all those involved with helping during the emergency including the Highway Department and the Hague Volunteer Fire Department. Tom Haskell noted that it was very busy and said that if people in the community who are not members of the HVFD want to volunteer during emergencies, they should just come up to the Firehouse. If people need assistance during emergencies (no heat, etc), they can call the department at 543-6089.

Committee Reports:

Buildings & Grounds/CC - A new generator is needed for the Town Shed.

Finance & Insurance - The end of the year fiscal report has been completed by Diane Trudeau. RFP's need to go out for the audit and insurance.

Museum & Historian - Historian Jerry Crammond is situated next to the vault room and is putting records (birth, death, etc) on the computer.

Recreation/Promotion & Youth

Arrangements are being made for the summer program. Tuition has increased and the cost will be \$48 + \$12 bus per person per week. The Town plays half the tuition costs.

Sewer District #1 & #2 - Last year's application for funding of \$665,000 for Sewer District #2 under Title 9 was not approved, but Hague was the last town to get cut. The Board approved resubmitting the application this year before the April 1 deadline.

Town Park - The Music in the Park series is set for next summer.

Under other business, the Board

Approved \$10,000 payment (from moneys from Warren County) to the

Hague Sno-goers for snowmobile trail maintenance.

Received communication from the LaBerge Group with a cost estimate of \$80,000 - \$115,000 for equipment to maintain the proposed walkway (from Hague intersection to Silver Bay Road). A sidewalk snow removal unit would be necessary if the walkway is kept open during

Cont'd from page 4 - Town Board

Discussed a proposed Local Law on keeping and restraining of dogs. Board members will continue to look at the proposal and in April the Board will decide on a date for a public hearing. Some of the items in the proposal would make it unlawful for any owners to allow dogs to run-at-large, engage in habitual loud barking and create any nuisance (including car chasing, jumping up on a person causing intimidation and eliminating on public property). It also sets standards and procedures for kennels and special requirements for keeping more than four dogs on one property.

Heard suggestions that the Noise Ordinance be revisited since there was no public vote on it.

Established the Community Center as the Town polling place. It was suggested to use the main room rather than the smaller back Board room.

Established Friday, June 13th and Saturday, June 14th as the Clean-up Days for the Town. It was felt that these dates would accommodate more of the seasonal residents.

Heard from Time Warner Cable that the Town has \$41,125 in the line extension fund which will go toward the cable service on West Hague and New Hague roads.

Supported the Town of Johnsbury's letter to the APA letter for expansion of the Gore Mountain project.

Received a request from the Hague Senior Club for help with highway control during the Memorial Day parade.

Approved Brendan Carberry and David Ockrin as alternate certified lifeguards for the summer of 2008.

Approved an agreement for \$4,900 with Clough Harbour for required post-closure monitoring service at the old landfill.

Learned that an application for a Transportation Enhancement project grant for the proposed walkway must be done by 6/27/08. The Walkway Committee, chaired by Jim O'Toole will meet next in April.

Approved a resolution in support of the Taxpayers Protection Act. (Copy of resolution is in Town Clerk's office.)

Approved \$2500 from the special events money (county bed tax) for Randy Engler for promotion of the 2008 North Country Triathlon which will be held in Hague on Saturday, June 28th. Randy has reported a registration already of about 260 contestants.

Approved a request from Town Justice Heather Knott to attend school for professional training in April, September and October.

Approved a resolution for Councilman Meola to investigate and sell the 10 globes (which still remain from the lights previously deemed not acceptable) including possibly on eBay.

In Addition:

Councilman Meola reminded the Board that all employees are required by law to have a "Right to Know" training session. Board Member Frasier suggested that the Supervisor see if there is a qualified person from the County who could come up to do it.

Councilman Meola also inquired about the LGLC property on Hague Brook and the Supervisor said they are still waiting to hear from the LGLC about an appraisal.

Councilman Meola noted that the law has been amended to \$25,000 which the Town can use for special events which should be kept in mind for next year's budget.

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Belden reported that it has been a very tough winter for the County with using up of salt and fuel costs skyrocketing. He said the Board of Supervisors passed 101 resolutions at the last meeting - many of which were for necessary organizational matters.

TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETINGS

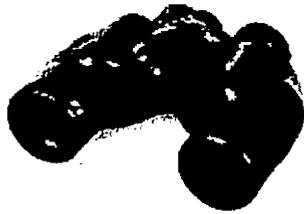
The Town Board held special meetings on February 12, February 26, March 4 and March 13, 2008. Among the actions taken were:

- acting as the Town Board of Health to declare a property uninhabitable,
- requesting sealed proposals for auditing of the books which will be due by March 27th,
- approving the use of the visitor center by the Hague Fish & Game Club,
- approving the submission of an application for funding for Sewer District #2,
- discussing memos from Councilman Meola,
- meeting with the Highway Department to discuss personnel concerns.

T'AI CHI SESSIONS

A new session of T'ai Chi classes in Hague is now held on Thursday evenings from 6 - 7 pm. Instructed by Hague resident Mae Pagan, these sessions started on March 10 but anyone may still join in. She also is holding an 8 week session at the Ticonderoga Elementary School Library from 6 - 7 pm on Wednesdays.

Looking Back



VIRGINIA SHATTUCK, FORMER EDITOR

Many of you who read *The Hague Chronicle* never knew former editor Virginia Shattuck. This delightful & adventurous woman lived alone on Holman Hill since 1972. The June 1979 edition of the *Hague Chronicle* had this to say about Virginia.

"Virginia Shattuck was born in Ticonderoga; moved to Hague at age 9 and graduated from Hague H.S... She earned her R.N. from Cornell U. In 1945 she joined the U.S. Army Nurse corps. During the 4 1/2 years with Army Transport she made 35 Atlantic crossings aboard ships that carried US servicemen & their families from U.S. to England, Germany, France. Highlights: a 3-month assignment to the Queen Mary, 1st class, often meeting celebrities, including Winston Churchill; two trips to Japan. She resigned as a 1st Lt. to study at Columbia U. Teachers' College for her degree in Public Health Nursing- Supervision. An extensive career in her field included the post of Asst. Sup't. Of Nurses at Bellevue Hospital. For 6 years she was on the faculty of Vanderbilt U. school of Medicine at Nashville, Tenn."

Virginia Shattuck died on February 24, 2008. Her obituary appears on page 7. ...Alison Craig

Excerpted from the January 1989 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*:

REMINISCING

It is hard for me to believe that THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is entering its 18th year of publication! It was in January 1972 that Emil Seerup of Silver Bay published these words - "The town of Hague needs a newspaper" and then he went out and did something about it. Until his death on October 1, 1976, Emil was the publisher, editor, collator, etc. etc. (He did get help from his wife, Adra). Sometimes the newspaper was only one or two pages (both sides) and other times it was up to four. Despite the quantity, the quality was always there.

Without skipping a beat, Virginia Shattuck stepped in and again it was pretty much a one-woman operation. She had some help in collating and mailing from time to time, but basically she did it all herself, until June 1979 when she retired. She was instrumental in getting a small group together to follow in her footsteps, which wasn't easy!

Since the June 1979 issue, *The Hague Chronicle* has been staffed by basically the same dedicated volunteers. Imagine, for 9 1/2 years the nucleus has remained the same. Yes, we get a great deal of help from other sources. We have experts in the field of stapling, others whose expertise is in folding, and still others in licking stamps. We appreciate them all. (If you would like to be one of those who gets together once a month to do the above, give Mig Broderick a call and she will put you on her list.)

The staff is open to suggestions of what you would like to see printed. We do cover all the town meetings, and many others besides. We are always looking for ways to improve our paper.

As publisher, I do want to let you readers know who the volunteers are that make up the staff of *The Hague Chronicle*, and also to tell them how much I appreciate all the help and cooperation they give to me.

Editor — Mig Broderick; Treasurer - Jack Kennedy and Penny Bolton; Correspondents - Alison Craig, Billie DeGraff and Georgina Lindquist.

... Dottie Henry, Publisher

Researched by the **Hague Historical Society** for *The Hague Chronicle*.

GILLIBRAND REPORTS

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand has announced that she is accepting applications from local high school sophomores and juniors who are interested in being nominated for the U.S. House of Representatives Summer Page Program. The summer session lasts from July 6, 2008 to August 1, 2008.

Congressional Pages are employed by the House of Representatives to perform official tasks, such as monitoring the phones in the Congressional cloakrooms; delivering messages to Members of Congress on the House floor; delivering correspondence throughout the Congressional complex; and preparing the floor for legislative business. Pages live in a secure page dorm and receive a stipend of \$1,161.17 per month of work.

In order to be considered for a nomination, each applicant must be 16 years of age by July 6th and be a rising junior or senior in high school. In addition, each applicant must be a United States citizen and have a 3.0 GPA in core academic subjects.

All interested students should contact Congresswoman Gillibrand's office at 202-225-5614 by close of business on Monday, March 24th in order to receive an application.

In other matters, she has announced that New York State will receive an additional \$14 million in funding for help for low-income families to offset high home heating costs and important weatherization improvements.

Gillibrand voted in favor of a bill that will end tax breaks for oil and gas companies making record profits in order to establish an energy plan which will create high-paying jobs in Upstate New York.

She is an original sponsor of a bill that will prohibit insurance companies from placing treatment or financial limitations on mental health benefits.

~SOUNDINGS~

BORN: A son, Robert Upson IV on January 23, 2008 to Michele and Rob Upson in Smithtown, NY. Robert is the grandson of Sue and Rob Upson of Hague.

DIED: Harry L. Strickling of Dumont, NJ on July 31, 2007. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Ruth, three children, Elaine Rosales, Glenn Strickling, and Scott Strickling and five grandchildren. Harry spent summers in Silver Bay since 1966.

DIED: Egbert R. "Bert" Ferguson, Jr. of Bethesda, MD died on February 15, 2008 at the age of 95. He is survived by his children Mary Gay Mutino, Jim Ferguson, Judy Taylor and her husband, Greg, and eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Bert and his deceased wife, Rita, were longtime summer residents of Hague where his children still vacation. Bert was the subject of a feature article in the July 2006 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.

DIED: Jennifer Fenimore, 34, (nee Knowles) of Hague, N.Y., on February 21, 2008 as the result of a tragic automobile accident. She is survived by her husband Curt and young children C.J., Nicholas and Anthony of Hague. Jennifer is also survived by her parents Harry and Ann Knowles of Tabernacle, N.J., her brothers Richard (Sarah) Knowles of Tabernacle, N.J., Robert Knowles of Arizona, and a sister Christine (Daniel) Cipollone of Collingswood, N.J. She is also the sister-in-law of Denise P. and Donald R. Smith of Hague, N.Y., Robert L. Fenimore of Ticonderoga, N.Y. and Nancy A. and Fred Bush of Shamong, N.J. and the daughter-in-law of Robert L. Sr. and Janet I. Fenimore of Hague, N.Y.

DIED: Helen Virginia Shattuck on February 24, at Moses Ludington Hospital. Born in Ticonderoga, NY she was the oldest child of Forrest and Marion (Oliver) Shattuck. Ms. Shattuck was a graduate and valedictorian of Hague High School, class of 1934 and received her RN degree from Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. Following graduation she joined the WAC as a nurse and served in France during World War II.

Virginia was a long time resident of Hague and was editor of *The Hague Chronicle* from October 1976 through May 1979. She was an intelligent, witty and charming lady and will be greatly missed by her friends and her community.

Virginia was predeceased by her parents and her sister, Jeanette Lafferty. She is survived by her devoted caregiver, Bertha Dunsmore, a brother-in-law, James Lafferty, and a cousin, Ethel Andrus, all of Hague, and a nephew, Wayne Shattuck, of Ithaca, NY.

A committal service will be held in the spring at Valley View Cemetery.

HAGUE HONOR STUDENTS

Congratulations to the following Hague residents who are on the honor roll for the 2nd marking period at Ticonderoga High School.

Grade 12 - Second Honors-Samantha Abare

Grade 11 - First Honors - Jared Best, Brendan Carberry and Molly Ginn
Second Honors - Mara Haskell

Grade 10 - First Honors - Kaley Manning and Jamie Patchett

Congratulations also to Shane King who is on the Commended List at Tabor Academy.

HVFD EMERGENCY RESPONSE

That Hague was the hardest hit by the recent ice storm quickly became a grim reality for the members of the Hague Fire Dept. and E.M.S. squad. The fire house was quickly set up as an emergency shelter and meal site for those in need, and calls for assistance began to come in early Sat. night.

Nearly every available member turned out and began responding to emergencies from around the community. Twenty standby generators were put into use and maintained for the duration of the storm, providing heat, lights and water where most needed. There were an average of 30 meals served, breakfast, lunch and dinner each day for the duration of the outage. Several basements required pumping out in the midst of providing all of the above. The station was manned 24 hours a day until power was fully restored and the state of emergency was lifted.

Thankfully, assistance came to us from many neighboring Departments including North Warren, West Glens Falls, South Queensbury, Horicon, Lake George, Bay Ridge, Chester, the Warren County Fire Commission and Public Works as well as our own Highway Dept. The HVFD is proud to have been the main responder to such a major natural emergency.

In regular business, we would like to thank all those in the community who helped to make our Winter Week-end Scholarship Breakfast such a success. On behalf of the Ambulance Squad, Renee Swinton presented a commendation to Peter Lawrence for his assistance at a recent fatal motor vehicle accident on the New Hague Road. Peter, in accepting, praised the fire/ems members for their dedication and commitment to service to the community.

Our cold water rescue team captained by Dave and Mark Martucci have been conducting drills in cooperation with the Bolton squad.

In February there were 8 fire/ambulance calls using 99.5 man hours. ... Joe McCranels

A reminder from the HVFD: The lake and pond ice will soon begin to thaw. Use caution.

FORMER GASLIGHT VILLAGE PROPERTY

The collaboration between the environmental and municipal groups has finally led to the purchase of the deteriorating former Gaslight Village property in order to have it restored into a wetlands and park.

The \$4.1 million purchase price for the Gaslight Village property from the Charles R. Wood Foundation comes from Warren County (\$1.3 million), the Village and the Town of Lake George (\$350,000 each) and \$2.1 million from the environmental groups - Lake George Association (LGA), Fund for Lake George and Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC).

Located at the southern end of Lake George, the 12-acre property will serve as the site for an ambitious environmental project aimed at protecting the Lake's exceptional water quality. The land will be used for the dual purpose of treating stormwater runoff coming off Route 9 and providing open space for public use.

West Brook bisects the Gaslight Village property, located in both the Village and Town of Lake George, before entering into the Lake. Several studies have identified the West Brook watershed, which receives runoff from Route 9 and I-87, as the single biggest contributor of non-point source pollution in Lake George's southern basin. Phosphorus particles attached to sediment can spur algae blooms and growth of unwanted aquatic weeds, such as Eurasian water milfoil.

To correct this problem, the purchasers have hired the engineering group the Chazen Companies to work with Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District to design a series of stormwater treatment devices, which will be able to capture sediment and remove pollutants before they can be transported into Lake George. The most visible element will be a reconstructed wetland, which will act as a giant sieve while also providing wildlife habitat.

To increase the effectiveness of the West Brook Project, in January the LGLC purchased 1,436 acres of uplands known as the Berry Pond tract, which includes the headwaters of West Brook. By protecting this land from development, it will add another layer of protection and reduce the amount of sediment and pollutants that will have to be treated on the Gaslight Village property.

In addition to creating a beautiful park for public use, there will be an open 2.5 acre festival space that will be utilized for a few large events per year. County, Town and Village officials feel that this event space will free up much-needed parking in the Beach Road and Million Dollar Beach lots, which previously have been used for staging large events, like Americade and the Fire Chiefs convention.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

A 6 hour Defensive Driving Class will be given by longtime instructor Charlie Antonetti at the Hague Wesleyan Church on April 28th and 29th from 6-9 pm each evening. To enroll or for more information call Charlie at 585-3450.

NLG ROTARY CLUB NEWS

The Rotary of Northern Lake George sponsored their annual dinner and silent auction at Silver Bay YMCA. The fundraiser benefitted many community organized events and the Beste Scholarship fund. The Rotary Club thanks the thirty-four area businesses and merchants who contributed to the auction making it another successful year!

The Northern Lake George Rotary Club meets every Tuesday, 7:30 to 8:30 am at Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks for a breakfast meeting sponsoring a guest speaker. If you are interested in joining Rotary please contact Chip Devenger, President, at 543-8833 ext. 215.

TI COMMUNITY SERIES

The next program in the Ticonderoga Community series will be hosted by the Ticonderoga Cartoon Museum and take place on April 2, 2008 at 7 pm at the Ticonderoga Community Building. The speaker will be author/illustrator Carol Gregson on *Illustrations of the Frustrations of Life in the Adirondacks*.

Then on April 16th at 7 pm, Fred Provoncha will give a program entitled "The Last 500 Years at the Lower Falls" which will be hosted by and take place at the Ticonderoga Heritage Museum.

WEDDING EVENT WINNER

Tony DeFranco, and his fiancée Amanda Alderink, were in Hague during the last storm but managed to get to a Wedding Show on Sunday. Fortunately they made it because they were the winners of the Wedding in the Country Giveaway which includes the photographer, rings, a dress, honeymoon and everything for a reception. Congratulations!

Tony, son of JoAnne and Dave DeFranco, is an engineer with the Chazen Company in Troy and Amanda is a veterinarian in Granville. They planned to be married during the summer of 2008.



NATURE NEWS

by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

Sap on the Rise

A few days ago I was visiting my neighbor Patti, picking up my weekly supply of eggs from the small flock of chickens she raises; store-bought eggs pale in comparison ~ literally. These eggs have a yolk that is deep orange in color and a flavor so intense you have to say, "Now *that's* what an egg tastes like!" Just as I was about to leave, her husband Mike came in the door carrying a large stainless steel pot. He set it on the counter and tipped a small glass under the spigot. An inch of thick golden liquid slid into the glass and he handed it to me, "Gotta taste this before you go," he said. I sipped the still warm liquid and all I could say was, "Now *that's* what maple syrup tastes like!"

The weather these last couple of weeks has been ideal for the making of maple syrup. Contracting during freezing temps at night and expanding under the above-freezing sun-warmed daytime temps, the wood of the sugar maple tree acts as a pump causing the sweet mixture of sugar and water to be drawn up from the roots into the pipeline of cells which transport the sap throughout the tree.

All trees have sap. The water comes from the soil and the sugar is a product of photosynthesis, and although all the trees in the forest will draw their water from the same source, their sap is nowhere as sweet as the sugar maple. Other trees can produce sap that can be made into syrup.

I know of folks who make birch syrup as Native Americans did in the past, and have tasted its pleasant birch-beer flavor ~ very nice! But the sugar maple's sap has a chemical difference that sets it apart from other tree species. Most of the sugar is in the form of sucrose, while the sap of other species of trees like birch can be collected only after budbreak (later in the spring) when their sugars have already been transformed into fructose and glucose. Frosty nights and warmer days trigger the flow within the tree and we can tap a hole in the trunk, collect the watery sap which contains 2-4 percent sugar (vanillin glycoside ~ YUM!), boil it down until much of the water has evaporated (it takes 40 gallons of sap to yield one gallon of syrup!) and you have maple syrup with a sugar content of 66% and a higher calcium content than milk!

We are not the only ones who love the sweet, watery sap. Something triggers the white-tailed deer to strip bark and go for the twigs of the sugar maple this time of year too. More than the usual fiber that they get from browsing on twigs and branches, they seem to go for the maples even though there may be other food available when the sap is running. It seems there is something nutritionally missing after the long winter that becomes available in the trees and they can be seen licking the sap from broken branches and

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places where they have stripped the bark.

One experience I'll treasure is finding a maple tree where broken branch tips had dripped sap during the day and had then frozen overnight into little maple flavored icicles. Now *that's* what a maple tree tastes like!



image from <www.nysmaple.com>

WEATHER NOTES

by JoAnne DeFranco

February 18 - March 16, 2008

February 2008 will go on record as the snowiest February ever with 40+ inches of snow. Wow!

Did you watch the lunar eclipse on February 20th? We had perfect weather that evening and it was a great show. For those of you who follow the night sky and planets here is some information: Mars fades this month but is still visible high overhead by 7 pm. Saturn is out all night though dimmer with its rings on edge. Jupiter rises at 4 am. Venus and Mercury are not easily seen yet.

Did you watch the broadcast of the TODAY Show from Sugarbush, Vermont on Feb 21st? It was a great day - cold but clear. On February 22nd, we had a 3" snowfall which made for great cross-country skiing over the weekend. Temperatures warmed up to 35°. The ski trails at Roger's Rock State Park have been excellent most of the winter although I heard they are now littered with branches and pine needles. We ended the month of February with another marathon snow dumping of about 15" snow between February 26th and 29th.

March roared in here like a lion with another 4" of snow on March 1. She has been roaring all month with rain, sleet, freezing rain, snow and everything in between. Our 1st ice storm was March 5th with about 1/2" icing on all surfaces but temperatures rose enough during the day to melt most of the ice from the trees and all precipitation turned to rain. Three days later on March 8th the same precipitation pattern occurred but temperatures were just a bit colder allowing more ice to form on the trees and surfaces. A wind kicked up and down came the trees, power lines, power poles etc. What a MESS!

We have had several days that hint at spring with balmy temperatures in the mid-forties. We returned to daylight savings time and have almost 12 hours of daylight now. I did see several robins on March 15th right here in Hague. The vernal equinox (spring) is March 20. Soon we can look forward to seeing crocus and snow drops as the snows melt back. The serious gardeners have already started their seeds indoors and are just waiting for a bit of snow to melt so they can get to plant the peas, carrots, lettuce and beets.

Take heart northern New Yorkers, winter will release her grasp on us soon and bit by bit spring will come.

March - April 2008

March

- 20 Spring Arrives!
- 21-24 No School - Holiday Break
- 23 **Happy Easter**
- 24 Applications for Congressional Page(p. 6)
- 25 1:30 pm Senior Club Meeting (p. 2)
- 27 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals

April

- 2 7 pm Ticonderoga Community Series (p.8)
- 3 7 pm Planning Board
- 8 6:30 pm Town Board
- 11 6 pm Pizza & a Movie at Silver Bay (p. 2)
- 14-21 No School - Spring Break
- 15 IRS deadline for filing taxes
- 16 7 pm Ticonderoga Community Series (p. 8)
- 17 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed
- 21 Last day to file petitions for Ti Board of Education



Please help us get the news by sending us any information you have about events, organization meetings or reports, soundings and other items of interest.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS
 Wednesday: 9 am to 4 pm
 Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm

ONGOING EVENTS
 1st Monday: Fire Department (7 pm)
 2nd Monday: Senior Bus to Glens Falls (8:30 am)
 3rd Monday: Chamber of Commerce (7 pm)
 1st & 3rd Tuesday: Mohican Crafters (10 am)
 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club (7:30 pm)
 3rd Tuesday: Sno-goers
 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club (11 am)
 4th Wednesday: Extra Helpings Distribution (noon)
 Every Tuesday at 7:30 am - Rotary Club meets
 Every Thursday at noon: Kiwanis meets

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