



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

VOLUME 35 NO 3

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

March 2006

Dorothy Henry, Editor, 543-6633
email: hchague@aol.com

Judith Stock, Publisher, 543-6517
email: HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com



A SNEAK PREVIEW

About 100 residents took the opportunity to enjoy a St. Patrick's Day celebration hosted by Cris Ginn and Sheri DeLarm.

The event was held in the old Hague Firehouse which they are converting into a restaurant. A slide show projected on the wall showed the process of that conversion. Visitors were treated to delicious refreshments with the highlight being the corned beef - 80 pounds of it prepared by Judy Schultz!



The other treat was seeing a fascinating work in progress. The perimeter benches and bar area (with the bar being made out of wood from the lanes of an old bowling alley!) were available for seating but the rest of the building had, for me, the feeling of a wide-open ski lodge. But instead of looking out over a ski slope, the main room looks out over the Hague Brook and woods behind it. And the view is spectacular through 8 continuous nine foot high windows. The underbelly of the building was exposed giving many the opportunity to see how wiring, plumbing and carpentry have been put together with an enormous amount of work.

Cris and Sheri bought the building 3 years ago and have been steadily transforming it into a much needed Hague gathering place. They hope to have it open this summer - after meeting the myriad codes necessary. The building will have radiant floor heat which Sheri said should "make it toasty in winter." There is a separate room for "quieter" eating and the menu will consist of pizza, burgers and salads. Future plans call for using the large upstairs room for banquets, receptions or meetings.

Cris and Sheri planned the day to welcome local residents before the summer rush. It had a wonderful "welcoming energy" and as Chamber of Commerce Co-President David Dunn said, "Seeing all the people who came to support the celebration was a sign of how Hague pulls together."
js



Sheri on 2nd floor balcony overlooking Hague Brook.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

The annual Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by The Hague Baptist Church will be held at 6AM on Easter morning, April 16 at the Hague Public Beach.

Immediately following the service a pancake breakfast will be served in the fellowship hall of the church. All are invited to attend.

CHECK YOUR LABELS

Date highlighted? Your renewal date is approaching and your donation will be appreciated.

Date circled in red? This issue will be the LAST unless we hear from you.

We will no longer be sending "last issue notices" but we will continue to send our Thank You notes so that you will have a record of your tax-deductible contribution.

February's annual Covered Dish Luncheon was totally spectacular. The Seniors outdid themselves once again in sharing their favorite dishes which made for a very 'happy food' gathering. Our guest speaker, Linda Benway, Hague's Animal Control Officer, gave a very informative talk on the Feral 'Wild' Cat program she is promoting in conjunction with the Angel Network. Hague presently has at least 150 Feral Cats causing problems for many of our residents - these are the ones that Linda is aware of. The goal is to capture these animals, take them to a vet for neutering and inoculations - then they will be returned to their 'wild home' unharmed. Preventing reproduction should eventually diminish this rapidly growing problem here in town. Anyone having information about other Feral Cats should contact Linda (585-7094) soon as they will be commencing this project next month.

We celebrated the birthday of another of our '90+ Elite' Club Member, George Traver on March 13th. We paid a visit to him at the Nursing Home, surprising him with a round of "Happy Birthday" and a festive gift basket. George was one of the organizers of the first Hague Senior Citizens Club and has many stories to tell.

A St Patty's Bingo Party is planned for Friday, March 17th. Will report on all the Big Winners next month.

Our March Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 28th at 1:30 PM at the community Center. Guest Entertainment is a SURPRISE! You will have to attend to see who or what !! We invite all you 55+ out there to join us that day. It should be fun. Hope to see you then. ... mp

CALLING ALL VETERANS

The Memorial Day Parade Committee has sent out a call for all veterans who are residents of Hague to get in touch with the committee as soon as possible. They want to make a list of all our veterans, whether war or peace time and to have as many as possible participate, either by marching or riding, in the Memorial Day Parade.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, was celebrated on May 30 and was a day to honor veterans and decorate graves of those who were deceased. Hague is proud of its veterans and would like to honor them on May 27. If you know any veterans who might not get this message, please let us know by calling Madeline Pelkey at 543-6130 or e-mail The Hague Chronicle at hchague@aol.com.

55-ALIVE DRIVER SAFETY COURSE

DATE: Tuesday, April 18, 2006 FEE: \$10.00
TIME: 9 AM - 4 PM PLACE: Community Center

The Hague Senior Citizens Club is again sponsoring this driver safety course with instructor, Charles Antonetti. The course is available to all Seniors 55 yrs+. Completion entitles you to a 10% reduction in auto insurance.

The course is day-long with breaks and participants should bring their own lunches. Attendance is limited so you must call Madeline Pelkey at 543-6130 to register.

On Saturday, MAY 27, 2006 - Hague will see it's FOURTH CELEBRATION after that 30 year void!! Start planning now to join in the fun. Anyone interested in setting up at the beach during the all day Fun Fest - Call Emily 543-6325. To all you fun loving folk who plan to be in the parade -remember prizes will be given for: BEST IN PARADE - MOST CREATIVE - MOST PATRIOTIC - BEST YOUTH PRESENTATION and also HONORABLE MENTION-ADULT and HONORABLE MENTION-YOUTH. To Register to be in the Parade - call Madeline Pelkey at 543-6130.

The Parade Committee thanks all who have already donated to this year's celebration. Expenses for Memorial Day will be greater this year than last. The cost of travel has inflated everyone's fee. Any of you who wish to support the Memorial Day activities, please make your check payable to HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB - PARADE ACCOUNT and mail to the Hague Community Center, Hague, NY 12836.

WHAT'S COOKING IN HAGUE - VOLUME II

As a fundraiser for the Parade Fund, the Senior Citizen's Club has a second Cookbook in the planning stage. The goal is to have this available during Hague's Bicentennial in 2007 with selling to begin at this year's Christmas Tree Shop in December's Holiday in Hague.

The book will contain 'old' recipes of yesteryear's Hague's residents. Any readers who have families who lived in Hague 'back when' are invited to submit a recipe from perhaps a Mother, Grandmother or Great Grandmother. An old photo to go with it would be wonderful too. Please pass on this request to anyone you know who has family ties to the 'Old Hague'.

The Senior Cookbook needs OLD RECIPES - OLD PHOTOS - & OLD STORIES (little short items remembered). Please call Christine at 543-6167, Pat at 543-6725 or Madeline at 543-6140 for further information.

KIWANIS DINNER

Thursday, April 6, the Kiwanis Club of Ticonderoga, Inc. will be hosting a community Buffet Dinner at the First United Methodist Church, Wicker Street, Ticonderoga. Dinner will be available from 4:30pm until 7:00pm or until food runs out. The cost will be \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children 3 to 12 years of age. Under three free.

There will be various meats carved to order, assorted salads, vegetable dishes and other main courses, as well as the traditional home made desserts. Take-outs will be available. The Ticonderoga-Hague community is invited to have a good home made dinner. Come and bring your friends and family.

COME ON DOWN

The Senior Citizens Club of Ticonderoga is sponsoring a square dance at the Ticonderoga Armory on Champlain Ave. in Ticonderoga on Sunday, March 26 from 1-3PM. Stan Burdick will be the caller.

All ages come and have a ball - for just \$5.00 with refreshments.

NEWS FROM LOCAL HAGUE ORGANIZATIONS

SNO-GOERS REVITALIZED

Many years ago Hague residents ran a very successful snowmobile club called The Hague on Lake George Sno-Goers. As one generation passed, another has begun and would like to bring back to life the club that once brought tourism and much enthusiasm to our great community. The trails are still there but in need of some attention. The State of New York has many trail grants that it gives out every year to those trails that have been approved. However, in order to get approval and receive the grants we must get these trails up to speed by clearing and reopening them. We are working with Att. John Breitenbach to incorporate and Dave Perkins who is the head of trails for the New York State Snowmobile Association.

At this time we are concentrating on the C8C corridor trail. This trail connects us from Brant Lake to Ticonderoga. In the future, we hope to reopen the trails into the downtown business district. We have generated a survey which we will ask any landowner to fill out that will allow us access through the property. This access would be strictly for snowmobiles. We will be willing to close off the trail at the end of the season if the landowner wishes.

The Town Board support our efforts to meet the recreational recommendations of the comprehensive master plan. Snowmobile trails will play a very big part in generating winter tourism and restore Hague to a year round vacation destination.

The Club's officers are Tom Haskell, President; John Frasier, Vice-President; Vikki Frasier, Treasurer; Katy Wells and Meg Haskell, Secretaries; Glen McKee, Trail Coordinator and Shannon Olcott and Bill Wells Grooming Coordinators.

The next meeting of the Hague Sno-Goers will be on Wednesday, April 12, 2006 at 6 pm in the Community Center. There will be a discussion on the status of the Club and on plans for a club picnic. There will be raffles and all costs will be absorbed by the club. Any one interested is encouraged to attend. For further information contact President Tom Haskell at haguesnogoers@yahoo.com.

FISH AND GAME CLUB

The Hague Fish and Game Club has been very active. Through the winter months the clubhouse was used nearly every weekend for card playing, ping-pong, pool, and just visiting with other members. We are currently running a gun raffle and planning for the memorial celebration being held in town. We will be building a float for the parade and also be hosting a dunk tank at the town beach, along with an ice cream booth. There are a couple major projects on the table for the club property. After a report done by a forester through a grant, we are discussing the possibility of logging some of the property. Also the LGA is looking into doing some work with our pond.

The club is moving forward in a positive direction. Current members are urged to attend meetings for their input into the happenings at the club. New members are always welcome and membership applications can be picked up at the clubhouse, or through another member. The club meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7PM.

The club is also becoming more involved with other local organizations and will be focusing on some youth activities. With all the activities going on we need more members to help out with functions and also to provide input to better and enhance the club.

The Hague Fish and Game Club has been around for years. In the past few years there has been a renewed interest in the club and we are growing every month. The officers of the club are President, Josh Michalak; Vice President, Peter Lawrence; Secretary, Debbie Reid; Treasurer, Corinna Ryder. Serving on the Board of Directors are Bernard Denno, George Garrison, Gene Moran, Lou Fiallo and Lincoln Gunning.

We encourage people to stop by and take a look around to see the changes, as well as discuss the upcoming projects. We have a very good thing going here, and it can only get better!

...jrm

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The members of the HVFD thank the many businesses and the community at large for their tremendous support in 2005, both through generous contributions and attendance at our annual dinners and breakfasts. Thanks also to the Hague Chamber of Commerce and Imogene Frasier for the generous year end gift from the "Money Tree" fund. The costs of operating the department in a safe and efficient manner continue to escalate each year, and would be impossible to achieve without your backing.

Our activities for 2005 were as follows: 115 fire calls using 895 man hours, 116 ambulance calls using 1,008 man hours. There were 300 man hours expended to meet state certification for 8 emergency vehicle operators and 9 pump operators. During January and February of this year, there were 6 fire calls using 1,190.5 man hours and 9 ambulance calls using 91 man hours. The exceptional number of hours were mostly related to emergency responses brought on by the February 18 wind storm. Thanks to Renee Swinton and Joanne Trudeau several senior citizens were relocated to the emergency shelter at the Silver Bay Association. Our appreciation is extended to SBA for once again being there when needed.

We are proud of our dedicated membership and the support which you give them. We welcome new active and support member applications. There will be a "Get to Know Your Fire Department" Open House on Friday, April 7th from 6 to 8 PM. Refreshments will be served - bring the kids!

We look forward with you to a safe year ahead.

...jmc

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 2/23/06 .

Chairman Robert Goetsch opened the meeting with Mary Lou Doulin, Martin Fitzgerald, George Ianson, Lindsay Mydlarz and Bill Pittman present and Tina King absent.

More. (43.5-2-35). Dock Rd. Hamlet/TR1

The applicant wishes to replace/cover an existing concrete patio and stairs with wooden decking and stairs within 50 ft. of the lake. There were no comments at the public hearing, a recommendation was received from the Planning Board and the request was approved.

Harrison. (43.17-1-1). 8810 Lakeshore Dr. TR-1

The applicant wishes to erect a 4 ft. by 320 ft. fence six inches from the property line. A fence is considered a structure, therefore a variance waiving the sideline setback requirement is needed. A public hearing will be set for next month and a site visit will be made.

Navitsky. (93.19-1-10) 7764 Lakeshore Dr. RC

A public hearing was scheduled for next month on the request for a variance related to the construction of a single family dwelling and garage.

PLANNING BOARD - 3/2/06

Chairman David Swanson opened the meeting with Katy Wells, John Brown, Tim Costello and Pam Peterson also in attendance. Peter Foster and Rolly Allen were absent.

Frasier. (25.3-1-11.1) Graphite Mt. Rd. OC1

Applicants Frasier and Mydlarz wish to subdivide the property into two parcels and are seeking sketch plan approval. Attorney John Breitenbach, representing the applicants, discussed the stormwater permit, the DOT permit and the survey being prepared for this 4 acre lot on Route 8. A site visit will be made and a public hearing will be held next month.

Beneduce. (42-1-23.1) Dodd Hill Rd. TR-1

The Board discussed the final approval for this 11-lot major subdivision.

Icke. (26.14-1-16) 39 Waltonian Rd. TR-1

The applicant is seeking approval of the replacement plans for the house that was demolished. It was determined that a variance is not needed. The septic issue will be resolved by replacing the leach field or, if Phase II of the Hague Sewer is passed, a holding tank will be used until the property can hook up to the sewer.

Navitsky. (93.19-1-10) 7764 Lakeshore Dr. RC

The applicants wish to construct a single family dwelling and garage. There was discussion about the category of the application and then it was recommended for ZBA variance approval.

(PB con't)

Parlin. (60.13-1-22) 24 Pudding Island Lane. TR-1

The applicant wishes to enlarge a deck within 100 ft of the lake and make it handicapped accessible. The site plan review was approved.

Harrison. (43.17-1-1) Lakeshore Dr. TR-1

The applicant requested permission to build a 4 ft. fence along the property line. The Planning Board voted not to recommend the variance to the ZBA based on neighbor dissatisfaction, not following conditions on a previous application, lack of evidence of need and it does not meet sideline setbacks.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 3/13/06

With all members present, the Board held a public hearing (which was scheduled at a special Town Board meeting on 3/6/06) on the proposal to increase the Alternative Veteran's Exemptions. There being no public comments, the regular meeting was opened and a moment of silence was held for Ursula Montbriand, Ed Vetrano and James Meehan.

Bill Lamy, Warren County Engineer, presented the Board with the plaque recognizing Hague's contribution for an innovative waste water system. He noted, "These projects take vision, money and perseverance. There are always obstacles to overcome and the Town Board has been especially dedicated in making sure this project was successful."

Committee Reports:

Assessor/Justice - Councilman Gladu reported that the residential assessment ratio for the period from 6/30/04 to 7/1/05 was 75.72. Only 17 sales went into the calculation which is a very small number for statistical validity. The next step is to get the equalization rate. The assessor's office will try to negotiate the most favorable rate before it is firmly established.

Buildings & Grounds/CC - Councilman LaPointe has scheduled a meeting with the Visitor Center Staff.

Enhancement Committee - Council member Frasier reported that the Committee met and decided not to proceed with a downtown piece of sculpture because they thought there were better ways to use \$17,000. More discussion will be held about other areas to be enhanced.

Finance - Supervisor Belden noted that the Town had to file for an extension of the year end report and want to get it in as fast as possible.

Fire - Councilman Steitz reported on the monthly activity and said that on April 7th at 6:30pm there will be an open house at the Fire Department. Thanks were given to the Silver Bay Association for their providing housing when the power was out.

(Con't on page 5 - Town Board)

(Con't from page 4 - Town Board)

Highway - Councilman Gladu recommended that employees affected by the OSHA requirements attend a training session to be held in the WC Municipal Center. Prompted by the effects of a flood and the power outage, Councilmen Gladu and LaPointe will work on the Town emergency plan and method for its implementation. Myles Peterson asked about responsibility for hazardous waste in light of oil that ran off the road and into the Lake during the storm. The DEC has this responsibility.

Museum & Historian - Council member Frasier, who attended the meeting of the Museum Committee, said that there is still uncertainty about who is on the committee and where the museum should be placed. Former councilman Rudy Meola who has served on the Museum Committee said that there should be one member of the Town Board on the Museum Board of Trustees. The Museum board should set the policy for the museum and what the trustees want has to be brought back to the Town Board.

Personnel - Council persons Gladu and Frasier will review the job descriptions of all those who work in the community center. They also will bring a recommendation to the Board next month for a nominee for the Board of Assessment Review.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - ZEO Clark reported on the Zoning Office activity for February/March. There were 19 permits issued including 7 for land use development and 2 for subdivisions. She reported that the Beneduce 11-lot subdivision has been approved by the LGPC and the final Planning Board approval has been given. ZEO Clark also reported on resolution of a complaint about a terrace construction. There was discussion on the timing of CO's (certificate of occupancy) by the County and final approval by the Zoning Officer. On the recommendation of the associated boards, the Town Board approved the appointment of Rolly Allen as Deputy Planning Board Chairman, John Brown as the Clerk to sign documents and Marty Fitzgerald as Deputy Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman.

Recreation/Promotion - Councilman LaPointe reported that the Hague Sno-goers has been incorporated and they will contact the homeowners on the trail system. Councilman Steitz noted that you can pay less to register a snowmobile if you are a member of an recognized club. Supervisor Belden will attend the South Warren Snowmobile meeting.

Sewer District #1 & #2 - Supervisor Belden has written letters to State Assembly member Sayward, State Senator Little and State Majority leader Bruno and has spoken to Governor Pataki. The Town is working on the funding application for Sewer District #2 which is due by May 6.

Town Park/Beautification - A notice will be posted about positions available at the Town Park. Lifeguards applications, available at the Community Center, are due by May 5th.



Transfer/Recycling - Councilman Steitz reported that Casella Management will be hiring Silver Bay Construction to do some work up there.

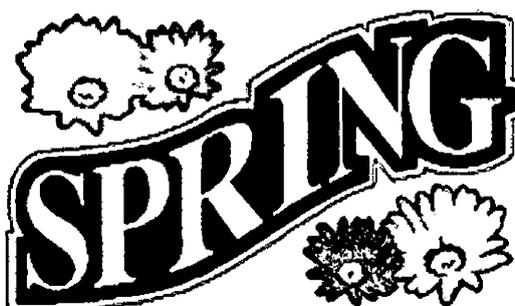
Under unfinished business, the Board heard a report on a Cell Tower.

Supervisor Belden spent a day with a representative from a company which installs cell towers and they went to several areas in town to see where would be the best reception for cell service. A position on Overbrook Road seemed to be the best with about 80% coverage from Friends Point to Sabbath Day Point. It is not possible to cover the entire town with just one tower and when the leaves are full, reception might be reduced. If a tower was put on Overbrook, which is in the hamlet, an APA permit would not be needed. The tower company would want the Town to get the easement for the placement of the 35 foot tower. More information on a plan and the services that would be included will be requested from the tower company.

Under new business, the Board:

1. Approved Resolution #44 on the Sewer Warrant for 2006.
2. Approved Resolution #45 naming a new road Pine Lane which is off Split Rock Road and was needed for the 911 emergency system.
3. Approved Resolution #46 approving the increased Veteran's exemption. This will apply to about 72 people and is just for the Town tax, not sewer or fire. The county will also be increasing the exemption.
4. Approved attendance by ZEO Clark at the Adirondack Park Local Government Day on 3/23.
5. Discussed signage for the Town which will be referred to the Enhancement Committee.
6. Decided to put a lock on the Town dumpster after hearing a report that an individual had deposited personal trash in it.
7. Discussed a letter from Phelps about after hours use of the area around the public boat dock. Supervisor Belden will sent up a meeting with the sheriff and a public information meeting.

The Supervisor reported on a meeting of the assessors from Warren County, the State Senate has approved the budget and he has met with the DPW about cutting on West Hague Road.



LGA/LGPC INFORM BOATERS

The LGA, which has received a \$3,000 grant, is working with the LGPC on a rack card informing boaters about the various aquatic invasive species, such as Eurasian watermilfoil, zebra mussels, alewife and water chestnut, that threaten Lake George. It will contain pictures to help identify these "aquatic invaders" and instructions on inspection of boats.

"The LGA is always thrilled to work with the Park Commission on a project such as this," said Walt Lender, the LGA's Executive Director. "Also, we are very fortunate to have great working relationships with the Lake George Power Squadron, the Lake George Fishing Alliance, the Coast Guard Auxiliary and several marinas. Through these groups, we will be able to reach thousands of boaters."

"We are very pleased to hear that the LGA has received grant funding for this important issue ... (and is) working with the Commission to expand this effort," said Lake George Park Commission Chairman Bruce E. Young.

LANDOWNER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Each year the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District receives many hundreds of calls on local natural resource issues from landowners, with questions ranging from stormwater to flooding, from wildlife to agriculture, and much more. Over 120 landowner site visits were conducted across the county by District staff in 2005. We take pride in our ability to assist the public, working directly with landowners to solve their problems. We strive to continually improve our knowledge and technical skills to better serve the public. We are here to help you with your conservation issues, and there is never a fee for this assistance. If you have any questions, please contact us so we may work better and more efficiently to conserve our county's natural resources.

... From 2005 Annual Report of Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District

GLENS FALLS SYMPHONY CONCERT

The Glens Falls Symphony under the direction of Maestro Charles Peltz will be presenting its fifth program of the season entitled "Birth and Resurrection" on Sunday, May 7 at 4PM at The Performing Arts Center at the Glens Falls High School in Glens Falls. The program will include Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 in A Major, K 488 with Ursula Oppens, piano soloist, and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 in D Minor, Op. 47. Symphony No. 5 was scored for 2 flutes, piccolo, 2 oboes, 3 clarinets, 2 bassoons, contra-bassoon, 4 French horns, 3 trumpets, 3 trombones, tuba, piano, harp, percussion and strings.

HAGUE ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

The Hague Enhancement Committee met on March 8 with Kay Barton, Dan Belden, John Brown, Diane Farinick, Edna Frasier, Art Hatfield, Dottie Henry, Diane Martino, Rudy Meola and Art Steitz present. The beautification of the area on Route 8 in front of the Hague Baptist Church parking lot was discussed and recommendations on this project are being forwarded to the Hague Town Board for its consideration. It was agreed that the project should be supported with funds not to exceed \$10,000.

The street lights project was discussed and Art Steitz will ask the supplier to exchange the globes and lights for a different model. The poles can be cut down to a more reasonable height. A sample of the new light will be placed on display for residents to make their comments before the new supply is ordered.

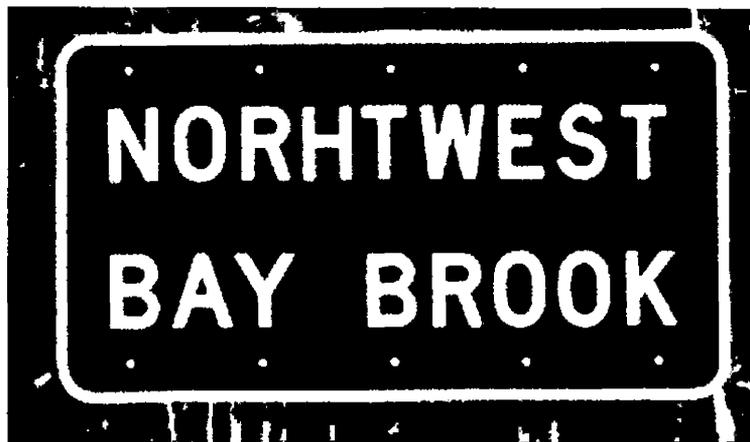
The town has taken title to the American Legion property and the committee discussed the Memorial Park plan which was put together by Planner Lisa Nagle a couple of years ago. The committee reiterated its support for this plan.

TOWN FLOWER BASKETS

The flower baskets along Routes 8 and 9N are in the process of being planted. Diane Farinick is heading the committee in charge of this annual project which is supported by the residents of Hague. You may order your flower basket now by sending a check in the amount of \$25.00 to The Enhancement Committee, Hague, NY 12836 with a notation enclosed that it is for a basket and the name of the person you want remembered.

If you have ordered a basket in the past, please have your renewal in by May 1. After that date we will fill orders of those who have not ordered baskets in the past. Please be sure to include the name of the person you want remembered. The planting of these memorial baskets, which includes the boxes on the bridge, will take place in time for Memorial Day weekend, hence the need for getting your order in as soon as possible.

Does the DOT have "spellcheck"?



They fixed the bridge last fall ... maybe they will fix the sign soon.

~SOUNDINGS~

FUTURE CITY

MARRIED: Adria Michelle Vorpapel, Dushore, PA to William Kenneth Bothe, son of Mr. & Mrs. William R. Bothe, Hague on September 17, 2005 in Dushore. Bothe is a 2001 graduate of Ticonderoga High School and a 2005 graduate of SUNY College of Environmental Science at Syracuse Univ. The couple resides in Clifton Park.

DIED: Judith Heins Olmstead, on December 18, 2005 in Somerset, NJ. She is survived by two sons, Keith, of Somerset and Bruce of Whitesboro, NY, one granddaughter and a sister, Ruth Klingler of Staten Island and Silver Bay. Judith spent all her summers at Silver Bay from 1933 through 2005.

DIED: Dr. Charles Turner, 72, of Maitland, Florida and Putnam, on October 31, 2005. He is survived by his wife, Anthea; his mother, Thelma Turner, a sister Ann Wolf, two daughters, a son, two step-daughters and 11 grandchildren.

COMMENDED: Shane King, son of Dan King and Tina Barth-King, Hague, has been named to the Commended List for the first semester of the school year at Tabor Academy, located on Buzzards Bay in Marion, MA. Shane is a freshman at Tabor, a four-year college preparatory school.

RECOVERING: Bob Woodruff, ABC News anchor, who was injured in Iraq. He has been transferred to a private facility in the New York area and is able to be up and talk with his family. It is expected that months of further rehabilitation will be necessary as an out-patient. Bob and his wife, Lee (McConaughy) are summer residents of Silver Bay.



TICONDEROGA HS HONOR ROLL

The following Hague students attending THS have been listed on the third marking period honor roll:

Grade 12: Second Honors - Sarah Bissell, Andrew Trombley

Grade 11: First Honors - Kacheena Trudeau
Second Honors - Akashia Swinton

Grade 10: First Honors - Samantha Abare
Second Honors - Alanna Swinton

Grade 9: First Honors - Jared Best, Brendan Carberry, Molly Ginn, Shane Graser,

Congratulations on your good work!

TICONDEROGA HS CONCERT

The Ticonderoga High School's annual (and very popular) Pops concert will be presented on Thursday, March 30 at the high school auditorium at 7:30PM. Note the original date for this concert was March 29.

A team from the eighth grade at Ticonderoga Middle School attended a competition at RPI in Rensselaer recently. The team, consisting of Miles Genier, Zach Blacette, Dakota Granger and Vinnie Scuderi came home with an award for the "Best Green Architecture" and another for the "Best Use of Innovative Construction Materials and Techniques" in addition to receiving a plaque for the school to display with each year's participation noted.

Thanks to the Elks and Kiwanis Clubs of Ticonderoga, the team was able to spend the night before the competition at RPI and attend a mens hockey game at the Houston Field House. Other team members who were involved during the past few months were Meagen Hunsdon, Rachel Thompson, Logan Wiktoroko and Nate Laundree (Hague).

The National Engineers Week Future City Competition is in its fourteenth year and this is Ticonderoga's second year of participation. Teams consist of three students in the seventh or eighth grade, assisted by a teacher, Mrs. Lavarney and an engineer mentor, Mr. Graham Bailey, PE (Hague).

They design future cities on a computer, using award winning SimCity software provided by Electronic Arts, a computer software company, and then build a model of a city section. Students also must write an essay on how engineers contribute to their city and defend their city design to a group of judges at the competition. An abstract of the city is also written and submitted prior to the actual competition.

Thousands of engineers, engineering students, teachers, and leaders in government and business participate in National Engineers Week each year.

The model city will be on display at the Ti Middle School annual 6th grade fair in April.

DUNKIN' DONUTS COMING TO TI

It's no longer just a rumor. Construction is under way for a new Dunkin' Donuts on Wicker St. near the intersection of Rt. 74. The store is scheduled to open prior to Memorial Day.

A proposed Lowe's store is expected to be erected near the same location if and when permits are approved. They expect to start construction after the hearing (expected next month) and hope to open in the fall. Lowe's is the second largest home improvement retailer in the nation, following Home Depot.



IN MY WORDS
by Ethel Andrus



My father, Walter G. Watts, was a surveyor. He was not a local. He was born in England, lived in Massachusetts, went out West, and spent time in the Wisconsin woods where he developed a serious bug.... It was recommended that he come to the Adirondacks to recover.

When my father was a young man he managed to get a job as surveyor for Silas Paine through my grandfather Shattuck, who was grounds supervisor for the Paines.... Sometimes he got work in Whitehall. He would go across the lake by boat. In winter he'd carry his transit on his back and walk across on the ice to the opposite shore and go over the mountain all the way to Whitehall. Transportation was scarce in those days.

My mother, Ethel Shattuck, was fifteen when she married my father. He was thirty-five. They immediately started producing youngsters - Dorothy, Ruth, Henry, John, and Edward - then a ten year gap before I came along—Ethel. I was named after my mother. Last came the baby—Walter. He was named after my father. I was born on April 27, 1921. Walter came along three years later, on November 17, 1924. So basically, my mother raised two families. She started all over again with Walter and me. All of us were born at home, except Walter, who was born in the hospital.

I was born and raised in Silver Bay on Watts Hill, the lovely knoll my father bought and cleared to build our homestead. My parents were a very independent couple. They had to be.... What we couldn't grow, preserve, or make, we ordered from Montgomery Ward—parcel post. Every August my mother would order me two new school dresses. By that time I would have outgrown last year's.

When I was a little girl, there was only a narrow dirt road from Hague to Ticonderoga. There was no 9N over Tongue Mountain. I can remember when they began building 9N around 1928. What a mess! Boulders and mud everywhere. My brother Henry worked on The State Road when it was going through.

The original school bus route from Silver Bay on The Hague Road dipped down steeply along the narrow dirt path down to the steamship dock. [Dock Rd.] It scared me to death and I wouldn't sit in a seat facing the lake. Have you ever looked down from there? Back then, there was no chain-linked fence. In those days it was all dirt and mud.

Rube Haskins owned the Silver Bay and Graphite buses. The Silver Bay bus was a top-heavy Graham, and just the color of a Graham cracker. The Graphite bus was a Reo. The bus went all the way from Hague to Sabbath Day Point. Just before my stop, it was difficult for the bus to get up the steep grade in the mud. [at today's Pudding Island Rd., south access.] This wouldn't be allowed today:

The kids used to get out behind the bus and push. It would take a long time. My brother Edward and I didn't want to wait and would walk home across the triangle up Watts Hill.

I became Postmaster of Silver Bay Post Office in the small building that still exists today, just a little to the north of the present Silver Bay Post Office at the corner of Route 9N and Watts Hill. My brother Edward and his family lived upstairs.

I had several predecessors as Postmasters of Silver Bay. The first Postmaster was J.J. Wilson. The Silver Bay Post Office was originally housed at the Silver Bay Association. According to my mother, there was quite a hullabaloo: a non-profit organization shouldn't be in charge of a federal office. With each administration, Postmasters changed. You had to belong to the same political party as the one in office. In 1964, under President Johnson, I was of the right political persuasion and happened to be at the right place at the right time. And I happened to be unemployed.

At the present time, I serve as Historian of the Town of Hague, President of the Hamilton-Warren County Council of Senior Citizens, and Secretary of the Hague Senior Citizens Club. I have been a member of the editorial board of the *Hague Chronicle* and have volunteered at the Ticonderoga Black Watch Library. I also take pleasure in delivering Meals on Wheels. At home, I continue to take care of a number of homeless dogs and cats that have adopted me.

-- as told to Christine M. Ianson, May 6, 2005



NATURE NEWS

By Nancy Wotton Scarzello

BARRED OWLS

One August evening, several years ago, my sister and I were sitting out on the lawn enjoying the stars and the quiet of the night by the lake. My Dad came out onto the porch and began calling out a loud "hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo, hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo-awwww". We rolled our eyes and asked, "What are you doing?"

"Calling in barred owls," he answered. He was serious! He kept this up for several minutes and we laughed and said that he had finally gone over the edge with all the birding stuff. That is, until we heard an answering call from off in the woods!

The call of the barred owl, typically written out as "Who cooks for you, who cooks for you all?" is one of the most easily identified owl calls in the northeast, most often heard in the night, dawn or dusk. Other calls by the same owl are a "hoo-WAAAAHHH" used in courtship and other vocalizations that range from a short yelp or bark to a frenzied and raucous monkey-like squall.

Barred owls are large and brownish-gray in color with round heads and no ear tufts. Their name comes from the horizontal brown and white bars on the chest, and the brown and white vertical bars on the belly. Most other owls have yellow eyes, but the barred owl's are dark brown and are perfect for seeing at night. To protect them from bright sunlight during the day, they have a special inner eyelid that they can see through ~ like owl sunglasses! Most birds have eyes on the sides of their head to help them see sideways and backwards, but owls have both eyes in the front to give them good depth perception when hunting. This means that they cannot see sideways or backwards, so to compensate for this, owls can move their heads almost completely around to look behind them.

Their ears are designed to hear keenly, too. The ears are just holes on the sides of their head, covered with feathers, but one hole is higher on one side than the other to help the owl tell if the sound is coming from above or below. They can also fluff the feathers around their ear holes to make a little funnel to hear better, just like we can cup our hand behind our ear to magnify the sound.

Hunting is usually done at night, but dusk and dawn are active times as well. They usually perch in a tree watching and listening for prey. Once located, they will swoop down and snatch it with their long, sharp talons (claws). Barred owls are carnivorous and will eat mice, squirrels, rabbits, snakes, voles, bats, small birds like pigeons and jays, frogs, crickets and grasshoppers.

Pairs mate for life, their territory and nesting sites maintained for many years. We had a barred owl get killed by a car in front of our

-9-



"...or I can look behind me!"



"I can look directly at you ..."

A Barred Owl visiting the Hague Senior Club last March.

photos - J. Stock

house while hunting one night, and the mate was seen for weeks, dawn and dusk, sitting in a tree near the spot where it was killed, waiting for her mate to return. We hope she will find another and stay in the area. Courtship begins in February with breeding usually in March and August. This will be the most active calling time and if you want to experience hearing them, you'll have to get out into the night for the best of it.

The Lake George Land Conservancy is hosting an "Owl Prowl" on March 24th from 6-8:30 pm at the Cat and Thomas Mountains Preserve. But, experienced birders will go out on their own in the evenings with recorded owl voices to lure them in for an exciting auditory show. And then there's my Dad who can give off quite a hoot himself!

WEATHER NOTES by Mary Lou Doulin

In a year when normal weather patterns have been turned upside down, this March has proven to be remarkably consistent. January and February felt like March for the most part, but this March actually feels just like it should. March is the windiest month of the year and the prevalence of winds, along with very changeable roller coaster patterns of warm and cold trends have been characteristic. Current temperatures are below normal, but there is no snow on the ground and the sun feels like the heat is coming back into it ever so slightly. That, combined with the longer periods of daylight gives one a bit of optimism.

The vernal equinox comes on the 20th of March at 2PM.

The lake froze in Hague Bay on February 27 this year and went out in sections on March 11. Only on one other date (1966) did freezing occur so late, according to chronicles kept between 1900 and 1990. Lake ice records are difficult to record because of the discrepancy of conditions and topography. This year much of the lake remained unfrozen due to mild conditions. The wind is a large factor in the making and breaking up of the ice. The records demonstrate that the majority of the time the ice formed in January and usually left in April. Based on that information, this year's 11-day appearance is noteworthy. Could this be another symptom of global warming or just a blip of nature?

March - April 2006

March

23 7pm Zoning Board of Appeals
 26 1-3pm Square Dance (p. 2)
 28 1:30pm Senior Citizens Mtg. (p. 2)
 30 7:30pm THS concert (p. 7)

April

6 4:30-7pm Kiwanis Dinner (p. 2)
 6 7pm Planning Board
 7 6-8pm Fire Dept Open House (p. 3)
 11 6:30 pm Town Board
 12 6pm Hague Sno-Goers mtg. (p. 3)
 16 6am Easter Sunday Services (p. 1)
 17 7:30pm Hague Historical Society
 18 9am-4pm Driver Safety Course (p. 2)
 18 7pm Fish & Game Club (p. 3)
 20 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed

BESTE COMMITTEE THANK YOU

The Beste Steering Committee sincerely thanks the following people/organizations who so generously sent in donations to the Beste Scholarship Fund in response to our recent fundraising appeal through *The Hague Chronicle*. It's never too late to send in a donation to Beste Scholarship Fund, c/o Hague Community Center, Hague, NY 12836.

Kathryn and Julia Barry, Bruno and Dorothy Brauner, John and Hoann Brown, The Buck Family, Bruce and Cathy Clark, Dave and Joann DeFranco, Jerry Fisher, Frank Fowler, John and Virginia Geils, Hague Sno-Goers Snowmobile Club, Stu and Mary Ann Harmon, Betty Heintzelman, Dorothy Henry, Tom James, Bob and Kay Maiaro, Kaley and Karney Manning, Robert W. Mayer, Dan and Ann McGowen, Michael Michela and Family, Northern Lake George Rotary Club, Kenneth and Lauren Parlin, Mrs. R. Parnley, Brian and Beverly Sann, Sal and Kathy Santaniello, Barbara W. Scott, Lynn and Patty Stote, The View Restaurant and Donald and Alane Vogel.

THE VIEW FROM THE VIEW

Brad Wisner's View Restaurant hosted a "deck party" on Sunday afternoon, February 19th, which was one of the successful fund-raising efforts on Winter Weekend. Even with the lack of snow and ice, the bitter cold, and the power outages, the town still came together to enjoy some outdoor fun. About 30-40 people came out and enjoyed some great food and fun on the deck of the restaurant.

With this support, The View was able to make donations to both the Beste Scholarship Fund and the John Costello Memorial Fund. Thanks go to the chefs David Fitzgerald and Scott Hartwell as well as many other Hague residents for their efforts in making this event possible.

Brad is looking forward to making this an annual part of the Winter Weekend and is already making plans for next year's party, including having live music by Rick Bolton.



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is published on or about the 20th of each month by volunteers and supported by its readers. Send news items to Editor Dorothy



Henry, 151 New Hague Rd, Hague, NY 12836-2605 by the 12th of each month. Send yearly tax deductible contribution to:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
 PO Box 748
 Hague, New York
 12836-0748

BULK RATE
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NO. 3
 HAGUE, NY 12836