



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

VOLUME 37 NO 9

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

September 2008

SEWER DISTRICT #2

SCHOOL TAX ISSUE

On September 28, 2007 the Town of Hague had \$3,085,000 available from a grant from the US Department of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for Sewer District No. 2. The Town has received an additional grant of \$75,000.00 from the EPA making \$3,160,000 currently available.

On July 3, 2008 bids for construction were opened by Warren County and exceeded the \$3,740,000 previously approved by the State Comptroller and on July 18th the bids were rejected.

On August 12, 2008, a petition, signed by owners of more than one-half in value of the taxable real property owned by resident owners within the area of Sewer District No. 2, was delivered to the Town Board asking for an increase in the maximum amount that could be expended to \$6,550,000.

The project was rebid and the only submission was by A.P. Reale & Sons, Inc., Ticonderoga, in the amount of \$4,978,490. A.P. Reale & Sons, Inc. was the low bidder and contractor for Sewer District No. 1.

On August 26, 2008 a required public hearing was conducted by the Town Board. The Board then authorized selling up to \$3,390,000 in bonds to help with construction costs.

The following summary shows costs and method of payment:

Construction contract	\$4,978,490
Bond, attorney fees & other contingencies	\$ 500,000
Engineering	\$ 589,526
TOTAL	\$6,068,016
EPA grant money	- \$3,160,000
Local Share, Town of Hague	\$2,906,016

Based upon a bonding rate of 4.5% and a 30-year term, the annual debt service would be approximately \$178,697. Based on 156 equivalent dwelling units (EDU), the annual debt service per EDU is estimated at \$1,125.50.

The Town has submitted a petition to the State Comptroller with the new figures asking for approval to increase the amount to be expended. After that is received, Clough Harbour Associates will compile and submit required documentation to the EPA. It is estimated that the EPA approval should take approximately three weeks after which the county can issue the Notice of Award for the project.

Supervisor Belden hopes that all approvals will be done by ?? and Reale will then start the construction.

Thanks to Town Attorney, Dominick Viscardi, for the written documentation on which this article is based.

On Thursday, August 28 more than 50 residents met at the HVFD Fire House to hear Bob Schwarz discuss the school tax (in)equity issue. His latest figures show that of the \$8,896,000 that Ticonderoga must raise by a school tax levy, Hague, with 82 students, and Ticonderoga, with 970 students, each pay about 50% of the total cost. Mr. Schwarz noted that if each town paid according to the number of its resident students, Hague should pay about \$3,700,000 less in school taxes than it does now. The school tax rate (per thousand assessed valuation) for 2007-08 was \$9.978 for the Town of Ticonderoga and \$10.69516 for the Town of Hague. In 2008-09 for Ticonderoga it is \$10.934 (up +9.57%) and for Hague \$10.348 (down - 3.24%). He noted that 2/3 of the Hague taxpayers are not primary residents and are therefore not able to vote in Hague.

An excerpt from a statement to The Hague Chronicle by Councilman Dick Gladu notes, "This tax levy, is then allocated by a complex and inconsistently applied system of property tax assessment. Even if the property tax assessments were perfect, it has no relationship to either the number of students in the school district or to the tax payers ability to pay." He adds further, "The problem has been created by the State and must be solved by the State." Mr. Gladu suggests that the best way for taxpayers to be heard is to support the state legislation for a "tax levy cap to control future growth" and a "circuit breaker for individual relief".

Mr. Schwarz felt that the local imbalance must be addressed even if it means legal action. He said, "The cost of hiring a lawyer would be made up by the savings in taxes of a successful lawsuit." Ten volunteers joined him on a citizens committee to continue to look at strategies. At the September 9th Town Board meeting, Mr. Schwarz urged more residents to sign onto the Task Force. Anyone interested in more information can contact him at 543-6384 or 371-8018 (Clifton Park).

DOG CONTROL LAW

The Town Board has approved a local Dog Control Law with rules for the "keeping of dogs and the restraining of dogs from running at large." All residents with dogs should be sure they are familiar with the new rules and regulations.

We'll give the weather gods mixed reviews for our recent activities. We had a beautiful day for our annual picnic at the Fire House pavilion and we thank the Fire Department for the use of their facility. Our members turned out with good eats in abundance and we enjoyed one another's company as we closed out the summer season.

Our next regular meeting will be on September 23rd with representatives from Warren County here to tell us about the varied programs of interest to Seniors - assistance programs, transportation, meals, volunteerism, etc. Members are encouraged to invite neighbors and friends to attend - both to enjoy the fellowship of our active Senior Club and to learn about these available programs.

Unfortunately, our planned trip to Shelburne was canceled due to thunderstorm activity which would have seriously hampered the day's activities. In true North Country fashion, by late afternoon it turned sunny and lovely. We are rescheduling our outing to Shelburne Museum for Thursday, October 9, meeting at the Community Center at 9 am. There is no charge for members and non-members will pay the reduced entrance fee of \$13. Sign up at our regular meeting or call Pat McDonough at 543-6725 if you wish to sign-up by phone. Let's hope those weather gods smile on us this time!

Pat McDonough

COUNTY INFO FOR HAGUE SENIORS

Warren County provides many programs and information for Seniors. Candace Kelly, Director of the Office for the Aging and Amy Collins, Director of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) will be in Hague on Tuesday, September 23, 2008. They will be the special guest presenters at the next meeting of the Hague Senior Citizens Club at 1:30 pm at the Community Center.

All Hague Seniors (50+) and any others who would like to learn about Senior programs in Warren County are welcome to attend. There will be a short business meeting and refreshments will be served after the program.

It's that time of year when we celebrate autumn by participating in the Church World Service CROP Walk! This year the Walk will be on the weekend following Columbus Day on Saturday October 18, 2008, at 1:30 PM.

The CROP Walk benefits hungry and poor people around the world, with 25% going back into the local community, mainly to the local food pantries, with the Hague Food Pantry being one of the beneficiaries.

Registration and the Walk will begin at the Bicentennial Park, on the corner of Montcalm St. and Tower Ave., in Ticonderoga. In case of inclement weather, registration will be in the upper banquet room of the Elks Lodge across Tower Ave. from the park.

The walk will happen, rain or shine, so please dress for the weather. It will be a 4 mile walk through Ti, with a 2 or 1 mile shorter route option. Walkers are asked to get sponsors to give a donation before the walk, and/or the walkers may sponsor themselves. Walkers should get the walker's forms and fill them out ahead of time.

With high fuel prices, food pantries and other charitable hunger and poverty fighting organizations are feeling the strain of lower donations and more assistance requests. Please help by participating in the Walk or sponsoring a walker. Participating makes one feel better physically, mentally, and spiritually!

Come join us! For further information or to get a walker's form, call Bev Sann at 543-6299.

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We're busy at work preparing for the "Share Your Memorabilia" program on Tuesday, September 30, at 7 pm at the Community Center. We've had several calls from folks who want to bring an item to share and we're hoping that even more will do the same. We expect to have old maps and post cards, documents from Hague's history, photos and lots more - some of which will touch on the Trout House, the Wells Dairy, Graphite, etc., etc., etc.! Please come and enjoy an evening of discovery and history.

After the July clean-up at the Hague Heritage Cemetery, it was agreed that we should return in the fall to continue the work. The Highway Department has installed replacement posts and fence rails and done some mowing of the cemetery. It looks grand! We're going to work there again on Tuesday, October 7, at 10 am, to do some more raking and to plant a few perennials and wildflowers for bloom next spring. So grab your rake and your gloves and bring along a plant, if you can spare one, and help us to continue the care of this special place. [Caution: There is poison ivy in the cemetery, so dress accordingly.]

Pat McDonough

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
PO Box 748
Hague, New York 12836-0748

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

Editor/Publisher, Emerita: Dorothy Henry

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9/08

HAGUE FISH & GAME CLUB

The Hague Fish & Game Club hosted over 100 women, in conjunction with Silver Bay YMCA, on September 5, 6 & 7 for range use in the Becoming an Outdoors Women program. While on the range, women from all over the state received instruction on various sporting courses. Over 24 women participated in the shotgun course, 12 in the rifle course, 12 in the handgun course and 4 participated in the muzzleloader course. According to Jeff Peil, ECON official, all the women had 3 days of shooting instruction and fun.

Progress on the ranges is underway. The 100 yards range has been improved by the addition of a wider bridge and downrange backstops. With the permits now in hand the 10'X40' covered shooting stations will be completed. The range will have a 25 yd, two 50 yd and the 100 yd range along with new backstops for all of the shooting members. This will surely be the place to sight in your gun this season. Remember the annual dues are only \$25 for a family and \$20 for an individual. Memberships will be available at the Fall Fest, The Club, Hague Market, Barely Used Furniture and Ti Barber Shop.
Steve Ramant

OKTOBERFEST

Meet the Republican Candidates on Saturday September 27, 2008 at the Northern Lake George Resort. Cocktails will begin at 5 pm followed by the traditional Oktoberfest dinner with serving starting at 7 pm. The cost is \$15.00 per person. For tickets and information call 543-6528 or 543-6020.

HOLISTIC FAIR

The Priory Retreat House will offer an Holistic Fair from noon to 4 pm on Sunday, September 28, 2008 at The Priory on Pine Notch Road in Chestertown. Participants at the wholesome living fair day will sign-up for their workshop choices on a first come basis starting at noon.

Workshop Choices are Spiritual Direction, Reiki, Inner Peace, T'ai Ch Chih, Movement as Prayer, Bio-Spiritual Focusing, Living Contemplatively, The Healing Energy of Trees, and The Power of the Other Hand: Journaling with Both Hands. Other options for the afternoon include walking the labyrinth, hike the property's forest trails, working in the garden, or reading a book from The Priory's extensive library.

For further information call The Priory at 494-3733 or email <prioryretreat@yahoo.com>. For other Priory programs see <www.prioryretreathouse.org>.

BAPTIST CHURCH CONCERT

The Hague Baptist Church would like to invite the community to a concert and the comedy of Peter Whitebird on Wednesday, October 1st at 6 pm. Peter Whitebird is familiar to the area as he was here three years ago. His western style gospel is great and he presents it in a professional manner. Doors will open at 5:30 pm.

Url Utterback

ART GALLERY RECEPTION

The Gallery at Hague Creek will hold a reception on Saturday, October 11, 2008 from 5 - 8 pm. The featured artist will be Wendy Soliday from Silver Bay whose works are on display.

HARVEST DINNER

The first annual Warrensburgh Riverfront Harvest Dinner will be hosted by The Grist Mill on the Schroon Limited on Columbus Day, October 13, 2008 at 6 p.m. This seven course meal which includes dessert and wine pairing with each course, will be offered for \$39.95 per person. The event is sponsored by Warrensburgh Beautification and Adirondack Harvest in partnership with the Thurman Fall Farm Festival, and will showcase locally grown, raised and prepared ingredients. Seating is limited and tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 466-5497.

LGLC FALL EVENTS

On Saturday, September 27, from 10 am - 1 pm join herbalist and naturalist Nancy Scarzello (and nature writer for *The Hague Chronicle*) on an end-of-summer exploration of Gull Bay Preserve. Nancy will help you search for mushrooms, woodland plants and creatures as you make your way to the great blue heron rookery (rookery not active this time of year).

On Saturday, October 11 (raindate is October 12) a fall foliage hike will start at 9 am at the Cat and Thomas Mts. Preserve, Bolton. Participants will be led by guide John Crist on this annual 7-mile hike through the autumn woods and to the mountain summits and ridgeline. This is the perfect opportunity for anyone who has not yet experienced the Preserve's breathtaking views and interesting trails!

Discover Lake George through these free events sponsored by the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC). For required registration, call 518-644-9673, email <shoffman@lglc.org>, visit <www.lglc.org> or stop in the LGLC office, the Macionis Family Center for Conservation, at 4905 Lake Shore Drive in Bolton Landing.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

The Men's Prayer Breakfast continues on October 10, November 7 and December 5 in Brookside Community House at 7:30 am at the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks. All are welcome. For more information call the Spiritual Life Center at 543-8833, x293.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 8/28/08

Chairman Goetsch and members Bill Pittman, George Ianson, Lindsay Mydlarz and Martin Fitzgerald, II were present. Glenn McKee was absent and there is one vacancy on the Board.

Public hearings were held on applications of Kossbiel, Beneduce and Miller.

KOSSBIEL (12.14.-1-21) 9651 Lakeshore Drive (OC-1)

The applicant is requesting a Variance for sideline setback and percentage of coverage so he may install a 14' x 22' open deck to the front of a house and a 54 sq. ft. walkway with stairs, mostly over an existing cement staircase, to provide two means of egress from the current structure.

The Board held this application over until the next meeting as they want the applicant to submit a survey of his property, rather than relying on neighboring surveys, so that the property lines will be clear.

BENEDUCE (93.19-1-8) 7776 Lakeshore Drive RC

The applicant is proposing to construct a 1026 sq. ft. two story addition to a non-conforming house. If approved a portion of existing structure will be removed. The proposed addition will be 54 feet from the lake and be located on the west side of the current structure.

The Board approved the application with conditions that a holding tank be used, since the septic system is not in compliance, and a stormwater plan must be approved by the ZEO.

MILLER (43.17-1-7) 27 Springdale Manor Dr. (TR-1)

The applicant would like to build a 392 sq. ft. addition to an existing non-conforming house. The addition would be an increase of 50% to a non-conforming structure.

The Board approved the application with the condition that the rear line setback be kept at the current 4 feet.

GUERRIER-HINTZE (25.2-1-28) 157 West Hague Road (OC-1)

The applicants would like to build an addition to an existing house that sits 54 feet from a brook. If approved the addition would sit 44' from the brook.

A site visit was set and the application will be on the agenda for next month.

PLANNING BOARD - 9/4/08

Chairman EJ Siwek and Planning Board members Bruce Clark, John Brown, Roily Allen, Martin Fitzgerald, Sr. and Pam Peterson were present. Dick Frasier was absent.

CLARK (43.5-2-18, 19, & 20) 9015 Lakeshore Drive (Hamlet)

The applicant is requesting a minor subdivision of three lots. If approved a total of 4 lots will be created. Zoning issue: 150-6 Review of a minor subdivision.

A site visit was set and the public hearing will be held at the next meeting.

JOHNSTON (60.5-1-5) 8746 Lakeshore Drive (TR-1)

The applicant is proposing a 2367 sq. ft. addition to an existing home, which sits 70' from the MHW of Lake George. If approved the structure shoreline setback will be 52' from the MHW of the lake which is new construction within 100' of the lake requiring site plan review by the Planning Board.

The Planning Board voted to approve the application as submitted with a condition to put more buffer in with natural, native plantings along the shoreline where previous cutting has occurred.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 9/9/08

Supervisor Dan Belden and Councilmen Rudy Meola, Dick Gladu and Mark Martucci were present and Edna Frasier was absent.

At 6 pm the Board held a Public Hearing on the proposed Dog ordinance. Several lively opinions were given by residents of New Hague Road.

A short Public Hearing, required by state rules as part of the franchise renewal process, was then held on the Time Warner cable service agreement with the Town. The Town will renew the agreement and the Board chose not to make any changes that would see costs passed along to customers. Supervisor Belden noted that installation still needed to be done on Decker Hill Road to the Sewer Plant and New Hague should be on the plan for next year. The cable representative said that he couldn't guarantee a timetable because "Time Warner will prioritize."

A moment of silence was held for Ethel Gunther and Graham Michael.

There was some discussion about the zoning code and appendix E on rental of single family houses and the need for an additional step in the process to change it. Councilman Gladu said that he will try to see that the process continues.

Bob Schwarz thanked the Board for allowing him to publicly put on record his work on a School Tax Task Force. They hope to "make waves as to unfairness of the imbalance" between Hague and Ticonderoga. (See related article on page 1.)

Councilman Meola questioned items in the minutes relating to Sewer District #2 that indicated additional costs. Supervisor Belden said that one problem was getting easements in Friends Point and the other was for insulated pipe on 9N which was not in the original plans. Myles Peterson noted that cost resulted from negligence on the part of the sewer engineers since they did not talk to DOT first.

Committee Reports:

Assessor/Justice - Councilman Gladu reported that the data entry in the Justice's office has been all caught up to the end of August and necessary submissions have gone to the state.

Buildings & Grounds/CC - Councilman Martucci said he has a proposal for the work to be done outside (steps, back ramp, etc.) and has someone currently on the payroll who would do the labor. The Board decided to advertise for a "request for proposal" (RFP) and include labor and materials.

Highway - Highway Superintendent Don Smith reported that paving had been done and they are starting to get sand in for the winter. A problem with catch basins and a storm water drainage problem in Pine Cove were addressed. Councilman Martucci reported that the Highway Budget is short on fuel costs and the Board moved \$6,000 into that budget account.

One of the trucks is due on a 20 year schedule to be replaced. Councilman Meola mentioned a problem with bids submitted and feels that there should be sealed bids.

Museum & Historian - Pat McDonough, President of the Hague Historical Society, sent a letter thanking the Highway Department for their work on new railings for the Pine Orchard Road cemetery.

Personnel - Councilman Gladu reported that Kim Coffin is a candidate for the Office Assistant position helping with data entry and acting as Recording Secretary for the Planning and Zoning Boards. The Board approved hiring her for this part-time position subject to evaluation in 3 months.

Recreation/Promotion & Youth - Councilman Meola reported that 25 kids took part in the Silver Bay YMCA sponsored "Silver Camp." Participation varied some weeks and the Town shared in the cost. The Warren County Youth director and Councilman Meola visited the program and were very pleased.

Sewer District #2 - The Town is waiting for an approval from the EPA and NYS Audit and Control. (See related article on page 1.)

Town Park - Two signs are needed - one for beach capacity and another for beach closed when lifeguard is out. A couple of hundred dollars were received through the recyclable containers that were put out.

Under other business, the Board:

1. Considered an employee's request to return to full health insurance coverage.
2. Approved a request by Pride of Ticonderoga for \$1000. Hague residents are eligible to apply for the grant Pride received which helps with emergency repairs. Bruce Clark from Hague serves on the Board for Pride.
3. Received a request from the Hague Senior Citizens to increase funding toward Memorial Day Parade Celebration to \$6000. The request will be put in for budget consideration.
4. Approved purchase of a billing system in the amount of \$2730. It includes installation and will be used for the sewer bills of both districts.
5. Approved the Local Law on Dog Control.

In the Supervisor's Report, Mr. Belden noted that there is too much shrubbery around the building, carpets need to be steam cleaned and air ducts need to be cleaned. He also reported that the County has lost 2% on all state contracts and next year it will be 3.5% more. They have found additional revenue from the burning plant. Social services is up to 16 million dollars from 14 million last year. The WC Board of Supervisors is aiming for a 6% cut across the board.

2009 BUDGET PROCESS

The budget process for the Town of Hague for 2009 is beginning. The departments submit their estimated budgets to the Budget Officer (Supervisor Belden) by September 20th. The Budget Officer must file his tentative budget to the Town Clerk by 9/30/08. The Town Clerk submits the budget to the Town Board by 10/5/08. The Town Board will review and prepare the Preliminary Budget and a notice of a public hearing will be sent out at least 5 days before the hearing. The public hearing on the budget will be held on the Thursday following the General Election.

OSTEO CLASS

An Osteo Class - light exercise with weights - is being held every Tuesday at the Moses Ludington Hospital from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm.

T'AI JI

Mae Pagan will hold t'ai ji classes this fall on Tuesdays from 6 - 7 pm at the Hague Community Center. The session runs from October 7 to December 16 and the fee is \$12 per class or \$10 per class for seniors. For more information contact Mae at 543-6605 or email <returntomountain@yahoo.com>.



At our September meeting, EMT leaders Renee Swinton and Lu Megow presented Gerry Boyd with a framed document of highlights of his 54 years as an EMT, along with a life membership in the department. Gerry has dedicated nearly all of his adult life to our service, and we are eternally grateful.

Also, in the way of honors, Jocelyn Fischer, daughter of Pam and Rob Fischer, and Jeffrey Fortier, son of Joann and Richard Fortier were recipients of this year's Department scholarships. Congratulations to both.

In other news, out of necessity, a new building security system will be installed at the Fire House. Many thanks to Chris Chiovoloni of Vortex Technologies for his assistance with this process.

Mark Saturday, October 11, 2008 on your calendars as the date for our annual fall dinner with service from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. This year's format will be a sumptuous Italian Buffet with dishes prepared by culinary masters within the department. Bring your appetites with you. Adults \$10, 12 & under \$7.00. Raffles and take outs will be available.

We would like to thank the many merchants in Hague and Ticonderoga, as well as the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks, for your generous support of recent fund raisers.

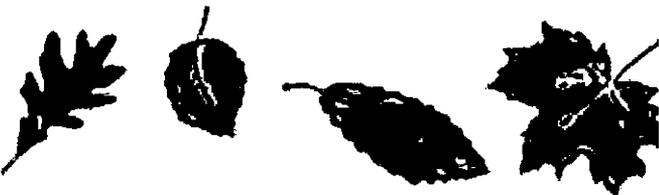
On a serious note, Chief Jim Young said that the past year has been one of the busiest and deadliest periods for our firefighters and EMS personnel that he can remember. From September 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008 there have been 216 fire and EMS calls using a total of 3, 932 man hours. There have been 6 fatalities; four in cars, one motorcycle, and one natural cause on Lake George. It has been a tough period for our department.

In additional news, we have purchased a new Fire-Rescue boat to replace our current 21 year old vessel. As the department covers approximately 50 miles of shoreline in Warren, Essex and Washington counties, including approximately 1,050 structures, we felt it prudent to obtain a boat that could better service our coverage area than the existing craft. We have had a total of 6 emergency calls on the water this season, most of a very serious nature.

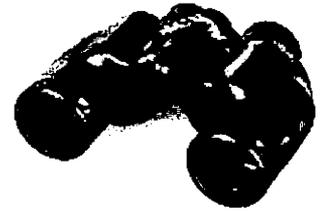
The new boat will have more functionality than our current one, and includes a 650 gpm fire pump, a deck mounted water nozzle, a side access door for easier access and egress, a Garmin radar unit and a GPS chart plotter to aid in location accuracy and response time. The boat is a 27 foot Boston Whaler of a similar console configuration as our present vessel. It will be powered by twin 225 HP Mercury four stroke engines with a top speed of 50 mph.

Watch out for bicyclists this time of year, especially on narrow winding roads.

Joe McCranels



Looking Back



Excerpted from the April 1976 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*:

"NOSTALGIA"

Captain Charles Henderson [of Landsdowne, Pa.] writes: "I'm sorry to learn from the Ti Sentinel that Aunt Mamie Beste has gone on from us to that happier land. I can remember as a boy carrying empty bottles in a wire carrier from our cottage at Hague up to Sentinel Pine Farms to get the fresh supply. Miss Alden and Miss Beste had a beautiful herd of Jersey cattle. Of course, when Ham Crabbs, my brother Jim and I had to pick our way, carefully, through the pasture over the fields to the barns and make our exchange of empties for fulls, we got a chance to talk with the proprietors. Did you know that they took their old touring car over the hill on the old military road, from Bolton to Hague, sometime in the 20's with axe and saw to clear the way? That was a few years before the construction of the Tongue Mountain Parkway, now highway 9N.

"As kids we caught lots of fish just off the mouth of the brook that ran through the farm - there was no Cape Cod Village, no Norwood Shores, no Springdale Manor then - just field and pasture.

"Bob Henry's big dock and boat-house had not been built, he didn't yet own the property, it was the Watrous house. And while Enid Alden and Mamie Beste were herding Jerseys and supplying marvelous milk and cream to a lot of summer visitors, the Lake George Steamboat Company struggled through World War I with the 'Mountaineer' and 'Heron' substituting for the big steamers, Horicon, Sagamore and Mohican. Those were the days of history!"



CREATIVITY CONFERENCE

The First Annual Creativity Conference will be held October 4 and 5, 2008 at The Fort William Henry Resort and Conference Center in Lake George Village. The conference, titled "Creativity: Let it Be Life," will feature speakers from around the country offering a variety of workshops and is open to the public.

Beverly R. Down, a Lake George-based Creativity Coach and one of the key organizers of the event, said it's designed for those whose lives are informed and sparked by creativity in any form, whether it's the arts, professional development, spirituality, or in family life.

For required pre-registration or more information visit <www.creativityconference2008.com> .

9/08

~SOUNDINGS~

WEATHER NOTES

by JoAnne DeFranco

August 18 to September 12, 2008

MARRIED: Tasha Braisted and Robert McLoughlin on July 19, 2008 in Ticonderoga. Tasha is the daughter of Jim and Erica Braisted and the late Josephine Lambert Braisted of Hague. Tasha and Bob make their home in Albany.

DIED: Ethel Francis Gunther, 87, of Hague and Tucson, AZ on August 20, 2008 at the Moses-Ludington Hospital in Ticonderoga. Ethel is survived by her husband Victor W. Gunther; her three children, Wayne V. Gunther of Ridgecrest, CA, Barry W. Gunther of Tucson, AZ, and Wendy G. Kroft of Marina Del Rey, CA; and by three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

DIED: Elisabeth "Beth" Cockrell, 92 on Aug. 26 at Westminster Canterbury in Charlottesville, VA. Beth is survived by her sons, David Craig Cockrell, of Oneida, NY and Robert Cockrell Craighurst of Charlottesville, VA and her brother Bruce Craig of Hague. Beth was the daughter of Ralph and Elisabeth Craig, longtime seasonal residents of Hague. Beth started the square dancing tradition at the NLGYC 50 years ago.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Chris Streeter whose home designs are the featured cover story in the Fall 2008 issue of the Southern Utah Home & Garden Magazine. The article notes that Chris is "an artist who uses construction materials as his palette." Chris stated that his company, C & S Homes, has a mission "to use state of the art materials of enduring quality to put out a first class product that is both architecturally and aesthetically pleasing." Chris grew up in Hague and is the nephew of Ruth Robbins. He now makes his home in St. George, Utah.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Silver Bay's After School program is held at the Ticonderoga Elementary School through the school year. On average, 20 students daily spend their afternoon with Silver Bay staff in a slew of activities ranging from hikes to computer work and homework help. Activities run from 2:30 to 6 p.m.

Silver Bay is enrolling students in grades K-6. Parents can pick up an enrollment form at the school. The fee is \$16 daily or \$42 weekly.

SILVER BAY SPOTLIGHT ON ABC

Judy Woodruff, longtime Silver Bay resident, hosted a segment on family vacations for Good Morning America. The piece included footage of Silver Bay and aired on Sunday, September 7th. A video of that segment is available online. Go to <http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/>, search for: "dirty dancing getaways" and then click on the "Dirty Dancing Getaways" video from Sep. 7, 2008.

The last two weeks of August had some of the best weather of the entire summer. It was sunny and warm with very little rain. It gave the ground a chance to dry out. The grass has remained a lush green the entire summer. The mild winter combined with ample rain has produced excellent crops of acorns, pine cones, and berries. Look in the tops of the pine trees. They are covered with cones. Even my wild apple tree that never bears any fruit has many, many apples.

On August 20, Hurricane Fay dropped 25" of rain in Florida. Can you imagine that much water and rain? It makes the 12" of rain we received in June and July look like a drop in the bucket. Guess we should not complain.

The days continue to get shorter by a few minutes every day. The sun sets about 7:30 and rises after 6 AM. Autumn will start in another week on September 22. The maples are starting to turn red. There were freeze warnings for a widespread area of the North Country on September 10th. Temperatures dipped into the low forties here. Saranac Lake had the lowest temperature of 38 degrees. We are fortunate here in Hague to have the warm waters of Lake George protect us from a frost until later in the season.

Mosquitoes and black flies, usually gone at this point in the season, have been plentiful even during the daylight hours. They are particularly pesky if you are watering the garden. Keep your insect repellent handy.

It rained on August 17-19 as a cold front moved in. There were overnight showers on August 25. On September 6 there were scattered showers and again on September 9, thundershowers moved through in the early morning.

There will be a full moon on September 15.

GILLIBRAND REPORT

Our local Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand has been a very active representative for us. Recently she launched an on-line Home Heating Assistance clearinghouse on her website www.gillibrand.house.gov to help educate North Country families about what assistance is available to them to deal with increased home heating costs this winter. She has also announced her support for legislation that will provide schools with assistance to offset rising energy costs.

Ms. Gillibrand will be running for re-election this fall and has accepted three invitations to debate in the month of October. The first is in Dutchess County followed by the Times Union and PBS (WMHT) debate on October 23rd and the Post Star and NBC 13 (WNYT) debate on October 28th. With "transparency" a hot topic in Washington, we note that our representative was the first member of Congress to post her daily schedule, earmark requests and personal financial disclosure statement on-line.

September - October 2008

September

23	1:30 pm	Senior Citizens Club (p. 2)
25	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
27	10 am	LGLC nature walk (p. 3)
27	5 pm	Oktoberfest (p. 3)
28	noon	Holistic Fair (p. 3)
30	7 pm	Hague Historical Society (p. 2)

October

1	6 pm	Baptist Church concert (p. 3)
2	7 pm	Planning Board
7	10 am	HHS cemetery clean-up (p. 2)
9	9 am	Senior Club trip to Shelburne (p. 2)
11	9 am	LGLC fall foliage hike (p. 3)
11	4:30 pm	HVFD fall dinner (p. 6)
11	5 pm	Art Gallery Reception (p. 3)
13	6 pm	Harvest Dinner (p. 3)
14	6:30 pm	Town Board
18	1:30 pm	Crop Walk (p. 2)
18		Deadline for news for next issue
23		Next <i>Hague Chronicle</i> mailed
23	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals

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: Ticonderoga School Board (7 pm)
 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club (7:30 pm)
 3rd Tuesday: Sno-goers
 4th Wednesday: Extra Helpings Distribution (noon)
 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club (11 am)
 1st Friday: Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)

Every Tuesday: Rotary Club (7:30 am)
 Every Thursday: Kiwanis (12:15 pm)

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

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