



# THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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Hague, New York 12836  
March 2017

## WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT STAFF

Hague's Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) serves residents from Pine Cove in the south to Forest Bay in the north, as well as the downtown section of Hague and part of Dodd Hill Road. It was designed and built to protect Lake George by eliminating septic systems along this portion of the lake. Since testing must be done seven days a week, and someone is on-call 24/7 for emergency responses, Hague is lucky to have a skilled and committed staff at the WWTP.



*John Sheehan and Joe McDowell take a look inside the control box of a resident's sewer pump*

Joe McDowell is the Chief Operator, a position he has held since August of 2015. He has a wealth of experience, having worked as Chief Operator of the Washington County WWTP for 28 years. Joe is assisted by John Sheehan, Operator Trainee, who came on board in early 2015. Although he had prior experience in manufacturing operations, wastewater management was a new field for him when he joined the Hague staff. John is working diligently toward obtaining his 3A operator's license, a process that requires four and a half years of on-the-job experience in a New York State WWTP, as well as many weeks of classroom studies and exams. Also helping out as needed are Tim Costello, Hague's former Chief Operator, and Bill Gourley.

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Councilwoman Ginger Kuenzel, both of whom are on the Town Board Sewer Committee, are very pleased with the work of the staff. "I hear nothing but praise from sewer district residents who have had the opportunity to interact with the staff," Ginger said. "They not only fix the problem promptly," she explained, "but also have great people skills."

If you're interested in a part-time position at the WWTP, see the ad below.

### HELP WANTED: LABORER

The Town of Hague is seeking a part-time laborer to perform routine tasks at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Applicants must be willing to work flexible hours. No experience necessary.

To apply, please call 543-6161, pick up an application at the Hague Community Center or download one from the town website at: [www.townofhague.org](http://www.townofhague.org). Click on "jobs" at the top of the page.

## LG PARK COMMISSION ADOPTS INCREASES



On February 21, 2017, the Lake George Park Commission approved a measure to adopt the dock and boat fee increase that was passed by the state legislature and signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo last year.

Because the Lake George Park Commission is funded primarily through the user fees (and a minor amount of funding from the generation of hydropower in Ticonderoga), this measure was critical to allowing the Park Commission to continue to perform its regulatory work.

All funds collected by the program are deposited into the "Lake George Park Trust Fund" solely for use on Lake George.

For the 2017 season and beyond, the fees will be:

- ◆ **Residential docks and moorings:**  
\$50 (\$12.50 increase from \$37.50)
- ◆ **Commercial docks:**  
\$5 per linear foot (\$1.25 increase from \$3.75)
- ◆ **Commercial moorings:**  
\$100 (\$25 increase from \$75)
- ◆ **Boats under 20 foot in length:**  
\$40 (\$10 increase from \$30)
- ◆ **All boats 21 feet and over:**  
(\$12.50 increase over current rate)
- ◆ **Day Rate:**  
\$12 (\$4.50 increase from \$7.50)
- ◆ **Weekly rate:**  
\$20 (\$8.75 increase from \$11.25)
- ◆ **New - All paddle craft and sailboats less than 10 hp, regardless of length, are exempted.**

## SILVER BAY EVENTS

- Men's and Women's Breakfasts - Friday April 7, 2017, 7:30-9 am, Brookside and Trinity Houses
- Spiritual Life Reading Group - March 31st, April 7th and April 21st, 9:30 am, Trinity House
- Dinner and a Movie - Friday, April 14th, 6 pm, *Big Fish*, Dining Hall, \$10 suggested donation

## HAGUE SENIORS

Hello folks!

The Senior Club went on a road trip on February 16, 2017 to the Saranac Ice Castle. All I can say is that those of us who went on the adventure had a real treat. The winter-wonderland drive was absolutely breathtaking. The theme for the castle was "Adirondack Wild Life." A large moose, a bear, a raccoon, other animals and Adirondack chairs were carved out of ice in front of the castle. To leave, we had to find our way through a maze. We had lunch at the Asian Buffet in Saranac Lake. After lunch, we needed to walk, so we went to Lake Placid and did some shopping.

Game Night, always a night of fun for all, was hosted by Mike and Maureen Cherubini.

Our March 28th meeting will be at noon; please bring an appetizer. April 5th will be Game Night at Pat Hintze's house at 6:30 pm. On April 13th, we are going to Vermont Birdland of Art by Gary Starr in Middlebury, Vermont. Join us!

by Patricia Hintze, President

## MEMORIAL DAY IN HAGUE



Hague will celebrate Memorial Day on Saturday, May 27, 2017. This year's theme is "Honoring America." All military veterans will be honored.

Those who wish to march, enter a float or be a vendor should contact Maureen Cherubini at 543-6463. Military veterans wishing to march or to ride in the parade along with Hague's Memorial Unit should call Mike Cherubini 543-6463. Uniforms are appreciated, but not necessary.

Donations should be made out to Hague Senior Citizens Club-Parade Account and mailed to the Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836.

## HVFD

February came to a close with 12 fire calls and drills for a total of 116 volunteer hours and four EMS calls using 37 volunteer hours. The firemen have drills every Tuesday night beginning at 6 pm. Anyone who is interested in becoming a volunteer is welcome to come and check it out.

We also need volunteers for fire police and EMS. Our busy season is right around the corner. Our summer residents and visitors will soon be returning and that's when our call volume goes up. We will be having our annual open house on April 25th. There will be more details on that in next month's issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.  
by Meg Haskell

## HAGUE WINTER WEEKEND

Hague Winter Weekend 2017 was held on Presidents' Weekend and all events had great turnouts.

Many people attended the Fire Department Breakfast and they all raved how delicious everything was. So, if you missed it this year, be sure to make plans to attend next year!

There were 14 different kinds of chili to taste at the Chili



Bake-Off. All were very good, but Tom Haskell's smoked beef chili was voted the best. Melody Borho's entry came in second and Pat Hintze's placed third.

On Sunday, the annual Polar Bear Plunge was held. The weather was more like spring than winter and the polar plungers sure appreciated that! With air temperatures in the 40's, it was a perfect day for a swim! Almost 70 people braved the icy waters to raise money for the University of Vermont Children's Hospital. A competition was held between the Hague and Ticonderoga fire departments to see who could raise the most money. Hague came in first, collecting over \$1,700. Ti brought

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**THE HAGUE CHRONICLE** is mailed out by volunteers on the Wednesday after the third Tuesday of each month. The news deadline is the previous Wednesday.

Please send all news items to Editor, Bobbi Bryant Taylor, at: <editor@thehaguechronicle.org>.

Please send address corrections or account questions to the Publisher, Judy Stock, at <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com>.

*The Hague Chronicle* is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly (check your label for due date) tax deductible contribution, made out to The Hague Chronicle, to:

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## WATER QUALITY MATTERS

“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”

Green lawn. Green lake. It’s a phrase worth repeating. The idea of eliminating the use of fertilizers and pesticides in the Lake George Watershed is not new and the science is clear. Fertilizers in runoff from lawns and gardens increase the levels of nutrients in the lake and promote algae growth. Pesticides are toxic to fish and other aquatic organisms and can affect human health. Last month, I mentioned that Queensbury passed an ordinance to regulate the use of fertilizers and pesticides.



The ordinance can be found online and is entitled “Chapter 107: Lawn Fertilizer and Pesticide Runoff Control” and was adopted by the Queensbury Town Board on September 12, 2011. In short, the law can be paraphrased in the following points:

- Fertilizers are broadly defined as any substance that promotes plant growth.
- Pesticides include, but are not limited to, any herbicide, algacide, insecticide, fungicide, rodenticide, and termiticide, etc.
- No person shall apply fertilizers within 50 feet of a regulated water body.
- No person shall apply fertilizer, as through negligence, onto an impermeable surface that would direct runoff into a regulated water body.
- Only fertilizer labelled as containing no phosphorus can be used 50 feet or more from a regulated water body.
- Any fertilizer that happens to land on an impermeable surface must be immediately controlled by directing it to adjacent vegetation or collected and properly disposed of.
- Any person applying pesticides to an area of greater than 100 square feet needs to mark the area and keep the markers in place for 24 hours.

Exemptions include: newly established lawn in the first growing season; emergency situations; situations where soil tests indicate the need for phosphorus; applying fertilizers to areas that have an appropriate 15 foot buffer area between the lawn and water body; agricultural uses, vegetable and flower gardens or trees and shrubs; natural or organic pesticides; pesticides for invasive species control, if approved and impermeable surfaces that direct flows to an approved treatment device.

First violations have a civil penalty of \$150 and the second and succeeding violations have a penalty of \$450. If a landscaper is involved, both parties can be penalized.

A similar ordinance is being considered for the Town of Hague. I encourage you to support the passage of this law by contacting the town board. Their email addresses can be found on the town website:

[www.townofhague.org/boards/town-board](http://www.townofhague.org/boards/town-board).

Visit HWQAC at our Facebook account [www.facebook.com/groups/182043721953952](http://www.facebook.com/groups/182043721953952) or contact one of our Steering Committee members: Al Rider, Chairman, Jim Beaty, Lance Clark, Ginger Kuenzel, Steve Ramant or me.

by Mike Strutz

## STEAMBOAT COMPANY BICENTENNIAL



The Lake George Steamboat Company, incorporated on April 15, 1817 by the New York State Legislature, will be celebrating its 200th year of service this year.

It currently operates three vessels: The stern wheel steamboat Minne-Ha-Ha, the motor vessel Mohican II and the cruise



ship Lac du Saint Sacrement. Along with scenic sightseeing cruises, the Steamboat Company offers lunch, brunch and dinner cruises, fireworks cruises, pirate cruises for kids and moonlight cruises.

To begin the celebration of their bicentennial, on the weekend of April 14, 2017, there will be a Friday Seafood Dinner Cruise, complimentary cruises for area residents on Saturday and a Brunch Cruise on Easter Sunday.

For more information call 518-668-5777 or go to [www.lakegeorgesteamboat.com](http://www.lakegeorgesteamboat.com).

## TI ARTS' DOWNTOWN GALLERY



Ti Arts' Downtown Gallery presently has a show of Fred Holman's work.

Holman started painting in 2005. What began as an interest in refining his drawing skills, turned into a passion for exploring the joys of nature and the challenge of the inanimate object through painting.

He is a Landscape Architect and Planner by profession, so the outdoors and creating beautiful, functional spaces have been part of his life for over 40 years. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design Painting and Drawing Certificate Program in 2007, he obtained the knowledge needed to use his natural talent in his paintings.

His studio is located on the Schroon River in Brant Lake.

Holman is currently Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the North Country Arts. His work has been shown at these venues and in other juried art shows in the Adirondack Artists region. In 2012 he won the “Artists Guild Award” at the Adirondack Plein Air Festival in Saranac Lake, New York.

## TOWN BOARD MEETING – 3/15/2017

Supervisor Edna Frasier and board members Steve Ramant, Michael Cherubini and Marty Fitzgerald were all present. Absent was Ginger Kuenzel.

Chris Navitsky, Lake George Waterkeeper, informed the board about a Septic Summit on March 30, 2017 for wastewater treatment professionals, municipal officials and contractors in the Lake George region to receive free training for long-term septic system management.

A moment of silence was held for Debbie Manning, Marjorie Floor, Wren Henry, Donald Best, Mary Laundree, Michael Fitzgerald, Jerry Crammond and Thomas Snow.

### Among the highlights in the committee reports:

Highway - Councilman Ramant reported that the roads are in pretty good shape. Chris Navitsky noted that only Lake George has done brining on their roads. Additional options and resources are needed to have the brining program come to the northern basin.

Personnel - Councilman Cherubini reported that a required workplace violence class for all employees has been set up.

Town Park & Beautification - Councilman Ramant reported that Terri Davis will hold a lifeguard training class and it is open to others in the area. He also suggested that Wi-Fi be installed at the Hague Town Park so people can swipe credit cards for the launch and vendors can use it for processing sales during special events. He will get cost estimates.

### Under other business, the board:

Approved the use of the dock in the town launch area by the Lake George Association (LGA) for their Floating Classroom on Monday, August 7, 2017 from 1 - 3 pm.

Approved a resolution to add an addendum to the LA Group contract for continuation of the Comprehensive Plan development. ZEO Clark will continue working with them to move the plan forward, including holding a public meeting.

Approved a resolution to appoint Janet Hanna as acting Town Clerk through December 31, 2017. Also approved a motion to appoint Janet Hanna as Registrar of Vital Statistics and Records Management Officer. Janet Hanna will be appointing Nancy Young as Deputy Town Clerk.

Approved a request by Janet Hanna to attend the Town Clerk conference in Rochester, NY in April.

Approved a resolution to accept Janet Hanna's resignations from the Planning Board and the Board of Assessment Review (BAR).

### NOTICE

There are openings on the Planning Board and the Board of Assessment Review. Anyone interested in either of these positions can pick up an application in the Community Center.

## PLANNING BOARD - 3/2/2017

Chairman Dick Frasier and board members Dan Belden, Bob Whitaker, Pam Peterson, Judy Gourley and Janet Hanna were present. Martin Fitzgerald was absent.

### LEVENSTIEN (43.5-2-12) 9842 Graphite Mt. Rd. (Hamlet)

The applicants are requesting a two lot minor subdivision so that the Post Office building will be on one lot and their home on the other. A site visit will be held and a public hearing held at the next Planning Board meeting on April 13, 2017.

### SILVER BAY ASSOCIATION (76.12-1-19) 87 Silver Bay Rd. (Hamlet secondary)

An application was made to replace the existing nonconforming dining hall with a new two story structure which will be attached to the existing nonconforming Inn. The proposed building will house a new dining hall, kitchen, conference room and 22 new guest rooms. A public hearing will be held at the next meeting.

The Silver Bay Association has also applied for three variances for this new building. One is for height, since the proposed structure will be 51' 1", if approved, and the regulations call for 40' maximum. Another variance request covers the 43% increase to the existing square footage and the third for a frontline setback. The Planning Board will continue discussion on these in order to make recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals, which must approve the variances.

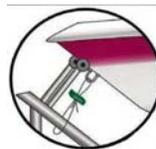
### ERIN INVESTMENTS, LLC (25.4-15.2) 9663 Graphite Mt. Rd. (OC1)

Francis Sisca of Erin Investments is requesting a change in use of the boat storage facility on Route 8 (across from Decker Hill Road). He would like to use the property for restoration and repairs of classic cars and boats. A public hearing will be held at the next meeting.

## BOATS MUST BE INSPECTED



From May 1st to October 31st, all trailered boats being launched into Lake George must undergo an inspection at one of the seven regional inspection stations around Lake George before they launch. The purpose of this inspection is to ensure that boats and trailers are clean, drained and dry and are harboring no invasive species. The goal is to keep Lake George clean for the future, so that we can all enjoy this lake in its current high quality state for generations to come. There is no cost to boaters for these inspections or the washing of the boat and trailer if determined necessary by an inspection technician.



If you plan to launch your boat, you must arrive with a VICS (Vessel Inspection Control Seal) affixed to your boat and trailer. You may have gotten one when you hauled your boat last fall. If so, your boat is ready to launch. If your boat is new to the lake or does not have a VICS, be sure to get it inspected and get a VICS at one of the Lake George Boat Inspection Stations. The inspection station closest to Hague is at the Rogers Rock Public Campground and Boat Launch. There is also one at Mossy Point Boat Launch in Ti-conderoga. They will open May 1st. More information about VICS may be found at <<http://lgboatinspections.com>>.

(Continued from page 2)

in over \$800, but had the most members jump in. When it was all said and done, we raised over \$4,000 for the Children's Hospital!



Thank you to everyone who participated. Special thank you go to Scott and Alice Patchett for the use of their property and to The Hague Volunteer Fire Department for scene support. This event could not have been held without all the community involvement!  
by Meg Haskell

*Special thanks to Susan Zacharenko for the great photos of the 2017 Hague Polar Plunge. For additional photos by Susan, see The Hague Chronicle Facebook page.*

### NOMINATE THE GRAND MARSHAL

The 2017 Best 4th in the North Celebration will take place July 1-4, 2017 with a grand fireworks display, parade, Montcalm Mile Race (organized by the LaChute Road Runners), DJ, live music, food, vendors, rides, games and much more.

The Ticonderoga Best 4th in the North Committee, a sub-committee of the Ticonderoga Montcalm Street Partnership (TMSP), is now accepting nominations for the Grand Marshal of the parade.

“For a Grand Marshal, think of people who are truly dedicated to the community, serve the Ticonderoga area throughout the year; people who have been an inspiration to the community or someone who fits the theme well,” stated Debbie Barber, Best 4th in the North Committee Chairperson.

Grand Marshal nominations can be submitted on the Best 4th in the North Facebook page or by emailing <tmsp@timainstreet.org>. The deadline to submit nominations is April 14, 2017.

The committee is also accepting parade applications and registrations. The theme for the 2017 Parade and Celebration is “Set Sail – A Nautical Theme.” Parade applications can be found on the internet at <www.best4thinthenorth.com>, <www.timainstreet.org> or picked up at the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TMSP Coordinator) office in downtown Ticonderoga.

### VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance (TRA) is looking for a volunteer to provide administrative and program support to the TRA Executive Directors and the Board of Directors. The work includes contributing to projects such as Trekonderoga (the Star Trek convention), the Abandoned and Vacant Property Remediation Project and other projects. This is a great opportunity to put your skills to work to improve your community. You can work from home and set your own hours.

Skills and Qualifications: Coordination, Reporting, Administrative, Microsoft Office Software Skills, Professionalism, Verbal and Written Communication.

Please contact Nancy Archer or Lance Clark at <nancyarcher@gmail.com>.

### LG WATERSHED COALITION DIRECTOR ARRESTED

According to a March 2, 2017 article in the Glens Falls *Post Star*, David Decker, Director of the Lake George Watershed Coalition, has been arrested “on three felony charges for allegedly stealing nearly \$70,000 while working on a coalition project.”

The Lake George Watershed Coalition is made up of towns and organizations in the Lake George basin and coordinates efforts to protect and preserve the water quality of the lake and surrounding natural resources. The director works with multiple state and federal agencies to write and administer grants for lakeside projects.

Decker “was charged after a months-long investigation by the Warren County Sheriff’s Office that began after questions were raised last year by the Warren County Treasurer’s Office about delays in state reimbursements on Lake George area projects”, according to the *Post Star*.

Also according to the *Post Star*, the issue was brought to the attention of authorities when “Queensbury resident Travis Whitehead, a government watchdog, made a complaint to the Sheriff’s Office after learning of Swan’s office’s concerns about non-payment of grants. Whitehead believed he found paperwork and possible financial irregularities through Freedom of Information Law requests, with documents also allegedly showing that tens of thousands of dollars was funneled into a fake materials supply company that Decker is accused of establishing.”

Lake George Association (LGA) director Walt Lender sent out a letter on March 7, 2017 stating, “as the legal process unfolds, the work to protect Lake George will continue.”

Lender continued, “We understand that the Watershed Coalition has four open and active grants with the New York Department of State. The LGA will take over administering two of those grants, and the Lake George Park Commission will take over administering the other two.”

According to Hague Supervisor Edna Frasier, there were no outstanding funds due to the Town of Hague through any of the grants administered by Dave Decker and the Watershed Coalition.

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

## TACC FUNDRAISER SCHEDULED



The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC)'s 15th Annual Fundraiser Dinner and Auction will be held on Friday, June 16, 2017 at The Barn at Lord Howe Valley. The theme is "Diamonds & Denim" and attire is business casual or theme-related. There will be silent and live auction items and DJ Cruz will provide music. Early reservations are suggested, as seating is limited.

Reservations can be made by contacting the chamber office at 585-6619 or <chamberinfo@ticonderogany.com>.

TACC is now seeking monetary contributions, auction items or both. The following sponsorship levels are available: Chamber Champion - \$1,000, Diamond - \$750, Platinum - \$500, Gold - \$250, Silver - \$125 and Bronze - under \$125. All donations should be received by Monday, June 5th.

Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the chamber office in downtown Ticonderoga during normal business hours or arrangements can be made to have contributions picked up. All sponsors will receive recognition for their level of contribution, support and dedication during the evening in a variety of ways, as well as through press releases, a full-page ad in the Times of Ti after the event and additional promotion in our chamber communications throughout the year.

TACC serves, markets and promotes its members in the Ticonderoga area, which includes Hague.

### BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

Ticonderoga Elks Lodge #1494 will host a buffet style breakfast on Sunday, April 9, 2017 from 8 - 11 am at their lodge at 5 Tower Avenue, Ticonderoga.

Cost is: Adults - \$8, Children ages 5 -10 and vets - \$5, children under 4 - free.

For more information, contact the Ticonderoga Elks Lodge #1494 at 585-2277 or <www.elks.org>.

### MASON/STAR PUBLIC DINNER

A public roast pork loin dinner, sponsored jointly by the members of Mount Defiance Lodge No. 794, F. & A.M. and Fort Ticonderoga Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, will be served Friday, March 24, 2017, from 4:30-6 pm in the downstairs dining hall of the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street, Ticonderoga. Take-outs will be available. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 years old and under and will be sold at the door.

### TICOUSTICS

The TiCoustics coffee house continues to be held from 7-9 pm on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Burleigh House in Ticonderoga. For the Wednesday, April 5th show, the featured musicians will be Jessica Paradis and Lance Clark, Eric Peter, and Dwyndal Smith and Mary Jo von Tury. The theme for the April 19th show will be 60s music. TiCoustics features local musicians and a chance to sing along, with the donations going to the improvement of Ticonderoga, so come on down!

## MOM PROM MARCH 25



*Attendees of the First Mom Prom*

The 3rd Annual Ticonderoga Area Mom Prom will be held Saturday, March 25, 2017 from 7- 11 pm at the Best Western Plus in Ticonderoga. The theme of the event is "A Night of Rustic Romance."

It is for women ages 21 and older. Attire is old prom gowns, bridesmaid dresses, wedding gowns or other festive outfits. Tickets are available for \$40 at Glens Falls National Bank and the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce, but will not be available at the door. There will be random drawings for Most Regal, Most Unique and the 2017 Ticonderoga Area Mom Prom Queen.

The committee needs sponsors and raffle items. Contact Starr Smith at 518-321-4246. All donations are tax-deductible.

Mom Prom benefits the Best 4th In The North Celebration and Friends Comforting Friends. For more information, go to <www.timainstreet.org> or contact the Chamber of Commerce at 585-6619.

### ACTIVITIES AT FORT TICONDEROGA

The "Fort Fever Series" continues. These lectures are held on Sunday afternoons at 2 pm in the Mars Education Center. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased at the door; Fort Ticonderoga members are admitted free of cost.

March 25, 2017: "Four Divisions Formed at Fort Carillon; Rigaud's Attack of Fort William Henry."

April 9, 2017: "Gribeauval's Guns: French Artillery Reforms from Montcalm to Napoleon"— Following the French and Indian War, the French artillery went through the most radical changes in its history. The reforms of General Jean-Baptiste Vaquette de Gribeauval transformed the way French cannons were designed, made and operated. Curator, Matthew Keagle, will tell how the artillery doctrine changed from Montcalm's sieges to Napoleon's battles. Participants may tour Fort Ticonderoga's collection of 18th-century French artillery, which contains some of the earliest surviving examples of Gribeauval's cannons.

The Sixth Annual Garden and Landscape Symposium will be on April 8th.

Clothing and Accoutrement Workshops will be offered April 8th and 9th.

You can learn more about these programs by visiting <www.fortticonderoga.org>. Some programs require advance registration.



*This month, we look back 45 years to the March 1972 issue of The Hague Chronicle. The lead article recalled the history of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department in honor of the 25th year of their founding. It is republished verbatim here in its entirety with accompanying pictures from the HVFD archives which were not part of the original article.*

## Fire Department's 25th Birthday

Prior to 1947, calls for help in case of fire or other emergency would be relayed to the Ticonderoga Fire Department. For each response a charge of \$50 was made. When word reached Hague that the charge was to be increased to \$100, a number of townspeople met with the town supervisor, the late R. J. Bolton, to consider the formation of a fire department for Hague. This culminated in a meeting in October 1947 at which the Hague Volunteer Fire Department was officially organized. A charter was granted by the Secretary of State early in 1948.

One of the leaders in organizing the department was Robert Hoyt who will celebrate his silver anniversary as chief this year. Mr. Hoyt and his wife Ada, came to Hague in March, 1947 to manage the supermarket which was purchased two years later by Mr. Hoyt. The Hoyt's have continuously operated the store.

Other first year officers were Henry Leach, 1st Ass't Chief; Elton Rising, Secretary; and Jack Henry, Treasurer. Other first year members who continue to serve are: Richard Bolton, William K. DeLarm, and Clifford Decker. Robert Denno has been active for 23 years; Harry May, 19 years; Martin Fitzgerald and Ernest Conlon, 16 years; Gordon May, Irving Bailey and Ernest Jordon, 15 years; and Arthur Belden and Wallace Conlon, 14 years.



The first piece of equipment owned by the department was a 4-wheel Jeep with a 200 gallon booster tank. It was purchased in 1948. In 1955 a 4-wheel International was acquired and in 1971 the new International was added. All equipment except the Jeep is still in service.

The first fire department building was located alongside Mr. Hoyt's store. In 1953 the first floor of the present firehouses constructed with what was, Mr. Hoyt says, "blood, sweat and tears." In 1967 a second story was added. This is a delightful meeting room with fully equipped kitchen. The present building is estimated to be worth \$50,000 with the fire fighting equipment and ambulance worth another \$50,000.

When first organized the department was given an annual allowance of \$500 by the town. As more equipment was added the yearly allowance was increased. The current year's contract calls for payment of \$5,000 by the town. Equipment is purchased on the installment plan and present principal and interest

payments are about equal to the amount paid by the town. All other expenditures are paid for out of contributions and money raised through dinners and other activities of the fire department.



Shortly after the department was organized an ambulance service was instituted with a rebuilt Packard hearse serving as the ambulance. Since then there have been three more second-hand ambulances. Mr. Hoyt is hopeful that the next one will be a new one.

In 1971 the ambulance travelled 4030 miles taking patients to and from their homes and hospitals. There were 95 daytime calls and 23 nighttime calls with 522 man hours utilized. Most trips were made to the hospital at Ticonderoga although ten were made to Glens Falls, 11 to Burlington, and four to Albany. Twenty-eight members of the fire department are members of the ambulance squad.

Notable fires through the years have been at Beachside Hotel, Mohican House, Trout House Garage and Hinck's cottage. Last year there was a spectacular fire at the home of the Silver Bay Association's superintendent. Fortunately no casualties or serious injuries have been suffered by members of the department while on duty. This enviable record is probably due in large part to the chief's creed - "I will not send a man where I won't go myself." Last year the firemen spent 559 hours in responding to 10 fire calls.

The Fire Department telephone number is 543-6601. When that number is called, phones in the fire-house, Mr. Hoyt's store, and in the homes of Joe Streeter and Bernard Fortune ring simultaneously. The phone in the firehouse sets off the siren. After the phone call, the first action is to call five "callers" (designated people who are generally home). Each of these, in turn, call five additional numbers. In this way the entire department is alerted.

Four firemen are qualified to drive and operate the new equipment. More are being trained. When the driver gets to the firehouse, he takes off immediately with whatever personnel has arrived; all others get to the fire in their own cars. The department is a member of a mutual aid system. In case of need, Ticonderoga is the first to respond; then Bolton; then Chester-town.

The department has a long and distinguished history of service to the community and the twenty-fifth anniversary is a fitting milestone during which we can show our appreciation.

## TACC MIXER IN HAGUE



The Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will hold its "After Business Mixer" at The Hague Market/Juniper on 2 on April 20, 2017 from 5:30-7 pm.



## ~SOUNDINGS~

**DIED:** Deborah A. "Fritz" Manning, 56, of Silver Bay, passed away on Monday, February 27, 2017 at Glens Falls Hospital.

Born in Ticonderoga, November 17, 1960, she was the daughter of Martha (Wallace) Fitzgerald and Martin H. Fitzgerald of Silver Bay.

Deborah lived in Sabbath Day Point on Lake George all of her life. She was a graduate of Hague High School, and served as town clerk of Hague for 23 years.

She was pre-deceased by her mother, Martha Fitzgerald, and by her husband Michael C. Manning.

She is survived by her father, Martin H. Fitzgerald; her children, Kaley A. Manning and Karney M. Manning; her brother, Martin H. Fitzgerald II (Heidi) and her nephews, Nicholas and Michael Fitzgerald, all of Silver Bay; her mother-in-law, Mary Manning of Ticonderoga, and her companion, Todd Porter.

**DIED:** Ianne Wren Henry of Afton, Wyoming, on February 28, 2017, in a tragic car accident.

Wren is survived by her loving husband, Edward Henry, and three children: David Casada (Ellen), Jerren Carles (Bill) and Jay Casada, as well as her beloved granddaughter, Summer Jean Leithauser. Wren's mother-in-law, Dottie Henry, and sister-in-law, Councilwoman Ginger Henry Kuenzel, of Hague also mourn her loss. Wren and Eddie were married in the summer of 1983 at Viewpoint, his childhood home in Hague.

**DIED:** The Rev. Marjorie J. Floor, 83, passed away unexpectedly at home on March 1, 2017. Born on March 14, 1933 in Brooklyn, NY, she received her BS in Home Economics from SUNY Plattsburgh. She also held degrees in Education from Hofstra University, Interior Design from Ingham School of Design (London, England) and Mercer School of Theology (Garden City, New York).

From 1996 to the present, she was Priest-in-Charge at Church of the Cross in Ticonderoga.

She is survived by her beloved husband of almost 63 years, William Floor, of Silver Bay; her daughter, Cynthia (Crispin Shakeshaft) and granddaughter, Willa Shakeshaft, all of Putnam Station.

**DIED:** Donald Best, 86, of Hague, NY on March 5, 2017.

Don was laid to rest at the Solomon National Cemetery in Saratoga, NY. He served in the Navy during the Korean War.

Don, who had a great love for Lake George, is survived by his wife, Claire; their children William Best and Karen Spano and grandchildren, Hailey Best and Mark Spano.

**DIED:** Michael G. Fitzgerald, 73, of Hague, March 7, 2017 at the UVM Medical Center of Burlington, Vermont.

Born in Glens Falls on May 21, 1943, he was the son of the late Irving and Jane (Peria) Fitzgerald.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in Vietnam from 1966 to 1968.

He was a true gentleman and master of the outdoors, especially when it came to hunting and fishing.

He was predeceased by his loving wife, Barbara Fitzgerald. Survivors include his two sons David and Gregory Fitzgerald; two sisters, Mary Beth Kaiser and Patricia Gallagher and many nieces and nephews.

**DIED:** Gerald T. Crammond, 78, of Silver Bay, March 11, 2017 at home, surrounded by his family.

Born in Ticonderoga, July 29, 1938, he was the son of the late John and Jenny (Untiedt) Crammond.

He served in the U.S. Navy from 1957 to 1959. He graduated from Champlain College for Business in Burlington, Vermont in 1962.

In 1990, he and his wife moved to Silver Bay. He held a number of leadership roles at the Silver Bay YMCA, including Director of Sales and Director of Operations. He supervised the construction of Brookside Community House and Trinity House.

Jerry was very active with both the Ticonderoga Historical Society (serving on its board) and the Hague Historical Society where he served as president. He was also the Hague Town Historian for several years.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 53 years Jane E. (Watts) Crammond; his children Heather and Eric Crammond; his sister, Betty Bougor and four grandchildren.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Kristen Leigh McDonough, daughter of Kevin and Heather McDonough of Silver Bay, who will be inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma, the international business honor society, on March 29, 2017. Kristen's outstanding scholastic record at Fordham University's Gabelli School of Business qualifies her for this honor that is only offered to the top ten percent of seniors and juniors. Kristen's grandparents are Pat and Dennis McDonough of Hague.



How many graphite mining operations did Hague have? How was graphite transported from the mines to its final destination? How many people worked in the mines and where did they come from? What types of buildings were found in the Graphite neighborhood? When and why did the mines cease operations? What is the connection between Dixon Ticonderoga pencils and the Hague graphite mines?

A blockbuster exhibit being organized by the Hague Historical Society and scheduled to open in June, will address these and many other questions about the mines and settlement of Graphite. Did you know, for instance, that it took 5,000 cords of wood annually to fire the mine's boilers? And just in case you're trying to picture how much wood that actually is, let us help you out: One cord is a stack measuring four feet in height, four feet in width and eight feet in length. Property owners from all over town sold wood from their lots to the mining company. All of it had to be cut, hauled and stacked, providing gainful employment for many. Since there were no chainsaws or gas-fired log splitters back then, the men used axes. It's said that some could chop as much as a cord and a half in a day, for which they were paid 50 cents per cord.

The Hague Historical Society and Town Historian have uncovered a wealth of information related to this topic, but would be happy to have even more. If you have any artifacts, photos or stories that you would like to share or place on loan as part of this exhibit, please contact Mary Behr, President of the Hague Historical Society, at <marybehr@hotmail.com> or Sally Rypkema, Hague Town Historian, at <haguehistorian@gmail.com>.

## NATURALLY SPEAKING

While we think ahead to spring's beauty and summer's fun in the Adirondacks, the one thing we probably are not thinking about are deer ticks. Maybe we should.

Deer ticks, which got their names because deer (and mice) are their primary hosts, can transmit Lyme disease as well as other serious illnesses to humans. It is even possible for two or more diseases to be transferred to a host by a single tick bite. Luckily, though, in most cases, ticks must feed for 24 to 36 hours in order to transmit them.

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that comes from the bite of an immature deer tick, which can be tinier than a poppy seed. (An adult deer tick is the size of a sesame seed.) According to the National Institute for Health, about 20% of deer ticks are infected with *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the spirochete bacterium that causes Lyme.

Symptoms vary with each individual, but typical early symptoms of Lyme disease include severe headaches, chills, fever, extreme fatigue, joint pain and dizziness. A red expanding "bull's-eye" rash may occur between day three and day 30. However, according to one study, about half the people with Lyme disease do not remember having that distinctive rash.

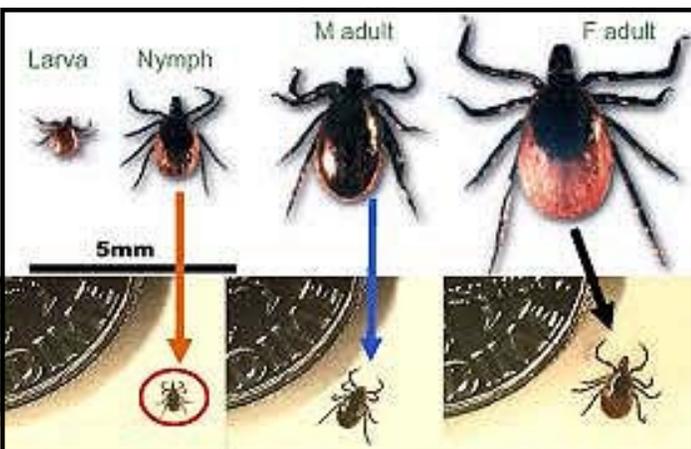
Early signs may go away on their own, but the Lyme organisms will cause more serious health issues in the future if ignored. These include arthritis, heart problems and debilitating memory loss and confusion. Prompt treatment cures Lyme in the majority of infected people.

There is no human vaccine at this time.

The best way to avoid Lyme disease is to avoid ticks. Ticks "quest" at the tops of tall grass or brush, waiting to cling to the next warm body that brushes against them. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend using products containing 20 - 30 % DEET on exposed skin. Clothing, footwear and gear such as backpacks and tents can be treated with products containing the active ingredient, permethrin.

Homeowners should clear brush, weeds and tall grasses from their yards. Ticks like to hide under leaf litter, so rake up your leaves.

After you have been outside, shower thoroughly and then search for ticks. Be sure to check hard-to-see places such as your armpits, groin, scalp and the backs of your knees.



If a tick has latched onto you, the CDC recommends that you remove it by grasping it as close to the skin as possible with tweezers and pulling straight out until it releases. Don't twist it or use heat as this may increase the chances of disease transmission.

Vaccinate your pets against Lyme and treat them regularly with systemic anti-tick products or tick collars so they don't bring deer ticks into your house.

In June 2014, a Syracuse newspaper reported that studies had documented that deer ticks were expanding northward, westward and into higher elevations, presumably due to climate change. In October 2014, researchers from Paul Smith's College, which is about 90 miles northwest of Hague, found Lyme disease in deer ticks and in smaller mammals such as mice, shrews and voles. So, the disease that was first discovered in Lyme, Connecticut in 1975 migrated some 300 miles in about 40 years and it is now here in Hague.

Enjoy our Adirondacks this year, but if you think a tick has bitten you, consult a health professional as soon as possible!

by Connie Smith

## VOTES FOR WOMEN EXHIBIT OPENS



The Ticonderoga Historical Society (THS) will unveil a new exhibit called *Votes for Women* at the Hancock House on Friday, March 31, 2017 at 7 pm. Historical Society Programs Assistant and former Essex County Historian Diane O'Connor will speak; the program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served and reservations are not required. For additional information, call 585-7868 or email <tihistory@bridgepoint1.com>. Information is also posted on the Historical Society's Facebook page.

*Votes for Women* looks at the fight for women's suffrage in New York State, where women won the right to vote in 1917, more than two years before the national amendment to the Constitution was ratified.

"New York was a crucible for women's suffrage," said THS President Bill Dolback. "From the first meetings at Seneca Falls in the 1840s and through the 1920s, our state played an important role. And women in the Adirondacks were at the forefront of this effort."

While the exhibit will remain in place until the conclusion of the national celebration in 2020, interpretive aspects of the exhibit will be changed to expand upon the theme of women's suffrage. Each year, returning visitors will have the opportunity to view and learn more about the history of the suffrage movement.

Adirondack resident, lawyer and suffrage leader Inez Milholland Boissevain (1886-1916) at a New York City women's suffrage parade on May 3, 1913.

Photo courtesy of Library of Congress



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CALENDAR

**MARCH**

- 20 Spring begins!
- 23 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 24 4:30 – 6 pm Mason/Star dinner
- 25 2 pm Fort Ti Fever series
- 28 noon Hague Senior Club
- 31 7 pm Votes for Women exhibit opens

**APRIL**

- 1 Deadline for regular columns for *THC*
- 4 7 pm THS cafeteria - School Board budget mtg.
- 6 7 pm Planning Board
- 9 8-11 am Breakfast with the Easter Bunny
- 9 2 pm Ft. Ti Fever series
- 10 - 14 TICONDEROGA SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR SPRING BREAK
- 11 6 pm Town Board
- 12 News deadline for *The Hague Chronicle*
- 14 6 pm *Big Fish* Dinner and a Movie
- 15 Free cruises LG Steamboat Company
- 16 *Happy Easter*
- 17 4 pm Petitions due for Ti School Board
- 18 FEDERAL AND STATE TAXES DUE
- 19 The April issue of *THC* is mailed and posted online
- 20 5:30-7 pm TACC Mixer at Hague Market/Juniper on 2
- 20 7 pm Hague CC - School Board budget hearing
- 25 HVFD Open House
- 25 7-11 pm Mom Prom

 **REMINDER** 

There is a New York State brush-burning ban from March 16 through May 14, 2017.

For any other times, you must get a burn permit at the Hague Community Center.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS  
September 2 thru June 30  
Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm  
Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm  
Sunday: CLOSED