



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

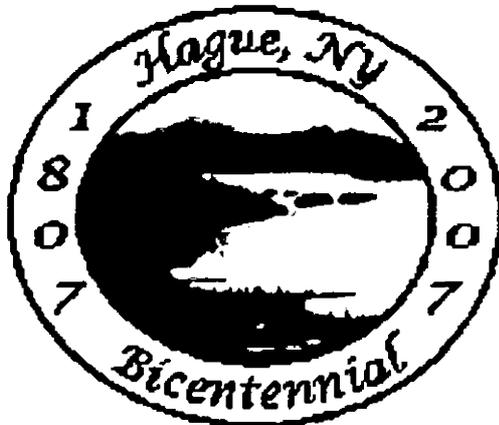
December 2006

GLADU WORKS ON TAX REFORM

While acknowledging that school financing is not the direct purvey of the Town Board, Councilman Dick Gladu nevertheless understands that escalating school taxes are an issue of major concern to Hague taxpayers. He has done much research on the topic, continues to be active in tax-reform groups and has recently written to Governor-elect Spitzer outlining his support for a limit on property tax based upon income. Gladu urged Mr. Spitzer to take a serious look at bills A-11551 and S-5982B. These bi-partisan bills both rebate a portion of property tax based upon income. Councilman Gladu stated, "These bills could provide much needed relief for middle income residents while we focus on reducing spending overall and migrating to a largely State funded school system, with significantly reduced dependency on property taxes and free of unfunded State and Federal mandates."

In addition, he notes that "The current out of control spending at all levels of government coupled with the over dependency of school funding on a flawed, subjective, and manipulative property tax system must be FIXED."

Mr. Gladu has also urged Hague residents to participate in the discussions of needs assessment with the Ticonderoga Board of Education. A bond issue is likely to come before the voters soon and should be carefully appraised. Councilman Gladu can be contacted at <rgladu@nycap.rr.com>.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

There will be a Family Friendly Candlelight Christmas Service on December 24, at 7 pm in the Helen Hughes Memorial Chapel at Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks.

The Hague Baptist Church will also hold its Christmas Eve service at 7 pm.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Hague Chronicle is looking for additional volunteer staff members! We can use people with a variety of talents - layout, reporting, typing and organizing. If you would like to join our dedicated staff, please contact Judy Stock, Publisher at <haguejudy@nycap.rr.com> or 543-6517

ROAD CLOSING

The annual road closing of the Friends Point Roads will be the 24 - hour period of Monday, January 1 to Tuesday, January 2, 2007.

BICENTENNIAL

Our Bicentennial Year is approaching! Soon new street banners will herald the event. Merchandise (T-shirts, sweatshirts and mugs) has arrived and will be sold at local shops as well as at special Town events. A postal cancellation and souvenir coin are also being planned. Mail order information is available by e-mailing Debbie Manning <townclerk@townofhague.org> or calling 518-543-6161.

SENIOR NEWS

November's monthly meeting was another success with the always entertaining comedienne, Gert Newton on the program. Election of officers was held for 2007 and the Senior Executive Board will remain the same as this year - Madeline Pelkey, President - Emily Cobb, Vice President - Gladys Graser, Treasurer - Pat McDonough, Secretary.

The Senior Christmas Tree Shop held at the beach during the Holiday In Hague Weekend was a marvelous success. We sold 96 cookbooks that day! Not bad, folks! The holiday gifts, decorations, ornaments and, of course, the baked goods all sold well.

The Hague Senior's Christmas Gift Collection for our troops in Iraq reaped 7 boxes of small & sundry items of need to be sent to the Units of Warren County. A representative from the Glens Falls National Guard came to Hague for pick up. Bea Frasier and Christine Ianson were in charge of this endeavor and they did a great job. We thank all who contributed, especially the Walmart Stores who made a donation to the cause.

Our Annual Christmas Party was a very festive gathering attended by 65 gaily dressed, smiling people. The fire house was decorated beautifully and our caterer, Debbie Mackey, "The Gourmet Gal" and her crew again gave us exceptional food, service and presentation. The door prizes were won by Ruth Huestis, Joan Steitz, Janice Smith, Tim Costello, Hannah Cameron, Imogene Frasier, Pat Wania, Minna Jones, Donna Cameron and Gladys Graser.

The most exciting highlight of the affair was the announcement of Kate Hunter as Hague's 2006 Senior of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce representatives, David Dunn, Karen Laundree and Sal Santaniello. A very special "Happy 100th Birthday Kate" cake was created by Debbie Mackey and enjoyed by all. Over the past many years, Kate was very active in town helping whomever and wherever she could, especially the Fish & Game Club and the Fire Department. Our congratulations to Kate!

The Club will meet next on the fourth Tuesday of January, the 23rd, at 1:30 PM at the Community Center. Our guest speaker will be Elizabeth Shriner of the Glens Falls Association for the Blind. While she is here she will also conduct an Eye Screening starting at 1 PM before the meeting and again after the meeting. If you would like to take advantage of this free eye health screening, please stop in - you are welcome. Plus, if you do come early, you can stay for our meeting and refreshments! This is a good time to add "Join the Hague Seniors" to your New Year's Resolutions list.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all! ... mp

COOKBOOK ORDERS

The Bicentennial edition of the Senior Citizen's latest *What's Cooking in Hague - Recipes and Reminiscences* by Chris Ianson and Pat McDonough is much more than a cookbook. 300 copies were sold out in one month but it is available again! To order contact Pat at <thefarm1@capital.net> or Chris at <gianson@nycap.rr.com> or write to Pat McDonough, 8980 Lakeshore Drive, Hague, NY 12836. The cost is \$9 per book and the additional cost for shipping and handling is \$2.50 (one book), \$2.75 (2 books), \$3.00 (3 books) and \$3.25 (4 books).

Please make out your check to "Hague Senior Citizens Club--Parade Fund". The books are also available in local stores.

HVFD THANKFUL FOR SUPPORT

By now most residents of Hague and its surroundings should have received a letter from your Hague Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) asking for your support as the year end approaches. For 2007 we submitted a request to the Town in the amount of \$195,000, the same as in 2006. We are attempting to hold the line on spending. However, this amount represents only about 90% of our operating costs,

and none of our major capital expenditure. We therefore must look to you, our neighbors, for the same support which you have so generously shown in the past, to help make Hague a better and safer place to live. If you haven't heard from us, and need further information, call John Barber at 543-6870.

In other business, in November there were 3 fire calls using 20 man hours, and 4 ambulance calls using 17.5 man hours.

During our November meeting Dean Wykoff was honored with a plaque and a certificate for Lifetime Membership in the HVFD in recognition of his many years of faithful service. At our annual Christmas party on December 9th our focus was for each member to bring a gift for

the Tiny Tim Christmas Fund.

May your homes remain safe during the Holiday Season. ..jm



Hague Senior Citizen of the Year, Kate Conlon

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 questions to <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com> or to the address below. The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly tax deductible contribution to:

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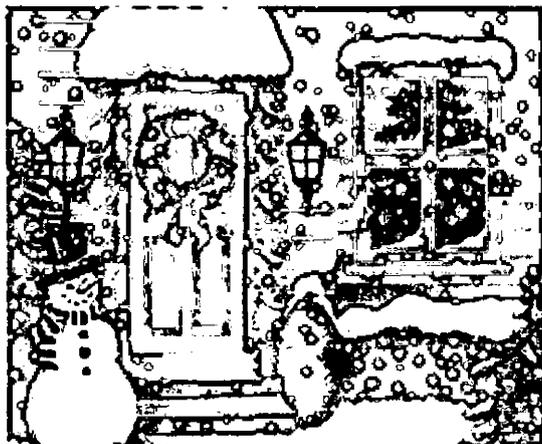
Many patrons came through the shops of Hague on December 2 enjoying a wide array of gifts and holiday cheer. The winners of the Chamber of Commerce sponsored Wreath Decorating Contest were Anita Masten (1st) and Shirley Smith (2nd). Gift certificates were donated by the Hague Creek Cafe and the selection was done by votes of the patrons. Santa drew the winning name of Judy Stock in front of a group assembled at the Firehouse Restaurant for the door prize that contained gifts from each shop - Old Glory, Locust Inn (Sew & Sow Embroidery and Graphite Mt. Stoneworks), Hague Creek Cafe & Antiques, Carriage Barn and Uptown Store.

2006 REAL ESTATE SALES

Records in the Warren County Clerk's office show the following sales in Hague for 2006. It is these sales compared to the assessed valuations which affect the equalization rate.

From Graser to Rawson for \$150,000; DeVito to Berben \$32,000; Fish to Trudeau \$93,700; Trainor to Pagan-LaPointe \$36,000; Tier to Sisca \$800,000; Waters to Lee \$45,000; Dickson to Connolly \$450,000; MacArthur to NRLL EAST, LLC \$10,000; Disbrow to Amara \$50,000; Yaw to May \$75,000; Douglass to Brannigan \$590,000; Amara to More \$950,000; Hofstader to Johnston \$645,000; Hoffay to Trudeau \$74,900; unknown to Michels \$735,000; VanLeeuwen to Sills \$518,000; Weber to Corbo \$312,500; Thompson to Corvo \$312,500; Mastandrea to Braun \$153,000; Smith to Balouch \$215,000; Hotchkiss to Mackenzie \$120,000; Amara to Sgambati \$140,000; Stewart to Ross \$1,019,000; Rypkema to Bosi \$219,000; Rypkema to Bosi \$288,500; Rypkema to Bosi \$293,000; A. MacWilliams to M. MacWilliams \$200,000; Butcher to Butcher \$90,000; Jones to Butcher \$106,000; Commons Trst to R. Commons \$550,000; Malloy to Karp \$895,000; Balouch to Green \$55,000; NRLL EAST, LLC to McGuinness \$22,000; Zivica to MacPherson \$615,000; Cole to Phelps \$800,000; Voit to Fleischhacker \$185,000.

THINK SNOW



We have received two recent reports of items missing from homes in the Hague area. Rebecca Johnson and her family were visiting their home in Silver Bay during the weekend of December 2nd. She writes, "We had just pulled sets of snowshoes out of our garage for ourselves and kids to try on in anticipation of Winter use. We went in for lunch. When we returned to the garage later, someone had taken the snowshoes." The adult pair were a unique set of brightly colored plastic called Grizzly Bears and made in Colorado. The children's snowshoes were red and purple and called Bear Cubs. If anyone can provide any information about these items please email Rebecca at <Rebecca.L.Johnson@Dartmouth.EDU> or call 603-863-1055.

Ruth and Sandy Lamb returned to their cabin in Wardsboro to find that 4 solar panels attached to frames (1 1/2 ft by 4 ft) were missing. These solar panels were their only source of electricity. Since it was during hunting season (between November 27 and December 4), they are hoping that some hunters on Bloomer Mt or the Tongue Mt area may have noticed something. There is a reward for information which leads to the return of the panels. Ruth may be contacted at 761-6125.

HAGUE BAY FROM AN OLD POSTCARD



C. 1910

MUSEUM EXHIBITS PLANNED

The Exhibits Committee of the Hague Historical Society has been working with consultant Virginia Westbrook to plan the displays for the Clifton West Room of the Museum. They have sifted through many wonderful pictures of old hotels, the Graphite mines, scenes on the Lake and people engaged in farming, mining, boating and hunting.

The room is being painted and new flooring installed by the Town. The Town Board has also agreed to cover the cost of the permanent displays and exhibit cases which will become part of Hague's historical treasury.

The Historical Society welcomes new members - the dues for 2007 will remain at \$5 per person.

For more information, or to tell us about the treasures in YOUR attic, contact Gale Halm at <GJHalm@aol.com>, 543-6825 or Judy Stock at <haguejudy@nycap.rr.com>, 543-6517.

Chairman Robert Goetsch, Martin Fitzgerald II, Glenn McKee, Lindsay Mydlarz and George Ianson were all present. Bill Pittman was absent and there was one vacant seat.

MACIONIS (26.6-1-1) 9500 Lakeshore Drive (TR-1)
Contractor Lee Peters spoke to the applicant's request of a walkway addition which will be 48 feet from the lake. The Board approved the shoreline setback variance 5-0.

HUME (26.6-1-9) 34 Forest Bay Rd. N (TR-1R)
Mr. Hume was present for the hearing on his application for relief from the shoreline setback requirement for a small bedroom and 401 sq ft increase to an existing deck. The setback is currently 44 ft and he requested that it be 39 ft to accommodate the additions. He then agreed with a recommendation to change the setback to 41 ft although Mrs. Mydlarz stated that she would like to see less infringement on the shoreline. Approval (4-1) was given the deck addition with the conditions that the addition, with overhangs, will be 41 feet from the lake, the new screened in porch will never become living space, and gutters will be installed with their runoff directed away from the lake.

SHEEHAN (25.3-1-16) 9394 Graphite Mountain Road (OC-I/OC-II)

Surveys have shown that a fence that Mr. Sheehan put up is predominantly on the Perry Girard property. Mr. Sheehan needs a variance for a six foot fence and would like to maintain an 8 inch setback from the property line but asked that any decision be tabled until the spring. He would also like to postpone the removal of the fence. The Board noted that since the fence is in non-compliance it must be removed.

Other Business: Mary Lou Doulin has submitted her resignation to the Town Board. In December she would have completed her second term as a ZBA member. The other members expressed their thanks for her service on the Zoning Board.

PLANNING BOARD - 12/7/06

Chairman David Swanson, John Brown, Pam Peterson, Rolly Allen and Tim Costello were present. Peter Foster was absent and one seat was vacant.

KOSTIDES (26.17-2-2) 8 Lakeshore Terrace (TR1)
A new plan for subdivision of a 4.02 acres parcel into 3 lots was presented. A site visit was scheduled. Mrs. Peterson, an abutting neighbor, recused herself from the discussion.

STRYCKER (43.17-1-3) 35 Springdale Manor Drive (TR-1)

The applicant has requested that the application for replacing a current one story house with a two story house be tabled until the January 4th meeting. The ZBA approved the variance for percent increase in square footage and shoreline setback at their October meeting.

PLANNING con't

HUME (26.6-1-9) 34 Forest Bay Rd. N (TR-1R)

The application for an addition to a pre-existing legal non-conforming house and an existing deck was approved. In 2002, a new 500 gal concrete septic tank was installed which is not adequate for a 3 bedroom house but the property is located in the Proposed Town Sewer District #2. After much discussion on the wording, conditions were set to ensure the proper sewage disposal.

Old Business: The Board again discussed the 25% limit in increase of square footage for nonconforming structures. Robert Goetsch, Chairman of the Zoning Board, gave his opinion that it was an unnecessary rule. He felt that the issues would be covered by the building codes, height restrictions and set-back restrictions.

TO OUR READERS

The Hague Chronicle again reminds its readers that our reports of the Zoning, Planning and Town Boards are not the official minutes nor are they meant to be completely comprehensive. We include information which in our opinion is most newsworthy for our readers within the space that we have.

TOWN BOARD - 12/11/06

Supervisor Dan Belden and Town Board members Art Steitz, Dick Gladu, Edna Frasier and Tom LaPointe were present for the 6:30pm meeting which was held a day earlier than usual. Nancy Young recorded the minutes.

A moment of silence was held for Chester Frasier and Debbie Bly Hicks.

In response to a comment by Rudy Meola on the fewer number of people at the Christmas party breakfast, Supervisor Belden said that the Town and the Chamber will work to hold it at a better time.

On another matter, Mr. Meola questioned what steps are being taken to implement the junk law. Councilman Gladu stated that he is working with ZEO Cathy Clark to put out a year-end report.

Committee Reports:

Buildings & Grounds/CC - Maintenance continues on the Community Center. A request has been received from Dick Dunklee, whose home is across from the Highway Department, that siding be put on the new salt shed which would match the Town shed.

Enhancement Committee - Board member Frasier reported on the work of the committee which met with Elan Planners in November. They reviewed plans for improvements to the walkway along the boat launch and preliminary concepts for a small park where the American Legion building stands. Supervisor Belden noted that he is still working with the State to clear up ownership of parts of that area. The Board will again meet with Elan Planners in January with the hope that both projects will be finished by Memorial Day.

CARE program - Board member Frasier reported that there seemed to be more coming each week and donations have been made from the Rotary Club, Silver Bay, the Catholic Church and from the Post Office collection.

Con't from p. 4 - Town Board

Finance - It was reported that they want to keep the money tied up in CD's until the 28th. (Mr. Meola spoke to the *Hague Chronicle* about his continued concern that there are large sums in additional funds which are not being invested in CD's. The bank statements show balances which more than adequately cover current expenses.)

Highway - Councilman Gladu reported that the Highway budget is in good shape through December 5 with 75% of the budget expended. Highway Superintendent Don Smith stated that the new highway personnel are being trained and doing well.

Museum & Historian - Council member Frasier reported that there have been 2 quotes for flooring for the Clifton West room of the Museum. The Board approved the bid by Ti Paint.

Personnel - Committee members Gladu and Frasier have reviewed the employee manual and will have recommendations.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - Supervisor Belden indicated that the Town is still in the running for the grant money to fund the capital costs of the new district.

Recreation/Promotion - Councilman LaPointe reported that the Park has "no geese, no complaints, and no grass problem" and that the snowmobile club continues to work on projects and that the maps for trails will be available.

Under other business, the Board:

- reappointed Barbara Belden to the Board of Assessment Review.

- appointed Erwin Siwek, Pine Cove Rd, to the Planning Board effective immediately.

- declined a request for a \$100 donation from the LGLC for a screensaver. It was felt that taxpayer money should not be used for this type of request and additionally noted that every donation of land to the LGLC takes more property off the tax rolls.

- approved passing a request for the use of the gas card at the highway garage by Hague Sno-goers for repairing trails to Warren County. The legality of this use was questioned by Mr. Meola.

- approved permission for the Sno-goers Club to repair the trail sections in Town. They will need permission from Mr. Pedlow for the section on his property or will have to bypass it. The Club members are covered under insurance which is supplied by the state. The trails are for anyone - snowmobiles, cross-country skiers, snowshoeing, etc.

- accepted a petition against the noise ordinance to put on file. Councilman Gladu said he had just received the petition signed by about 90 against a noise ordinance and parking restrictions. He reported that he had sent out Version 6 of the proposed noise ordinance to the committee. He will ask the Board to approve a permissive referendum to vote on it after a public hearing. The vote would probably take place in the second quarter of the year.

Under new business, the Board:

- approved the hours of 8am to 4pm with a 20 minute lunch for all Community Center staff to take effect on Jan 1st.

- approved a request by Stephani Nast and Kelly McCoy from Hague to work with Town Clerk Debbie Manning on their Ticonderoga High School Senior Project.

- was requested to let the Supervisor know if anyone was going to the meeting of the Association of Towns.

- approved Health Insurance Plan #203 (instead of #202). The savings to the Town should be about \$10,000 for the year.

- approved Dec 28th @ 4:30pm for the end of year meeting.

- approved Jan 3rd at 6:30pm for the Organizational meeting.

- approved a resolution for Warren County Snow & Ice removal for 2007.

- approved a request by the Hague Historical Society to allocate funds for the new exhibits for the Clifton West Room of the Hague Historical Museum.

- approved a motion to express appreciation to Debbie and Mike Manning and their children who decorated the community center and did the work for the party.

Dick Gladu reported that the county tax rate for Hague will be 3.297 per thousand which is up from 2.789, an increase of 18%. This rise is due to the equalization rate since the county budget went up only 3.2%. If the Town Board had not already left \$500,000 of its sales tax revenue with the county, Hague residents would pay even more.

Before the meeting adjourned at 8pm, members of the audience had an interesting exchange with the Board members concerning taxes, government and state mandates.

WINTER CARNIVAL PLANNING

There will be a Winter Carnival Planning Meeting on Monday, January 8th at 6 pm at the 44 Overbrook Road home of Ken and Judy Schultz. Anyone who would like to volunteer for this weekend is most welcome. For new ideas or suggestions or further information, please call Judy at 543-6769.



THE THREE SISTERS



Sisters Margaret Del Signore, Hannah Cameron and Kate Hunter (seated)

Charles and Mabel (Elethorpe) Conlon, who lived in West Hague, had Ernest (b.1902) and Wilbur (b. 1904) followed by Kate who was born on February 18, 1907. Brother Wally was born in 1911 followed by Elizabeth in 1915, Hannah on January 25, 1917 and Margaret on March 9, 1922.

In October 2005, Katie Conlon Hunter, Hannah Conlon Cameron and Margaret Conlon DelSignore met in the library of the Heritage Commons Nursing Home with Judy Stock, Dottie Henry and Holly de Buys to share memories of their growing up in Hague. These sisters have wonderful stories to tell - sometimes in rapid fire coordination and sometimes in a jumble as they each talk at the same time! Anyone listening to their stories can appreciate a wonderful bond among them and the terrific sense of humor that they share. A brief sample follows in response to questions Holly asked.

"What fun memories do you have growing up on a farm?"

Marg: There are too many of them.

Kate: Trying to ride an oxen like horseback.

Marg: She's telling you the truth.

Kate: I was born with the boys, I didn't have girls so I had to play with the boys. We didn't have any horses then - we had oxen. So we had to practice all this stuff on the oxen. Pretty slow they were but we got there. I rode horseback, shot guns and did everything the boys did. I was about 9-10 when I learned how to shoot a gun. I hunted for deer and bear - anything that come along.

Marg: One night Mom came home and found one of the oxen in the kitchen because it was cold outside. They got the ox in the kitchen and couldn't get it out.

Kate: He'd play sick and he'd play everything, he was just an old lover he was. He would go anyway and do anything we wanted.

Marg: But you couldn't get him out could you?

Kate: No, we couldn't get him turned around. We finally got him out just before Mom and Dad got home.

"What is your scariest moment?"

Hannah: I know what Margaret's is - when I dressed up in my brother's clothes.

Marg: We were out raking hay. Ma said you peel the potatoes and get them ready for supper. So they were all out raking hay and I had the potatoes peeled. I went out in the field where they were and Ma didn't want me out there so she said you get back there and get those potatoes boiled.

Hannah had gone back to the house, had gotten into my brother's long winter underwear with no hands, no feet, no head or nothing - all buttoned up and I went back to the house and she stood there at the door and when I went in that is what I saw - it was worse than Ichabod Crane. She scared the daylight out of me.

Hannah: Ma ended that.

"Do you remember when you got electricity in your house?"

Marg: Oh, yes. It was after the war. In 1947-48. Gordon Cameron said he wasn't going to sit in the dark for the rest of his life - and went after the electricity and let me tell you he pushed Niagara Mohawk. And they haven't worked on that line since.

Hannah: Remember Pop used the horses to pull the wire. Gordon didn't back off for 5 seconds. He was going to have a telephone and electricity. Hague had electricity before we did. The school had it in 1927.

"What would a typical school day be like for you?"

Kate: "Hurry up and get your dinner basket. Did you get your books? Did you get all your papers?"

Marg: "Buckle up your overshoes."

Kate: Ma'd shoot us out the door one by one.

Hannah: If Dad was out working we'd have chores to do.

Marg: She (Kate) had the milking of the cow. I made sure I didn't learn how. In the morning and at night - we had a lantern.

Hannah: He had sheep, he had hens, he had everything.

Kate: I like to milk pretty good, the rest of the girls didn't.

Marge: I didn't. I'll be honest I didn't.

Editor's note: Kate will celebrate her 100th birthday on February 18th. Congratulatory cards can be sent to: Kate Hunter, Heritage Commons, 1019 Wicker Street, Ticonderoga, NY 12883.

~SOUNDINGS~

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

BORN: A son, Colin Patrick Cartwright, on November 17th, 2006, to Kelli and Patrick Cartwright, Castleton, New York. Grandparents are Adelaide and Alton Cartwright, Friends Point.

DIED: Debbie Bly Hicks, 47, of Martville, NY at home on December 1, 2006. Debbie was a 1977 graduate of Hague High School. She is survived by her husband, Michael and children Jamie and Tyler of Martville, her mother, Shirley Smith of Hague and her sisters, Bonnie Bly McCarty and Cindy Bly McGuire, both of Florida.

DIED: Chester Frasier, 54, of West Hague Road, on November 24, 2006. Chet was a longtime employee of the Town of Hague highway department. He is survived by his wife Rosemarie, his daughters Bobbie Jean Fish and Brandy Lynn Laftowski and his brothers Dale, Charles, Buffer and Dean and sisters Donna Bain, Robin Nowc and Frances Dunsmore.

CONVALESCING: Dottie Henry, *Hague Chronicle* editor, at the Wesley Health Care Rehab in Saratoga Springs. We hope she will be up and about soon.

This truly is a holiday season with people of many different faiths celebrating at this time of year. Christmas is a time of Santa Claus and the reindeer but for Christians the true meaning is that of the birth of Jesus with the traditional date used as December 25th. There are many ways to say "Merry Christmas" - among them the Spanish phrase "Feliz Navidad."

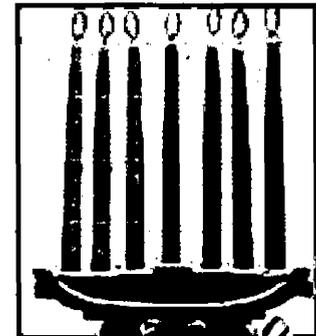
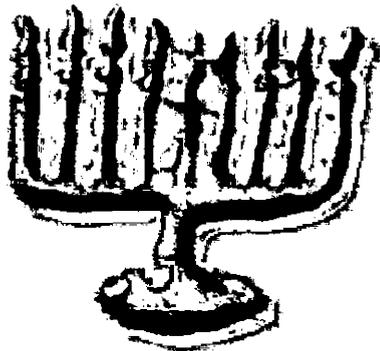
The Jewish celebration of Chanukah (also known by different spellings such as "Hannukah"), the Festival of Lights, is a celebration of the victory of the Maccabees and the rededication of the Jerusalem Temple. It also commemorates the miracle of the oil that burned for 8 days. This year it is celebrated from December 15 - 23 and each night another candle is lit on the menorah and children play the "dreidel game."

Kwanzaa is a celebration of family, community and culture by African-Americans from December 26 - January 1, 2006.

In Islam, the celebration of Eid-al-Adha falls on December 31, 2006.

And people of all faiths who like a good party, celebrate New Years Day on January 1st.

We hope all our readers enjoy this holiday season and we extend wishes for good health and happiness to you and your families. ...js



TMS HONORED STUDENTS

The Ticonderoga Middle School has announced the list of students for academic achievement (Honor Roll) and citizenship/role models (Sentinel Merit). Congratulations to all the Hague students who are doing so well in Middle School. 100% of the Hague 6th graders are on the Honor Roll!

Grade 6 - First Honors

Grace Ginn
Bryana Goetsch
Chelsea Kearns
Karney Manning
Shane Swinton

Grade 6- Second Honors

Olivia Bissell
Kenneth Deragon

Grade 6- Sentinel Merit Society

Olivia Bissell
Grace Ginn
Bryana Goetsch
Chelsea Kearns
Karney Manning
Shane Swinton

Grade 7- First Honors

Corey King
William Lawrie
Harley Trudeau

Grade 7 - Second Honors

Edward Kearns
Walter Porter

Grade 7 - Merit Society

Corey King
William Lawrie
Walter Porter
Harley Trudeau

Grade 8 - First Honors

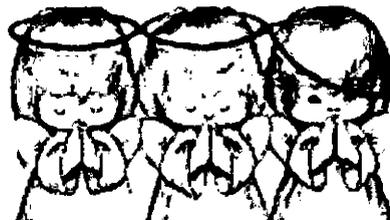
Jennell Coffin
Kaylene Ross

Grade 8 - Second Honors

Dillon Lafferty
Autumn Winney

Grade 8 - Merit Society

Jennell Coffin
Kaylene Ross



WITH THE LGLC

News from the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) this month includes an announcement of the donation of a 60-acre land donation located in Hague. It is expected that the land will be transferred to the state to be included in its forest holdings in Hague. The donation was made by John Barber of Hadley, owner of Evergreen Timber and the Hunt Lake Land Holding Company.

In response to questions it may be noted that the donor is unrelated to John Barber of Silver Bay, a director of the Fund for Lake George and *The Hague Chronicle*.

The LGLC also invites the public to join in their Winter outings. There are no fees but pre-registration is required for each event as space is limited. Contact the LGLC at 644-9673, email <shoffman@tnc.org>, or visit <www.lglc.org> for more information.

On January 6 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm there will be a Guided Cross-Country Ski trip for experienced skiers on Cat and Thomas Mts. Preserve, in Bolton. This challenging trip on old logging roads will reward participants with expansive views of the frozen southern Lake George basin below.

On February 3 starting at 9:00 am, the LGLC will lead a trip to Dome Island. You can snowshoe, walk or ski over a mile of frozen Lake George to explore Dome Island.

Owl Prowls will be held on March 3 at Gull Bay Preserve in Putnam and on March 16 at Cat and Thomas Mts. Preserve, starting at 6:30 pm. On this night-time outing you can learn about our local owls and listen for these nocturnal hunters during the hike.

The LGLC also announced that it is going to be part of a special fundraising event "I Am More Than My Cancer: An Adirondack Winter Weekend Celebration" on February 2 to 4, 2007. This event will benefit The Expedition Inspiration Fund For Breast Cancer Research and is sponsored by the Lake George Kayak Company and the Sagamore Resort, which will be home base for all activities. This multifaceted weekend is both a fundraiser and an opportunity for both novice and experienced adventurers to come together and to celebrate life.

Weekend activities will include a snowshoe trek at the LGLC's Cat and Thomas Mts. Preserve, "high fun" - learning the ropes of The Lake George Kayak Challenge Course, a bonfire/tribute flag ceremony, candlelight labyrinth walk on frozen Lake George, plenty of good food, drink and pampering at the Sagamore Resort. For more information please call the Lake George Kayak Co at 644-9366, or contact the Expedition Inspiration office at <www.expeditioninspiration.org>.

WINTER SAFETY BOOKLET

Cornell Cooperative Extension and Warren County Disaster Preparedness Office are offering a free Winter Safety booklet. Topics include winter storm preparedness and response, protecting plumbing during the winter storm, ice dam prevention on roofs, staying warm in an unheated house, carbon monoxide poisoning, helping kids cope during a storm, animal safety in winter and winter weather terms.

Call Cornell Cooperative Extension at 518-668-4881 or 623-3291 or email <warren@cornell.edu> or stop by the office at 377 Schroon River Road, Warrensburg NY to obtain this free booklet.

ADIRONDACK COUNCIL CRITICAL OF APA

The Adirondack Council, whose mission is to ensure the ecological integrity and wild character of the Adirondack Park, has released its third report, entitled *Swept Under the Rug*, critical of the Adirondack Park Agency (APA). The first two reports "documented a backlog of thousands of enforcement cases that had built up over more than 20 years." And now according to Executive Director Brian Houseal, "those unresolved cases have all been swept under the rug."

This new report documents shortcomings in the APA's compliance abilities. Houseal stated, "Would-be violators must laugh when they hear each (APA) officer has nearly a million acres of land to watch."

All three reports are available on the Adirondack Council's website at <www.adirondackcouncil.org/reports2.html>



NATURE NEWS

by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

Gifts from the Lake

"Live each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influences of each...Be blown by all the winds. Open your pores and bathe in all the tides of nature, in all her streams and oceans, at all seasons... Drink of each season's influence as a vial...For all of Nature is doing her best each moment to make us well. She exists for no other end...Why, Nature is but another name for health" *Henry David Thoreau.*

And this is how the spirit of the Lake stirs in me a vision of health and well being that can be evoked through even a thought. Whether I am physically there or not, the *life* of the Lake can be felt within and the pure strength of it can alter my mood or physical self in positive ways that defy description ~ but I know I am not alone in feeling this healing power of the Lake. There is something about the water...

Many have expressed their thoughts on this phenomenon leading me to believe that anyone who has experienced Lake George must feel the same. There have been many prominent people in history that have extolled the beauty and spirit of the lake: the explorer Samuel de Champlain; Father Isaac Jogues who in 1646 changed the name from the Iroquois "Lake Andiatrocte" to "Lac du Saint-Sacrament," a name that was used until the English changed it to Lake George in 1755 (I find it interesting to note that although the lake was named for "King" George, it is known as the "Queen" of American Lakes); statesmen and presidents like Thomas Jefferson; the artists that have flocked to these shores for inspiration, from those of the Hudson River School and Georgia O'Keefe, to photographers like Seneca Ray Stoddard and Carl Heilman, II. But it is not through these people that I know that there is something special about this lake. It is through those friends and family that have shared their love for this place that I know that I am not the only one who feels a draw to come here for health and healing of the mind, the body and the spirit. I am not the only one who knows that there is something about the water...

And so, this holiday season, let us be mindful of the gifts that we have received from the Lake, and find ways to give back to the Lake and share those gifts with others. Financial contributions to organizations formed to protect the Lake are always welcome: the Fund for Lake George, the Lake George Association, and the Lake George Land Conservancy. But those are not the only ways. Gifts of service are just as needed: serve on town boards, civic involvement, beautification projects, environmental education. Share lake experiences with others: take a kid fishing in the early morning stillness, go sailing and feel the wind upon your face, swim underwater and open your eyes and be grateful that here ~in this water~ you can, walk upon the ice and stand in the center of the lake surrounded by mountains that hold her. I honestly feel that the most meaningful gift we can give is our own personal relationship with the Lake~ receiving her gifts with love and gratitude and in turn, reflecting that relationship in our thoughts, words and actions ~the greatest gifts of all if given freely from the heart. "There are a thousand ways to kneel and kiss the earth" *Rumi.*

Happy Holidays!



This month we welcome our new Weather reporter JoAnne DeFranco. JoAnne, an avid gardener, has an embroidery business called Sew & Sow and works with her husband David DeFranco, Hague Town Naturalist, in their family landscaping business.

WEATHER NOTES

by JoAnne DeFranco

November 15 - December 14, 2006

The past four weeks we have experienced a roller coaster ride of temperature fluctuations. November is typically the cloudiest month of the year. November 2006 did not vary from this pattern. We saw very little sun and most days were overcast and gray.

November 17-19 temperatures dropped into the 40's. At Thanksgiving, Nov 23, we had heavy rain but on the 24th temperatures shot up to 60. On Sunday, Nov 26 temperatures dropped again causing roads to be slick- black ice was reported in several locations. Nov 27-30 there was another warming trend with high's back in the 60's. Friday 12/1 was another bleak, rainy, windy day. Toward evening, as a cold front moved in, we were treated to a great lightning show and thunderstorms. Dec 2-6 there was a full moon and temperatures dipped into the 20's. Most of us went searching for the winter jacket and gloves. Our first accumulating snow flurries occurred on 12/7 with about 2". The following day, Dec 8, was our coldest day (13 degrees) with wind chills in the negative.

On Dec 9-15 the temperatures moderated again into the upper 40's. There were several sunny days and a few showers. On Dec. 14 we were really rocking in Hague as the temperature reached 50! The question, 10 days before Christmas, on everyone's mind is "will it be a white Christmas?"

For those readers following the Space Shuttle DISCOVERY: You can see the shuttle in the night sky in Hague on the following days and times:

Wed	Dec 20	6:17pm	Duration: 1 minute
Thurs	Dec 21	5:02pm	3 minutes
Fri	Dec 22	5:21pm	2 minutes
Sat	Dec 23	5:40pm	2 minutes
Sun	Dec 24	5:59pm	2 minutes

Check on the internet at <www.spaceflight.nasa.gov>. Click on "REALTIME DATA" and type in <Ticonderoga> for location.



December 2006 - January 2007

December 2006

- 25 Merry Christmas!
- 25 Happy 86th Birthday to Dottie Henry!
- 27 1pm Extra Helping Distribution
- 28 7pm Zoning Board of Appeals

January 2007

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 4 6:30pm Hague Sno-goers meet at HVFD
- 4 7pm Planning Board
- 9 6:30 pm Town Board
- 18 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed

ONGOING MONTHLY MEETINGS & EVENTS

- 2nd Monday: Senior Bus to Glens Falls
- 1st Monday: Fire Department
- 1st Tuesday: Mohican Crafters
- 3rd Monday: Chamber of Commerce
- 3rd Tuesday: Mohican Crafters
- 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club
- 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Wednesday & Saturday: 9am - 5pm

MIND & BODY EXERCISES

- Wednesdays: Holistic Stress Management with Mae Pagan
- Saturdays: Pilates Mat classes with Brenda-Jean Rider

FOR YOUR 2007 CALENDARS

- June 30 - July 1: Swim Marathon on Lake George
- August 17 - 19: Bicentennial Celebration & HCS reunion

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