



VOLUME 30 NO. 4

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

APRIL 2001

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NEW FIRE HALL DEDICATED

March 24 dawned bright and sunny. What a great day to dedicate our new fire hall! Unfortunately the sun didn't stay out too long and we had some snow showers off and on, but the mood inside the building was one of pride and happiness.

Mark Rutkowski, as master of ceremonies called on Nelson Waters for an opening prayer. Plaques were presented by representatives of the Horicon Fire Dept, the Queensbury Central Fire Dept. and the Ticonderoga Fire Dept. A letter of congratulations from Senator Ron Stafford was read.

Recognition of years of time and devotion was made to Lu and Norma Megow. Lu and Norma donated the EMS room. The Fire Dept. dedicated the Chief's office to David Hoffay and the Day Room to Martin "Marty" Fitzgerald, who was given credit for masterminding this project and seeing it through to completion.

Other rooms which have been donated to the fire department are the Radio Room by Margaret Darrin, the Tool Room by Jane and Paul Ingrey and one of the bays by the Forest Bay Homeowners Association.

Other rooms that can be dedicated are the meeting room, conference room, lobby, oxygen room and ambulance and storage room. If you wish to donate to the fire department, Chris Swinton would be more than happy to receive your donations. Donations of any amount are appreciated.

The large meeting room will serve as a multi-purpose room. Besides meetings, we can envision wedding receptions, parties, fund raising breakfasts and dinners, etc.

On Tuesday, March 28, the Hague Senior Citizens Club was treated to a tour of the building following its regular meeting. Refreshments followed the tour.

An open house for the public will be held at the new fire hall on July 14. The firemen will be very happy to show you around.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE HVFD

- First apparatus: a jeep that towed a 200-gallon trailer followed by the purchase of a new International S-140 (Engine 341)
- First formed in 1948, incorporated in 1949 under the term of Supervisor Richard J. Bolton.

- First Fire Chief: Robert Hoyt
- First Ambulance squad captain: Robert Bolton
- Silver Bay Sub-station built in 1980
- Second new engine purchased in 1989 (Engine 344)
- Second new Firehouse dedicated in March 2001

UPDATE ON BEAUTIFICATION PLANS

The Hague Enhancement Committee met on April 6 to discuss our beautification program.

The committee would like to thank all those residents and friends who so generously donated to the Adopt-a-Basket program. We received more gifts than we have baskets. The committee decided to assign the baskets to the first 27 people who responded. A letter will be written to the others with an option to either send their money back or use it next year for additional baskets. Unfortunately, we could not get additional baskets this year, since they have already been planted.

When and if the snow ever melts, we will proceed to work on the triangle in the middle of town. The garnet boulders are already in place and we are waiting to plant low shrubs and flowers. We are all looking forward to the day we can start planting. Will the snow ever go away?

TRANSFER STATION SCHEDULE

UNTIL APRIL 30 OPEN, TUES, THURS, FRI. SAT.

MAY 1 TO MAY 31 OPEN TUES, WED., THURS FRI., SAT., SUN (CLOSED MON)

JUNE 1 TO SEPT. 15 OPEN MON., TUES., THURS., FRI., SAT., SUN. (CLOSED WED.)

*Never be afraid to try something new.
Remember, amateurs built the ark.
Professionals built the Titanic.*

BESTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The steering committee for the Beste Scholarship Fund is pleased to announce that at its annual meeting on March 14, 2001, the members voted unanimously to increase the full-time student awards from \$250/student to \$300/student, and the part-time student awards from \$125/student to \$150/student, beginning with students graduating from Ticonderoga High School in June 2001. This decision was based on the encouraging growth of the Fund's endowment over the last several years due to the overwhelming community support the Fund has received. The steering committee thanks all those who have faithfully supported the Fund to date and encourage others to join with them in their continued efforts to keep the Beste Scholarship Fund a viable community force into the New Millennium.

The steering committee also thanks the following donors who have sent in contributions since the last Chronicle in memory of Donald "Traveler" Jordon:

Guy and Betsy Graves and family
Patricia Middleton Moore

It's never too late to donate to the Fund. Please send donations to:

Beste Scholarship Fund, c/o Hague Community Center
Hague, NY 12836

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Members of the Hague Historical Society should be alert for a call to help with a clean-up day at the Hague Heritage Cemetery. We hope that this year we can improve the approach to the cemetery, do the usual cleanup and perhaps repair some tombstones. All help will be deeply appreciated. Workers should bring rakes, and brush cutters .

At its last meeting the society was treated to a showing of Frank Carney's arrow collection, which is extensive. Frank gave a very interesting dissertation on his hobby of collecting arrowheads in this area.

On Friday, May 18 at 7PM the Ticonderoga Historical Society and Hague Historical Society will have a joint meeting at the Hancock House in Ticonderoga. All are invited to attend. . . ewa

HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Hague Senior Citizens Club will meet at the Community Center on Tuesday, April 24 at 1:30PM. Cindy Roberts , Warren County Sheriff's Office will be on hand to tell us about the plan to put our 911 numbers on mail boxes. Supervisor Dan Belden is expected to be with us and talk about transportation for Hague seniors.
. . ewa

WARREN COUNTY COUNCIL LUNCHEON

The Warren County Council of Senior Citizens will be

holding its annual luncheon on Thursday, May 17 at the Ramada Inn at Lake George. At this luncheon, the honorees from both Hamilton and Warren Counties will be honored . This year's honorees are Lois Trumble, Warrensburg and Eleanor Jenks, Chestertown. Do turn out and give these honorees the special attention that they deserve. The price of the meal is \$12.50 which includes tip and tax. Choice of entrees is beef, chicken supreme, broiled fish and vegetarian. Must register by April 26. Call 543-6161 to register and send check for \$12.50 payable to Ethel W. Andrus, P.O.Box 2551, Silver Bsay, NY 12874. (She will see that it reaches the treasurer of the Council).

TROUT HOUSE VILLAGE SUPPORTS ROTARY CONFERENCE

The Trout House Village Resort of Hague graciously provided a wonderful door prize for the Rotary multi-district conference held in East Syracuse, NY on March 16-18. The multi-district President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) Conference is held each year as a first step in formal leadership training for club presidents-elect. The seminar is a fast moving and interesting experience. Training and information programs for club presidents are planned and organized by Regional District Governors. The seminar's many purposes are to motivate incoming presidents on leadership roles in Club, District and Rotary International (RI) activities and to emphasize the RI theme for the ensuing year. Attendees represented four Rotary Districts from Western, Central and Eastern NY. Included among the attendees was Tom James of Silver Bay, President-elect of the Rotary Club of Northern Lake George for the upcoming Rotary year.

The Rotary theme for the 2000-01 year is "Mankind Is Our Business".

The Trout House Village door prize was a two-night stay at their beautiful resort on Lake George. It was won by Lesley Shimer, President-elect of the Rotary Club of Colonie-Guilderland. The Rotary Club of Northern Lake George appreciates the participation of the Trout House Village Resort and thanks them for their support of the PETS Conference.

LAKE GEORGE PARK COMMISSION

The Lake George Park Commission will hold a special public hearing on LAKE GEORGE SONAR DEMONSTRATION PROJECT on April 24 at 10AM at the Holiday Inn, Rt. 9, Lake George, NY. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive and record comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS). Copies of the DSEIS are available for public review at the Bolton Town Hall, Bolton Public Library, Lake George Public Library, Crandall Public Library and the Commission office.

There was no Zoning Board meeting during March.

PLANNING BOARD - APRIL 5, 2001

Public hearing was held on the Geraldine Frasier, Hollow Road property to reduce the acreage of one piece and increase another, as a 1.1 acre easement accessed lot for the purpose of providing deeded water from the spring on this lot to the lots of this subdivision. No one spoke for or against this subdivision.

Public hearing held on the Nelson Waters property to subdivide a 3.25 acre parcel off his 64+ acre parcel. No one spoke for or against this subdivision.

Meeting called to order. Motion to accept Frasier subdivision with the addition of access road to spring. Vote unanimous in favor.

Motion to accept the Waters subdivision. Vote unanimous.

Farinick proposal to use part of the post office building(in the back and upstairs) for a store and the residence (the former Hoyt home) for office space. Approved unanimously in favor.

Brad Whisher addressed the board as to his plans for The View at Indian Kettles. He plans to open a family restaurant. The lakeside will be a wall of glass for a magnificent view of the lake. A new kitchen is planned. A large deck is overlooking the lake. The present septic system is o.k. but a new system is being designed for the future. All lines and drains will be going into a filter system.

Two months ago the Planning Board voted to approve the construction with the exception of an outdoor bar. At this meeting the board unanimously approved the outdoor bar which will be closed at 10PM each night. They feel the ABC board has enough checks and balances to control it.

Mr. Whisher said he plans to have a grand opening of his facilities on May 19. Hours of operation for the restaurant will be 11:30AM to 10:00PM Sunday through Friday and 11:30AM to 2AM on Saturday.

County Engineer Bill Lamy and Clough Harbor representative Steve Gurzler presented an update of the sewer plan for Hague. The present target date for starting the project is now the spring of 2002. There are a lot of things to be done before the Hague sewer gets under-way.

HAGUE TOWN BOARD - 4/10/01

The meeting began with the observance of a Moment of Silence for Linda Azer.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

1. Bill Novotny, Battle Hill Road above Jabe's Pond said that he couldn't get to his house for a month because his house was snowed in. He cited a letter dated 1997 he received stating that "Battle Hill Road was going to be maintained on a year-around basis." Mr. Novotny said that before the storms this winter, the

road was a solid two-inches of ice and that after the two last snowstorms (in March) the Highway Dept. plowed only a one-lane width. Because a snowmobile trail flanks one side, the road is too narrow for two passing vehicles. Mr. Novotny said he could not get propane delivered, and emphasized adamantly his concern for safety, saying that neither a fire truck nor an ambulance would be able to access Battle Hill Road. He feels strongly that it is the Town's responsibility to have Battle Hill Road kept open at all times and to make improvements.

Supervisor Belden responded saying Battle Hill Road is a Town road. Skip Hourigan questioned whether Battle Hill Road is a "seasonal road", (in which case the Town is not required to plow in off-season.) Dan Belden asked Blackie Fitzgerald to follow up with Bill Bothe of the Highway Dept. and promised to address this matter and get an answer to Mr. Novotny.

2. Nelson Waters asked whether the Town has ordered signs in time for the summer so that visitors who need to park their boat trailers will be directed to his Boat Trailer Parking lot. (Parking trailers along 9N is now prohibited. The State will provide "No Parking" signs.) Mr. Waters does not want to incur the expense of insuring his property if the signs are not posted in time.

Supervisor Belden said that no action has been taken as yet on buying signs for the Town to direct visitors to various sites. Blackie Fitzgerald has researched and quoted some of the prices. Supervisor Belden will schedule a workshop to present this matter along with other issues, which will be addressed at the next Town Board meeting.

3. Rudy Meola remarked that the lights at the Town Park have been shut off the past two weeks. He wanted to know the "process" i.e. "Who makes the decision about the lights?" Blackie Fitzgerald said the lights were off because during the tiling of the restrooms, workmen turned off the power breaker as a safety precaution.

Rudy Meola also cited, as a matter of information, that he had reviewed the Dec. 15, 1999 minutes of a Ticonderoga School District meeting. and quoted the following motion made by Mr. Frasier & seconded by Mrs. Reale: "to approve the transfer of the remaining two pieces of property in the Town of Hague, parcel 30.1-1 and 31-1-7 currently owned by the Ticonderoga School District to the Town of Hague effective immediately. The Town of Hague accordingly will prepare all legal documents regarding this transfer."

Mr. Meola asked the Board whether the transfer had been made, in light of the fact that this property would help solve the Town's lack of parking space. Supervisor Belden responded that the transfer has not yet been made.

4. Tom James, representing the Hague Historical Society, The Chamber of Commerce, and the Rotary Club, presented a basic outline of the plans in progress for July 7th, and The Return of the Lake George Monster to Hague.

(Cont. on page 4 - Town Board)

Cont. from p. 3 - Town Board

5. Referring to a letter from Oct. 2000, Sal Santaniello inquired about the disposition of the furniture at the visitor's center. The Board will let him know as soon as decision has been made, whether to keep or remove it.

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Assessor and Justice: (IP International Paper Co.) has combined several lots into one big one. Supervisor Belden will set up a workshop and will contact Mr. McDonald, Hague's town lawyer, in order to come to an agreement on the legal matters. Skip Hourigan hopes for an out of court solution.

2. Buildings and Grounds: Lu Megow commented on some problems with the 12-year old Community Center heating system. There are some problems with the stove and some work needs to be finished. The vents on the roof have proved effective and there are now lights in the attic.

3. Finance: None

4. Fire Dept: Open House on July 14th. Steak Roast on August 4th.

5. Highway Dept.: None

6. Insurance: Supervisor Belden will meet with Skip Hourigan to work on preparing and presenting an insurance plan for the Town of Hague.

7. Personnel: Skip Hourigan would like to schedule a workshop with John McDonald on ethics issues to be attended by the members of the Zoning, Planning, and Town Boards. A job description for the Visitors' Center attendant has been completed. A workshop will be held to finalize the number of summer workers to be hired to make sure the park operates efficiently.

8. Planning, Zoning, and Stormwater Management: Zoning Board meeting canceled until April 26 due to snowstorm. Supervisor Belden discussed the progress and problems. The APA inspected the two small pump stations and found them satisfactory. A small section of the O'Toole property on Dodd Hill Rd. for the main pump station is in process of appraisal.

9. Recreation/Promotion: The Board voted to hire two lifeguards: Karen Stitts and Joey Platts. The Board also voted unanimously to hire three Park Attendants. (Best, Brown, Simmons and Parkis.). Two additional people may be needed to work Saturdays and on holidays.

10. Sewer District #1: The APA inspected the two small pump stations and found them satisfactory. The O'Toole property on Dodd Hill for the main pump station is in process of appraisal. Progress on the project is slower than hoped.

11. Town Park and Beautification: The Board voted to hire a person to care for and water the flowers.

12. Transfer/Recycling Station: Lu Megow reported an income of \$999.25 for March. Expenditures for the year were \$40,161.00 This includes, burn plant fees, C&D (hauling Construction and other Debris), waste management, and disposal of non-processables. Revenues were \$58,350.00 This includes income from sales of garbage bags, C&D, non-processables, waste metal goods, such as refrigerators, sale of metals, yard wastes,

and recyclables. Operating Expenses of Transfer Station: \$23,000. This includes salaries, operation and maintenance and roadbed recovery. Last year, 78 trips to the land fill at \$180.00 for a total of \$14,000.00.

After discussion the Board voted to pay overtime, temporarily, during the 48-hour work-week, until an additional person can be hired. The Board then voted to hire a person to work on Saturdays.

13. Youth: Skip Hourigan made mention of a letter addressed to Rudy Meola about Hague youth participating in the bike program run by the Ticonderoga School

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Town has a proposal for the hook up of the new generator at the Highway Garage for the sum of \$1,729.70. Monies for leasing propane tanks and for overhead and maintenance costs will come out of the Capital Fund.

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS

1. Memorandum of Understanding with LGPC: The Board voted to sign an agreement (that will allow the Highway Dept. to make highway repairs without getting approval for every individual job to be performed.

2. Letter re. junk cars: Skip Hourigan and Rudy Meola identified 15 different possible clean-up sites seen via their "windshield" survey. Rudy Meola requested that the Board draft a letter to send to these fifteen property owners requesting their voluntary agreement and/or cooperation. He asks the Board to review the list and add or delete sites. Skip Hourigan cited programs from other towns who have begun clean-ups and believes that Hague needs to do similar work so that we can arrive at an enforceable law as opposed to our present unenforceable ordinance. Supervisor Belden asked for a letter to be mailed to the fifteen residents requesting a reply by May 1st if they want the Town to remove their junk yards/junk cars. The Board will have a workshop with Atty. John McDonald to draft such a letter within the next ten days. Councilman Hourigan read a definition of junk cars: "Any motor vehicle which has no valid registration or certificate of inspection and has been stripped or partially dismantled so that it is inoperable or immovable and is parked or permitted to stand on any public road or right-of-way for more than 48 hours or on public property for a continuous period in excess of 30 days. The purpose of this definition, motor vehicle, shall mean all vehicles propelled or drawn by power other than muscular power originally designed for use on public highways or for recreational or agricultural activity."

*3. Letter from Geneva Denno: Mrs. Denno does not want taxpayer monies to come out of the General Fund for the proposed Hague Water District Feasibility Study that would apply to only 29 Hague residents who are members of the Hague Water District Association. One of the strongest statements Mrs. Denno made regarding her feelings is: *HAGUE TOWN BOARD, stay out of the water selling business.*" (Cont. on page 5 - Town Board) 4/01

(Cont. from p 4 Town Board)

Mrs. Denno wants The Water District Association members or customers to drill their own water wells or apply for HUD grants to do so. Mrs. Denno also wrote, "I think the Supervisor should refrain from any involvement in this issue as a conflict seeing that he is under contract with maintenance with this Water District." Supervisor Dan Belden rebutted that he does not have a conflict of interest and much of Mrs. Denno's information sent to the Board in her letter "she got from somebody else and a lot of it is not true." Supervisor Belden said, "As a matter of fact, I did it to help these people because they couldn't find anybody to do it" and because he is one of the few people in Hague who has a license to test water. The Board approved the feasibility study in order to meet a May 15th application deadline, though it hasn't been formalized yet. Letters will be sent to all the residents in that district and they will get a chance to vote whether to have it or not.

4. Memo from Heather Knott to attend Judge School The Board voted for approval.

5. Letter from Dottie Henry: Tabled until the next Town Board Meeting.

6. NYS DEC Notice of Incomplete Application : The application will be completed within the next two days.

7. Letter from J. Caffry re Sabbath Day Point Water Assoc. easements. Several points regarding power lines and potential liability to the Town of Hague must be addressed before granting permission.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board passed budget resolutions: 1) To amend the budget by making corrections to the 2001 Budget, and 2) To transfer \$7,000 from General Funds for Phase I of the Feasibility Study. 3) A resolution to amend the Capital Fund Budget by authorizing the Supervisor to spend up to \$20,000 for Capital Improvements at the Transfer Station: i.e. paving slabs, retaining walls, container buildings.

The board passed a resolution to hold a public hearing re the Town Park Ordinance regarding parking at the Town Beach. (Visitors park at the west side and for residents at the east side.) The public hearing is scheduled for May 8, at 6:15 pm.

The county's road paving schedules are in the town office.

NATURE NEWS
by Laura Meade

When you pour maple syrup on pancakes or waffles this spring are you aware of the effort and knowledge required to produce that syrup? A long time ago someone discovered that sap from maple trees could be prepared in such a way as to become a sweet treat. There is no comparison to the delicious taste of true maple syrup!

In addition to that treat, it is satisfying to know that such production can be achieved on your property (if you have maple trees!) with no damage to the environment.

For years members of the Carney family at Sabbath Day Point. have operated a sugar house in a valley at the base of Bloomer Mt. When winter turns to spring, and when nights are cool and days are warm, tapping of the trees begins. That's when the sap rises from the roots through the channels of the trees. One can tap (or bore into) a tree in such a way that sap will drip into a covered bucket, and emptied into a vat or kettle. These days some producers have new-fangled tubes which send the sap all the way to the sugar house. When enough sap is collected, a fire under the boiling pans is kindled, heating the sap to a temperature which transforms the fluid into a thicker syrup.

According to Compton's 1928 Encyclopedia, in those days a great fire was started (and not put out) night or day as long as the season lasted. Someone was busy gathering sap in the buckets and emptying them into a huge iron kettle. Someone was always cutting wood to feed the fire. Besides syrup, some operators prepared sugar cakes in molds similar to muffin trays by boiling the syrup longer and carefully pouring it into molds, where it hardened into a candy-like substance.

Besides the Carneys, others who had sugar houses were Maurice Bevins, Albert Yaw, McCabes, DeLarms, the Hayes family, Butlers, Barnetts, Galushas and Rosses. These days the Silver Bay Association has a sugar house on property where Mark Rutkowski's family lives, on Route 9N. It is used primarily for education purposes, for Nature's Classroom and other organized educational groups.

It takes between 30 to 40 quarts of sap to make one quart of syrup, depending on how much sugar is in the sap.

Hopefully, the long-horned Asian beetles will not discover the sugar maples in the Town of Hague! There is no technique devised (as yet) which will deter those beetles from their decimating life-style.

WEATHER NOTES
by Mary Lou Doulin

Winter is tenacious this year. It likes it here so much it can't seem to leave. Snow cover and colder temperatures rule the days and nights. The milder than normal temperatures of Dec. and Jan. were deceiving. They lulled many into thinking falsely that this would be a slightly easier winter. Then came the ice that lasted for six weeks and when that eased, the area was bombarded with two intense nor'easters which brought "bountiful amounts of snow", first 24" and then 10" more lakeside. West Hague had much, much more.

Today, Easter Sunday, while traveling Rt. 8 west of Hague, it was like traveling back into February. Snowbanks are at least 2' high or more and except for some southern slopes, snow is everywhere. People in Lake George Village are still ice fishing. Sat. Apr. 14 (Cont. on p. 6 - Weather) 4/01

(Cont. from p. 5 Weather)

in Hague, a large portion of the lake opened and a few fishing boats ventured out, but not too far, as the lake is still ice from Sabbath Day Point. south to the village. North Pond and Brant Lake are still solid. Fortunately the snow melt has been gradual and Hague Brook runs fast and high but there is no flooding as yet.

Another unusual happening has been the early thunder storm activity during the second week of April. On Sunday, April 8, many citizens were wakened at 1:30AM to the loudest and most extraordinary sound of thunder. Buildings shook, some thought it was a bomb or propane explosion. Unbelievably it was thunder. The lightning storms returned on April 12. Easter Sunday was dazzling in its clarity and sunshine, but temperatures remain nippy. Hope you caught the aurora borealis last week. It was another great show!

BACKGROUND ON HAGUE WATER WORKS

At a July 3, 2000 meeting members of the Hague Homeowners Water Association (HHWA) were informed by Scott Patchett that their water supply did not meet the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and New York State Drinking Water Regulations, according to a letter he had received from the New York Department of Health (NYS DOH)

On August 8, 2000 four members of the HHWA and Dan Belden, the operator of the system, met with the DOH in Glens Falls. At this meeting the HHWA agreed to a timetable of compliance provided by an administrative tribunal. There was a 6 step abatement schedule and deadlines for each step that would result in a \$2,000 fine if not met.

The first step mandated that the HHWA engage a professional engineer. The second step mandated that a feasibility study be done to find the best way to replace the existing water supply. This study was done by the Adirondack Engineering Associates, at a cost of \$4,500 to the HHWA, and submitted to the Glens Falls DOH office.

Adirondack Engineering Associates suggested that the HHWA look for funding from the NY Drinking Water State Revolving Fund which was done by contacting Mr. Robert Swider from the NYS DOH Bureau of Public Water Supply Protection. The HHWA met with Mr. Swider, Adirondack Engineering Associates, Dan Belden and Karen Sklenar from the Glens Falls DOH office. Mr. Swider told the HHWA that the funding, based on a total numerical Intended Use Plan (IUP) score, looks very good for this project. However funding is almost always assured if a town or municipality forms the water district. Private, small entities very seldom, if ever, receive funding from the NYS Revolving Drinking Water Fund.

Based on the information given at the meeting with the NYS, DOH, the HHWA asked Dan Belden, Town Supervisor, his opinion on the town forming a water dis-

trict. Mr. Belden said there would have to be a meeting of the Town Board to see what the Board's opinion would be.

On March 7, 2001 the Hague Town Board met with members of the HHWA, Adirondack Engineering Associates and representatives of the DOH. After some thoughtful discussion attendees of the meeting agreed upon the following issues:

- The Town will submit a pre-application prior to May 15, 2001. This will enable the town to be listed in the 2002 Revolving Fund but will not obligate the Town to form a water district.
- Conditional upon the approval of citizens who would be within the proposed water district, the town will submit a hardship assistance application to the DOH on or before December 1, 2001.

Also at the March 7 meeting Mr. Belden formed an ad-hoc committee consisting of HHWA and Town Board representatives to look into forming the district in the current geographical area and also perhaps expanding the district along Rt. 8 in the hamlet of Hague.

On March 23, 2001 a special meeting was held by the Town Board. At this meeting the board agreed to engage the Adirondack Engineering Associates for the purpose of doing a feasibility study to gather facts to present at an informational meeting regarding forming a water district in the hamlet. Adirondack Engineering Associates is presently working on this study . . . lwk

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY, May 4, 2001

The courage of two biblical women, Vashti and Esther, are models for action discussed in the worship service for May Friendship Day on the theme "For Such a Time as This: A Call to End Racism." Concerned that racism remains a critical issue in American society nearly 50 years after the civil rights movement began, Christian women and men in the greater Ticonderoga area of Church Women United will gather at 10:30AM Friday, May 4 at the Hague Community Center on Rt. 8.

Following a brief business meeting Mr. Christian L. White, Community Service Director of Castleton State College, VT will speak as part of the service on racism and how it has affected his life. Mr. White, a native of VA. and a graduate of Castleton State College with a degree in Business worked over ten years in the hospitality industry at the Equinox Hotel in Manchester VT before coming back to Castleton College in his present position.

Lunch will be served at the conclusion of the program for \$7.00 and reservations must be made by April 29 to either Ursula at 543-6407 or Donna (evenings) at 585-6233.

There will be an offering of the Least Coin in which we donate only the least coin we have in our possession at the time. Bring toiletries for abused women for donation to "Safe Homes."
4/01

SOUNDINGS

BORN: a daughter, Riley Marrin Morris, to Robert and Jennifer Morris, Salt Point, NY. Proud grandparents are John and Linda Baker of Overlook Lane, Hague.

MARRIED: Mark Christian Hoffay, son of Janet Hoffay, Hague and Harold Hoffay, Chestertown, and Nancidee Miller daughter of Cherie and Ray Wallace, Lexington, NC. in the Helen Hughes Chapel at Silver Bay on March 16, 2001.

DIED: Mary Elizabeth (Keenan) Zwink, 77, daughter of the late William and Florence Keenan, Hague, for many years proprietors of the Hague Market, on February 24, 2001. She is survived by a son, grandson, and several great grandchildren.

DIED: Lillian Whitford Hayes (Peggy) on March 16. She was born in Silver Bay to Roy and Ella Whitford. She is survived by several children and grandchildren

DIED: Linda W. Azer on March 27 in Key West, FL. Mrs. Azer was employed as an Elementary School music teacher in Ticonderoga for 20 years. She is survived by her husband, Thomas B. Azer, Hague, mother Evelyn G. Wiltsie, Hague, two step-sons and two step-daughters. One brother and four grandchildren.

THS 4TH MARKING PERIOD HONOR ROLL

The following students from Hague are listed on the Honor Roll of Ticonderoga High School - 4th period.

Grade 12 - 1st Honors: William Bothe, Katie Breitenbach

Second Honors: Tasha Braisted, Dawn McCoy, Josh Plass

Grade 11 - 1st Honors: Lucas Frasier, Heather Hassett, Angela Mascarelli, Joe Plass, Alison Rutkowski, Theodore Santaniello, Tyler Wells

Second Honors: Nicole Belden, Becky Ryder

Grade 10 - First Honors - Jessi Frasier

Second Honors: Katie Belden, Kelly Frasier

Grade 9 - First Honors - Matthew Frasier, Monica Sitts

Second Honors: Michael Michela, Matthew Russell

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

SCHOOL ELECTION AND BUDGET VOTE

Date: Tues., May 15, 2001

Time: 12 Noon - 8 PM

Place: Hague Community Center (Warren C. residents)
Ticonderoga High School (Essex C. residents)

Qualifications for Voting To vote on the proposed bud-

get and for School Board members you must be:

- A citizen of the U.S. • 18 years of age. • A resident within the district for a period 30 days prior to the vote.

- A resident who has registered or who has voted at any annual meeting or any other municipal election held or conducted during the past four years.

Voter Registration Day: Tues., May 8, 2001 from 1PM-6PM in locations listed above.

ART SHOW AND CONCERT

The Ticonderoga Elementary School will hold its annual art show on April 26 from 6-7PM at the school. Art work from the students will be on display for your enjoyment.

At 7PM the Elementary School Music Dept. will present its annual spring concert. Please try to support these kids by your interest in their activities.

6TH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR

Sixth graders under the tutelage of Mr. Dedrick held a very successful science fair on April 4 in the school cafeteria. This editor was pleased to be able to attend. Volcanoes, space ships, weather and bunnies were just a few of the many unusual displays. The students were paired and each team gave a full report on his/her project. I was fascinated by the creativity these kids used in displaying their projects. Mr. Dedrick has been having a sixth grade science fair for many years. Congratulations to him and his students!

Time again, unexpectedly, for another thank you to my family and friends for their love, prayers, calls, cards, and flowers, during my recent illness. All these good thoughts helped to get me back up to speed. Also, to the caring friends who deliver meals on wheels and our dedicated Hague ambulance crew. Love you all. . .
. Ursula Montbriand

O MAD SPRING, ONE WAITS

O mad spring that taught the silent grass
To die for winter, spring that taught the sun
Its quick commandments, winds of spring that run
Before the months of summer, O mad spring
That forces icicle and frost to pass,
That taught the savage trees to stand and call
With a green cry that echoes until fall,

Spring that does not heed the signalling
Colors of my desire, O spring, one waits
And envies seasons and their certain fates,
Drawing pitiless and tiring breath,
Watching shadows from the sun of death
Darken as its light pales, one still stands
Pressed by fear and hunger on both hands.

GRAND OPENING - CARTOON MUSEUM

Another season opening for the Hague Cartoon Museum is set for Saturday, May 26, at 2PM at the Museum in Hague.

Signed cartoons by leading cartoonists will be given to attendees, cartoon-type door prizes will be available, new exhibits will be shown, and refreshments will be served. Children of all ages, parents and friends are invited. A small donation is asked of those who attend.

The museum is celebrating its fourth year of operation with this season opening. More than 2,500 visitors have been logged in that period, according to Director Stan Burdick.

Presently the museum, sponsored by the Hague-on-Lake George Chamber of Commerce, contains over 700 original and fine prints of editorial and comic cartoons created by more than 600 talented cartoonists of the world.

Every year museum members are asked to donate \$10 for a museum membership. More members would be appreciated. Money is needed for ongoing building renovations, continued phone service, utility costs (90% electricity) and promotion in a wide area. Be aware of the fact that absolutely NO contributions go for acquisitions to the museum or for the services of Director Stan Burdick, who volunteers all his time to make the museum more effective and popular.

Regular hours at the museum will follow the opening date and continue all summer. Hours are Thursdays from 7-9PM; Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 2-4PM.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FORT TICONDEROGA

Fort Ticonderoga opens for the 2001 season on May 5. The museum will be open daily from 9AM to 5PM (6PM in July/August) through October 21. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors \$6 for children ages 7-12 and free for children under 7. Members of the Friends of Fort Ticonderoga and residents of Ticonderoga, Putnam, Hague, Crown Point, NY and Orwell and Shoreham, VT are free.

May 5: Opening Day "Benjamin Franklin Returns to Fort Ticonderoga," 11:30AM landing by bateau on Ticonderoga Town Beach on Lake George. 1:30PM Franklin enters the Fort for afternoon festivities. Free with regular admission.

For information call 518-585-2831. Fort Ticonderoga is a private, not-for-profit educational organization open to the public since 1909. Fort Ticonderoga's web site can be found at www.fort-ticonderoga.org

ROTARY CLUB LISTS WINNERS

Each week the Rotary Club of Northern Lake George draws a name to win \$20.00 for that week. Each person put \$20 in the pot and has a chance to win a weekly prize plus a bigger prize at the end of the 20 weeks. To

date the winners have been: 1. MTM Business Form - Valley Stream, NY; 2. Jill Bersol, Pompton Lake, NJ; 3. Joan Belden, Hague; 4. Karen & Doug Laundree, Hague; 5. Denise D. Andrea, Rochelle Park, NJ; 6. Bill Ahern, Ticonderoga; 7. Joe Reynolds, Houston, TX; 8. Carol Brown, Hague; 9. MTM Business, Valley Stream, NY; 10. Mike Johns, Ticonderoga; 11. Valerie DePrey, Rochester, NY; 12. Michael Stipo, Ticonderoga; 13. Sharon Lonergan, Ticonderoga; 14. Mary Blanchard, Ticonderoga; 15. Mary Hunsdon, Ticonderoga; 16. Jerry Crammond, Silver Bay. 17. There are three more drawings to go.

GENEALOGY CLASS TO BE OFFERED

The Ticonderoga Historical Society will offer a class titled "Doing Genealogy Research Online - Productively!" on Monday, April 23 at 20AM - 12Noon and from 7 - 9PM This class will cover what you can expect from online research, genealogy software, where to begin online, networking with other researchers, using mail lists and query boards, doing controlled searches, online genealogy libraries and subscription services, the validity of information online, tips and tricks, and significant genealogy web sites and what they offer. Handouts and supplies are provided with this class. Cost is \$20 (\$16 for THS members.) 4/01

Karla V. Staudt, President of the Ti Historical Society, is teaching the class. She is an experienced professional and personal genealogical and social history researcher. This class is filling up quickly. Maximum number per class is 15. Call Steve Blanchard at 585-7868 or ths@capital.net to register.

NEW BUSINESS IN TOWN

The Post Office building is one of the oldest buildings in town, built in the 1800's.

When the property came available, Diane Farinick and Carol Pittman thought it would make a perfect antique and gift shop. They have wanted to open a shop for the past two years.

With the help of many people, they have been working daily to gut the building and put it back together. (The post office itself remains the same for the present). They have tried to create a warm and friendly country feeling so that everyone in our hamlet will feel welcome.

Diane and Carol have traveled to many shows, purchasing country gifts they hope you will all enjoy.

Their goal is to be open by Mother's Day weekend. Please stop by to browse and enjoy a cup of cappuccino with them. Parking is available behind the building.

... cp

It's frustrating when you know all the answers, but nobody bothers to ask you the questions. 4/01

FYI

- On May 20, the 2000-2001 season ends with a program entitled "Heroes and Villains." Scheduled for 5PM in the Glens Falls High School, the orchestra is conducted by Charles Peltz.
- The Champlain Valley Chorale's annual spring concert will be held at the United Methodist Church in Ticonderoga at 4PM on May 20. The chorale will be conducted by Valerie Dixon.
- The Lake George Park Commission will hold its regular meeting on Tues., April 24, 2001 at the Holiday Inn, Rt. 9, Lake George, NY. Scheduled is a special public hearing on Lake George Sonar Demonstration Project. Interested parties are invited to attend. For info. call 668-9347
- On May 5 WalMart is sponsoring "Cinco de Mayo", charity event for *Children's Miracle Network*. Outside event begins under the tent in parking lot with 11:00AM BBQ. Concert at 3PM by area band Brahma. Bring your own chairs. For info. call 585-3060

BOATING AND ALCOHOL
A DANGEROUS MIXTURE

The breeze blows gently against your face as you cruise past the sandy shore. The afternoon sun feels comfortably warm as the spray mists your arms. You breathe in deeply and savor the clear air. You smile contentedly. You're captivated by the serenity and tranquility of the ocean experience.

But, then, suddenly you're jolted back to reality - a roaring, speeding, out-of-control boat is heading directly at you. Faster! Louder! Closer it comes! You wrench the wheel of your boat, hit the throttle, and pull out of collision's path with barely a second to spare.

Regrettably, scenarios similar to the one described are becoming more commonplace on our waterways. The United Safe Boating Institute reports that more than 1,000 people die in boating accidents every year, and about half of the deaths involve alcohol. To help reduce the number of alcohol-related boating accidents, the U.S. Coast Guard recently initiated a comprehensive, nationwide campaign to educate people about the dangers of drinking and boating.

The effects of drinking while operating a boat are even more insidious than drinking while operating an automobile. The Office of Boating Safety reports that only one-third the amount of alcohol that makes a person legally impaired on the road can make the same person equally impaired on the water. People become impaired more quickly at sea because of a phenomenon called "boaters' hypnosis" - a kind of fatigue that is induced by the marine environment. The motion, vibration, engine noise, and the elements of sun, heat, wind,

and glare all take a toll on a person's judgment and contribute to this hypnosis. After three or more hours on the water, even a sober boater's reflexes can deteriorate. Add alcohol consumption and the situation can quickly turn dangerous.

Because it weakens judgment, diminishes peripheral vision, and lessens a person's ability to process information, alcohol can increase a boater's chances of falling overboard. It can also cause some boaters to attempt daring maneuvers that they wouldn't attempt while sober.

And boaters under the influence often develop "tunnel vision," which narrows their overall view of the water and decreases their ability to make decisions.

The Office of Boating Safety offers the following safety tips to help prevent alcohol-related boating accidents:

- Instead of alcohol, take along nonalcoholic drinks like water, soda, iced tea, or lemonade.
- Bring plenty of food.
- Plan to limit your trip to the number of hours you can spend on the water without becoming tired.
- If you dock somewhere for lunch or dinner and consume alcohol, wait a reasonable time before heading back home.
- If necessary, be sure to have a non-drinking designated driver as the boat operator.
- Keeping alcohol off the boat is the safest way to go - intoxicated passengers can fall overboard, too.

Drinking and boating can be as deadly as drinking and driving. So, use your boat safely this summer, be watchful of other boaters and leave the alcohol on the dock. . . . Amica Today, Summer 2000

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple or pine in pineapple. And while no one knows what is in a hotdog, you can be pretty sure it isn't canine. English muffins were not invented in England nor French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies, while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

Why do people ship by truck or car and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? Park on driveways and drive on parkways? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? How can the weather be hot as heck one day and cold as heck another?

When a house burns up, it burns down. You fill in a form by filling it out and an alarm clock goes off by going on. You get in and out of a car, yet you get on and off a bus. When the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it?

Yessiree...that's our own muther tongue.

. . . Thanks to Stu Harmon

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR APRIL/MAY 2001

April

- 22 EARTH DAY
- 24 Hague Senior Citizens Club - 1:30PM
- 26 Elementary School Art Show and concert (p7)
- 26 Zoning Board of Appeals 7PM
- 30 Comprehensive Plan Committee - 7PM

May

- 3 Planning Board - 7PM
- 4 May Friendship Day (p6)
- 8 Public hearing re town park ordinance (p5) 6:15PM
followed by Town Board meeting

May

- 13 Mothers' Day
- 15 School election and budget vote (p7)
- 16 Blood Pressure Clinic, 1-2PM, Comm. Ctr
- 17 Carillon Garden Club - 11AM Community Ctr
- 17 Warren County Council luncheon (p2)
- 18 Joint meeting of Hague and Ti Historical
Societies in Ticonderoga
- 19 Armed Forces Day

MOTHERS' DAY - MAY 13, 2001
"WHAT MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME"

My mother taught me TO APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE.

"If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning!"

My mother taught me RELIGION.

"You better pray that stain will come out of the carpet."

My mother taught me LOGIC.

"Because I said so, that's why."

My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY.

"If I've told you once, I've told you a million times - Don't exaggerate!!!"

My mother taught me IRONY.

*"Keep crying and I'll *give* you something to cry about!"*

My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS

"Shut your mouth and eat your supper!"

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