



Published Monthly Since 1972
Volume 48 Number 05

www.thehaguechronicle.org

Hague, New York 12836
May 2019

SCHOOL DISTRICT WANTS 9.57 PERCENT INCREASE IN TAX LEVY *by Ginger Henry Kuenzel*

On May 7, 2019, the Ticonderoga School Board held a budget workshop in Hague, with a large audience in attendance. The latest budget proposal was presented, which asks voters to approve a \$22.9 million budget for the coming school year, which will result in a tax levy increase of 9.57 percent. Registered voters can vote on the budget on Tuesday, May 21st, noon – 8 pm at the Hague Community Center or in the lobby of Ticonderoga High School. Because this budget exceeds the state-mandated tax cap, a 60% percent supermajority is required for it to pass.

The school board cites rising health insurance premiums as a major reason for the hefty increase. Premiums rose 13.5% in 2018/19 and are predicted to rise another 15.9% for the 2019/20 school year. Ticonderoga is part of a small, self-funded health insurance consortium, with employees paying 10 - 12.5% of their

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OFFICIAL "ICE-OUT" FOR 2019 WAS APRIL 13TH

After visual inspection and conferring with their partners and members around the lake, the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) declared that official ice-out for Lake George in 2019 was Saturday, April 13th. According to the Lake George Association (LGA) and the partners



Photo courtesy of Sandy Powell.

of the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC), the official ice-in date was on January 22nd, meaning that Lake George had 81 days of ice in 2019.

Lake George is considered iced-in when someone can skate from Lake George Village to Ticonderoga without running into open water. Ice-out is when the middle of the lake has no more ice on it, although there may be a few pockets here and there.

The 81 days that the lake was frozen this year is about five days more than the average ice-in period since 2000, though it is two days fewer than average when compared to ice-in dates since 1950 (of the years where the lake was fully iced-in).

To be clear, years when the lake has not frozen are occurring more frequently. Between 2000 and 2019, the lake hasn't fully frozen six times or has been open roughly one-third of the years. If you compare that to the time period of 1950 to 2000, the lake hadn't fully frozen five times or was open roughly one-tenth of the years. ▣

MEMORIAL DAY IN HAGUE THIS WEEKEND

by Maureen Cherubini

Be sure to join us to honor OUR VETERANS as we celebrate Memorial Day on Saturday, May 25, 2019. Come on out and enjoy the Family Funfest at the beach at 10 am, the Memorial Day Parade at 2 pm, the Memorial Service after the parade, and the HVFD Chicken Barbeque Dinner later that afternoon at the town park. See you Saturday! ▣

2019 HAGUE ELECTIONS

According to the Warren County Board of Elections website, the 2019 Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 25th and the General Election will be on Tuesday, November 5th.

May 31st is the last day to register to vote in the Primary Election. October 11th is the last day to register to vote for General Election. October 11th is the last day to change party enrollment for 2020 election cycle.

Hague offices that will be on the ballot for 2019 are:

- Town Supervisor (two-year term)
- Town Clerk (four-year term)
- Two Town Board Members (four-year term each)
- Superintendent of Highway (four-year term) ▣

SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

We had a nice trip to the Saratoga Automobile Museum and the Olde Bryan Inn for lunch. On Friday, May 10, 2019, we went to the Skene Museum for lunch and a tour.



We are collecting for the White Elephant Sale, so if you have anything, contact Ray Snyder at 518-585-6061 or me at 518- 543-6502. Please do not leave anything on the porch at the Visitors' Center. Thanks for your help.

On May 28th at noon, we'll have our regular meeting. Please bring a tasty appetizer to share. We'll discuss what will be coming up this summer. To receive member prices on trips, your dues must be paid a month prior to the trip, so please pay your dues at the meeting if you have not yet done so.

June 2nd - June 10th, during Americade Week, we will sell food at the Hague Town Beach at the 10th annual Senior View Café. This is a fundraiser for the club. We thank the townspeople who come out to support us.

On July 19th, we go on a Raquette Lake Lunch Cruise. Seating is limited on a first-come, first-served basis, so contact me NOW if you want to go. ▣

NEEDED: CONTRACTORS AND SUMMER INTERNS

The Ti-Alliance and the Ticonderoga Schools are partnering to create a new summer internship program. The purpose of the program is to connect young people with local jobs, especially those in the trades (though not exclusively).

If you have a business that could hire a summer intern for eight to ten weeks this summer, the Ti-Alliance will find you a great employee. If you are a young person (through age 21) in our community looking for a summer job, the Ti-Alliance has a job for you.

"We are focused on building a stronger skilled workforce for the Ticonderoga area. Getting our young people connected to training in occupations where they can live and work right here is essential. Whether they enroll in BOCES/CV-TEC at the high school level or go on to associate degrees and certifications at the college level, there are jobs waiting for them right here in our community," said Ti-Alliance Executive Director Donna Wotton.

Employers and employees should contact Donna at donna@ticonderoga-alliance.org or 518-543-6782. ▣

HVFD

by Meg Haskell

For the month of April, we had 15 fire calls and drills and eight EMS calls, using a total of 117 volunteer hours.



We are holding our annual Chicken Barbecue on Saturday May 25, 2019. This year, we will be serving at the Hague Town Park from 11 am until 5 pm. The cost is \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids under 12, and will include one-half a chicken, baked potato, corn on the cob, rolls, and dessert. Hope to see everyone there! ▣

SCHOOL TAX INCREASE

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premiums. The consortium has appointed a committee to look into ways to bring costs down. Superintendent John McDonald said that relatively flat state and federal aid levels have also led to the need to ask taxpayers to contribute more.

If the budget is approved, Hague property owners' tax bills will rise by \$129 for each \$100,000 of taxable property value, while Ticonderoga taxpayers would see a \$103 increase. In addition, because the budget exceeds the tax cap, residents would forfeit the property tax relief credit, which they have received in recent years (although the STAR credits would remain).

If the budget does not pass, the school board will likely submit a new budget to voters that stays within the cap, according to McDonald. This would require just a simple majority to pass, with seven teaching positions and four support staff being eliminated and some reductions in athletics and extracurricular programs. Enrollment in the district's schools continues to decline, dropping from 920 to 750 over the past 10 years. The district expects 733 students in the coming year.

Voters will also choose three school board members on May 21st. Incumbents Mark Russell and Tracey Cross-Baker are on the ballot, along with Eric Rich and Maria Tedford. ▣

FIREHOUSE RESTAURANT WELCOMES CHEF KATY WELLS

The Hague Firehouse Restaurant is thrilled to welcome Chef Katy Wells to its team. Katy, who is a lifelong resident of Hague, has been cooking for over 25 years.

In the past, she has managed her own catering company, cooked at The Hague Creek Café, and was the assistant kitchen manager at Silver Bay YMCA for eight years. And, of course, let's not forget the thousands of meals she has prepared at The Hague Volunteer Fire Department!

"I am over the moon to have this opportunity at the Firehouse (Restaurant) right here in my home town!" Katy told *The Hague Chronicle*.

"This season's fare will consist of our usual favorites," said owner Sheri DeLarm. Our local lake perch taco will be back on the menu, along with hand-cut steaks, fresh hand-packed Certified Angus Beef (CAB) burgers, and fish straight from the Boston Wharfs. Our bar will be offering up a wonderful line of local craft beers and, of course, our house favorite, Firehouse Margaritas. Please join us opening night, Thursday, June 6, 2019. We will be closed for a private party on Friday, June 7th, but open on Saturday, the 8th and the following weekend before serving seven nights a week, starting Thursday, June 20th. It's that time of year again to GET FIRED UP!" ▣



MADE IN HAGUE

by Donna Wotton

We have amazingly talented people living in our town! Made in Hague is an artist collective created to showcase their work and provide an avenue for them to sell it.

As a collective, all of the members share in the responsibilities of managing and staffing the store, which allows them to return 85% of all sales to the artists.



But, there are other great benefits to Made in Hague – like being ambassadors for our great little town to the many tourists who stop in to browse and chat. And, it offers an opportunity for residents to meet their neighbors and make new friends.

The more artists we have, the better it is. Crafters interested in joining the Made In Hague Artist Collective should contact me at dwotton@unconventional.com or Sandy Swanson at handyswan101@gmail.com.

Made in Hague will open for its fifth season on Saturday, May 25, 2019. Whether you are buying art, home décor, or a special gift, you'll find the perfect one-of-a-kind handcrafted item at Made in Hague. And nothing supports your community better than shopping local! We're looking forward to welcoming back all our customers in 2019. There's always something new!

Hours are Saturdays and Sundays 11 am – 5 pm through Wednesday, June 19th. The regular summer schedule begins on Friday, June 24th through Labor Day. Hours are Thursdays through Mondays 11 am – 5 pm. ▣

NEW BANNERS IN HAGUE *by Steve Ramant*

The Town of Hague is replacing the banners that are currently displayed around town with new ones designed to honor veterans who were born and raised in Hague and who were honorably discharged. Banners will measure 30" by 60" with a picture of the vet on one side of the banner.

This is the information the town requires:

1. The name of the veteran, the branch of service, the dates of service, and the war in which he/she served
2. A copy of the vet's discharge (DD 214)
3. Any prestigious medals that were awarded
4. A picture of the vet in uniform from chest to head. (NOTE: Some pictures may not be reproducible; the town will not know until they submit them.)

To request that your loved one be shown on a banner, contact Bertha Dunsmore at the Hague Community Center at 518-543-6161 and ask for an application. Once all veterans are selected, the order will be sent out promptly. So, please get all the needed information to Bertha as soon as possible.

The town plans to display the banners from when they receive them until Veterans Day in November. ▣



HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPCOMING PROGRAMS

At the annual meeting of the Hague Historical Society (HHS) on June 26, 2019 at 7 pm at the community center, the program will be "Reflecting on Lake George Reflections." Ginger Henry Kuenzel, co-author with Frank Leonbruno of *Lake George Reflections*, a book about the history and stories of many of the Lake George islands, will share the story of how the book came about and relate some of the quirky facts and fiction about the lake's islands.

These are the other HHS upcoming programs. Details will be published as we get closer to the dates, but, for now, mark your calendars!

July 19th — 5 pm — Authors' Event at the Uptown

July 23rd — Joe Zarzynski on "LG Shipwrecks"

August 6th — Reuben Smith from Tumblehome Boat Shop ▣

HAGUE STUDENTS ON THE HONOR ROLL: THIRD QUARTER

- Grade 1:** High Honors - Allison DeBuque and Reagan Decker
Honors - Maleena Savage and Markenna Winter
- Grade 2:** High Honors - Cohen Winter
- Grade 3:** Honors - Wyatt Barnes
- Grade 4:** High Honors - Zebulon Denno, Brady Mydlarz, and Bryant Yackel
Honors - Kaiden Smith
- Grade 5:** High Honors - Dunavinn Harrington
Honors - Aidan DeBuque
- Grade 6:** First Honors - Alyssa Mydlarz, Second Honors - Peyton Granger
- Grade 7:** First Honors - Sofie Hubbard, Second Honors - Dalton Rivard
- Grade 8:** Second Honors - Quentin Gargan
- Grade 9:** First Honors - Madalynn Hubbard and Teegan McLaughlin
Second Honors - Nevaeh Trudeau
- Grade 11:** First Honors - Mckenzie Harrington
- Grade 12:** First Honors - Skye Mason and Austin Stacy
Second Honors - Antonio Martucci

TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - 4/22/2019

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Joshua Patchett and Jack Bast were present. Steve Ramant and Martin Fitzgerald II were absent.

The board approved an agreement with Santore's for fireworks on July 3, 2019.

The Sewer fees for 2019 will be \$783.79 per EDU for Sewer District #1 and \$689.33 for Sewer District #2 plus applicable capital fees. ❑

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 4/25/2019

This meeting was cancelled due to a lack of applications. ❑

PLANNING BOARD OF APPEALS - 5/2/2019

Chairman Dick Frasier, Vice-Chair Pam Peterson, and Board Members Dan Belden, Martin Fitzgerald II, and Judy Gourley were all present. Meg Haskell was absent.

TOWN OF HAGUE (25.2-1-33 & 36) 170 West Hague Road (OCI)

The town would like to install a six-foot-high chain link fence, with gates, along the front of the highway department property to secure materials and equipment. Commercial use allows up to an eight-foot-high fence. A site visit has been completed. At the public hearing, a number of residents expressed concerns that a chain link fence would be unattractive and might impact property values. The board approved a six-foot-high fence and a gate of any material. They also recommended considering other fence materials and a vegetation screen to make the roadside more visually appealing. Frasier, Peterson, Belden, and Gourley voted yes. Fitzgerald voted no.

FRASIER (25.3-1-11.1) 9427 Graphite Mountain Road (OCI)

Dick Frasier recused himself. The applicants would like to subdivide this 79.09-acre parcel into four parcels. A site visit was complete. The board deemed the application complete. Public hearing scheduled for June 6th.

WHITE (26.10-1-25) 63 Friends Point Road North (TRIR)

The applicants would like to demolish a legal nonconforming cottage and rebuild a new cottage on the same footprint. A site visit has been completed and the project was unanimously approved. ❑



TOWN BOARD - 5/14/2019

All board members were present.

A moment of silence was held for Christopher Frasier, Sandra Trudeau, Harriet Cole, and James McKee.

Deputy Highway Superintendent Matt Coffin discussed the department's plans to secure the Highway Department's property. Since there were neighbors who objected to the plan for a fence, the department is working on a plan to use a gate and trees.

The board:

- Accepted the resignation of Janet Hanna as Town Clerk and appointed Melissa Patchett to fill the position until December 31, 2019. She will be running for a full term in November. Melissa was also appointed Registrar of Vital Statistics.
- Set June 11, 2019 at 6:15 pm for a public hearing on the adoption of the Hague Solar Energy Code.
- Agreed to contract with Tedford Consulting to apply to the DEC for a \$24,000 Infiltration and Inflow Grant for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).
- Approved resolutions to create a capital account budget for the current Water Quality Improvement Plan grant and to transfer \$3,000 from the General Fund Highway Reserve to the Highway Garage Reserve for the brining tank platform.
- Heard from Councilman Ramant that Route 9N will be open over Memorial Day weekend and will then go to one lane for paving.

Supervisor Frasier initiated a discussion about Clean-Up Day. She said it costs the town a lot of money and has been misused in the past. After discussion, the board approved a suggestion by Councilman Bast to postpone it to the fall so the board can discuss and redesign the program. ❑

9N UPDATE by Steve Ramant

On Friday, May 3, 2019, I received a call from the NYDOT. They told me the top paving, shoulder, and driveway work would start May 6th. They also told me the pile lagging was complete and the stone wall is being reconstructed.

The plan is to open the road to traffic by May 23rd. There will be no work over Memorial Day weekend. After that, it will be alternating one-way traffic Monday thru Friday. Then the new top course will be put in place, markings will be done, and site clean-up will finish the project. ❑



Photo courtesy of Sandy Powell

SOUNDINGS

DIED: Eugene "Gene" Moran, 87, on March 8, 2019.

He leaves his wife, Doris; four sons; and one daughter. Gene loved his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren dearly.

There will be a memorial service at the HVFD on Saturday, June 15, 2019 at 11 am. All are invited to come and share a story to celebrate the life of this wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

DIED: Donald "Fred" Perry, 89, on April 15, 2019 at home in Green Valley, AZ.

Don was a professional hockey star in the Eastern Hockey League, playing and coaching in New Haven, CT and Saginaw, MI.

Don was a longtime resident of Friends Point and was known by many as an avid golfer and tennis player.

DIED: Christopher Lee Frasier, 38, of Ticonderoga, suddenly, on April 18, 2019 at home, his son by his side.

Chris was employed by International Paper Company. He was a beloved son, father, brother, and fiancé.

He is survived by his parents, Lee and Theresa (Thibeault) Frasier; his fiancée, Amanda Benedict; three sons, Evan, Nicholas, and Brett Frasier; his sister, Kelly (Brandon Trudeau) and their children, Liam and Nevaeh; his father-in-law, Tim Benedict (Michelle); his brother Cory Benedict (Jennifer Chandler) and their children, McKenna and Trent; and many aunts and uncles, including June Frasier and Bonnie Martucci of Hague.

Chris was pre-deceased by his aunt, Janice Frasier and uncle, Jake Thibeault, Jr.; his paternal grandparents, Clifton and Geraldine Frasier; and his maternal grandparents, Jacques and Fay Thibeault.

DIED: Harriet May (Yaw) Cole, 81, on April 26, 2019 at Elderwood Village

Nursing Home of Ticonderoga, surrounded by family.

Harriet was a lifelong resident of Hague. She was employed by many restaurants, including Indian Kettles. Recently, she was a Walmart greeter.

She loved to bake, garden, and spend time with her dog, Sophia.

Survivors include her three children: Ricky Cole, Jacqueline Fleury (Darren), and Hannah Cole; six grandchildren: Jo-Anne Lowell, Ricky Cole, Jr., Melissa Cole, Nicki Mosier, Derek Fleury, and Tyler Cole; and eight great-grandchildren. She is also survived by four siblings: Lillian Lawrence, Wilhelmina St. Pierre, Frederica Sharpe, and Harvey Yaw; and many nieces and nephews.

She was pre-deceased by three sisters: Marie Blowers, Priscilla Blowers, and her twin, Consuella Pitcher; one brother, Rolland Yaw; and an infant daughter, Jo-Anne Cole.

DIED: James R. "Jim" McKee, 76, on May 1, 2019, his loving family and beloved dogs, Casey and Millie, at his side.



Jim graduated from Hague Central School and enlisted in the U.S. Marines. Proud of his service, he later became a commander of VFW Post #146 in Ticonderoga.

After his discharge, he was employed by International Paper for 41 years, retiring in 2005.

In 1999, Jim became a member of the Catholic Church, becoming a Lector and Lay Minister and a member of the Knights of Columbus. Jim's life revolved around church and family.

He was pre-deceased by his parents, Ralph and Elaine; his father and mother-in-law, Louis and Melvina Trudeau; five brothers-in-law; and one sister-in-law.

Jim is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Jean; their children, Glenn (Lori) McKee of Hague and Amy (Scott) Merrill of Moreau; his grandchildren,

Nathan Merrill, Jordan (Austin) McKiernan, Sydni Merrill and Cassidy McKee; his great-grandson, Rhett McKiernan; a brother, Peter (Jane) McKee of Wilton; a sister, Lana (Gary) Thrall; several nieces and nephews; and his lifelong friend, Leo Ross.

BORN: Jackson Robert Kilburn, on May 2, 2019. Parents are Trever and Emily (Faraone) Kilburn, grandmother is Robin (Wotton) Faraone, and great-grandparents are Betty and Bob Wotton of Hague.

GRADUATED: Sean C. Lawrie, son of Lara Smith-Ryder, from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, in Prescott, AZ on May 4, 2019. He received his B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He will be stationed in MS during pilot training.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR WILLIAM PELKEY: There will be a memorial service for William Pelkey on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at 11 am at the Hague Catholic Church, with a gathering to follow at the Hague Community Center.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR ALISON V. CRAIG: A Celebration of Life for Alison V. Craig will be held on Sunday, June 23, 2019 from 2:30 - 5:30 pm at the Northern Lake George Yacht Club on Friends Point Road in Hague. It will be hosted by the Bruce Craig family and a reception will follow at the yacht club.

If Alison touched your life, the Craig family hopes you will join them in this celebration. For further information, call 518-543-6321 or 707-486-8046. ▣

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.

CORRECTION: As several astute readers noted, we incorrectly listed the year of Dolly Kennedy's birth as 1818, not 1918, in the April 2019 issue. We apologize and thank you for letting us know. ▣

NLG REALTY OPEN HOUSE

Northern Lake George Realty will be holding an anniversary Open House at their office at 9840 Graphite Mountain Road in Hague from 3 - 5 pm on Saturday, June 15, 2019.



The NLG Realty team invites the Lake George community to join them for drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and local giveaways in celebration of a successful first year of business.

Meet the NLG team, learn about their commission structures, preview their featured listings, and kick off summer in Hague.

NLG Realty is one of the area's newest real estate agencies, servicing all of Lake George. Founded by Robert and Donna Levenstien, NLG Realty is dedicated to providing local real estate expertise for buyers and sellers alike. NLG Realty has over 60 years of industry experience in real estate law, corporate relocation, and residential sales.

For listing information, visit nlgrealty.com or call 518-543-6900. ▣

LOCAL TEENS GO TO WASHINGTON

Michael Fitzgerald, son of Hague Town Board Member Martin Fitzgerald, II and his wife, Heidi, and the other members of his quiz bowl team (See article on page six of the April issue of *The Hague Chronicle*) are headed to Washington, DC the last weekend in May to represent Ticonderoga High School in the National Quiz Bowl.

Michael's brother, Nicholas, who is a student at the University of New Hampshire, will be there at the same time for an interview for a "semester in the city."

We extend both boys good wishes and hope to have an account of the experiences they have in Washington in the June issue of *The Hague Chronicle*. ▣

DEAN CRAIG NOW HEADS ALISON V. CRAIG REALTY

Alison V. Craig Realty is still open after 32 years!

Alison, who started working as a real estate agent for the Martin Agency in 1983, decided she wanted to control her destiny and opened her own agency four years later. Since its founding, the office, a steadfast presence in the heart of Hague, has been open 361 days a year, making it the place to go to get expert real estate advice, ask directions, and keep current on local issues.

Dean Craig, who worked with Alison for 22 years as an associate broker, took over the business after Alison's passing last September. Dean continues to provide experienced real estate services covering Hague and the northern Lake George area.

Honesty, integrity, and "Where the lake comes first" are Alison V. Craig Realty's enduring values. ▣



SUMMER LEARNING AND FUN AT THE YACHT CLUB

The Northern Lake George Yacht Club in Hague will begin its 79th season of operations on Saturday, June 22, 2019. The club's long history has a foundation in family fun, great camaraderie, and something for everyone.

The cornerstone of the club is its Junior Program. With a reputation as one of the best junior programs in the northeast, classes are open to both members and non-members. Children from age three-and-a-half to 16 may attend the program that is designed to develop life-long skills in sailing, swimming, and tennis. Additional focus is placed on fostering sportsmanship, a respect for the lake, and friendships to last a lifetime.

But mostly, the focus is on FUN!

The program will begin on Monday, July 1, 2019 and will run through Friday, August 16th. Affordable pricing is based by the week, with a recommended two-week minimum for the greatest benefit to the children. Discounts for multiple weeks are available.

Classes will be taught Monday through Thursday from 9 am - 1:30 pm. After the Junior Program concludes at 1:30 pm, the NLGYC will offer optional afternoon programming, including Advanced Racing Sailing (ages 13 - 18), Opti Race Team (ages 10 - 12), Opti Skills Class (ages 8 - 10), and the Adventure Club (all ages).

Additional information is available at the NLGYC website and online registration is now open at <http://nlgyc.com/junior-program>. Class sizes are limited, so early sign-ups are encouraged. ▣



NATURALLY SPEAKING

by *Connie Smith*



“The trout bite when the shadbush blooms” is a bit of folklore that may have some truth to it.

The shadbush, *Amelanchier*, is sometimes called the “serviceberry,” “shadblow,” or “Juneberry tree,” but whatever it’s called, it’s a small tree, featuring gray bark, showy white flowers, berries for pies, and gorgeous fall color.

One folk tale is that the first settlers in New England often held funeral services at the time the tree bloomed because its blooming was a sign that the ground had thawed sufficiently to be able to dig graves. Hence, the name “serviceberry tree.”

Another folk tale is that for thousands of years, along the Hudson River

Valley, the bloom time of this tree coincided with when the shad fish run up the river to spawn. So, the tree was called the “shadbush” or “shadblow.” The shad fish population in the Hudson has declined dramatically, but trout are becoming active in springtime, so the word “trout” has replaced “shad” in the popular saying that opened this article.



An award-winning children’s book entitled *When the Shadbush Blooms*, recounts the fishing activities of a

young Lenape Indian girl and the connection to her grandmother.

The journals of Lewis and Clark’s western expedition tell how they survived on the berries of the shadbush when food was scarce. The dark blue-black berries usually ripen in June, but here in northern New York, the date is likely to be in early July. The berries make a delicious fruit pie

that is listed on several websites. It has been said that a shadbush pie tastes even better than a blueberry pie!

From fishermen to baking enthusiasts, everyone can find a way to enjoy the lovely shadbush tree. ▣

WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by *Mike Strutz*



I love spring. That time of year when flowers bloom, leaves return to the trees, and boats return to the lake. One thing to think about as you get your boat ready to launch is the cleanliness of your bilge. Not something that gets a lot of attention, but can have a significant effect on water quality.

“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”

I spend a lot of time on the water with my boat and I fish almost every day. A few boats ago, I owned a 20’ runabout with a typical 135 horsepower inboard/outboard motor. One day, I was moving from spot to spot, trying to find a bass to catch, when the motor wouldn’t start. My red overheating light was on. Not a good sign. Being the ace mechanic that I am, I figured it was either a water pump problem or, Heaven forbid, a low-oil situation. It turned out to be a *no-oil* situation. My four quarts of oil were sitting in the bilge. Apparently the

drain plug on the oil pan had vibrated loose and fallen out. I had to call for a tow back to the dock and, luckily, during all that time, my bilge pump did not kick on. It had an automatic set-up with a float switch that only activated when the liquid level was over about four inches deep. If it had turned on, my four quarts of oil would have been in the lake.

So, it was with interest that I read a recent ad in BoatUS magazine about a float switch that can detect oil or fuel. Both are lighter than water so they float on top. The switch will turn the pump on to evacuate water from the bilge, but it shuts off as soon as it detects oil or fuel. Measuring about two inches deep and four inches wide, it’s small enough to fit in most boat bilges. It’s called a BG-One



manufactured by BLUE GUARD Innovations. More information can be found on the company website www.bluebgi.com. I am not endorsing any particular products, but I think this is something to check out if you are looking for ways that you can help protect the lake.

As you get your boat ready for the water, spend some time caring for the bilge area. Remove any foreign materials, clean it with a good degreaser, check your engine fittings for leaks, and install a bilge boom to absorb any stray gas, oil, or hydraulic fluid that may occasionally get loose. The lake and your neighbors will appreciate it. Visit the Hague Water Quality Awareness Committee on Facebook or contact one of our Steering Committee members: Al Rider (Chairman), Jim Beaty, Lance Clark, Ginger Kuenzel, Josh Patchett, Steve Ramant or me. ▣

NO SCHOOL MAY 28TH

The Ticonderoga Central School District will not be in session on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 due to the fact that there are unused snow/emergency days. ❑

E-WASTE RECYCLING EVENT

The Silver Bay YMCA Conference and Family Retreat Center will hold its 8th annual e-waste recycling event on Saturday, June 8, 2019.

Members of the community may take unwanted equipment such as microwaves, laptops, printers, and similar electric appliances to Silver Bay between the hours of 10 am – 12 pm and 1 – 3 pm.

“Silver Bay launched this community outreach initiative several years ago as a way to keep harmful materials out of our landfills and allow recycling companies to capture components from discarded electronics for re-purposing elsewhere,” said Chief Executive Officer Steve Tamm.

Most electrical items will be accepted for free, but items such as CRT and LCD monitors carry a nominal fee for recycling. Individuals seeking more information on what equipment will be accepted should call 518-543-8400.

“This is a great opportunity for local and seasonal residents of the community to get rid of their unwanted electronics in a way that is healthy and respectful to the environment,” said Tamm. ❑

EXERCISE PROGRAM NOW IN HAGUE

A new opportunity is now available for everyone in Hague – an Osteobusters Exercise and Education Program.

This new FREE exercise program, which started on May 7, 2019, takes place at the Hague Community Center on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 – 11 am.

This exercise will help you improve your: balance, muscle strength, and posture. Participants will also perform weight-bearing activities.

For additional information, call Claire Best at 518-543-6765 or Sharon Lonergan at 518-585-4477. ❑

WILSON AND PEARSALL SERVE AT SILVER BAY

In January, Adam Pearsall of Queensbury, was elected chairman of the board and Kathy Wilson of Riparius became a board member at Silver Bay YMCA.



Pearsall's connection with Silver Bay YMCA started when he was part of its Youth and Government Program. “The Youth and Government program not only provided me with a great opportunity to meet, collaborate, and develop relationships with others from all over the local area such as Ticonderoga, Queensbury, North Warren, and Bolton, but also helped me to develop lifelong skills that I use every day.”

Pearsall is a Senior Portfolio Manager and Financial Advisor in Glens Falls.

Wilson has worked for Warren County Head Start for 20 years in various roles, providing training and technical assistance to Head Start, both regionally and nationally for the last eight years.

“Kathy Wilson has been connected with Silver Bay since the early 1980s, when she worked as a summer employee, meeting her husband Gary here, and marrying in the Silver Bay Chapel,” noted Silver Bay YMCA CEO Steve Tamm. ❑

HOW THE LAKE'S WATER LEVEL IS CONTROLLED

by Anthony DeFranco

The water level on Lake George stays at a fairly consistent elevation, ranging from 318 feet to 320.40 feet above sea level.

The dam and floodgates that control the lake are located at the lake's outlet in Ticonderoga. The lake level is monitored and recorded every 15 minutes. The water runs over the spillway and continues down the LaChute River through the Town of Ticonderoga into Lake Champlain. ❑



Photo courtesy of Anthony DeFranco.

TI FESTIVAL GUILD DELIVERS “BIG MEDICINE”

The Ticonderoga Festival Guild will kick off its 2019 season with a dinner concert on June 1, 2019 at 5:30 pm at the Best Western Plus in Ticonderoga. The evening will offer a full course dinner and the opportunity to listen and dance to the music of “Big Medicine” from Saratoga.



Big Medicine has been exciting audiences from Albany to Lake George and beyond for a decade and a half. The band is led by Jeff Walton on guitar, harmonica, and vocals and includes the beautiful voice of Becky Walton, Tim Wechgelaer playing violin, mandolin, and guitar, Hague’s own Rick Bolton on lead guitar, and Pat Perkinson and Mike Lomaestro holding it down on bass and drums.

Tickets and additional information are available through Festival Guild board members or by calling Jim at 518-543-6121 to reserve tickets and choose your entrée. Tickets will be sent when checks made out to “Ti Festival Guild” are received by Jim Beaty, 9250 Lakeshore Drive, Hague, NY 12836. Entrée choices are: Bruschetta Chicken, Stuffed Pork Chops with Apple, and Vegetarian Pasta with Lemon Sauce (gluten-free) with optional Grilled Shrimp. The cost is \$35/person. ▣

TRADE EDUCATION BROCHURE AVAILABLE

Do you know students who:

- Are creative, love a challenge, and enjoy “learning by doing?”
- Want to earn as much money as their college friends in less time?
- Want to help and feel valued in their community?
- Want to live, work, and contribute right here in our own area?

Then, a career in the trades might be right for them.

A new brochure published by the Ticonderoga Schools and the Ti-Alliance outlines all of the trade training programs available in our region. The Trade Education Program Quick Reference Guide shows where to get the training in high school or college, web links to all the information, contacts for admission, and information on financial aid. Brochures are at the Hague Community Center, the Ticonderoga Town Offices, or in the Guidance Office at Ticonderoga High School.

The brochure made its debut at the Ticonderoga Career Fair on March 27, 2019. Ticonderoga School Counselor Eric Heckman said, “Our partnership with the Ti-Alliance has been nothing but positive. With help, we’ve been able to deploy this Quick Reference Guide in a very short time. Now we have all of the important information on one page to help our students pursue careers in the trades. As school counselors, we are very excited to have this invaluable additional resource. We look forward to continued collaborations with Ti-Alliance.” ▣



PARAMEDIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

The University of Vermont Health Network - Elizabethtown Community Hospital is accepting applications for the second year of its Paramedic Education Program. The program, launched in 2018 to address a shortage of local paramedic education opportunities, is the first New York State Department of Health accredited program in the region.

“Students gain the experience they need to provide high quality, life-saving care right in their own communities,” said Elizabethtown Community Hospital Paramedic Program Director Bruce Barry. Upon completion of the program, students receive Advanced Life Support Certification and are prepared to sit for the New York State Paramedic Certification exam.

Applications for the 15-month/900-hour program will be accepted through May 31, 2019.



“We worked with partners to design a program that maximizes the student’s exposure to regional health care organizations while minimizing travel,” said Barry. Hands-on clinical training is offered at 15 regional health care organizations and 30 EMS agencies across Northern New York and Vermont. Classroom locations in Lewis, Malone, and Queensbury and online coursework make it easier for students from Clinton, Essex, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties to learn closer to home.

Tuition and fees for the 2019-2020 program are approximately \$5,200 and scholarships are available. Program graduates are eligible for academic credit through North Country Community College.

To learn more about the program, visit www.ech.org or call 518-873-3022. ▣

FARMERS' MARKET 2019 REGISTRATIONS DUE

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) announced that the 2019 Farmers' Market season will be from Saturday, July 6, 2019 through Saturday, September 28th. It will operate on Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm at 1114 Wicker Street near the Walmart entrance and across from Christopher Chevrolet Buick.

Special events are scheduled for the third Saturdays in July, August, and September.

July 20th will be the Grand Opening celebration, with entertainment by the Sometimes Three, consisting of Jessica Stoddard, Lance Clark, and Mike Donahue. The Friends of the Market Festival on August 17th

will feature the Just Passin' Thru Band. In September, the Harvest Festival will welcome back the Loose Monkeys.

Kids' activities will be offered. The committee is working with the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts to set up refreshment stands at each event.

The Ticonderoga Area Farmers' Market is a "certified farmers' market," meaning it has met market rules that define who can sell and what can be sold. "This will be our fifth year operating a Certified Farmers' Market at Wicker Wood," offered TACC CEO Matt Courtright.

"The site has worked well for us with grassy lawn space enjoyed by the vendors, entertainment space in the shade, and plenty of parking in the rear parking area...there is safe access one-way in and one-way out. Parking is available for seniors and those with special needs in front of the garage and there is general parking in the rear and along the exit roadway. Our goal is to

make the market accessible, providing an enjoyable experience for everyone."

The Ticonderoga Area Farmers Market is now recruiting farmers and vendors for the 2019 season and special events.

"If you produce a quality food product that is locally grown, farm raised or handmade featuring local materials, you may be interested in participating in the Farmers' Market," said Market Advisor June Curtis. "Farmers are required to grow 50 percent of the fruits and vegetables they offer. All products must



From left to right are committee members Carol Wood Ramundo (Farmers' Market On-Site Manager), Anthony Anselmo (The Garrison Gym), Matthew Courtright (TACC CEO), June Curtis (Farmers' Market Advisor), and Ann Lamb (Willow Wood Farm).

be local (produced within a 100-mile radius of Ticonderoga, including Vermont). The market welcomes vendors who offer original goods that complement farmer's products.

If you are hesitant to commit to the full season, a flexible schedule is readily offered to encourage participation."

Contact TACC at 518 585-6619 or visit www.ticonderogany.com .

TICONDEROGA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ART SHOW

On Thursday, May 23, 2019, from 5 - 7 pm, there will be an art show at the NLG Realty Gallery at 9840 Graphite Mountain Road in Hague.

Hague native and high school senior Caitlin Myers is hosting a student art show as part of her senior project.

Light refreshments will be provided.

HEALTHY KIDS DAY

The Silver Bay YMCA Teen Center hosted its annual Healthy Kids Day event on Saturday, April 27, 2019 in Ticonderoga. This is a nationwide initiative of the YMCA. It supports the health and well-being of youth by incorporating activities that promote active minds and healthy bodies.

"By creating activities that help children to care for their spirits, minds, and bodies, we can help kids develop a healthy mindset that they can carry into adulthood," said Chief Executive Officer Steve Tamm.

This year's event brought together several families and children from ages three to 12, all of whom enjoyed a variety of activities such as games to practice counting and ABC's, brain teasers and puzzles for all ages, a labyrinth, and obstacle courses.

The Silver Bay YMCA Teen Center in Ticonderoga is offered at no cost to the community and is 100% funded by generous donations, most of which come from outside the local area.



Brady Kennedy from Hague on the balance beam.

NEW EXHIBIT AT THE FORT

Fort Ticonderoga received funding from the International Paper Foundation to support the new exhibit, "Ticonderoga, A Legacy," which opened on May 4, 2019. It explores the tradition of Ticonderoga through popular and military culture over two centuries, including the U.S. Navy vessels that have borne its name.

"Fort Ticonderoga is grateful to the International Paper Foundation for their continued generous support," said Fort Ticonderoga President and CEO Beth Hill.

THIS SUMMER AT THE FORT

Fort Ticonderoga opened for the season on Saturday, May 4, 2019.

This year, visitors can explore the French Army's defense against the British invasion. Guests can thrill at the power of artillery and the crackle of muskets through daily weapons demonstrations and explore programs, new exhibits, gardens, historic trades, and other adventures across the 2000-acre scenic historic property. There will also be new special events and reenactments in 2019.

"In our continued quest for excellence in the historic destination experience, we are very proud to welcome more than 75,000 visitors each year, building family memories, fostering enjoyment in our site's beauty, and inspiring visitors to discover the power of the past and its meaning to us today," said President and CEO Beth Hill.

Fort Ticonderoga and Mount Defiance are open daily from Saturday, May 4, 2019 - Thursday, October 31, 2019 from 9:30 am until 5 pm (last ticket sold at 4:30 pm). General admission tickets and special event tickets are available online at www.fortticonderoga.org. Tickets include admission for two consecutive days. Enhancement experiences such as boat tours and evening programs are an additional charge. ❑

TICOUSTICS – LOCAL MUSICIANS

TiCoustics shows will now be from 6:30 – 9 pm, and the venue will be the American Legion on 104 Montcalm Street in Ticonderoga.

The musicians for June 5, 2019 will include Jessica Paradis Stoddard, Mike Donahue, Lance Clark, Jim Hock, and others. There will be four acts on June 19th. ❑

TACC FUNDRAISER AT LORD HOWE VALLEY

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) Annual Fundraiser will be held on Friday, June 14, 2019 from 5:30 - 10:30 pm at Lord Howe Valley. There will be silent and live auction items, musical entertainment by DJ Cruz, food, and drink.

The cost will be \$60 per person, which will include appetizers, dinner, dessert, and two drinks. A cash bar will also be available.

Attire is business casual the theme of "Americana: A Flag Day Celebration."

RSVP now to 518-585-6619 or email chamberinfo@ticonderogany.com. ❑

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY CHORALE

The Champlain Valley Chorale and The Champlain Valley Strings will present their spring concert, "Other Worlds," on Sunday, June 2nd at 3 pm at the First United Methodist Church in Ticonderoga. Admission is free, but donations to defray expenses are appreciated. ❑

MASON/STAR PUBLIC DINNER

A roast turkey breast 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, May 24, 2019, from 4:30 - 6 pm in the downstairs dining hall of the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street. 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.

Parking will be available along Montcalm Street and at the Hancock House. ❑

\$500 FRIDAYS

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will again hold the fundraiser "Five Hundred Dollar Fridays" this summer.

Every Friday in July 2019, TACC will give away \$500. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the TACC office at 94 Montcalm Street in Ticonderoga throughout May and June, and from TACC board members, ambassadors, and volunteers.

Only 300 tickets will be sold. Winners will be drawn on July 5th, July 12th, July 19th, and July 26th. All proceeds will go to TACC programs that serve, market, and promote the greater Ticonderoga area.

For additional information, call TACC at 518-585-6619 or go to chamberinfo@ticonderogany.com. ❑

STREET ART PROJECT

The Ticonderoga Montcalm Street Partnership (TMSP) has announced that the 2019 Street Art Project is "Adirondack Gardens," and will feature a wooden garden planter and a wooden garden bench. The items have been made locally by Tierney Adirondack Rustic Designs. The goals of the street art project are to decorate sidewalks, businesses, and organizations with handcrafted, hand-painted artwork done by local artists, and to raise funds for a Montcalm Street project.

TMSP invites businesses and organizations to sign up to be sponsors. Only twenty products will be available and they will be on a first-come first-served basis. Sponsor sign-up started May 4, 2019 and the advertised deadline is Monday, May 20th.

Sponsors will hand paint the planters and benches. Then, they will be on display in front of or at Ticonderoga businesses and organizations until mid-August. Lastly, they will be sold at an auction on August 15th at a location to be announced.

The cost of sponsorship is \$60. Sign up by calling 518-585-6619 or by emailing tmsp@timainstreet.org. ❑

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is a monthly news journal, which has been published by volunteers since January 1972. Please send all news items and Soundings by the deadline listed in the calendar, to editor@thehaguechronicle.org. Please send address corrections or account questions to publisher@thehaguechronicle.org.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by tax-deductible donations from its readers. You can contribute online by going to "Donate" on our website, www.thehaguechronicle.org.

Publisher: Judy Stock **Editorial Staff:** Ginger Kuenzel, Pat McDonough, Tina King
Editor: Bobbi Bryant Taylor **Treasurer:** Bob Whitaker
Layout Editor: Chris Quinn **Database Manager:** Jan Whitaker

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

May 2019

MAY

- 21 noon - 8 pm Ticonderoga School Budget Vote and Elections
- 23 5 - 7 pm Art show at the NLG Realty Gallery
- 23 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 25 10 am Hague Memorial Day Celebration
- 27 TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
- 28 noon Senior Club Meeting
- 31 Last day to register to vote in the Primary Election and last day to apply to Paramedic Program

TRANSFER STATION HOURS:

September 2 through June 30

Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

JUNE

- 1 5:30 pm Big Medicine Dinner/Concert at Best Western Plus
- 2 - 9 Americade in Hague/
Seniors Club Café at the town park
- 2 3 pm Champlain Valley Chorale
- 4 7 pm NLG Rotary presentation at Silver Bay
- 5 6:30 - 9 pm TiCoustics at the American Legion
- 6 7 pm Planning Board
- 8 10 am - 12 pm E-Waste Recycling at Silver Bay
- 1 - 3 pm "
- 10 DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF *THE HAGUE CHRONICLE*
- 11 6 pm Town Board Meeting
- 14 5:30 - 10:30 pm TACC Fundraiser at Lord Howe Valley
- 22 Season opening of the Northern Lake George Yacht Club
- 25 12 pm - 8 pm Primary Election in Hague
- 1:30 pm Senior Club Appreciation Luncheon