



# THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

VOLUME 20 No. 3

HAGUE, NY 12836

MARCH 1991

## HAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Wendy Heritage

With the advent of spring in our very near future and thoughts of spring cleaning and spring cleanup, it would be to our community's advantage to remind everyone of some home fire safety tips.

It hasn't been a particularly hard winter but be that as it may, fireplace and/or woodstove chimneys need to be checked and cleaned. Colder winters would call for more frequent checking and cleaning; about every three months. We were all so pleased with our (zero) total of chimney fires in 1990. Let's keep 1991 as close to that total as possible.

In your spring cleaning chores include the disposal of old newspapers, circulars, magazines; check electrical wiring, taking note of old, worn or cracked electrical cords and plugs - replace them as need be. Keep flammables such as kerosene for portable heaters, gas and/or oil mixtures for snowmobiles, chain saws, lawn mowers in approved, leak proof containers in cool dry places, outside of the home, preferably.

If you don't already own smoke alarms for your house, trailer, apartment, business, invest in them - they could save a life. Use common sense when purchasing smoke alarms - buy the number you need. Two story homes should have a minimum of two smoke alarms. Rule of thumb suggests one centrally placed alarm for every three average-sized rooms. Please don't forget your basements, attics, workrooms or garages; they need smoke alarms too. There are many brands of smoke alarms available to the public, ranging in price. Buy those that best fit your needs and your budget. One last tidbit - you might check with your insurance company; there are those companies that offer incentive discounts to customers who have smoke alarms.

One last subject I'd like to touch on before closing is the use of 9-1-1 for emergencies. 9-1-1 puts qualified help at your fingertips, whether it be police, fire or ambulance. Remember, properly trained emergency personnel can help save your home, your property, even your life.

So often panic or fear causes us to reach out to the familiar - family or friends, or to attempt to help a situation that we're not really equipped for - all perfectly normal, logical responses. But, remember things are not always as they appear and those extra minutes spent calling someone else first or trying to do it yourself could spell disaster. Dial 9-1-1 first, get the qualified help you need on its way to your location before making those other calls. 9-1-1 personnel are trained to take necessary information and may be able to offer helping advice while you wait for help to arrive. 9-1-1 was developed for a quick, efficient,

qualified response to a full range of emergencies from the kitten stuck in the tree to armed robbery; from a twisted ankle to a heart attack; from a grass fire to a fully involved residence. You pay a 35¢ surcharge for "enhanced 9-1-1" each month with your phone bill. Use what is available to you - it could make a difference.

Any questions? Contact a fire company member; we'd be happy to help.

## PROPOSED FEE SCHEDULE FOR LANDFILL

The following is the 1991 proposed fee schedule for the TOWN OF HAGUE SOLID WASTE:

Household garbage: 33 gal. bag \$2.00  
15 gal. bag 1.00

---

Construction and Demolition Material: \$ 9.00 per yard  
Large pickup = 2 yards 18.00 per load  
Small pickup = 1 yard 9.00 per load

---

Yard Waste: \$ 5.00 per yard  
Large pickup = 2 yards 10.00 per load  
Small pickup = 1 yard 5.00 per load  
33 gallon bag = 1/4 yard 1.25 per bag

---

Metal: \$ 9.00 per yard  
Large pickup = 2 yards 18.00 per load  
Small pickup = 1 yard 9.00 per load  
Single items 1.00 each

---

White Goods: \$ 5.00 per item

---

Tires: Small tires (no rims) \$ 2.00 each  
Large tires (no rims) \$ 3.00 each

---

Automotive Batteries: \$ 2.00 each

---

Items accepted free of charge: clear glass, brown glass, green glass, steel cans, aluminum cans, #2 HDPE (plastic milk jugs, water jugs, etc.), newsprint (glossy, color inserts removed), household hazardous waste.

---

All fees are calculated based on market availability and prevailing market rate plus trucking and shipping fees.

---

The list of items accepted free of charge will fluctuate according to market availability and prevailing market rate.

\*\*\*\*\*

HAGUE FIRE DEPARTMENT RUMMAGE/BAKE SALE  
ON MARCH 21, 22 AND 23 IN COMMUNITY CENTER.  
SUPPORT YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT AS THEY SUPPORT YOU.

HAGUE HISTORICAL MUSEUM NOTES

Now on display in the LOBBY SHOWCASE in the Hague Community Center are:  
Levi Newton's Civil War Discharge - 1865 (donated by the Holman family)  
Bessie West's Memory Book - 1880 (Clifton West)  
Woman's fan (early air conditioner)  
Cut glass pitcher (Clifton family)

Displayed in the HISTORICAL ROOM are:  
Two women's boas (black and white)  
Quilt, top only  
Baby's bunting (circa 1908)

You are invited to visit the Museum. Hague Historian Clifton West has done a wonderful job of sorting and displaying many items of interest for area residents and visitors.

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

Robert M. Cole

Friday evening, March 22, The Hague Historical Society will present the "COLONIAL PHYSICIAN" as portrayed by Jim Gabler, a Physicians' Assistant at Moses Ludington Hospital in Ticonderoga. Mr. Gabler will be in his costume of the times and discuss his working instruments, both originals and accurate copies of the period and his medicines that he would prescribe in colonial days.

Come and be impressed with the medicine of our forefathers and be thankful for the advances in medicine today. Refreshments will be served at 7:30PM and meeting will start promptly at 8:00PM.

An April meeting will be held in conjunction with The Ticonderoga Historical Society. This will be the third in our current series of a yearly joint meeting. This time the Hague society is giving the program and the Ticonderoga society will be the hosts at the Hancock House. The topic will be THE SILVER BAY BOYS' SCHOOL. Again the social hour begins at 7:30PM and the program will start at 8:00PM.

CUB SCOUT PACK 21 NEWS

Karen Costello

Our pack gathered at the Community Center for an informative discussion on Safety and First Aid with EMT Tom Porter. Some helpful tips we learned should help these Scouts be ready and know when to get help. Thanks Tom!

It was a cold Saturday for Winter Carnival ice fisherman, but Cubs Wyatt Wells, Tyler Wells, Ryan Lawrence and Kevin Stonitsch braved the wind and tried their luck at ice fishing with leaders Kay and Walt Wells. No fish, but plenty of hot dogs! (Maybe they should use them for bait!)

On Sunday two determined Scouts used all their might in the ice chisel competition. David and Greg Fitzgerald burned some calories working that chisel to open water.

Thanks to the hungry crowd and the Winter Carnival Committee, we earned some money for the pack through

popcorn sales. Also thanks to the Cubs and their folks who helped with that project. Den #2 sold popcorn (in reusable bags!) to help them buy Webelo hats on which they will proudly wear their pins signifying their achievements. They have earned ARTIST and are working toward CITIZENSHIP.

Den #3 Scouts are all VERY close to Wolf Rank. You can do it! Den #1 is concentrating on the leadership achievement, with each Scout preparing a den meeting activity. Dens 1 and 3 participated in a Bowl-a-Rec to earn money for the Council, our pack and to earn a bowling badge and win prizes. They all did well and had a good time! One Scout you can't hold back is Kenny Stonitsch of Den #3. He bowled with a broken leg!

We'd like to say Good Job! to the Scouts of Pack 21 who participated in the production of Charlotte's Web at school last week. From Den #2, Thor Gautreau, Nate Lawrence, Craig Smith and Chris Frasier and from Den #1, Tavish Costello, Greg Fitzgerald and James Jones - great performance!

Den #1 is collecting the refundables at the landfill this month. Thanks for your contributions!

SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

Ethel Andrus

The next regular meeting of the Hague Senior Citizens Club will be held on Tuesday, March 26, at the Community Center in Hague, at 1:30PM. There will be the customary business meeting, and there will be a program on The Steamboats of Lake George. Light refreshments will follow the program.

And we have a very special announcement to make. On Thursday, May 16, the Warren County Council of Senior Citizens will hold its annual luncheon at SILVER BAY ASSOCIATION at 12:00 noon. Our very own Dottie Henry will be honored with a special award recognizing her contributions to the community. We invite all our Hague Seniors to attend. (Be a resident of Hague and 50+ years of age.) To register, phone Bertha or Diane at 543-6161. Indicate your choice of entree: Filet of Fish, Chicken Breast, or Roast Beef. All entrees are \$8.50. The rest of the meal consists of tomato juice, baked potato, vegetable medley, jello and cookie. Give cash to Ethel or write a check payable to Ethel W. Andrus. She, in turn, will write one check to the Seniors Council. (These rules and regulations are the Council's) Registration must be by April 15. Should you decide NOT to go after registering and paying fee (which must be paid by April 15) there will be NO refunds made after April 26. Speakers for the occasion will be (we hope) Assemblyman Robert D'Andrea, Supervisor Richard Bolton of Hague, and Supervisor William Thomas of Johnsbury.

Let's hope for a fine day so we can enjoy the Silver Bay Campus in its beautiful setting. And last, but not least, to honor Dottie on this special occasion. Come out for Henry, Come out for Hague!

THINK

SPRING

ZBA

Since there was nothing to be brought up before the Zoning Board of Appeals, the meeting for February was cancelled. Next scheduled meeting will be March 22.

PLANNING BOARD - March 7, 1991

No change was made to the Michael's approved subdivided lot under Section 8.020, from the February 7, 1991 meeting.

The Barker major subdivision on the New Hague Road is classified as a Class A subdivision. This has been referred to the APA for review.

Jack Carney proposed a major subdivision, which is also classified as Class A and subject to review by APA.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - March 12, 1991

A Recycling-Source Separation Law for the town of Hague was passed unanimously at the March 12 Town Board meeting. This is known as Local Law No. 1 and hopes to reduce solid waste through separation and the removing of recyclable materials. It is consistent with the NY State Solid Waste Management Plan. This law can be viewed at the town hall for anyone interested. It will become effective May 1, 1991.

Barbara Fitzgerald has suggested a contribution to the Ti Youth Commission Program (it provides opportunities for children in the Ti Central School District to enjoy a variety of events) and tennis courts and basketball hoops at the Community Center. Supervisor Bolton said no money was allocated this year for a youth program but will be in the next budget.

The Hague Volunteer Fire Dept. requested the use of the town park for their steak roast during the bass tournament and asked for a variance for that day so that beer and wine could be served. After reading the ordinance of 1988, letters from the county attorney, town attorney and our insurance company to the audience, Supervisor Bolton held an open discussion. The Board then decided to approve the town park for the steak roast but said NO to the variance.

Bolton will request a school budget public hearing be held in the town of Hague.

David Martucci has received state certification as assessor of advanced designation from the Board of Equalization and Assessment. He received 92% on each of two tests, taken in November.

The new recycling building at the landfill is almost completed. Meetings will follow.

Work is progressing on a local littering law.

Several county resolutions were passed including 1) the opposition to the NYS position on landfill closures and 2) to the 10¢ a gallon tax increase. . . gl

AMERICAN LEGION

Hague Post 1538, American Legion, regrets that we have had to disappoint several would-be flag purchasers, as we are completely sold out, and our supplier tells us that our order will not be filled for at least six weeks. When available, the Chronicle will be notified.

Post membership is at a record level of 91 for 1991, six

higher than last year and far above the 50 members of 1984. If any Chronicle reader is a wartime veteran who is not yet a Post member but who might be interested in becoming a Legionnaire, please contact Commander Don Davis, Bernie Clifton, any member of the Post, or better yet, come to the next regular meeting, which will be held at the Legion home on Wednesday, April 3 at 7:30PM. . BC

HAGUE FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLS

In February there were 12 ambulance runs, entailing 121 man hours and 1,039 miles. There was also one chimney fire and one structure fire, totaling 112 man hours. On February 26 at midnight a fire in the home of Jim and Jean McKee, corner Rt. 8 and Mountainview Rd. erupted in the basement and spread rapidly to the attic. The McKees were awakened by the smoke and escaped. Fortunately there were no injuries, but the house was totally engulfed when the firemen arrived. Ti and Brant Lake Fire Depts. were called upon to help with their pumpers, ambulance and as standby at the Hague Fire House.

CHARLOTTE'S WEB AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Were you there when Charlotte, the Spider helped to save Wilbur, the Pig? Well, if you were at the Ticonderoga Elementary School on Friday, March 8, you saw how she did it. Charlotte, in turn, was helped by the young farm girl, Fern, who persuaded her farmer father not to destroy the little runt pig. The musical was well received by an enthusiastic audience in a crowded auditorium. Many Hague elementary children performed their roles with much fervor. Included in the cast from Hague were: Lindsay Frasier as Mrs. Zuckerman, Crissy Lawrence as Goose, Thor Gautreau as Gander, Melissa Brunet as Sheep and Kathryn Rutkowski and Eve Trombley as goslings. Craig Smith was a judge at the fair and Tavish Costello was one of the dashing Barber Shop Quartet - four boys, decked out in red vests and red banded straw boater hats who sang, "Zuckerman's Famous Pig" in praise of Wilbur at the County Fair. Townspeople at the fair included Greg Fitzgerald, Karajon Johnson, James Jones, Nate Lawrence, Chris Frasier and Jessica Ward.

The musical was produced and directed by Jeanne Seel and Linda Azer, who was also accompanist. They credited several hardworking crews - Sewing, Web-snipping, Set building, Stage, Video tape, Make-up and Program Book - and "the fantastic support we received from our fellow faculty members and support staff." More than 100 students participated in the production. Like Wilbur, the teachers/directors, cast and helpers turned out to be "Radiant", Terrific", Humble". Wilbur, of course, as Charlotte spun out the words in her web each night, was all these things. Indeed, Wilbur, as she spelled it out the very first time was "Some Pig!"

This delightful show may be seen on Channel 10. Watch for it! . . . B deG

NOTICE

THERE WILL BE A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING TO DISCUSS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY, PROCEDURE AND FEES APRIL 2 - 6:30PM - HAGUE COMMUNITY CENTER

The following letter was received recently from Pamela Bullock and Timothy Hayes, Brattleboro, VT.

As the severity of environmental destruction becomes undeniable, we must look further than the obvious places to lay blame - leaders, corporations, etc. - and examine our personal responsibility. Surely it has occurred to many of us that there is a clear connection between this calamitous predicament and our "way of life" in this land of plenty. It can be a most painful realization. However, the flipside of remorse is empowerment: the better we understand how we contribute to a problem the better we can affect its solution.

So we make an effort to "reduce, reuse, and recycle"; but still find ourselves throwing out used plastic pens, purchasing items outweighed by their "bubble-packs", or paying large electric bills.

As awareness increases, the scope of the problem seems overwhelming. Efforts to change even simple behaviours are surprisingly difficult, run against the grain of society, and so often seem futile - merely a drop in the bucket. Somehow we must remember that these little efforts do add up and are necessary changes - that drops of water are not wasted if, indeed, there is a bucket.

In an effort to create a bucket that we can see being filled, the Global Action Plan for the Earth (GAP) was formed last year. Working with the organizers of Earth Day International, a set of global action goals was formulated and then translated into a program of individual household actions.

The GAP program is aimed at those of us who are motivated to act, but feel overwhelmed or don't know where to start or perhaps are ready to do more. It involves organizing groups of 8-12 households (or schools, businesses, other institutions) into "Ecoteams" that meet monthly to discuss, plan, and implement changes - at whatever level they can - regarding energy efficiency, water use, solid waste, transportation, and consumerism. There is a workbook that includes progress charts to be filled out monthly. These will be gathered from all Ecoteams around the world, tabulated, and the collective results communicated back to the teams - a way to see the bucket being filled. (If just 1000 households were to replace 10 of their light bulbs with compact fluorescents, more than 1/2 million gallons of oil could be saved, reducing pollution, plus saving each household around \$500 over the life of the bulbs.)

Surely we must work to halt the institutionalized destruction of the environment and continue to call loudly for an energy policy that emphasizes efficiency and clean, renewable sources. In the meantime, let us not wait for the "leaders". We can act where we have more immediate control - in our homes and as consumers - and begin any day to make the changes that will become the way of the future.

Pam stated in an accompanying letter that "we have been meeting for 4 months now. It's a great way to get together socially and be doing something that otherwise feels so overwhelming. If anyone or any group was interested, I would be able to come do a 'briefing' in Hague." Pam is the daughter of Audrey O'Brien, Hague and spends a lot of her free time here. Her address is RR1, Box 168, Brattleboro, VT 05301

TICONDEROGA 1991-92 SCHOOL BUDGET

An informational meeting was held on March 13 at the Ticonderoga High School to learn about the proposed budget for the coming year. Dr. Collins, School Superintendent gave a brief introduction and turned the meeting over to Mr. William Butler, school business manager.

This year, the school board will find themselves particularly hard pressed to come up with a budget that will satisfy all the educational needs of the students and satisfy the taxpayers. Mr. Butler stated that only 3% of the

the total budget could actually be manipulated. The rest of the budget is mostly state mandated programs. State Aid has been drastically reduced for this coming year and therefore the burden has shifted to local taxpayers. With no increase at all over last year's budget, the taxpayers would still be looking at a very large increase in their taxes.

When voters approved the reconstruction project in 1989, it was not suspected that the monies from the state would not be forthcoming. The school board has borrowed 3 million dollars and will have to start paying it back in 1991-92, in the amount of \$445,000 in principal and interest the first year. Revaluation in Ticonderoga has also played havoc with the finances, since there have been several lawsuits by various people protesting their assessment. \$23,000 will have to be returned. There are two outstanding court cases - one in Hague in which the state is challenging its assessments on all timber land (and there is a lot!) and the other a law suit by IP wanting to get their assessments cut in half. If IP wins their case, \$188,000 will be dropped from the taxes received and will have to be shifted to home owners.

In 1977-78 the enrollment was 1400 students and went up to 1479 when Hague was annexed in 79-80. In 90-91 it was 1086 and is projected for 1092 next year.

The School Board has started out with a zero base method - every expense will be examined on its own merits and nothing will be included simply because it has been included in the past. They welcome input from the public. A complete schedule for budget workshops has been worked out on a series of Wednesdays at 7:30PM in the Ticonderoga High School Cafeteria.

3/27/91 - Elementary, Middle School & Handicapped expenditures

4/3/91 - High School & Interscholastic sports

4/10/91 - Transportation, Community, Employee Benefits, Debt Service & Cafeteria expenditures. Review of total expenditures and available revenue. Discussion on draft of proposed budget to be presented at Public Hearing.

4/26/91 - Final date by which petitions are due from candidates for Board of Education, 5PM, District Office.

(Hague has one member, David DeFranco, on the Board. Wouldn't it be great to have two?)

5/1/91 - Workshop on total expenditure needs and available revenue. Discussion on draft of proposed budget to be presented at Public Hearing.

5/8/91 - Public Hearing

5/15/91 - Regular Board Meeting - Adoption by the Board of Education of the 1991-92 Budget.

5/17/91 - Latest date for copies of the Proposed 1991-92 Budget to be available for Public Release.

5/29/91 - Vote on Proposed 1991-92 School Budget and Election of members of the Board of Education.

Background reports on each topic will be available at school offices one week prior to each workshop.

Remember - these are your kids and your money. Try to get to some of these workshops. Speak up and be counted! . . . djh

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't forget to put May 28 on your calendar for the Glenn Miller Orchestra concert at the Ticonderoga High School, sponsored by the Ticonderoga Festival Guild. Reserve seat tickets will go on sale soon at Radio Shack. Get yours early!

BIRDS OF HAGUE

Laura Meade

On March 6, 1991, an Elderhostel group, led by Basil Northam at the Silver Bay Association, observed a pair of Bald Eagles approximately 100 yards from shore, directly in front of the Inn, flying south over Lake George. There has been an area of open water all winter in that vicinity and, presumably, that was what attracted the eagles, since they feed on fish. Many in the Elderhostel group had binoculars and were able to see the birds in detail. The siting, which was VERY unusual, was reported to Michael King of the New York State Endangered Species Unit. King said he would appreciate being notified of sitings of all endangered species such as Peregrine Falcon, Common Loon, Osprey, and Bald Eagle. King's address: Endangered Species Unit, Game Farm Road, Delmar, NY 12054; his phone: (518) 439-7635.

Other unusual bird sitings recently have been:

- 1 Bald Eagle (2/10) by Eberhard Werschky and Chris Ginn at Hague Town Dock.
- 1 Sarp-shinned Hawk (2/16&17) by Phil Shuman at Silver Bay Road.
- 1 Brown Creeper (2/21, 2/28 & 3/3) by Elton Rising at Lake shore Terrace.
- 1 Robin (2/26) by Millie Stockholm at Friends Point on the ice.
- 1 Bald Eagle (3//1) by Phil Shuman at Oneida Bay on the ice.
- 1 Eastern Bluebird (3/7 & 3/8) by Rena Dykstra at Cold Water Canyon Farm.
- 1 American woodcock (3/6) by Joe Bach on New Hague Rd. Record for earliest siting for this bird is 3/9.

Please notify Laura Meade of any unusual bird sitings.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DISCUSSES PROPOSED  
BED TAX

On March 6, 1991 The Hague Chamber of Commerce met at the Hague Community Center . Ms Kelly Lovell, Director of the Lake George Convention Bureau, and Mr. Mike McCarthy, C.P.A. were there to discuss the convention center which is being proposed for Warren County in the former Gaslight Village area in the town of Lake George.

The need for financing this 11.1 million dollar project will have to be born by the entire county and after many suggestions as to how it could be done, the steering committee decided that the best way would be to impose a 2.5% tax on motels and hotels in Warren County. Any motels/hotels with less than ten units would be excluded from this tax. The question was asked as to who would own and operate the facility. It would be under the direction of an authority (a not-for-profit) corporation, with probably a five-member board appointed by the Warren County Board of Supervisors. The county would be the guarantor. It would operate with 1.4 million debt service and \$400,000 operating deficit.

The prime purpose of having a convention center would be to extend the tourist season throughout the year. They would not encourage conventions during July and August, since we don't need the extra business during these two peak months.

Members of the Chamber asked many questions, one

of which is "How could it possibly benefit us in Hague?" The only benefit that can be seen for the town of Hague MIGHT be in increased sales tax revenues from the county. Even that remains to be proven.

Another major concern is environmental impact a project of this kind would have on the lake, particularly considering its proximity to the lake.

It is also a concern of those present that based on the fact that we would be increasing the total cost to tourists, it may lessen the number of tourists who come into Warren County. Even if it was a small percentage, it would override the benefits. This would also affect the motels and also the supporting facilities, i.e. restaurants, shops, etc.

This reporter concurred that nobody that was present at this meeting was very happy with the proposal.

Two presentations were made by Sal Santaniello, President of the Hague Chamber of Commerce. A beautiful plaque, reading "1990 Hague Senior Citizen of the Year, Dorothy J. Henry In recognition and appreciation for your many years of dedicated service to the Hague community. From the Hague Chamber of Commerce." Dottie was unable to attend the Christmas party when the award was to be made.

Sal presented a picture of past ice auger champions, along with a carnival button, to Supervisor Dick Bolton, who was instrumental in having the National Ice Auger Championships located in Hague. Pictured were Frank Dagles, Walt Wells Gary Crammond, and Jim Clark, auger/chisel... djh

"It is with great pride and grateful appreciation to the Chamber of Commerce and the people of the town of Hague that I accepted this award. This town is the greatest!" ... Dottie Henry

WEATHER NOTES

Mary Lou Doulin

If weather is about change then that is what has been happening in Hague this past month. A cycle of false spring starts, alternating with bouts of cold have been the norm. Beginning with Lincoln's birthday which was a beautifully cold clear 20° day and continuing through Saturday February 16, we had cold days, colder nights and snow on the 13th. This contrasted sharply with the 50° of the previous week. The remaining days of February were warmer vascillating between 28° and 45° with sun, rain, fog and mixed snow.

March came in like a lamb as temperatures were back to 50 and the sun radiated brightly. Fog and rain set in on the 2nd but by the 3d of March we had 34° and clear skies. Monday the 4th we had a wild ice storm which brought us a 10-hr. power outage in central Hague and further delays in the outer parts. It was exceedingly beautiful to look at but caused much hardship and tree limb damage. The full moon was wonderfully bright on the 28th of Feb. and Venus has been visible in the western sky just after sunset. It is the brightest star in the night sky so take pleasure from its dazzle. The ice fishermen are still on the lake!

\*\*\*\*\*

*Blessed are the brief, for they have lower phone bills.*

**LANDFILL HOURS CHANGE APRIL 1**

Beginning April 1 until September 10, the Hague Landfill will be open from 12:00 Noon to 5:00PM seven days a week.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT BREAKFAST A HUGE SUCCESS**

On Saturday, Feb. 16 and Sunday the 17th, the Hague Fire Department served breakfast to a total of approximately 250 people. They realized \$779.00 from this fund raiser. Joyce Monroe, in the absence of Marilyn Priore, chaired the committee and she had lots of help from volunteers from the community. Everything went very smoothly - we were prepared for the Sunday church goers, which had been the bottleneck the year before. Joyce wishes to thank all those who contributed their time and energy to help and also to all those who came and enjoyed a delicious breakfast. The Fire Department would also like to thank the Town Board for the use of the Community Center.

The Fire Department will be holding a RUMMAGE and BAKE sale at the Community Center on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 21, 22 and 23. Articles may be left at the center on March 18, 19 and 20 from 9AM - 12Noon, or call 543-6161 for pickup. PLEASE try to make some goodies for the bake sale on one of these days.

**DEMOLITION CREWS AT WORK IN HAGUE**

It will be interesting for all you people who have headed elsewhere for the winter to note upon your return the razing of the Beachside, located in the center of town. At this point it is completely down except for a chimney, which will come down soon. Still a lot of cleanup to do.

It is also interesting to note that "Viewpoint", the former Henry residence, just south of Springdale Manor, has also been razed, along with the boathouse on the property. Both the Beachside and "Viewpoint" are owned by David Darrin of Hague.

**26TH ANNUAL WINTER CARNIVAL A SUCCESS  
BESTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND REACHES A BENCHMARK**

Kathy Santaniello

The 26th Annual Hague Winter Carnival went off with few hitches and many successes this year, despite chilling temperatures and high winds to start off on Saturday. Even though the thermometer hovered in the single digits, many families braved the cold, blustery day to join in the Kids' activities at the park, make snow sculptures, watch the record number of footrace runners (24) cross the finish line, and watch a record number of "polar bears" (12) plunge into the icy waters of Trout House Village dock. All events went off as planned, including the new ones: sanctioned snowmobile drag races and the softball tournament. Penelope the Clown visited the kids at North Pond on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons, blew up helium balloons and painted faces.

This year three Hague students received a total of \$525 in Beste Scholarship awards. Richie Belden, Ulster Community College, Christopher Kuzianik, Plattsburgh State Univ. College and Maureen Denno, Champlain

College, all received awards presented at the Carnival Dinner Dance.

The overwhelming success of this year's carnival enabled the Carnival Committee to turn over \$2,000 to the Beste Scholarship Fund from the proceeds, in addition to several individual donations totalling \$220, made directly to the fund over Carnival weekend. At this time, the fund has exceeded the \$5,000 level which makes the Carnival Committee extremely proud and excited and will hopefully encourage additional donations as the fund continues on its healthy upward trend. Anyone who would like to make a donation to the Beste Scholarship Fund may send them c/o The Beste Scholarship Fund, Hague Community Center, Hague NY 12836

An encouraging number of new volunteers came forth this year to help with all phases of Carnival operation, which gave the old standby Committee members a real "boost" and helps spur everyone on to do an even better job next year. The Carnival Committee thanks everyone who helped in any way make our 26th Annual Carnival the success it seemed to be. P.S. Watch for our "Hot Cash" raffle this summer.

**EASTER SERVICES SCHEDULED**

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7PM - Ecumenical Communion in Hague Baptist Church Annex

Good Friday, March 29, 7PM - House Church in parsonage

Easter Sunday, March 31 - 6:30AM - Annual Easter Sunrise

Service at public beach, followed by pancake breakfast in Hague Baptist Church annex. In case of inclement weather, service will be held in church

Easter - 10:30AM - Easter celebration of Christ's Resurrection in sanctuary at Hague Baptist Church.

**LGPC NEW RECREATIONAL RULES DRAFTED**

Parasail operations would be limited to an area 500 ft from shore when in flight, and to the hours between 8AM and 7PM

Tour boats would be required to operate "in such a way that does not produce a wake which will cause undue shoreline erosion or property damage or endanger the safety of others."

Scuba diving rules (which are being reworked) would prohibit scuba diving within 50 ft. of a dock or mooring and in other areas.

Private property - No vessel would be allowed to "anchor, moor or recreate" within 200 ft of private dwelling, without the consent of owner or lessee. Exceptions include fishing and emergency use of such waters.

Jet Skis regulated, not banned. If the controls don't work, then the commission could review the issue with the idea that "a more comprehensive approach" might be justified. This was the most controversial of the issues involved. In letters to the Park Commission 308 people favored bans, 60 people opposed them and suggested stronger regulation and 83 wrote in favor.

Anyone being towed must wear a personal floatation device.

Historic shipwrecks and artifacts are protected.

HEARINGS ARE BEING PLANNED FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 27.

SOUNDINGS

**BORN** - A boy, Benjamin David to Drs. Rose M. (Viscardi) and Jeffrey David Hasday, Lutherville, MD on February 23. Grandparents are Judge and Mrs. Dominick J. Viscardi.

**MARRIED** - Bernard Jordon, Hague, to Ramona Charbonneau, Crown Point, on February 14 by Judge Kenneth Yaw at the home of Barb and Tink Snow.

**DIED** - Florence C. Gelhaar, 85, on February 9, 1991 at Van Dyk Nursing Home, Montclair, NJ. She was the widow of Dr. Harold Gelhaar and resided with him at Mitten Rock, Sabbath Day Point until 1983. She is survived by three daughters, two sisters, eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

**DIED** - Rosalinda Middleton, 50, wife of David Middleton, Carlisle, PA, on March 6 in Carlisle. She is survived by her husband, daughter Julie, and son LeRoy. She was the daughter-in-law of Julia and the late Aaron Middleton.

THS ANNOUNCES THIRD PERIOD HONOR ROLL

The following Hague students attending Ticonderoga High School are listed on the Honor Roll for the Third Marking Period:

First Honors: TREVA BRAISTED, ANTHONY DeFRANCO, ELIZABETH DeFRANCO, MICHELLE WATERS, VICKIE WATERS

Second Honors: LISA COBB, RICHARD COBB, CAROLYN DYKSTRA, ALISON LaCOURSE, KELLY YAW.

Congratulations to all of you. Keep up the good work.

TI MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT ROLL

BETH BRUNET, JESSICA FRASIER, ALLISON JOHNSON, MONICA JOHNSON, TRACY SCHLOGL, BRITTANY STULL, JESSICA WARD.

IMPROVEMENT ROLL

CHAD JORDON, CONNIE SWINTON, MELISSA WARD

To make the Achievement Roll, a student must achieve a B or above in ALL subject areas and in order to be placed on the Improvement Roll a student must have achieved a letter grade improvement in more than one subject area, one being a major subject. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU!

GERALD CRAMMOND, a Ticonderoga native, has been named director of facilities management by the Silver Bay Association. Mr. Crammond will manage the maintenance and Housekeeping departments, which are responsible for the grounds of the 600-acre campus, 65 buildings and guest rooms that accommodate 800 persons.

Mr. Crammond and his wife, the former Jane Watts of Silver Bay, now live in Silver Bay.

ALISON LaCOURSE, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Craig LaCourse, Hague, was recognized during Youth Art Month for her art accomplishments. She is enrolled in studio drawing and painting and serves as treasurer of the Arts Alliance student art club.

Congratulations to RODERICK L. GEER, executive vice president of the insurance industry's Million Dollar Round Table, who has been appointed to the position of vice president and chief of staff to Ron D. Barbaro, president of The Prudential, effective March 4.

JOHN COON took first place in the fishing contest at the Hague Winter Carnival with his prize-winning trout. SHANE PORTER took first place in the junior division.

SILVER BAY ASSOC. ELECTS TRUSTEES

The Silver Bay Association has elected nine people to its board of trustees, including a Silver Bay resident.

Jules Halm of Silver Bay, a self-employed management consultant, will serve a three-year term on the 36-person board and its construction committee. The other new board members are Carol Cooper, Chatham, NJ; Charlotte Gosselink, Providence, RI; Reverend Deadra Johns, Putnam Station; Ralph Ketcham, Syracuse; John Porpora, Metuchen, NJ; Maurice Rasbeck, Fairport; Grant VanPatten, Saratoga Springs; and Richard Volkert, Tonawanda.

"Our board provides great guidance and expertise" states Mark Johnson, executive director. "These nine people represent the diversity of skills that is helping us provide new community services and serve more groups."

WATER AT HIGH LEVEL

The Lake George water level was dangerously high in January, leaving the shoreline vulnerable to erosion and property at the waterline open to severe damage due to ice that has frozen at an abnormally-high level.

The January 1 level of 3.92 on the Rogers Rock Gauge meant that the water level was well above the 3.2 target level that the Department of Environmental Conservation has set for this time of year. Yet, when one of the LGA members flew over the outlet, there was no visible flow over the LaChute River. There should be, if the firm that controls the outlet were attempting to draw down the lake to a safer level.

The LGA alerted the DEC Commissioner of the situation early in January, and there now seems to have been some lowering of the level. State Navigation Law requires that every possible effort be made to prevent the lake level from exceeding four feet on the Rogers Rock Gauge.

At press time DEC officials were meeting with the hydropower company to prompt improved management of the lake levels year-round.

Reprinted from February 1991 LGA News

\*\*\*\*\*

*After the average taxpayer has finished paying a few hundred taxes - hidden as well as out in the open - he usually feels bleid, whie and blue.*

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MARCH/APRIL 1991

#### MARCH

- 17 ST PATRICK'S DAY
- 19 Home Bureau, 10AM - Community Center
- 19 Fish and Game Club, 7:30PM - Clubhouse
- 20 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls
- 20 School Board meeting - 7:30PM
- 22 Hague Historical Society, 7:30PM Comm. Ctr (p2)
- 21 Hallelujah! Spring is here!
- 21 Carillon Garden Club - 11AM - Church of the Cross-Ti.
- 21, 22, 23 Fire Dept. Rummage Sale - Comm. Ctr. (p1)
- 22 Hague Historical Society, 7:30PM Comm. Ctr (p2)
- 24 PALM SUNDAY
- 26 Senior Citizens Club meeting - 1:30PM - see p 2
- 28 Zoning Board of Appeals - 7:30PM
- 29 GOOD FRIDAY
- 30 FIRST DAY OF PASSOVER
- 31 EASTER

#### APRIL

- 1 Fire Department - 7:30PM - Fire Hall
- 2 Home Bureau, 10AM - Community Center
- 3 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls
- 3 American Legion meeting - 7:30PM - Legion Home
- 3 Chamber of Commerce meeting - 7:30PM - Comm. Ctr.
- 4 Planning Board meeting - 7:30PM
- 9 Town Board meeting - 6:30PM
- 10 Middle School Science Technology Fair
- 16 Home Bureau, 10AM - Community Center
- 17 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls
- 19 Fish and Game Club, 7:30PM - Clubhouse
- Representative from the Veterans' Administration is in Community Center each Thursday at 11:30AM. Call first.

#### BY GEORGE, I'M HAPPY

She draws us close around her shore  
 that we our thirst might slake.  
 By George we've come from miles and more  
 to love our Lady Lake.

How oft we tarry for her moods,  
 aye, some have made us 'fraid  
 Yet as we gaze from shore to woods  
 Our faith has always stayed

How fortunate indeed are we  
 who dwell here for a while  
 Much more than those who choose to flee  
 and leave to live in style

She does not ask that we must dream  
 to match her special roles.  
 But rather just enjoy, no less,  
 and amply fill our souls

By George I'm glad that I am here  
 to gaze at waters still.  
 And often thereby to reflect  
 upon whate're I will.

And even when the wind blows fierce  
 and churns the water rough.  
 Tho wind is chill and flesh does pierce  
 I still my fears can slough.

I'm here today, yes come to stay  
 and live my days remaining.  
 I ask no more upon her shore  
 my love will show no waning. . . . Eloc Trebor

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is published monthly by volunteers and supported by contributions from its readers. Send news items to Publisher Dorothy Henry, Box 152A and tax deductible contributions to PENNY BOLTON, Box 748, Hague, NY 12836.

BULK RATE  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 3  
 HAGUE, NY 12836



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT  
 ON RECYCLED PAPER

# SAVE THE HOSPITAL

## MOSES LUDINGTON HOSPITAL SUMMER 1991 PLEDGE DRIVE

### FACT SHEET

Moses-Ludington Hospital in Ticonderoga is in serious financial trouble and faces the risk of being closed if help is not forthcoming soon.

An effort is being made to solicit pledges from the area summer residents before Labor Day to help insure that we still have a hospital next summer. This fact sheet is intended to answer some of the questions frequently asked.

#### 1. WHY IS MOSES-LUDINGTON HOSPITAL IN THIS FINANCIAL CONDITION?

The Hospital was designed in the late 1970's when the reimbursement system from Medicare, Medicaid and Blue Cross/Blue Shield was very different. Patients stayed in the hospital 8-10 days for many procedures that are now performed with a 1 or 2 day stay or on an outpatient basis. Insurance companies have influenced the length of stay for many procedures.

Sixty percent of the Hospital's costs are "fixed" - they are the same regardless if the Hospital is full or half full. For example, the Hospital has a mortgage payment that comes due regardless of the number of patients served. The mortgage went into default and is now owned by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD"). Right now, HUD is letting the Hospital suspend mortgage payments so that it can get caught up on some unpaid bills. The original amount of the mortgage in 1981 was \$6.8 million. The present unamortized balance is \$6 million.

Medical supplies, drugs, employee benefits, food, electricity, malpractice insurance rates, etc. all have risen dramatically in the past few years. The Hospital has tried to keep costs down and also to remain price competitive with hospitals in Burlington, Middlebury and Glens Falls.

The State Health Department continues to demand that more and more regulations be met. The Hospital must comply with the same standards as large hospitals. Compliance is costly to small hospitals because they cannot spread these costs over large numbers of patients.

The Moses-Ludington situation is not unique. HUD'S current mortgage portfolio lists seventy percent of its mortgages in New York State. Ninety percent of those hospitals in New York State are experiencing serious financial difficulties.

#### 2. IS THE HOSPITAL GOING TO CLOSE?

Probably - unless generous financial support is forthcoming soon. Currently, the Hospital is not making payments on its mortgage. There are unpaid bills. The Hospital is trying to develop a work-out plan which will return the Hospital to solvency. HUD representatives are extremely cooperative and appear to want the Hospital to survive. After a workout plan is in place, however, there will still be an urgent need for funds over the next year or so.

3. IF THE HOSPITAL CLOSES, WILL DOCTORS STAY IN THE AREA?

Many of them will probably not. Most doctors rely on hospital service for a significant portion of their income. They, too, have high overhead costs and, if their income from caring for hospitalized patients is erased, they might look to relocate to another area. It would be extremely difficult to recruit doctors to an area with the closest referral hospital located 50 or more miles away.

4. WOULD THERE CONTINUE TO BE AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT?

No. The New York State Department of Health regulations require inpatient bed back-up before it will license emergency facilities.

5. CAN THE HOSPITAL OBTAIN TAX SUPPORT?

The Hospital is pursuing the possibility of obtaining financial assistance from taxes raised by the communities within its service area. Even if this effort is successful, the Hospital will not receive any funds from taxes for at least a year.

6. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME AFFILIATION?

The long-range financial solution appears to be a consolidation on some basis of the Hospital and the Nursing Home, the addition of additional nursing care beds and the creation of a financially self-supporting health care "campus". This plan, however, involves complex governmental approvals and construction of additional nursing care facilities. It will take time to accomplish.

7. WHY IS THERE A PLEDGE DRIVE NOW?

We are starting to solicit pledges from the summer residents now while they are here and before they return to their homes in other communities. We want to show the local community the amount of interest the summer community has in keeping the Hospital going.

8. HOW WILL THE PLEDGE DRIVE WORK?

Many summer potential donors have said they will be very willing to help IF and WHEN the local community has agreed upon and started to implement a plan which offers reasonable assurance that the Hospital will continue to function as a financially viable institution. Any such action will probably have to take place this fall in order to save the hospital.

We know, as a practical matter, that it is easier to solicit financial help from the summer residents while they are still here. After Labor Day it will be much more difficult. The problem is that while the local community is working hard on its planning, it has not yet agreed upon and started to implement a plan that appears to promise continued financial viability of the Hospital. We hopefully anticipate community agreement upon a plan and the start of its implementation before the end of the year.

Organizational meetings have been held for a Moses-Ludington Summer Committee and concerned individuals have agreed to call upon their summer neighbors in Sabbath Day Point, Silver Bay, Arcady, Hague, Ticonderoga and Putnam Station. We realize that time is very short and we can't cover all of our summer friends before they leave the area - but the situation is desperate and we have to do something.

Our plan is not a perfect one but we believe it is workable. We are soliciting conditional pledges. They will indicate the size of financial support the Hospital can expect from the summer community. The pledges will not be payable until there is a plan in place which offers reasonable assurance that the Hospital will continue to function as a financially viable institution.

Who will make this determination? In the final analysis, each individual donor will be his/her own judge. An ad hoc committee is being formed, however, which will monitor the situation, submit current reports, and advise when in its opinion the condition of the pledge has been met.

In other words, we hope to be able to offer generous encouragement to the local community to agree upon, and to start to implement a plan to save the Hospital. Please help us to demonstrate a strong financial support for the continuation of the Hospital. It will take hard work and a lot of good will - but we believe the Hospital is vital to the community and that it can be saved.

**Your Help is Vital. Please help now. Next summer may be too late.**

Moses -Ludington Summer Committee

Charles C. Parlin, Jr. - Spokesperson  
Silver Bay