



VOLUME 36 NO 10

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

October 2007

### NOVEMBER ELECTIONS

Many local offices are to be filled by election on Tuesday, November 6, 2007. In Hague, Supervisor Dan Belden, Town Clerk Debbie Manning and Highway Superintendent Don Smith are all running unopposed for reelection.

For the Town Board positions, incumbents Dick Gladu and Art Steitz along with Rudy Meola are vying for 2 four year positions. Mark Martucci who was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Tom LaPointe is running without opposition for the 2 year remainder of that term.

All the candidates were offered the opportunity to submit statements to *The Hague Chronicle*. Don Smith, Dick Gladu, Mark Martucci, Rudy Meola and Debbie Manning did submit statements and they can be found on pages 4 and 5.

### SCHOOL BOND VOTE

The Ticonderoga school bond passed in September with results as follows: 648 - Yes and 559 - No (both including absentee ballots). It broke down by town as:

Hague: 82 - Yes and 151 - No

Ticonderoga: 566 - Yes and 408 - No

With the total number voting in Hague only 233, the importance of getting out the vote is evident - whether on this or other school related issues.

### HAGUE IN THE NEWS

Last month we mentioned the LA Times article that featured the Adirondacks including Hague and The Trout House Village Resort. We heard from reader Barbara Smith that this article also appeared in the Newark Star Ledger. A Florida reader, Leah Fish, noting that it was in their local paper and it might have been carried in many papers around the country, said, "What a plug for Hague and the Trout House. I wonder if you will experience a large influx of visitors!" Let's hope it does have that pleasant effect. We may also have some good dining options for visitors. There is a rumor afloat that the View may be purchased and reopened. We look forward to hearing more about that!

### RURAL MAIL CUSTOMERS

Our Rural Carrier has a new mail vehicle - a Jeep Wrangler. Please check with her to see if your mailbox must be raised up in order for her to service your box. The measurements should be 48" - 50" from the ground to the bottom of the mailbox.

### TO OUR READERS

We have several items to bring to your attention:

1) WEBSITE: We are very excited about our new website which is being developed by Nikolay Wilen. The "About Hague" section now has some wonderful pictures and information on Hague. <[www.thehaguechronicle.org](http://www.thehaguechronicle.org)>. Also check out the "Past Issues" section. For more of Nikolay's work, and a photo section on Hague (under Shopping Locations), see <[www.resortstores.com](http://www.resortstores.com)>.

2) THANK YOUS: Our Treasurer, George Ianson, will be sending out thank you notices just once per year - probably in January in time for your tax deduction! If you have any questions about your contribution you can contact him at <[gianson@nycap.rr.com](mailto:gianson@nycap.rr.com)>.

3) LABELS: Your mailing labels will be updated so you will know your donation has been received. We use a highlighter on the date for a reminder, and circle it in red when it is past the time when we expect to hear from you. As always, any amount is appreciated to help defray the basic costs of about \$ 12 per mailing.

4) DOTTIE HENRY: Our wonderful Dottie will be leaving us. See the article on page 3.

5) VOLUNTEERS: With the void that will be felt with Dottie's departure, it is time to recruit some new helpers. We can use help with reporting happenings at Town meetings and events, editing press releases, collecting news for Soundings, writing articles, maintaining mailing list, etc. Anyone familiar with Appleworks or FileMaker Pro would be an added bonus. If someone would like to do the layout with a different program -we are open to that too! We have an excellent mailing crew but can always add more. If you can only help in any area on a seasonal basis, that would be appreciated, too.

### TRAGIC ACCIDENT

In the early hours of September 26, 2007, a car with 4 local young people went off Route 8 and slammed into a tree near the former Graphite Mountain Stoneworks building. Police suspect that alcohol and speed were factors in the accident.

Justin Frasier, 17, of Hague, Asia Fuller, 18, of Ticonderoga and Ryan Thompson, 21, of Ticonderoga were all killed in the accident and Mindy Glenn, 23, of Ticonderoga remains in serious condition.

### HAGUE SENIOR CLUB NEWS

September's monthly meeting proved to be a most enjoyable afternoon. Author Carol Gregson was the guest speaker and gave an interesting and amusing presentation, especially with her selected readings from her latest book, Leaky Boots. Her books can be found at many Adirondack shops in the area.

Our fall outing to Long Lake and Blue Mt Lake on October 4th couldn't have been nicer. It was a beautiful sunny day for a drive and the shades of fall were almost at peak over in that area. We found Hoss's Corner Store to be a neat shopping experience and the lunch at the old Adirondack Hotel was delightful. We then drove from Long Lake to the Blue Mt. Adirondack Museum for the rest of the afternoon. It was a full day and fun was had by all.

October's meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 23rd at the Community Center starting at noon. We are having a Halloween Luncheon Party 'Catered by Katie' and members are reminded to COME IN DISGUISE!! Prizes will be awarded for the three best costumes.

On Thursday, November 8th, we are planning an outing to Keene, NY to visit the North Country Taxidermy & Adirondack Reflections shop, another 'Must See in the Adirondacks'. From there, we will continue on to Saranac Lake for lunch and more browsing in the village.

On Tuesday, November 13th, starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Community Center, there will be a Senior Workshop to make holiday decorations to sell at our Christmas Tree Shop during the town's Holiday in Hague weekend.

As you can all see, the Club Calendar is a very active one. If any of you readers are interested in joining us, please give me a call - Madeline - 543-6130. ....mp

### FLU SHOTS

Flu shots are available on Thursday, November 1 from 1-3 pm at the Hague Community Center. There will be a charge of \$20 for those under 65. Persons 65 and over must show their Medicare card.

### LARAC NEWS

The LARAC Annual Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, November 10, 2007 from 10 am - 5 pm and on Sunday, November 11th from 10 am - 4 pm at the Adirondack Community College Gym. Admission is \$4.00, free for ages 12 and under.

### COMMUNITY PARTY

The Hague Republican Party invites all residents to their election year Community Picnic. Local candidates as well as some state and congressional candidates will be in attendance. Hot dogs and soda will be served and there is no charge.

The event takes place on Saturday, November 3, 2007 from noon to 3 pm at the Northern Lake George Resort on Lakeshore Drive.

### BOOK ON HISTORICAL SITES

Roger Fulton, the "Common Man" who presented the basics about the French and Indian War at a Hague Historical Society program last summer, has published a new book in his outdoor series. This latest venture co-authored with Michael Carpenter is called 25 Interesting Historical Sites to Explore in the Lake George, NY Region. It is broken down by access exits off the Northway and gives explicit directions to each site.

For further information or to order online go to <[www.RogerFulton.com](http://www.RogerFulton.com)> or contact him at 386-956-6089.

### HVFD REPORT

Thanks to one and all who turned out, or in other ways helped make our recent Spaghetti Supper such a success. Several seasonal folks joined us for the first time.

With great cooperation from the Hague Town Board two major items have been resolved. Two dry hydrants and an improved drafting ramp have been installed near the Town boat launch, greatly increasing our pumping capacity for the center village and beyond. Also our budget for 2008 has been completed and approved. Due to obsolescence, we have recently had to purchase 6 sets of turn out gear and 6 sets of fire police gear.

In September there were 5 fire calls using 171 man hrs. and 6 ambulance calls using 84.5 man hours. The severity of cases which our E.M.T.s have faced recently has been unusual, particularly a serious motorcycle accident on Route 9N followed by the tragic occurrence on Route 8. They are deserving of all our moral support.

Election of officers for 2008 will occur at our next monthly meeting. All members are urged to attend. We are now recruiting new members as firemen, E.M.T.s, fire police and supportives. See any fireman for information. ....jm

*THE HAGUE CHRONICLE* is mailed out by volunteers on the Thursday after the third Tuesday of each month. The news deadline is six days earlier. Please send news or questions to <[HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com](mailto:HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com)> or to the address below.  
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THE HAGUE CHRONICLE  
PO Box 748  
Hague, New York 12836-0748  
Editor: Dorothy Henry  
Publisher: Judith Stock (518-543-6517)

"Natura Morta: Still Life Painting and the Medici Collections," which opens at the Hyde's Charles R. Wood Gallery on November 3 and will be on exhibit through January 13, 2008, includes 43 paintings from the famous Medici family collections in Florence, Italy. The opening reception for members will have special guest, His Excellency, Marcello Spatafora, Ambassador to the United Nations from Italy.

"Natura Morta" will feature works of art that beautifully illustrate "abundance in nature," typical of still-life painting. This preoccupation with nature influenced the development of western art and culture.

The exhibition also underlines the richness of form and color that can be said to have exploded during the artistic period known as the Baroque (1600s-1720s), a period in which Florence, thanks to the collecting of the Medici, was one of the most important centers of activity in Europe.



ADIRONDACK LIFE PHOTO CONTEST

The Adirondack Life Photo Contest is in its 13th year. Each applicant may submit up to 10 photographs and there is no entry fee. All photos must be taken in the Adirondack Park. Deadline for submission is December 1, 2007.

Winners will be announced in January and prizes are awarded. See contest guidelines at <[www.adirondacklife.com/photo](http://www.adirondacklife.com/photo)>.

A FAREWELL TO DOTTIE

After more than 30 years of devoted service to *The Hague Chronicle* and most of the organizations in town, Dottie Henry will be greatly missed as she leaves Hague for new quarters in Saratoga Springs.

Her dependability and work ethic are beyond description. There is no one else who has participated more in the activities of Hague. And on the social scene she is involved in every activity and a prized guest in the homes of her many, many friends. Dottie is always a pleasure to be around with her good natured spirit and gentle demeanor.

Dottie will leave her visiting mice, unfriendly bats and winter ice for Woodlawn Commons "for active people who (want to enjoy) a private, maintenance-free environment." This living situation will allow Dottie to participate in everything that Saratoga has to offer!

*The Hague Chronicle* hosted a brief farewell coffee time for Dottie on Thursday, October 18th just prior to the mailing of this issue. The Chronicle Board deemed her Publisher and Editor, Emerita and gave her tokens of their affection.

Councilman Dick Gladu and Richard Wray of the Ticonderoga Taxpayers Association are among the local activists who have sent letters to the NY State leadership expressing dismay at the current lack of movement toward researching new methods to fund public education. Wray has announced an extensive update of Ticonderoga's web site on property tax reform <[www.EyeOnTi.com](http://www.EyeOnTi.com)>.

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESS

The Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce will host a Small Business Health Insurance Day for information and open enrollment. Their Health Insurance Partners, the Plattsburgh Service Corp. will be at the Chamber office on Friday, October 26, 10 am to 3 pm.

Licensed health insurance broker Sandra Duquette will be on hand to offer personalized service with health insurance needs. Options are available to Groups and Sole Proprietors and new choices are being offered. Call Ticonderoga Chamber at 585-6619 for more information.

**HAGUE HAPPENINGS** *by Stan*

**WE'LL MISS YOU!!  
DOTTIE...**

- BEST -
- A ONE-WOMAN SHOW -
- LOVE YA -
- NO ONE CAN FILL HER SHOES -
- ACTIVE IN EVERYTHING -
- IRREPLACEABLE -
- TIRELESS ENERGY -
- OUR LOSS IS SARATOGA'S GAIN -
- INNOVATOR -
- EDITOR - MENTOR - MOTHER -
- GRANDMOTHER -
- LEADER -
- JOINER -

## DICK GLADU, TOWN BOARD

I am running for reelection, for a second term, as councilman in the town of Hague and ask for your continued support.

Our Town continues to face a future of significant change and significant challenges. If not properly managed, these challenges could impact the character and quality of life we enjoy here in Hague.

Technology has opened the door for our residents to conduct business remotely. As a destination for tourists and as a retirement location for many, the door is open to the establishment of businesses to provide the critical services needed by that population base. This in turn will provide much needed jobs for our local population. Growth, guided by our Adirondack values, which satisfies the needs of our residents and visitors is my vision.

We are the stewards of our natural resources and must continue our focus on the environment through managed and responsible land use. The Town ordinances must be constantly reviewed, enforced, and if inadequate, amended to better serve the people of Hague.

Sound fiscal decisions, supported by sound business practices must continue. The needs of the Town must be balanced with the financial impact to our residents. Property assessments must be constantly scrutinized to insure equity both within the Town and between Towns within the school district. School funding and property tax reform must be enacted by the State Legislators to reduce the financial burden on our residents and prevent any loss of properties due to out of control taxes. It is my commitment to you to continue to drive for meaningful change at the State level.

Your vote counts here and as property owners in New York State, you have the right to select where you want to vote. The real leverage we have is to increase the number of current registered voters who actually vote so that decisions reflect the majority viewpoint.

Over the past 4 years, I have had the opportunity to deal with these issues and challenges, and with your support, will continue to do so.

## MARK MARTUCCI

Hello, readers of *The Hague Chronicle*. For those who do not know me, I thank the Chronicle staff for giving me the opportunity to introduce myself.

I was born in Astoria, Queens in 1961. Presently I reside with my wife Kim on Split Rock Road. I have been coming to Lake George for over 44 years, including the last 28 years living as a permanent resident of Hague.

My educational background includes a degree in Business Administration and also a Bachelors degree in Finance from Siena College. Presently I work in management at our family's resort in Silver Bay and also am a New York State Certified Residential Real Estate Appraiser.

The following is a list of organizations and activities of which I have been involved with over the last 28 years. I have been a member of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department for over 25 years. Our

Martucci, con't.

business has been a member of the Hague Chamber of Commerce for 28 years. I have been a Hague Committeeman for the Warren County Republican Committee for 11 years and also as Vice Chair to the Hague Republican Party. I have served as the Hague delegate to the Warren County Council of Chambers of Commerce for the last 18 years of which I served 3 years as President of the Council. I am a former member of the Warren County Board of Supervisors Tourism Promotion Advisory Committee (TPCAC). Additionally, I served for 10 years as Promoter for the Hague Winter Carnival's Motorized Races. Lastly, I was member of The Hague Fish and Game Club. Hmmm, that's where all the years have gone.

This now leads me into my present interest to become a Member of the Hague Town Board. Presently the Town has several important issues to address. Based on my past experiences, education and business sense, I believe that I will be an asset to the board. I look forward to meeting the residents as I campaign throughout the town. Thank you for your support.

## RUDY MEOLA

In the years I served as your representative on the Town Board, I worked hard, prepared for and attended all the meetings and did my best to represent all of the people in town. I was proactive and involved myself in all aspects of town government. My philosophy is based on the principles of accountability, responsiveness and oversight of town functions.

I am running for the Town Board because I take a keen interest in the affairs of my community. I believe in serving my town in the field of public service. Government has a role to play in the lives of its citizens, not an intrusive role, but one of providing for individual rights and protecting the common good. I believe in an open and honest town government that conducts its meetings within the frameworks of the Open Meetings Law - a town board that complies with all laws and regulations and follows the town procurement and recruitment policies.

If elected I will develop an effective plan for investing the town surplus funds to maximize the amount of interest earned. I will work to reform and update the Code of Ethics. I will review the agreement with Casella Waste Management and bring it more in line with the original agreement. I will ask the Office of the Comptroller to audit the town books and the Town Board past practices.

One service the Town can provide is the curb pick up of garbage. I will investigate the feasibility of doing this. I will continue to be a proponent for holding down school and county taxes by capping expenses. I will support land development which complements our rural setting and provides for a balance between development and open space.

I have the necessary training, knowledge and experience to be an effective representative of all of our residents and can provide the needed balanced approach on issues facing our town. I hope to have your support in the upcoming election.



TOWN BOARD CANDIDATES - ART STEITZ, RUDY MEOLA, MARK MARTUCCI, DICK GLADU

DON SMITH, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

I have lived in Hague most of my life, my parents having moved here when I was a child. I began my career as a part time employee at the Town Highway Garage in the 70's. I became a full time employee in 1980 as an equipment operator. I was Deputy Highway Superintendent for 14 years. In 2003 I ran for the position of Highway Superintendent and took office January 1, 2004. As a taxpayer I know the importance of keeping within the Budget while at the same time trying to keep a maximum level of service. My 5 man crew not only maintains our roadways but also works on numerous special projects during the course of the year or assists with any other jobs that may arise and need additional manpower for any Town department. I work in conjunction with Warren County DPW, NYS DOT and the surrounding Towns to maintain a good working relationship and share services as/when needed. I feel my record speaks for itself. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any Town Highway issues.

DEBBIE MANNING, TOWN CLERK

After enjoying 12 busy years as your Town Clerk, I am once again asking for your support on November 6, 2007.

There have been a few changes in my job. New York State Animal & Control has created an online program for dog licensing and filing of the monthly reports to the state. This enables clerks to search for missing dogs as well. Four years ago, New York State DEC created the hunting and fishing program. Both of the state online programs are working well. I am hopeful that the next step will be for the state to create a Vital Records Program.

This year was the Town of Hague's 200th Birthday. I was involved in the sale of the Bicentennial Merchandise and spent many hours on the Bicentennial Celebration. Anyone who visited my office this year will be glad to know that I only have a few t-shirts left!

I have enjoyed serving my community and all of you have been very supportive and encouraging.

Remember, YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

On October 9th, Christine Ianson, Dottie Henry and Judy Stock, members of the Board of *The Hague Chronicle* interviewed Council candidates Rudy Meola, Dick Gladu, Art Steitz and Mark Martucci. Voters will choose 2 of the first three running for 4 year terms while Mark Martucci is unopposed for the 2 year term.

In response to a question about the town investment and accounts, Mr. Meola said that although he does not have direct information available to him, there is a surplus of about \$2 million. He is in favor of managing it on a daily basis to take advantage of the maximum interest rates. Mr. Gladu said that his recommendation is to set up a cash management system for the 7 accounts and noted that information should be available from the Budget Officer who is Supervisor Belden.

They were asked about their special contributions to the Town or areas of concern in which they are most involved. Mr. Steitz noted that since he has been in the construction business he has worked on issues for the Town Park and sewer and would like to work to see them completed. Mr. Martucci noted that his position as co-chair of the Hague Republican Party has given him access to local and state legislators and he is interested in the issues of cell phones, recreational opportunities and school taxes. Mr. Meola mentioned wanting to work on an updated code of ethics, holding down county taxes and town garage pick-up. He also suggested that the Town Board meetings be videotaped to be more responsive to the public. Mr. Gladu has worked extensively on tax issues and would like to see more participation by the community on issues and in voting. He would like to see the Town act to see that ordinances are enforced or changed or removed. For additional information, please read their statements included in this issue.

While we had the sense that all candidates were interested in some of the concerns about the Transfer Station, we think it will need some continual reminders from the public to see that some real progress is made. Some interesting ideas were proposed for the future of Hague. We encourage our readers to ask their own questions of the candidates and to let them know which issues you feel deserve priority.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 9/27/07

Chairman Robert Goetsch, Donna Charboneau, Martin Fitzgerald, George Ianson, Glenn McKee, Lindsay Mydlarz and Bill Pittman were all in attendance.

BROWN (60.5-1-19) 51 Pine Cove Road (TR-1R)

Applicant requested a variance for a deck addition to a legal non-conforming structure. Currently there is only one means of egress from the house. If approved the deck will provide two more exits. The shoreline setback to the house is 47 feet, the proposed deck will be 40 feet from the lake. The Board approved this variance which was similar to a previously approved variance.

PLANNING BOARD - 10/4/07

Chairman David Swanson, Rolly Allen, John Brown and Pam Peterson were present. Peter Foster and EJ Siwek were absent and there is a vacancy.

GORELIK (60.13-1-6) 35 Red Fox Lane (TR-1)

The application is for a 12' x 60' open deck addition. If approved the deck would sit 53' from Lake George. Currently the house sits 65' from the lake. The Planning Board looks at application within 100' of the Lake. A site visit was scheduled.

In other business, several property owners from Overbrook Road and Overbrook Lane were in attendance and presented a petition outlining their concerns about the construction of a single family dwelling currently underway in their neighborhood. Chairman Swanson will send a letter to the individual.

David Swanson bid farewell to the Planning Board as he plans a move to Florida for part of the year. Fellow Board members, Councilman Gladu and Town Attorney Viscardi expressed their appreciation for his many years of dedicated service to the Town. Chairman Swanson showed his lighter side as he entertained those present with an amusing anecdote.

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

9/28/07 - Supervisor Belden and Town Board members Gladu, Frasier and Martucci were present at the 1:30 pm meeting. The Board, as the Town Board of Health, approved the variance request of White (93.12-1-34; Lakeshore Drive). They also authorized an agreement between the Town and Warren County for tourism funds.

10/4/07 - Supervisor Belden and Town Board members Gladu, Frasier, Steitz and Martucci were present along with Town Attorney Dominick Viscardi and ZEO Cathy Clark. The Board accepted the tentative 2008 budget which had been filed with the Town Clerk. Then ZEO Clark explained to the Board that the Town zoning code only allows the renting of single family dwellings in certain areas and many sections of Hague are not listed. Councilmen Martucci and Gladu were appointed to review and report on the rental issues.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 10/9/07

Supervisor Dan Belden and Board members Art Steitz, Dick Gladu, Edna Frasier and Mark Martucci were all present.

A moment of silence was held for Dick Parkis, Francis Donlon, Justin Frasier, Ryan Thompson and Asia Fuller.

Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky told the Board that he is offering 2 full paid registrations for towns along the lake for a conference. The Board wants to send Cathy Clark and Don Smith.

Donna Van Wirt inquired about the taxes paid by the Silver Bay Association. Supervisor Belden noted that are not required to pay taxes but give the Town a gift in lieu of taxes. The town requested that it be raised but they sent a check for \$25,000 which was the same amount they gave last year. David Swanson noted that many people who came to the area because of the Silver Bay Association have stayed and built homes here which has added thousands of dollars in tax money. One common misconception was cleared up when Dick Gladu said that there are no cases where people have deeded property to Silver Bay in order to not pay taxes.

Committee Reports:

Assessor/Justice - Councilman Gladu reported that the assessor is in the process of putting the assessment figures together for next year. Recently reappointed assessor Dave Martucci has been to Lake Placid for a class on conservation easements and will be going to the NYS assessors association meeting.

Buildings & Grounds/CC - Councilman Steitz reported that construction of the ramp is still in limbo and they need a bid sheet so that contractors will know what to bid on. The Town Clerk will pull an old one for him to work on.

CARE/Enhancement Committee - Council member Frasier thanked all those who gave nice donations over the summer including Harold Chamberlain in memory of his wife Margaret Carney Chamberlain, the congregation of the Sabbath Day Chapel and residents of Arcady Bay Estates.

Councilman Steitz reported that 90% of the work has been done at the park. He will go over the punch list when it is completed to ensure any problems have been corrected. Councilman Martucci mentioned the benches are made of red cedar with cement bases and will cost \$125 apiece.

Supervisor Belden noted that they are replanning the entire town parking lots and he wants to apply for a grant by November 30th.

Finance & Insurance - Councilman Gladu said that they had approved \$110,000 in bills and won't be getting more revenue. Since some checks are not in they have to keep money in accounts to cover them.

Fire Dept - Councilman Martucci noted the Fire Department had a busy month and had gotten several new members.

Museum & Historian - Council member Frasier reported that the Historical Society had a good program in September and have put items from the Bicentennial in the lobby case.

## ~SOUNDINGS~

Highway - Councilman Gladu reported that the Town received \$1500 from the metal turned in. He said the Highway Budget looks good and there is a plan in place for a capital fund for replacement of heavy equipment.

Supervisor Belden thanked Dick Frasier for his work in going through the specifications for the new truck so that the Town would not accept it until it was correct.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - Councilmen Gladu and Martucci are looking into the zoning ordinance as it pertains to the renting of private home. Currently there are some zones where the code appears to prohibit renting which may want to be changed.

A petition was received from residents of Overbrook Road relating to a neighboring property. The Planning Board has sent a letter addressing the issues to the individual involved.

The Board decided to wait until the next day (10/10) during the Budget Workshop to address a recommendation for new Planning Board members.

Sewer District #1 & #2 - Supervisor Belden reported that he had met with County engineer Bill Lamy to work out some problems concerning rights of way for Sewer District #2. Also the comptroller has finally approved the paper work and now the project can go out to bids Belden hopes by mid November. Then the project could be awarded by January and have a contractor on site by April. He also mentioned that he will try for another grant and that they have found additional EDU's.

Town Park - Councilman Steitz stated that the Park bathrooms will stay open while the weather remains nice and the work continues in the Park.

### In other business, the Board

Approved up to \$500 for a screen to be used in conjunction with a projector for computer images which they already have.

Received communication from the LGPC about limiting fireworks over the Lake.

Approved sending the \$2500 that was in the budget to the Library in Ticonderoga.

Passed a resolution of appreciation to David Swanson, retiring Chairman of the Planning Board who has served on the Board from May 1993 to October 2007. It noted that he has given unselfishly of his time to the Town as well as to the Moses-Ludington Hospital and the Kiwanis.

### Supervisor's Report:

Supervisor Belden reported that as Chairman of the Warren County DPW Committee he decreased the budget by 1.8 million and 1.2 million from the Sheriff's Department. He also noted that although the county has funded the Up Yonda farm for 3 years the trust fund will be able to pick up the cost. The County budget increase will be about 3 1/2% across the board but Hague may pay more because of the equalization rate.

### 10/10/07 - SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

All Board Members were present to review the budget items. They will meet with the Fire Department concerning their request. They also went into Executive Session for about 10 minutes. They made no decision on filling the positions on the Planning Board.

**MARRIED:** Megan Samson of Norwalk, CT to Stacy Spence of Saginaw, MI on August 25, 2007. Megan is the daughter of Nora (McCarville) Dougherty, summer resident of Forest Bay.

**DIED:** Justin Ryan Frasier, 17, New Hague Road, Hague, on September 26, 2007 in an automobile accident. He is survived by his father John A. Frasier and his wife Nancy, his mother, Mary Beth Frasier, his grandmother Janice Smith, two sisters, Jessi L. Frasier and Charish E. Johnson, two brothers Jason S. Frasier and Jamie M. Frasier, two step-brothers, Joshua and Jacob Demarais, and one step-sister, Alyssa Rodriguez.

### MORE HONORS FOR KATE HUNTER

In continuing celebration of the 100th birthday year of Kate Hunter, family and friends gathered in the courtyard of the Heritage Commons in Ticonderoga on October 7, 2007 for a tree planting ceremony in her honor.

Joan Waters who organized the event highlighted some of the events in Kate's life. Kate devoted her life to her family and to the Town of Hague as a volunteer on numerous committees and town organizations. She was recognized in 2006 as Hague Senior Citizen of the Year.

Kate's sisters, Hannah Cameron, 90 and Margaret DelSignore, 85 watched as Kate shoveled the first spadeful of dirt into the ground to the delight of all.



Walt Waters assists Kate Hunter  
photo courtesy Shirley Smith



Remember to Vote - until 9 pm on November 6th

FROM CONGRESSWOMAN KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND'S PRESS RELEASES

SPORTSMEN

One of the recent initiatives taken by Congresswoman Gillibrand, a member of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, was a resolution for "Sportsmen's Week" in the U.S. House of Representatives which applauds "the contributions that hunters and fishermen have in promoting family values, environmental conservation, and strengthening our local, state and national economies."

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand cast her vote in favor of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007. This legislation would expand SCHIP, which funds Child Health Plus in New York State.

COLLEGE COSTS

Congresswoman Gillibrand has also supported the College Cost Reduction Act of 2007, which boosts college financial aid by \$18 billion over the next five years. She noted, "The College Cost Reduction Act is the largest increase in college aid since the 1944 G.I. Bill, and is a prime example of the investments our country should be making to keep the United States as the world's leader in educating young people. This bill is fiscally responsible and will not cost taxpayers a dime, as funding for this bill will come from trimming excess federal subsidies to loan providers."

PASSPORT NEWS

The office of Congresswoman Gillibrand has reported that as of October 1, 2007, the State Department will reinstate the requirements that US travelers bound for Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda carry a passport. That requirement was temporarily waived in June. Congresswoman Gillibrand also alerted folks that the Department of State is refunding expedited passport fees for those who paid for the service and did not receive the benefit. For more information on passports and fees see <<http://travel.state.gov>>. Earlier this year, Congresswoman Gillibrand voted to pass the bipartisan Passport Backlog Reduction Act which allowed the State Department to temporarily rehire retired employees who have already been trained to process passport applications.

NY CORRIDORS

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand commented on the recently released report from the Department of Energy regarding the designation of National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors in Upstate New York. "I am extremely disappointed in the designations made by the Department of Energy," said Congresswoman Gillibrand, a Member of the Armed Services Committee. "I do not support the ability for the federal government to use eminent domain to override opposition from the State of New York and our local communities." "I will continue to work with my colleagues to prevent this program from running roughshod over the voices of our local communities."

ACCOUNTABILITY

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand passed an amendment on the floor of the House of Representatives to mandate that the Inspectors General of federal agencies be more transparent in their findings of waste, fraud and abuse in the federal government to increase accountability in an effort to save taxpayer dollars. The amendment is designed to promote independence and accountability for Inspector General Offices in executive branch agencies.

Congresswoman Gillibrand has taken unprecedented steps to make her office accountable and transparent to her constituents. She is one of only a handful of Members in the House to post her schedule online every day and one of the first to post a list of all earmark requests she made on behalf of the district.

REGIONAL COMMISSION

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand voted in support of legislation that would create a Northern Border Regional Commission stretching for New York to Maine. The act will provide a source of funding for job creation, important infrastructure improvements and deployment of critical energy and technology infrastructure for the North Country. The Commission would be a Federal-State partnership whereby money allocated from the Federal government will be matched with funding from State, public and private sources. All projects submitted for funding have to meet the goal of regional development.

by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

### Witch Hazel

One of the seemingly least spectacular plants of the fall parade of color is one of my favorites. This morning, as I walked along the edges of the woods, I encountered dozens of them interspersed among the bolder players of maple, beech and oak. Maybe because there were so many or that their yellow leaves mixed with the others, I didn't notice them at first? But once they caught my attention I saw them everywhere. I am speaking of Witch Hazel, the one that is among the first whose leaves turn a buttery yellow as the days shorten and cool and is the last one to burst into bloom with flowers like yellow spiders clustered in every joint.

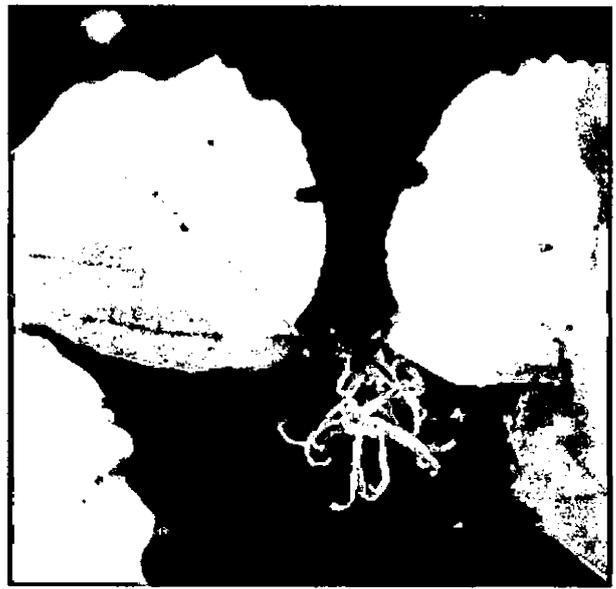
Witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) is a small tree or shrub growing 10 to 20 feet high. Arching branches reach from a dense multi-stemmed clump of smooth, gray trunks. The leaves are 3-5" long and 3" wide, turning yellow in early October and just when they are about ready to drop, starbursts of yellow blossoms spring forth along every branch. These are followed by black nuts which are oily and edible but do not ripen until the following summer when they burst open and shoot their two hard seeds to scatter up to 20 feet away ~ most of them becoming food for birds, mice and squirrels.

Researchers believe that the plant's unusually late flowering evolved to avoid competition for pollinators and thus induces insects to pay special attention to the blossoms as they are the only ones available this late in the season ~ one last meal so to speak. The late flowering not only entices insects. As early as the mid 17th century, European horticulturalists were cultivating this shrub from the New World in private collections in London as an ornamental of special interest; one that continues to this day.

The word "witch" comes from the Old English word, *wych* referring to the pliant branches (also the root for "wicker"); "hazel" comes from the leaf's resemblance to those of the *Corylus* (hazel) species. Those pliant branches were put to good use. Traditionally, the branches of the witch hazel were (are) used as "divining rods" to locate underground sources of water and the people using the rods referred to as "water witches".

Most of us are very familiar with its medicinal uses, but may not realize that this shrub is the source of that medicine growing right here in our backyards! The leaves and the bark are astringent, valuable in checking internal and external hemorrhaging, an effective treatment and good painkiller for piles, bruises and inflammatory swellings. Witch hazel's action is on the muscular fiber of veins, and the concentration of its constituent *Hamamelin* is applied as an ointment (you know it as "Preparation H")! The distilled extract of its leaves and twigs is probably in your medicine cabinet where you reach for that bottle of liquid to soothe a variety of external inflammatory conditions such as burns, varicose veins and insect bites. You can keep a few witch hazel soaked gauze pads in a small glass jar in your first aid kit for traveling emergencies.

The flowers can persist on the branches well after the leaves have fallen, easily into November, so there is plenty of time to discover this little gem of autumn growing in **your** backyard. Look for yellow spiders (the flowers) dancing along the branches for Nature's Halloween treat!



### WEATHER NOTES

by JoAnne DeFranco

September 16- October 13, 2007

There is only one word to describe the weather for the past thirty days - TERRIFIC! I am really sorry if you are a seasonal resident and left Hague in early September to return to your permanent home. The average daily temperature for September was 74.4 degrees. That is 5.5 degrees warmer than the average. We only had 1.95" rain which is 1.88" BELOW normal. I counted 15 days with high temperatures of over 75 degrees (11 of those in the 80's). Knock your socks off great weather! We did have a frost warning on September 29 but there was no frost in areas close to the lake.

The colors began changing earlier than usual. The weather service reported peak color in the Adirondack High Peaks around September 30. I took a drive up there but did not think it was full color on that date - still pretty though. The hours of daylight are noticeably less. It is very dark at 6 pm and I need the alarm clock to get up on time at 6 am because it is still dark. My Christmas cactus is keying in on the decrease in daylight. I noticed the other day that it is full of flower buds. The amount of daylight triggers the flowering. It is early this year, too.

As for rain, we are below normal rainfall at 32.99" for the year. Last year at this time we were 37.89". There were showers on October 7 and 9, late in the evening. Thursday 10/11 a huge low (nor'easter) brought us at least an inch of rain. That same low also dropped our balmy temperature back to more normal 50-55. I don't think we can complain after the last 30 days.

Enjoy the remaining days of our colorful fall. Soon the temperatures will drop just like the leaves. Oh yes, one more tidbit. What to do with all those leaves when they come down? Chop them up with your lawn mower and leave them right on your lawn or put them in your garden and shrub beds. Best fertilizer and cheap!

10/07

October - November 2007

October

23 NOON Senior Halloween Lunch (see p. 2)  
 24 1 pm Extra Helping Distribution  
 25 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals  
 31 *Happy Halloween*



**TRANSFER STATION HOURS**  
 Wednesday: 9 am to 4 pm  
 Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm



November

1 1 - 3 pm Flu Shots (see p. 2)  
 1 7 pm Planning Board  
 3 noon to 3 pm Republican Picnic (see p. 2)  
 6 ELECTION DAY - Remember to Vote!  
 10- 11 LARAC Fall Festival (see p. 2)  
 13 6:30 pm Town Board  
 ?? 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals  
 20 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed early  
 22 *Happy Thanksgiving*

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



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