



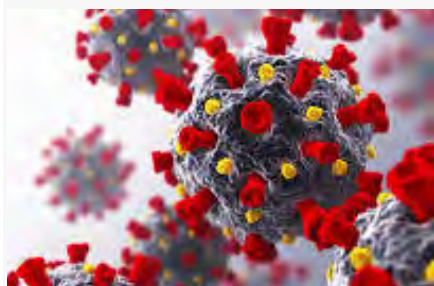
Published Monthly Since 1972  
Volume 50 Number 01

[www.thehaguechronicle.org](http://www.thehaguechronicle.org)  
OUR 50TH YEAR!

Hague, New York 12836  
January 2021

## COVID-19 UPDATE

As of January 14, 2021:



All NY residents need to wear a mask or face covering when in situations where they are unable to socially distance.

LOCATION	CASES	DEATHS
Worldwide	92,484,748	1,981,803
US	23,079,161	384,794
NYS	1,179,266	40,192
Warren County	1,692	33
Essex County	847	16

### Sources:

— <https://www.statnews.com/2020/03/26/covid-19-tracker>

— Additional source statistics can be found [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

### Local resources during COVID-19:

**Warren County Public Health** –  
518-761-6580

**Mental Health Assistance** –  
518-792-7143

**Domestic Violence Assistance** –  
518-793-9496

**State COVID-19 Hotline** –  
1-888-364-3065

## HHHN VACCINE UPDATE

Hudson Headwaters Health Network (HHHN) and select regional partners have been entrusted by the NYS Department of Health with the responsibility of vaccinating a large part of the North Country. They want to vaccinate as many people as possible but are legally obligated to follow state mandates and prioritization lists closely.

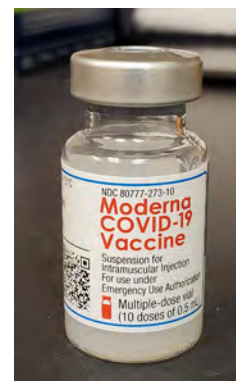
Using the Moderna vaccine, they have begun vaccinations according to the NYS guidelines with the vaccine that has been allotted to them to date. Vaccine appointments are dependent on vaccine supplies from NYS, which does not give advanced notice nor guarantee vaccine supply. When they do receive more vaccines, they must follow strict NYS guidance for mandated priority groups. Available appointments are extremely limited. If and when new appointments are available, they will be posted at 5 pm on the links listed on their website. For more information, see <https://www.hhhn.org/coronavirus/>.

Local pharmacies do not yet have the vaccine. For more information, see <https://www.walgreens.com/> or <https://corporate.walmart.com/covid-vaccine>.

For the current information from NYS, including the updated guidelines, see <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>. ■



HHHN Chief Medical Officer William Borgos, MD getting vaccinated



## TOWN SEEKING PART-TIME ZEO

The Town of Hague is seeking a qualified candidate for a PART-TIME ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. Appointment will be made by the Hague Town Board after the interview process for an immediate start date. A job description is available upon request by calling the Town of Hague at 518-543-6161. The salary will be based on experience.

Applications may be obtained at the town offices at 9793 Graphite Mountain Road in Hague or by visiting <https://townofhague.org/jobs/>. Applications and resumés should be submitted to the Personnel Committee, Town of Hague, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836 or by dropping them off at the town offices. ■

## SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

The number of cases of COVID-19 is up in this area and the state doesn't want people getting together in groups, so we have nothing scheduled. Follow the Hague Seniors Facebook page for updates if the rules change.

We wish you a happy, healthy, and blessed new year. Please stay safe.



## THE HAGUE CHRONICLE IS IN OUR 50TH YEAR

It all began in January 1972, when Emil Seerup published the first issue of *The Hague Chronicle*, believing there was "a need for better communication among the residents of the Hague and Silver Bay areas." Virginia Shattuck was the next editor/publisher, followed by Mig Broderick and Dottie Henry.

Current publisher, Judy Stock, became the publisher in 2003 and additionally the editor in 2007. Bobbi Bryant Taylor became the editor in 2016. Each of these volunteer editors and publishers have been committed to serving the Hague community.

Scores of additional volunteers have spent countless hours reporting, writing, editing, laying out, publishing, and distributing the issues. We appreciate every one of you! And, thanks to our readers! Without you, there would be no one to enjoy *The Hague Chronicle*.

## HAGUE LEADS THE WAY IN REDUCING SALT ON OUR ROADS

by Ginger Henry Kuenzel

Back in the days when I was learning to drive, salt wasn't used on the roads of Hague. We often drove on packed snow and the highway crews used sand to provide traction, particularly at places where it was most needed. Drivers knew that the roads might be slippery and adjusted their speed and driving habits accordingly. The widespread use of salt in the Adirondacks started around the time of the 1980 Olympics, when the Olympic Organizing Committee decided that it would be a good idea to have clear roads for the large influx of visitors, many of whom weren't accustomed to driving in winter conditions.

According to The FUND for Lake George (The FUND), an estimated 30,000 metric tons of road salt is applied annually in the Lake George basin, increasing the salt concentrations in the lake and streams. This salt is not only potentially toxic to aquatic plant and animal life, but could also negatively impact our drinking water – whether we get that water from the lake or from a well.

Now for the good news: This problem has been recognized and something is being done about it. The FUND is leveraging the data it collected in an in-depth study to help local highway departments significantly reduce their use of salt while also improving road safety. According to Lake George Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky, Hague has really become the leader in the

Sustainable Winter Management (SWiM®) certification program. "I cannot stress enough how far the town has come," Chris told *The Hague Chronicle*. "They are the leaders regionally and are now becoming the spokesmen for sustainable winter practices."

### Save money - and the environment

Reducing road salt is not only good for the environment, it's also good for town budgets. "Hague has achieved \$112,000 in savings over the past five years by reducing the amount of salt we use," said Tim Fiallo of the Hague Highway Department. The town has used some of that money to buy equipment. For instance, it can now make its own brine at a cost of 8¢ per gallon instead of buying it for 36¢ a gallon. Additional savings result from the fact that the town no longer buys sand to mix with the salt. Further cost savings come from the fact that the crew doesn't need to clean the sand from the roads at the end of the season and can use its time on other projects. What's more, there's an environmental benefit: That sand is no longer making its way into the lake and streams. This is critical since the State of New York has declared that Lake George is an impaired waterbody due to sediment.

The brine is applied in advance of a storm. Over the past several years, the



TOP: Donny Smith, Matt Coffin, Nate Swinton, Ernie Trudeau, Rick Myers, Dan Steitz; BOTTOM: Tim Fiallo

town highway crew has gained a tremendous amount of expertise, which it leverages to make continuous improvements. They have learned through experience, for instance, that in the case of freezing rain, it is better to put down salt rather than brine, which would just be washed away.

The freezing rain basically creates brine from the salt.

(Continued on page 7)



## STAKEHOLDERS URGE SEPTIC INSPECTION PROGRAM FOR LAKE GEORGE

by Ginger Henry Kuenzel

The recent Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) on Lake George (see December 2020 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*) was a wake-up call, reminding us that we cannot take our water quality for granted. Now a group of concerned citizens, joined by elected and appointed officials from around Lake George, is calling on Governor Andrew Cuomo to implement a lake-wide septic inspection program by the end of 2021. In a December 4th letter, the group reminded Governor Cuomo that the State's [Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan for Lake George](#), published in 2018, calls for implementation of just such a septic inspection program within three years. In other words, now.

Lake George Village Mayor Robert Blais, along with the Town Supervisors of Queensbury (John Strough), Lake George Village (Dennis Dickinson), and Bolton (Ron Conover), three Lake George Park Commissioners and the

Lake George Association (LGA), all support the call for regulations to require lake-wide septic system inspections.

Existing data demonstrate the urgent need for these inspections:

- Of 280 septic systems inspected since January 2019 by the Town of Queensbury, 80% were found to need repair, either major or minor.
- According to research in the southern Lake George Basin by The FUND for Lake George Waterkeeper Program, two-thirds of the residential systems have exceeded their life expectancy of 30-40 years, are designed improperly, and/or suffer from a lack of maintenance.
- With nearly 6,000 onsite wastewater systems in the Lake George watershed, according to the [LGA's Watershed Data Atlas](#), the potential impact of failing systems on Lake George and our drinking water is enormous.

The December 4th letter to Governor Cuomo notes that the inspection program must be lake-wide: "Because there are eight towns and one village

within three counties in the Lake George watershed, it is critical that a septic inspection program be implemented lake-wide by the State of New York. A proactive approach would be cost-effective in comparison to the economic expense of reversing a polluted Lake George. Drinking water, health, tourism, recreation and property values are just some of the assets that would be negatively impacted by declining water quality."

Governor Cuomo responded to the letter on December 16th through Dave Wick, Executive Director of the Lake George Park Commission. Wick wrote that "the next step is to identify the scientific basis" for an inspection program by studying the link between septic systems and the impaired water quality of Lake George.

In its response to Wick, the group noted that this approach ignores the state's own recommendation to implement a septic inspection program by 2021. Since the need for the program was already identified by the state three years ago, now is not the time for yet another study. Now is the time to implement the Action Plan recommendation. ▣

## WINTERFEST COMING TO LAKE GEORGE IN FEBRUARY

Lake George's newest event, WinterFest, is planned for the four weekends of February, enticing visitors to enjoy socially-distanced safe outdoor events such as cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, winter "fat tire" mountain biking, and more while they dine and relax in the Lake George area.

Participants' wristbands will unlock the activities they have signed up for in advance online, and will also be their ticket to horse-drawn carriage rides around Lake George and hot cocoa stations. The website where wristbands will be on sale is launching soon at [www.lakegeorgewinterfest.com](http://www.lakegeorgewinterfest.com).

"WinterFest is the new way to get outside and really enjoy the wide

variety of family-oriented socially-distanced recreational opportunities in the Lake George region of the Adirondacks," said Christian Dutcher, who is organizing the event. "Our hotels are open and welcoming visitors. Our restaurateurs will be serving up great February food and drink specials while maintaining safety precautions. Local beers will be on tap, local bourbons poured. The WinterFest wristband will be your ticket to safe winter fun," Mr. Dutcher said.

Since 1961, the Lake George Winter Carnival has put Lake George on the map for winter fun, but its focus on large group activities was not considered conducive to this year's social distancing requirements. WinterFest is different in that it focuses on individual outdoor activities and offers discounts to make them very affordable.



"The health and safety of our guests and community is paramount, and the WinterFest schedule is subject to change based on our response to COVID-19," Mr. Dutcher adds.

WinterFest is funded by Warren County and supported by the Warren County Board of Supervisors, the Town and Village of Lake George, Lake George Regional Chamber of Commerce, and major hoteliers and restaurateurs. ▣

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 12/23/2020**

Chairman Robert Goetsch and Board Members Maureen Cherubini, Jon Hanna, Linda Mury, and Ray Snyder were present.

**LAZARUS (93.19-1-16) 7740 Lake Shore Drive (RC)**

The applicant is proposing the installation of a hillside trolley to provide handicapped access to their lakefront property. The trolley is to run alongside an existing staircase and will be within 100 feet of the mean high-water mark, requiring an area variance and site plan review. The Planning Board has made a positive recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals, with the conditions that there be auxiliary stand-by power, adequate area lighting, and that the submitted plans and the final installation be approved and stamped by a professional engineer. A Dock Doctor representative questioned the need for auxiliary power and professional engineer approvals and answered various questions. Plans were accepted as presented prior to the recommended conditions by the Planning Board and the application was deemed complete. A site visit was scheduled. ■

**PLANNING BOARD - 1/7/2021**

Chairman Dick Frasier, Board Members Dan Belden, Judy Gourley, and Pam Peterson were present. Meg Haskell was absent.

**RYPKEMA (43.5-2-14) 9848 Graphite Mountain Road (HAM)**

The applicant is proposing the conversion of an existing commercial space into two additional apartments within their multiple-family dwelling located on a parcel of 0.38 acres. This proposal would bring the total number of units to seven and therefore would require a PB Type I Site Plan Review. The minimum lot area per dwelling unit would not be met, therefore requiring ZBA approval. A site visit was scheduled and the meeting was left open until that site visit. Members at the site visit (Dick Frasier, Dan Belden, and Pam Peterson) unanimously made a positive recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals, with the assurance that codes related to egress (emergency exits) are followed.

**LAZARUS (93.19-1-16) 7740 Lake Shore Drive (RC)**

Review of this application has been postponed until the next PB meeting.

**AIKEN (60.5-1-11) TR-1 19 Pine Cove Road (TR-1)**

The applicant is seeking approval to raze and replace an existing principal building (with a non-conforming use due to lot size) on their lakefront parcel. The public hearing was held. Two letters from neighbors were read. Concerns were expressed about erosion control and waterflow related to relocation of building footprint, site disturbance, tree removal, and proximity to the lakeshore. The owners discussed their plans to address waterflow concerns. Additional application details were received by the board the day of and during the meeting. A second site visit has been scheduled. ■

**TOWN BOARD - 1/12/2021**

Present were: Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Jack Bast, Joshua Patchett, and Steve Ramant. Martin Fitzgerald II was absent.

**PUBLIC HEARING: Continuation of Waste Water Variance, Suzanne and Steve Locke**

Anthony DeFranco, PE Engineer, presented revised plans to increase the separation distance between the owners' well and septic system. The new distance is less than the required 100 feet to the owners' well, but the separation distance from the neighbors' wells would be in compliance. The board approved the variance with conditions for treatment and testing of the owners' well.

**BOARD OF HEALTH DISCUSSIONS:**

A variance for a waste water treatment system was presented for the Lewke properties (76.20-1-26). The owners are planning to build a house on a lot adjacent to their existing lot, which already has a home on it. It is not feasible to put a septic system on the vacant lot due to the slope of the land. Owners propose replacing the existing 50-year-old septic system and connecting the new house's septic system to the replaced septic system. Each house would have its own septic tank and would share the septic field. A public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9th at 6:15 pm.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Assessor: Frasier** – Applications for Senior Star Exemptions can continue to be done remotely. The board approved the assessor's attendance at two online continuing education courses.

**Highway: Ramant/Bast** – One truck has been sent for repair. The board unanimously approved the sale of highway surplus equipment. Brining is going well. Use of sand is reduced, resulting in a large surplus of sand. The board unanimously approved advertising to other municipalities that this excess sand is for sale.

**Personnel: Bast/Fitzgerald** – ZEO Rion Marcy has presented his resignation. A job posting is on the town website and on page one of this issue of *The Hague Chronicle*. ZEO applications are being reviewed.

**Town Park: Ramant/Frasier** – Music in the Park has been lined up for all dates, but finalizing them will be held off due to the recent rise in the pandemic numbers. The Memorial Day Parade planning usually begins in January, but will be delayed until February due to COVID.

**Sewer District #1 and #2: Bast/Frasier** – A Third Notice of Non-Compliance will go out to two properties. Cedarwood Engineering will now be providing logs, testing results, and compliance data to the board on a monthly basis.

**Recreation: Frasier** – The board unanimously approved the contract with the Hague Fish & Game Club for the Fishing Tournament.

(Continued on p. 5)

## TOWN BOARD - 1/12/2021

(Continued from p. 4)

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

#### EDU Schedule:

At the November 2020 Hague Town Board meeting, in response to a request from residents, the town asked the Sewer Advisory Committee to look into the feasibility of using flow meters to measure properties' wastewater flow for the purpose of sewer billing. Committee Member Phil Smith reported that the committee interviewed several subject matter experts, including the Hague Town Engineer and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. All agreed that, though there are meters to measure water flowing out of a building (outflow) and meters to measure water flowing into a building (intake), neither would be feasible for Hague's system. Intake meters are used by municipalities that supply water and bill for its use, which is not the case in Hague. The additional costs for these meters would not make sense in Hague. Outflow meters are not a viable option for several reasons, including the fact that they are inaccurate and expensive to purchase, install, and maintain. Reading the meters and administering the billing would also result in significant additional costs. Furthermore, some connections are gravity-flow, on which meters couldn't be used. The Sewer Advisory Committee informed the board that, based on its extensive research, neither type of meter would be cost effective or recommended for Hague. The board unanimously agreed and approved the revised EDU schedule that the committee had presented previously. Implementation is targeted for this year. The town board will work with the committee to develop a communication plan to inform sewer district residents of the changes.

#### Communications and Petitions:

Lindsay Mydlarz, ZBA member alternate, submitted a resignation letter. The board unanimously approved her resignation. Cathy Clark was unanimously approved as the new ZBA member alternate.

### NEW BUSINESS:

#### Property Assessment Re-Evaluation Discussion:

Dave Martucci, Town Assessor, requested approval for a Request for Proposal to perform a town-wide re-evaluation of property assessments to be completed in 2023. He indicated that two years of good data is needed to do a re-evaluation. In the past six months, there has been an approximately 20% increase in sale prices of properties in Hague. The last re-evaluation was done in 2004. The board approved soliciting Request for Proposals for a contractor to do a re-evaluation for the town.

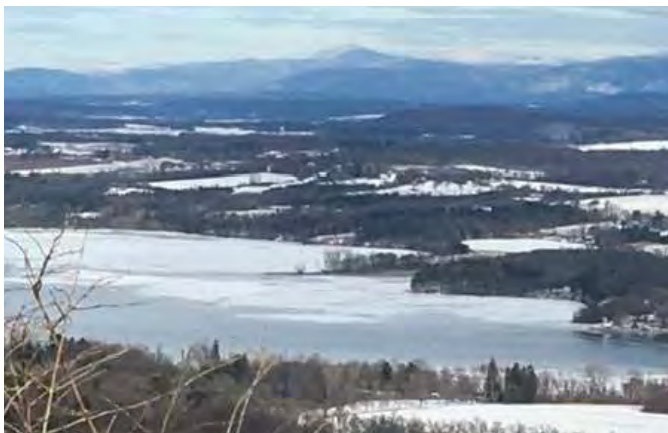
#### Environmental Concerns - Support Letter for Invasive Species:

Ramant has been working with area town supervisors, the Mayor of Lake George, and three non-profits to compose a letter to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) to present a proposal to address environmental concerns with aquatic invasive species, especially hydrilla. Hydrilla is one of the most difficult aquatic invasive species to control and is currently in numerous NY counties. For more information on hydrilla, go to: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/104790.html>.

The proposal is to have the public boat launches at Rogers Rock, Mossy Point, and Million Dollar Beach only open when boat inspection staff or lake stewards are present. The recommendation for Hague would be to staff the Rogers Rock boat launch earlier in the spring and later in the fall and close off the Rogers Rock launch when it is not staffed. The board voted to approve supporting the letter.

#### Town Employees on COVID Quarantine:

The federal law requiring paying employees who are out of work due to being on mandated quarantine expired on 12/31/2020. The board unanimously approved a motion to pay full-time employees for time missed due to mandated quarantine and to evaluate paying part-time employees on a case-by-case basis. ▣



View from Mt. Defiance in Ticonderoga. Courtesy of Sandy Powell

## THE HERMIT OF HAGUE

*by A Friend of the Hermit*

*The Hermit of Hague was renown  
Whenever he went into town  
For being far out  
And guzzling stout  
And often seen wearing a gown.*



## SOUNDINGS

**DIED:** Barry James Squier, 84, of heart failure, on December 10, 2020 at Glens Falls Hospital.

Barry was born in East Orange, NJ and married his high school sweetheart, Janet Speenburgh, in 1956, almost 65 years ago. They lived in East Hanover Township, NJ for 42 years, where Barry was a police officer for 25 years. He attended Morris County Community College for a few years, taking criminal justice courses.

Barry was a social worker, a minister, and a chaplain at heart. He was a caregiver and dad to many all his life, always welcoming others to his home. He was a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather. He loved God and his many churches. He had a wonderful bass voice and sang in church choirs all his life.

Barry retired in 1989 and lived a “snowbird” life in Nokomis, FL in the winter and Hague in the summer for 30 years. Barry volunteered many hours to church and helping others. He was a member of the Northern Lake George Rotary Club and the Hague Senior Citizens Club.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Patti Coputt. Survivors include: his sister, Susie Hand; his wife, Janet Squier; his son, Barry, Jr. (Debbie); his daughters, Cindy Squier and Judy Squier; his “special daughter” Nancie Newman and her family and his “special niece” Carolyn Carden and her family; 17 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren.

He had a wonderful life with many good friends and family!

**DIED:** Florence Madeline Scott, 98, peacefully, at home, on December 17, 2020 in Bryn Mawr, PA.

Florence was one of five children of German immigrants who lived and worked a small farm in rural Staten Island, NY. She met the love of her life, Winfield A. Scott, at a dance with a group of Army officers while she was training to become a registered nurse. They married on May 3, 1944 in Jackson, MS, while he was a Lieutenant Colonel on active duty. After the war, Florence and Win settled in the Philadelphia suburbs and she assumed the role of homemaker and mother to their four children. When “Scotty” passed away at age 96 in 2010, they had been married for 66 years.

As a teenager, Florence had been introduced to Lake George by her best friend, whose family owned a summer cabin on the lake. Florence and Win vacationed there with their young family and, in 1963, they bought property and built a lakeside “camp” in Pine Cove. That became a family retreat and inspired many joyful family moments and traditions, continuing to this day.

Florence’s lifelong passion was the health and happiness of her immediate and her extended family. She was nurturing, selfless, and loving and always overjoyed to see family members. She gave strength and encouragement to family members and made each individual feel important and special.

Her positive attitude and willing smile brought joy to her family and friends. She had a wonderfully easy, self-confident manner and was warm, positive, and compassionate to all she met. She was hard-working, a character trait learned early in life on her family’s farm, and she always kept her homes (and her children) immaculately clean, groomed, and organized.

She had a special knack for growing beautiful flowers and plants and was accomplished at sewing, needlepoint, and making hooked rugs, examples of which adorn her family’s homes today. Her cooking skill and devotion to preparing wonderful, tasty food for her family was remarkable.

Surviving are her four children: Donald, Christine (Richard) Oliver, Kenneth (Nancy), and Richard (Becky); nine grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

COVID restrictions will prevent a memorial service. Memorial gifts may be made to [www.fundforlakegeorge.org](http://www.fundforlakegeorge.org) or sent to The FUND for Lake George, P.O. Box 352, Lake George, NY, 12845.

**DIED:** Martha Atwater Duncan, 97, a longtime resident of West Hartford and Hartford, CT and Silver Bay, on January 4, 2021.

Martha was born to Dr. Reginald M. Atwater and Charlotte P. Atwater at the Yale Mission Hospital in Changsha, China. She grew up in Olean and Bronxville, NY and graduated from Oberlin College. She married John B. Duncan at the chapel in Silver Bay. After retirement she and John lived at Avery Heights in Hartford, and were grateful for the care they received there. She and John were married for 52 years.

Her family’s summer home, Penfield Cottage, on Oneida Bay, was vitally important throughout her entire life; she visited during all seasons nearly every year.

Martha was preceded in death by her husband, John; her sister, Constance A. Bowser; and her brother, David S. Atwater.

She is survived by her six children and their beloved spouses: Margaret D. Shearer (James); Elizabeth D. Lyons (Richard); Ann D. McMillan; Dr. Robert A. Duncan (Dr. Julia Reade); Charlotte D. Ashworth (David); and Thomas B. Duncan (Rebecca Lindell); her sister, Caroline A. Leonard; and her brother, Dr. John B. Atwater (Leah). Her legacy of a large and loving family will be carried on by her 15 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Plans for a memorial service are pending. Memorial donations may be sent to the Lake George Land Conservancy [HERE](#).

**BORN:** Alice Kathaleen “Allie” Patchett on January 15, 2021. Parents are Melissa Lynn and Joshua Robert Patchett. Maternal grandparents are Alan Eric and Kathaleen Alice Marschner. Paternal grandparents are Scott Carter and Alice Ann Patchett. ▀

## REDUCING SALT ON ROADS

*(Continued from page 2)*

### Cutting-edge technology

Hague's Highway Department trucks are also now equipped with computers that collect data, which is then analyzed, enabling the town to continuously improve road safety. Using that data, the crew can adjust the ratio in the brining solution, based on temperature and humidity. With the help of grants from The FUND, the town also now has live-edge plows, which can remove snow and slush right at the road's surface. Roadside cameras purchased by The FUND capture images every 15 minutes on specific road sections, providing information on road conditions – including whether the brine is adhering to the road. This information enables the highway crew to deploy its resources when and where they are most needed.

The FUND has also provided dash cameras, which allow members of the crew to patrol the roads, assess conditions before a storm, and determine which treatment practices to use.

It's clear that Hague's Highway Department is a real leader in innovative practices for salt reduction. And it is now sharing this experience and expertise with other nearby towns. This kind of best-practice sharing among towns benefits all of us in all the towns, both environmentally and financially.

### Kudos to our highway department

Huge kudos to the Hague Highway Department crew for all their work in keeping our roads safe in all kinds of conditions, often working day and night – and in horrendous conditions. The team is: Donny Smith, Superintendent of Highways; Matt Coffin, Deputy

Superintendent; Tim Fiallo, Rick Myers, Dan Steitz, Ernie Trudeau, and Nate Swinton.

### Important tips to keep everyone safe

- Keep your distance when following a plow truck. Plow drivers cannot see the lines on the unplowed road in front of them, so they rely on the lines on the cleared road behind them to stay in their lane. If you follow too closely, they can't see those lines.
- Be patient when driving behind a plow truck. When drivers go slowly to apply salt, the salt stays on the road rather than scattering, which wastes money and harms the environment.
- Slow down when conditions are bad. You never know when you might hit a patch of black ice or ice covered by snow. If you lose control, the results could be disastrous. ▣

## LGLC UPCOMING EVENTS

Hike, see and learn about Lake George with the Lake George Land Conservancy's (LGLC) Walks & Talks.

**A GUIDED CROSS-COUNTRY SKI** will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2021, from 9:30 am - 3 pm at Cat and Thomas Mountains Preserve in Bolton Landing.

This annual eight-mile RT trek will follow the base trails from Valley Woods to Edgecomb Pond and back, and will be led by adventurer David Thomas-Train. There will possibly be an ascent to the Cat Mountain summit, if the snow/trail conditions allow.

Click [HERE](#) with questions and/or to register. Free/donations welcome. Visit the LGLC Cat and Thomas page for more information.



### A WALK ON WATER TO DOME

**ISLAND** will be held on Saturday, February 20th, with time slots at 10 am and 2 pm and will leave from the LGLC office in Bolton Landing.



Snowshoe, walk, or ski across a mile of frozen Lake George to explore protected Dome Island. Highly dependent on the weather and ice conditions. Fee: \$10 per person (non-refundable donation). Click [HERE](#) to register.

### Important Details:

- Check-in at the LGLC office, where limited parking is available.
- Depending on the condition of the ice, you may want to wear snowshoes, crampons, or skis. Sleds are recommended for young children.

- Event will be cancelled if there's not enough ice to walk on safely.
- In the case of cancellation, fees are non-refundable.

### COVID-19 PROTOCOLS:

By registering, participants agree to comply with the following:

- Those not part of a family unit must keep six feet from other participants.
- ALL participants must wear a mask and follow all CDC and other health and safety guidelines.
- The LGLC will try to provide masks and hand sanitizer to those who need them.
- If local, county, or state authorities determine that such events are no longer safe, the event may be cancelled or there may be smaller groups.

Join the LGLC's email list and follow the LGLC on Facebook and Instagram for updates. ▣

## WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by Mike Strutz

Wash your hands, wear a mask, social distance. It's been the mantra we have heard over and over for the last nine months. It's been the only way that we as individuals can help stop the spread of coronavirus. Luckily, we now have a vaccine that (if enough responsible people take it) can eliminate or at least greatly reduce coronavirus in our society and get our lives back to normal.

Well, I have a new mantra for you in 2021. Maintain your septic system, stop using fertilizer, and control your run-off. These are the three key things that we as responsible individuals can do to help stop nutrients from entering Lake George and harming water quality. Unfortunately, there is no vaccine that we can inject into the lake to protect it. We must stop pollution at the source.

Along with all the misery that we experienced in 2020, we can add a Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) to the list. A HAB was discovered by the LGA in

“  
Dedicated to  
Protecting  
the Water  
Quality of  
Lake George  
”



Harris Bay and along the shoreline at Assembly Point in the southern part of the lake. It was the first of its kind and was limited in scope. It did not cause any fish kills or levels of toxins that limited the lake water from being used as drinking water. Call it a shot across the bow, but Mother Nature is not happy with the way we are treating her in that part of the lake.

HABs are caused by organisms known as cyanobacteria. These are naturally-occurring in the lake at low levels but under the right conditions of sunny, warm, still, and nutrient-rich water, will flourish and form a visible scum on the surface. Besides the disgusting appearance, the bloom can produce deadly toxins that affect the skin, liver, and nervous system. People, pets, and livestock should avoid water that is visibly infected.

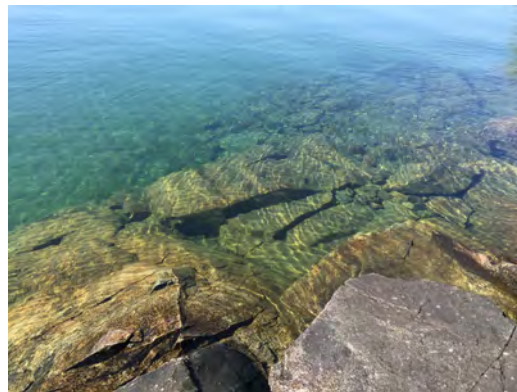
The good news is that we have dedicated organizations like the Lake

George Association (LGA), The FUND for Lake George (The FUND), The Darrin Freshwater Institute (DFI), Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), International Business Machines (IBM), and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), who continue to watch the situation closely. Keep an eye on their websites for further information.

In the meantime: Maintain your septic system, stop using fertilizer, and control your run-off.

Oh, and keep doing that coronavirus stuff.

Happy New Year! For more information on how you can help, please 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. ▣



## HOSPITAL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

John Remillard, president of the University of Vermont Health Network Elizabethtown Community Hospital, will retire next spring after five years with the organization and over three decades in health care leadership.

In February 2016, Remillard joined Elizabethtown Community Hospital and the UVM Health Network. As president of Elizabethtown Community Hospital, he led the transformation of the former Moses Ludington Hospital into a medical campus and model for sustainable rural health care. Today, the Ticonderoga campus includes a completely redesigned 24-hour emergency department and a brand-new primary care center, as well as imaging, physical therapy, and outpatient specialty services.

During his tenure, Remillard has been committed to building on Elizabethtown Community Hospital's reputation for exceptional care, and helped recruit physicians to expand the emergency department care team at both campuses. He also helped grow the hospital's network of primary care clinics throughout Essex County by adding a new practice in Crown Point and a new facility in Wilmington.

"It has been a tremendous honor to be a part of the ECH team, especially



John Remillard  
Photo courtesy of  
sbmonthly.com

as we have tackled the unprecedented challenges of caring for our community during a pandemic," said Remillard. Until his departure, Remillard says he will continue to focus on safely providing care during COVID and on implementing Epic, an electronic health record used across the UVM Health Network.

"We are looking for a strong leader who will guide Elizabethtown Community Hospital through the ever-changing health care landscape and carry forward the momentum John Remillard has built up over the past five years," said Dominic Eisinger, PhD, chair of the hospital's board of directors. "The search committee's goal is to have the next Elizabethtown Community Hospital president take the helm by June of next year." ▣



## LGA'S RANDY RATH HONORED AS 2020 CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

LGA Project Manager Randy Rath was named 2020 Conservationist of the Year by the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District. The award is given out each year by Warren County Soil and Water "to recognize an individual or organization for being outstanding in their work in the field of natural resources conservation."

"It is a well-deserved honor," said Walt Lender, the LGA's executive director. "Randy puts his heart and soul into water quality protection projects on Lake George. We couldn't be more proud of him and the LGA is pleased to see the community and his peers recognize his significant accomplishments."

"Randy spends his life planning, organizing and performing these projects that make the lake cleaner now and better protected for the future," said President of the LGA Board of Directors Pete Menzies. "The LGA Board knows how hard he works, and how his knowledge and talent bring the ideas to fruition."

"I've spent many years working with the staff at Soil and Water," said Randy, "and I can't tell you how much I appreciate this award. Receiving it is humbling."

For more information, call 518-668-3558 or go to <http://www.LakeGeorgeAssociation.org>. ■



*Randy Rath at work at Jenkins Brook in Hague*

## LGA SCIENCE FROM YOUR SOFA



There will be a new episode of the Lake George Association's (LGA) *Science from your Sofa* series out on January 21, 2021 on the subject of macroinvertebrates.

The LGA wants the public to send its questions regarding Landlocked Atlantic Salmon to [eboucher@lakegeorgeassociation.org](mailto:eboucher@lakegeorgeassociation.org). ■

## SCHOOLS DISMISS EARLY

There will be an early dismissal for Ticonderoga Central School District and St.

Mary's students on Friday, February 12, 2021. Dismissal times will be as follows:

ELEMENTARY – 1:20 pm

(parent pick-up 12:50 pm)

ST. MARY'S – 1:30 pm

JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH – 1:40 pm



## BOARD OF EDUCATION TO MEET

The Board of Education of the Ticonderoga Central School District will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 6 pm. Due to the importance of social distancing during the current pandemic, this meeting will be held electronically.

Please visit the district website at [www.ticonderogak12.org](http://www.ticonderogak12.org) for the web link/teleconference number. ■

## CORNELL OFFERS BUDGET COACHING PROGRAM

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County is now offering a free, confidential Family Budget Coaching Program to community residents.

The one-on-one sessions are available to individuals and families who want to improve their financial literacy, set goals, create a savings plan, reduce debt, and get a better handle on finances.

The trained coaches will offer sessions either via ZOOM or in person in Glens Falls, Warrensburg, and Johnsburg.

For more information on this program, contact Roxanne Westcott at [rmw38@cornell.edu](mailto:rmw38@cornell.edu) or 518-668-4881. ■

## HAGUE CHRONICLE NEWS:

Please send all news items to Editor Bobbi Bryant Taylor at: [editor@thehaguechronicle.org](mailto:editor@thehaguechronicle.org).

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES ANNUAL REPORT

No new aquatic invasive species were discovered in Lake George this year!

The Lake George Park Commission's (LGPC) boat inspection program began three weeks later than usual this year, as safety protocols needed to be generated and equipment put in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The commission watched the primary launches until the program could be initiated and with the COVID public restrictions in place, very little boating occurred in early May. The 2020 boat inspection season began on May 21st and operated through October 31st. While the season was shorter, it was the busiest year the inspection program has seen since it began in 2014.

During 2020, the boat inspection staff processed 37,150 boaters through the six regional inspection stations. Of that number, 10,638 received full entrance inspections, 15,049 received inspections while exiting Lake George (to ensure no invasives are exported to other waterbodies), and 11,463 boats arrived at the inspection stations with an inspection seal (mostly boats returning to Lake George after getting an exit seal).

In 2020, there were 171 boats that came to the LGPC's boat inspection stations that were contaminated with visible invasive species (primarily Eurasian watermilfoil, Zebra mussels, and Water Chestnut), and these boats were cleaned prior to launching. Seven

of these 171 boats actually had two different invasive species on them during inspection.

Approximately 11.4 percent of boats receiving an inspection did not meet the "clean, drained, and dry" (CDD) standard of the program, and required decontamination prior to launch. The boats not meeting the CDD standard are a risk to the lake, as water in bilges and motors can carry invasive species.

The LGPC is always striving to educate boaters about the importance of bringing clean vessels to Lake George and the goal is to reduce the number of decontaminations required by having people take steps on their own to ensure they are clean and ready to be launched. As always, thanks go to Governor Cuomo for his continued support of this lake-saving program. The LGPC also thanks their local partners who provide the other half of the cost of this program, including the Warren County Board of Supervisors, the Village of Lake George, the Towns of Bolton, Queensbury and Lake George, the Lake George Association, and The FUND for Lake



George. Thanks to this partnership, which funds 100% of the program, there is no cost to the boaters coming to Lake George.

For a full overview of the program's creation, planning, and logistics, please refer to the Lake George Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Plan/Environmental Impact Statement on the LGPC's website at [lgpc.ny.gov/lake-georgeboat-inspections](http://lgpc.ny.gov/lake-georgeboat-inspections). ▣

## NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S SPRING 2021

North Country Community College (NCCC) has announced that it has revised its academic calendar for the Spring 2021 semester. After careful deliberation, which included considering feedback from students, faculty, and staff, the college has chosen to align its Spring 2021 schedule with the request from SUNY to not hold a formal spring break.

"We have been and remain committed to taking steps we can take to help keep our campus and local communities safe," said NCCC President Joe Keegan. "It is in that spirit that we have made the decision to not hold a formal spring break for the upcoming semester."

As a result of this change, the first day of classes for the spring semester will now be February 1st, instead of January 25th. The semester will still conclude on May 13th. These changes

are reflected in a Revised Spring 2021 Academic Calendar, which is posted on the college's website [HERE](#).

NCCC is continuing its operations in a mostly remote setting for the Spring 2021 semester. It's not too late to register for Spring semester classes. To learn more, call 888-TRY-NCCC, email [admissions@nccc.edu](mailto:admissions@nccc.edu), or visit [www.nccc.edu](http://www.nccc.edu). For more details, visit the Spring 2021 page on the college's website [HERE](#). ▣

## FORT TICONDEROGA DIGITAL CAMPAIGN

Fort Ticonderoga continues its **Digital Campaign**— a virtual experience featuring interactive programming, a lectures series, and at-home educational activities and resources.

### Upcoming Digital Programs:

#### **Saturday, January 23, 2021 - Ticonderoga's First British Winter, Facebook, 1 pm**

The challenges faced by the British garrison of Ticonderoga during its first British winter.

#### **Wednesday, January 27th - Fort Fever Series: Thomas Macdonough, the U.S.S. Ticonderoga, and the War of 1812 on Lake Champlain, ZOOM, 7 pm**

This presentation by Rich Strum, Fort Ticonderoga Director of Academic Programs, is about Lieutenant Thomas Macdonough and his fleet, including the first United States naval vessel Ticonderoga. Requires pre-registration. Free to Fort Ticonderoga members; \$10 to the general public.

#### **Thursday, January 28th - From the Ground Up: Buttons, Facebook, 1 pm**

About the different buttons found at Fort Ticonderoga.

#### **Saturday, January 30th - Virtual Living History Event: A Day Longer in the Field**

All programs will be featured on [Facebook](#) starting at the listed times:

##### **11 am - Timber!**

In the fall and winter of 1759, the British Army worked to rebuild Fort Ticonderoga. Watch each swing of the axe and each pass of the saw as New England soldiers gather the needed timber to rebuild the fort.

##### **1 pm - The Long Haul with Oxen**

Witness the power of oxen! See Red Devon Oxen, a common 18th century New England breed, in action as they haul logs from the woods just like in 1759.

##### **2 pm - Hewing Beams**

Watch as provincial soldiers snap a line and carefully cut with their axes to hew round logs into usable square beams.



*Provincial soldiers snap a line and carefully cut with their axes to hew round logs into useable square beams.*

#### **3 pm - Framing British Ticonderoga**

Watch as we peg in-place mortise and tenon joints, creating a timber frame.

#### **4 pm - "A road to be marked and cut...may be come known to and frequented by the people of New England"**

General Jeffrey Amherst agreed to let New England provincial soldiers return home at the end of 1759 on the condition that they build a road to get there. Discover how this military road over the Green Mountains set the stage for Vermont, the Revolutionary War in the Champlain Valley, and remains a part of our geography today.

Visit [fortticonderoga.org](http://fortticonderoga.org) and the fort's social media accounts for more exciting live videos, on-site special events, lectures series, and educational at-home activities that bring history to life. ▣

## COVID-19 RESOURCES, ASSISTANCE, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM TACC

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) is working hard during this pandemic to serve its members and the business community. TACC wants you to connect with them if you need assistance in any way. To get information, resources, and assistance, go to <https://ticonderogany.com/covid-19-resources>. Please like and follow their Facebook page for the most updated information and support TACC members. ▣

**SUPPORTING THE HAGUE CHRONICLE** :You can make a tax-deductible donation to *The Hague Chronicle* any time **HERE**. Our all-volunteer staff thanks you for the encouragement and the support you provide! We couldn't do it without you!

**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](mailto:editor@thehaguechronicle.org) Please send any questions to [publisher@thehaguechronicle.org](mailto:publisher@thehaguechronicle.org) .

**Publisher:** Judy Stock  
**Editor:** Bobbi Bryant Taylor  
**Layout Editor:** Chris Quinn  
**Treasurer:** Bob Whitaker

**Staff:** Claire Best, Tina King, Ginger Henry Kuenzel, Pat McDonough, Sandy Powell, and Jan Whitaker  
**Intern:** Gabrielle Keller

## TI ARTS

In January, Ti Arts is fixing up its showroom with Pearsall Grant money and opening with a new show in February, unless the pandemic shuts it down. The show, *Harvest to Table*, will open February 11, 2021 and close March 13th. Thirty percent of the sales will go to the Ti Food Pantry and 70% to the artists. The gallery will be open Thursday – Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Artists should see the informational flyer [HERE](#) for more details.

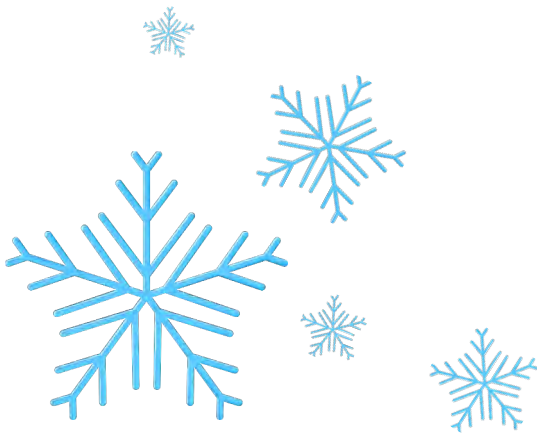
Click on this link <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=fwNUhyTJDje> to see a virtual view of the main room of the gallery photographed by Adirondack Drone in late December. Readers may want to use it to set up virtual shopping. ▣



## THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

## CALENDAR

January 2021

### JANUARY

18	MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY/TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
20	INAUGURATION DAY
21 6 pm	Meeting of the Board of Education of the Ti Central School District
23 1 pm	Ft. Ti Digital Program – First British Winter
27 7 pm	Ft. Ti Digital Program – Thomas Macdonough
28 1 pm	Ft. Ti Digital Program – Buttons
7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
30 11 am	Ft. Ti Digital Program – Timber
1 pm	Ft. Ti Digital Program – Oxen
2 pm	Ft. Ti Digital Program – Hewing Beams
3 pm	Ft. Ti Digital Program – Mortise & Tenon Joints
4 pm	Ft. Ti Digital Program – The Military Road

### FEBRUARY

1	First day of classes at NCCC
2	Ground Hog Day
4 7 pm	Planning Board
6 9:30 am – 3 pm	LGLC Cross Country Ski
8	Deadline for the February issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>
9 6 pm	Town Board
11 10 am – 4 pm	Ti Arts - <i>Harvest to Table</i> Show
14	VALENTINE'S DAY
15	PRESIDENTS DAY/TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
20 10 am or 2 pm	LGLC Walk to Dome Island

#### TRANSFER STATION HOURS: September 2 through June 30

Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm | Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm | Sunday: CLOSED