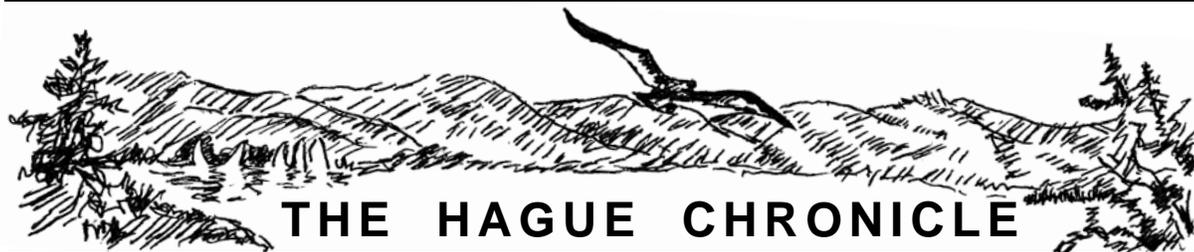


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The Hague Senior Citizens' Club Sponsors

**TOWN OF HAGUE
MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND FUNFEST**



Saturday, May 23, 2009 - Schedule of Events

9 am to 4 pm: Funfest at the Hague Town Park - Route 9N

“Ready to Go” Doggie Show

12:30 pm Cambridge Band Live Concert

DJ Music all day by Steve Pelkey, WOKO Radio Personality

Crafters, Flowering Plants, White Elephants

Kids' Games, Face Painting, Dunking Booth

Food Concessions by local organizations - Hoagies, Hot Dogs,

Burgers, Soft Drinks, Baked Goods, and more

2 pm: Parade - Route 8 to Hague Town Park on 9N

6 Marching Bands, Floats, Classic Cars and much, much more

Prizes for Best in Parade, Most Creative, Most Patriotic, Best

Adirondack Theme and Best Youth

**3:30 pm: Memorial Dedication Service - Guest Speaker -
ABC Special News Correspondent Robert Woodruff.**

4 - 8 pm: HVFD's Old Fashioned Chicken BBQ - at the Fire House

Tickets at the Door or from HVFD Members

HONORING THE U.S. FLAG

During a parade, at the moment the American Flag passes you, all should stand at attention in silence facing the flag with their right hands over their hearts. Persons in uniform should stand at attention, face the flag and render the military salute.



MEMORIAL DAY 2009 CELEBRATION Sponsored by Hague Senior Citizens Club

Saturday, May 23rd will be Hague's seventh Memorial Day Celebration after a 30 year void. Doesn't seem possible! There will be a full day of activities for all to enjoy so plan to check them all out. Please see details of the day's events on page 1.

PARADE LINEUP commencing at 1 PM will be at a different location this year. All Motorized Units will line up on the West Hague Road starting in front of the Fire House. Numbers will be posted along the route from there to the Hague Town Shed, as needed. There will be a Parade Organizer at the beginning & one at the end to assist you in finding your spot. You **MUST BE THERE BY 1:30 PM** so don't come at the last minute. Units will be moved as a group down Route 8 at 1:45 PM to be at Community Center in time for 2 PM march time. All walkers will continue to lineup in the Community Center. NOTE: During this period, West Hague Road **WILL NOT BE CLOSED** - there will be 1-WAY TRAFFIC ALLOWED, under the direction of **SPECIAL FIRE POLICE** at both ends of lineup.

TRAFFIC CONTROL - Under the direction of David Snow of Hague Fire Dept., will be handled by visiting **SPECIAL FIRE POLICE** (14 total + 4 Parking Attendants). Please give them all your cooperation. Try to come to the parade fairly early to avoid road closings as follows: **ROUTE 8 - CLOSURES** at 1:50 PM at **DECKER HILL RD** (once all Units have passed going east) --- **ROUTE 9N - CLOSURES** at 1:55 PM at **DODD HILL, at NEW HAGUE RD & at RT 8 CIRCLE**. - Roads will reopen at approximately 3:15-3:30 PM once all is clear.

PARKING IN VILLAGE - All available parking lots will be designated with **PARKING SIGNS** - Attendants will be available to assist you to efficiently utilize these areas. If unsure where to go, please stop to inquire.

NOTE TO BOATERS - Hague Boat Launch will be closed on Saturday, May 23rd from **NOON to 4 PM** as a safety measure during the Memorial Day Celebration.

We look forward to seeing you all. Let's make this another wonderful **DAY TO REMEMBER** in the Town of Hague.
... Madeline Pelkey

WOODRUFF TO SPEAK

Of special note is the news that Robert Woodruff, a Silver Bay seasonal resident and ABC Special News Correspondent, will be the featured speaker at the Memorial Day Service on May 23, 2009.

A larger-than-ever crowd is expected. With parking limited in the hamlet, it would be helpful if all local residents make plans to carpool, ride a bike or walk to the parade and service.

Madeline Pelkey and her committee have put together another incredible day of events with activities of interest to everyone - from games, food and white elephant sale in the park to the Parade and the Memorial Dedication Service. It will be another special day in the Town of Hague.

HVFD MEMORIAL DAY BBQ

The Hague Volunteer Fire Department is joining forces with the many other civic-minded organizations to support our Town's reputation for having one of the finest Memorial Day celebrations in the Lake George/Champlain area. Along with participating in the parade, we will once again be offering our popular Chicken BBQ with all the fixings from 3 - 7 pm. Adults \$10 - Kids under 12 are \$7. Hot dogs and hamburgers will also be available. A raffle and D.J. will make this a great family event. There is also the possibility of a demonstration of our new Fire/Rescue boat at the waterfront.

In other business, a class in dealing with hybrid car crashes will be offered in Lake George on May 30. There were 15 fire/ambulance calls using 370 man hours during the past month, plus 5 fire police calls using 45 man hours. Congratulations to Pam and Jocelyn Fischer who recently completed requirements for certification as Intermediate EMTs.

Chief Jim Young extends special thanks to not only our own department, but all our neighboring departments, for the successful containment of a recent forest fire on Tongue Mountain. Except for everyone's quick response the situation could have been much worse.

The boating season is already under way, so start the summer by making sure that your boat is in safe operating condition.
... Joe McCranels

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 address corrections to the Publisher, Judy Stock at HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly (check your label) tax deductible contribution, made out to **The Hague Chronicle** to:

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SUPPORT FOR TAX REFORM

The NYS Property Tax Reform Coalition has reported that our State Senator, Betty Little, continuing her long-standing support for property tax reform, is co-sponsoring (with Senator Liz Kruger) S4239, the "Omnibus" property tax circuit breaker legislation. For more information on this legislation go to <www.nysenate.gov/senator/elizabeth-little>.

The Coalition has created an automated tax calculator available at <www.omnibustaxsolution.org> which enables users to calculate their individual eligibility and benefits without having to identify themselves. Click on the small calculator icon at the lower left of the website's first page. After you enter your household income and property taxes, hit "calculate". Be sure you scroll down to see not just your tax relief for the first year (2009), but also for the fourth year (2012) when the bill is fully phased in. There is a substantial increase in eligibility and benefits over the four years.

Bill S4239 allows families to still receive their basic STAR and Enhanced STAR benefits and covers not just school taxes but town and county taxes as well. It will cover renters as well as homeowners. Because the bill provides relief first to those paying high percentages of their income in property tax, not everyone will be immediately eligible. For families still not eligible by 2012, S4239 will provide insurance for a day when they may lose income due to retirement, sickness, or unemployment -- or for when property taxes go even higher than they already are.

Also the NY State Senate has just instituted a new website in which they are seeking input on property tax solutions and a "vote" on specific ideas. To indicate your support for the tax legislation, go to <<http://propertytaxideas.nysenate.gov>>, scroll down for various options that are listed and "Vote Up" your support. [If new to the site, you will be asked to enter your email address and a password - after entering click on "Back to Property Tax Ideas" and continue to vote.]

SENIOR CLUB NEWS

April's meeting proved to be a fun afternoon especially since we welcomed another new member. Our entertainment skit was based on the early life of the famous singer, Frank Sinatra and presented as a Radio Talk Show on WHSS - Hague's Swinging Seniors Station. The Mystery Guest turned out to be Club Member Kay Caldera who in fact was born in Hoboken, NJ where Frank grew up and she had several factual stories to share with us about him. We also had some other great input from another Club Member, Mike Manning. He remembers his grandfather and his parents talking about seeing Sinatra at the original Gull Bay Casino, which was located just across the Lake from Hague. His father actually square danced there in a set with film star Ava Gardner, Frank's girlfriend and short time wife. Neat memories that occurred right in our backyard! The radio show signed off with Sinatra singing THAT'S LIFE.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26th, at the Community Center starting at noon (note time change). We

will be having our Swinging Senior Luncheon 'Catered by Katie'. A special dessert is being prepared for us by Imogene Frasier. This luncheon is our "Thanks to Us" treat for all the efforts extended to sponsor and run the Memorial Day Celebration for the Town. May is a very busy month for the Seniors.

... Madeline Pelkey

HAGUE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Historical Society will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 7 pm at the Hague Community Center: A brief business meeting will be followed by an interesting visual program on the Sexton Sisters of Hague and their photography. You don't need to be a member - just come and enjoy! If you do want to join, dues are only \$5 for the year and refreshments are free!

The next time you're at the Community Center, be sure to spend some time looking at the new exhibit in the lobby showcase. It's a preview of next month's program on the Sexton Sisters! Our thanks go out to Dick Bolton, Jamie Fitzgerald, Dolly Kennedy and Carl Smith Olmstead for their contributions of information and to the Exhibit Committee: Dorothy Brauner, Susan Darrin, Chris Ianson, Pat McDonough, Pam Peterson, Kathi Ramant, Judy Stock and Ray Snyder for their creativity and their many hours of work.

We'll have a small table at the beach at the Memorial Day festivities from 10 am till noon. You can join that day, buy note cards, and peruse some of the binders from the Hague Historical Museum that contain wonderful Hague stories.

Only a handful of folks worked in the cemetery on April 28th, but it was a beautiful morning and we got a lot done. Leaves were raked and blown away and all the plants we put in last fall came back! Of course, the deer are munching on the day lilies, but we don't mind sharing! It's a worthwhile project and we'll keep at it. As you can see from the photo, we have our first forget-me-nots blooming.



We have a need for help in our Museum office. If we were to describe the perfect person, it would be someone who is computer/database savvy, who is interested in local history, and who has a few hours a week to spend helping us to continue inventorying our collection. Over and above those qualifications, if this person/persons knew PastPerfect Software, that would be a great boon. If you meet the description (or any part thereof!) or if you're expecting a summer guest who might be interested, please contact Pat McDonough at <haguehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com> or Hague Historical Society, PO Box 794, Hague, NY 12836.

NEW BAPTIST PASTOR

The new pastor at the Hague Baptist Church is Cory MacNeil. Everyone is welcome to attend the Installation Service for Pastor MacNeil on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at 6 pm.

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING - 4/30/2009

Supervisor Dan Belden and Board members Dick Gladu, Rudy Meola and Mark Martucci were present for this special meeting with Ticonderoga Superintendent of Schools, John McDonald along with 30 interested citizens in the audience.

Dr. McDonald explained that only half of the budget equation was available until recently, that the budget was developed by administrators and department heads and that it will continue the excellent educational program. The Ticonderoga School District has been ranked among the top 2% of high schools in the country by US News & World Report for the 2nd consecutive year. 60% of the students are taking at least one advanced placement course and there are good regents scores. There is a good Pre-K program to get kids ready and they hope to get funding for another 5 years for the 21st Century After School program, run by Silver Bay.

In response to questions by Mary Ann Eaton and Donna Van Wirt, Dr. McDonald stated that they have about 40% of students on reduced lunch and since many of these kids don't have a place to study, the After School program gives them that place. These students are identified by an enrichment program and then they encourage the kids who need it to attend. Since it is a privilege to attend, discipline is not a problem. There is also a structured mandatory study hall for students who don't do their work. 90% of the students are involved in some type of after school program. There were 11.9% in Special Education last year. The drop out rate is yearly 2% and that means about 8% over 4 years but it is much better than urban areas. The class sizes are around 14 for grades 3 and below; then around 22 in middle school and no more than 25 in the high school.

Dr. McDonald explained that they have saved \$200,000 by going to Plan B for employee health coverage. Contributions to the retirement system fluctuate so the district has had to put in more money.

In a discussion about per pupil costs, it was noted that if there was a school district in Hague, the state aid would be almost nothing and taxpayers would be paying anyway. Looking at the issue of consolidation of area schools is one that should be considered.

There were only 2 bidders for the new building and the bids have come in higher than expected so there has to be a

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 5/12/2009

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

A moment of silence was held for Brian Sann and Georgina Lindquist.

Supervisor Belden opened the floor to several members of the public to address the Board. Madeline Pelkey, President of the Hague Senior Citizens' Club, reported on the traffic plans for the Memorial Day parade. Fourteen people from outside fire police will work on the traffic. The Darrin lot is not available due to the staging for the sewer construction but arrange-

ments have been made to use the area of the former garage property, town and church lots will be used and parking will be allowed along Lakeshore Drive. Madeline requested that the Town post the signs for closing the boat launch early. She noted that volunteers are also needed to help until the fire police arrive.

Art Hatfield from Kiwanis said that the Major Emphasis Committee has given the Town money for various projects such as a nature trail, the lifeguard station, signs and picnic tables for the park. Kiwanis will donate \$1000 to the Town for a specific item if they can get an idea from the Town by the first of June.

Vincent Smith, Interim Director of the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks, introduced himself to the Board. Doug Sham and Carolyn Close of SBA were also at the meeting.

Chris Navitsky, Lake George Waterkeeper, introduced Dawn Keppler, a biologist with The Fund for Lake George. Dawn is in charge of a stream monitoring program and handed out reports on the stream assessment. The report is available online at <www.fundforlakegeorge.org>.

Scott Olson, from Casella Waste management, encouraged the Board to consider the proposal submitted by Casella for the operation of the Transfer Station keeping in mind the "many years we have been operating and the improvements we have made over the years." Councilman Gladu noted that they had sent out requests for proposals, and received interest from four, but only Casella actually submitted a proposal which was a statement of responsibilities. Casella wants to sit down and negotiate on the finances and noted that with diesel prices down, the rates might be moderated. The Transfer Station committee will meet on Tuesday, May 19th at 9 am with Casella to come up with a price list and the Board will meet following that at 10 am to vote on the contract.

Bruce Clark noted that there had been no notice of the recent closing of Route 9N for more work on Sewer District #2 and the extra expense of detouring for two weeks was being borne by the people who are not benefitting from District #2.

Judy Stock asked if the wall by the Island Harbor curve had been repaired. Supervisor Belden said that DOT hadn't done it because they didn't get the contracts signed.

Pam Peterson asked how long Route 8 will be closed for the bridge repair. It will start on May 27th and probably last for 2 - 3 weeks.

Town Board Committee Reports:

1. Assessor/Justice:

Councilman Gladu reported that the final equalization rate would be 70.5% which was a drop from 73.33%. He said that the rate for Ticonderoga would probably be 73.0%. If all other factors were equal, that would translate into a tax burden of 51% for Hague and 49% for Ticonderoga. However, the latest assessed values for the towns will not be done until August - long after the May vote on the school budget. ORPS (Office of Real Property Service) is not consistent with the time table for school budgets. There is also a question of whether or not there should be a revaluation locally. The town benefits from a high assessment in returns on sales tax but wants a lower assessment

for school taxes. With money tight, it isn't clear whether funds should be expended on a revaluation. The figures for equalization look back three years so the figures do not really reflect the current economy. In any case, Hague will have to be synchronized with any decision that Ticonderoga makes with regard to a revaluation.

2. Building & Grounds:

Councilman Martucci reported that the deck and the ramp out front are almost complete. After consulting with the Garden Club, routine landscaping maintenance and thinning was done. He reported that there is a need to move bushes away from the Community Center because the mulch buildup is rotting the logs of the building. The pillars on the stone bridge are almost done. The tile in the lobby is almost done. There is need for expansion and more space for records. Council member Frasier reported a survey was sent out to organizations for suggestions on the needs for the kitchen. The consensus was to keep the kitchen but it also needs cleaning from top to bottom, more preparation space and removal of the big grill which doesn't get used. The committee will work on some figures to put into the budget for fall.

3. Finance & Insurance:

Councilwoman Frasier said that the independent auditor should have a report for them by May 15th. Councilman Meola asked what the status was of the approval to provide employees with the option of direct deposit. It was reported that it had been worked on during the day.

4. Fire Department:

Councilman Gladu thanked the Fire Department for their rescue efforts during what was a difficult month. Councilman Martucci reported on Department activities and Supervisor Belden noted it was good to have new young blood in the Department.

5. Highway:

Councilman Martucci reported on the truck proposal, the sweeping of sand, the salt shed and inventory of culverts. The highway personnel will help set up for the parade.

6. Museum & Historian:

Councilwoman Frasier reported on the need to make the threshold into the vault air tight.

7. Planning/Zoning/Stormwater:

The Telecommunications ordinance and the change in the rental code have been approved by the APA. ZEO Clark was given permission to attend the Watershed Conference on June 18th at Roaring Brook in Lake Luzerne if it is held.

8. Recreation/Promotion & Youth:

Councilman Meola reported that the Committee on Promotion has met and recommends having an event on September 26, 2009 from noon to 5 pm in the Park. It would be like an Oktoberfest with a band and food (provided by the HVFD). They need money from the Town for music and publicity and permission to have beer served by microbrewers. The Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks will help with childrens' events. Permission was granted to serve beer by a vote of 4-1 with Councilman Frasier indicating that she felt that serving alcohol at the Park might put the Town at liability. It was noted

that someone was needed to have responsibility for the overall planning of the event and it is hoped to get a volunteer to do it.

Councilman Meola attended a meeting of the Warren County Youth Court. In the last 10 years over 600 offenders have been involved along with over 295 volunteers. Among the infractions are those relating to alcohol, assault, disorderly conduct, harassment, marijuana, stolen property and obstruction of justice. This program is done through the Warren County schools but Hague students are not eligible because of the distance.

9. Sewer District #1 & #2:

Complaints have been received about the sewer assessments - most from sewer district #1 - and the complaints have to be addressed by June 22. Since some of the complaints have to be verified, the Board will meet to do advance planning.

10. Town Park:

The Board approved a motion, by 4-1, to "net the geese" at the Park which are creating a health and safety problem. Councilman Gladu did not support the motion since he felt other options should be explored. Councilman Meola reported that a new sign would go up soon for the Town Park and Beach. The Board approved a motion to have a banner made for the Music in the Park series.

Under other business, the Board:

Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Diane Farinick from the Board of Assessment Review (BAR).

Appointed Ray Mury, who had been serving as an alternate, to fill the opening on the BAR.

Appointed Mike Cherubini as the new alternate to the BAR.

Appointed the following summer employees: Visitor Center - Barbara Patchett, Evelyn Gravelle, Debbie Reid; Park Attendants - Alison Bartlett, Ashley Bartlett; Lifeguards - Jamie Patchett, John Paul Ocrin, Ashley Bartlett, substitute, Brandon Carberry, substitute, Brie Timm, substitute. Additional persons are needed for park attendants and the visitor center.

Approved a request for \$50 from Gender Free, Inc. to be a sponsor for the Memorial Day Dog Show. Gender Free works to lower the cost of spaying and neutering cats and supports placement of abandoned dogs and cats.

Approved a request for \$3000 from Occupancy Tax funds to support a Community Map Project for the upper Hudson River.

Approved a request from the Bolton Landing Historical Society to borrow "George", the Lake George Monster, for the summer beginning on May 23, 2009.

Approved Resolution #59 allowing rentals of single family homes.

Approved Resolution #60 creating a Telecommunications ordinance.

Approved Resolution #61 in support of the Tax Relief Circuit Breaker. See related article on page 3.

Authorized Supervisor Belden to sign entry and testing agreement for Tower Development which will look at places for setting up a cell phone tower.

County Report:

Supervisor Belden reported that he had voted against a county sales tax increase. He said that 22 county jobs will be cut in order to save 1.2 million in benefits which they hope to do through retirements.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 4/23/09

Chairman Robert Goetsch welcomed new ZBA member Jon Hanna. Other members in attendance were Bill Pittman, Glenn McKee and George Ianson while Lindsay Mydlarz and Martin Fitzgerald II were absent.

The continued public hearing on the Rizza application (43.13-1-22), 28 Bayberry Lane, Cape Cod Village heard several comments in favor of the project while John Breitenbach, attorney for the next-door neighbors, felt that it did not meet the requirement for a zoning variance. After much discussion, the Board approved the application for a 1 1/2 story addition.

NAVITSKY (93.19-1-10), 7763 Lakeshore Drive (RC) has applied for a variance for a fence which will be over 3 ft in height and within 20 ft of the road side property line. The Board will hold a public hearing next month.

PLANNING BOARD - 5/7/09

Chairman E. J. Siwek welcomed new member Mike Cherubini and opened the meeting with all others members present including Dick Frasier, Pam Peterson, Bruce Clark, John Brown and Martin Fitzgerald.

More than 40 people were in attendance for a public hearing held on an application by Sheri DeLarm and Cris Ginn of The Firehouse Restaurant to serve food and alcoholic beverages on their restaurant's rear outdoor concrete patio and in an outdoor area in front of the restaurant.

While there were concerns expressed about noise and safety, the application had overwhelming support from more than 20 passionate speakers and a petition signed by 156 people.

Among the points made by the speakers were that a successful business benefits everyone through sales tax and by bringing money into the community. The Firehouse Restaurant fills a need for a restaurant in the community in order to have a place for local residents to eat and gather as well as for outside dining which creates an inviting place for visitors to eat. Speakers pointed out that outside dining adds to the ambience in many communities.

The Firehouse Restaurant, along with the Uptown Store and Junipers have created an attractive area in town which speakers noted "has helped Hague come alive." They also noted that the Town should do more to encourage businesses.

Also mentioned was the fact that Sheri is a life-long resident of Hague and as a businesswoman she follows in the foot-

steps of her late father, Keith DeLarm, who ran DeLarm's Dairy and was a 20 year Supervisor of Hague.

To address the concerns about the noise, Sheri said that they will close the large bi-fold doors at 10:30 pm and that smokers will be moved off the back deck to the front.

During the regular meeting and after much continued discussion, the Board approved the plan to allow food and beverages to be served on the rear patio and outdoor dining in the front of the restaurant. The Town will work with the Ginns to get the proper paperwork done and see that there is a proper fire safety plan in place and that the County conditions are met. Bruce Clark recused himself from all discussions and voting on this application.

Subdivisions:

VAN HEEST/HINKAMP (76.12-1-1 & 76.12-1-28) 28 & 32 Hermitage Rd (OC-1R)

The Board approved the application for an exchange of lands to make the existing cottages on the properties conform to the codes of Hague. Both lots will contain the exact same acreage as before approval.

SHAW (12-1-7 & 12-1-12) 120 Trout Brook Rd

The applicant is requesting sketch plan approval for a minor subdivision of lands. A site visit was made after the meeting and application approved.

Referrals to the Zoning Board of Appeals:

NAVITSKY (93.19-1-10) 7763 Lakeshore Drive (RC)

The Planning Board recommended approval by the ZBA as submitted.

Other business:

ICKE (26.14-1-16) 39 Waltonian Rd (TR-1R)

The applicant would like to construct a pergola which will be attached to the north side of an existing house. The location was moved back 2 feet from the Lake and was approved.

LEVENSTEIN (43.5-2-12) 9842 Graphite Mt Rd (hamlet)

The applicants are requesting a half bath in a garage/office. The office space will be an extension of the owners art gallery business. The property is connected to sewer District #1. Counsel had advised that an accessory structure used for professional artisan activities allows a bathroom and the application was approved.

LTP HOLDINGS, LLC - Uptown Store (43.5-1-5) 9819 Graphite Mt Rd (hamlet)

Lauren Parlin has requested a modification to the approved use of a bakery. Proposed is an additional use to include a restaurant with outdoor and wine service. A site visit was held and a public hearing will be held next month.

Looking Back



The History Channel's website tells us that it was the great number of soldiers lost in the War Between the States, the Civil War, that caused the nation to designate a day in May to honor the fallen heroes. On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan issued an order setting May 30th as Decoration Day, a day to decorate the graves of the soldiers who had lost their lives. In 1971 Congress declared Memorial Day to be the last Monday in May.

The need for units of fighting men reached its tentacles into virtually every town and hamlet and Hague was no exception to that. An article in the May 16, 1968, *Ticonderoga Sentinel* states, "At the time of the Civil War, Hague had a population of slightly less than 700, and 106 men volunteered for service. One man only was drafted and he enlisted before he was called." Among those Hague volunteers was Hiram M. Sexton, a farmer, who joined a Ticonderoga Company and served as a farrier with the 2nd Regiment Cavalry of New York State. He wrote a letter* home that tells us what's in the hearts and minds of every serviceman in battle – whether it be in Gettysburg, the snowy fields of Bastogne, the jungles of Vietnam or the desert of Iraq.

"Dear father and mother I set down this morning to rite you a few lines to let you no that I am well and hope to hear that you are well when I get the returnes from this. many changes and marching and countermarching have taken place since the soldiers of the harris light cavalry getherd nightley under the old apple tree or in front of the chaplans tent during the warm moonlight evenings of September and October. the rich autumn folige that then made even poor old desolated Virginia look beautiful has droped away and Stern winter rendr all the more firm and forbidding by the ravages of wore now rains supreme. many of our number also like the leaves have drooped away. Som of them have obtained and Squanderd thare bounty have treacherously deserted and Sneak away like thievish hounds. the bulit accident and siknes have each conspired to lessen our number, and meny a noble harted fellow, ho was always first and formost in all a Soldiers dutys, now languishing in som hospitable or sleeping beneath the Sod that last sleep from which no bugle call can a waken him. you at the north who cosily read about battles in an armchair know little of a mans sensations who stands in front of the enemyes guns. he hears Shots and Shells Screem and explode over and Around him. before him rises the Sulphurous Smok of the condfflick. from out of obscurety he knows that at eny moment Som Swift messenger of death may be speeding on its way to his hart. he thinks of unfinished plans, of bright prospects and hopes for the futer, his home and its beloved inmates, and the forms and featuers of those friends that hold the cheaf places within his soal rises up bfore him and he knows that eny moment he may be Snatched from all theas and lied mangled bleeding corps upon the ground and So it is hard for one to leave his home, his wife and children, father and mother, and face the canons Mouth. I don't know but what I have seen you all for the last time but I hope and pray to god that I may be Spared to returne to See the loved ones that I left at home that is dear to me then

life it Self but wee cant tell what changes this war will fetch on befor next September; but if I di I di like a Soldier and not a courred. thare is A camp rumer that wee are a going to Richmond. thare has ben orders to have the horses Shod in redenes and if wee go I will rite Again. wee have had very cold wether hear this winter but I think it is A bout over with now. the ground is coverd with eyce and has ben So for the last two weeks. to day has been quite modrate and worm. I have no more news of impotence to rite to night. I began this letter this morning and finish it to night. give my respects to all that encuir for me and my love to father mother& Sisters and brothers I will close now by beding you all good night. I will Sine my Self you afectnate Son. rite soon. H. M. S." Hiram did return to Hague to raise his family and live out his life.

For we here in Hague, where families will share barbecues and watch our annual parade, let it also be a time to pause and reflect. Take a moment to remember what Memorial Day is about, to think of the men and women who have served us so well, and to offer a prayer for those who serve us still.

*For ease of reading, punctuation has been added to this letter taken from *The Sexton Boatbuilders of Hague*" by Dorothy Backus Offensend.

... pmm

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Memorial Day is often a chance for families to gather. We should take this opportunity to share our families' histories, especially with the children. Too often we look back on our parents and wished we had taken the opportunity to talk to them about their early lives.

As we continue with our celebration of the birth of Abraham Lincoln and Memorial Day, I thought you may want to take an opportunity to visit the Hague Museum's Lincoln exhibit which lists all the names of the men from Hague who served in the Civil War.

Finally, I have completed the death and birth records covering the periods from 1887 – 1908. The records have been computerized and put in alphabetical order for easy research. Access to these records has some restrictions, so if you are interested, please contact the Town Clerk.

... Gerald Crammond, Town Historian

BOOKMARK CONTEST WINNERS

The winners of the Second Annual Lake George Bookmark Design Contest have been announced. The contest is sponsored by the Lake George Watershed Coalition (LGWC) and the Lake George Association (LGA) to help promote awareness of watershed issues. The winner was Kimberly Wright, 7th grade from Bolton and Honorable Mentions went to Noah Benveniste, 7th grade from Lake George and Willa Shakeshaft, 5th grade from Putnam. Willa is the daughter of Crispin Shakeshaft and Cindy Floor.



by Willa Shakeshaft

~SOUNDINGS~

BORN: A daughter, Genevieve Louise, on April 15, 2009, to Shannon and Zack Hoover of Morristown, NJ. Genna is the granddaughter of Robert and Diane Dickson of Sabbath Day Point. She joins two brothers, Zachary Ryan and Derrick Wesley.

GEORGINA LINDQUIST 1920 - 2009

Georgina Lindquist passed away on April 25, 2009 at her home in Hague. She was one of those people who don't just cross your path, but who leave a lasting impression and she will be missed by many in our little community.

Georgina came to the United States as a youngster from Scotland. She lived in Manhattan for many years and she and her husband retired here in 1980. She was active in the Hague community: helping to found the Hague Senior Citizens Club; managing the food pantry program and working on her many, many quilts at the Mohican Crafters group. Georgina was a reporter for *The Hague Chronicle* during the time when Dottie Henry and Alison Craig were editor and publisher and was a faithful member of the mailing team into 2008. She was on the Board of Community Action for ten years, represented Hague's seniors at the Warren-Hamilton County Senior Citizens' Council and the Warren County Office of the Aging.

Wherever she went, Georgina knew somebody and stopped to chat. She welcomed newcomers and was always ready to volunteer or give a helpful hint. Though she was 89 when she died, just last Memorial Day she worked as a cashier at the Seniors' White Elephant table. Being a Scot at heart, she enjoyed working with money! She was a thinking woman herself, and though you might not always agree with her, she made you think about things too. She loved and appreciated the world around her; "What a beautiful place we live in!" she would say.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Hague Volunteer Fire Department. ... pm & ci

BRIAN SANN 1946 - 2009

Brian S. Sann, 62, of Silver Bay, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, April 20, 2009, at his residence. He is survived by his wife, Beverly, of Silver Bay, a daughter, Sharon Bree Sann and her husband, John Lin of San Diego, CA, a sister Karen Johnson of Fredericksburg, VA and many nieces and nephews.

Brian, born in Albany, NY, was a graduate of the University of Michigan. He was an actuarial consultant for Conrad M. Siegel, Inc. in Harrisburg, PA and upon his retirement in 2001, he and Bev became permanent residents of Silver Bay.

He vacationed in Silver Bay for 25 years prior to his retirement. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Silver Bay Association.

Brian was a very active member of the community having given much volunteer time to the American Red Cross, the

Northern Lake George Rotary Club, the Torch Club of Ticonderoga and the First United Methodist Church of Ticonderoga where he coordinated several small mission trips including Hurricane Katrina assistance. He also began the Math Club at the Ticonderoga Middle School and presented challenging insights into the use of mathematics in every day life.

A memorial service was held at the Silver Bay Chapel. Donations in his memory may be made to the Silver Bay Association.

NEW CHAMBER PRESIDENT

With the resignation of David Dunn, Tom Haskell is the new president of the Hague Chamber of Commerce. The new email address for the Hague Chamber of Commerce is <haguechamberofcommerce@yahoo.com>.

Tom Haskell is married to Meg (Laundree) and they live on New Hague Road. Tom is the President of the Hague Snoggoers and Meg runs the Hague DJ Service.

AARP 55-ALIVE DRIVING COURSE

Sponsored by the Hague Senior Citizens Club, this class will be held at the Hague Community Center on Thursday, June 11, 2009 from 9 am to 5:30 pm. Benefits for Seniors (50 yrs+) who take this course are a 10% reduction on auto insurance for three years and a reduction of up to 4 points incurred on your driver's license, if any. Course fee is \$12 for AARP Members (bring membership card) or \$14 for non-AARP Members. Driver's license is required for all. Instructor will be Charlie Antonetti. Coffee will be served in the morning but please bring your own lunch. There are a few seats left. If interested please call Madeline Pelkey at 543-6130.

ANNUAL FREE CLEANUP - June 19 & 20, 2009

The Highway Department will pick up from 6 am to 2 pm on Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20, 2009 for residents sixty (60) years of age or older who are physically disabled/handicapped. Sorted items must be placed at the roadside prior to 6 am on Friday for pickup on either day. Pre-registration is mandatory by calling the Community Center at 543-6161 by 3 pm on Thursday, June 18, 2009.

Other Town Residents may bring one standard size pickup truck load for free to the Highway Department on West Hague Road on June 19th and 20th from 6 am to 1:30 pm only.

Acceptable items, which must be sorted, may include but not limited to: white goods (stove, washer, dryer, etc.), furniture (chairs, TV, sofa, rugs, etc.), metal (wire fence, pipe, bicycle, gas grill, etc.)

There must be NO recyclables, NO garbage, NO brush/leaves, NO construction material, NO tires, NO propane tanks, NO refrigerators, NO air conditioners and NO humidifiers. ZEO Cathy Clark encourages property owners to look around their yards and get rid of anything that could be considered a "junk" violation. For questions or additional information, call ZEO Cathy Clark at 518-543-6161 ext.14 or email <zoning@townofhague.org>

SILVER BAY SUMMER CAMP

Silver Bay is now accepting registrations for the 2009 Summer Camp season. Silver Bay offers three options serving children ages 6 weeks through grade 12 in sessions from June through August.

Financial assistance is available to cover camp fees for year-round resident families from Warren and Essex Counties, as well as the Town of Putnam. Silver Bay is also offering daily afternoon Swim Lessons for children ages 2 and up.

Silver Bay's "Silver Camp" offers children a half- or full-day of supervised games, music, crafts, fitness and – of course – making friends! Children may be registered for one of three options varying on age and hours:

Half-Day Camp is open to children ages 6 weeks through entering 6th grade and is offered Monday-Friday from 8:30 – 11:30 am. Full-Day Camp (including swim lessons) is open to children entering grades 1-8 and is offered Monday-Friday from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm.

Transportation is available for residents of Ticonderoga and Hague (\$24 weekly for non-members, \$16 weekly for Full Members).

Teen Programs are open to children entering grades 7-12 and are offered Sunday evening through Friday. Children in the Teen Programs choose their weekly schedule as a group from a slate of activities including day trips, overnights, leadership development and recreational activities.

More information is available on the Silver Bay website <www.silverbay.org> at either the "Children's Summer Programs" page under "Activities" or through the "2009 Guide" posted on the home page. Jackie Palandrani is the Children's Program Director and can be reached at 518-543-8833, ext 210 or <jpalandrani@silverbay.org>.

LGA SAFE BOATER COURSE

The Lake George Association (LGA) will host the NYS Safe Boating Course at their offices on State Route 9N in the Town of Lake George. The 3-part course will take place on June 8, 9 and 10 from 5:30 to 8:30 pm.

The Safe Boating Course is open to adults, as well as to children as long as they are 10 years old by the first day of the course. It is the required course for young boaters age 10 to 18 in New York. It is also the required course for any person in NY who is driving a Personal Water Craft (PWC) sometimes referred to as a jet-ski.

In order to pass the course, participants must attend all 3 classes in their entirety, complete all assigned homework and pass the final test.

For those people 18 and over who complete all requirements to pass the course, there will also be a \$10 fee to receive the course completion card. The class size is limited to 25 participants and will have Rex Moon as the instructor. Registration is free and can be made through the LGA by calling the office at 518-668-3558.

KIDS FISHING CLINIC

The Lake George Fishing Alliance is sponsoring a fishing clinic for kids on Friday, May 29, 2009 from 6 to 8 pm in the large pavilion at Usher Park in Lake George Village. The event is free, open to the public and light refreshments will be provided.

Members of the Lake George Fishing Alliance will be on hand to share their fishing knowledge and experience with the next generation of anglers. Stations will be set up for kids to learn about fish identification, knot tying, rigging a line, and lure and bait selection. A casting station, with instruction so kids can practice their casting skills, will also be available. Members of the 4H fishing club, the Adirondack Reelers, will be on hand to teach fly casting and DEC Conservation officers will be on hand to talk about fishing regulations. (There will not be any actual fishing involved with the clinic.)



NC TRIATHLON VOLUNTEERING

The North Country Triathlon had over 70 volunteers in 2008. Organizers are now seeking energetic individuals looking to come out and support the racers, meet new people, and enjoy the post-race party with live music, free food, and beer!

If you are interested in volunteering for this year's race, go to <www.northcountrytri.com> for the volunteer registration form. Be sure and indicate on the form if you have any specific areas of interest in terms of volunteering (e.g. Water Stations, Water Safety, etc.) as they will do their best to accommodate your requests.

USTA WORKSHOP AT SILVER BAY

The United States Tennis Association will hold a Recreational Coach Workshop at Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks on June 20, 2009 from 9 am – 3:30 pm. This workshop is one of over 200 events taking place across the nation in 2009 as part of a National initiative by the USTA. The workshops are interactive, on-court training programs designed for tennis teachers and coaches working with players at the recreational level.

Every workshop participant will receive lesson plans and sample equipment in an effort to make the learning process fun and easy. The cost to attend the workshop is \$10 and includes lunch; participants are asked to bring a racquet. To sign up for this event, contact Doug Sham at 543-8833 or Pam Fischer at 623-0610 or <pfhealth@nycap.rr.com> by May 29, 2009.

For more information on the USTA, log on to <www.usta.com>.

TICONDEROGA FESTIVAL GUILD

The first event of the season will be the President's Party with a Mystery Luncheon on June 23 at 11:30 am. The Red Hatters will present a murder mystery, the cast of which will include Jerry Treadway, Festival Guild President. The luncheon will be a buffet topped with a cake to celebrate the Guild's 30th anniversary. Tickets are \$17 each.

Several Hague residents are active volunteers for the Festival Guild. Serving on the Board of Directors are Casey Skahan, second Vice-President, Pat Wania, Sheryl Bailey, Mike Vassallo and Viola Vassallo.

The July and August events will be published in June. For further information about the Festival Guild or on the luncheon contact Cathie Burdick, Executive Director at 585-7015.

NORTH CREEK ART EXHIBIT

Elizabeth O'Brien, a Queensbury artist, will exhibit her watermedia works at the Widlund Gallery in Tannery Pond Community Center from May 30th through June 24th. A reception will be held on Saturday June 13th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome and wine and finger foods will be served.

The exhibition is titled "Natural Selections" because the works are all nature-based and the subjects vary in the degree to which they are abstracted from the source and the watermedia techniques used. The artist is regionally known and has exhibited her work in many group and solo shows over the past 40 years winning many awards.

KUDOS TO JUNIPER OWNER

Sally De Larm Rypkema, of Juniper Design and Goods in Hague and Interior Design Technology in Norwalk, CT, and her IDT business partner Sandra Effren, were chosen as the winner of the 2008 Home Building Industry (HOBBI) award from the Home Builders Association of Connecticut.

The award was given for Best Interior Merchandising/Design in the 2.2 million to 2.6 million dollar market. The winning project is located in a cluster development in Greenwich Connecticut. This HOBBI award is the seventh one Sally and Sandra have received in the past ten years.

Juniper Design and Goods is located at 9820 Graphite Mountain Road (Route 8) across from The Firehouse Restaurant.



LAWN FERTILIZING



Before adding fertilizer to any lawn, heed this warning from The Fund for Lake George:

"Fertilizing your Lawn this spring will not only feed your grass, but may also feed the Algae and Aquatic Plants in Lake George."

WARRENSBURGH FARMERS MARKET

Opening Day for the Warrensburgh Riverfront Farmers' Market is Friday, June 5, 2009 from 3 - 6 pm. Gardening information, recipes using local products, music, refreshments and locally grown and prepared foods will be part of the opening day festivities.

The market is held Friday afternoons through October, on the banks of the scenic Schroon River in the Warrensburgh Mills Historic District, on River Street near Curtis Lumber. The market is a "producer-only" market, limiting sales to locally grown produce, wine, baked goods, preserves, maple syrup, honey, dairy, poultry, meats, plants, soaps, cut flowers and refreshments. All prepared foods are made "from scratch", utilizing locally grown ingredients whenever possible.

GREEN THUMB PERENNIAL SWAP

The eleventh annual Green Thumb Perennial Swap sponsored by Warrensburgh Beautification Inc. will take place on Saturday, May 23, 2009 from 8 am to 12 noon by the banks of the scenic Schroon River in the Warrensburgh Mills Historic District, Route 418 (River Street) across from Curtis Lumber.

Bring your plants in any size or shape container, and exchange for ones of equal size or value. If you are just starting your garden, we will share and hopefully answer any questions you may have regarding your soil and light conditions, hardiness zone and possible microclimate. Master Gardeners from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County will be on hand to test the pH of your soil and provide informational handouts on various gardening topics and reference materials to help identify any mystery species.

Signed copies of the newly released "Warrensburgh Wildflowers - Seasonal Wildflowers in the Southern Adirondack Region" will be available for purchase.

PERENNIAL PLANT SALE

The Lake George Community Garden Club will hold its annual plant sale on the grounds of the St. James Episcopal Church, 172 Ottawa Street, Lake George Village on Saturday, May 30 from 9 am - 4 pm and on Sunday, May 31 from 9 am until noon.

Hundreds of perennial plants for both sunny and shady gardens will be on sale, with most prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$5.00 per plant. Fruit, vegetable and herb plants will also be offered.

This two-day event is a great opportunity for all those interested in gardening to purchase plants at very reasonable prices. Members of the garden club will be available to answer questions. Proceeds from the plant sale benefit the community service projects of the garden club.



Nature News by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

Bird Banding in Crown Point

A khaki clad figure emerged from the mist-shrouded thicket, an empty netted bag swinging from his hand. "The fog is keeping them up over the nets this morning," Gary Lee explained as we approached the banding area at the Crown Point State Historic Site where the Bird Conservation Area is located. Since the station opened in 1976, almost 15,000 birds have been banded and 98 species identified that either migrate through or come to nest in the area. It was 7:00 am, but the morning activities had been well under way for hours as master bird-banders Mike Peterson, Gordon Howard and Gary Lee had unfurled the collection nets at first light. Local bird enthusiasts lend a hand to the experts who camp at the site for two-weeks each spring during the peak migration period ~ Mother's Day to Memorial Day. Experienced birders and neophytes like myself are welcome to join them in the project and we met others coming and going throughout the day. The men are very generous with sharing information and experiences about the birds, explaining the banding process and identifying birds by both ear and eye.

The nets are made of a very fine weave, barely visible if viewed straight on. They stand about 5 feet high and run in sections that have horizontal pockets to gently ensnare the birds as they try to fly by. This net stretched about 100' down a mowed path next to a thicket of hawthorn trees and alder brush. Not long after we arrived, a fluttering of gray wings alerted us to a catbird tangled in the net. Gary Lee led my sister and I down the path to the rescue, pointing out the feeders and other traps set in the area to lure the birds down to the nets. He deftly untangled the bird from the netting by gently holding the bird with one hand and disengaging the fine threads of the net with the other, finally releasing the bird into the netted collection bag he carried with him. Back at the banding station, Gordon Howard takes the bird from the bag and examines it, checking the age, sex and size of the bird and recording information if a band is already present on the leg of the bird. If the bird does not have a band, it then gets one of the tiny, numbered aluminum bands fitted around its leg with a special tool designed for this delicate procedure. Once all the information is recorded, then the bird is released and flies off into the trees where it will continue on its way ~ or not. Two of the birds we captured this morning had already been caught once today, and sometimes they will be captured several times over the course of the two-week period if they stay in the area, but it is most exciting when the same bird is captured repeatedly over the years. Many return for 3-4 years ~ a decent lifespan for most songbirds, but some have been recorded for 8 or 9 years at this site!

For more than 100 years, bird banding has been used to help scientists find out how far birds travel, where they live, where they spend their winters and whether the population of different species of birds is growing or dwindling. With the information collected at Crown Point and others across the hemispheres, we know that most of these birds travel along the Atlantic Seaboard, some moving between Canada and the Caribbean before returning to Crown Point! In the two hours we were there, about a dozen birds landed in the nets, but we were told that it would not be unusual for up to 50 to become entan-

gled at one time! This morning we saw and heard, a great variety: catbird, cowbird, blackpoll warbler, parula, scarlet tanager, tree swallow, common yellow throat just to name a few. Baltimore orioles feasted on little green caterpillars in the hawthorn trees next to the tent, avoiding the nets and banding but giving us close-up opportunities for viewing and photos.

If you would like to learn more about bird banding at this site, or to join in the fun, Contact Mike Peterson of the Crown Point Banding Association by email at <jmcp7@juno.com> or by phone at 873-2052. Equally informative is the newly published book, "Adirondack Birding" with descriptions of 60 great places to find birds in our area and written by two of the gentlemen we met today, John (Mike) Peterson and Gary Lee. They'll be happy to autograph it for you.



Catbird in the net

*photo courtesy of
Nancy Wotton Scarzello*

Weather Report by JoAnne DeFranco

Hague Weather Report 4/11/09—5/15/09

Temperatures have been in the 60's for the most part. It has been warm enough to turn off the heat and open the windows. On April 27 and 28th temperatures reached 90+. Many days have been windy and Warren County was on a fire alert for several days. Conditions in the woods were very dry. On April 30 a forest fire did break out on Deer Leap. It was successfully put out. Our first thunderstorm of the season occurred on April 25 at 4 am. On May 1st at 6 pm there was a beautiful rainbow over the Lake. Sunrise is now at 5:29 am. The sun sets at 8:12 pm. Pollen dust is coating everything and making those people with allergies miserable. Black flies and mosquitoes are also becoming more abundant and bothersome.

HAGUE ARTS FAIR

Vendors of handcrafted items as well as local produce vendors are being solicited right now for the 38th Annual Arts Fair and Farmers' Market on August 1-2, 2009 sponsored by the Hague Chamber of Commerce. New this year, is an invitation to local vendors who would be interested in selling produce, fresh flowers and artisan bread. All vendors are invited to participate at a reasonable cost. Outside spaces are still available. For further information please call Judy Schultz at 543-6769 or e-mail hagueartsfair@yahoo.com.

HAGUE CALENDAR

May 2009

- 23 All Day Memorial Day Celebration in Hague
- 25 Memorial Day Holiday - Community Center is closed
- 26 noon Senior Club luncheon
- 28 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals

June 2009

- 4 7 pm Planning Board of Appeals
- 6 6 pm Installation at Baptist Church
- 9 6:30 pm Town Board meeting
- 11 9 am - 5 pm AARP Driving Course
- 14 Flag Day
- 17 New Deadline for news for June issue
- 20 9 am - 3:30 pm USTA workshop at Silver Bay
- 21 HAPPY FATHERS DAY
- 21 First day of summer
- 22 Deadline for Sewer EDU complaints
- 23 7 pm Hague Historical Society meeting
- 24 June issue of *The Hague Chronicle* mailing date
- 25 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals



TRANSFER STATION

The Transfer Station continues to be open on Wednesdays from 9 am to 3 pm and on Saturday from 8 am to 3 pm during June. The summer hours will begin on July 1.

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