

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

VOLUME 21 No. 1

HAGUE, NY 12836

JANUARY 1992

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FORMER SUPERVISOR

RESIDENTS OF HAGUE I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all who worked and participated in our Annual Christmas Party and also my surprise Retirement Party. It truly meant a great deal to me to be honored in this way and words can never say how much I appreciate everyone's efforts on my behalf. I will always remember this day as a special one in my life and again my thanks to you.

Thank you,
/s/ Dick

COMMUNITY WELCOMES NEW HOSPITAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

At an open house held in the cafeteria of Moses Ludington Hospital on January 5, Mr. James Shoemaker, Campus Administrator, was introduced to the community.

Rev. Paul Dufford greeted approximately 150 guests and introduced the Honorable James King, Assemblyman, who spoke about the state of the hospital. He dispelled the myth that the problems of the hospital and the nursing home have been as a result of poor management on the part of the board of directors. "That's a real disservice," he said. "What has caused this hospital to have such terrible problems in the past, continuing problems, are a lot of different things. State and federal regulations, mandate upon mandate that you can't believe, regulations that keep our nurses writing instead of healing at least half to three-quarters of their time on duty, under-reimbursement of Medicaid rates, so every hospital that conceivably thinks of going into business will lose money immediately and continue to lose money for the rest of their existence; soaring medical costs, taxes upon hospitals - all of those are things that have brought the hospital and this nursing home to the state we are in now," he continued.

The Moses Ludington Campus includes hospital and nursing home. "There is a new spirit of consolidation and compromise, along with a new director," King stated, "and the nursing home and the hospital must have each other in order to survive." He and Senator Stafford have introduced what is known as the Stafford-King bill into the assembly and it has been signed by the governor. This will allow petitioning to create a tax district for MLH and hospital officials have said that HUD, the hospital mortgage holder, wants the referendum held in April.

There are seven towns which will be involved: Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Moriah, Schroon and North

Hudson, in Essex County; Hague in Warren County and Putnam in Washington County. King stated that there would be a lot of work on the part of the seven supervisors and their boards. There will be many technicalities to be worked out and a meeting will be set up as soon as possible to include the seven supervisors, the hospital's parent board of directors (which oversees both nursing home and hospital, each of which has a board of its own) and Senator Stafford and Assemblyman King.

King said that we must keep our eyes on the central issue. "Do we want the hospital and nursing home to survive or not?"

"The referendum to support the hospital means more money from voters - more taxes. We can get out and inspire people that the small amount of additional taxes will be the best investment, or we can sit around and wring our hands", said Mr. King.

Mr. King introduced Mr. Shoemaker who addressed the audience. Mr. Shoemaker started 15 months ago as nursing home administrator and has been the CEO of the campus for the past three months. Through the concentrated efforts of the two boards, they have put their differences aside under a parent organization and appointed a CEO. Mr. Shoemaker stated, "We are in a financial crisis. That is the issue. We need acute care in this part of the state. We need the nursing home. The real issue is reimbursement or the lack of reimbursement."

Moses Ludington Hospital defaulted on its mortgage payments about a year ago. On December 18 a plan was approved by HUD which included a referendum. Though this referendum was not mandated by HUD, holding a referendum in April is the only way that HUD will accept the plan. **THERE IS NO OTHER ACCEPTABLE PLAN.** The future of MLH is left in the hands of the referendum. It is the people's choice. **IF THE REFERENDUM DOES NOT PASS HUD WILL CLOSE THE HOSPITAL.**

If you have any suggestions or questions on this issue, it would be advisable to express them to your supervisor so that he would know how his constituents feel and be able to make his voice heard in the committee. ... djh

HAM AND SALMON DINNER

Friday, February 7, 1992 at the Hague Baptist Church, 5-7PM. There will be a choice of either ham or salmon loaf. Adults - \$5.00, Children from 6-12 \$2.50 and 5 & under - FREE. Snow date - Feb. 8.

Come join your neighbors and friends and leave the cooking to us.

HAGUE'S MEMORY TREE IS WELL LIT

The following names have been added to the memory tree since last month's publication:

Balcom, Smith, Fitzgerald families, Belknap and Tobin families, Steven A. Bevins, Pauline Bolton, R. J. Bolton, Mame Bolton, Charles Burgey, George Carter, Roland Carter, Ruth Carter, Irene Coveney, Archie Denno, Sr., Archie Denno, Jr., Edward Dunklee, Samuel Eannace, Nettie Fennimore, Thomas E. Girard, Denis J. Glennon, Harry E. Gordon, David Heintzelman, Archie Herrick, Gert Herrick, Jim Herrick, Clarence Holman, Gerald Hutchinson, Marge Laundree, Joseph Malloy, Gino Maranghi, Barbara May, Madeline May, William May, Gordon May, Arthur McKee, Isabel McKee, Betty Monroe, Eva Monroe, Teresa Monroe, Alfred Monroe, Byron Monroe, Harry Moore, Nelson Patchett, Gertrude Persons, Anna Priore, Ruth Rand, Reginald Rand, Thelma Rand, Harry Rand, Mildred Ross, Julia B. Ross, Wilford C. Ross, George Savage, Charles Smith, Louis Spelman, Sr., Dollie Swinyer, Clarence Swinyer, Jack Tinker, Jay Urice Sr., Marguerite Urice, Jeane Urice, George Urice, Delores Ward, John Warren, C. Frank J. West.

AEROBICS AT COMMUNITY CENTER

Marie Collins will offer a low impact aerobics class from 11-12AM on Mondays and Friday at the Community Center starting Friday, January 24, 1992. The course will last for 6 weeks. If there is sufficient interest in attendance, classes may be continued after the 6-week period. The fee for the classes will be \$2.00 per session per participant. All are welcome. Come get in shape and have fun too!

Mrs. Collins is also willing to offer a stretching Nice and Easy exercise class between 12 and 1PM on Mondays and Fridays if enough people are interested. The cost would be the same.

If you have questions and/or if you are interested and the scheduled time is not good for you, please call Mary Johnson at 543-6791.

For registration and information come to the Community Center on January 24 at 11AM.

'92 WINTER CARNIVAL: SOME CHANGES AND A "NEW LOOK"

At their first meeting of the new year, the Winter Carnival Committee reluctantly accepted Dan Belden's resignation as Chairman. He cited the problem of a conflict of interest with his assumption of the Town Supervisor's position, and the fact that the Carnival receives promotional funding from the Town. All members agree that Dan has been a truly outstanding chairman and leader during his ten years in office. Luckily, he promises to remain active with the Carnival, and serve in more of a consulting capacity. With Dan's recommendation, Kathy Santaniello was elected as the new chairman.

At the same meeting, a new logo for the Winter Carnival was adopted (shown on page 8). The design was developed by Dave Kisselback and his associates at Silver Bay Association. Sweatshirts sporting the new logo will be available at the Carnival, and souvenirs that still have our old logo will be sold at sale prices - 25% off regular price.

Each year the Carnival schedule changes, and '91 is

no exception. Here are some new things to look for:

1. The Torch Light will be at the Community Center instead of the park on Friday night.
2. There will be a Carnival Kickoff Reception after the Clown Show at the Community Center on Fri. nite.
3. Flag football and Carnival games and prizes will debut at North Pond on both Saturday and Sunday.
4. The Carnival dinner will begin earlier, at 5:00PM at the Community Center on Saturday, and will be a buffet catered by the Olde Schoolhouse. The Beste Scholarship Awards will be presented after the dinner, at 7:00PM.
5. The Cross Country Ski Race will be held at North Pond this year.

For more information, call 543-6441. We'll hope to see you there!

1992 HAGUE WINTER CARNIVAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, February 14

7:00 PM
7:15 PM
8:00 PM

Torch Light - Site A
Children's Program - Site A
Carnival Kickoff Reception-Site A

Saturday, February 15

7:00 AM-11:00 AM
7:30 AM

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

9:00 AM-3:00 PM
9:00 AM-3:00 PM
9:30 AM-3:00 PM
10:00 AM-12:00 Noon
10:30 AM
11:30 AM

Firemen's Breakfast - Site A
Registration - Motorized Races Site D
Registration - Fishing Contest Site B
Snow Sculpture Contest - Site B
Fishing Contest - Lake George
Flag Football - Site D
Kids' Games & Prizes - Site D
10-K Polar Bear Run - Site D
Northeast Regional ATV Ice Race Championships - Site D
Registration - Polar Bear Dip Trout House Village
Polar Bear Dip - Site C
Carnival Games & Prizes - Site D
Penelope the Clown - Site D
Awards - Snow Sculpture, Fishing Contest, Polar Bear Dip-Site D
Carnival Dinner - Catered by Olde Schoolhouse - Site A
Beste Scholarship Awards -Site A

Noon
1:00 PM-3:00 PM
1:00 PM-3:00 PM
3:00 PM

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

7:00 PM

Sunday, February 16

7:00 AM - 11:00 AM
7:30 AM

9:00 AM

9:30 AM
11:00 AM
11:30 AM

Firemen's Breakfast - Site A
Registration - Motorized Races - Site D
Registration - Cross Country Ski Race - Site D
Flag Football
Cross Country Ski Race - Site D
Northeast Regional ATV & Motor-Cycle Ice Race Championships - D
Volleyball Tournament - Site D
Carnival Games & Prizes - Site D
Tug-of-War Competition - Site D
Penelope the Clown - Site D
National Ice Auger & Chisel Championships - Site D
Awards Ceremony - Site E

Noon
1:00PM - 3:00 PM
1:00 PM
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
3:00 PM

5:00 PM

Sites: A = Town Community Center, B = Town Park, C = Trout House Village Dock, D = North Pond, E = Fish & Game Club

For Schedule Updates and More Information: (518) 543-6441

It is the little things that fret and worry us; you can dodge an elephant but not a fly.

Josh Billings (1818-1895)

There was no Zoning Board of Appeals meeting held in December.

TOWN BOARD - 12/28/91

On December 28, 1991 an end of the year meeting was held for the purpose of auditing the books according to Town Law, Sec. 105. A motion was made and passed to accept the books, subject to audit. Supervisor Bolton commented that the town would start the year 1992 with a \$16,000 surplus.

With the exception of Mr. Dykstra's, bids from the November meeting were accepted for sand and gravel. A letter will be sent to Mr. Dykstra explaining Hague's position. Schroon Lake Oil was the winning bidder for oil and diesel.

In Communications:

A thank-you letter from Frasier family.

Ron Pote accepts re-appointment to ZBA.

In all, 9 resolutions were passed, beginning with Res. #19-1991 honoring Supervisor Bolton.

Res. #20 - Transfer monies to balance accounts.

Res. #22 - Amend Employee Guide.

Res. #23 Authorize contract with Hague Chamber of Commerce.

Res. #24 Authorize contract with Hague American Legion Post #1538.

Res. #25 Authorize contract with Hague Volunteer Fire Department.

Res. #26 - Authorize contract with James Mack, VMD

Res. #27 - Authorize contract with Hague Winter Carnival.

At the meeting's end Dan Belden, Supervisor Elect, asked if he could attend the Supervisor School to be held the beginning of January. The board agreed unanimously that he should attend.

TOWN BOARD - 1/2/92

With the swearing in of the new supervisor and board members, the January 2, 1992 town board meeting got under way. The board immediately went into executive session to discuss personnel.

When they returned, Supervisor Dan Belden made a short speech in which he asked the audience for their support of his efforts to continue to make and keep our town the pleasant place we all appreciate. He assured everyone his door is open and the residents may bring their thoughts and ideas to him at anytime.

He then went down the organizational list (see page 4), naming each position, salary and person who fills the position. There were a few major changes:

Martin Fitzgerald is to be deputy supervisor:

Recycling co-ordinator job description to be revised.

In the meantime John Breitenbach, Jr. will continue on a 60-day basis.

The Community Center custodian's job will be advertised.

Res. #1, 1992 appointing John Silvestri as town attorney

In New Business: The Winter Carnival committee

requested an insurance rider to cover the carnival. Granted.

Supervisor Belden asked that a key to the Center be given to Kathy Santaniello since her involvement with so many town groups necessitates her using the center in the evenings. Granted.

Linda Coffin will head a committee to make changes in Employee Guide.

Bonding of Nancy Trombley to handle funds. Insurance company requirement. Granted.

On March 11, 1992 at 7PM Ti School budget workshop will be held at the Community Center in Hague. This is a public session.

PLANNING BOARD - 1/2/92

The only business that was conducted was to recommend to the Town Board that Ron Pote be appointed to the Planning Board.

TOWN BOARD - January 14, 1992

At the town board meeting Jan. 13, 1992, the new supervisor, Dan Belden faced a very large audience that overflowed into the hall outside the board room. Supervisor Belden in a short statement informed the audience of his goals. His official State of the Town address will be made at the February meeting and will include, among other items, a report on the overall condition of the town. He has been named to seven county committees but assures us his immediate attention will be occupied by the problems of Hague.

When asked if any guests wished the privilege of the floor, Barbara Fitzgerald requested a donation for the Ti Youth program. A discussion followed which included input by several other residents. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of a steering committee for a youth program in Hague, contact Karen Laundree.

Henry Karmazin again requested help from a storm water runoff that causes his pond to overflow. Highway superintendent, Dick Dunklee will investigate.

D. Henry asked about health insurance for the deputy supervisor.

D. Martucci asked about mileage to and from work by the assessor, and any other town employee.

Blanche Yaw was interested in the shifting workload from department to department and which department pays the salary. Also, if town was being or had been reimbursed for the overpayment the a highway employee.

Nancy Trombley, town clerk has appointed Bertha Dunsmore as her deputy clerk.

Kathy Santaniello has requested a \$500 grant from IP for the Best fund.

A letter from John Silvestri, town attorney, states that DEC has extended the time to cover the landfill. This will happen some time in the spring.

The Winter Carnival is scheduled for Feb. 14-16 and several requests were made that needed a motion of approval, which was granted unanimously.

(Cont. on page 4 - TOWN BOARD)

At the organizational meeting of January 2, Supervisor Belden made the following appointments:

- Newspaper Post Star
- Bank First Nat. Bolton
- Meeting date 2nd Tues-6:30PM
- Reviewing Claims Mon. prior to Bd. Mtg. 4:30PM
- Mileage Rate 22¢ per mile
- Highway Pay Rates Temp. lab. \$5.50/hr
- Temp. op. 7.00
- Reg. op. 9.50
- F.T. lab. 7.00

- Election Inspectors (4) 75.00 ea/da
- Election Custod. (2) 70.00 ea/da
- Assess. Bd. of Rev (5) 80.00 ea/da

- Dog Control Officer Perry Girard
- Registrar Vital Stat Nancy Trombley
- Budget Officer Daniel Belden
- Historian Clifton West
- Attorney John Silvestri-\$65 /hr
- Health Officer Michael Shuhler
- Town Naturalist Laura Meade
- Com. Ctr. Custodian Bertha Dunsmore (temp. appt)

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- Deputy Supvr. Martin Fitzgerald
- Deputy Sup't Donald Smith
- Highway Braisted/Frasier
- Rec & Promotion Laundree/Coffin
- Bldgs & Grounds Braisted/Frasier
- Plann. & Zoning Laundree/Frasier
- Sr. Citizens Frasier/Coffin
- Tw. Park & Beautif. Braisted/Coffin/Laundree
- Sch. Tx. Invest. Coffin/Laundree
- Landfill Braisted/Coffin

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Finance Coffin/Laundree
- Joint Fire Dept Braisted/Frasier
- Sewer Plann. Town Board
- X Country Ski Trl & Snowmobile Laundree/Coffin
Steitz, LaCourse, Johnson
- Comm. Ctr Frasier/Coffin
- Storm Water Mgmt. Frasier/Laundree
- Youth Laundree/Coffin
- Cable TV Coffin/Frasier

APPOINTMENTS

- Tw. Pk. Comm-Reapt. Bob Hoyt (94)
- Planning Bd. Chr. Alison Craig (temp.)
- Plan Bd Reapt. Ev Lindquist (98)
- Plan Bd. Unexp. term opening
- Zoning Bd. Chm. Michelle Brunet
- Zoning Bd. Rept. Ron Pote (98)
- Zoning Bd. Unexp Term opening
- Zoning Adminis. John Breitenbach
- Bd. Assess. Rev. Tom Stull (10/96)
- Sole Assessor Harold LaRose(term to exp 10/1/95)
- Com. Ctr. Coord. Bertha Dunsmore (temp.)
- Recycling Co-ord. John Breitenbach (60 da appt)

Planning Board and ZBA member terms are 7 years. Town Park Commission terms are 3 years. Zoning Administrator is 1 year. Board of Assess. Rev. terms are 5 years. Sole Assessor term is 6 years.

TOWN MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR 1992

- Town Board - meets 2nd Tuesday - 6:30PM
- Planning Board - 1st Thursday - 7:30PM
- Zoning Board of Appeals - 4th Thursday - 7:30PM
- Fire Dept - 1st Monday - 7:30PM - Firehall
- Chamber of Commerce - 1st Wed. - 7:30PM
- American Legion - 1st Wed - 7:30PM - Amer. Leg. Home
- Senior Citizens - 4th Tuesday - 1:30PM
- Fish & Game Club - 3rd Tuesday - 7:30PM - Clubhouse
- Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls - 1st & 3rd Wed.-8:30AM
- All meetings at Community Ctr. unless otherwise noted.

WEATHER NOTES

This season has been the fourth warmest on record. It has been 8% warmer than normal. Although the snowfall has been light, we still have been receiving the necessary moisture in the form of rain and sleet. We have only had 4.2" of snow which is well below the foot we normally have by now. Temperatures have mostly been mild throughout Nov., Dec., and the beginning of Jan. The last day of Nov. reached 50°. Nov. 20 we had a record breaking 60° and we could hear the crickets singing that Wednesday night. Dec. 3 we had an ice storm with snow, sleet and rain and two days later the temperature was back to 50.

The week of December 16 was more seasonal with temperatures in the teens but within seven days temperatures climbed back into the 20s and 30s.

Observing the Hague brook one can see the water flowing over the small amount of ice that has formed on the bottom. According to the Iroquois legend, this is a sure sign of rain. A strong storm front is due within the next 12 hours from this writing. (1/13).... As has been the pattern it is scheduled to begin as rain and sleet. It is predicted eventually that we will receive 5-7 inches of snow after the rain.

Lake George has not frozen yet and the water temperature is about 35°. The winter solstice on Dec. 22 was one of the prettiest days of he month. The first full moon of the new year is due on Jan. 19. MaryLou Doulin

TOWN BOARD (cont. from p3)

Resolution No. 2-1992. The state law of vital statistics was changed this year allowing towns to charge a fee of \$10 for each request made to the clerk, an increase of \$5.00 in 1991. The motion passed to allow the town clerk to charge the fee.

Resolution #3-1992 adopts a schedule of record retention according to state schedule. Passed unanimously.

The board appointed Nancy Trombley Records Management Officer. A snowmobile club has been formed with Don Loveland president. Lights on the trail at the campsite are on daily from 5-10PM.

A meeting was held with Mark Lareno, Cable Co. to discuss the possible extension of cable coverage.

A question of parking lot lighting and front step water problem at the Community Center to be addressed before the next meeting.

There is one opening on the Planning Board and one on the ZBA. Applications to fill these volunteer vacancies may be picked up at the Community Center.

A monthly meeting will be held to keep the staff informed.

Linda Coffin was appointed delegate to the Association of Towns and will be reimbursed for the \$55.00 registration fee.

Supervisor Belden is looking for volunteers to serve on the School Tax Committee, Citizen Committee, and Recreation and Promotion Committee.

After the close of the meeting the board went into Executive session to discuss personnel. . . gl

\$500 REWARD offered for information leading to the return of 120 sheets of 4x8 plywood, an 8" Makita table saw, two kerosene construction heaters and other miscellaneous construction items, removed from local construction site during the past weekend. Please call David Darrin, (518) 427-5191.

HAGUE SOLID WASTE

Last month we published an article on recyclable items. We continue to keep you informed by publishing the second part -

PROCESSABLE WASTE:

This is waste that is generally associated with normal household usage. It is solid waste that will be acceptable at the Adirondack Resource Recovery waste to energy plant (burning plant) in Hudson Falls.

In general, most waste generated in a residential household is acceptable. This includes waste generated through food preparation and other normal residential activities. Check the accompanying lists to see if any waste items may be included in another category. If you are unsure about any item, check with the attendant.

Keep in mind that any material that would likely pose a threat to the health or safety of the public if burned, or that would contribute to the hazardous materials content in the burn plant ash residue must be excluded from this processable waste stream. Please check with the attendant if you are unsure of any item.

Processable waste includes but is not limited to:

- Food wastes from preparation or leftovers
- Waste paper and plastic from residential activity
- paper towels, paper dishes, paper napkins
- plastic utensils
- diapers
- tissues, toilet tissue
- non-recyclable food packaging (check recyclable list)
- food wrapping
- paper board (cereal boxes, etc. (not corrugated cardboard
- plastic wrap, foil

Unacceptable wastes for placement in the compactor:

- household batteries
- aerosol cans
- scrap metal
- paint cans
- propane containers

NON-PROCESSABLE WASTE

Non-processable waste is waste often generated in the residential household or small business that is not permitted to burn at the waste to energy facility in Hudson Falls. Generally, this is household waste that is not normally included in daily garbage. Some households may have to alter their disposal practices. Non-processable items include, but are not limited to:

- Furniture and mattresses
- Aerosol cans
- Latex paint cans
- Gas tanks (must punch hole and completely drain)
- Electrical equipment and appliances
- Scrap metal
- Drums and containers
- Carpeting
- Marine vessels
- Coal and wood ashes (must be delivered separately and extinguished)

A COMPLETE LIST IS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN OFFICES.

NEW THEORETICAL PROPERTY VALUES:

During the month of FEBRUARY every Hague property owner should receive notification of the new theoretical value (the assessor's estimate, as accurately as possible, of the market value of each property) that has been placed on each property that a taxpayer owns. Included with this notification will be a computation showing the taxpayer what the 1992 Town Taxes would have been had the new value been used to compute the 1992 property tax. This will allow the taxpayer to see how the new value affects the actual amount of taxes on his or her property.

FEBRUARY TO APRIL 15:

Any taxpayer has the right to challenge the value placed on his property. The following are some of the reasons that may result in changing an assessment; information used by the assessor is inaccurate; pertinent information that might otherwise not be known to the assessor that affects your property, or, the assessment on your property is unfair as compared to similar properties.

Individuals who have questions about their assessment should call Hague's assessor, **HAROLD LaROSE**, at the **Community Center (518-543-6161) MONDAY THRU THURSDAY BEFORE 4PM**. Many questions can be answered by phone but, if needed, you can make an appointment with Harold for an informal meeting to review your assessment. If you provide documented information that affects the value of your property, an adjustment may be made by Harold prior to **APRIL 15**, since the tentative assessment rolls must be filed by May 1. State law does not permit the assessor to change assessments after the tentative roll has been filed. Only the board of assessment review can authorize a change in tentative assessments after that filing.

GRIEVANCE DAY - MAY 28, 1992:

The Tentative Roll becomes effective on **MAY 1**. If you are not satisfied with your assessment after reviewing the conditions and or reasons with Harold you may file a written complaint on the standard complaint form (EA-524) available at the assessor's office. This complaint must be received by the assessor or board of review no later than the day the board of review meets to hear complaints on Grievance Day, the 4th Tuesday in May. (**MAY 28, 1992**). (Dates are established by the State of NY). Your situation will be reviewed by the 5-person Board of Assessment Review.

FINAL ROLL - JULY 1, 1992:

Final roll becomes effective on **JULY 1, 1992**. No recourse after that date unless you have previously filed a grievance form.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Taxpayers interested in more detailed information should write to: Publications, NYS Board of Equalization & Assessment, Agency Bldg. No. 4, Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223. Request the title: **HOW TO CHALLENGE YOUR ASSESSMENT**. Additional brochures available also at no cost are: "The NYS Board of Equalization & Assessment & Your Property Taxes" and "Reassessment & Your Property Tax." Many NYS assessors' offices can also supply you with these publications. . . avc

ASSESSMENTS - PART 4

Continuing our series on Assessments which appeared in the International Association of Assessing Officers IAAO Update relative to assessments:

The Appeals Process

Every jurisdiction has an appeals process mandated by law. The first step is usually an informal meeting with someone in the assessor's office. (Sometimes this informal review is handled by telephone or mail.) Information on the mechanics and deadlines for setting up an appointment should be included with your valuation notice, which you will receive in early January.

During or before this informal meeting, you should review the property record form on your property to be sure all the information is correct. Know the lot size, number of stories, square footage, and condition of your property. If you have an accurate survey of your property, be sure to bring it with you to the meeting. You may also want to identify comparable properties and review their record forms.

The person conducting the meeting will probably give you information on comparable properties. If you have assembled information on such properties, you should bring it to the meeting. Almost all the information in the assessor's office is available to the public, and the office can help you find comparable properties.

Your aims at this informal review - which is not yet an appeal - should be (1) to verify the information on your property record form, or correct it, (2) to make sure you understand how your value was arrived at, (3) to discover if the value is fair compared with the values of similar properties in a similar neighborhood, (4) to find out if you qualify for any exemptions, and (5) to be sure you understand how to file a formal appeal and how the office can help you, if you still want to appeal. The assessor would always prefer to settle problems at the informal review. Appeals are costly, and assessors usually have tight budgets. The person conducting the meeting may not commit to a change in value at this meeting, even though you have uncovered an error or all agree that the assessment is not fair. If this is so, find out when you may expect to hear from the office. The first level of formal appeal is usually to a local board. Your appeal is more likely to be successful if you present evidence that comparable properties in a similar neighborhood are assessed for less than yours. Copies of property record forms on your comparables, with records of their assessed values or sales prices are your best defense. Note any differences between your property and the comparables and point out these differences. The appeal board will be interested only in the fairness and accuracy of the value placed on your property, not in whether you can afford to pay your taxes or whether taxes are too high.

If you disagree with the local board's decision, the next level of administrative review is Small Claims Court or issues may be taken to the County Supreme Court. Residential appeals are usually settled at the local level.

Always remember to view the assessor's office as an ally, not an adversary. Employees of the office should have been trained to be calm, polite, and helpful, but they are only human. If you can be calm and polite, they are likely to be more helpful and can concentrate on giving you the information you need for a successful appeal.

NEW MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

Framed picture of Albert Clifton, Civil War soldier in uniform.

Very early vacuum cleaner - Marion Shoemaker

Large, very old corn sheller from the Holman Farm.

- Henry Leach

Another album of pictures, stories, etc. of early Hague. Much of this material has not been on view to public before.

FISH AND GAME CLUB WINNERS

Hague Fish and Game Club has announced the winners of its two recent drawings. Martin Loughlin, Hague and Holbrook, NY won the money doll. Doug Allen, Crown Point, won the rifle.

400 SUNDAES IN DECEMBER!

The principal and staff of the Ti High School treated the entire student body to ice cream sundaes, to pay back for their outstanding "spirit week" enthusiasm and as a Holiday present to the high school student body. "It is just another little example of the up-beat, positive climate we have had here all year" said principal Ralph Corbo. "Stewarts" was a big help in supporting this activity.

HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

After a very successful Christmas party, the Seniors are raring to go in 1992. We had an unusually large attendance at the party; maybe with a new year we can get more people to attend our meetings.

An executive board meeting was held on January 9 and discussion was held as to plans for meetings and trips. We are asking all our seniors for suggestions - **WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO?** Come prepared to offer some suggestions at the meeting on January 28 at the Community Center.

Supervisor Dan Belden will speak to us at this meeting and he will be glad to try to answer any questions that you may have for him. After the formal part of the meeting Mary Laundree RN, has agreed to come and conduct a blood pressure clinic for any of those who might like to participate. Please join us on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 28 AT 1:30PM. . . djh**

Be sure to read the article on page 2 on the exercise program being offered. If you aren't up to aerobics, try the Nice and Easy.

WEATHER NOTES

This season has been the fourth warmest on record. It has been 8% warmer than normal. Although the snowfall has been light, we still have been receiving the necessary moisture in the form of rain and sleet. We have only had 4.2" of snow which is well below the foot we normally have by now. Temperatures have mostly been mild throughout Nov., Dec., and the beginning of Jan. The last day of Nov. reached 50°. Nov. 20 we had a record breaking 60° and we could hear the crickets singing that Wednesday night. Dec. 3 we had an ice storm with snow, sleet and rain and two days later the temperature was back to 50.

The week of December 16 was more seasonal with temperatures in the teens but within seven days temperatures climbed back into the 20s and 30s.

Observing the Hague brook one can see the water flowing over the small amount of ice that has formed on the bottom. According to the Iroquois legend, this is a sure sign of rain. A strong storm front is due within the next 12 hours from this writing. (1/19).... As has been the pattern it is scheduled to begin as rain and sleet. It is predicted eventually that we will receive 5-7 inches of snow after the rain.

Lake George has not frozen yet and the water temperature is about 35°. The winter solstice on Dec. 22 was one of the prettiest days of the month. The first full moon of the new year is due on Jan. 18.

SOUNDINGS

BORN - a boy, Evan Robert, to Kim and Doug Bryant, Midlothian, VA, on December 16 in Richmond, VA. Proud grandparents are Bob and Shirley Bryant, Pine Cove Rd, Hague.

BORN - A boy, John Ryan James, to Beth and Robert DeLarm, Homossa, FL, on December 22 in Tampa, FL. Proud grandparents are Jim and Pat DeLarm, Hague.

BORN - A girl, Chelsea Ann, to Kerry Waters and James Shepard, in North Adams, MA on Dec. 28. Happy great-grandparents are Barb and Tink Snow, Hague.

BORN - A boy, Mark Donald, to Karen and Michael Spano, Denville, NJ on January 3, 1992. Proud grandparents are Claire and Donald Best, Hague, NY and Mr & Mrs Michael Spano, Parsippany, NJ.

MARRIED - Linda Achey, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John A. Achey, Greensboro, NC, to Roland E. Kidwell, Jr. on December 28 in Greensboro. Mrs. Kidwell is the granddaughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Henry, Hague.

A very happy 60th wedding anniversary on January 16 to Martha and Harry White, former year-round residents of Hague, now living in Florida.

DIED - Theodore Santaniello, 72, Huntington, L.I., on December 24 in Huntington. Mr. Santaniello is survived by his wife, Lucy, a son, Sal (Silver Bay General Store), a daughter and five grandchildren.

DIED - Raymond H. Laundree, 69, Lake Shore Drive, Hague, on December 25 at his home. Mr. Laundree was an Industrial Arts teacher in the Hague and Ticonderoga School systems. He is survived by his wife Mary, sons Michael, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and Douglas, Hague; two daughters, Margaret Haskell, Hague and Catherine, Ticonderoga, two step-sons, one stepdaughter, one brother and eight grandchildren.

DIED - Georgia Burditt Daly, 90, on January 2 in Springfield, VT. Surviving are her daughter, Nancy (DeLarm) Fogwell, three granddaughters, one grandson and five great grandchildren.

DIED - Betty Matthews, 68, Hampstead MD, on December 29. She is survived by her husband, two sons and four daughters, including Karen Costello, Hague, and ten grandchildren.

TICONDEROGA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL - 2ND MARKING PERIOD

The following students from Hague have been listed on the second period honor roll for 1991-92:

HIGH HONORS: Treva Braisted, Elizabeth Brunet,

Anthony DeFranco, Elizabeth DeFranco, Carolyn Dykstra, Jessica Mars

SECOND HONORS: Richard Cobb, Alison LaCourse, Michelle Waters **CONGRATULATIONS!**

LOCAL AUTHOR PUBLISHERS

Dr. Philip Duffy, neuropathologist who lives in Demarest, NJ and has his summer residence in Silver Bay, has just completed a book entitled **MOMENTS** published by Chase Publishing. This book is a collection of delightful short stories and is now available for readers everywhere. If you cannot get a copy, contact either Dr. Duffy, or the editor of **The Hague Chronicle**.

TO THE HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS -

a big thank-you to everyone who helped make our Christmas party a **HUGE** success. We had a record turnout. We are particularly grateful to Joyce Monroe and Reg Rand for their voluntary cleanup detail. It was very welcome and greatly appreciated. . . Marion Shoemaker and committee

AND ANOTHER BIG THANK YOU from all the Cub Scouts to all of you who have been depositing your cans and bottles in the boxes provided at the Hague Landfill and at the Hague Community Center. This has been a very successful source of fund raising for the scouts. They will appreciate your continued support.

GLEANING

January 28 at the Hague Community Center there will be a distribution of Gleaning foods on a first come, first served basis, from 1-3PM. Exact items to be offered often are not known until the morning of distribution.

The same eligibility rules pertain to this program as pertain to surplus food. Please bring such proof with you. (WIC, Food stamps, SSI, paycheck, unemployment receipt).

HVFD BREAKFAST

The Hague Volunteer Fire Dept. will serve breakfast on Winter Carnival Weekend: Saturday, Feb. 15 and Sunday, Feb. 16; at the Hague Community Center from 7AM-11AM.

\$2.00 will purchase a choice of juice, a Danish and a choice of hot beverage. \$4.00 will purchase a very substantial breakfast:

#1- A choice of juice, pancakes, bacon, ham or sausage.

#2 - A choice of juice, eggs, toast and bacon, ham or sausage. (Both breakfasts come with a choice of hot beverage)

Do come, fuel your body against a chilly day at North Pond, meet friends and neighbors and give the HVFD a helping hand.

NOTE: There will be take-out coffee available.

Raffle tickets on **THE SWEATSHIRT** are being sold (\$1 each). It will be on display at the breakfasts.. Tickets will be sold until the time of drawing at the Awards ceremony. Tickets are presently available by phoning Joyce Monroe at 543-6472. . . ewa 1/92

JANUARY

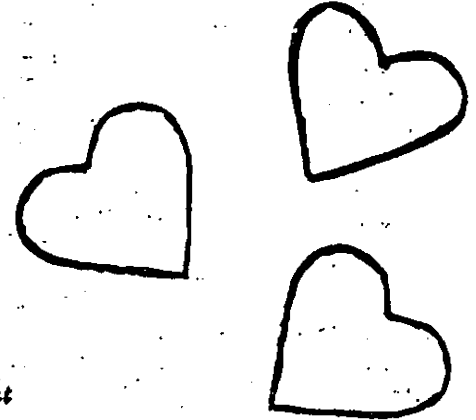
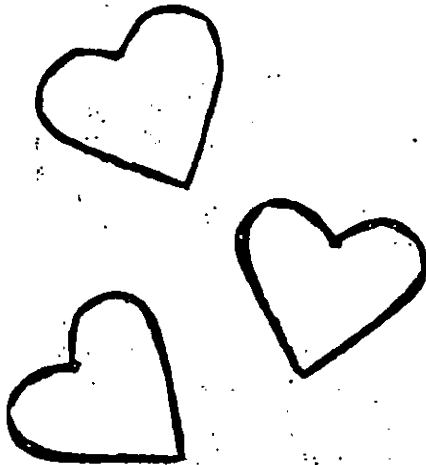
- 20 Martin Luther King Day
- 21 Home Bureau - 10AM - Comm. Ctr.
- 22 Senior Citizens Bus to Glens Falls - 8:30AM
- 23 Zoning Board of Appeals - 7:30PM
- 28 Senior Citizens Meeting - 1:30PM - Comm. Ctr.
- 28 Gleaning program - Comm. Ctr 1-3PM (see p7)

FEBRUARY

- 3 Fire Department - 7:30PM - Firehall
- 5 Senior Citizen Bus to Glens Falls - 8:30AM
- 5 Chamber of Commerce - 7:30PM - Comm. Ctr.

FEBRUARY (Cont.)

- 5 American Legion - 7:30PM - Legion Hall
- 6 Planning Board - 7:30PM
- 7 Ham and Salmon Supper - Hague Baptist Church (see p1)
- 10 HAGUE CHRONICLE deadline
- 11 Town Board meeting - 6:30PM
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 St. Valentine's Day
- 14-16 - HAGUE WINTER CARNIVAL (see p2)
- 17 Presidents' Day



*If thou must love me, let it be for nought
 Except for love's sake only. Do not say
 'I love her for her smile -- her look -- her way
 Of speaking gently -- for a trick of thought
 That falls in well with mine, and certes brought
 A sense of pleasant ease on such a day: --
 For these things in themselves, Beloved, may
 Be changed, or change for thee -- and love so wrought
 May be unwrought so. Neither love me for
 Thine own dear pity's wiping my cheeks dry:
 A creature might forget to weep, who bore
 Thy comfort long, and lose thy love thereby.
 But love me for love's sake, that evermore
 Thou mayst love on through love's eternity. . . . Elizabeth Barrett Browning*

The Hague Chronicle is published monthly by volunteers and supported by contributions from its readers. Send news items to Publisher Dorothy Henry, Box 162A, and tax deductible contributions to EVERT LINDQUIST, Box 748, Hague, NY 12896

**BULK RATE
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HAGUE		
on Lake George		
		
WINTER CARNIVAL		

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT