



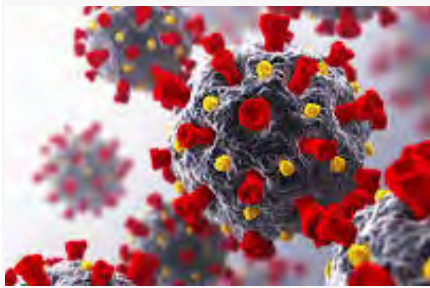
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COVID-19 UPDATE

As of October 15, 2020:



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

LOCATION	CASES	DEATHS
Worldwide	38.3 M	1.09 M
US	7.91 M	216,000
NYS	481,000	32,905
Warren County	431	30
Essex County	189	14

Sources:

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

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

Local resources during COVID-19:

Warren County Public Health –
518-761-6580

Mental Health Assistance –
518-792-7143

Domestic Violence Assistance –
518-793-9496

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

VETERANS DAY 2020

by Jim O'Toole

On November 11, 2020, we will again commemorate and remember those who have been called to serve our nation in time of peace and war and, in some instances, give their lives in the cause of freedom. Unfortunately, this year's gathering in our Veterans Park will not take place because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the need for social distancing. However, that will not stop us from taking time to recognize and reflect on the selfless service of our veterans.

During last November's Veterans Day ceremonies, we acknowledged the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. It was the signing of the armistice at 11 o'clock in the morning of November 11th, 1919 that brought an end to the most horrific conflict the world had ever witnessed; a war which lasted over four years and took the lives of over two million men, women, and children. Over four million American men and women served during the war, with some 2.8 million serving overseas. Tragically, 116,708 American service men were killed or died of wounds or disease, while another 204,000 were wounded.



The armistice celebrated what many hoped to be the end of the first and last "great war," but it was not to be. This August, we commemorated the 75th Anniversary of the end of Second World War, a time in which, again, our citizens were called upon to answer the nation's call to service and, again, millions of American men and women answered that call.

Many of you who will read this are probably children of veterans of this war. Many of us were too young to remember everything about it; our recollections were based more on what we heard from family members who stayed home and followed their husbands, brothers, sisters, and children as they served in faraway

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CHANGES IN DOG LICENSES

Last month, we reported that at the Hague Town Board meeting on September 8, 2020, *after a lengthy discussion*, there were several changes made pertaining to dog licenses. We were incorrect in stating that there was lengthy discussion.

The board accepted all of the recommendations made by Town Clerk Melissa Patchett, which were based on NY State Law. Specifically, those were:

- The annual dog license fee was increased from \$4 to \$6 for spayed/neutered dogs.
- The annual dog license fee was increased from \$12 to \$15 for all other dogs.
- There was a new additional charge of \$5 for dogs found unlicensed.
- There was a new additional charge of \$5 for late license renewals. ▣



VIRTUAL LAKE GEORGE MARATHON SWIM

Undaunted by the pandemic, the Lake George Marathon Swim organizers created a virtual contest this year, where swimmers tracked their miles, in whatever water body they could use, on a virtual leaderboard, using well-known Lake George landmarks as milestones.



A total of 337 participants swam in spots across the U.S., Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, and Ireland. Several were from right here in Hague. Nancy Archer was one of them. "I swim nearly every day in the lake during the summer," she said. "But having this goal encouraged me to swim even further. There was a great community of people [on the marathon's Facebook page [HERE](#)] who encouraged each other to complete the swim. I would definitely do it again next year!" Also completing the challenge was the Silver Bay team of Sarah Tamlyn, Pam Fischer, Ashley Allen, Laura Woodcock, and Malinda Chapman. The contest was held during the eight weeks

between August 1st and September 30th to allow for access to pools or other water bodies.

The organizers donated the \$5,000 earned by the event to the Lake George Association (LGA), which will use it for projects and programs that benefit the lake and the watershed, thus protecting Lake George water quality now and in the future.

"So many swimmers came out to challenge themselves, and to support the LGA in this virtual competition. We couldn't be happier with the results," said LGA Director of Development Nancy Cobb-Zoll.

"They see first-hand the benefits of the LGA's work throughout the year," said Walt Lender, executive director of the LGA, "and hopefully next year we will be able to have community events again, so everyone can get back in the lake!"

You can read more about the event and the participants on the Lake George Open Water Swim website [HERE](#). ▣



HVFD

by Meg Haskell



For the month of September, we had 31 fire calls and drills, seven EMS calls and one marine call, using 274 volunteer hours.

We had a great turn-out for the Hague Town Wide Garage Sale. There were a lot of people in town and it was a beautiful day!

Now that the weather is turning cooler, remember to have your furnace checked and get your chimney cleaned before using it. ▣

REMOVE LEAVES FROM YOUR PAVEMENT

Phosphorous is bad for the lake.

When leaves fall on the natural ground, their phosphorus soaks into the soil. But, when leaves are left on paved surfaces like streets, parking lots, or storm drains, their phosphorus is released into the stormwater. That stormwater then washes into storm drains and directly into our lake.

Help protect Lake George by making sure leaves from your property stay off paved surfaces, out of storm drains, and out of the lake itself. ▣



HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID CONSORTIUM FORMED

With the troubling discovery of the first significant hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) infestation in the Lake George watershed, a consortium of private and public sector organizations has formed the Save Our Lake George Hemlocks Initiative, with the goal of identifying future infestations sooner and limiting the extent of the invasive species' spread in the watershed and the larger region.

The initiative will pilot the use of satellite-gathered infrared imagery that can help detect forest decline before it is visible to the naked eye so that on-the-ground field crews can then be strategically and efficiently deployed to assess potential infestations. This collaborative effort is intended to augment essential work now being performed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to confirm the extent of the current infestation and perform necessary treatment to control it. ■



Photo courtesy of USDA Forest Service

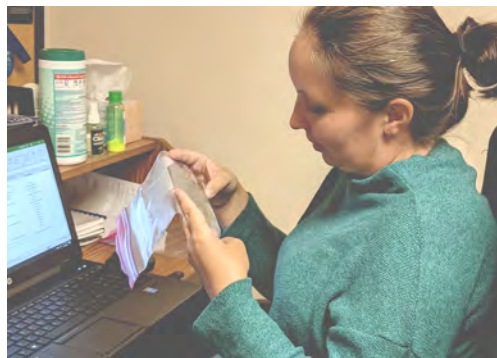
INSPECTORS REMOVE HYDRILLA AT DUNHAM'S BAY

In a routine inspection, the Vessel Inspection Technicians at the Dunham's Bay boat inspection site found the invasive species *hydrilla* in a vessel arriving at Lake George after boating in the Connecticut River.

Hydrilla is one of the fastest-growing invasive plants in the U.S. – and one of the most difficult to control or eradicate once it becomes established.

Technicians remove any plant or animal sample found, tag, and store it to be identified by LGA Director of Education Kristen Wilde. Boats are then cleaned with high-pressure hot water.

This incident continues to show the importance of meeting the "Clean, Drained and Dry" standard, which is the best way boaters can prevent invasive introduction and spread. ■



Top photo of Kristen Wilde courtesy of the Lake George Association; bottom photo, Hydrilla, courtesy of Robert Videk, invasive.org



MANNING AND GINNY ROWAN SMITH \$300,000 CHALLENGE FOR LGLC

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) has announced a public challenge to raise \$300,000 by Thanksgiving. Manning and Virginia Rowan Smith have presented this challenge to encourage those who support the protection of Lake George to join LGLC's Land and Water Society.

The Land and Water Society is the LGLC's legacy society, celebrating those who include the LGLC in their estate planning. It can be through a simple bequest, by naming the LGLC as a beneficiary in a life insurance policy or retirement fund, or one of many other options available. The gift can be large or small and its benefits will continue long after one's lifetime.

From now until November 26, 2020, the Smiths will donate \$5,000 to the LGLC for every new legacy pledge received, regardless of method, amount or designation. If you wish to include a specific dollar amount with your pledge that is above \$5,000, they will match that, up to a total of \$300,000!

The details of your pledge may be kept anonymous or you may choose to let us know the details of your intentions. Upon receipt, your gift will be used according to your wishes, as specified on your pledge form. The Smith's match will be added to the Virginia Rowan Smith Endowment, which helps the LGLC with current and future capital projects.

Virginia Rowan Smith is a member of the LGLC's Advisory Board and a trustee emeritus.

"I believe that every one of us who loves the Lake wants to do something to protect it," said Mrs. Smith, "and the Lake George Land Conservancy offers you a special opportunity to do so. Estate planning is one of the most powerful ways for you to help ensure that your vision for Lake George is preserved for your children and for all future generations.

"Manning and I want to encourage folks to join the LGLC's planned giving

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ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 9/24/2020

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

MILLER (26.14-1-8) 11 Birch Point Lane (TR1R)

The applicants are requesting a variance to construct a retaining wall, patio, and a four-foot walkway along their lakefront. A public hearing was held at this meeting with a negative comment that the 50-foot setback from the Mean High-Water Mark (MHWM) should be maintained and soil erosion into the lake prevented. A silt fence will be in place during construction. The board unanimously voted on the motion to grant the variance.

BOSI (93.12-1-4) 7955 Lakeshore Drive (TR 1)

The applicants are requesting a variance to construct a retaining wall ten feet back from the MHWM. The application was deemed complete and a site visit was scheduled. A public hearing was held at this meeting with no comments for or against. Variance was unanimously approved with a recommendation to use a silt fence along the shore during construction.

MANSOUR (93.16-1-37) 44 Sabbath Day Point Road (TR1R)

The applicant is proposing an addition to a legal non-conforming principal structure. The proposal includes a second-story addition of 550 sq. ft. to an existing single-story home, an increase of 44% of living space. The Hague Town Board has approved plans for a replacement on-site wastewater system to accommodate the increased living capacity. The application was deemed complete and a site visit was scheduled.

KENT (93.12-1-5) 7945 Lakeshore Drive (TR 1)

The applicants were requesting a variance to construct a retaining wall ten feet back from the MHWM. The application has been withdrawn.

AUSTIN (93.16-1-15) 24 Frog Lane (TR1R)

The applicant is proposing replacing a legal non-conforming principal structure. The proposal maintains a three-bedroom occupancy, with an increased square footage of 108% to living space. Structure footprint will be 13% of the lot area. Plans also include the continued use of an existing on-site wastewater system alleged to have been upgraded in 2010. The application was deemed complete and a site visit was scheduled. ▣

PLANNING BOARD - 10/01/2020

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

FENIMORE (25.3-1-9) 44 Mountain View Road (OCI)

The applicant is seeking to subdivide a sixty-five-acre parcel of land. The proposal submitted would create two new parcels; one lot of 59.6 acres and one lot of 5.4 acres. The division line of the proposed parcels will follow the contour of Mountain View Road. The application was deemed complete and a site visit scheduled. A public hearing will be held at the next Planning Board meeting on November 5th.

AUSTIN (93.16-1-15) 24 Frog Lane (TR1R) VAR 13-20

The applicant is proposing to replace a legal non-conforming principal structure on a .65-acre lot. TR-1R requires 1.1 acres per principal building. The proposal submitted maintains a three-bedroom occupancy, with an increased square footage of 108% of living space. Plans also include the continued use of an existing on-site wastewater system that was upgraded in 2010. A signed affidavit from the contractor who performed the upgrade has been provided. The application was deemed complete and a site visit was scheduled.

MANSOUR (93.16-1-37) 44 Sabbath Day Point Road (TR1R)

The applicant is proposing an addition to a legal non-conforming principal structure. The proposal includes a second-story addition of 550 sq. ft. (a 44% increase to living space) to an existing single-story home. This application was preceded by a Wastewater Treatment Plan Variance, approved by the Local Board of Health. A public hearing was held at this meeting with no comments for or against. The application was deemed complete. The board unanimously approved it, with the condition that the ZBA approves. ▣

TOWN BOARD BUDGET MEETINGS

Introductory Meeting

- Town Clerk distributed copies of the Tentative Budget.
- There was a discussion of ZEO Rion Marcy's salary.

First Workshop

- There was discussion of each line item.
- Deputy Highway Superintendent Matt Coffin discussed his 2021 budget plan.
- Increases will be necessary for park staff due to minimum wage increases.
- The Sewer Department requested a new truck to pull the sludge trailer.
- A line item was added for a new fence at the May Memorial Cemetery.

Second Workshop

- They continued reviewing each line item.
- Joe McDowell is retiring at year's end.
- Jon Sheehan's salary was increased.
- They are looking into contracting with Cedarwood to check on the Waste Water Treatment Plant monthly.

The Third Budget Workshop will be Wednesday, October 21st at 3 pm. ▣

TOWN BOARD - 10/13/2020

Present were: Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Jack Bast, Martin Fitzgerald II, Joshua Patchett, and Steve Ramant. A moment of silence was held for David Wells, Sandy Rust's parents, and Mark Johnson.

DISCUSSIONS

1. Anthony DeFranco, PE Engineer, presented information on the proposed waste water replacement system for Suzanne

(Continued on page 5)

TOWN BOARD 10/13/2020

(Continued from page 4)

and Steve Locke, 8151 Lakeshore Drive. A variance is required. Board members will visit the site and the board will hold a public hearing at the November 10, 2020 meeting at 6:15 pm.

2. Tom Jarrett of Jarett Engineers presented information on the proposed waste water replacement system for Eileen Joyce, 9623 Lakeshore Drive. While the project does not require a variance, it does require Board of Health approval. Board members will visit the site and the board will hold a public hearing at the November 10, 2020 meeting at 6:30 pm.

3. Gil Engler, President of the NLG Rotary Club asked the board to adopt a local law or ordinance for games of chance in Hague so they can obtain a license to hold a raffle so that their annual canoe raffle will comply with the NYS Gaming Commission regulations. Fitzgerald stated that that process would likely take several months. Frasier will talk to the town attorney.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Highway: Ramant/Bast – Highway staff has been working on the briner in preparation for winter and on the new truck. They are currently short one staff member.

Planning/Zoning:Fitzgerald/Patchett – The Zoning Office had ten land-use permits (one variance), one minor subdivision, and three waste water permits (one variance and one BOH approval). ZEO Marcy received four Puraflo inspection reports from Geraw's Septic.

Town Park/Beautification: Ramant/Frasier – The town park is closed for the winter.

Sewer District #1 and #2: Bast/Frasier – Thirteen of the original twenty-two non-compliant properties are now in full compliance. Two more properties were connected in the past month; four properties have been granted five-year extensions based on physical hardship; five remaining non-compliant properties on Second Notice are continuing to be tracked; Third Notices may be issued in December if compliance action is not scheduled to be completed by 12/31/2020.

EDU SCHEDULE

Frasier stated the current Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) Schedule is not fair and that the Finance Subcommittee of the Hague Sewer Advisory Committee has been working on revising the schedule.

Phil Smith from that committee distributed their report. It suggests that the residential EDU assessments be based on the number of bedrooms. Homes with three bedrooms or less would remain at the 1.0 EDU assessment. Homes with additional bedrooms would be charged an additional 0.33 EDU per additional bedroom. Non-residential buildings would be charged based on the estimated gallons per day (GPD) flow and usage of the system.


The subcommittee modified the Sewer District One and Two spreadsheets compiled by the Town Clerk to show the proposed differences in the EDU assessments. The board will

review the report and compile questions to discuss at the town board meeting on November 10, 2020. The new schedule will be published once it is formally adopted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Personnel appointments:

- Amanda Peterson as the Clerk to the Assessor
- Rion Marcy to the Sewer Advisory Board
- Leslie Midgley to the Board of Assessment Review for the term 10/01/2020 – 9/30/2025 (reappointment)

This is a brief summary of the meeting by Editor Bobbi Bryant Taylor. The full minutes of the meeting by Town Clerk Melissa Patchett will be posted at <https://townofhague.org/boards/town-board/town-minutes/20/> 

TOWN'S PUBLIC DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE ONLINE


The Town of Hague's public documents such as agendas, minutes, resolutions, annual town budgets, and the Comprehensive Plan are now available online, along with the Town Code through the Town of Hague's E-Code. To access the Town of Hague's E-Code, visit townofhague.org and click on the "Town Code" link in the left-hand column under "Popular Links" or go directly to <https://ecode360.com/HA1590>. 



Photo courtesy of the Lake George Association.

THE HERMIT OF HAGUE

by A Friend of the Hermit

*The Hermit of Hague was a sinner
He begged, borrowed, and stole for his dinner.
But if you were needy
He was no longer seedy
And helped you to come out a winner.*

SOUNDINGS

ENGAGED: Zachary D. Vickerson and Caroline D. Anderson. Vickerson, who lives in Goose Creek, SC, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Vickerson, Jr. of Ballston Lake and Hague. Anderson, who also lives in Goose Creek is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Anderson of Trenton, SC.

The wedding is planned for February 21, 2021 in Mt. Pleasant, SC.

The groom is a graduate of Boston University with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering, with a minor in Aerospace Engineering. He is a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, stationed at the Nuclear Power School in Charleston, SC.

The bride is a graduate of Furman University, with a BA degree in English and History. She is employed by Arcadia Publishing.

DIED: Alexandre Charles Levitch, 76, of Putnam Station, peacefully at his home, with loved ones at his side, on September 19, 2020, after a decades-long battle with Parkinson's.

Alex earned a degree in Political Science from the University of Michigan. While at Michigan, he married Linda Louise Carraher. He earned a J.D. from Columbia Law School and moved his family to Virginia for his first job as an assistant prosecutor in the U.S. Department of Justice.

Alex led a storied career spanning both industries and continents and brought his passion for excellence, a creative entrepreneurial spirit, and principled leadership to each of his endeavors.

In 1979, he and Linda purchased the fabled, now century-old Adirondack Camp that Alex had attended and loved as a boy. He revitalized the camp and ushered in its best years, running a *New York Times* ad with the headline, "Camp was so much fun I bought it!" In 2009, he facilitated a deal with The Lake George Land Conservancy, protecting more than 350 acres and over a mile of shoreline.

\$300,000 LGLC CHALLENGE

(Continued from page 3)

society, and over a year ago, we decided to put forth a matching funds challenge. When I talk with others who have joined this Society, I always sense a feeling of accomplishment, and a feeling of pride that no matter what decisions they make going forward in terms of life's priorities, they have created a legacy for Lake George."

To be included in this challenge, your pledge must be received by November 26, 2020. Those wishing to participate in the challenge may make their pledge online, with the LGLC's confidential pledge form, or by downloading a paper copy and mailing it to the LGLC. These options and more information are at lglc.org/land-and-water-society. Questions and comments may be directed to Helen Barton Benedict, LGLC's development manager, at 518-644-9673 or hbartonbenedict@lglc.org. ■



NEW LGA PROGRAM: SCIENCE FROM YOUR SOFA

Director of Education Kristen Wilde and Environmental Educator Emily Boucher of the Lake George Association (LGA) are presenting an innovative series of video programs for adults and schools that discuss the lake and its water quality called "Science from Your Sofa." Each week, they identify a specific Lake George topic and ask for questions from the public about that topic. Every Thursday, they publish a short, fun video answering those questions.

So far, they have discussed Water Clarity, Aquatic Food Webs of Lake George, Invasive Species, Stormwater, and Protecting Lake George. Follow them on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on this series. Send questions on the topic of the week to eboucher@lakegeorgeassociation.org. ■



He was the founder of the Ti Alliance, an organization dedicated to helping to rebuild the economy of Ticonderoga.

Alex was an author, poet, inventor, lawyer, business leader, art collector, and children's advocate. He was charismatic, brilliant, magnanimous, and wise. He was passionate about his friends and family. Loyal, loving, and involved, he had the rare capacity to listen and to care.

Alex is survived by his wife of more than 50 years, Linda; their daughter Shawn (Kevin); his beloved grandchildren, Zan and Arion; his sister Nadine; and his niece Kyrstie.

If you wish to honor Alex, please contribute to the Michael J. Fox

Foundation for Parkinson's or send a check made out to "Adirondack Camp" to 302 Warrick Road, Putnam Station, NY 12861, which will be used to fund a nature program in his honor.

As they cannot come together now to celebrate Alex's life, his family intends to throw an exuberant bash on the shores of the lake sometime in 2021. ■

The Hague Chronicle is happy to publish announcements of births, marriages, graduations, anniversaries of 50/55/60/65+, awards, or deaths. Please send to editor@thehaguechronicle.org.

VETERANS DAY

(Continued from p. 1)

places in Europe and the Pacific, as did my father. Citizen soldiers were men and women who set aside their careers and dreams to leave home and serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. Proudly and with selfless courage, they faced difficult conditions over four long years, many making the ultimate sacrifice. Many of those who did return brought home with them wounds, both physical and mental, that never really healed.

Fifty-nine Hague citizens, including three women, answered that call, their names inscribed on our Memorial Wall. These women and men were part of what Tom Brokaw called in his book "The Greatest Generation." But, service was not new to the citizens of Hague. Those two walls reflect service and sacrifice in eleven wars and conflicts our country has been involved with since the American Revolution, with the family names repeated from generation to generation; familiar names like Balcom, Frasier, Robbins, Shattuck, Waters, and Ross; families with deep roots in the community stretching back many generations, each one stepping up and answering the call to serve.

They, like most, returned home after the war to take up jobs, marry, and raise their own families. For many, their service didn't stop upon their return home, continuing to serve in their communities as civic leaders or community volunteers, such as serving in their volunteer fire company.

Time has taken its toll on our World War Two veterans. Statistics acknowledge that we are losing an average of 348 World War Two veterans each day. Over 16 million men and women served during the war. Tragically, 496,777 American service members were killed in action, while over 671,278 were wounded. They died on the beaches of Normandy and Guadalcanal, on remote Pacific Islands like Saipan and Iwo Jima, in the forests of Belgium at the Bulge, in the sands of North Africa, and in the mountains of Italy. Their selfless service and sacrifice are commemorated in American cemeteries all over the world.

Nowhere is that sacrifice more evident than at the American Cemetery at Normandy, which my wife and I had the honor to visit during a trip to France several years ago. Located on a high bluff above Omaha Beach, looking across the English Channel, a visitor will find, like in so many similar cemeteries here at home and throughout the world, row upon row of plain white granite markers identifying the resting places of deceased American service members.

What makes the cemetery at Normandy stand out from the rest is the fact that the majority of the 10,000 graves mark

the resting places of those killed in the assault of Normandy and the ensuing days following the landing. It includes the remains of four women and three Medal of Honor recipients. It chronicles the names of men young and old from every class of society and every race and religion, many known only to God. Along the Walls of the Missing in the Memorial are inscribed the names of an additional 1,557 service members who are missing in action.

The cemetery is a stark reminder of the sacrifice paid not only by these great Americans of that generation, but all the generations that have been called to service in all the conflicts that have followed. From Korea to Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan, our American men and women have fought and died for our freedom and that of the world at large.

Today we still find our young men and women serving on the fields of battle in Afghanistan, Syria, and Iraq, as well as here at home, living up to their oath to support and defend their nation from all enemies foreign and domestic, volunteering and putting aside their hopes and dreams to answer our nation's call.

Although we cannot gather in our traditional way this November 11th, we will still remember our veterans' service and sacrifice. We will place a wreath at the memorial without the ceremony of past years, but the meaning will remain just as sincere as in the past. Even though we will not hear the mournful sound of Taps, we will not forget the sacrifices made by all our veterans, especially those from our own community, living and dead.

So, please, proudly salute and acknowledge our living veterans together with all who have served in uniform in war and peace. Remember those who served and those still serving. Remember and recognize our Blue Star Families, who have family members serving in the military. We especially remember and honor our Gold Star Families, who have made the ultimate sacrifice. And please, do not forget the 82,000 MIA/POWs whose whereabouts are still unknown, among them Hague's Howard Belden, a Korean War veteran.

It seems fitting to close with the words Abraham Lincoln spoke during the dedication of the American Military Cemetery at Gettysburg and which still hold great relevance today, "The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here."

Let us, too, never forget these brave Americans and all they have granted to us by their selfless service. ■



NATURALLY SPEAKING

by Connie Smith



Words are fascinating and there is always a story behind the words we use.

Take the words “autumn” and “fall,” for instance. Long before it was called “fall” or “autumn,” the third season of the year was referred to as “harvest” in England. Farmers were gathering their crops and preparing for winter storage. This harvest time was generally between August and November. The word “harvest” comes from the Old Norse word “haust,” which means to pluck or gather.

During the 1600s, the population began to shift from rural areas into larger cities and soon “harvest” became less applicable to the lives of the city dwellers and “fall” and “autumn” became two new words to refer to the season. Autumn comes from the Latin word “autumnus,” with the root of the word meaning “the passing of the year.” The word “fall” was likely a derivation from the Old English words “fiaell” and “feallan,” which mean “to fall from a height.”

Britain continued to use both words, but gradually settled on “autumn.” After the United States came into being, this country commonly used the word “fall.”

If you want to enjoy one of my favorite outdoor activities of spring, summer, and fall, place a comfortable chair in a quiet spot of your yard and sit in it. Close your eyes and listen. What you hear is “psithurism,” the sound of wind in the trees and wind moving through the leaves. The soothing sound calms the soul and seems to connect you to the magical world of nature. Wind slides through the air and tosses the leaves on their stems. That sound is a subtle reminder of nature’s gentle power and blessing. Individual cares shrink in size and complexity and you feel renourished and calm. Experience psithurism and perhaps you will agree that nature is whispering to you.

“Rustle” is a word we often use to describe the soft, rapid sounds of the leaves in fall. The word began to be used in the late 14th century, but its origin is unclear. Scholars think the word began its life in Middle Low



Click here to listen to an audio of autumn leaves blowing:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fhr_vYshXP4

German or Middle Dutch. What is uniquely American about the word “rustle” is when the word is defined as to steal cattle. The word was first used in that sense in 1882 and probably came from American English slang, which combined “rush” and “hustle.” Rustle just popped into existence and we have been using it ever since.

Enjoy the sounds and sights of autumn here in the Adirondacks. Take a few minutes each day to appreciate the pleasure of psithurism before winter strips the trees bare. ▣

RBG’S LAKE GEORGE CONNECTION

Ruth Bader Ginsburg was an equal rights advocate, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and a late-in-life pop culture icon.

She died at her home in Washington, D.C. on September 18, 2020, at the age of 87 from complications of metastatic pancreatic cancer. In the days since then, we have all learned much about her life and legacy.

One thing you might not have heard is that she enjoyed coming to Lake George. Justice Ginsburg visited Bolton Landing several times to address judicial conferences at the Sagamore.

And when she did, she loved to go water skiing. She first skied in 1997, four years after she had been

appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Kenneth Reynolds, the resort’s waterfront director at the time, drove the boat. He said she was a very good skier and had a good amount of endurance. That is no surprise as her daily workouts even into her eighties are well known.

Reynolds said, “I could see her lips move as she skied and I asked her what she was saying. She told me she was singing...singing opera. She said she wouldn’t stop skiing until she finished the aria,” he said. “That’s what kept her going.”

They followed the same routine again in 1998 and 1999. In 2000, she walked down to the Sagamore’s waterfront, this time in streetwear instead of her bathing suit and cap. She thanked Reynolds for three years of great water skiing. He remembers, “She was an absolute delight.” ▣



Associate Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Visits WFU. Photo courtesy of WFU Law School.

Adapted from an article in the Lake George Mirror by Buzz Lamb

FORT TICONDEROGA RECEIVES GRANT

Fort Ticonderoga has been awarded a Humanities New York CARES Grant with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the federal CARES Act in the amount of \$10,000.

Project funding will enable museum staff to collaborate with post-secondary educators and students as they shift in-person programming to online, and make additional museum resources available digitally.

"Fort Ticonderoga will develop and expand resources for college professors and instructors as they seek a richer, more engaging experience for students who are increasingly being taught online," said Miranda Peters, Fort Ticonderoga Vice President of Collections and Digital Production and project director for this program. "This semester brings challenges, but also many opportunities as we redefine how museums can support post-secondary education in a digital world." ▣



COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARDS CEREMONY

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will host their Annual Community Appreciation Awards Ceremony on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 6 pm. Due to COVID-19, instead of a traditional dinner and awards ceremony, the event will be held at the TACC office and will include just the TACC team and the recipients. It will be live-streamed on the TACC Facebook page.

TACC will recognize all area businesses, organizations, and volunteers as well as the 2020 "Business of the Year," "Organization/Non-Profit of the Year," "Chamber Volunteer of the Year," "Community Volunteer of the Year," and will give out TACC Appreciation Awards. ▣

MASON/STAR PUBLIC DINNER

A public roast pork loin dinner, sponsored jointly by the members of Mount Defiance Lodge No. 794, F. & A.M. and Fort Ticonderoga Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, will be served ON A TAKE-OUT BASIS, on Friday, October 23, 2020, from 4:30 - 6 pm at the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street. Tickets remain \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 years old and under and will be sold at the door. Parking for pick-up will be available along Montcalm Street and at the Hancock House. ▣



Photo courtesy of the Lake George Association.

HALLOWEENFEST 2020:

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC), in coordination with the Ticonderoga Montcalm Street Partnership and area businesses and organizations, is working to finalize HalloweenFest 2020: COVID-19 Edition schedule.

While there will not be coordinated business Trick or Treating, they are working on several events throughout the week leading up to community Trick or Treating on October 31st. ▣



LOOKING BACK

by Pat McDonough

October is the month in which we “celebrate” Halloween and our minds are reminded of the ancient Celtic symbols of death – the ghost, the skeleton, the grim reaper . . . and cemeteries. Some communities honor their history by planning October tours of graveyards and the stones of characters in their history.

Cemeteries and the gravestone poetry carved into headstones have long been a particular interest of mine. Living not far from the Hague Heritage Cemetery, I occasionally wander up there among the stones that have survived the centuries. In May, I revisited a pristine marker.

What makes one stone survive with its carvings and information still intact after so many years? Perhaps it's the quality of the stone, the depth of the carving, or the weather conditions it has endured. In the Heritage Cemetery, there are many broken stones and many that are literally unreadable after the passage of time, their biographical data lost to us forever unless someone captured it early on.

After 164 years, Lydia Bailey's marker is in pristine condition. It sits looking down on Lake George and one can only wonder about her life in Hague in the years before 1836.

The weeping willow on her stone represents the sorrow felt by those surviving her – she being a fairly young woman at the age of 39 when she passed. The urn, we are told, was a popular symbol of mourning, representing a repository for the ashes of the deceased in early times.

In September, I was out prowling around the Hague Cemetery at West Hague Road. Most of these stones are dated in the 1800s, but a few spill over into the 20th and 21st centuries. As a Hague history buff, the familiar names rang many bells –



Ackerman, Balcom, Bartlett, Benway, Bevins, Braisted, Clifton, Davis, Decker, Doolittle, Fish, Garfield, Holman, Rising, Ross, Sexton, Shattuck, among so many others. There are many lovely stones with symbols typical of the era – a bible, florals, clasped hands, a hand with the index finger pointing to heaven.



Some of the poetry is still readable:

Joanna Rising, wife of Rufus, died March 10, 1882.
And willing rather to be absent from the body
And to be present with the Lord. 2d Cor. V. 8th

Eliza Reynolds, wife of Calvin, died June 14, 1876
Friendship and love have did their best
And now can do no more
The Bitterness of death is past
And all the suffering o'er.

Minnie J. Ross, wife of Edward S.,
died March 12, 1891, age 26
Her sun goes down while
It is yet day.

Georgiana Davis, died October 31, 1874, age 23.
Beloved in life lamented in death.

So many of these simple sentiments are lost forever because often they are scribed at the very bottom of the stone and in a much shallower etching than the biographical data. With the passage of time, the poetry is nearly covered by the earth and grass. I found some stones that had been repaired, but many are simply laying on the ground, needing only to be re-attached to their bases.

The sentiments expressed are a testament to the faithfulness of Hague's forefathers. Their final resting places should continue to be respectfully maintained.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT

Fort Ticonderoga continues its 2020 Digital Campaign - an exciting virtual experience featuring interactive programming, a lectures series, and at-home educational activities and resources.

The unique virtual opportunity brings the layers of history and natural beauty into homes across the globe. Featuring the museum's annual interpretation (2020 is 1774), Fort Ticonderoga staff continue to press forward with their commitment to providing resources and entertaining programs to engage, inspire, and give context to the world around us.

"Through this Digital Campaign, we are eager for our virtual visitors to enjoy behind-the-scenes information and special insider content," said Beth L. Hill, Fort Ticonderoga president & CEO.

Featured on the Upcoming Digital Campaign:

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 - "Collections Speed Dating: Midshipman Ellery's Sword," [Facebook, 1pm](#)

The War of 1812 and a relative of a signer of the Declaration of Independence in a naval battle.

Saturday, October 24th - "Tips of The Tailoring Trade: Drummer's Lace," [Facebook, 1pm](#)



Artificer Tailor Joseph Zea explores Drummers' Lace, the ornate woolen tape that adorned the uniforms of Fifers and Drummers.

Sunday, October 25th - "British Shoes from Lake Champlain," [Facebook, 1pm](#)

View actual shoes recovered from the 1759 built sloop *Boscawen*. See how the fort's staff recreates these British soldiers' shoes for their portrayals of 1774.

Saturday, October 31st - Robert Louis Stevenson's "Ticonderoga: A Legend of the West Highlands," [Facebook, 1pm](#)

For Halloween, a special reading of the fort's most famous ghost story and the history that inspired it.

Visit fortticonderoga.org for more live videos, lectures series, and educational at-home activities that bring history to life! ▣

AMY'S ADVENTURE RACE

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) hosted its Fourth Annual Amy's Adventure Race for the Lake the weekend of Oct 1, 2020. Due to COVID-19, the race was held virtually, meaning that runners could choose to run the usual race route at the LGLC's Amy's Park in Bolton Landing or run 4.5 miles at a location of their choice.

This year's race included an all-time high of 72 competitors, including 53 first timers and 19 returning runners. While most ran at Amy's Park, 24 ran in other locations, including Colorado, Maine, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and other parts of New York State.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING & DINING NIGHT EVENT 2020

On Friday, December 4th, 2020, the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will be sponsoring Holiday Shopping & Dining Night.

TACC will produce a guide for the event listing all promotions, specials, events, etc. This evening is part of the 11th Annual Ticonderoga Area North Country Christmas Celebration, which will be from Saturday, November 28th through Sunday, December 6th, 2020, with events happening every day.

All businesses that wish to participate must register with the TACC office by Wednesday, November 13th, 2020 at 4 pm by calling 518-585-6619 or emailing emullen@ticonderogany.com. If you participated in 2019, they will contact you directly. ▣

The overall winner, Volker Burkowski, was also the defending 2018 and 2019 champion, finishing the race in 40 minutes and 9 seconds. The female winner, also a defending champion, was Kaley Bell, a fourth time Amy's Racer, who finished in 42 minutes and 9 seconds.

This year's race proceeds, which grossed just under \$5,000, will all go to the Bradley's Lookout acquisition, part of the Bolton Recreational Hub plan. Photos from the event as well as the complete list of competitors and their times can be seen on the LGLC's page on Facebook, @HikeLakeGeorge. ▣

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

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THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

October 2020

OCTOBER

21	1 pm	Ft. Ticonderoga's Digital Campaign - "Collections Speed Dating: Midshipman Ellery's Sword"
22	6 pm	TACC Annual Community Appreciation Awards Ceremony live-streamed on the TACC Facebook page.
	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
23	4:30 - 6 pm	Mason Star Dinner (Take-out only)
24	1 pm	Ft. Ticonderoga's Digital Campaign - "Tips of The Tailoring Trade: Drummer's Lace"
25	1 pm	Ft. Ticonderoga's Digital Campaign - "British Shoes from Lake Champlain"
31	1 pm	Ft. Ticonderoga's Digital Campaign - Robert Louis Stevenson's "Ticonderoga: A Legend of the West Highlands" HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER

1		Daylight Savings Time ends
3		ELECTION DAY – PLEASE VOTE!
5	7 pm	Planning Board
9		Deadline for the November issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>
10	6 pm	Town Board
11		VETERANS DAY – TOWN OFFICES CLOSED (No ceremony at Veterans Park due to COVID)
13	4 pm	Deadline to register for TACC Holiday Shopping & Dining Night
19	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals

TRANSFER STATION HOURS: September 2 through June 30

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