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HOLIDAY IN HAGUE

by Katy Wells and Meg Haskell

The annual Holiday in Hague was Saturday, December 7, 2019. There were ten trees decorated along Route 8 and they were all beautifully done. The tree winners were: third place - Bible Study; second place - the Hague Volunteer Fire Department; and first place - Silver Bay YMCA.

The parade kicked off at 2 pm and featured the new Hague Fire Truck, dressed up doggies, and of course, Santa and Mrs. Claus. The Doggie Parade winners were: honorable mention - the horses from Putnam; second place - "Hans," owned by Katy Wells; and first place - "Summit," owned by Macie Cypher. Also participating were Jenn Charlton riding her horse, Scooby, and Annette Bennett riding her horse, Sully. Both riders and horses were dressed up for Christmas and were a big hit with the spectators!

Although it was cold, quite a few people lined the parade route and went up to the community center for the Christmas Party. Silver Bay YMCA provided cookies for the kids to decorate and Brandy Frasier did face painting. Santa and Mrs. Claus visited with the children and gave each child a gift. The Hague Volunteer Fire Department and The Hague Sno-goers donated cookies and punch for everyone.

Thank you to all who volunteered to make it a fun event! ▣



Photos courtesy of Catherine Clark



WHITAKERS TAPPED SENIORS OF THE YEAR

As Jan and Bob Whitaker were kicking off this year's AARP Tax program, they were surprised by Senior Club President Pat Hintze and Hague Supervisor Edna Frasier who presented them with the Senior of the Year Honors.

Hintze noted they were recognizing Jan and Bob as a couple who have been very involved with volunteering in the Hague Community for years. They are active in many organizations including *The Hague Chronicle*, Silver Bay Association, Rotary Club, as well as their church.

They were especially cited for their tremendous efforts leading the AARP tax program helping Hague, Ticonderoga and others who come for the service. Edna then presented them with a plaque naming them the Hague Senior Citizens of the Year and extended the thanks of the town. ▣

SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

Our Christmas Party was wonderful! The grand prize went to Barbara Lamanna. Barbara Smith won the Raquette Lake boat cruise and the tour to the Great Camp Sagamore money tree. For the other prizes given out, Marie Waters won first place and Janice Belden won second. There were many other gifts given out.

January 2, 2020 will be Game Night at my house. Our International Dinner will be January 9th. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all! ▣



PARTIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

David Martucci, Sole Assessor, urges all primary residence homeowners to contact the office at 518-543-6161 to see if they are eligible for the following exemptions:

Senior Citizens' Exemption: Primary residence homeowners over age 65, with the following household income ceilings for the listed taxing jurisdictions:

County \$32,399 (includes sliding scale)

Town \$23,700 (includes sliding scale)

School \$30,399 (includes sliding scale)

This exemption must be renewed each year. Renewal forms will be sent in late December to those who qualified for this exemption last year.

Enhanced STAR Exemption: Primary residence homeowners over age 65, with household income less than **\$88,050**. *This exemption renews*

automatically each year for those already enrolled in the Income Verification program. New applicants should apply for the Star Credit Program online at www.tax.ny.gov/star/ or by calling 518-457-2036.

Basic STAR Exemption: Primary residence homeowners with annual income below \$500,000. *This exemption does not have to be renewed each year.* New applicants should apply for the Star Credit Program online at www.tax.ny.gov/star/ or by calling 518-457-2036.

Veterans' Exemption: Primary residence homeowners with military service during wartime periods. *This exemption does not have to be renewed each year.*

Details and applications are available Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am to 3 pm. The filing deadline is March 1, 2020. ▣

HOSPITAL RECEIVES AWARD

The University of Vermont Health Network – Elizabethtown Community Hospital has been named a 2019 Guardian of Excellence Award® winner. This award recognizes top-performing health care organizations that have achieved the 95th percentile or above of performance, based on patient satisfaction scores.

The emergency departments at the hospital's facilities at Elizabethtown and Ticonderoga treat over 12,000 patients each year. The highly

skilled staff cares for trauma and critical care patients, stroke and heart attack victims, those with broken bones, and sick children. The emergency department staff offers high-quality care and strives to provide a high degree of patient satisfaction at both campuses, 24 hours a day.

According to the UVM Health Network - Elizabethtown Community Hospital President, John Remillard, "This award is something we can all be proud of and demonstrates that patient safety and care are our top priority." ▣

HVFD

by Meg Haskell

For the month of November, we had 19 fire calls and drills and seven EMS calls using 235 volunteer hours.



Our new fire truck has arrived! We are very thankful for all of the donations we received that helped us fund the purchase of this addition to our department.

We participated in the Parade of Lights in Ticonderoga and the Holiday in Hague parade. We want to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas! ▣

FROM THE LGA

Secchi disc readings from the Lake George Association's (LGA) 2019 Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program sampling indicate that the water of Lake George continues to be clear. This qualifies Lake George as an oligotrophic lake, which is one with: low biologically-useful nutrients like phosphorous and nitrogen, clear water, adequate dissolved oxygen, and low algae growth.



Stormwater pollution harms our lake. Three projects the LGA has completed this year to stop it were:

1. The asphalt pollution "racetracks" near Exit 22 of the Northway were replaced with low-grow grass that removes salt, sediment, nutrients, and debris so what gets to the lake is clearer.
2. The old culvert that carried Foster Brook under Goldey Road in Huletts Landing was replaced with a wider one and large rocks, which eased the "fire hose effect" that was causing erosion.
3. Five-hundred and thirty square feet of Stormcrete, a porous concrete that allows water to flow through it, was installed near Shepherd Park in the Town of Lake George as a test site. ▣

BETTY LITTLE RETIRES

On Thursday, December 5, 2019, NYS Senator Betty Little announced her retirement after 24 years of service and dedication to the North Country first as an assemblywoman and then as a senator. She has represented the 45th Senate District, which includes all of Warren, Clinton, Essex, and Franklin Counties and parts of St. Lawrence and Washington Counties.

"We worked together on major initiatives to protect clean water and the natural environment while fostering more vibrant communities," said



Betty Little, photo courtesy of PostStar

Adirondack Council Executive Director William C. Janeway. "Successes included invasive species controls and funding, clean water funding, the Community

Health and Safety Land Bank Constitutional Amendment, and the recent establishment of an Adirondack Diversity Initiative."

"The Adirondack Council thanks Senator Little for her dedication and commitment to the citizens of the Adirondack North Country and looks forward to working with her through the end of her last term in 2020 to accomplish still more for the people and for preservation of the environment," said Janeway. ▣

CABIN FEVER OPEN HOUSE

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) will hold an open house between 3 and 5 pm on January 16, 2020 at their office in Bolton. Drop in to say hello, grab some treats, and see what's planned for the LGLC in 2020. ▣

CORRECTION: In the November issue, in the article about Veterans Day Memorial, in the caption where it said "Gayleen Tyler played TAPS," the name should have been "Zyleen Tyler." ▣

LOCAL ARTIST CREATES SPECIAL PIECE

On Friday, November 15, 2019, the Hebrew Home at Riverdale in the Bronx, NY held an interfaith "Prayer for Peace" service. It was just after the one year anniversary of the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting, the deadliest attack on the Jewish community in the United States.

A piece of artwork titled "Ray of Hope" was unveiled during this special service. It was created by artist Crispin Shakeshaft, who grew up in Hague and is now a Putnam Station resident. The artwork features the sun with 11 rays of hope, one for each of the 11 Tree of Life victims. It is meant to depict sunrise and the start of a new day, remembering those who perished and hope for a future of peace.

Daniel Reingold of Hague and Scarsdale, NY, who is the president and CEO of RiverSpring Health, was in attendance at the service. ▣

TOP: (L-R): Rabbi Simon Hirschhorn, Director of Religious Affairs at the Hebrew Home at Riverdale, Daniel Reingold, President and CEO of RiverSpring Health, Mehnaz Afridi, Director of Manhattan College's Holocaust, Genocide and Interfaith (HGI) Education Center, Rabbi Steven Exler, Senior Rabbi at the Hebrew Institute, The Rev. Andrew Butler, Christ Church and Rabbi Avi Weiss in front of "Ray of Hope." BOTTOM: "Ray of Hope," by Crispin Shakeshaft



TICONDEROGA SCHOOLS DISMISS EARLY

The Ticonderoga Central School District will dismiss early on Friday, December 20, 2019, according to the following schedule:

Elementary – 1:10 pm	Middle – 1:15 pm
St. Mary's – 1:20 pm	High School – 1:25 pm ▣

FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

- Grade 1:** High Honors - Noah Mydlarz and Cerina Swinton
Honors - Maddison Smith
- Grade 2:** High Honors - Allison DeBuque; Honors - Markenna Winter
- Grade 3:** Honors - Cohen Winter
- Grade 4:** High Honors - Wyatt Barnes
- Grade 5:** High Honors - Zebulun Denno, Brady Mydlarz, Miya Savage, and Kaiden Smith
- Grade 6:** First Honors - Aidan DeBuque, Dunavinn Harrington, and Brady Kennedy
- Grade 7:** First Honors - Alyssa Mydlarz; Second Honors - Peyton Granger
- Grade 8:** First Honors - Sofie Hubbard; Second Honors - Dalton Rivard
- Grade 9:** First Honors - Quentin Gargan
- Grade 10:** First Honors - Madalynn Hubbard and Teegan McLaughlin
- Grade 12:** First Honors - McKenzie Harrington
Second Honors - Kiela Jordon and Haileigh Rivard ▣

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 11/21/2019

Chairman Robert Goetsch and Board Members Maureen Cherubini, Jon Hanna, Linda Murry, Lindsay Mydlarz, Chris Navitsky, and Ray Snyder were all present.

POWELL (45.5-1-13) 28 Overbrook Road (Hamlet)

The application for a six-foot-high solid fence was withdrawn.

BEATY (26.18-1-1.2) 9246 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)

The owners would like to extend an existing eight-foot-wide deck an additional three-foot, six-inches and install an attached pitched roof over existing docks. All of the proposed structures are over the waters of Lake George, but are attached to a legal non-conforming structure which is partially over land. The application was deemed complete and a site visit was scheduled.

PANNELL (26.6-1-21) 3 Forest Bay Road South (TRIR)

The owners would like to replace an existing non-conforming house with a new single family house that will be more than a 25% increase in square footage. Additionally, the proposed roof overhang does not meet the ten-foot sideline setback. This property is in the Town of Hague Sewer District II. The application was deemed complete with the understanding that a storm water runoff plan will need to be provided and the square foot area calculation for the new structure would need to be clarified. A site visit was scheduled. ■



PLANNING BOARD OF APPEALS - 12/5/2019

Chairman Dick Frasier, Vice-Chair Pam Peterson, and Board Members Dan Belden, Judy Gourley, and Meg Haskell were present. Martin Fitzgerald II was absent. There is one vacancy on the board.

BEATY (26.18-1-1.2) 9246 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)

The owners would like to extend an existing eight-foot-wide deck an additional three feet, six-inches and install an attached pitched roof over their existing docks. All of the proposed structures are over the waters of Lake George, but are attached to a legal non-conforming structure, which is partially over land. The board unanimously gave a positive referral to the ZBA.

PANNELL (26.6-1-21) 3 Forest Bay Road South (TRIR)

The owners would like to replace an existing non-conforming house with a new single family house that will be more than a 25% increase in square footage. Additionally, the proposed roof overhang does not meet the ten-foot sideline setback. This property is in the Town of Hague Sewer District II. The board unanimously gave negative referrals to the ZBA for the more than 25% square footage increase and the infringement of the sideline setback.

RICHARDS (12.18-1-16) 9568 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)

The applicant is requesting a two-year extension for the construction of a three-bedroom house. The septic, well, and cottage have been completed. The board unanimously granted an additional two-year extension to January 28, 2022. ■

TOWN BOARD - 12/10/2019

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

Donna Wotton reported on the following projects from Ti-Alliance:

1. **Trade Education Program** – A donor gave a sizable amount of money to establish a scholarship fund. After the first of the year, additional donors will be sought. Ti-Alliance expects to distribute six to eight scholarships of \$6,000 to \$8,000 each for the 2020-2021 school year.
2. **Contractors in the Classroom** – Ten historic figure sculptures, which are being made by a renowned sculptor from Boston will be placed in Ticonderoga. Contractors from the community will help technology students design and create structures to protect those sculptures.
3. **Co-Working Space** – Partnering with the North Country Regional Economic Development Council Ti-Alliance will find ways to build small businesses, create a younger workforce, and expand the technology workforce in the area. Ti-Alliance will offer rental co-working spaces and housing rentals to entice young technology professionals to the area.
4. **Renovations** – Hacker Building, Burleigh House, and Agway Building
5. **Additional projects** – a theater, retail stores, a boutique hotel, and new apartments

For more information and updates, sign up for the Ti-Alliance newsletter on their website.

Stephen Engle suggested creating a community Lost and Found for items that wash up on the lake's shoreline. Wotton said there is a free nationwide social network called "Nextdoor" where communities can post lost and found items.

David Landers, former Transfer Station employee, stated that the management of the transfer station has gotten worse and it is costing the town money. Fitzgerald suggested creating a committee for the transfer station. Frasier stated she wants to approach changes for the transfer station in January 2020.

(Continued on page 5)

TOWN BOARD

(Continued from page 4)

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Buildings/Grounds: Fitzgerald/Patchett – Patchett reported he took measurements of the “Welcome to Hague” sign that needs repair.

Highway: Ramant/Bast – Frasier reported the highway department has been busy. It was found that the sidewalk along the Hague Brook does not belong to the Department of Transportation. So, it is the town's responsibility to repair the damages caused by the heavy rain on October 31, 2019.

Museum/Historian: Patchett/Ramant – Patchett reported the Historical Society did not hold their December meeting because many people are out of town.

Personnel: Bast/Fitzgerald – Bast inquired about the status of the search for candidates for the new positions of administration clerk, zoning clerk, and full-time maintenance man. Frasier said she has been working with Diane Trudeau to draft the job descriptions. Interviews will begin after the jobs have been advertised and applications have been received.

Planning/Zoning: Fitzgerald/Patchett – Fitzgerald stated the board would discuss zoning and planning board amendments in the New Business section of the meeting.

Sewer District #1 and #2: Bast/Frasier – Bast and ZEO Clark are waiting to hear from Town Attorney John Silvestri regarding a meeting time to discuss compliance.



NEW BUSINESS:

The board discussed reducing the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) and the Planning Board from seven-member boards to five-member boards, with one alternate member for each. Frasier stated that ZEO Clark had told her that the majority of other municipalities have five-member boards. It will not be necessary to do a State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR); the change could be made in the form of an amendment. Frasier stated that if a board member volunteered to resign, that would be fine, otherwise the town would wait until a board member's term expired.

Fitzgerald stated he would like to hear from the chairmen of the two boards for their recommendations.

A May Memorial Cemetery Committee was formed with the following members: Melissa Patchett, Diane Trudeau, Bernard Denno, Valerie Lawrence, Bill Gourley, and Sally DeLarm-Rypkema.

The town board will hold their next meeting on Monday, December 30, 2019 at 4 pm to close out the books for the year and discuss any other business that may come before the board. It will hold its organizational meeting on Friday, January 3, 2020 at 6 pm.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT AND COUNTY REPORTS:

1. Frasier proclaimed the Hague Sno-Goers did a wonderful job with 2019 Holiday in Hague.
2. The trees have been decorated for the season at the community center and the town park and the seasonal banners have been changed.

Written by Bobbi Bryant Taylor from draft minutes by Town Clerk Melissa Patchett ■

HAGUE ARTISTS AT ADK CHRISTKINDLMARKT

Hague artists Al Rider and Susan Cacici each had very successful booths at the Second Annual Adirondack Christkindlmarkt at Wood Park in Lake George Village the weekend of December 6 - 8, 2019. It was sponsored by the Adirondack Folk School and it was an honor to be selected to exhibit.

Al reports, “It was quite a fun event with great food, beer, of course, and entertainment.”

Rider and Cacici both plan to be there again next year, as they believe it is a very good show for the area. Rider said, “Bringing anything to Lake George in the bleak months of winter is a good thing and the emphasis on local artisans is another good thing!” ■



RESIDENT REQUESTS HELP



Sometime between December 6 and December 12, 2019, someone dumped 40 yards of wood chips in David Hoffman's driveway at 90 Forest Bay Road in Hague. He is asking for help in finding the company that made this mistake and having it removed from his property. Please contact davidmhoffman1952@gmail.com, 518-469-1871. ■

GOINGS ON AT SILVER BAY YMCA

Silver Bay YMCA's Free Community Winter Program runs from December 1, 2019 through March 1, 2020 for residents in Essex County and in the towns of Bolton, Brant Lake, Hague, and Putnam.

"We are opening up these programmatic opportunities to anyone in the community in an effort to provide more activity options to the local communities and to help keep everyone active during the long winter months. I hope that we get a great turnout to each of these offerings. All are welcome to join in on these activities!" says Zac Smalley, program director at Silver Bay Conference and Family Retreat Center.

Community members may utilize the fitness center in Fisher Gymnasium from 8:30 - 10 am on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for free. "All Levels Yoga" is on Saturdays from 9 - 10 am with a \$5 fee for non-registered guests. Members of the community may also use Silver Bay's other facilities, including the special programs, library, dining facilities, conference spaces, and overnight accommodations.

Kickball Nights will be Tuesdays from 6 - 7 pm at the Teen Center at 123 Champlain Avenue in Ticonderoga. Cost is \$2 per person and Olive's Ti Pi pizza will be provided. Proceeds will support the Lock-in Party on New Year's Eve. Adult Pick-up Basketball will be at the Teen Center on Wednesdays at 7 pm. The fee is \$5 for non-registered guests.

Dinner and a Movie will be on the second Thursday of each month at Silver Bay in Hague. A \$10 per person donation is suggested.

The Spiritual Life Department programs, classes, monthly prayer breakfast, and worship services are also open to the community.

To learn more, contact 518-543-8833 or go to www.silverbay.org. ▣

DAVE WICK REPORTS ON EURASIAN MILFOIL

Executive Director of the Lake George Park Commission Dave Wick gave a presentation entitled "Invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil in Lake George — Current Status and Future" at the park commission's meeting on November 26, 2019.

Wick told the group that "milfoil," as it is commonly called, first discovered here in 1985, was Lake George's first invader. Its management began in 1986, so there have been 33 years of management and over six million dollars spent to date.

Wick explained that this issue is important because milfoil is a very aggressive, fast growing aquatic plant that can completely cover large areas of a waterbody. Lake George has many bays and shoreline areas that are prone to excessive milfoil growth if not managed.

Currently, milfoil is present throughout the lake at more than 200 known sites, some with just a bit of it and some with dense beds. The sites to be worked are prioritized according to the following: all known dense beds, then newly-identified dense beds, then moderately dense beds, and lastly, scattered populations (which are rarely managed).

Staff from the LGPC and the Lake George Association (LGA) conduct "milfoil swims" every two weeks to confirm the extent of milfoil in managed areas and sites not harvested in recent years.

The species has been found in the following locations in our northern basin: Rogers Rock, Glenburnie (Blairs Bay), the Hague delta, Arcady Bay, and Gull Bay. These northern sites are generally smaller and more spread out than those in the mid and lower lake sites. However, Glenburnie is an existing large dense bed and, although harvesting has taken place at that location in the past, there has been a perennial problem of re-growth. The milfoil at the other four locations in the northern basin has been reduced through harvesting efforts, but is now making a slow comeback.

The main method now being used to control milfoil is called "DASH" or "Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting." Divers hand-pull the plants and then put them into a suction hose that takes them to a surface boat for disposal. The total amount of milfoil that was removed with this method in 2019 was 82,960 pounds or over 41 tons!

The LGPC was not able to work on our northern sites in 2019, primarily due to the logistics of getting the very slow harvester boats that far up north. The plan now is to have one suction harvester and a crew based out of Hague or Ticonderoga, dedicated to clearing the northern sites at least twice in 2020, beginning in early June.

The LGPC's goal is that within three years, there will be no dense beds of milfoil in Lake George. It is expected that will require about \$500,000 in each of those three years. As efforts must continue to keep sites in check, it is estimated that it will take \$200,000 per year for long-term maintenance. ▣



WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by Mike Strutz

Wow! I can't believe it! Another power outage and here I am with no water. No electricity to run my well pump, so I guess I'm out of luck. No bottled water, no juice, no milk, not even a beer! Nice preparation, Mike. Got to at least have a cup of coffee! Guess I'll just go over to one of the neighbors and get a gallon to get me by for a little while.

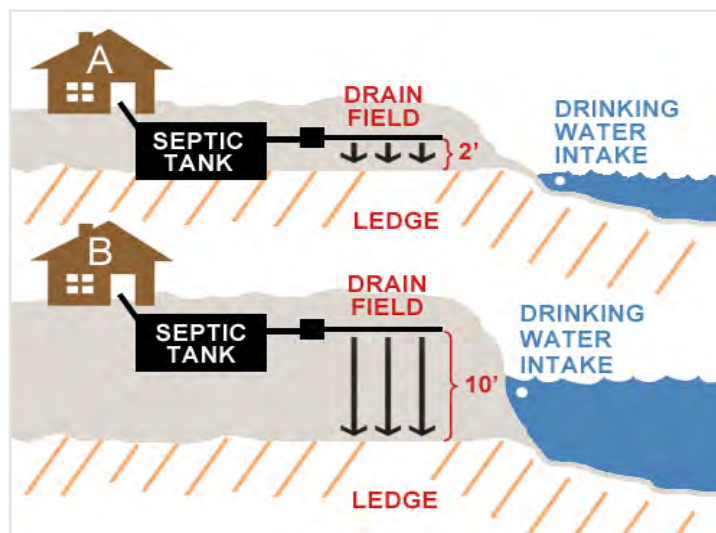
“
Dedicated to
Protecting
the Water
Quality of
Lake George
”

Let me think about this for a bit. Both of my neighbors draw their water from the lake, with their intake pretty close to shore. Both have brand new septic tanks, so they should be operating well. Both have automatic standby generators, so they have all the power they need for their water pumps. (Wish I was that smart!) But, I think their drain fields are quite different. Can't see the fields since they're underground, but I know Neighbor A has green algae growing

on the rocks where his property meets the lake and his soil is very shallow. Neighbor B has much deeper soil and nothing growing in the water where his property meets the lake. Hmmm, which one to choose?

(Maybe the one that drinks beer?)

Seriously, Neighbor B would be the best choice. Even though they both have new septic tanks, the effluent is not pure water. For good treatment, the system depends on organisms in the soil to consume the dissolved organic matter in the waste and to filter out pathogens. Neighbor A has only two feet of soil below the drain pipes, whereas Neighbor B has ten feet of soil.



There are other factors to consider like soil type and slope of the property, but more on that in future articles.

Merry Christmas, everyone!

For more information on how you can help, please visit the Hague Water Quality Awareness Committee on Facebook or contact one of our Steering Committee members: Al Rider (Chairman), Jim Beaty, Lance Clark, Ginger Kuenzel, Josh Patchett, Steve Ramant, or me. ▣

NATURALLY SPEAKING

by Connie Smith

Water and gravity are a dynamic duo. Just ask anyone in Hague who was inconvenienced by the recent rainstorm. Water is an incredible natural resource and we can't live without it. We need water for our own daily uses, but it is also needed for agriculture, manufacturing, and energy production, to name a few uses.

As a liquid, it is Lake George. As a gas, it is drifting in our atmosphere. As a solid, it is frozen in glaciers and on snow-covered mountains.

Sometimes an overabundance of water produces problems. Inches of water fall in a short amount of time and the trouble begins. Because of gravity, water seeks its lowest level. Down it flows between its banks until

the pull of the water causes destruction because friction between the water and rocks, plants, and so forth is not strong enough to significantly modify the inexorable pull of gravity.

Over the past 50 years, flooding has accounted for over ninety-seven billion dollars in damages and nearly 4,000 deaths in the United States. We have all heard the Public Service Announcement, "Turn around, don't drown." Never drive into water covering a flooded road. The road may have collapsed underneath the water. A mere six inches of fast-moving water



Photo credit: CBS 11 News

can knock over an adult. It takes just 12 inches of rushing water to carry away most cars.

On a hot summer day, we can all enjoy the sparkling water of Lake George. We all need the thirst-quenching ability of water. But, when Mother Nature releases a torrential downpour, let's be sure to give the power of water the respect it deserves. ▣

TICONDEROGA GOLF CLUB

A new Ticonderoga Golf Club has begun rising from the ashes. The fire that destroyed the old golf club occurred on May 26, 2018. It took almost a year for the board of directors to settle with the insurance company. Once they found out how much capital they had to work with, they put it out to bid.

Rob Berrick, President of the Board of Directors of Ticonderoga Golf Club said, "We fell victim to a good economy. Prices on materials and labor increased by 20% over what they had been when we started this process."

The board of directors' goal was to have the building up and the restaurant operational for the July 4th weekend, 2020. Some of the contractors who had the option to bid on it said they couldn't do it that quickly. Bonacio Construction of Saratoga won the bid. The first shovel was in the ground in September. The construction company hopes to have it ready for a grand opening the first week in June, if the winter weather cooperates.

The architect is Mike Phinney from Phinney Design Group in Saratoga. He also lives in Arcady Bay Estates in Hague.

The plans call for a restaurant with several porches overlooking the beautiful Lord Howe Valley. There will also be tables and a bar inside. There is a room that can be used for events for 20-25 people.

The Pro Shop will be on the lower level. Room has been set aside for a future snack bar on the lower level for use by players making the turn.

George Mackey remains the pro.

The course will be open during the construction of the building. There is a new parking area where the old tennis courts were. A festival lawn large enough to accommodate a 40' x 40' tent for special events has been created where the lower parking lot was. That will allow the restaurant and bar to remain open to the public when special events are being held.

According to Berrick, the board is looking into ways to increase the club's income stream such as by catering and by hosting special events. The club hopes to employ a general manager who is also an event planner so they can host occasions such as weddings. They are currently seeking a chef and there will be other opportunities for employment as well.

Berrick declared that the golf course itself will be 100% free of construction by beginning of the 2020 season. He added, "After that, all we'll have to do is grow grass!" ▣



Architectural rendering of the building



View to the southwest by Sandy Powell



View to the northwest by Rob Berrick

FRIENDS POINT ROADS TO CLOSE

The Friends Point Roads will be closed for the 24-hour period from 12:01 am Wednesday, January 1, 2020 to 12:01 am Thursday, January 2nd. ▣

LOOKING BACK

by Ginger Henry Kuenzel

Hague is still a community where men own their own land, build their own houses, and raise their own families. Each person knows his neighbor and each child his schoolmates. If anyone is dishonest, word gets around quietly. There is no jail in Hague.



These words about our town still hold true today – at least for the most part, though it's rare to find men who build their own houses. The comment is from Mamie Beste in an interview with *The Hague Chronicle* in 1974.

Mary C. Beste, or Miss Beste, as everyone knew her, lived in Hague for nearly 70 years, passing away at home in 1974 at the age of 91. She grew up in New York City, but also traveled extensively in Europe, even studying music in Bremen, Germany.

She came to Hague early in the 20th century with Enid Alden, her friend and travel companion, to visit Enid's mother and stepfather, the Weirs. This couple was friends with the Watrous family and had purchased a large tract of land stretching north from today's Chipwick. Miss Alden later inherited the property and she and Miss Beste lived in a house that still stands today, slightly north of Springdale Manor on the west side of Route 9N.

It's not clear exactly when Miss Beste moved to Hague year-round, but she and Miss Alden farmed a good portion of the land, which included keeping a herd of Jersey cows. But she was far more than just another farm girl. She was a splendid athlete, a pioneer conservationist, and an ardent fisherman, with knowledge of some of the lake's best fishing holes. Her contributions to the people of Hague are too numerous to mention, but she had a special spot in her heart for the town's children.

She started the Mary C. Beste Scholarship in the 1960s. The criteria she set were simple: the student must go to Ticonderoga High School for their junior and senior years and

must live in Warren County. The student could re-apply each year for the \$350 annual scholarship, which Miss Beste viewed as a token of Hague's support for its students who continue their education. It went defunct in 1988 but was revived by the Hague Winter Carnival Committee. Today, the scholarship is managed by the Beste Scholarship Steering Committee, which presents the awards during the Hague Winter Weekend breakfast at the Hague Volunteer Fire Department. The scholarship is funded by contributions made throughout the year by individuals, businesses and organizations, including the Northern Lake George Rotary Club, which holds a silent auction during Winter Weekend.



As a young girl, I frequently walked over to visit Miss Beste after school, timing my visits to join her in watching the soap opera *The Edge of Night*, which she never missed, regardless of who was visiting. Sally Delarm Rypkema has similar memories. We now both wish we had been less interested in the cookies and candy she always had for us and more diligent in asking her to tell us stories about her life.

However, an account by Virginia Shattuck in *The Hague Chronicle* from April 1975 gives an excellent overview of just who Mamie Beste was.

It is paraphrased here, in part:

Miss Beste was a woman ahead of her time, owning one of the first "Jolly Oldsmobiles," which she also learned to disassemble. She was opposed to pesticides before Rachel Carson learned to write. She and Enid Allen operated a pancake restaurant in the 1930s, and in her 60s, she decided to become a real estate broker. She could talk animatedly with children who came to get milk from her cows, discuss local happenings with farmers, and carry on a conversation about opening night at the Philharmonic or international finance with friends from the city, all with equal zest. Miss Beste always listened to and learned from everyone she met. She had a diverse collection of books, covering subjects ranging from nature, science, and travel to local history and literature.

She loved to entertain – serving coffee and doughnuts in the morning, sipping sherry in the afternoon, or hosting a dinner party in the evening, served on her fine china. She made lovely flower arrangements from her own gardens, displaying them in her elegant vases. She also sketched and painted, using oils, watercolors, and crayons, and created detailed woodcarvings. She loved music and was even thinking about doing some composing herself the year she died. When she lost her vision at age 90, she learned to operate a tape recorder by touch.

Virginia Shattuck ended her description of Miss Beste with the following words: "She would cheerfully herd cows if necessary but she was also a woman of great dignity, with sensitivity and a relish for life." ▣

Anyone wishing to contribute to the Beste Scholarship Fund may send a check to the fund at: Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836. Contributions are tax-deductible.

STATE GRANT TO RESTORE PAVILION AT FORT

The former summer estate home of the Pell family at Fort Ticonderoga is undergoing major restorations, thanks to a \$100,000 from the 2019 Adirondack Park Community Smart Growth Grant Program through appropriations from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF).

The house is located adjacent to The King's Garden. It was built in 1826 by William Ferris Pell and later used as a hotel. It welcomed historic figures such as Robert Todd Lincoln, the son of President Lincoln, and William Howard Taft and Alice Paul. Fort Ticonderoga Museum founders Sarah and Stephen Pell, considered some of the earliest

preservationists in America, restored what became known as the Pavilion and Fort Ticonderoga in 1909. The Pavilion is one of the most important architectural structures in the Adirondacks because of its design and history. It has been designated as a National Historic Landmark.

Fort Ticonderoga President and CEO Beth Hill said, "This grant brings us one step closer to completing restoration and adaptive reuse of the Pavilion, making it accessible for all to enjoy as we launch the next chapter in the house's story with expanded visitor amenities, meeting and event space including weddings, a state-of-the-art catering kitchen, café, exhibitions, and more."

Restoration work on the Pavilion is ongoing and expected to be complete in 2020. ■



TOP: The front of the Pavilion. BOTTOM: The Pavilion being restored. Photos copyright and credit Fort Ticonderoga

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT

At Fort Ticonderoga's wintertime Fort Fever Series, the museum staff shares their latest research and cutting-edge discoveries. All programs are held on Sundays at 2 pm in the Mars Education Center. Admission is \$10/person or is free to Fort Ticonderoga Members and Ambassador Pass holders.



The first Fort Fever event of the year will be on January 12, 2020: "Documenting, Preserving, and Making Accessible Ticonderoga's Collections." Director of Collections Miranda Peters will highlight the museum staff's work to document, preserve, and make accessible Ticonderoga's world-class museum collections.



On January 18, 2020, the first Living History Event of the new year will be held: "Preparing for the Coming Campaign." It will be a full day of programs, including guided tours, weapons demonstrations, a tasting of colonial chocolate, and a program on the importance that chocolate played in the lives of American soldiers and camp followers at Ticonderoga. ■

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CLINICAL LEADERSHIP CHANGE AT HUDSON HEADWATERS

Dr. John Sawyer, who has served as chief medical officer at Hudson Headwaters Health Network (HHHN) for over 17 years, will transition the responsibilities of the position to Dr. William Borgos by the spring of 2020.

According to CEO Tucker Slingerland, "Since joining the network in 1998, Dr. Sawyer has contributed to the network in countless ways. He has played a central role in its success by establishing a solid foundation of clinical excellence that can be built upon."



Dr. William Borgos will assume the role of chief medical officer beginning May 1, 2020. Slingerland indicated that Dr. Borgos has provided both

direction and management to the organization over the past 20 years. Slingerland added, "The continuity provided by transitioning from Dr. Sawyer to Dr. Borgos - one strong leader to another is incredibly valuable to the organization."

To support the change from one chief medical officer to another and to support the growth of HHHN, Drs. Thomas Portuese and Suzanne Bergin will become the network's first associate chief medical officers.

Kevin Dougrey has been appointed chief of medical staff operations. In this new role, Dougrey will be responsible for assisting the chief medical officer and associate medical officers with their responsibilities.

The Charles R. Wood Foundation has awarded a one-million-dollar Special Healthcare Initiative Grant in support of HHHN's Mobile Health Pilot Project. This will be our region's first primary care mobile health delivery system; it should be operational by early 2021. The mobile resources will be able to

meet the needs of the region's most vulnerable communities. By the end of the three-year pilot phase, HHHN anticipates that there will be up to four mobile units serving the greater Adirondack and Glens Falls regions.

To learn more, contact Hudson Headwaters at 518-585-6708 or visit www.hhnn.org. ▣

Ti'COUSTICS

The next Ti'Coustics show, featuring local musicians, will take place Wednesday night, December 18, 2019 from 7 - 9 pm. The show will feature Christmas songs, including by Lance Clark, Jessica Paradis, and Mike Donahue, Andy Gorton, and Roberta Whiteley. It will be held at the American Legion at 104 Montcalm Street in Ticonderoga.

There will not be a show on January 1st, but there will be one on January 15th, with a cast and venue to be announced. ▣

NORTH COUNTRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This fall, North Country Community College (NCCC) partnered with the Chambers of Commerce in Saranac Lake, Malone, and Ticonderoga to host events to introduce its new president, Joe Keegan, and to reconnect the college to the business community in each of the campus locations. The "New Beginnings" receptions, which drew a total of more than 250 people, were also an opportunity to show off the college's new logo and branding.

"Many thanks to all who joined us in these celebrations of the college," said President Keegan. "The support for and good will toward the college and our efforts was on full display at each event. The chambers in Saranac Lake, Malone, and Ticonderoga have been excellent partners with and champions for the college and I'm grateful to them for creating this opportunity to meet and engage with so many people."



Joe Keegan speaks to guests at a New Beginnings reception at NCCC

After two years of work, the college unveiled its new logo and branding. The goal was to refresh the image of the college and create a launchpad for new marketing and communications. The result is a new brand platform that provides direction for how the college should position itself in the market and communicate with and attract

potential students. Some of the most visible elements of the new brand are the new logo and the new tagline: "Reach Higher, Own Your Future."

To learn more contact North Country Community College at 518-891-2915 or visit www.nccc.edu. ▣



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

December 2019

DECEMBER

- | | | |
|-----------|----------|---|
| 18 | | Latest that the December issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> will be sent |
| 18 | 7 - 9 pm | Ti'Coustics at the American Legion in Ti |
| 19 | | Zoning Board of Appeals |
| 20 | | Schools Dismiss early |
| 25 | | Merry Christmas! |
| 30 | 4 pm | Town Board end-of-the-year meeting |

TRANSFER STATION HOURS:

September 2 through June 30

Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

JANUARY

- | | | |
|-----------|----------|--|
| 1 | | Happy New Year! |
| 1 | | Friends Point Roads closed |
| 2 | 7 pm | Planning Board |
| 3 | 6 pm | Town Board organizational meeting |
| 9 | | Seniors International Dinner |
| 9 | 7 pm | Planning Board |
| 12 | 2 pm | Fort Fever Program |
| 13 | | Deadline for the January issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> |
| 14 | 6 pm | Town Board |
| 16 | 3 - 5 pm | LGLC open house |
| 18 | | Living History event at Fort Ti |
| 22 | | Latest that the January issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> will be sent |
| 23 | 7 pm | Zoning Board of Appeals |