



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

Published Monthly Since 1972
Volume 50 Number 11

www.thehaguechronicle.org
OUR 50TH YEAR

Hague, New York 12836
November 2021

NEW SIGNAGE AT TRANSFER STATION

by Judy Stock

The Hague Transfer Station is sporting new signage to guide users on where to deposit goods according to a new plan recently established by the Hague Town Board. So that you can successfully negotiate our newly-organized transfer station, we have posted the signs on *The Hague Chronicle* Facebook page and we are publishing some of the photos here.

As you drive up the entrance road (off Summit Drive), you are greeted with alerts to the new procedures. The first big change is that the former entrance and exit are reversed. (There is still some debate about whether this is the best plan, so after you have tested it out, you might want to make your opinion known to town board members).

You are immediately greeted with a STOP sign and told to check with one of the attendants who will be there on duty. Attendants Dan Steitz, Leo Lucas, and Eric Kramer are all currently working to set up a smooth operation. You can make any necessary payments and get your questions answered there. You can drop off any NY State five-cent returnable cans or bottles in the shed

containing Bin #8. Proceeds go to the Hague Food Pantry. Across from that, the Garbage Compactor is marked where the garbage has always been placed.

Then, you'll go around to the backyard, where there are several other marked bins in which to leave items. This is what goes in each:

Bin #1: Household Items such as chairs, tables, beds, mattresses, desks, rugs, vacuums, etc.

Bin #2: Construction and demolition items such as siding, shingles, windows, doors, PVC pipes, sheetrock, countertops, cabinets, scrap wood, etc.

Bin #3: Metal only such as cans like soup, coffee, tuna, and dog/cat food, pie plates, washers, dryers, metal frames, refrigerators, grills, etc.

Bin #4: (At the back) Paper such as newspapers, magazines, and old mail

Bin #5: (At the front) Recyclable, clean non-deposit plastics numbers 1, 3, and 5 food containers, detergent bottles, plastic jars, juice bottles, etc.

Bin #6: Recyclable non-corrugated cardboard such as beer boxes, clean pizza boxes, food and cereal boxes, etc. AND glass such as liquor bottles, wine bottles, glass jars, etc.



Bin #7: Corrugated cardboard only, which must be broken down and flattened.

The signs are movable so conceivably the positions could be changed at a future date.

The fee schedule and additional information is available on the Town of Hague website at <https://townofhague.org/departments/transfer-station/>. ▣

HAGUE LEADS IN REDUCING ROAD SALT

The sixth Annual Adirondack Champlain Regional Salt Summit, presented by the Lake George Association and the Lake Champlain Sea Grant was held on Thursday, October 14, 2021 at the

Fort William Henry Conference Center in Lake George.

Tim Fiallo of our Hague Highway Department spoke with pride and passion about Hague's success in reducing road salt use from 1,600 tons per year during the winter of 2016 -17 to 550 tons last year by

pre-treating roads with brine to minimize ice build-up and by using live-edge plows for a "closer shave." Now, he said, "We're ready to take it to the next level."

Hague continues to be a leader in reducing road salt in order to protect Lake George.

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SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze



At our meeting on October 26, 2021, the Nominating Committee opened the floor for additional nominations, but there weren't any. So, we moved on to the fun part, our Luau Halloween Party. Every club member got a lei when they entered. There were delicious Hawaiian dishes and there was so much food that we sent people home with dinners for a night or two. We also had many gifts to share, including pineapple glasses, towels, a sailboat, and more.

On November 16th, we'll meet at 1:30 pm and play Bingo, so bring a small gift to share and plan to have some fun.

On November 18th, we'll be doing a club favorite - a trip to the Christmas Tree Shop and lunch.

Our Christmas dinner this year will be a sit-down dinner on December 7th at Frederick's in Bolton Landing. The cost for club members will be \$15. You must call me or any board member to select flank steak, chicken marsala, or pork by the November 16th meeting.

It will be great to have a Christmas Celebration as we had to miss last year. There will be drawings and many prizes to be given away, so this is one you don't want to miss! ▣

WHO IS "THE FRIEND OF THE HERMIT?"

For the past twenty issues of *The Hague Chronicle*, we have published limericks titled "The Hermit of Hague," written by "A Friend of the Hermit." Now that we have published all of them, we are wondering if our readers can guess who the talented author of these limericks is.

If you think you know, send your guess to editor@thehaguechronicle.org. We'll publish the names of all who guess correctly in the December issue. ▣

CHRISTMAS IN HAGUE

Sadly, Christmas will be a little different this year in Hague. The usual tree decorating, parade, and party will not be held. But, there will be a free event at the Hague Volunteer Fire Department on Saturday, December 4, 2021.



Pancakes and sausage will be served beginning at 9:30 am and Santa will arrive at 10 am to see all the boys and girls.

Come and enjoy some Christmas cheer. ▣

HVFD

by Meg Haskell



For the month of October, we had 16 fire calls and drills and nine EMS calls using 178.5 volunteer hours.

Our fire/rescue boat is out of the water for the winter.

As winter approaches, remember to have your chimneys cleaned and your furnaces ready for the cold weather ahead, as well as changing the batteries in your smoke detectors.

We want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving! ▣

HAGUE ROAD SALT, CONTINUED

The Town of Lake George contingent spoke with equal enthusiasm about their achievements and commitment to continuous improvement for the betterment of the lake and taxpayers' wallets, citing Rob Vopleus' mantra of, "Our sweat is your equity."

The typed word just doesn't do justice to the excitement and energy these men bring to their work. Watch the Hague/Lake George presentation here. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_VM_Rrj8nMM

For background information, see the article HAGUE LEADS THE WAY IN REDUCING SALT ON OUR ROADS by Ginger Henry Kuenzel on page two of the January 2021 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*. ▣

HAGUE SNO-GOERS

by Tom Haskell and Walter Peterson

Our monthly meeting will be November 21, 2021 at 9:30 am at our new groomer and equipment storage shelter, which is located at The Hague Fish & Gun Club, 488 West Hague Road. We will be holding our second open house from 9:30 - 11:30 am.

This will be a good chance for folks to learn what snowmobiling and The Hague Sno-Goers are all about and to meet others who are also interested in the sport. Folks will learn about our equipment and the services we provide for safe and enjoyable snowmobiling. We will be doing a groomer demonstration.

We are working on trails, plus gearing up for x-country skiing at Rogers Rock. We now have a refurbished track setter for skiing enjoyment.

If you enjoy winter sports, please stop by our meeting. We hope to see you all there. ▣

HELP WANTED IN TOWN OF HAGUE

The Town of Hague is taking applications for a Full-time Machinery Equipment Operator (MEO) and a Laborer position in the Highway Department.

Applications may be obtained at the town offices at 9793 Graphite Mountain Road in Hague or by going to <https://townofhague.org/jobs>. For more information, call 518-543-6161. ▣

LGPC MOVING FORWARD WITH SEPTIC INSPECTION PROGRAM

by Ginger Henry Kuenzel

The Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) has agreed to move forward with a septic inspection and maintenance program for properties in the Lake George Basin. The decision was based on recommendations from an ad hoc septic committee appointed earlier this year to study the need for such a program on Lake George.

The details of the program will be worked out in the coming months – including questions of which properties should be included in the program and whether inspectors should be LGPC staff or external contractors. But the need for the program is not in question.

There are about 6,000 septic systems in the Lake George Basin. More than 3,400 of them are located within 500 feet of the lake or 100 feet of a tributary. And up to 2/3 of them may be failing due to their age. After all, the average age of homes in the Lake George basin is 50 years and the average lifespan of a septic system is about 30-40 years. Many property owners might be unaware of the age or condition of their septic system or the need to maintain it properly. Evaluation of 400 septic systems in the Town of Lake George, for instance, revealed that more than half were not maintained or regularly pumped out, something that should be done every three to five years.

Earlier this year, NY State awarded Warren County \$340,000 to be used

as grants to replace failing septic systems. Property owners could apply for funds to cover up to 50% of the cost of their project or a maximum of \$10,000. The \$340,000 was quickly depleted. The hope is that the state will continue this program in the future with new funding.

What can you, as a property owner, do to be proactive? The Lake George Association's Safe Septic Systems Guide is a great place to start. It explains how a system functions, how to identify potential problems and where financing might be available for repairs or replacement. Additional recommended reading: Adirondack Explorer article about LGPC septic inspections (11/7/2021) and LGPC septic site.

FREE WEBINAR ON SEPTIC SYSTEMS AND LAKE GEORGE

On Monday, November 15, 2021 from 6 – 7: 30 pm, Lake George Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky and Lake George Association (LGA) Senior Program Executive Walt Lender will give a presentation on the risks posed to Lake George by aging and failing septic systems — and what residents can do to ensure their systems are reducing these risks by functioning properly. LGA experts will also answer septic system-related questions from the Zoom participants.

This program will be based on the LGA's educational website, SafeSepticSystems.org and will provide participants, whether they live directly on the lake or anywhere in the watershed, with the information they need to protect their property, their communities, and the lake we all love.

The science and data on septic system risks, excess nutrient loading, and the threat of more Harmful Algal Blooms will be presented.

Participants will be reminded of the proper way to maintain their systems and keep them working safely. The signs of a failing system and what to do when it happens will be explained.

The latest in septic system technologies and the financial assistance that's available for repairs or replacement will be described.

The latest information will be presented on what's happening with onsite wastewater management at the Lake George Park Commission, Warren County, and local municipalities.

This is the first installment in "The Lake Protector Series," featuring LGA programs designed to educate, inspire, and empower people toward personalizing their vital lake protection role on their own properties and whenever enjoying the lake. To ensure lasting protection of our legendary water quality, everyone needs to realize and act on their responsibilities.

Register now by clicking [HERE](#).



TOP: Lake George Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky; BOTTOM: LGA Senior Program Executive Walt Lender

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 10/28/2021

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

KARP (60.5-1-17) 43 Pine Cove Road (TRI)

In 2017, the applicants received variance approval of a bedroom and 120 sq. ft. deck addition. They have abandoned that project and now would like to construct a 10' x 16' screened porch addition. The previously-approved deck was planned to be 36 feet from the Mean High-Water Mark (MHWM). The new requested deck would be 41 feet from the MHWM. A public hearing was held and no one spoke for or against. The application was unanimously approved with no conditions.

BAZALYUK (59.8-1-1) 138 Split Rock Road (TR-2)

The applicants would like to build a six-foot-high perimeter fence to be located on both sides and the back boundaries of their property to be located on the lot lines. The applicants wish the fence to terminate at the intersection of the front and side yard lot lines intersection. There would be no fence built on the front yard/road side of the property lot line. The proposed fence would go from six feet to three feet in height at the 20' setback point from the front yard/road side per code requirements of the front yard road side setback. The application was deemed complete. A site visit was scheduled and a public hearing will be held at the next zoning board meeting in November.

BEATY (26.18-1-1.2) 9250 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)

On December 19, 2019 the Zoning Board of Appeals approved renovations to an existing boathouse and deck. They also, with coordination of the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC), approved a roof over an existing dock, which was to be connected to the deck. The owners have completed the renovation to the boathouse and the deck, but have not yet completed the cover over the dock. The ZBA approval will expire on December 19, 2021. They requested a two-year extension. The board unanimously granted the extension to December 19, 2023. ▣

TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - 11/3/2021

Present were Supervisor Edna Frasier, Councilpersons Jack Bast, Joshua Patchett, and Steve Ramant.

Councilperson Martin Fitzgerald was absent.

Members reviewed the Preliminary Budget for 2022, specifically noting the proposed figures as they compare to 2021.

Audience member Sylvie Griert asked board members to speak about their vision for the future.

They briefly reviewed their goals for 2021. A more detailed discussion will be held at the January meeting. Ms. Griert and board members also discussed the challenges of bringing new businesses to town.

The public hearing was closed at 6:30 pm.

Carmella Josephine Ezzo was unanimously approved as the new Zoning Office Clerk.

A resolution for the Supervisor to sign a contract with Warren County to receive \$1325 from the Warren County Youth Bureau for 2022 was unanimously approved. ▣

PLANNING BOARD - 11/04/2021

Chairman Dick Frasier, Board Members Judy Gourley, Meg Haskell, Pam Peterson, and Alternate Cathy Clark as backup ZEO were present. Martin Fitzgerald, Sr. was absent. The meeting was left open until the November 10, 2021 Bazalyuk site visit.

TONER (26.6-1-17) 4 Forest Bay Road North (TR-1 R)

The applicants would like to demolish a legal non-conforming single-story structure and, in its place, build a new two-story structure on the same footprint. The existing structure is within 100 feet of the MHWM, requiring planning board approval. Approximately 444 sq. ft. of proposed new deck is within the 50-foot shoreline setback, requiring a referral to the Zoning Board of Appeals. A site visit has been completed. The applicant has requested that the approval process be put on hold until March 2022.

BAZALYUK (59.8-1-1) 138 Split Rock Road (TR-2)

The applicants would like to build a six-foot-high perimeter fence to be located on both sides and the back boundaries of their property on the lot lines. They wish the fence to terminate at the intersection of the front and side yard lot lines. There would be no fence built on the front yard/road side of the property lot line. The proposed fence would go from six feet to three feet in height at the 20' setback point from the front yard/road side per code requirements of the front yard road side setback. The application was deemed complete. A site visit was scheduled.

SULLIVAN (76.20-1-11) 8118 Lake Shore Drive (TR-1 R)

The applicants would like to demolish an existing house and, in its place, build a new conforming 3,700 sq. ft. two-story home. A garage with apartment totaling 605 sq. ft. located on the same parcel was demolished earlier this year. There are portions of the proposed house that are within the 100-foot lake setback. The overall project involves two lots with a shared driveway. The driveway would be relocated,

(Continued on p. 5)

PLANNING BOARD, CONTINUED

the septic system would be upgraded, and a stormwater runoff plan developed. The application was unanimously approved with the condition that the storm water permit must first be approved by the Lake George Park Commission. ▣

TOWN BOARD - 11/09/2021

The Zoom recording of this meeting, will be available soon by going to townofhague.org, clicking on "Boards," then "Town Board," and then "Visit the Town of Hague's YouTube Channel to watch Archived Zoom Meetings," or by clicking [HERE](#).

SWEDE MOUNTAIN

TRAIL STEPS *by Steve Mackey*

Swede Mountain is a recently-opened hiking trail near Hague that has a restored fire tower on it. The land around Swede is presently owned by Lyme Timber Company. Warren County was able to put together an easement and build a new hiking trail going to the tower. The trail opened this fall to great enthusiasm and has gotten a lot of use in a short period of time. Unfortunately, the beginning of the trail is very steep and there are other places on the trail that need work.

State Senator Dan Stec and I are good friends through hiking. He approached me last summer, saying they could really use some steps on Swede Mountain to make it safer and to keep the trail from eroding. So, I volunteered to do the trail work.

Rock steps are preferable because they last forever, but you don't always have enough available and preferably, you want them uphill from where you are working. So, some of the steps I'm building are rock and some of them are wood.

Dan connected me with Warren County's Tim Benway and he was able to get me lumber as well as a couple of yards of gravel.

I've worked on the wooden steps for a couple of days and I have a few more to go. I've never built wooden steps before, so it has been a bit of a learning experience, but so far, I'm happy with how things are going. I've been using "liquid nails," a type of caulk that binds things together, as well as screws, and rebar "nails." I've also tied all the steps together so they are supporting each other. I then put rocks in the gaps and gravel on top.

Several of my friends have helped me, including Tim Ward, Jim Coutant, and Peter Fedoric. I moved a lot of rocks so hikers could get across the stream, but Tim moved in some huge ones to fill in the gaps. The crossing of the stream is now as good as having a bridge.

Tim was also instrumental in putting in tight switchbacks. There isn't a lot of room to work on the hill and this was a great idea. There was a little cliff near the top with some cracks in it. I started digging around with my rock bar and we were able to pry some great rocks out that we used for steps.

There were a few muddy areas on the trail that we worked on and we hope to fix a few more. There is also a steep sandy climb about halfway in on the trail where we hope to build some steps.

The trail is now officially closed due to hunting leases. We have permission to work on the beginning of the trail, but the rest will have to wait until spring.

Hiking and trail work come naturally to me. I spent my career running the Luzerne Market grocery store with my family; however, I went to college for Forestry and I worked as a Wilderness Ranger in the Catskills in the early 80s. After that, I did a lot of hiking, including the 46 and the winter 46. Then, I did them all again with my daughter, both in summer and in winter. She finished the regular 46 when she was age 11. Then, I had the good fortune of being able to take a couple of summers off and hike the Appalachian Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail.

I'm pretty good with an axe, so over the years, I've done a lot of clearing of trees that have blown down across trails. I volunteer with the Adirondack 46'er trail crew, Hadley Mountain Executive Committee, ADK Adopt-a-Lean-to, and ADK Adopt-a-Trail Programs.



It's been a lot of fun getting back to doing trail work building steps on the Swede Mountain Trail and it has been very satisfying seeing progress at the end of the day. I look forward to continuing with it in the spring. ▣

SOUNDINGS

DIED: John H. Watts, 74, of Ticonderoga, on October 18, 2021, peacefully at home, surrounded by his family after a brief illness.



John was born to Walter and Alice (Reynolds) Watts and grew up on Watts Hill in Silver Bay.

John married Susan (Trudeau) on October 23, 1965. Shortly after their wedding, he was drafted by the U.S. Army and went to Germany for almost two years. This was the beginning of his career as a truck driver that spanned nearly 50 years. He spent over half of his career working for P & T Timber and retired in 2015 after working as a driver for Lamoille Ambulance Service.



John spent thousands of hours volunteering for his community. He was an EMT, a member of the Ticonderoga Emergency Squad, and is a Life Member of the Ticonderoga Fire Department.

John went on many missionary trips through his church including ones to Haiti and Mississippi.

There was nothing that John couldn't fix or build. During his retirement years,

John could always be found puttering around the house.

John is survived by his wife of 55 years, Susan Watts; his sister, Marie Jordon; his brother-in law, David Trudeau (Ruth); his son, Matthew Watts (Cortney Brown); his grandson, Michael Watts; and several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to extend special thanks to Cortney Brown for being John's caregiver, which allowed him to spend his last days at home. Also, a special thanks to his nephew, Chad Jordon, and his wife, Roxann, for everything they have done over the last few months.

Donations in John's memory may be made to the Ticonderoga Fire Department, PO Box 288, Ticonderoga, NY 12883 or the Lakeside Regional Church, PO Box 111, Ticonderoga, NY 12883.

DIED: Daniel P. King, 68, of Hague, at home on October 19, 2021, surrounded by his loving family.

Dan was born in Montclair, NJ and spent every summer in Hague. In 1990, he married the love of his life, Bettina Barth, at Chipwick in Hague and, in 1996, they settled in Hague permanently.

After retiring from the boat business, Dan worked as a substitute teacher in the Ticonderoga School District, where he discovered his passion for awakening in children the joys of learning.

In addition to his wife, Tina, Dan leaves behind: two sons, Shane and Corey; his



siblings Tim King, Patty Brown, and Margaret Carney; numerous nieces and nephews; and many, many dear friends.

Donations in Dan's name may be made to the Lake George Land Conservancy, the Hague Volunteer Fire Department, or the Ticonderoga School District, where they will be earmarked specifically for elementary education.

There will be no services at this time; an event will be held in his honor at a later date. ▣

The Hague Chronicle is happy to publish announcements of births, marriages, graduations, anniversaries of 50/55/60/65+, awards, or deaths. We will now include a recent headshot of high enough quality for publication with obituaries. Please send to editor@thehaguechronicle.org.

TI-ALLIANCE RECEIVES GRANT

The Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance has received a \$5,000 grant from the Glenn & Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation to support the expansion of its student programs in the 2021/2022 school year.

This is the second year that the Pearsall Adirondack Foundation has chosen to support Ti-Alliance. In 2020, the grant helped foster the operations and expansion of Ti-Works, the co-working space in downtown Ticonderoga, and create the Students in the Field Career Exploration

Program. This year, the funding will help Ti-Alliance expand Students in the Field and add new in-school experiences for students.

"The Glenn & Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life for year-round residents of the Adirondack Park." said Ti-Alliance's Executive Director, Donna Wotton. "We love the insightful strategy of their philanthropy. They focus on small, front-line organizations like Ti-Alliance where they can maximize their impact on individual lives. This year the grant will help fund the part-time employment of Melinda

Fuller, the School Programs Coordinator. With Melinda 'in the chair,' we can continue to expand these opportunities for our students and have a significant impact on building a more skilled workforce in our area."

People interested in participating in Ti-Alliance's student programs by sharing a career path or volunteering time can contact Melinda Fuller, at fuller.melinda@gmail.com.

For more information about Ti-Alliance and its programs, visit the website at www.ticonderoga-alliance.org. ▣

SILVER BAY GENERAL STORE TRANSITIONS

“SURPRISE!” – And indeed, it was - a closely-guarded secret retirement party for Kathy Santaniello, put on by family and close friends on Saturday, November 6, 2021 at the Silver Bay General Store and hosted by new owners, Paul Budd and his wife, Joanne. A highlight of the event was a short ceremony featuring “Queen Kathy” using a “bejeweled sword” to bestow the official title of “King Paul” to Mr. Budd. A video of the event is now airing on Facebook.

The store had finally sold, with the official closing on Friday, October 22nd, so the transition was in progress; Paul and Joanne were getting their feet on the ground with help from Kathy and faithful store assistants, Lynda Manyfeathers and Cora Streets. The store was also getting a much-needed clean-out, clean-up, and some rearranging, but essentially remaining what it has been for years: a local go-to place for lunches, and more recently hot lunches and breakfast offerings, thanks to Lynda and Cora’s weekly menu-planning. It’s also a place where you can pick up odds and ends, fishing supplies, ice, snacks, or things you may have forgotten on your last trip to a major grocery store to avoid a trip to WalMart. Paul and his wife plan on keeping this same tradition, with maybe a few modern touches to round things out.

Paul and Joanne are from Bloomfield, NJ, but Paul and his family have been coming to Silver Bay since he was very young. He has had the dream of owning the store for many years and, in 2021, that became a reality. They are presently staying in the brookside apartment just below the store, although Joanne only comes up on weekends now, as she is still fulfilling a job obligation as a nanny to some families back in NJ. Paul also works as a graphic artist, something he can mostly do remotely from Silver Bay. They are planning on putting their house in NJ on the market in January 2022, so a move to the area will likely be coming in the near future. They are expecting their first grandson in the next few weeks. FYI – Paul also has a hidden talent; he is very good at entertaining kids with his magic tricks!

Kathy and her husband Sal had run the store since 1981, so that translates into 40 years of adventures for them there.

Unfortunately, Sal received a cancer diagnosis in 2017, so it was obvious then that the store, his “empire,” had to be sold. Kathy kept things going throughout Sal’s battle with cancer and for a year after his passing in August of 2020.

Kathy commented, “It has been a long and sometimes difficult road, thankfully with much support of wonderful people along the way, but now it is a relief to pass the ‘crown’ on to people who seem so enthusiastic and happy to go forward in much the same tradition as the last



40 years. So many people have expressed thanks for having the store open year-round and have also come in to support it in many ways. Hopefully, that support will continue for Paul and Joanne Budd – Welcome!”

Kathy is not moving away and hopes to see more of people at social gatherings soon – after she de-clutters her long-neglected house.

She says, “My family came here in the mid-1800s, I was born here, I love it here, it’s part of who I am. I will never be a snowbird. Winters don’t scare me – I have a Generac!”

SILVER BAY YMCA RECOGNIZED

The Silver Bay YMCA Conference and Family Retreat Center has received the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) Appreciation Award for its community impact work.

Matt Courtright, president and CEO of TACC stated: “The TACC Appreciation Award goes to an organization that serves the community in a number of ways. They support our economic growth, support other local organizations and work closely with the Chamber and Ticonderoga Montcalm Street Partnership on

numerous community events. They also provide an array of services to our area youth, those in need, those serving in the military, and many others. In addition, they provide programs and services that are available to our community. For their dedication to the community and the Chamber we are honored to present this Appreciation Award to the Silver Bay YMCA.”

During the summer of 2021, Silver Bay hosted:

- 16 families (37 adults and nine children) in their Military R & R Program

- Nine families (20 adults and one child) in their Cancer Respite Program
- 11 families (25 adults and 13 children) in their Vacations Made Possible Program
- 26 local children in their Silver Camp program

Also, so far in 2021, it has hosted over 450 guests in its Pastoral Respite Ministry.

All of these programs are funded 100% by Silver Bay and its supporters.

WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by Mike Strutz

It's time to take a painful pause in my usual reporting of the latest news on the subject of Lake George water quality. Now is the time to reflect and remember.



“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”

I am very sad to report the passing of Jim Beaty. A friend, a neighbor, and a member of the Hague Water Quality Awareness Committee, Jim died suddenly on September 23 at his home on the shores of the lake he loved and was fighting hard to protect.

We recently worked together, with support from the committee, on recommendations for inspections of septic systems on the lake's shore and tributaries. The Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) recently voted to move forward with developing a program for mandatory inspections basin-wide, a move that municipalities around the lake and grassroots organizers

have called for. Jim was an active participant in studying other municipalities in NY who have already passed mandatory septic inspection programs. His energy and engineering expertise will be sorely missed.

Jim was also an active member of the Hague Sewer Asset Committee and spent a considerable amount of time at the wastewater treatment plant. Joe McDowell and John Sheehan from the plant and Chris Navitsky, the Lake George Waterkeeper, all sang high praises for the work he did and the money he saved the town. Joe summed things up well, "Jim had an amazing mind. He was able to grasp a subject and think outside the box. He had a diplomatic manner that allowed him to interject his ideas in a way that would allow them to be accepted. He was instrumental in improving the operation of the Town of Hague's wastewater treatment system. He wrote a custom asset management program that would have been outside the budgetary limits of the town if they had to purchase it. Even more remarkable, he followed up in a supportive role that

ensured the system was being used in a way that benefited the town's budget and Lake George's water quality. He will be missed."



Jim also had an artistic side that Lance Clark mentioned, "Jim was a man of many parts, and one part of him was as a singer and entertainer. He enraptured the crowd at Ti'Coustics music shows with his repertoire of Irish songs, his collection of rowdy college drinking songs, and his political commentary in songs like ones from the TV show 'That Was the Week That Was.' You always knew that it was going to be something funny and special when Jim took the microphone!" He was a special multi-talented individual.

Water quality matters but lives matter more. Jim was a man who volunteered his time and talents for the greater good. No better way to live life to the fullest. Thanks, and rest in peace, Jim. ▣



The Adirondack Mountains in October. Photo courtesy of Sandy Powell.

NEEDED: Community-minded volunteer to attend monthly Hague Town Board meeting, take notes, and submit a draft article to the editor of *The Hague Chronicle*, who will then write the final draft for publication in each month's issue.

THE HERMIT OF HAGUE

by A Friend of the Hermit

*The Hermit of Hague loved vanilla,
Which he got each month from
Manila.
He just took it straight,
Though it increased his weight,
He thought that it cured
salmonella.*

SILVER BAY YMCA TEEN CENTER REOPENING

The Silver Bay YMCA Conference and Family Retreat Center is reopening its teen center at the armory in Ticonderoga in the first quarter of 2022.

Chief Operating Officer Steve Tamm said, "The decision was an easy one to make. We heard loud and clear from the community that our teen center was missed and numerous studies indicate that children have suffered from isolation throughout this pandemic."

Councilman Mark Russell, chair of the Ticonderoga Youth Commission said, "Silver Bay YMCA is clearly dedicated to impacting the teens of Ticonderoga. We are very thankful to them and their donors who have invested countless hours and over \$1 million in this program since 2012."

The primary reason the teen center closed and has remained closed has been the lingering safety concerns surrounding COVID-19. "With the reopening of classes in schools throughout our



region and the resumption of other in-person activities, it seemed only natural that we move forward in planning the reopening of our highly impactful teen program," said Tamm. ▣

NORTH COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC), in coordination with area businesses and organizations, will host the 12th Annual Ticonderoga Area North Country Christmas Celebration from Saturday, November 27 through Sunday, December 5, 2021.

2021 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Saturday, November 27th

- Small Business Saturday – Think Local!
- Christmas at the Farm – Lillie Valley Farm, 10 am – 4 pm

Sunday, November 28th

- Rockin' Tree Lighting – Ticonderoga Community Building, 5:30 pm
- Holiday Hay Rides – Ticonderoga Heritage Museum, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Monday, November 29th

- Make Your Own Magic Monday

Tuesday, November 30th

- Make Your Own Snow Globes – Black Watch Memorial Library, 6 pm. Pre-register at 518-585-7380

Wednesday, December 1st

- Live Children's Book Reading – Fox and Fern – Adirondack Mercantile, 4 pm

Thursday, December 2nd

- Chicken BBQ – Knights of Columbus, 4 pm to sold out
- Polar Express Party – Seymour's Restaurant, 5:30 pm. Reservations appreciated at 518-585-2801

Friday, December 3rd

- Holiday Shopping & Dining Night – Shop & Dine Local, participating businesses open until 8 pm
- Holiday Farmers Market – TACC, 5 – 8 pm.
- Parade of Lights – Town of Ticonderoga, 6 – 7:30 pm. Register with the Ticonderoga Fire Department by calling Mary at 518-586-6912 or emailing mcunningham14@nycap.rr.com.
- Holiday Mystery Dinner for Kids-Punky Noodles, 6 – 8:30 pm, Make reservations on the Punky Noodles Facebook page.
- Ti Heritage Museum and Ti Arts Holiday Gift Shoppe – Ticonderoga Arts Gallery, 10 am – 8 pm (also on Saturday, December 4th from 10 am – 2 pm)

Saturday, December 4th

- Pancake and Sausage Breakfast at the Hague Volunteer Fire Department, 9:30 am
- Tromblee's Greenhouse and Gift Shop Holiday Open House - Tromblee's Greenhouse, Crown Point, 10 am – 4 pm (also on Sunday, December 5th)
- Living History Event: The Noble Train Begins – Fort Ticonderoga, 10 am – 4 pm
- Drive-In Holiday Movie Night - Best Western Plus Parking Lot, movie starts at 5:30 pm

Sunday, December 5th

- Christmas Craft Fair – Best Western Plus Ticonderoga, 10 am – 3 pm



- Festival of Trees Open House and Reception – Hancock House, 1 – 3 pm (*View the Festival of Trees November 26th to December 31st, Wednesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm*)
- Hometown Holiday Train & Music - public parking lot next to Elks Lodge, 5:30 – 7 pm. Bring donation for food pantry.

Information subject to change. All COVID-19 guidelines should be followed.

TACC is a Tiny Tim Program and Local Food Pantry Drop-off location Monday through Friday between 8 am and 3 pm until Friday, December 10th.

For detailed information, a printed schedule of events, a list of participating businesses for the Small Business Saturday, Holiday Shopping & Dining Night, a Ticonderoga Area Business Directory, or calendar of events, visit www.ticonderogany.com, call 518-585-6619, or visit the TACC Facebook page. ▣

LOOKING BACK

HISTORY OF THE SILVER BAY GENERAL STORE, PART I



by Kathy Braisted Santaniello

In the 1920s, my grandparents, Jim and Helen MacWilliams Braisted, lived on the property where the present day Silver Bay General Store is located.

The construction of the new Warren County Sabbath Day Point-Hague Roadway (Route 9N) in the second half of the 1920s meant a path would be cut through their property and their house would be demolished. So, Jim and Helen decided they would replace their house with a building to live in, provide a better space for the local post office, and have some extra space for what then became "Braisted's Information and Silver Bay Post Office" in 1927.

Jim, Helen, and their seven-year-old son, John (my father), moved into the apartment on the second floor. Helen ran the post office during the day and Jim worked at carpentry jobs and helped in the Information Center. John went to Hague Central School (also built in 1927) until he graduated in 1938.

They put in Gulf gasoline soon after 1927. Gas, soda, candy, and souvenirs were sold; it was a 1920s convenience store.

Prohibition ran from 1919 to 1933 and Jim always thought that "rum-runners" or "boot-leggers," stopped for gas, as they sort of stood out from the usual customers.

During this period, the store's name was changed from "Braisted's Information" to "Braisted's Store," and their product line expanded to include newspapers, magazines, groceries, and souvenirs. Helen served as acting postmaster from May 1944 to October 1945, when Postmaster Ed Watts was on military duty, so the post office sign came back for about a year-and-a-half.

In 1947, with Helen's health deteriorating and John not interested in running the store after returning from WW II,

the Braisteds sold the business to Jack and Florence Carney. The Carneys moved in with their first son, John, installed a soda fountain, changed the gas to Shell, and changed the name to "Oneida Bay Soda Bar." Jack was involved with building and construction work and he and Florence shared the store duties for three or four years. They were open mostly just in the summers. When, in 1951, Jack decided he would rather be in the construction business full-time, they sold the store to Fran and Vera Witherbee.

Fran was from Ticonderoga, but his wife's family was from Indiana and her family owned a large grocery business there, so the Witherbees lived in Indiana in the off-season and ran the "Oneida Bay Soda Bar" in the summers. They shortened the soda fountain and Fran's brother, Frank, built the three-unit motel building to the north of the

store. The ice house in back became a rental room. In 1958, after Fran and Vera inherited the family grocery business in Indiana, they sold the store to Bill and Anna Boyd and moved to Indiana.

Bill Boyd was from Brooklyn, NY and had come here to work as a chauffeur for William and Elizabeth Stewart, who bought Glen Cottage in Oneida Bay in 1920. Bill and his wife ran the store only in the

summers and spent winters in PA and FL. After Labor Day Weekend, the walk-in cooler was turned off and any remaining stock was placed in it, where it would stay until it was dragged out in the spring. The neighbors knew not to buy any crackers there during the first part of the season!

In 1971, the Boyds sold the store to Fred and Dottie Sain, who had been living on Long Island and were in their late 60s. They kept the store open all winter the first year, but after that, only in the summer. It was the Sains who renamed the store the current-day "Silver Bay General Store." ■

Part II of this series will be published in the December 2021 issue of The Hague Chronicle.



TOP LEFT: Building the Store – 1927 – Jim Braisted on the upper deck; TOP RIGHT: Bill Terzian's postcard of Braisted's Information and Silver Bay Post Office – 1930s; BOTTOM LEFT: Helen and Jim Braisted – 1940s; BOTTOM RIGHT: Postcard from the Sain Era

FALL/WINTER FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR FRIDAYS

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will give away \$500 every Friday in December 2021. For a \$20 donation, you will receive a ticket for a chance to win and only 300 tickets will be sold.

Tickets will be available at the TACC office at 94 Montcalm Street, Suite 1 throughout the month of November, as well as from TACC board members, ambassadors, and volunteers.

Tickets will be hand drawn at random on December 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st. All proceeds will benefit the TACC programs, services, and events and TACC's efforts to serve and promote the greater Ticonderoga area.

For additional information, call 518-585-6619 or go to chamberinfo@ticonderogany.com. ▣



SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

The Day We All Shop Small

Small Business Saturday is a day dedicated to supporting small businesses across the country.

Created by American Express in 2010, this day is celebrated every year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year, it is on November 27, 2021.



TACC Office Administrator, Kelly Carey, TACC President and CEO, Matthew Courtright, and TACC Member Service and Event Manager, Erin Mullen preparing for Small Business Saturday 2021.

CHICKEN BBQ

There will be a Chicken BBQ on Thursday, December 2, 2021 as part of the 12th Annual Ticonderoga Area North Country Christmas Celebration. It will be a fundraiser for the Best 4th in the North.

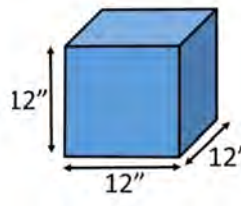


The dinner will be held at the Knights of Columbus in Downtown Ticonderoga starting at 4 pm. The cost is \$14 per dinner and take-outs will be available. Amounts are limited, so call 518-585-6520 to reserve a meal.

For more information visit www.timainstreet.org or call 518-585-6619. ▣

DOWNTOWN GALLERY SHOW

The Small Works Show has begun at the Ti Arts Downtown Gallery. This is a show of small art by local artists...everything is 12 inches or less.



There's painting, photography, pottery, and more. It's affordable art for the holidays. The show will conclude on December 31, 2021.

For more information about the Ti Arts Downtown Gallery, go to <http://www.ticonderogaarts.org/>. ▣

For a list of participating businesses in our area, contact the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) or visit www.ticonderogany.com. To receive the promotions, you must have the Small Business Saturday Specials and Promotions flyer or mention Small Business Saturday. ▣

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 ONLY, on Friday, November 19, 2021, starting at 4:30 pm until all is gone at the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street, Ticonderoga. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 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 parking lot. ▣

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

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is a monthly news journal, which has been published by volunteers since January 1972. Please send all news items and Soundings by the deadline listed in the calendar, to editor@thehaguechronicle.org Please send any questions to publisher@thehaguechronicle.org .

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THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

November 2021

NOVEMBER

5	6 – 7:30 pm	Septic Webinar
16	1:30 pm	Seniors meet
18		Seniors to Christmas Tree Shop
	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
21	9:30 am	Snow-Goers
25		THANKSGIVING DAY/ Town offices closed
26		Native American Heritage Day
27		Small Business Saturday
27 – December 5		North Country Christmas

DECEMBER

2	4 pm	Chicken BBQ
	7 pm	Planning Board
4	9:30 am	Pancakes and Sausage at HVFD
7		Seniors Christmas dinner
13		Deadline for December issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>
14	6 pm	Town Board
19	4:30 pm	Mason/Star Dinner
22		Latest the December issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> will be published

TRANSFER STATION HOURS: Wednesdays & Saturdays 10 am to 4 pm