



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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Fax (518)543-6633

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836
Email: hchague@capital.net or HagueChronicle@aol.com

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Tel. 543-6633

VELVETLEAF PROLIFERATION

Hague is experiencing an infestation of a weed known as Velvetleaf (*Abutilon Theophrasti*). This weed, also called Elephant Ear, Buttonweed, and Indian Mallow among others, has surfaced in the topsoil which was spread by A. P. Reale Co. to cover the work on the sewer line. This weed is most unpleasant and has been described variously by experts in weed science as "noxious", "vigorously competitive", and "a serious weed problem". Researchers at Cornell University found that chickens given feed containing 1.5% Velvetleaf seed produced egg yolks that turned rubbery within 24 hours of refrigeration.

A Velvetleaf plant produces 700 to 17,000 highly viable seeds and the seeds can live in the soil easily for 50 or more years. This hardy, fast-growing weed can be found from coast to coast growing in dumps, crop fields, gardens and along the road as it is highly adaptable and relatively resistant



Velvetleaf

to chemical management. It is thought to have originally come from Asia and is a problem weed in many parts of the world. Velvetleaf can cause crop losses due to competition (the plant reach an average height of 2 to 4 feet); hosting insects, disease organisms and nematodes; and can produce chemicals which may reduce crop seed germination and root formation.



mature plant

Velvetleaf is not completely new to Hague. There are 3 - 5 ft plants growing on some private properties. Some residents have confused the velvetleaf weed with the soybean plant whose seedling leaves are similar. However, the mature plants are quite different. The velvetleaf flower is yellow while the soybean flower is red, white and violet. And the velvetleaf plant does not



produce nutritious soybeans!

Velvetleaf plants are in abundance along the sewer district on Route 8 and Route 9N - with large

patches in Cape Cod Village and Lakeshore Hills. When the weed appeared in the topsoil at the Steitz property, Art pulled them all out by hand - which may be the best method of eradication. Unfortunately with the green blanket of seed and fertilizer that was recently sprayed in the hamlet by the Reale Co. (and which buried Art's newly planted grass!) it will be more difficult to locate the seedlings. It is hoped that the Town will encourage eradication of this weed. ...js

SPAGHETTI DINNER AT FIREHOUSE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12 FROM 4:30 - 7:30PM
SPONSORED BY THE HAGUE FIRE DEPT.
MENU INCLUDES SPAGHETTI & MEAT BALLS,
TOSSED SALAD, ROLLS & PUMPKIN OR APPLE
CRISP FOR DESSERT.
\$8.00 ADULTS
\$6.00 CHILDREN

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR OPENING

Applications are being accepted for the position of Zoning Administrator for the Town of Hague. All interested parties may get further information at the Community Center - 543-6161

HOME DECORATING SHOW TO BE HELD

On Saturday, October 12 from 9AM - 4PM, the Carillon Garden Club will hold its first annual Home Decorating Show at the Hague Community Center. It is not too late for vendors to make a table reservation. Tables are 30" x 90" and will be reserved for \$20.00 each. A simple lunch will be served. Plans have not yet been finalized as of this writing, but the Garden Club plans to have white elephants, antiques, jewelry, crafts, etc. At the September meeting of the Garden Club the members made various kinds of herb vinegar, which will be on sale. Vendors can call Denise Huestis at 585-69913 or Sharon Lonergan at 585-4477.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE HELD ON 9/11

A very impressive candlelight service, sponsored by the Hague Volunteer Fire Dept., was held at the town beach on September 11 as a memorial to those who had died in the disastrous terrorist attacks a year earlier. Chaplain Rusty Bissell led the service with readings and prayers and everyone joined in singing AMERICA.

COMING SOON - THE LADY OF THE LAKE

The Hague Historical Society will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, Oct. 21, 2002 in the Hague Community Center at 7:30PM. The program will be a talk by Diane Struble Lukaris. In case you didn't know Diane - she swam the entire length of Lake George on August 22-23, 1958 - the first person to swim the lake from Ticonderoga to Lake George Village!

Come hear Diane tell of her experiences as she prepared to swim Lake George and of her other accomplishments.

Refreshments will be served.

NEW FLAG

Thanks to the Green Acres Campsite, through Jim Nutt, we have a new flag at the peninsula in the park. The flag there took a beating in a recent storm and was immediately replaced through the kindness of Jim. Just another example of the "good neighbor policy."

TRANSFER STATION SCHEDULE

September 16 - September 30 - Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat.

October 1 - November 30 - Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat.

OPEN 9AM TO 5PM

HAGUE AMBULANCE SQUAD

In August 2002 our ambulances hit the road 20 times, and the crews gave care and comfort to 26 patients. Ambulance 740 travelled 774 miles, and 741 filled in with 33 miles. We are patiently awaiting delivery of our new ambulance promised for this month.

Congratulations to Joanne Trudeau and Terrie Davis who have passed their exams and are now Emergency Medical Technicians. Their presence will improve daytime coverage.

We're sorry that the HVFD news is not available at the time of publication, but we will do our best to report on it next month. . . ewa

ASSESSORS OFFICE

Hague Town Assessor Dave Martucci is in his office on Mondays. Ann Johns, clerk, is in the assessor's office on Mondays and Wednesdays. Call 543-6161 for appointment or information.

AUTUMN HAS ARRIVED IN HAGUE

The gals from the Hague Creek Antiques and Gift Shop have been busy at work putting out autumn arrays of pumpkins and corn stalks through the hamlet. The businesses in town have all jumped on the band wagon to help financially. Since the weather has been cooperating (no frost), the flower baskets still look great, thanks to our waterer, Jack Bolton. He has done a great job all summer and fall. When you see any of these people, let them know how much you appreciate their efforts! Our town is really beautiful.

LATEST HAPPENINGS ON THE SEWER PROJECT

Dave Wetsel, representing the company supply the Environment One Low Pressure pumps, led the first training session on the proper installation and use of the pumps on August 29th at the Community Center. Twenty-one people were in attendance including several contractors, a few homeowners, George Farinick and Steve Gurzler for the engineering consultant Clough Harbor Associates, Highway Superintendent Bill Bothe and this reporter. The contracting work for the hook-ups of the low pressure pumps will be restricted to contractors who are properly trained. Another session will be held for additional contractors who are interested in doing the pump installations.

A manual of "typical installation instructions" was given to each participant. However, Mr. Wetsel also presented other precautionary warnings in his lecture. Mr. Gurzler, the chief engineer for CHA will be setting up a checklist and information for contractors who will need to get a permit from the Town of Hague. Additionally he, along with the Town Board, is preparing information about the sewer hook-ups for homeowners and will work on a list of "do's and don'ts" for the homeowners when the pumps are installed.

The construction work on the pumping stations and wastewater treatment plant as well as on the pipeline installations are continuing on schedule. There have been some incidents of damage to resident's property - broken water and septic lines as well as driveway, mailbox and shrubbery damage. Any damage of an emergency nature should be repaired immediately. The replacement of grass and shrubs should be completed within one year of the initiation of the contractors work on the sewer project. Some areas have already been reseeded although much of the topsoil contains the weed velvetleaf. (see article on p.1)

The Town Board along with Steve Guzler and Bill Lamy, Warren County engineer have had meetings to discuss revisions to the Town of Hague Sanitary Code including the addition of a Sewer Ordinance. They plan another meeting for 10 am on September at the Community Center. The completed code will be presented to the public at a future Town Board meeting. ...js

PLANNING BOARD - 8/21/02

The Planning Board conducted its postponed regular business meeting with members Swanson, Harrigan, Foster, Gladu and Brown present and Denno and Fillare absent. Zoning Administrator Barone used a tape recorder since there is currently no secretary. The minutes of the last meeting on June 6th were approved.

Item 1) James Beaty, Island Harbor neighborhood, handed out additional information to Board members on questions from their site review. Mr. Beaty owns 2 lots, one within the other and each with a structure, on the west side of 9N. He wants to change the lot lines and move the smaller (guest) cottage to higher ground because of drainage concerns. He noted that he was trying to do something positive with what has been there for 70 years.

Chairman Swanson stated that both lots are non-conforming under the current zoning so that if lot lines are changed by taking area from the larger lot to give to the smaller one, it makes the larger lot "more non-conforming" which is not permitted under zoning code. Mr. Foster raised concern that the proposed change would make a landlocked, non-conforming piece even more landlocked. He felt that the smaller lot needs to be "unlandlocked". Mrs. Harrigan noted that development on a steep slope could have great impact on the environment. Mr. Gladu felt that while there are techniques that could make it manageable, he agreed with Mr. Foster's concern about the landlocked lot. Mr. Brown felt that the zoning law is meant to constrain this type of development in an OC-2 area.

Mr. Gladu moved that Mr. Beaty come back with a proposal to unlandlock the smaller lot. Mrs. Harrigan and Mr. Brown voted against the motion citing that this change would not lessen their concerns. The vote was 3-2 and failed for lack of 4 positive votes (a majority of the entire Planning Board).

Item 2) The next item was a request by Bruce Rust who would like relief from section 160-52 in order to construct a 20 ft long by 6 ft high fence on the south side of his property which would be within 50 feet of Lake George.

Neighbors Dick Frasier and Joe Winters indicated in writing they had no objection. Since the basket-weave fence will be perpendicular to the Lake and doesn't interfere with the lake view, the request was approved 5-0 and sent to the ZBA.

Item 3) A 30 year summer resident of Hague who currently owns property on Dodd Hill Road and Lakeshore Hills asked the Board to hear his frustrations related to problems with the current sewer construction. While the Planning Board has no jurisdiction in this matter they courteously gave him suggestions. This information also alerted the Hague Chronicle to the issues of broken water and septic lines and the proliferation of the velvetleaf weed. ...js

ZONING BOARD - 8/22/02

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board was convened with Mary Lou Doulin as acting chair in the absence of the chairman, Robert Goetsch. Members King, Clark, Waters, Ginn and Chase were also present. There being no secretary, Paul Barone, Zoning Administrator recorded the meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting which were graciously written up by Dottie Henry were accepted. A public hearing was opened for discussion of the request by Bruce Rust for construction of a fence. Mrs. King asked Mr. Barone if the property was considered commercial or residential but no definitive answer was given. After the motion was put into the proper terminology, the request was approved 6-0. ...js

TOWN BOARD PUBLIC HEARINGS - 8/27/02

Proposed Local Laws #3 and #4 of 2002

The Hague Town Board held a continuation of the August 13th public hearing which had been convened prior to the regular Board meeting. These proposed local laws deal with junkyards and property maintenance. Councilman Hourigan stated, "At the last meeting a majority of those in attendance were in favor of the proposals and we want to see what others think." Those present at this meeting stated opposition with phrases such as "like moving to Russia", "like a police state" and "this is not a big city". Councilman Meola noted that the town "has been talking about a local law for years so we put one together to look at." He reminded the audience that this proposal is a working document and that changes will be made before the final draft.

Nelson Waters suggested that many of these items must already be on the books. Councilman Hourigan noted that he has asked the zoning administrator to look at the current ordinances and to review with the town attorney how the enforcement mechanism can be strengthened.

Mr. Waters voiced concern about the ambiguity of certain phrases such as "and similar things", "including but not limited to", "blighting effect" and "inspection officer". Others expressed personal concerns like Mary Meehan who has an old Hudson on her property which her brother uses for spare parts. Art Belden noted that the town needs to provide a place for disposal of batteries and barbecue gas tanks. Edna Frasier said, "Art is right. The Town should be looking at that first." Ron Graser felt the proposal "goes way beyond the original intention to clear objectionable items from view." He also indicated that it might be acceptable if it was scaled down.

(Cont. from page 3 - Public Hearing)

Barbara Belden asked the Supervisor if this matter will be presented again to the public. He replied, "Yes. I wouldn't vote to hurt anyone in this town. I grew up here and we won't have it (public hearing) on the same night as the Town Board meeting. We want to hear from everyone."

The public hearing continues with the next meeting to be held at 4 pm on Wednesday, October 2nd at the Community Center. ...js

AMERICAN LEGION REQUEST

A second public hearing was held on the 27th concerning an American Legion proposal presented by Dick Bolton. Due to a dwindling membership, the American Legion wants to tear down the current Legion building and create a veteran's memorial park. The Legion would like the Town to help with easements and to budget \$10,000 into the 2003 budget toward the project which they feel would be beneficial to beautification in the Town. They would like to ensure that the property will never become a parking lot. Supervisor Belden wants to get federal grant money for hamlet streetscape improvement and feels that this plan would fit in with it. He wants to talk to Bill Lamy, Warren County engineer and to the town attorney, John Silvestri for additional details...js

PLANNING BOARD - 9/5/02

•Sheri DeLarm brought a preliminary proposal to the Planning Board. She and her husband Cris Ginn hope to purchase the old Fire Hall and redesign it for a restaurant/bar. The board asked for a survey map with the placement of the building on the lot. A well will have to be dug for a water supply. A site review is planned for Sep. 28

•Bill Morgan for Morgan Marine proposes to build a boat storage 32' by 150' on property he owns on Decker Hill Road. He plans to remove the quonset hut and boat storage facility he has on the lake. The new storage building will be used for "dead" storage only. Boats will be taken there in the fall and brought out in the spring. No "quick launch" facilities. Site review is scheduled for Sep. 28.

•Dimond, in Pine Cove. Ms. Dimond would like to enlarge her kitchen area. Her lot is 13,200 sq. ft. and residence is 948 sq. ft. There are two accessory structures on the east side plus a garage. Site review is scheduled for Sep. 28. ...dh

TOWN BOARD - 9/10/02

The town board met at 6:30PM with Supervisor Dan Belden and Councilmen Megow, Meola, Steitz in attendance. Absent was Councilman Hourigan.

Supervisor Belden introduced David J. Decker, P.E., Director of The Lake George Watershed Conference. He gave us an overview of the LGWC, stating that it is a loose "Confederation" of numerous institutions that have as an interest the well being and preservation of this jewel of American Lakes. The LGWC has been formed over the past 12 months as a result of those organizations recognizing the importance of increasing communication and cooperation amongst parties, as being critical to their respective individual (yet varied) interests in this valuable natural resource. Mr. Decker stated that they are in the process of developing a TV show on Channel 8 called "Eye on Lake George". Since we do not get Channel 8 in our area, they will be video taping the shows for distribution here. He had a document available at the meeting, which can be accessed on the Web at <http://lakegeorge2000.org>.

Mr. Belden then introduced Chris Navitsky, a professional civil engineer, who has recently been hired by The Fund for Lake George as The Lake George Waterkeeper. This is a proactive program which responds to all public inquiry and acts as a citizens' advocate with respect to all issues having an environmental impact on Lake George and Lake George Basin. Web site is lgkeeper@nycap.rr.com (Waterkeeper was written in detail on page 1 of the August Chronicle.)

At the regular meeting during the privilege of the floor, Dottie Henry said that two people had fallen over the cement blocks in front of the Community Center, or sustaining injuries. The board decided to remove them. (They were removed by the highway dept. the next morning!)

Mrs. Rena Dykstra made a statement to the effect that although a petition had been filed on July 9, nothing has been done about it. Councilman Meola said that the whole issue is frustrating. The petition went to the Zoning Administrator, then to the attorney, he spends a lot of time on it and sends it back. He said that something needs to be done to bring these issues to closure. He suggested setting up a workshop with the attorney. The board needs to sit down and face the issue and make a decision. The time has come to stop ignoring these people and respond. The final responsibility rests with the Board. The Board will set up a meeting to discuss the matter. They will have an answer to the petitions. The meeting will be an executive session.

A question was asked about the engineers on the retaining wall on Holman Hill. We did get credit on the retaining wall of \$450.00.

Regular Committee Reports:

Assessor - Rudy Meola - The assessor is following the schedule of being in his office every Monday. The clerk is there Mondays and Wednesdays. Call for appointment (Cont. on page 5 - Town Board)

(Cont. from page 4 - Town Board)

Fire Department - Art Steitz - A candlelight service will be held on 9/11 at the beach. See related article. The fire department is sponsoring a spaghetti & meat balls dinner on October 12 from 4:30-7:30PM at the fire hall. (See p. 1)

Town Park Beautification - Art Steitz - The town park has been closed for the season. The two women who worked at the Visitors' Center this summer have made a list of ideas and recommendations for next year. The park committee will meet with them for discussion.

Youth - The late activity bus from the school has begun. It leaves the school at 5:15PM and drops off students at the Community Center.

Buildings and Grounds /CC - Lu Megow - A lengthy discussion was held concerning the boiler at the Community Center. A representative of the company which sold and installed the present burner stated that there was really nothing wrong with the burner. Perhaps a new computer chip should be installed, but otherwise everything was o.k. and a new boiler was not necessary. Rudy Meola gave a lengthy explanation of the events that took place concerning buying a new boiler.

Highway - Bill Bothe, Highway Superintendent, displayed a street sign which had been riddled with bullets. He said the sign had been in front of a residence and the bullets had been shot towards the residence. He asked that Hague residents please report to him any vandalism that they see. The signs are very expensive and will exceed the budget. The problem should not be treated lightly. He also reported that the town was able to buy a truck with plow from the county for \$1,000 and a trailer for \$100.00. On September 16 they will start back filling on Holman Hill and patching on Dodd Hill started on 9/10 and should be finished in a couple days. There is a problem with the storage of the pumps for the residents in the sewer district. They have been taken to the Transfer Station and the motor controls are in the highway garage. The Board discussed the matter and declared that the storage of these should be the responsibility of the contractor. The town is willing to give the contractor space at the Transfer Station to put up some temporary trailers to house them.

Sewer - see related article.

Transfer/Recycling Station - Lu Megow - Proceeds from station were \$5,978.25 for August. There were \$426.40 worth of returnable cans and bottles.

On October 2 at 4PM the Board will meet with engineers from Adirondack Engineering regarding the water district.

A petition was received from residents to limit speed to 35MPH in the area near The View Restaurant. The petition was accepted and will be sent on to the county.

The report from the survey on the use of the old town hall was accepted. It was tabled to the Oct. meeting.

A letter from Mr. Viscardi stated that the town attorney had reversed his decision on the septic system on the Beaudoin property.

In another subject Mr. Viscardi stated that a section of Appendix E of the Zoning Ordinance does not allow for residents to rent their properties in most areas of the town. The Town Board voted to recommend to the APA the elimination of that section, since properties have been rented on a regular basis for many years.

The permit for a well on the Beaudoin property remains an open issue. It was moved to notify the town attorney to stop pursuing this issue. No second to the motion.

A resignation was received from Chuck Fillare, member of the Planning Board. It was accepted, with regret. Anyone interested in being on the Planning Board should get an application from the town office.

A letter was received from Monica Sitts requesting that the town allow her to collect the returnable cans and bottles from the Recycling Station to help with an educational trip to Europe she is planning in April 2003.

A letter of request will be sent to Lonnie Swinton, former dog control officer, to return the dog cage to the town highway department or the Community Center

A discussion was held on the proposed plan to have an electrician on board for the town so that he could take care of emergencies.

The Board granted permission to Supervisor Belden to attend a Small Cities Grant conference.

A grant was received from Small Cities Grant to aid low income families to hook up to sewer.

Councilman Meola got permission to attend a youth program at Warren County.

Bill Bothe suggested that an ad be put in The Times of Ti to recruit highway department employees, as part of a Manpower Resource Survey.

The supervisor's county report was short (the meeting was long). The most important statement was that the budget is going up, up, up!! ...dh

RESULTS OF PRIMARIES

Only 130 Hague residents voted in the Primaries on Sep. 10; 116 Republicans, 13 Democrats and 1 Independent. Running for Assembly, Scozzafava won over Sayward by 72 - 31, with Kusnierz tallying 9. However Sayward won overall. Scozzafava will run on the Conservative line in November.



Guess Who?

9/02

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The following letter has been sent to the editor for publication.

Over two months ago, Mr. Meola, a town board member, presented a document to the town board called the Proposed Town Law #3, Property Maintenance Law. This proposed new law has been discussed by the Town Board and has not at all been considered for acceptance as presented. I applaud that because it is one of the most restrictive laws that any community can have imposed upon itself.

Every town of Hague resident needs to get a copy of that proposal and read it with the greatest of interest. If, by very slim chance, this law were to be passed, it would put the kind of restrictions on all of the Hague residence (sic) that are included in the very exclusive housing developments for the wealthy. This proposed law smacks of power and control in our over regulated lives in this area.

It is very clear that if certain objects like lawn clippings, cigarette butts, package wrappings, cardboard boxes or similar items be observed on ones (sic) property, and not removed when told to, that a crew can be ordered to come in, remove what they term as undesirable, charge you for it and/or be fined up to \$500.00 with some jail time. Mr. Meola stated publicly he got information for this new law proposal from the town of Malone. He provided us a news clipping that Malone wants to put "New Teeth" into their new law to put the bite on, what they term, "eyesores".

Mr. Meola speaks publicly and wrote an article in this publication that he welcomes comments on his performance as a town board member. However, Mr. Meola would not answer why he presented this restrictive proposal in it's (sic) current form except to use as a starting point and would not answer what changes he would make after criticizing the town board for not making changes yet at the September board meeting.

I urge everyone in this community to get a copy of this ridiculous (sic) restrictive proposal, read it and submit your areas of agreement or disapproval to any of the town board. Most of all, please plan on being at the meeting on October 4, 4pm at the community center when this will be discussed by the board and hopefully they will have the courage to throw it out! Please be there. Please read & know what this proposal is about and the negative affect (sic) it will have on our community.

Our lives are regulated by no less than 12 agencies and we don't need this additional rope around our necks. . . Nelson Waters, 239 Decker Hill Rd., Hague.

TOWN BOARD CONTINUES TO CONSIDER FRIENDS POINT PROPERTY MATTER

On April 18, 2002 the Zoning Administrator of the Town of Hague issued a sanitary code violation citing the Beaudoins of Friends Point for not having a permit on file for a wastewater sanitary system. Th attorney for the homeowner, Dominick J. Viscardi, went through files in the Hague Town offices with the help of Debbie Manning, Town Clerk on June 26, 2002. They found the permit for the septic system and the receipt for the \$5 permit fee issued in 1975 to the original owner of the property, Lorence Queen.

The Lake George Park Commission became involved in the Lorence Queen septic system in 1975 as a result of the fact that the previous system, installed in 1972, had failed and had to be completely removed and replaced. The 1975 septic sys-

tem was designed, inspected during construction and finally approved by Ray Cowen, an engineer for the Lake George Park Commission in accordance with the permit that had been issued by the Town of Hague in October 1975. The 1975 septic system has functioned satisfactorily to date and is the septic system in use by the Beaudoins which clearly establishes that they are in compliance with requirements for a wastewater sanitary system.

It was not until August 13, 2002 that the attorney for the town on this issue, John Silvestri, in a fax to Supervisor Belden rendered his opinion "that the raised mound septic system on the Beaudoin's property was lawfully installed." However, in spite of the documents showing that the permit was issued by the Town of Hague, Mr. Silvestri continued to state that it was "in accordance with the permit issued by the Lake George Park Commission in 1975."

Finally, at the September meeting of the Town Board of Hague, a motion made by Councilman Meola, and seconded by Councilman Art

Steitz, was approved to notify Mrs. Beaudoin that the septic system was legal and that the violation has been removed by the Zoning Administrator. This reporter spoke to both Councilman Meola and Councilman Steitz who stated that they understood that the permit was issued by the Town of Hague.

But the story does not end there because a second issue was introduced by the town attorney, Mr. Silvestri, in regards to this same property. There is a drilled water well on the Beaudoin property and Mr. Silvestri claims that the New York State Sanitary Code "requires a permit be obtained before a private homeowner can drill a well."

However, upon researching this issue, Councilman Meola noted that "neither the Warren County DOH, the NYS DOH nor the Town of Hague issues permits for the drilling of water wells." He also noted that no other homeowner in the Town of Hague has been required to obtain such a permit. Mr. Meola has further suggested to Mr. Silvestri and the Town Board that to only pursue enforcement of a permit for the Beaudoin well could be construed as selective enforcement and could invite litigation against the Town. On the other hand if all homeowners in the town with a well are now made to get a permit "the people are not going to stand for it", said Meola.

On August 13th, Mr. Silvestri stated he "(has) written to the Attorney General's office for an opinion whether the Town Board, sitting as the local board of health, has authority to enforce New York State's Sanitary Code" relative to a well permit. Mr. Viscardi has noted, "The implementation of the New York State Health Department regulations for drilling of wells on private property in the Town of Hague at this date would be prospective and not retroactive". To put an end to this issue, Councilman Meola introduced a motion at the September Town Board meeting to notify the attorney for the town, John Silvestri, to stop pursuing the matter. However, there was no second to the motion because the other Town Board members wish to continue to wait for the response to Mr. Silvestri's 8/13 inquiry to the Attorney General.

The issue will continue to be unresolved for both the Town and the property owner until the Hague Town Board makes a decision. Mr. Viscardi aptly noted in a letter to the Hague Chronicle, "Finally the time has come to put these issues to rest as they affect my clients. They have suffered enough and have endured considerable expense to research an issue 27 years after the fact, in which they had no personal involvement. Which of us would like to meet such a urden?" ...js 9/02

SCOUNDINGS

F. Y. I.

BORN: Ashley Grace Igoe to Nicki and Steven Igoe on July 3, 2002 in Peoria, IL. She joins two brothers, Tyler, 5, and Noah, 3. She is the granddaughter of Frank & Bunny Igoe of Friends Point and Medina, NY.

DIED: Harry Duggan (Dug) deBuys, 61, on August 18, 2002 after a long illness, in Reston, VA. A long time summer resident of Holman Hill, Hague, he lived in Arlington, VA. He was the son of the late Harry and Betty deBuys and is survived by his brother Robert and wife Holly and six nephews.

DIED: Tyler Paul Everett Winters, 18, on August 19 in Hague. He was the son of Richard Winters, Lake George, formerly of Hague, his mother, Debbie, Minnesota, sister, Brooke, grandmother Ellen Winters and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

DIED: Paula Hartz, 64, Pudding Island Lane, Silver Bay, on August 19, 2002. Ms Hartz was a free lance writer and editor of many educational books. A memorial service will be held at her home on Pudding Island Lane on Oct. 12 at 1PM.

DIED: Norma Rose Megow, 66, Cape Cod Village, Hague, on September 14, 2002 at Glens Falls Hospital. She and her husband Lu have lived in Hague since 1987, having retired here from Wetherfield, CT. Mrs. Megow was a vital member of the HVFD, the Hague Baptist Church and the Hope Cancer Group of Hague. She is survived by her husband, two daughters, Joann Fortier of Crown Point and Heidi Rose Foy of West Hartford, CT. and three grandsons.

DIED: James "Ev" Lee, 86, of Ellenton, FL on September 14, 2002. He was a former resident of Silver Bay. He is survived by his wife, Florence, son James, daughter, Judy Newman, three grandchildren and four great grandchildren. "Ev" was an original member of the Chronicle staff. He and Jim Broderick faithfully ran copies of the paper each month on an antiquated mimeograph machine in the old town hall, a very dirty job! He was greatly appreciated.

AWARD: John J. Macionis, a Hague summer resident, has won the Distinguished Contributions to Undergraduate Teaching Award from the American Sociological Association (ASA). He is a Professor of Sociology at Kenyon College.

Karen Swanson, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. David Swanson, Hague, has recently joined the Baltimore Symphony as the new Vice President & General Manager.

- Ticonderoga Elementary School open house will be held on September 25 at 7PM. Opening session will start promptly at 7PM in the cafeteria, with the principal greeting parents and introducing new staff members, after which parents will visit their students' classrooms.

- Ticonderoga Middle School open house will be held on September 26 beginning at 6:45PM in the Middle School cafeteria. Students will bring a detailed description of the schedule of the evening's program home on that day.

- The Parent Teacher Organization has scheduled a Middle School Book Fair to be held in the Resource Center on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 26 and 27, 2002.

- The Glens Falls Symphony opens its 25th Jubilee Season with a concert on September 29 at 4PM at the Queensbury High School - "New York - New World". They will present three dances from "On the Town" by Bernstein, a Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra with Joe Alessi, soloist and Symphony No. 9 (From the New World) by Dvorak.

- The Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring an Old Fashioned Christmas Sampler. They are looking for suggestions for activities. This would be scheduled for between Nov. 30 and Jan. 6. Any ideas? Call the Chamber of Commerce 585-6619.

- Albany International Airport has announced the next exhibit to be featured in the Albany International Airport Gallery. *Show Off: Directors Select from their Museum Collections*, will open on September 30, 2002 and run through Feb. 16, 2003. Next time you are waiting for your plane or waiting to meet someone, stop by the gallery and enjoy. Gallery hours are 7AM to 7PM daily.

- The tentative schedule for the repaving of the Community Center parking lot is the last week of September. Offices will be closed during the procedure. You are advised to call before coming in.

- Two sets of keys have been found recently, one in the Dodd Hill/Lakeshore Hills area and the other on 9N near Arcady. They can be identified at the Community Center.

- For pond owners - Warren Soil & Conservation District has FISH FOR SALE! Offering Brook, Brown and Rainbow Trout; Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass; and Minnows. Contact District at 51 Elm St., Warrensburg or call 623-3119, Mon. to Fri. Deadline 9/27.

- Fuel assistance - October 16th, 11AM - 12:30PM - for those 60 years of age or older. Please bring verification of address - age income for anyone in household and fuel/utility bill.

9/02

A SPECIAL REUNION

For six former students of Hague Central, it was a dream come true when they were reunited for an afternoon of margaritas and memories in late August. The six women (class of 1965/66) had been close friends during their school years, but had, over time, pretty much lost touch with one another. With the help of the internet site classmates.com, however, and e-mail, they were able to make contact and set a date for their small but very boisterous reunion.

JoAnn (MacDougal) Merrill traveled all the way from Florida for the get together. Also on hand were Jill (Lambert) Stull, Linda (Archibald) Case, Sue (Middleton) Wolcott, Esther (Fisher) Blow and Ginger (Henry) Kuenzel. And, to the delight of all the 'girls', former heart throb and Phys. Ed. teacher Paul Cederstrom made a special guest appearance. Raiders yearbooks, snapshots from years gone by and endless stories from then and now (we're all sworn to secrecy, so don't ask us to reveal any) made for a wonderfully raucous afternoon and evening. They all vowed to keep in touch and to start making plans for another reunion next year, hopefully with even more of their former classmates in attendance!

Your Chronicle editor (who fondly remembers being a Brownie and Girl Scout leader for the entire group) also stopped by the party and was tickled by all the old photos. And, of course, it was a day for taking new photos, as evidenced here. ...ghk



WEATHER NOTES by Mary Lou Doulin

The great weather continues throughout September even though it feels like August. Beautiful nights and warm, gorgeous days follow one another. Tomorrow, the 19th, is promising to be in the 80s which is great swimming weather. The lake is especially appealing in its clarity, calmness and moderate temperature.

The sounds of crickets at night have been complimented by some spectacular aurora borealis displays, Saturday, the 7th of September being one. Nocturnal conditions were perfect and viewing the rolling pastel colors was thrilling.

We had an abundance of sunshine all summer and so far into September, the same. Cloudless days were in the majority. Conditions are very dry, but we had a good rain Sunday, Sep. 15, but not enough for DEC to lift the burning ban. The harvest full moon falls on Sept. 21.

TROPHY HOUSE THREAT

The following appeared as a letter to the editor in the September 6, 2002 issue of *The Lake George Mirror* and is being reprinted by permission.

"Forget about zebra mussels, milfoil and coliform bacteria, the most imminent threat to Lake George right now is the trophy house

The lakeshore landscape is being erased by giant houses rich people are building as monuments to themselves. They're too big, too close to the lake and too visible. Some of them can be seen from miles away and look like they were designed by Tony Soprano's architect.

Local governments, the park agencies and the Lake George Association have failed to stop or sometimes even notice this single most destructive trend on the lake.

There need to be clear and tough laws to end this, not just fines that are a token to people with money to burn. Houses should have limited square footage and be built back from the lake. Trees must remain in front of the house. Anything built in violation must be torn down.

If not, I can see a future in which the lakeshore is lined with enormous houses built by the rich and self-important. One day the only view they will have will be of each other and they won't like what they see". . . .
Brian Rooney, Pilot Knob

TALE OF THE CRACKED POT

A water bearer in India had two large pots, each hung on an end of a pole which he carried across his shoulders. One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his house. Of course, the perfect pot was perfect for the task for which it was made, and proud of its accomplishments, but the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you. I have been able to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said. The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there are flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without your being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house. Moral. Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots, but it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together interesting and rewarding. You've just got to take people for what they are, and look for the good in them. . . . Taken from a mailing from REACH.

GUNNISON'S OPEN NEW BUSINESS

Tieah Gautreau, daughter of Michele and Tim Gautreau, New Hague Road, was a lucky girl a couple years ago when she married Will Gunnison, Crown Point. Will is a sixth generation of Gunnisons who have had a very successful business with apples. Of course Will was a very lucky young man too! Since their marriage they have worked very hard restoring the old farmhouse adjacent to their family apple farm. In the meantime they have also produced an adorable little girl, Mickaela.

The work on the house was extensive but the results are miraculous. The old plank floors are a mixture of oak and pine, preserved with a luster that shines with hard work. The decor is Adirondack. Handmade wreaths adorn the walls and the shelves are loaded with crafts and gifts.

On September 4 they opened The Old Farmhouse Bakery and Gift Shop in Crown Point. The hours from now until Christmas are from 6AM to 5PM. (They really get up early!) Bob Spring, a local Crown Pointer, will be baking everything from pies and cider donuts, to cookies, monkey bread, cinnamon rolls, sticky buns and apple turnovers. (Must smell wonderful!)

Will says he plans to expand in the coming years. Tractor drawn hay rides to the pumpkin patch or apple orchard, berry picking and other fun things will be part of that expansion. Apple gift packs have been a mainstay of the orchard and will continue to be. Gifts can be shipped anywhere in the U.S.

So if you are yearning for some of that wonderful apple cider, or apples of all varieties, take a trip to Gunnison's Orchards. Start your Christmas shopping early in their unique gift shop.

For more information, call 597-9222.

Start planning now for what you can do on MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY, on Saturday, Oct. 26. This is America's largest day of service. Millions help others. Millions of lives are changed forever. Sponsored by USA Weekend Magazine in partnership with Points of Light Foundation, with awards from Paul Newman, who donates all after-tax profits from sales of Newman's Own products to educational charitable purposes, Make A Difference Day is celebrating its 12th anniversary. Anybody that has any ideas of how you can make a difference, please let us know at The Hague Chronicle, PO Box 748, Hague, NY 12836.

CARILLON GARDEN CLUB HOLDS FLOWER SHOW



The Carillon Garden Club's Standard Flower Show on September 7 in the Hague Community Center was a huge success. A great deal of time and effort was put into this show by the members of the club and it certainly showed! The

theme of the show was "Celebrations". The entire large meeting room at the center was reserved for the design class, which consisted of three classes of arrangements with backboards, including "Happy Valentine's Day", "A Thanksgiving Feast" and "Celebrating July 4th". Each of these had four entries. In Class B, design, there were three classes of table arrangements; "Football Weekend Tail-Gate Party", "Our Wedding Day", and "Celebrate Your Birthday Party". Blue ribbon winners in each of these classes were Vivian Den Bleyker for Valentine's; Lena Iuliano for Thanksgiving, and Denise Huestis for July 4th. In the table setting category, the blue ribbon winners were Mary Lou Monda for Football Weekend; Margaret Howe for Wedding Day and Dottie Henry for Birthday Party. The Sweepstakes award, a silver bowl, was awarded jointly to Lena Iuliano and Margaret Howe for accumulating the most points for their designs. Table artistry award



was won by Margaret Howe and Special Education Exhibits awards were given to Sharon Lonergan for her Boy Scout exhibit (Jr. Div.) and Jackie Viestenz for the senior division.

The horticulture portion of the show was displayed in two separate rooms. Horticulture Excellence award was given to Pat Wania for a beautiful delphinium; the Award of Merit to Maki Jackowitz, Shirley Smith and Jeannette Ploof. The Sweepstakes Award and the Collectors' Showcase Award in Horticulture were won by Martha Soliday and the Arboreal Award by Mary Carman.

HAUNTED FORT TICKETS NOW ON SALE

The Ti Festival Guild and the Ticonderoga Fort are again co-sponsoring the Haunted Fort on Fri., Oct. 18, Sat., Oct. 19, Fri., Oct. 25 and Sat., Oct. 26. Cathie Burdick of the Festival Guild says she can use volunteers for any of these evenings. Please call the Guild at 585-6716 to volunteer your services. Get your tickets early by calling the Fort at 585-7450. They are selling fast!

NATURE NEWS
by Laura Meade

Laura, our faithful nature news reporter has been ill for some time, but has continued to write a column for us. However, she has now been transported to Westmount Health Facility, Gurney Lane, Glens Falls, NY 12801. I'm sure she would love to hear from her friends.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

September

- 24 Town Board meets with Engineers on Sewer - 10 am
- 24 Senior Citizen meeting - 1:30PM at Community Center
- 25 Senior Citizens Boat Trip
- 25 Elementary School Open House - p7
- 26 Middle School Open House - p7
- 26 Zoning Board - 7PM
- 26 & 27 - PTO Book Fair at Middle School - p7
- 29 Glen Falls Symphony - p7

October

- 2 Special Town Board meeting at 3PM
(to discuss water district with Ad. Engineers)

- 2 Town Board workshop at 4PM
(to discuss Local Laws 3 and 4)
- 3 Planning Board - 7PM
- 8 Town Board meeting - 6:30PM
- 12 Fire Dept Dinner - p1
- 14 Columbus Day celebrated.
Offices & schools closed
- 15 Board of Education meeting - 7:30PM
HS. Cafeteria
- 16 Blood Pressure Clinic - 1-2PM, Community C.
18,19,25,26 Haunted Fort - p9
- 21 No School - parent/teacher conferences

NORMA

She has boundless blessings
For the many friends
She encounters day by day.
She brings in gladness and
Chases the sadness
As she goes on her way.
It's not the glory of her days
Though glorious indeed they are
That brings forth this song of praise
That glows like a shining star.

A wife, a mother, a grandmother, too
A friend beyond compare
She fights off adversity
With all kinds of certainty
With qualities that are rare.

This community is a better place
That is marked for all to see.
So thank you, Norma
For all you have done.
I know we all agree
... John J. Brown, Cape Cod Village

In loving tribute to Norma Megow
March 30, 1936 - September 14, 2002

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