



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

Published Monthly Since 1972
Volume 46 Number 01

<www.thehaguechronicle.org>

Hague, New York 12836
January 2017

BROWNSTEIN DONATES ITEMS TO LGLC

Have you seen these beautiful stainless steel Christmas ornaments, key chains and bottle openers?



They are the work of part-time Hague resident Glenn Brownstein. He and his family have been coming to the Lake George area for 49 years, first in Bolton Landing, then in Warrensburg and now in Hague. When he is not in Hague, Brownstein lives in Flemington, NJ, where he works as a metal fabricator.

When asked how he makes the items, he explained, "I make the rough cuts in the shop in Jersey and then I finish them in Hague."

He then donates reproductions of the three items to the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC), insisting that 100% of the profits from their sales go to the LGLC and its projects and programs. When asked why he chose to work with the LGLC, he said that he likes the fact that it's a grassroots operation, he likes the way it operates and he believes in their mission of using the money they receive to purchase land. He and his family love to hike and they appreciate the new parcels the LGLC has acquired and the trails that has made possible.

He says he uses stainless steel because it is sanitary, hypo-allergenic, environmentally friendly, cuts cleanly, it's less expensive than silver and the results are beautifully unique. His daughter had the idea of key chains and bottle openers and Sarah Hoffman from the LGLC came up with the idea of Christmas ornaments.

He has also made various other stainless steel items including jewelry and wall silhouettes, which are available in Bolton Landing, Lake George Village and right here in Hague at Juniper.

Brownstein admits that it probably costs him more to make the items for the LGLC than to simply give a donation, but he insists it's a fun hobby and he likes the fact that it gets other people interested.



Thank you, Glenn Brownstein, for using your talent and generosity for such a good cause in the North Country!

SILVER BAY HOSTS PLANNING MEETING



Conceptual design of The Center for Dining and Lodging

Silver Bay YMCA hosted a meeting on January 11, 2017 for a joint sketch plan review workshop with Town of Hague ZEO Cathy Clark and most of the members of the Hague Planning and Zoning Boards. Also in attendance were three members of the Adirondack Park Agency (APA), members of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) and representatives of the planning team for Silver Bay's new Center for Lodging and Dining.



Members of the APA team with ZEO Cathy Clark.

A sketch plan conference can be held prior to submission of a formal application to the Planning Board. This workshop gave an opportunity for representatives of the Phinney Design Group to show the current design plans for the new center, which will replace the current dining hall and will have lodging on the second floor. Skip Hourigan from the Silver Bay YMCA noted that the plans have been in the works for years and this was an opportunity for members of the boards and the HVFD to make suggestions that could be incorporated before the final applications.

Silver Bay YMCA has submitted an application to the APA, but it has not been deemed complete. Since it is an APA Class A project, they are waiting for the Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals in Hague to approve it first.

Several members of the HVFD were in attendance, including many who are also on the Zoning and Planning Boards. Both fire personnel and EMS personnel are familiar with the Silver Bay campus as they receive several calls from there each year. The HVFD had prepared concerns in advance, which were presented to the design team by Fire Chief Bill Gourley.



Members of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department discuss their concerns.

The Phinney Design representatives said they would continue to work with the local community on this project.

by Judy Stock

SENIOR NEWS

Welcome to the New Year! May you all have a year filled with good health and happiness.

By the time you get this, we'll already have had our first game night on the 4th and our International Dinner, where everyone brought a dish to share.

On February 20, 2017, we are going bowling and, as always, that provides more than a few laughs. It's also good, fun exercise. But, then we do also eat pizza and drink soda, so - so much for the exercise! Oh well, when you're a senior, you are allowed to eat between your turns.

We have a busy year ahead of us. January 24th will be our regular meeting at the Community Center at 1:30 pm. We'll install our 2017 officers and guest speakers Jan and Bob Whitaker will talk about AARP and taxes. If you are not a member of the Hague Seniors and would like to join, come to this meeting. You only have to be 50 to join the club and we're a club on the go! If you can't make it that day and are interested in joining, contact me at 543-6502. If you are a member, please come and bring your \$5 annual dues.

On February 9th, we are planning a sleigh ride in the snow, weather permitting, followed by soup and sandwiches at the Hague Volunteer Fire Department at 4:30 pm. Everyone who comes should bring something to share. Those who are unable to do the sleigh ride are still welcome to come to eat with us.

On February 16th, weather permitting, we'll meet at the Community Center at 9:30 am and carpool to see this year's Saranac Ice Castle. Wonder what sculpture they'll have this year! Then we'll go out to lunch at a place to be determined.

At our February 21st regular meeting at 1:30 pm at the Community Center, we will play Bingo. Everyone should bring a gift to share.

by Pat Hintze

ONGOING EVENTS

- 1st Monday: Fire Department (7 pm)
- 2nd Monday: Senior Bus to Glens Falls (8:30 am)
- Every Tuesday: Champlain Chorale (7 pm)
- 3rd Tuesday: Ticonderoga School Board (7 pm)
- 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club (7 pm)
- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays: Ti'Coustics (7 pm)
- 4th Wednesday: Extra Helpings Distribution (noon)
- 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club (10 am)
- Every Tuesday: Rotary Club (7:30 am)
- Every Thursday: Kiwanis (12 pm)
- 1st Friday: Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)

HVFD

We hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season and is ready for winter!

In the month of December, the Hague Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) had 14 fire calls and drills using 114 volunteer hours and EMS had 9 calls with 62.5 volunteer hours.

Elections of officers were held in December. After many years as fire chief, Ray Mury has stepped down and Bill Gourley has taken over. Continuing in their roles will be James Belden as 1st assistant chief and Bill Wells as 2nd assistant chief. Jon Hanna was elected captain and Mike Cherubini was elected lieutenant.

Meg Haskell was elected ambulance captain and Mara Haskell was elected assistant captain. Joanne Trudeau will serve as the ambulance lieutenant as well as the corresponding secretary.

Elected to the board of directors were: Marty Fitzgerald as chairman of the board, Linda Mury as president, Mike Cherubini as vice president, Tom Haskell as secretary and Janet Hanna as treasurer. Jon Hanna, Diane Trudeau and Meg Haskell were each re-elected to the board for three-year terms.

The HVFD will again be hosting many of the events scheduled for Winter Weekend, which is scheduled for February 18 and 19, 2017.

The Firemen's Breakfast will be held at the firehouse from 8 - 11 am on Saturday, February 18th. The menu is on the HVFD website <<http://www.haguefireems.org>>. The charge is \$13 for adults and \$8 for children under 12.

The Chili Cook-Off will be held at the firehouse between 5 and 11 pm. There will be food and live music. Admission is \$10. Beer and wine will be sold separately. If you would like to enter a chili, call Pat Hintze at 543-6502 or Linda Mury at 543-6550. The chili must be delivered by 4 pm.

The Polar Bear Plunge will be held on Sunday, February 19th at The Trout House Village Dock at 2 pm, with registration beginning at 1 pm. All proceeds will go to the Vermont Children's Hospital. Pledge sheets are available at the Silver Bay General Store and the Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce. Following the plunge, awards will be given out and food and beverages will be served at the firehouse.

For more information, please contact Meg Haskell at 543-2015. We hope to see a good turnout at each of these events!

by Meg Haskell

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is mailed out by volunteers on the Wednesday after the third Tuesday of each month. The news deadline is the previous Wednesday.

Please send all news items to Editor, Bobbi Bryant Taylor, at: <editor@thehaguechronicle.org>.

Please send address corrections or account questions to the Publisher, Judy Stock, at <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com>.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly (check your label for due date) tax deductible contribution, made out to The Hague Chronicle, to:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
PO Box 748
Hague, NY 12836-0748

Publisher: Judy Stock
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2016 HAGUE MEMORY TREE

DONATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE IN MEMORY OF THE FOLLOWING:

Almon and Edith Ackerman, Peggy Alkema, Josephine Arata, Pat Armstrong, Joe Bach, James A. Balcom, Olive P. Balcom, Harvey T. Balcom, Ralph Balcom, Cassie Balcom, Donald and Gladys Barber, Andrew N. Barnaby, Jr. Family, Andrew N. Barnaby, Sr. Family, Angie and Leo Barnaby, Eugene Barnaby, Sr., Lillian Barnett, Theresa Bauer, Karl Bauer, John Bauer, Mary Beadnell, Barbara Belden, Esther Belden, James Belden, Gail Bennett, Leroy D., Sr. and Letha Bennett, Letha Decker Bennett, John E. Bennett, John Bennett, Della Robbins Bennett, Mary Beste, Dorothy A. Bevins, Steven A. Bevins, Stephen J. Bevins, Ernest C. Bevins, Maud Bevins, Morris Bevins, Frank Bevins, Winifred and William Blair, Jack and Doris Bolton, Dick and Penny Bolton, Florence and Fritz Bondgren, Gerry Boyd, John and Betty Braisted, Jody Lambert Braisted, Debbie Breitenbach, Brink Family, Catherine Brock, Louis Brock, Charlotte Brock, Jim and Margaret Broderick, Father Rich Broderick, John and Betty Brown, Arlone H. and John L. Brown, Punky Brunell, Bob and Shirley Bryant, Charley and Marge Burgey, George Burns, Joe Cacici, Irene Arsenault Calden, Bob Caldera, Hannah Cameron, Frank Carney, Rosemary Carney, Harold Carpenter,

Jane Carpenter, John Carpenter, John Carpenter, Jr., Richard S. Carpenter, Zella Carpenter, Edward F. Cassidy, Betty Chamberlain, Harold Chamberlain, Sr., Harold Chamberlain, Jr., Peggy Carney Chamberlain, Jane Chappell, Mario Cherubini, Jack Cherubini, Bruce Clark, John "Bgood" Costello, Lucille Costello, John M. Costello, David Crandall, Cory Cronan, Roland Dame, Betty Decker, Clifford Decker, Emerson Decker, Mary J. Decker, Wilbert Decker, Anthony DeFranco, Emma DeFranco, Margaret DelSignore, Eugene Denno, Robert and Geneva Denno, Bernard "Buck" and Anna Robbins Denno, Joseph J. Denno, Robert A. Denno, Mabel Rock Denno, Ralph H. Denno, Jim Denno, Marion Denno, Floyd and Betty Densmore, Ryan Dickson, Bert Doyle, Elmer "Elm Tree" Dunklee, Marie Dykeman, Mildred Eddy, Dave Eldredge, Nathan Elethorpe, Anna Elethorpe, Norman Elethorpe, Earl Elethorpe, Gladys Elethorpe, Asel Elethorpe, Myra Elethorpe, Cecil Elethorpe, Elwin Elethorpe, John Fadding, Bud Fadding, Herm Fish, Floyd Fish, Floyd Fish, Jr., Charlie Fish, Clifford Fish, Jane Fitzgerald, Jean Fitzgerald, Barb Fitzgerald, James and Vila Fitzgerald, James and Lillian Fitzgerald, Pat Forgette, Sean Alexander Forsyth, Chuck Fort,

Clifford and Mary Frasier, Chet and MeMe Frasier, Mitchel Frasier, Imogene Frasier, Dale Frasier, Slip Frasier, Geraldine Frasier, Veril and Carl Frasier, Clint and Marion Frasier, Janice Frasier, Beatrice Robbins Frasier, Lee and Alice Frasier Family, Fred Frasier, Harold "Hoppy" Frasier, Merrill Frasier, Valeda Frazier, William Frazier, James Frazier, Gert Frazier, Gerald Frazier, Laura Robbins Fricke, Colleen Fuller, Theresa Gautreau, Erene T. Gautreau, James Girard, Charlie and Evelyn Goss, Ron Graser, Patrick Guerrieri, Robert Guerrieri, Grace Guerrieri, Patsy Guerrieri, James Patrick "Butch" Gunning, Harold "Beezer" Hall, George and Blanche Hanna, Betty Bennett Hardy, George and Gloria Hawkins, Archie Herrick, Gert Herrick, Jim Herrick, Peggy and Edwin Hinck, Ron Hintze, George and Dorothy Hirakawa, Janet Hoffay, Greg Hostig, George and Marion Hudler, Ron Hudler, Ruth Huestis, Lura Bennett Hunter, Kate Hunter, Louis and Bessie Johnson, "Mam" and "Pap" Jordon, Margaret Jordon, Curtis Jordon, Gramp Jordon, Inza Jordon, Cindy Jordon, Bea Jordon, Chuck Jordon, Dave "Can't Say" Jordon, John Jordon, Trudy Karmazin, Charles "Chuck" Kasal, Florence "Topsy" Lambert, Beach Lambert,

Harold Lambert, Alice Lambert, Betty Lambert, John Lambert, Cyrus LaPointe, Bob Larter, Ted Larter, Margaret Larter, Doug Laundree, Evert and Georgina Lindquist, Cliff Lund, Dorothy Luyster, Al Luyster, Wendy Luyster, Bernice MacGregor, Irene Middleton Main, Mike Manning, Aaron Mars, Bill Mathews, Betty Mathews, John Mathews, Ida May, Gary May, Gordon "Hubcap" May, Harry and Ada May, Kyle May, Donnie May, Betty and Don McCabe, Cindy McCranels, Beatrice Denno McCoy, Lucille Bennett McCumber, Elsie McDonough, Roy Meeker, Grady Meeker, Paul Meeker, Norma Megow, Ludolf J. Megow, Irene Megow, Rudy Meola, Leonard Middleton, Aaron Middleton, Alvin Middleton, Emma Middleton, Scott Middleton, Beatrice "Midge" Denno Middleton, Julia Middleton, Linda Middleton, Walter Middleton, Nicholas Mosca, Grandma Moses, Juanita Robbins Nestor, Margaret Nielson, Jim Nutt, Elizabeth Elethorpe Ormsby, Irene Ostrander, Makeisha Hoffay Pendarvis, Jackie Perkins, Peter Plass, Terry Pinchon, Camille Pomponio, Shirley Raines, Bill Randall, Barb Rawson, Jack Reynolds, Bertha Spaulding Robbins, Paul Robbins, Harvey Robbins, Benajah Robbins, Ernest Robbins, Vern Rockwell,

Scott Rockwell, Eunice Ross, Wesley Ross, Judy Hoffay Rypkema, Ted and Lucy Santaniello, Sierra Rose Santaniello, Anna and Salvatore Santaniello, Silvio Santaniello, Richard L. Scarzello, LeRoy Scott, Sara Scott, Emilie Scott, Dale Scripture, Ed Semer, Rosie and Mike Serdinsky, Jennie and Jasper Shattuck, Mary and Steve Sialer, Florence Smith, Uncle Jim Smith, Laura Smith, Tink Snow, Art Sr Steitz, Richard Stormer, Sr., Leona Robbins Stratton, Carl Sunderland, Clarence Swinyer, Dolly Swinyer, Faye Thibeault, Charles Thompson, Sandra Thompson, Edna Robbins Tilton, Clifford Trudeau Family, Mildred Tuminsky, Anna Turano, Nick Turano, Barbara Denno Tyler, Betty Ursell, Bill Van Alstyne, Bud and June Van Kleeck, William and Anna Van Kleeck, Marion Van Kleeck, Hatch Van Kleeck, Al and Betty Van Sleet, Betty Vargo, Henry and Lucille Vickerson, John and Julie Vickerson, WAZ, Marguerite West, Sonny West, Jim Whitaker, Ed Whitaker, Don Wilson, Ruth Hudler Woody, Harriet R. Wotton, Robert L. Wotton, Dominic and Camella Yacavone, George Zeyak, Sr.

The Hague Memory Tree began in 1987 when Imogene Frasier approached the Hague Chamber of Commerce to sponsor her in requesting donations for the Hague Ambulance Fund in memory of her son, Dale. She continued the Memory Tree for the next 23 years to help the HVFD purchase equipment for the ambulances. Since Imogene died in 2009, her daughter, Diane Trudeau, continues the tradition in memory of both her brother and mother.

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING – 1/4/2017

All of the members of the Hague Town Board - Edna Frasier, Martin Fitzgerald, Ginger Kuenzel, Steve Ramant and Mike Cherubini - were present for the annual organizational meeting on January 4, 2017. They passed a series of resolutions to designate meeting dates (second Tuesday of each month), official depository (Community Bank NA in Ticonderoga), official newspaper (Glens Falls Post Star), mileage rate (53 cents per mile), etc. They also approved financial contracts that were previously budgeted, the procurement policy, investment policy, appointments to town positions and appointments to board committees.

The appointments to the town positions are as follows:

- Budget Officer - Edna Frasier
- Records Management Officer - Deborah Manning
- Registrar of Vital Statistics - Deborah Manning
- Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics - Bertha Dunsmore
- Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman - Robert Goetsch
- Zoning Board of Appeals Deputy Chairman - Jon Hanna
- Planning Board Chairman - Richard Frasier
- Planning Board Deputy Chairman - Pam Peterson
- Town Naturalist - David DeFranco
- Community Center Coordinator - Bertha Dunsmore
- Care Program Officer - Lindsay Mydlarz
- Care Program Deputy Officer - Bertha Dunsmore
- Dog/Animal Control Officer - Daniel Steitz
- Deputy Supervisor - Steve Ramant
- Deputy Highway Supervisor - Rick Myers

The appointments to the Town Board Committees are below: (The first person named is the chair.)

- Assessor & Justice - Cherubini/Kuenzel
- Buildings & Grounds/Community Center/Enhancement - Fitzgerald/Frasier
- Finance & Insurance - Ramant/Cherubini
- Highway - Fitzgerald/Ramant
- Museum & Historian - Kuenzel/Ramant
- Personnel - Cherubini/Kuenzel
- Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - Fitzgerald/Kuenzel
- Recreation & Promotion & Youth - Ramant/Cherubini
- Sewer District #1 & #2 - Frasier/Kuenzel
- Town Park & Beautification - Ramant/Cherubini

TOWN BOARD MEETING – 1/10/2017

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Steve Ramant, Ginger Kuenzel, Michael Cherubini and Marty Fitzgerald were all present.

A moment of silence was held for: Beverly Schaffer, Michael Stormer and Emma Strutz.

Supervisor Frasier gave a glimpse back at accomplishments for 2016. She included a new phone system, updated website, new building at boat launch, a deep well pump, new truck for the highway department, updates at the Community Center including a new sign, removal of fuel tank and change to propane, work of the LA Group and the Sewer Asset Management Committee, a bio retention area at the Highway Department and additional cable installed in the town.

She then asked each of the board members for their suggestions for goals for this year which she will compile into a list. Among the goals suggested were to finish an updated Comprehensive Plan, finish revision to the sewer ordinance, create a policy for septic inspections when properties are sold

or transferred, update the employee guide, update the county required safety programs, eliminate the problem of trailers parking at the town park, support a grant for a brining proposal for the roads in the Hague area, disseminate information to residents on knotweed, look at updating the committee structure and get information on costs and value of an assessment revaluation.

From the committee reports:

- Assessor & Justice (Fitzgerald/Kuenzel) – no report
- Buildings & Grounds/Community Center/Enhancement (Fitzgerald/Cherubini) - no report
- Finance & Insurance (Ramant/Cherubini) – no report
- Highway (Fitzgerald/Ramant) – no report. The board agreed a good job has been done on roads.
- Museum & Historian (Kuenzel/Ramant) – Councilwoman Kuenzel reported on the Hague Historical Society Board meeting.
- Personnel (Cherubini/Kuenzel) – no report
- Planning/Zoning/Stormwater (Fitzgerald/Kuenzel) – ZEO Clark had already submitted a report to the board.
- Recreation & Promotion & Youth (Ramant/Cherubini) –no report
- Sewer Districts #1 & # 2 (Frasier/Kuenzel) – Monthly report was submitted to the board. The board put money in the budget and will be advertising for an additional person to help at the wastewater treatment plant.
- Town Park & Beautification (Ramant/Frasier) – Councilman Ramant reported that TW/Spectrum will be installing internet connection for the time clocks at the highway shed.

The board approved changes in the membership of the board committees as reflected in the list above.

Under other business, the board:

Accepted Richard Dykstra's resignation from the Board of Assessment Review (BAR).

Appointed Walt Wells to the BAR to finish Dykstra's term, which ends 9/30/18.

Approved an addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding regarding application of salt for winter maintenance and de-icing.

Approved the contract with Hudson Headwaters for vaccinations and immunizations renewal for wastewater treatment employees.

Approved the snowmobile contract with Warren County in the sum of \$9,000, which they will give the town and it will be passed along to the Sno-goers to take care of the trails.

Appointed Mike Cherubini as Safety Officer for the Town of Hague. He has completed the course and has a certificate from the county.

Approval for the supervisor to sign a legal service agreement with Miller, Mannix, Schachner and Hafner for legal services as needed for \$200 per hour.

Approval for the supervisor to sign an agreement with Warren County to receive an additional \$15,000 in occupancy

tax funding. (The budget had already reflected expecting these funds.)

Approved Matt Coffin for the position of highway mechanic.

Appointed Nancy Young as deputy tax collector.

Learned that Town Clerk Debbie Manning has appointed Janet Hanna and Nancy Young as deputy town clerks.

BUDGET CORRECTION

It has come to the attention of *The Hague Chronicle* that, counter to a statement we made in our December issue, \$300,000 of county sales tax money for Hague was indeed left with the county to help offset residents' county taxes. Sales tax is the largest source of revenue for the town and since not all those funds are needed to balance the town budget, money is left with the county. For the past several years, the town board has been able to balance the town budget, not impose any town general fund tax and leave extra sales tax funds with the county.

PARTIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

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

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

County	\$32,399 (Includes sliding scale)
Town	\$23,700 (Includes sliding scale)
School	\$30,399 (Includes sliding scale)

This exemption **must be renewed** each year. Renewal forms were sent in late December to those who had this exemption last year.

Enhanced STAR exemption: Primary residence homeowners over age 65 with household income less than \$86,000. This exemption **must be renewed** each year, unless you are enrolled in the Income Verification program. Renewal forms were mailed in late December to those who had this exemption last year. New applicants should apply for the Star Credit Program online at <www.tax.ny.gov/star>; or by calling 518-457-2036.

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

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

Details and applications are available Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 am to 3 pm. The filing deadline is March 1, 2017.

CHORALE RESUMES REHEARSALS

Beginning February 7, 2017, the Champlain Valley Chorale will be rehearsing each Tuesday evening at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church, Wicker Street, Ticonderoga. New singers in all sections are welcome and no audition is necessary. For information, contact Bob Elling at 585-2173.

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION

The local AARP Tax-Aide program provides FREE 2016 income tax preparation. Trained and certified every year, volunteer counselors help low and middle income taxpayers get the credits and deductions they deserve. You do not have to be retired or a member of AARP for this service. Federal and state income tax returns for 2016 are prepared and electronically filed. Refunds can be direct deposited to a checking or savings account, giving quick refunds to taxpayers.

FREE tax assistance is available in Hague Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 am to 4 pm, from February 2 through April 13 or at the North Country Community College Ticonderoga campus on four Friday afternoons: February 10, February 24, March 10 and March 31, 11:30 am - 4 pm. Returns are prepared in both locations by appointment only. Contact the Hague Community Center at 543-6161 to schedule an appointment in Hague or Ticonderoga.

Bring the following to your appointment: photo ID, Social Security cards for taxpayer, spouse and all dependents on your return, W2s, 1099s, interest and dividend statements, any other tax-related documents and health insurance coverage information for taxpayer, spouse and all dependents.

IRS WARNS OF SCAM

The IRS is warning people of a new tax bill scam.

The Federal Trade Commission recently posted a warning from the IRS on its website to notify people of a new scam, which involves a fake IRS tax notice that claims you owe money as a result of the Affordable Care Act.

The warning further states that the IRS says the fake notices are designed to look like real IRS CP2000 notices, which the agency sends if information it receives about your income doesn't match the information reported on your tax return.

To avoid becoming a victim, remember the IRS will never:

- ◆ Initiate contact with you by email or through social media.
- ◆ Ask you to pay using a gift card, pre-paid debit card or wire transfer.
- ◆ Request personal or financial information by email, texts or social media.
- ◆ Threaten to immediately have you arrested or deported for not paying.

To read the article in its entirety, visit: <<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/irs-warns-new-tax-bill-scam>>.

HAGUE ELECTION RESULTS UPDATED AGAIN

Warren County has updated Hague's election results after additional absentee and affidavit ballots were added. Results are posted at <http://www.warrencountyny.gov/boe/election/2016/g_accumulated.pdf>.

President		U.S. Senator	
Hillary Clinton	215	Charles Schumer	265
Donald Trump	215	Wendy Long	166
Others	32	Others	7

21st Congressional District

Mike Derrick	167
Elise Stefanik	257
Matt Funicello	18
Other	1

WATER QUALITY MATTERS

“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”



What’s black and white and spread all over?

Unfortunately, it’s the Zebra Mussel. Like the name implies, Zebra comes from the appearance of the markings on the shell of this bi-valve mollusk. (The picture is compliments of the Lake George Association website, where you can find further information on their efforts to control invasive species). It’s one of two invasive mollusks found in Lake George. The other is the Asian Clam, which was discussed in the November 2016 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*. Colonies of Zebra Mussels have been found from Lake George Village, where it was first discovered in 1999, to Ticonderoga and scattered points in-between, mostly in the southern basin. These mollusks are very small, usually less than one inch in length, but can grow to be two inches.

Zebra Mussels are a problem for similar reasons as the Asian Clams, i.e., they compete with native species, clog water pipes, clog boat engines, cause a nuisance with washed up remains on beaches and alter the ecosystem. One other little discussed problem is that these things are sharp! If you step on a cluster with your bare feet, you will likely get a cut. Unlike the Asian Clam, which lives in shallow sandy areas, the Zebra Mussel can attach itself to anything using its byssal chords (those hairy looking things shown in the picture). It is the only freshwater mollusk that can attach itself in this way. These problems cumulatively represent a multi-billion dollar threat in the Lake George basin due to the effect on property values, tourism, outdoor recreation and the municipal water supply.

In 2000, a Zebra Mussel Task Force was formed and started tackling remediation efforts. By the end of 2015, over 25,000 Zebra Mussels had been removed from the lake with the cooperation of teams of divers from the Darrin Fresh Water Institute, Bateaux Below and the InnerSpace Scientific Diving groups. Over 20,000 of those mussels were removed just from the Lake George Village waterfront. In Hague, about 300 were removed from Rogers Rock.

Everyone can help in the effort to control Zebra Mussels. Keep your boat clean, drained and dry before launching or, if you have been to other waters, have it decontaminated. Be aware of what these creatures look like and report any new colonies to the Lake George Association or your friendly local representative of the Hague Water Quality Awareness Committee (HWQAC).

Visit HWQAC on Facebook at <<https://www.facebook.com/groups/182043721953952>> or contact one of our Steering Committee members: Jim Beaty, Lance Clark, Ginger Kuenzel, Steve Ramant, Al Rider or me.

by Mike Strutz

SILVER BAY YMCA NEWS

There’s still time to get a FREE Community Membership at Silver Bay YMCA, good through February 28, 2017, which includes use of the campus, ice fishing, community fitness program and spiritual life programming.

Special activities this month will be:

1. Men’s and Women’s Breakfast - Friday, February 3, 2017 at 7:30 am
2. Dinner and a Movie, Friday, February 10 at 6 pm, \$10, *Much Ado About Nothing*
3. Adirondack Winter Fun Weekend, Saturday, February 18 and Sunday, February 19

For details on activities or to join, go to the Silver Bay Inn’s front desk or call 543-8833, ext. 219, Monday-Friday between 9 am and 5 pm.

EXERCISE CLASSES IN HAGUE

On January 2, 2017, Terrie Davis, who has been instructing fitness classes since 1980 all over the country, began teaching fitness classes in the main room of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department.

There are classes for beginners and intermediates on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 pm. All ages are welcome. Classes are divided into two 30-minute sessions. The first part is gentle stretching while the second portion is aerobics. There are blood pressure, blood sugar and weight checks available to aid in measuring your fitness and goals.

Your first week is free. After that, the cost is one canned food (soup, vegetable or fruit) or \$3/class or \$20/month.

Loose-fitting clothes and flat shoes (preferably sneakers) should be worn and participants should bring a hand towel and a water bottle.

SEMINAR ON HEMLOCK KILLER



The hemlock woolly adelgid, a small, aphid-like insect, has caused a great deal of damage to hemlock trees across New York.

On Thursday, February 9, 2017, from 10-11:30 am, the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County will host a free seminar about this insect at the Cooperative Extension Education Center at 377 Schroon River Road, Warrensburg. Mark Whitmore of Cornell University, one of the foremost authorities on the woolly adelgid, will speak.

Then, from 12:30 to 2 pm, Whitmore will conduct a field detection workshop at Pack Forest in Warrensburg. He will explain what to look for and how to tell adelgid damage from other tree issues.

For more information or to register for this program, please contact Dan Carusone at 623-3291 or 668-4881 or email him at: djc69@cornell.edu.



Dock 'n Dine and Trout House Casino

Let's continue to explore the former businesses located north of the Hague Brook along Route 9N. Next to the By-Water, discussed in the last Looking Back column, was the Dock 'n Dine Restaurant.



The Dock 'n Dine had a cocktail lounge and a large, airy dining room overlooking the lake; a separate take-out area was in the front of the building. There were also cabins and a motel with a beach and docks (hence the name). Sadly, it was foreclosed on and auctioned off in 1979. The building was torn down in 1982.



Before the Dock 'n Dine was there, the Trout House Casino occupied that location. Built in 1921, the Trout House Casino was famous for its large dance hall where big bands played several nights a week. They also showed "moving pictures" and had a barbershop, poolroom, ice cream parlor, store and boat livery. The restaurant and bar with slot machines were very popular with summer guests and locals alike. Along the side were cabins for staff and band members. That building was lost to fire in 1932.



This August 1982 photo of folks at the demotion of the Dock 'n Dine was recently donated by Stacey Shearer. (How many of the people can you name?) Besides being a great photo, it brings up another essential point: the Hague Historical Society has an impressive collection of photos, but we have very few photos after 1960.

We need all of you to contribute photos from our recent past! Please take one of these cold winter nights, grab a nice hot toddy and dig through your albums and boxes of loose photos! We'd love to have a look at Hague as it was in the 1970s, 80s and 90s.

by Mary Behr

FORT FEVER SERIES CONTINUES

Fort Ticonderoga's "Fort Fever Lecture Series" continues in 2017. The lectures are held on Sunday afternoons at 2 pm in the Mars Education Center. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased at the door; Fort Ticonderoga members are admitted free of cost.

On February 12, 2017, the program will be "Vive le Roi! - French Regiments at Carillon" Senior Director of Interpretation, Stuart Lilie, will examine the regiments of French soldiers who built and defended Carillon, which was later named "Ticonderoga."

"BATTLE ON SNOWSHOES" RE-ENACTMENT



Fort Ticonderoga will recreate the epic 1757 "Battle on Snowshoes" on January 21, 2017, the 260th anniversary of the event. The re-enactment will bring to life the fierce clash in the woods between French soldiers and Rogers' Rangers.

Participants will discover the people, weapons and stories through living history vignettes, exhibitions and hands-on programs. They will even have the opportunity to march out with French soldiers and their allies before they spring upon Rogers' Rangers. They will also discover the fight for survival as Rogers' Rangers struggle to escape back to Fort Edward behind British lines, see how French soldiers and officers lived in their quarters inside the fort barracks and watch as soldiers work together to keep each other in fighting shape.

The site will be open from 10 am until 4 pm. Tickets are \$10, but members of Fort Ticonderoga will be admitted for free. To view a detailed visitor's schedule, visit: <<http://www.fortticonderoga.org/events/fort-events/1757-battle-on-snowshoes-battle-re-enactment/detail>>.

~SOUNDINGS~

DIED: Michael A. Stormer, 52, of Queensbury on January 4, 2017. He died peacefully at his residence after a long battle with cancer, with his loving wife Heidi Helffrich-Stormer, and children, Braden Stormer and Natalia Helffrich (Christopher Moon) by his side.

His love of the Lake George area began when he vacationed here with his family as a child. As a teenager, the family moved to Hague.

In addition to his father, Michael was predeceased by his uncle and his maternal and paternal grandparents. He is survived by his brother, Richard (Valerie) Stormer, Jr. and sister, Joanne (Ernie) Trudeau.

The Hague Chronicle is happy to publish the important happenings in the lives of our readers. Please send announcements of births, marriages, graduations, awards, or deaths to <editor@thehaguechronicle.org> and we'll publish them as space permits. Thank you.

KIWANIS BRIDGE BUILDING CONTEST

Despite the biggest snowfall of the year that morning, 32 future engineers competed in the annual Ticonderoga Kiwanis Club Model Bridge Contest on December 17, 2016 at Ticonderoga Elementary/Middle School. Hague resident Graham Bailey and the Kiwanis Club began the event nine years ago and has been running it ever since. Students from Ticonderoga Middle School, Crown Point and St. Mary's School and Ticonderoga High School participated in the event. Over half of the competitors were girls.

Kiwanis President, Tom Shaffer, announced that because of the generosity of the event's sponsors, the club would provide a \$500 scholarship to a Ticonderoga graduating senior enrolled in engineering.

The middle school student teams designed and constructed their bridges of popsicle sticks during an hour and a half-long period of time the day of the competition. Then, they loaded buckets with weights and suspended them from the bridges until the bridges collapsed. Each bridge's efficiency (the weight of the load the bridge carried prior to failing in pounds divided by the weight in grams of the bridge) was then computed.

Trophies were presented for best bridge efficiency and for the aesthetics of the bridges. Judges for the aesthetic portion of the contest were Joyce Cooper, Jim O'Toole, and Tony DeFranco.

Middle School Efficiency Awards:

- 1st Place *The Architects* - David LaPoint and Connor Robarge-Greene - St. Mary's School
- 2nd Place *TWS Construction 2* - Aubrey Whitford and Riley Abare - St. Mary's School
- 3rd Place *The Does* - Molly Price and Lilly Bain - Ti Middle School

Middle School Aesthetics Awards:

- 1st Place *Halo Builders* - Avery Kidder and Tru Gallipoi - Ti Middle School
- 2nd Place *El Fugu* - Julianna Holeman - St. Mary's School
- 3rd Place *Something Stupid* - Kirsten Strum and Ruby Bennett - Ti Middle School

The high school students designed and built their balsa wood bridges in school as part of Paul Jebb's physics class. The high school bridges were also judged for efficiency and aesthetics. Seven teams competed in the high school contest this year.

High School Bridge Efficiency Award:

- 1st Place *If You're Not First, You're Last* - Evan Graney and Adam Kerr
- 2nd Place *M & M* - Grace Montville and Meg McDonald
- 3rd Place *The Bee's Knees* - Sarah Bresset and Jessica Bruce

High School-Bridge Aesthetic Awards:

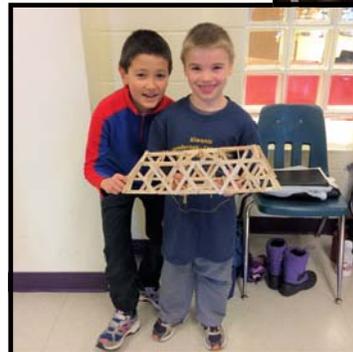
- 1st Place *SVZB* - Sara Vrandenburg and Zach Bennett
- 2nd Place *The Bee's Knees* - Sarah Bressett and Jessica Bruce
- 3rd Place *If You're not First, You're Last* - Evan Graney and Adam Kerr



Kirsten Strum and Ruby Bennett from the Ti Middle School team, "Something Special"



Graham Bailey watching Lilly Bain and Molly Price from the Ti Middle School team, "The Does"



Jonah Giordano and James DeFranco, future bridge builders, proudly displaying a model bridge from the competition. They were too young to participate in the event, but that did not spoil their enthusiasm.



Team members of "If You're Not First, You're Last" load their balsa wood bridge during the High school bridge completion.

TI'COUSTICS DONATES MONEY

Ti'Coustics is a non-profit musical program that helps local organizations by giving them funds that audiences have donated to them. In 2016, they donated funds to the Ticonderoga Montcalm Partnership. When combined with the partnership's own funds, several projects were completed to refresh and improve the Town of Ticonderoga. The projects included repairing the Bicentennial Clock, cleaning and staining the gazebo in Bicentennial Park and the placement of a new bench and trash can in front of the Black Watch Memorial Library.

"Ti'Coustics is most pleased to know that the funds we as a group have raised through our musical programs will be going to assist TMSP projects that are truly worthy causes and will be enjoyed by all. We enjoy doing the monthly shows and hope our audience enjoys them too," shared Roberta Whitely, creator and organizer of Ti'Coustics.

Ti'Coustics consists of over 100 local musicians who donate their time and talent to delight audiences with a variety of music twice a month. The programs take place at The Burleigh House from 7 to 9 pm on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, year round. There is no cover charge, but donations are accepted.



Pictured are the recently renovated gazebo and clock as well as the new bench and trash can in Downtown Ticonderoga.



MASON/STAR PUBLIC DINNER

A public roast beef 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 Friday, January 27, 2017, from 4:30-6 pm in the downstairs dining hall of the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street, Ticonderoga (across from the Stone House). Take-outs will be available. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 years old and under and will be sold at the door. Parking will be available along Montcalm Street and at the Hancock House.

NATURALLY SPEAKING

Hang your bird feeders and fill them up! The cold and windy winter days plus the even colder nights mean our wild birds are facing a challenging future.

Over 43% of U.S. households or about 65 million people provide food for wild birds, according to the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Setting up a backyard feeder makes the birds' lives easier and ours more enjoyable.

During the spring and summer months, the diet of most songbirds is composed mainly of insects and spiders because they are highly nutritious, abundant and easily captured. During winter, however, non-migratory songbirds must change their diets to fruits and seeds to survive. So, set their table with seeds!

Black-oil sunflower seeds attract the greatest number of species because the seeds have a high meat-to-shell ratio, they are nutritious and high in fat and their small size and thin shells make them easy for small birds to handle and crack. Striped sunflower seeds are larger and have a thicker seed coat. It is often wasteful to fill a feeder with a standard mix—a blend of sunflower, millet, milo, oats, wheat, flax and buckwheat seeds — since the wild birds may eat only the prized sunflower seeds and leave the rest.

You can create an attractive, low-cost seed mixture yourself. Pour one 25-pound bag of black-oil sunflower seed, one 10-pound bag of white proso millet and one 10-pound bag of cracked corn into a clean metal container. Stir the mixture with a broomstick and replace the lid tightly. The container should be waterproof and metal since rodents will gnaw into plastic containers.

Some people feed wild birds the seeds from squash and melons. Spread them out on trays to air dry before placing them in the feeder or on the ground. Smaller birds may have difficulty breaking open vegetable seeds, so run the seeds through a food processor first.

You can throw out scraps of stale bread, cake or doughnuts for wild birds, but be sure the food is not moldy or it may harm them. Beware! Rats, raccoons, European starlings and house sparrows may be attracted to your feeder if you throw out scraps.

Peanut butter and suet (beef fat) will attract chickadees, woodpeckers and nuthatches. There is no evidence that peanut butter will choke birds, but you can mix in corn meal or oatmeal if you are concerned.

The plain beef suet available at most supermarket meat departments is an excellent high-energy food. Offer the suet in a plastic mesh bag such as the kind onions come in or in a wire basket to guard against raccoons. Pre-made suet cakes are also available in most stores.

Put your feeder in a calm, sheltered spot and fill it up with seeds. Enjoy the birds when they arrive; you may be surprised by an abundance of birds this year and next.

by Connie Smith



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-10-

HAGUE CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 21 10 am - 4 pm Battle on Snowshoes
- 24 1:30 pm Seniors Meeting
- 26 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 27 4:30 - 6 pm Mason/Star roast beef dinner

TO OUR HARD COPY READERS

Greetings! We are happy to continue to send you your hard copy each month.

We do, however, want to make you aware that *The Hague Chronicle* is also available online for your convenience. We think viewing our online version has several advantages:

- ◆ You can bring it up anywhere, anytime.
- ◆ It is available to you several days before the hard copy could reach your mailbox.
- ◆ The photos are in beautiful vivid color, which should add to your enjoyment.
- ◆ When viewing online, you have the option of enlarging the text to whatever size is most comfortable for you.

To view *The Hague Chronicle* online, just go to our website at <<http://www.thehaguechronicle.org>> and click on "Current Issue." You may also want to walk down memory lane by browsing through our archives. For additional news and posts, you can visit our Facebook page (The Hague Chronicle).

by Bobbi Bryant Taylor, Editor, *The Hague Chronicle*

FEBRUARY

- 1 DEADLINE FOR REGULAR COLUMNS
- 2 7 pm Planning Board
- 3 7:30 am Men's and Women's Breakfast at Silver Bay
- 9 10 am - 2 pm Cornell program on adelgid
- 10 6 pm Dinner and a movie at Silver Bay
- 12 2 pm Fort Fever Lecture at Ft Ticonderoga
- 14 Happy Valentine's Day
- 14 6 pm Town Board
- 15 NEWS DEADLINE FOR *The Hague Chronicle*
- 18 8 - 11 am Fireman's Breakfast
- 5 - 11 pm Chili Cook-Off
- 19 2 pm Polar Bear Plunge
- 20 President's Day -Town of Hague offices closed
- 20-24 Winter Vacation for the Ticonderoga Schools
- 21 1:30 pm Seniors Meeting
- 22 *The Hague Chronicle* mailed out and online

TRANSFER STATION HOURS
September 2 thru June 30
Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm
Sunday: CLOSED