



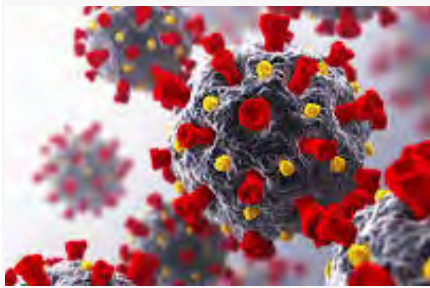
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Hague, New York 12836  
September 2020

## COVID-19 UPDATE

*As of August 15, 2020:*



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

LOCATION	CASES	DEATHS
Worldwide	29,023,337	913,9087
US	6,539,483	194,339
NYS	444,948	33,030
Warren County	348	30
Essex County	159	11

### Sources:

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

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

### Local resources during COVID-19:

**Warren County Public Health –**  
518-761-6580

**Mental Health Assistance –**  
518-792-7143

**Domestic Violence Assistance –**  
518-793-9496

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

## LGA HAGUE SEDIMENT BASIN PROJECT COMPLETE

Imagine a basketball court. Now imagine the court being filled with sediment and soil to a height of five feet.

Now imagine the amount of nutrients that are bound into that soil – nutrients that feed unwanted algae.

Now imagine all that sediment and soil in the lake, rather than captured in two sediment basins above Hague.

Fortunately, you don't have to live that nightmare because the Lake George sediment basins are working exactly as expected and, after the Lake George Association (LGA) and its partners spent two weeks cleaning them out, the devices to capture sediment and polluted stormwater are ready to continue protecting Lake George's water quality.

The work completed by LGA Project Manager Randy Rath, the Town of Hague DPW, crews from other towns, Morrissey Construction, and Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District removed 901 cubic yards of sediment from just two basins in Hague over the course of two weeks. That's sixty-one truckloads of material that didn't get into the lake and degrade water quality!

The costs for the project are still being finalized, but will be roughly \$22,000 – money that comes from the LGA's members to do these kinds of direct, actual water quality protection projects.



*Photo credits: The LGA*

*PHOTO #1-LGA Project Manager Randy Rath with residents of Cape Cod Estates and crews from Morrissey Construction and the Town of Hague DPW clean out the sediment basin on Jenkins Brook.*

*PHOTO #2-Removal of sediment from the sediment basin in Hague near the Fire Station.*

*(Continued on p. 6)*

## SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

We did have our Senior Pizza Picnic. It was different, but it was good to see all who came out.

We're hoping to have a meeting on September 24, 2020 at noon to do a Nomination of Officers for 2021. We'll be seeing how things look and discussing plans for the rest of year.

On October 7th at 6:30 pm, we'll have Game Night at my home at 157 West Hague Road. We're planning a Halloween Party for October 27th at 12 noon. Please check the Hague Senior Club Facebook page for updates, as things may change.

Looking forward to seeing you at upcoming events. Stay safe. 📧



## NEWS FOR SEWER DISTRICT RESIDENTS

The Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) staff asks everyone on the town sewer system to keep an eye out for any malfunctions or potential issues with their system and report them promptly – before they become an even bigger problem! Indicators of malfunctions include unusual odors or sounds and wet spots in the ground.

There have been several cases recently where residents waited to report an issue, resulting in unnecessary expense and greater risk of environmental damage. Don't wait!

Call 518-543-8862 during normal work hours (Monday – Friday, 7 am - 3 pm) or 518-222-1464 for emergency service on weekends, holidays, or after hours. 📧

## HVFD

by Meg Haskell

We had a busy August. There were 13 EMS calls and 31 fire calls and drills, using 172 volunteer hours. We also had three marine calls.

Our next event is the annual Town-Wide Garage Sale, which will be held on Saturday, October 12, 2020 from 9 am to 4 pm. There will be vendors, crafters, and basket raffles and they will be serving food from 11 am to 3 pm. Kathy's Cakes will have cakes, fudge, and cheesecakes. There will also be a clothing thrift shop.

Everyone must practice social distancing and wear a mask. If interested, contact Katy Wells at 518-543-3020 or Meg Haskell at 518-543-2015. 📧



## RECENT INVASIVE PEST CONFIRMATIONS

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) announced on August 11, 2020, the confirmation of an infestation of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) on forest preserve lands in the town of Dresden in Washington County. This comes just one week after their confirmation of the emerald ash borer (EAB) in Warren County on the Schroon River in the Town of Chester.

These insects are considered highly destructive and a major threat to Lake George forests. EAB is a small but destructive beetle that infests and kills North American native ash species, while HWA feeds on and kills hemlock trees, a common and important tree species to the watershed and the Adirondacks as a whole.

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) has provided the following statement:

"It is upsetting to hear that these invasive pests have been confirmed within the Lake George watershed, but not surprising, considering that both are present in so many nearby areas.

"For several years the LGLC has monitored our own preserves as well

as on lands owned by our partners for signs of HWA in anticipation of its arrival. We have also worked independently and with the help of partners to further public awareness of the issue. We are saddened by the news of this new infestation but will continue to work to prevent the spread of HWA and to protect our hemlocks. The LGLC will assist any way necessary to help eradicate the infestation on Glen Island and we will continue our HWA monitoring and outreach/education.

"The HWA infestation was identified and reported by a citizen scientist, and the EAB was found by Department of Transportation personnel. Early detection and quick response are very important in slowing the spread of HWA and EAB and saving our native forests and citizen scientists are invaluable in the fight to protect them. Information



can be found at the NYS Hemlock Initiative, DEC's web page on invasive species, the Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program (APIPP), and [www.lglc.org/land-conservation/invasives](http://www.lglc.org/land-conservation/invasives) or by attending a training provided by the LGLC and its partners, such as the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District.

"We have come together to do a great job protecting the lake from aquatic invasive species. We will need to work hard to protect the watershed and its forests from terrestrial invasive species as well."

(continued on page 3)



## SEPTEMBER

by Ginger Henry Kuenzel

When September comes, many women start thinking about transferring their worldly belongings to a different purse. After all, a hard and fast fashion rule has always been that one cannot wear white shoes or carry white purses after Labor Day. And, though my purse is really not too white after all it's been through this summer, the time had come to switch to an autumn color. So, on a rainy Sunday afternoon, I rooted around in the depths of my closet and found a lovely pumpkin-colored bag that I'd forgotten about. Perfect!

Here's what I hate about changing purses: I always aim to transfer only the bare essentials – in order not to create clutter in the new bag – but how do I decide what's essential and what's not?

And here's what I love about changing purses: finding treasures – items that were deemed non-essential and stayed in the purse when it was put away. The pumpkin bag contained not only an old tube of lipstick (Yikes! I really wore that color?) and dried out pens, but also scraps of paper with notes I'd made – the name of a book someone had recommended, a must-see movie title, a plastic girlie figure to hang on the rim of my wine glass and that had "Ginger" written on its rear. I pulled out a silver barrette

bought on a trip to Arizona in 2001. The clip is broken and my hair is now too short for a barrette. But I paused for a moment to let the hundreds of images from that trip flash through my mind. Digging deeper, I pulled out my good-luck coin – a two-pfennig German coin from before the days of the Euro. How did I deem that non-essential? Next, a business card with the name Joe McNally on it. Is he that guy I met at a conference in Chicago some years back? As I recall, we came up with an idea over some adult beverages for a "can't-miss business venture" that would make us millions. We promised to keep in touch. We didn't. If we had, and if I'd kept the two-pfennig piece close to me, would I be a millionaire now?

By this point, I was totally into my trip down memory lane. The rain was still pouring down outside, my "purse action" was completed, and it seemed like a great time to move onto that carton of books in the same closet. After all, someone from my high school class had recently contacted me through Facebook, and I had been meaning to look up his photo in my high school yearbook, which I knew was in that box. I pulled it out and

started reading the hand-written comments from classmates: "To a sweet girl." "To a nice girl." "To a good kid." Most are inane. But not all. "To that lovely girl, who without her help, I would never had met Mr. Joseph J. Lyons face-to-face." Mr. Lyons was the Assistant Principal in charge of discipline – and nobody ever wanted

to be sent to his office. Was I really that mean to this fellow who signed his name Frank? Next, I looked at the list of activities next to my photo. What was I thinking when I joined the Future Nurses of America? And I had totally forgotten that I played the clarinet in the marching band. We weren't very good. In fact, we

could never figure out how to play our instruments and march at the same time. And since I nearly failed science classes in college, how did I ever get into the Biology Honor Society? It also says that I won the Heather Award. I wonder what that was for.

My yearbook, like my old purse, contained so many nuggets that sparked memories of people and places long forgotten. How lucky I am, I thought, to have all these treasures stored away for a rainy day. ▣



## INVASIVE PESTS

(continued from page 2)

When you are out on the lake's islands or on your own property, check your hemlock trees. The HWA eggs are usually found on the underside of the leaves and branches. Once a tree is infested, the invasive bugs will remove needed nutrients from the tree, slowly killing it. Most trees die between four and ten years later without intervention. A hemlock die-off could cause major problems for our watershed and water quality.

If you think you see an outbreak, take a photo, note the location, and email

the photo and other identifying information to [info@lakegeorgeassociation.org](mailto:info@lakegeorgeassociation.org).

You can get much more information on the hemlock woolly adelgid on the DEC website [HERE](#) and Adirondack Park Invasive Plant Program [HERE](#).

If you have questions about HWA, EAB or invasive species in general, are concerned about a tree that you have seen, or would like to attend a training/workshop, please email LGLC Conservation Manager, Monica Dore, [mdore@lglc.org](mailto:mdore@lglc.org). ▣



## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 8/20/2020

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

The town board reduced the number of members on the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) from seven to five, with one alternate, who is Lindsay Mydlarz. Lake George Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky was removed from the ZBA. The process used to decide which member would be removed from the board is unclear. At the September Hague Town Board Meeting, a resident of the town indicated that the NYS law for town boards dictates that “no incumbent shall be removed from office except upon the expiration of his or her term” except for specified causes (Article 16 Section 271-7). The Hague Town Board has agreed to have the town attorney look into it.

### LEACH (43.5-1-34) 9094 Lakeshore Drive (Hamlet)

The applicants had applied for two use variances, one for Contractual Access for a private social and athletic club, including a bathhouse and Pickleball court, with deeded dock spaces and memberships and a Permitted Use variance for a marina, which is not permitted in the hamlet. The applicants have requested a postponement of the review of their application until the next scheduled meeting of the ZBA.

### MILLER (26.14-1-8) 11 Birch Point Lane (TRIR)

The applicants are requesting a variance to construct a retaining wall, patio and a four-foot walkway along their lakefront. The application was deemed complete and a site visit was scheduled. A public hearing will be held at the September 24th ZBA meeting.

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

The applicants are requesting a variance to construct a retaining wall ten feet back from the MHW. The application was deemed complete and a site visit was scheduled. A public hearing will be held at the September 24th ZBA meeting. ▣

## TOWN BOARD - 9/8/2020

Present were: Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Jack Bast, Martin Fitzgerald II, Joshua Patchett, and Steve Ramant.

### PUBLIC HEARING: Waste Water Variance, Marc Mansour

Tom Jarrett of Jarrett Engineering represented Mansour. Jarrett described the new waste water treatment peat-based system that is proposed to replace the existing system. Mansour has agreed to get a new septic tank. Jarrett stated Mansour would like to have it installed this fall.

Discussion followed. The board voted to approve all four waste water variances.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING REDUCTION OF THE SIZE OF THE PLANNING BOARD AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:** Ginger Kuenzel questioned how the reduction of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals from seven to five was decided. Frasier stated that Lindsay Mydlarz resigned voluntarily and each chairman worked with his board to reduce the number of members. Frasier stated she believes it was not handled correctly on the ZBA. Kuenzel cited the NYS Town Law, which

states that unless someone resigns voluntarily, the next person whose term expires should not be re-appointed. Her opinion is that the town should follow these protocols. Judy Stock expressed that it is not too late to follow the law. Frasier stated she would check with the town attorney to determine how best to handle the situation.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Administrative: Frasier-Assessor/Justice** – The Town Justice has held three courts since re-opening.

**Buildings/Grounds: Fitzgerald/Patchett** – The town park bathroom repairs are done and a floor tile deep clean is scheduled.

**Highway: Ramant/Bast** – They have been working on the new truck repairs, ponds, and the shoulders at Silver Bay.

**Personnel: Bast/Fitzgerald** – Two candidates were interviewed for the position of Clerk to the Assessor. They are scheduled to meet with the assessor to review their computer skills and ability to use the assessor's software.

**Planning/Zoning: Fitzgerald/Patchett** – ZEO Rion Marcy reported that in the past month he has issued six land use permits; three of which needed variances and one that needed a site plan review. In addition, he issued one waste water compliance certificate and two other compliance certificates.

**Town Park/Beautification: Ramant/Frasier** – The town boat launch is still open.

**Sewer District #1 and #2: Bast/Frasier** – No significant status changes since last town board meeting on August 11, 2020.

The Hague Sewer Advisory Committee is conducting an in-depth review of Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) assessments within Hague Sewer Districts One and Two. EDUs are based on generally-accepted engineering standards for sewer treatment plant design and on the flow that could potentially be generated by individual properties. The original EDU Schedule was developed by the board in 2002 and was revised in 2007, 2009, 2013, and 2014. The committee said inequities still exist and its objective is to correct these inequities. Phil Smith and Ginger Kuenzel are doing detailed research and analysis.

The committee notes the total amount of money to be raised by the sewer levy will not change. Once the sewer budget is set, the charge per EDU will then be calculated. The committee recognizes it is difficult for businesses to survive with the 10-week summer season, so it does not intend to increase sewer costs for local businesses. The committee expects to recommend the revised EDU Schedule to the Hague Town Board in October. It will be published and available to the public. If approved by the board, it could be in effect for the 2021 assessments. Kuenzel stated the vast majority of homeowners and local businesses will not see a significant change in their sewer utility bills with the adoption of the new schedule. She said Chris Navitsky has resigned from the Sewer Advisory Committee and inquired if the board would like to appoint a replacement or reduce the number of members. Frasier will see if anyone is interested.

*(Continued on p. 5)*

## TOWN BOARD (continued)

**Environmental Concerns: Ramant/Patchett** – A second treatment on the knotweed has been done; knotweed is very difficult to control. Ramant wants signage that masks are required for patrons at the transfer station. (Employees wear them.) He is looking into getting a compactor and for other companies with which to contract. The plan is to budget for the purchase of a scale in 2021.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was a lengthy discussion regarding dog licenses and fees. Some changes were made to the town's policies.

### NEW BUSINESS:

The board cancelled Clean-up Day for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ▣

## PLANNING BOARD OF APPEALS - 9/10/2020

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

### MILLER (26.14-1-8) 11 Birch Point Lane (TRIR)

The applicants are requesting a variance to construct a retaining wall, patio, and a four-foot walkway along their lakefront. The board made a unanimous positive recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA).

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

The applicants are requesting a variance to construct a retaining wall ten feet back from the Mean High Waterline (MHW) of the lake. A site visit was completed by the ZBA and PB. The board unanimously approved the application with an additional request to place native plantings along the shoreline. They made a unanimous positive declaration to the ZBA.

### KENT (93.12-1-5) 7945 Lakeshore Drive (TR1)

The applicants are requesting a variance to construct a retaining wall ten feet back from the MHW of the lake. The

project would be a continuation of the neighboring BOSI proposal. An informal site visit was conducted in concurrence with the BOSI site visit. The board unanimously approved the application with the request that they too place native plantings along the shoreline. They made a unanimous positive declaration to the ZBA.

### DORN (12.18-1-3) 9610 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)

The owners of this property requested approval for a proposed 936 sq. ft. addition to a legal non-conforming house. The ZBA granted a variance to a deck addition within 50' of the MHW of the lake on July 23, 2020, with the condition that the owner apply for and receive a permit for upgrades to the current septic system and a stormwater permit prior to start of their construction project. The PB approved the application with the condition that if the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) does not require a storm water plan, then the Town of Hague will require one. The town has received a "Notice of No Jurisdiction" from the LGPC concerning the Stormwater Management Plan requirements for this project. The applicant is required to submit a Stormwater Management Plan to the town, per the conditions of the PBA approval.

### GRECO (26.17-2-7) 6 Lakeview Road (TRI)

The applicant was seeking approval of a marina so he could operate his fishing charter business, Justy Joe Charters, off his private dock in the event that the town rescinds the approved use of the town dock for his commercial business. The applicant has withdrawn his application for a Class A Marina Permit and may re-submit at a later date.

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

The applicant is proposing an addition to a legal non-conforming principal structure. The proposal includes a second-story addition of 550 sq. ft. (44% increase) to an existing single-story home. This application is preceded by a pending Waste Water Treatment Plan Variance, submitted to the Local Board of Health. A public hearing will be held at the October 1, 2020 Planning Board meeting. ▣

## LGCLC HONORS HEILMAN WITH AWARD

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGCLC) announced that Carl Heilman, II, Brant Lake resident and renowned photographer and author, has been awarded the 2020 Henry M. Rowan Conservation Award. The award is given annually to recognize exemplary individuals and organizations for their conservation efforts around Lake George.

The award is typically presented during the LGCLC's Annual President's Reception, but because of the pandemic, the award will be presented during next year's reception. ▣





## SEDIMENT BASIN

(Continued from p. 1)

"Imagine the decline in water quality and the increase in the deltas, sediment and potential pollutants that would have happened if these sediment basins weren't installed and hadn't captured all that material," said Randy. "It was two long weeks to clean out these six basins – two in Hague and four in other towns – but the direct water quality protection afforded by these sediment basins are worth the work."

"The Hague DPW crews were great to work with," Randy said. "Their professionalism made the jobs go smoothly. I want to thank them for everything they did for the LGA to get this project completed."

The two-week project removed a total of almost 2,200 cubic yards of sediment (or enough to fill that basketball court to a height of more than 12 feet) from six different sediment basins in the Town of Hague, the Town of Bolton, and the Town of Lake George.

The LGA's actions show that protecting the lake's water quality means many things – but prevention of nutrients from getting into the lake is at the top of the list. Nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen can feed algae, and will degrade the water over time.

For more information, please call 518-668-3558 or see the wealth of information at <http://www.LakeGeorgeAssociation.org>. ▣

## SNO-GOERS HOLD WORKDAY

The Hague Sno-Goers are holding a workday on Saturday, September 26th. Volunteers should meet at the Town of Hague Highway Department at 170 West Hague Road at 9:30 am. ▣

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

## ASIAN CLAM SURVEY

Year 2020 marked the ninth year of the Lake George Park Commission's (LGPC) lake-wide survey to track the spread of invasive Asian Clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) within Lake George. The purpose of this ongoing survey is to see how the clam populations are spreading throughout the lake as well as the general population densities of known locations.

Asian Clams were first discovered in the lake in 2010 in the Village of Lake George. The Lake George Asian Clam Task Force was created to address this emerging threat. For several years, the task force installed plastic matting and sandbags over the infested area to smother the clams. These efforts resulted in 96-100% mortality rates of the clams under the mats, but over time, those areas rebounded with new clam populations. These efforts were abandoned in 2016 due to high cost and the effort's inability to eradicate all clams in a location.

The LGPC organizes and conducts this annual survey with assistance of volunteers. They sieve through all sandy areas throughout the shoreline of the lake to find new populations. Survey sites are primarily sandy substrate, which is the clams' preferred habitat. This year's survey dates were August 19, 20, 21, 24, and 26.



### Key 2020 Findings:

1. This year's lake-wide survey identified only one new site, which was at Twin Bay in the Town of Bolton.
2. Most of the known Asian clam sites showed lower densities than in 2019.
3. The only sites that exhibit dense beds of dead shells on the surface of the sediments are along the Village of Lake George shoreline.
4. **\*\*\*The site with the largest density of clams in Lake George in 2020, by far, is the Hague Brook delta.** Single sieves taken in this location captured between 50-75 live Asian clams, ranging from 2mm to 10mm in size. This is the highest clam density discovered in the nine years of this lake-wide survey and clams have only been found at this location since 2018. It is not known why the densities here are so high now or if they will remain this high over time.

Another concern, from a biological perspective, is that the clams most adapted to cold weather conditions are the ones surviving each year and they reproduce the next generation of clams. After several generations, it is likely that the clams in the lake will be more cold-tolerant and more likely to survive the cold winters, thus leading to increased populations long-term.

Research on Asian Clams is ongoing at the RPI's Darrin Freshwater Institute and the LGPC will continue to monitor long-term trends. ▣



## SILVER BAY EXPANDS FREE RESPITE OPPORTUNITIES

The Silver Bay YMCA Conference and Family Retreat Center has expanded its Vacations Made Possible Program to offer rest and renewal at no cost to essential workers who served at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The 100% donor-funded program, which was established in 2015 to provide free vacation opportunities to families with limited financial means, broadened its original scope in response to the pandemic that shut NYS down for over two months.

"The unsung heroes of the pandemic are those who continued to serve at the height of the pandemic when the rest of us had to stay home; the healthcare workers and grocery store associates who have risked their lives to take care of us and ensure that we had what we needed to survive," stated Chief Executive Officer Steve Tamm.

Since the announcement of the program's expansion in July, 16

families, which consisted of 48 individuals have stayed at Silver Bay and more will stay on the YMCA's campus throughout the fall. Many of these families include young children, who have not enjoyed quality time with one or more of their parents because of their long shifts during the pandemic.

Additionally, this past summer, Silver Bay welcomed eight military families, which consisted of 41 individuals as part of its Military R & R Program and four families consisting of nine individuals this summer as part of its Cancer Respite Program, which supports patients who are actively being treated for cancer. These programs give these individuals the opportunity to reconnect with their loved ones and enjoy a reprieve from their unique stresses and financial challenges. Silver Bay works closely with Glens Falls Hospital and Hudson Headwater Health Network,



both which make their cancer patients aware of this opportunity and make the application form available to them.

All of these programs are provided at no cost and are 100% funded by Silver Bay YMCA and its generous donors. If you would like to make a financial donation in support of any of these programs or would like to request an application, please contact the Silver Bay the Development Office at [hjay@silverbay.org](mailto:hjay@silverbay.org). ▢

## HHHN TO DEVELOP PACE PROGRAM

Hudson Headwaters Health Network (HHHN) is in the early stages of developing a Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Program. It is a community-based alternative to nursing home care for individuals ages 55 and older with multiple chronic health conditions, but who can still live safely in the community. There are currently 134 PACE programs throughout the country, serving more than 53,000 participants.

The PACE model of care is centered on the belief that most people prefer to remain living in their community for as long as possible. Participants receive their health care from a team of health professionals, which continually assesses, coordinates, and implements patients' required services. This includes administration of all Medicaid and Medicare benefits including coverage for at-home skilled nursing care, doctors' visits, personal care, physical and occupational therapy, meals, social day programs, prescriptions, specialty medical care, respite care for caregivers, transportation, and nursing home care, if necessary.

HHHN's first PACE program is expected to be in the Glens Falls region by 2022. As the PACE program becomes established, it may be expanded into other population centers, such as in Ticonderoga. ▢



## SAFE BOATING COURSES

In-classroom safe boating courses have resumed in New York State. To find a course near you, visit: [Safe Boating courses](https://parks.ny.gov/safe-boating-courses).



Please note that students must wear face coverings during courses whenever social distancing cannot be maintained. Online course options remain available. For a list of approved online providers, please visit: [parks.ny.gov](https://parks.ny.gov). ▢



## WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by Mike Strutz

Lake George is drinking water. Let me say that a little bit louder...

### LAKE GEORGE IS DRINKING WATER!

What does that mean?

Can I stick my face in the lake and drink like a bear? No. Not a good idea. In fact, all surface waters in the state should be treated with filtration and disinfection prior to consumption, according to the NYS Department of Health. It's a requirement that certain water quality standards are met in public drinking water systems and it's a recommendation for private home systems, especially for achieving low levels of bacterial contamination.

Lake George has a water quality classification of Class AA – Special,



“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”

which is the highest or best classification given by the state. It means that the lake is best used as a source of water supply for drinking, culinary, or food processing purposes; primary and secondary contact recreation; and fishing. Certainly, the water looks clean, but if you have ever looked under the microscope you would have seen organisms of various sizes and shapes, and unidentified solid particles that you might not want to ingest. I have heard of people who use the lake water untreated and have not had any health issues, and maybe that's true, but situations change all the time and it's best to follow some simple treatment steps.

I use the lake as a water supply and treat it using filtration and disinfection as recommended. Filtration consists of a cartridge-type filter using elements of various designs. Disinfection uses a high-intensity UV light to kill harmful bacteria and viruses. The cartridge filter should be capable of removing

anything larger than five microns (it will be rated on the package that you buy) and should be changed on a regular basis so it won't get clogged and negatively affect water pressure. The UV lamp should be changed on a regular basis (usually annually) since they tend to lose intensity and therefore treatment efficiency over time. Your system may be different, but be aware of the required maintenance to keep it operating at a high level.

Too much talking and I'm as thirsty as a bear. Time for a glass of cold, clear, sparkling, and treated, Lake George water.

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

## NATURALLY SPEAKING

by Connie Smith

As you drive or walk around the Adirondacks, you'll see an abundance of Queen Anne's Lace. The one-to-three-foot-tall plant is everywhere and it is often included in wildflower bouquets. It is considered an invasive species and a noxious weed in many states, but not here in NY.

Queen Anne's Lace is not native to this area or even to North America. It reportedly originated in Afghanistan, spread to Mediterranean Europe before the Christian era, and was apparently introduced in North America as a medicinal herb.

Several Native American tribes used it. The Cherokee used the plant as a dermatological aid and the Delaware used an infusion of fresh blossoms to treat diabetes. The Iroquois used a decoction of the roots to treat blood disorders.

Queen Anne's Lace, an ancestor of our carrot vegetable, is edible as a young plant, but, BEWARE! The poison hemlock plant is similar in appearance and eating its root may cause paralysis and even

death! Queen Anne's Lace has a hairy stalk and poison hemlock has a smooth stalk. Also, the root of Queen Anne's Lace smells like carrots. I recommend strict avoidance.

The plant is said to have been named after Queen Anne of England, who was an expert lacemaker. One legend has it that when pricked with a needle, a single drop of blood fell from her finger onto the lace, leaving the dark purple color found in the flower's center. Others claim the plant was named after Saint Anne, the patron saint of lacemakers.

Queen Anne's Lace is also known as Wild Carrot, Bee's Nest plant, Devil's Plague, and Bird's Nest. The last name refers to the fact that when mature, the umbrella-like cluster curls inward, resembling a bird's nest. Fat clusters ("umbels") of tiny white flowers ("umbellets") that are about one-eighth of an inch across, have five petals. The flower cluster often has a tiny dark purple flower near the center. The function of the dark color is a mystery. It seems insects are not particularly attracted to purple but small bees, wasps, flies, and beetles are attracted to the plant's nectar and pollen.



If I had room in my yard, I'd be tempted to plant a flower bed of Queen Anne's Lace. It requires virtually no care, no fertilizing, and then I'd only have to water it during times of extreme drought. However, the plant spreads aggressively, so I'd have to either deadhead the flowers before the seeds dispersed or dig up the plants, making sure to get the entire taproot. If not, more plants will be coming my way!

The delicate lacy beauty of Queen Anne's Lace does not deserve its weed status. It flourishes where it plants itself and survives summer's heat and dryness with ease. It is no wonder the poet William Carlos Williams wrote a poem about this interesting flower. You can read the poem [HERE](#). ▣



## TEEN SCENE

by Gabrielle Keller

The transition from summer to fall has always been somewhat challenging. This back-to-school season will be noted in history as one of the most stressful ones of all. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no generation in modern history has entered fall like we are this year.

I asked some of my fellow Generation Zs how they think the passage from this summer to fall is different. Some people I spoke with were going back to school, while others had just graduated and were headed into the work force. One thread was common to all: there is so much uncertainty!

There are many aspects of school that are changing. For students who are learning completely remotely, the social aspect of school is pretty much gone. Kids are now having to use their cell phones to talk to friends during school. Additionally, online classes are pretty finicky, with internet service constantly going in and out. As a result, live Zoom classes can get blurry. If a teacher is writing notes, it's especially hard to copy them down. However, one nice thing about online school is that you can be wherever you want to be. If you decide it's safe, friends can bring their supplies over to do school together. Also, it's easy to run to the kitchen to grab a snack or even cook a meal. Overall, the environment is more relaxed.

For students attending schools that are going back a few days a week, things seem to be more complicated. Students may or may not have a good social environment, depending on whether their friends are in school the same days as they are. Transportation to and from school is a big deal because many parents are unable to drive their kids, but busses are not allowed full capacity. Also, many students and faculty are worried that being in school can still potentially spread COVID-19.

Stress about preparing for college is increasing. Since many clubs and extracurriculars are being cancelled, students must find creative ways for their resumés to stand out. Most athletic seasons are cancelled, which certainly may hurt an athlete's chances of being scouted. SAT and ACT tests are being cancelled and, as a result, many schools are becoming test optional for the first time. It's unclear whether or not this is a good thing because standardized tests act as a baseline to compare students from all over. Without a standardized test, will colleges still consider you when comparing your application to someone who has their SAT score? These standardized

tests may not be a fair comparison anyway, though, because many students pay thousands of dollars for SAT tutors, while others can't and/or don't. Knowing that, maybe colleges will finally start discontinuing the use of these tests.

I think high school seniors have it the worst. What was supposed to be their best year has basically been cancelled. No dances, no games, no homecoming. It's tough, but kids are still finding ways to celebrate this important year. For example, on my first day of school this year, many of our seniors woke up early and drove to our town stadium to watch the sunrise together. Of course, they were unable to get too close to one another, but it was nice that the seniors were able to meet face-to-face.

The virus is spreading in many colleges, causing kids to be sent home. Those students are being deprived of the typical college experience. Most are sorely disappointed and have to chart a new course.

For those not going back to school, the working world is different. It may be harder for some to find jobs because so many people are getting laid off and the unemployment rate is so high. Apartment and

house hunting are more difficult for those who recently finished school because of this severe job shortage. Those who were planning on traveling after school can't now. People are simply postponing their plans or are creating entirely new alternative ones.

Frankly, the younger generation is frightened by this pandemic. Living in such uncertainty when you are in such a transitional stage in life is unnerving. We're trying our best to come up with solutions. We're finding new ways to live. ▣



## THE HERMIT OF HAGUE

by A Friend of the Hermit

*There once was a Hermit of Hague  
Who worked all alone on a crag.  
He had a long beard  
Which some people feared  
Carried germs that would give you the plague.*

## LOOKING BACK

### A HISTORY OF THE INDIAN KETTLES

by Mary Ann Eaton



The Indian Kettles, a restaurant named after the glacier-carved holes in the large rock on which it sat, was located two miles north of Hague on the lakeside of 9N. It was where so many stories were lived and so many stories are told and untold. It's often been said, "What happened at the Kettles, stays at the Kettles." It has been thirteen years since the View Restaurant at Indian Kettles closed. I am grateful that I was part of the story. What follows is my brief summary of its history.

In 1922, William "W" Ross "Roscoe" Slack, a New York educator, and his wife, Kirana Cummings Slack, honeymooned in Hague. They were convinced that here abounded wealth and happiness and negotiated the purchase of hundreds of acres. This included the last available lakefront acreage at the time.

On April 1, 1925, the Mason Realty Company sold a large parcel of land to W. Roscoe Slack. A map was filed on October 6, 1925 that identified this parcel as "Lands of Slack."

A restaurant was established on the property known as "Indian Kettles Point" in 1925. It was leased and operated by different chefs. At one time, it operated as a hot dog stand. Roscoe had a pet bear named Pat who he chained roadside, where he would feed him hot dogs as patrons watched.

With World War II raging, the Slacks decided to sell. An auction held on October 10, 1942 yielded no bids on the property. On November 15, 1946, they sold 2.54 acres, "The Indian Kettles," to Katherine Reynolds. Katherine "Kay" sang with a group called "The Holidays." She often appeared on the Henry Morgan radio show in New York City.

On July 3, 1947, Kay and Bob Reynolds opened the Indian Kettles, featuring French cuisine prepared by J. V. Vellini, the famous chef from the Clark Hotel in Los Angeles.

In the 1950s, live music was provided from bands out of New York City. Kay sang with some of them and the Indian Kettles flourished as a restaurant and night club. Jack Reynolds, Bob and Kay's son, and his wife, Bev, took over the operation of the

restaurant in the 1960s. It remained a great place for dining, weddings, Saturday night dances, and locals partying all night long. The stories are many.

Big Jim played six nights a week. Remember "Jeremiah was a Bull Frog?" Continuous entertainment on Saturday nights included Laurie Norton and the Lamplighters. There was a gift shop with Native American dolls and other souvenirs.

On March 2, 1971, heavy ice and snow caused the roof covering the dining area to cave in. Repairs were made in time to open for business as usual for the Summer of 1971.

During the 70s, 80s and 90s, the Reynolds family continued to operate this well-established bar/restaurant on northern Lake George. As part of the entertainment, they hosted the Battle of the Bands. One summer, parasailing on the lake was offered on summer afternoons. T-Bonz with Rick Bolton provided much-appreciated entertainment.

"Jack" and Bev Reynolds sold The Indian Kettles to Bradley E. Whisher, Sr. and me on January 6, 2001. We completely renovated the building, added a state-of-the-art chef's kitchen, and maximized outdoor deck seating.

On June 8, 2001, we opened The View Restaurant at Indian Kettles. Our deck seating provided "A King's View of the Queen of American Lakes." We served brunch, lunch, and dinner, hosted weddings, proms, workshops for educators, and live music on Saturday nights. T-Bonz with Rick Bolton was always the favorite. It was also a rendezvous place for Americade.

The View closed for the season on October 30, 2006. With more renovations underway, Brad and I were anticipating a busy summer of 2007. But, Brad passed away in Dublin, Ireland on March 3, 2007. With respect and consideration for the well-being of the Whisher and Eaton families, it was decided to close The View Restaurant at Indian Kettles.

The View was sold at auction on October 20, 2010 to the Bryce Family of Troy, NY and it became their summer home.

In December of 2018, the Bryce Family sold the property to MATO - two families from the Capital Region. Today, it is a completely-renovated year-round home.

The "kettles" remain intact, while the stories keep the memories. ▣





## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT

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

### **Sunday, 9/27, Facebook, 4 pm, Gardener Growth: Harvest!**

Harvest season is here! Discover some tips to successfully harvest a variety of vegetables.

### **Wednesday, 9/30, Facebook, 1 pm, Ticonderoga's Treasures: Orderly Books**

The day-to-day activities of armies in the 18th century were recorded in orderly books. Fort Ticonderoga holds a rich collection of these documents that reveal what life was like for soldiers in the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars.

*Photo credit and copyright Fort Ticonderoga*



### **Wednesday, 9/30, Facebook, 4 pm, Orwell Light Horse**

Examine a stellar example of an American militia uniform in the Collections of Fort Ticonderoga. See the re-creation of this uniform and the great story of these local light horse volunteers in the War of 1812.

## THE FORT IS STILL OPEN

The fort is open from 9:30 am until 5 pm Wednesday - Sunday through October 11, 2020 (last ticket sold at 4:30 pm). General admission capacity is capped at 450 visitors per day and advance online ticketing is encouraged by visiting [www.fortticonderoga.org](http://www.fortticonderoga.org). Tickets, if available, can be purchased at the admissions booth upon arrival with a credit card only. Physical distancing, following visitor flow and other expectations, and face coverings when physical distancing is not possible are required. For information, call 518-585-2821.

The Annual Heritage, Harvest, & Horse Festival will be presented on October 3, 2020 in the midst of the King's Garden heirloom apple trees and the beautiful landscape of the mountains and Lake Champlain.

Guests will discover the historical importance of horses and other working animals during demonstrations, meet the friendly oxen duo, stroll through Fort Ticonderoga's Farmers' Market, which features local food, beverages, and crafts, participate in family fun activities, and tackle the six-acre Heroic Corn Maze. Admission is included with a general admission ticket. ■

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

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**Publisher:** Judy Stock  
**Editor:** Bobbi Bryant Taylor  
**Layout Editor:** Chris Quinn  
**Treasurer:** Bob Whitaker

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## HANCOCK HOUSE MOVES TO FALL HOURS

The Hancock House Museum in Ticonderoga moved to its fall hours beginning September 6, 2020. The four-story museum and research library, located at 6 Moses Circle, will be open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am until 4 pm during the months of September and October.

New exhibits this year include "Mapping the Adirondacks" and "Prohibition in the Champlain Valley." In addition, traveling exhibits relating to women's suffrage are also on hand and, for the first time, the mysterious Pharaoh Mountain gold "elephant" coin is on display.

Masks are required and social distancing policies are in effect. For additional information, call 518-585-7868 or email [tihistory@bridgepoint1.com](mailto:tihistory@bridgepoint1.com). ■

## THS PRESENTS "FAKE NEWS AND FISTICUFFS"

The Ticonderoga Historical Society (THS) will present a free public program on Friday, September 25, 2020 at 6 pm at the Hancock House, 6 Moses Circle, Ticonderoga. "Fake News and Fisticuffs – Nothing New in American Politics" will highlight the history of fake news and violent discord, including physical attacks in Congress and how neither is unique to today's political climate.

The program will be presented jointly by Diane O'Connor and her husband, Brian O'Connor, library director for North Country Community College. "We each bring a different perspective, from both a rhetorical and historical viewpoint," she said. "We also plan to provide the audience with tips on how to recognize fake news."

The program will be held outdoors and will be cancelled in the event of rain. Program attendance will be limited to 45 and reservations are required. Social distancing will be enforced and masks are required. Attendees should bring their own lawn chairs. Reservations may be made by calling 518-585-7868 or emailing [tihistory@bridgepoint1.com](mailto:tihistory@bridgepoint1.com). ■

## THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

## CALENDAR

September 2020

### SEPTEMBER

25	6 pm	THS program on fake news
27	4 pm	Fort Ticonderoga digital program on harvesting
30	1 pm	Fort Ticonderoga digital program on the life of a soldier
	4 pm	Fort Ticonderoga digital program on the Orwell Light Horse uniform

#### TRANSFER STATION HOURS

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

Check for updates at:  
<https://townofhague.org/departments/transfer-station>

### OCTOBER

1	7 pm	Planning Board
3		Heritage, Harvest, & Horse Festival at Fort Ticonderoga
11		Last day Fort Ticonderoga is open for the season
12		COLUMBUS DAY/ INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
	9 am - 4 pm	HVFD Town-Wide Garage Sale
		Deadline for the October issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>
13	6 pm	Town Board
22	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
23		October issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> published by this date