



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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TI FESTIVAL GUILD TO HOLD LUAU

A Luau will be staged by the Ti Festival Guild as a spring party and fund raiser. The event will be held at the EMA Club in Ticonderoga on April 30, 2005 at 5 PM.

The fun will begin with lei greetings and game stations where guests may try their skill or watch others master the traditional island games. Hulas and limbos are planned. Pupus (appetizers to haoles or non-island inhabitants) will be enjoyed, followed by a full buffet with a tropical flavor. A cash bar will be set up.

The funds raised will help support the Arts Trek Children's Programs for 2005 - six morning programs of performing arts which are presented free to area children and those who bring them.

Tickets are \$22 per person and are available at Rathbun's Jewelers, or by calling the Guild office at 585-6716 or the director at 585-7015.

A TASTE OF TICONDEROGA

"A Taste of Ticonderoga", an annual fundraiser for the Ticonderoga Heritage Museum, will be held again this year on Thursday, May 12.

This full and complete buffet style meal of appetizers, entrees and desserts prepared by a variety of the area's finest restaurants will again be held in the THS Cafeteria. Serving will begin at 6:30PM and is limited to 130 people. Reservations can be made for full tables of eight persons. There will be door prizes, a take home directory of area restaurants and plenty of excellent food. The cost is \$17.50 per person and advance tickets are available at Rathbun Jewelers, Ticonderoga Paint and Wallpaper or from Heritage Museum Board members. You may call 585-6178 or 585-7342 for more info.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United (CWU) of Ticonderoga will celebrate May Friendship Day 2005 at the First United Methodist Church, Ticonderoga on May 7 at 10:30AM. The theme is "Living in the Light: True Friends Are Salt and Light." May Friendship Day is an annual celebration event observed as a common worship experience that strengthens and builds friendly relationships within communities. Founded in 1941, CWU is an ecumenical movement reaching 25 million Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Baptist, and other Christian Women. CWU is a recognized United Nations NGO (non-government organization).

The speaker will be Iris Civalier who will portray Sarah and Hagar. Civalier chose to give a dramatic presentation of these two biblical women because she believes that we live in a time when relationships between Christian and Muslim women are often misunderstood.

Prior to the worship service and Iris Civalier's message there will be a brief business meeting. Lunch at \$6 will follow the presentation. Reservations are required by phoning Mary Lou Monda at 585-3447 or Nan Reale at 585-4004.

An offering to support the ongoing work of CWU will be taken. Attendees should bring items for the Safe House and their Least Coin offerings.

LGPC MEETING

The Lake George Park Commission's Law Enforcement Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 26, 2005 at 9AM at the Holiday Inn, Canada St., Lake George.

The Commission will conduct a regular monthly meeting which will include the Commission's Project Review Committee meeting on April 26 at 10AM.

SENIOR CLUB MEETINGS

March's "Birds of Prey" program given by Biologist Beth Bidwell and the AARP 55-Alive Driver Safety Course held on April 7th were our two latest successful events.

April's meeting will be on Tuesday, April 26th at 1:30 PM at the Community Center with guest speaker will be Grant VanPatten. We invite all you 50++ out there to join us that day. It would give you a chance to check out the Club. New faces are always welcome. ...mp

MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

On SATURDAY, MAY 28TH the Funfest at the Beach will be from 10 AM to 4 PM. We need crafters, demonstrations and/or displays, & food concessions. The Gala Parade 'rain or shine' is at 2 PM. Prizes will be awarded for BEST IN PARADE, MOST PATRIOTIC, MOST CREATIVE & for the BEST YOUTH PRESENTATION. You do not need to be a business or belong to a club - just chum up those brain cells, devise a plan, find the props and who knows? You could be a winner. But you must call to sign up.

Manpower is needed to set up the Fun Fest from 8:30 - 9:30 AM. Also volunteers are needed for traffic control/parking during the parade itself from 1 - 3:30 PM. You do not have to be a Senior Club Member to help. This event is YOUR DAY so do take part and enjoy the fun.

The Memorial Service at the Beach will immediately follow the parade at approximately 3:15 PM. The first two events are acts of Community Celebration, however this Service is the true reminder of what Hague's DAY TO REMEMBER means. It will be short, consisting of song, speech, prayer and finalized with a rifle salute by the Marine Leathernecks and the sound of taps.

Many thanks for all those donations that have been coming in which make this all possible. Anyone else who wishes to contribute, please make checks payable to HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB - PARADE ACCOUNT & mail to the Hague Community Center, Hague, NY 12836.

For additional information, please contact Emily Cobb at 543-6325, Dottie Henry at 543-6633 or Madeline Pelkey at 543-6130. ...mp



Red-Tailed Hawk

one of the Birds of Prey demonstrated by Beth Bidwell

CONGRATULATIONS TO JANET HOFFAY

The New York State "Outstanding Contribution by a Senior Citizen" Award is presented each year by county to a senior citizen who has made a positive and beneficial contribution to the senior citizens community. We are pleased to announce that the Warren County winner was Hague's nomination, Janet Hoffay.

Janet was President of the Hague Senior Citizens Club for six years (1997-2002). Under her very able leadership the Club flourished. Thanks to her dedicated ground work, today it is a very active organization, and plays an important role in our community. Also for four years Janet volunteered as Deputy Care Officer at the Hague Food Pantry. Though now retired, Janet's big heart and helping hands are always available to her senior friends whenever needed. Janet also serves on the volunteer staff of the Hague Chronicle as one of the dedicated mailing crew.

We congratulate Janet who is one of Hague's "Unsung Heros"! ...mp

BIRDS OF PREY TALK

In a humorous presentation at the March Senior Citizens meeting, the audience learned many interesting facts from guest speaker Beth Bidwell. Beth is a biologist and Executive Director of The Wildlife Institute of Eastern New York. She brought each of the live birds out of its cage to perch on her fringed falconer's glove. The first to appear was a red-tailed hawk whose droppings are expelled up to six or seven feet away rather than directly under the nest in order to trick its predators and make it harder for them to locate its eggs or hatchlings.

The red-tailed hawk likes it here in Hague, too. You might see one high above Rogers' Rock, soaring in wide, lazy circles. It doesn't have to flap its long wings. The rounded wing tips make turning easy. The hawk can save its energy for hunting. It can zero-in on dinner, and bomber-dive at a red squirrel, mouse, or muskrat a mile or so away. But it's not an easy meal because the red-tailed hawk and other birds of prey are often severely injured or killed in the act of hunting, like this one - by a car.

When they're hunting, these birds of prey are totally focused on catching that mouse or squirrel. They don't notice the danger of cars zooming near roadsides where small mammals are easiest to hunt. The magnificent creatures in their cages-- the hawks, owls, and the falcon that she brought to show--all of them were injured by cars. Not one of them will ever hunt again. Nor are likely to mate again. Beth's audience got an increased appreciation of the wonderfully made birds of prey that share our environment--sometimes even our own back yards. ...c i

NEWS FROM OUR ASSEMBLYWOMAN

Assemblywoman Teresa Sayward (R-Willsboro) said that the first on-time New York State budget in 21 years will make great strides in not only bringing a better quality of life to the hard working families of the North Country but will also greatly reduce the heavy tax burden that has been caused by skyrocketing Medicaid costs.

Sayward said the Legislature approved a Medicaid reform plan that will place a cap on local costs and accelerate the state's takeover of the Family Health Plus health care program. This plan will save Essex, Hamilton, Saratoga and Warren counties a total of about \$100 million over the next five years.

A key component of the Medicaid takeover is to ensure that local social services districts exercise due diligence with respect to their statutory and regulatory functions in the administration, supervision and operation of the Medicaid program. This will require districts to regularly monitor enrollment, utilization, provider service and expenditure patterns, including patterns suggestive of fraud and abuse.

The state was to assume half of the counties' share of Family Health Plus this year and the balance in 2006. Under the Legislature's current agreement, the state will assume the entire cost of the program beginning Oct. 1, 2005.

Total local government savings for state fiscal years 2005-2010 resulting from the Medicaid cap and the state takeover of Family Health Plus will be \$20,680,172 for Essex County, \$1,247,383 for Hamilton County, \$46,164,962 for Saratoga County and \$31,934,174 for Warren County.

Sayward said this year's budget also extended and expanded the Empire Zone Program. Hamilton County, which does not have the services of the Empire Zone Program, now is able to reap the benefits of this important program.

HAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

During the month of March the HVFD answered six calls with a total of 88.5 man hours expended. Ambulance calls for the month of March were 9 calls using 68.5 man hours.

The week of May 15-21 is National EMS week. If you see one of our volunteers, please stop and say "Thank You". They are a very dedicated and hard working group.

CHICKEN BBQ

The HVFD will hold a chicken barbecue on Saturday, May 28 from 4 - 8M at the Fire Hall on West Hague Road. Adults - \$10.00, Children. \$8.00. The menu consists of chicken BBQ, corn on the cob, baked potatoes, rolls and butter, strawberry shortcake and a beverage. Hamburgers and hot dogs will also be available. WOKO will be on hand to provide entertainment.

GRANT VAN PATTEN TO SPEAK

The Hague Senior Citizens Club invites all interested people who would like to enjoy a fun-filled afternoon and learn about the early days of TV to the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 26 at 1:30PM at the Community Center.

Grant Van Patten has been in the field of Communications during his entire adult life. In WWII he served in the Special Services branch of the Marine Corps working with a variety of performers including Bob Hope and Bing Crosby. Later, after receiving degrees in Communications from Michigan State Univ. and Syracuse Univ., he became one of the earliest Producer/Director/Performers in an industry which would touch all of our lives substantially - TELEVISION.

As the medium expanded, so did the interest of performers and politicians alike. Grant found himself working with well-known people in all walks of life including Mary Martin, Nelson Rockefeller, Dave Garraway, Ronald Reagan, Hugh Downs, Jacob Javits, Madam Von Trapp and many others who wanted access to America's living rooms.

Having spent many years in this fast-growing, fast-paced, and mostly live TV industry, Grant has accumulated a variety of stories, anecdotes, and slides of an era which would eventually change the way we live. It was the time of Uncle Miltie, Howdy Doody, Sid Caesar, Garry Moore, and Arthur Godfrey. Do you remember Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, Ed Sullivan, Jack Parr and Wally Cox?

If those names ring up a bit of nostalgia, then you are at the right age to want to know what went on behind the scenes. It was an exciting time for those with TV sets in their homes, but even more exciting for those people in the studio where live performances went on the air without the sanitizing effects of film or video tapes. Some of what came out over the airways had little to do with the plans of the producers and directors for that moment. One such person who was there was Grant Van Patten, a Producer/Director and Performer for WRGB/NBC for twenty years from 1950-1970.

Grant went on to become the Director of the Communications Center at the NY State Univ. at Albany and a Consultant with the NY State Satellite Communications Network and has recently served as a judge for the National Association of Television Arts and Science in their annual "Emmy" awards.

The Town of Hague is very fortunate to claim Grant Van Patten as a summer resident of Silver Bay.

The Senior Citizens Club invites everyone to enjoy his most amusing stories of the early days of LIVE TV and help fill the Community Center with laughter. ...djh

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 3/24/05

PLANNING BOARD - 4/7/05

Present were Bruce Clark, Deputy Chairman; Mary Lou Doulin, George Ianson, Tina Barth King, Bill Pittman and Nelson Waters and absent was Robert Goetsch, Chairman. The Deputy Chair thanked Nelson Waters, who has resigned, for his service to the Zoning Board.

DOUGHERTY (43.13-1-36), 4 Cranberry Lane, Cape Cod Village, TR-1

The applicants wish to remove existing structure and replace it with a new house that increases the nonconformance of the setback dimensions and exceeds the square footage limitation.

A public hearing was held on the Dougherty property and Deputy Chairman Clark announced that of the 52 letters that were sent out to neighbors within 500 ft of the property, they had received 6 written responses - 4 letters for the project and 2 opposed. He read the letters received in opposition from Bambach and Manley and letters in favor from Belden, Brown, Megow and Coleman. Claire Best read a letter from the President of Cape Cod Village Club requesting that the matter be tabled until the proposal was in compliance with the bylaws of the Club. George Ianson noted that persons buying property in Cape Cod will have an expansion in the back of their minds. He felt there is an obligation on the part of the association and on the seller to make it known that these variances may be needed before remodeling work is done. And he noted that this Board is bound by the zoning law rather than CCVC restrictions although "we want to hear how the neighbors feel."

Tina King had concerns that "legally we did not notify the adjacent property owners within the required 10 day period." The notice was sent out only 9 days beforehand. The Board approved a continuance which allows the CCVC to work with the Doughertys but the need for the continuance was based on the legality of the 9 day notification.

WITH THE OFFICE OF THE ZEO

The records of the Zoning Office show approval for the following applications in 2005:

- for an addition to an existing home - Craig, Red Fox Lane; Prol, Bobkat Lane; Bast, Arcady Drive; Neumann, Red Fox Lane; Ricciardi, Lakeshore Drive;
- for an accessory structure - Porter, New Hague Road; Windrem, New Hague Road; Glading, Lakeshore Dr; Lucking, Hermitage Road; Renzi, Holman Hill Road;
- for a septic system - Daley, Route 9N; Windrem, New Hague Road; Neumann, Red Fox Lane; Snug Harbor Marina, Lakeshore Drive;
- for a subdivision - Waters, Decker Hill Rd;
- for a sign - Allen, Hague Group, Graphite Mt Road; Miller, Century 21, Graphite Mt Road;
- for a new house - White, N. Friends Point Road; Cook, Robinhood Drive.

Present were Chairman Dave Swanson, Cathy Clark, Rolly Allen, Pam Peterson, Tim Costello and John Brown and absent was Peter Foster.

WATERS, N (25.4-1-18.11), Decker Hill Road, OC-1

The Board approved a request for a minor subdivision of 52.5 acres into 4 lots of 23.0, 16.1, 7.4 and 6.0 acres. Chris Navitsky, LG Waterkeeper said that he applauded not maximizing the subdivision (each lot in OC-1 is only required 2.9 acres) but suggested that Mr. Waters put a covenant on any deeds to prevent further subdivision.

WILEN (43.13-1-4), Lakeshore Drive, TR-1

This property is already composed of two separate parcels as outlined in Mr. Wilen's deed so a subdivision is not necessary. However, a request was approved for a lot line change to bring both parcels into compliance with the TR-1 requirement of 1.1 acres per lot.

BARTON (60.17-1-13), Oneida Drive, TR-1R

Approval was given for an addition to existing house which is closer to the Lake than 100ft.

NEUMANN (60.13-1-9), Arcady Bay, TR-1

Approval was given, with understanding that the septic will be upgraded, for an addition of dormers and an entryway with installation within 100ft of the Lake.

MAIARO (42-1-9), Decker Hill Rd. (25.4-1-41), Fitzgerald Rd, OC-2

Mr. Maiaro owns property across from the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the Special Commercial Use Zone that was created in 1996 and has requested that the Town zone his property to permit smaller parcels similar to other properties in the commercial zone on Decker Hill Rd. OC-2 zoning requires a minimum of 8 acres per lot while the other lots which are in OC-1 only require 2.9 acres. The Town Board wanted a recommendation from the Planning Board which felt the request had some merit but they did not feel they could make a recommendation without knowing what the rationale was when the Town established the boundaries for the Special commercial zone or the APA criteria when setting up OC-1 and OC-2.

DOUGHERTY (43.13-1-36), 4 Cranberry Lane, Cape Cod Village, TR-1

This application was withdrawn.

SPRING OBSERVATIONS

The ice is out of Lake George.
The golf carts are out on TCC.
The Wind Chill Factory is open.

Can summer be far behind?

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 4/14/05

All Board members were present for the public hearing on amendments to the Sewer Use Law. Revisions will be included in the code on the Hague website <townofhague.com>.

At the regular meeting a moment of silence was held for Elton Rising and John Braisted.

Highlights from the Committee Reports:

Assessor/Justice - Councilman Gladu reported that there have been discussions with the State and that it is hoped that the equalization rate will be in the range of 93-98. The 2004 assessment values will continue to be used for property in Hague except for some new construction or where there are major changes. Although there have been no meetings with the Ticonderoga assessment office, it is hoped that the state equalization rate will make a more equal percent of contribution to the school budget between Hague and Ticonderoga. Gladu reported that the state aid to the Ticonderoga school district has gone up by about 10% but with spending going up, the current projection is for a 2.9% increase in the school tax levy.

Buildings & Grounds/CC - Councilman Megow reported on continuing discussion and plans for corrective work on the community center building.

CARE - Councilman Patchett reported that only about 10 people are using the program and that in order to get more people to participate, they are going to change eligibility requirements based on income tax statement rather than a bank statement.

Fire - Councilman Gladu reported that he attended a HVFD meeting and has made a request for financial statements. The Fire Department still plans to use the Town website.

Museum - Councilman Meola reported that they are still working on reducing the cost of the expansion.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - ZEO Graham Bailey reported that the Town is still working on closure for issues with the Hague Fire Department, Reingold's property and Lobdell's complaint. He has arranged for a special training workshop for members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board for May 4 with representatives of the Department of State and APA. Other interested residents can contact him for information.

Supervisor Belden reported that he will meet with county officials and Art Hatfield to try new measures to resolve a stormwater issue which continues to affect the Hatfield property.

Sewer District 1 - The Town continues to look at items which need to be taken care of by the County before the Town takes over the ownership of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Town Park/Beautification - The Board approved sending a letter to parents of students who are using the Town Park lot for skateboarding which will address the risks.

Youth - Councilman Meola reported that although he had signed up 11 Hague students for a Youth program in March they were unable to attend due to an event at the Ticonderoga schools. The camp at Silver Bay will be held again this year beginning on June 27.

Under unfinished business, the Board:

1. After reviewing all bids, renewed the Town insurance contract with Upstate Insurance for \$35,657 which was less than last year.
2. Approved June 7 & 8th as Town Clean up days with an \$85 per ton disposal fee to Casella.
3. Renewed the agreement with Casella Waste Management to run the Transfer Station with an increase in bag disposal prices and a change in hours.

Under new Business, the Board:

1. Scheduled a Public Hearing on the Scully request for a Wastewater variance for May 10th at 6:15pm prior to the next Board meeting.
2. Accepted a bid of \$750 from North Country Landscaping to prune, shape and clear debris from the Town Park.
3. Accepted a bid of \$33,700 from GF Electric for street lights on Rt. 8.
4. Approved resolution #40 calling for the collection of \$108,480 in 2005 sewer use fees.
5. Made changes in sewer rent assessment for O'Rourke, Platt and Schultz.
6. Approved \$1000 budgeted amount for Hague Senior Club for Memorial Day parade and celebration. The Town will get the permits for the banners.
7. Approved a request by the Town Clerk to use GFNB in Ticonderoga to deposit collected taxes in order to adhere to the 48 hr legal time limit for deposits.
8. Approved resolution #42 in support of a 2 week test period and burning of processed rubber by Ticonderoga International Paper Co.
9. Appointed Tim Costello, who has passed the required test, as Waste Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) with an increase of \$1500 for the rest of the year effective May 1st.
10. Approved attendance by the WTPO at a NY Rural Water conference.
11. Appointed Martin Fitzgerald, Jr as a member of the ZBA to 12/31/05.
12. Rejected a bid of \$302 on the Dodge truck. (New bids may be submitted.)
13. Approved the Sewer use law changes.
14. Approved resolution #44 in favor of school tax reform.
15. Approved the use of the Community Center for the Chamber of Commerce Antique Show on July 16th and 17th, 2005.
16. Tabled resolution #45 on authorization for eCash Manager.

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Belden reported that he had invested Town funds of \$1,000,000 in a CD for 9 months at 3.7%.

The Town Board minutes, including full wording of the resolutions, will be posted on: <www.townofhague.org/townofhague/Town%20Board/Board-Minutes.htm>

An "update on tax activities" by Councilman Gladu will soon be posted also.

HAGUE REAL ESTATE SALES

Area websites indicate there are over 20 properties (some are lots only) for sale in Hague with most of them on Lake George or with direct access. Prices range from \$40,000 to \$1,700,000. Other area towns are experiencing reassessments and finding that their property values have increased greatly as we did the past two years.

It remains to be seen what effect the high gas prices will have on property sales but several homes and lots were sold last fall and winter. The following Hague sales were recorded in Warren County in October through November of 2004: From Larkin to Roberts for \$55,000; Thom to Bruder \$735,000; Josten to Borden \$31,000; DeLarm to Staepel \$15,000; Shattuck to Katz \$475,000; Marshall to Wood \$67,000; Merten to Randolph \$46,5000; Hawkins to Beneduce \$31,790 and \$155,210; Hippe to Sanchez & Joyce \$36,0000; DeMarino to Meyers \$187,000; Hurd, etal to Borrello \$250,000; Belden to LaPointe \$100,000.

These sales were recorded in 2005: From Case Western & Denison University to Neumann for \$895,000; Scott to Scott \$500,000; Beneficial Corp to Englert \$69,000; Werner to Obsuth \$895,000; Patchett to Sullivan \$80,000; Mascarelli to DeutscheBank \$113,848; Coon to Rudolph \$19,300; Doran to Daley \$61,500; Fritzy to Greenberg \$101,000; Roberts to Travers \$148,000; Rosu to Schnitzer \$25,000; Plesnarski to Plesnarski \$210,000; Lakeshore Garage, Inc to The Leach Trust, Florida \$1,100,000.

LGLC WALKS

The Lake George Land Conservancy is sponsoring a "Spring Migration Birding Hike" at Pilot Knob Ridge Preserve in Fort Ann on Saturday, May 7th from 8:30AM to noon. Joan Robertson, member of the Audubon Society and LGLC staff, will lead this exciting adventure to spot migrating song birds. The walk is of moderate intensity with some steep slopes. Binoculars are recommended.

On Saturday, May 21 from 9AM to 1PM, LGLC volunteer Nancy Wotton Scarzello (our own Hague Chronicle nature reporter) will lead a Botany Walk at the Cook Mt. Preserve in Ticonderoga. The Preserve boasts many habitats, from old beaver ponds to forests and thickets, that host a wide variety of native (and non-native, invasive) plants. Nancy will lead you along the Preserve's trails to discover the bold, the beautiful and the inconspicuous vegetation of the northern Lake George region. The walk will be easy, staying on the flat, lower portion of the Preserve. Bring a lunch or snack, if desired.

DONATION OF HAGUE LAND TO LGLC

A substantial transfer of land from the Hague Adirondack Charitable Foundation to the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) was recorded in the Warren County records at the end of 2004.

According to a press release from the LGLC, the Hague Charitable Foundation has donated a 2-acre parcel with approximately 315 feet of shoreline. Located at the intersection of Lakeshore Drive (Rt. 9N) and Graphite Mountain Road (Rt. 8), this land of the former Bywater Cabins was bought in the mid-1980's. The purchase ultimately protected the land from potential waterfront development, and the property now provides a scenic lawn and gardens to the residents of Hague.

"The Darin Family and the Hague Foundation have always had a great love for Lake George and the surrounding region," explained Margaret Darin, Trustee of the Hague Foundation. "We recognize and support the important mission of the Lake George Land Conservancy in preserving the beauty and quality of the lake and the surrounding region for future generations to enjoy. We are excited to be able to contribute this parcel to the Land Conservancy in order to assist them in fulfilling their important mission."

The LGLC hopes to develop a partnership with the Town of Hague and its residents in order to maintain the space and continue its welcoming presence. Plans include developing expanded native species gardens to create an educational, working exhibit of indigenous flowers and shrubs.

DOWNTOWN HANGING BASKETS

There is still time to send your \$25 contribution to the hanging basket project in Hague. Please make check payable to The Enhancement Committee, Community Center, Hague, NY 12836. Include your name as well as the name(s) of person(s) you wish to honor.

New requests will be taken on a first-come-first-served basis, as the hanging poles become available - after we hear from previous donors.

Brass markers are included in the \$25 donaton.

~SOUNDINGS~

BORN: A daughter, Anna Gabriella, to Amy and Rich Lamperti on March 1, 2005. Anna joins brother, Mario Charles. Delighted grandparents are Lois and Ed Konikowski of Arcady Bay.

BORN: A son, Zachary Ryan, to Zack and Shannon (Dickson) Hoover on March 14, 2005. Grandparents are Bob and Diane Dickson, Sabbath Day Point.

BORN: A boy, Chapman Foster, to Nicole and Peter Weber of St. Charles, IL, on February 5, 2005. Proud grandparents are Judy and Peter Foster, Hague. Great-grandmother is Jeannette Foster, formerly of Sabbath Day Point.

ENGAGED: Courtney Van Voorhis, daughter of Rudd and Peggy Van Voorhis of Wevertown and Hague, to Jack Batha of Rouses Point, NY. The wedding will take place in October 2005 at the Van Voorhis home in Wevertown.

DIED: Elton Rising, 89, on March 30, 2005 in Edgewater, FL. Elton was born and lived his entire life in Hague, until last year when he went to live with his nephew, Peter Barnett, formerly of Hague, now living in New Smyrna, FL. He is survived by three nephews, Peter R. Barnett, James Rising and Patrick Rising.

DIED: Janet F. (Foster) Griffin, 97, of Elmira and Silver Bay on April 10, 2005. She is survived by her daughters Carol Griffin Ballou of Belmont, VT and Nancy Griffin Bryant of Elmira, NY; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and her brother, Gerald Foster of Westfield, NJ.

DIED: John Mac Braisted, 85, on April 13, 2005 at Heritage Commons Adult Residence, Ticonderoga. Born in Port Henry, Mr. Braisted was a life long resident of Silver Bay. Survivors include his wife, Grace E. (Betty) Braisted, one son, James W., Silver Bay, two daughters Kathryn L. Santaniello, Silver Bay and Mary A. Kaier, Queensbury. He is also survived by nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: For Leonard Corlew at the May Memorial Cemetery at 4:30PM on May 12 on what would have been his 90th birthday. Friends and family are welcome.

TI HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following Hague students have made the honor roll for the Ticonderoga HS 4th marking period:
Grade 12: First Honors - Aren Laundree,
Second Honors - Danielle Connors, Wyatt Peterson
Grade 11: First Honors - Sarah Bissell
Second Honors - Andrew Trombley
Grade 10: First Honors - John Breitenbach, Akashia Swinton, Kacheena Trudeau
Second Honors - Janine Best, Kelly McCoy,
Grade 9: First Honors - Samantha Abare,
Second Honors - Alanna Swinton

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

HVFD AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

The Hague Volunteer Fire Dept. has recently established a scholarship fund available to any active member in good standing who is currently enrolled in a college, university or certified trade school. It shall be a one-time award, distributed annually.

The first scholarships have been awarded to: Thomas Haskell, son of Meg and Tom Haskell (Clinton Community College-criminal justice); Jason Laundree, son of Karen and Doug Laundree (BOCES-building trades); and Bradford Zeyak, son of Sharon and Doug Zeyak (Siena-marketing management). Congratulations to these active young firemen.

The department also enrolled four new members at its April meeting. Welcome to Wendy Beeman, Bernadette and Josh Michalak and August Staubit.

Don't forget to follow up the Memorial week-end parade on May 28 at the annual Firemens' Chicken Bar B-Q at the firehouse, 4-8pm.

As an active agency for the community, we welcome new member applications. . . jmc

BREITENBACH INDUCTED

Katie Breitenbach, daughter of John and Debbie Breitenbach, Hague, was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa at Bucknell University on April 8.

New members are selected on their solid moral character and academic achievement and must have shown a wide range of studies, including a strong background in liberal arts, sciences, language, and math.

Katie has a 3.9 GPA with a double major in psychology and English. She will graduate on May 22 and plans to attend Albany Law School in fall 2005.



Denise Huestis, Trustee of the Ticonderoga Heritage Museum (the "1888 Museum," as we know it) on the corner of Tower Ave and Montcalm St. in downtown Ticonderoga, spoke at the Ticonderoga Kiwanis Club meeting recently concerning the town's industrial heritage.

Huestis presented a kaleidoscope of vignettes from 19th century Ticonderoga, including a number of readings from the Sentinel, Ticonderoga's former weekly newspaper. She detailed in particular the inventions, some patented and some not, made by Victorian-age Ti residents. These included ground graphite for stove blacking, the earliest, relatively crude, mass-produced graphite-and-wood pencil, several types of increasingly modern plows, stoves for marine galleys, numerous models of canal barges, and even the better cheese box that caused the dairy world to beat a path to its inventor's door. Huestis remarked on the phenomenon of such an outbreak of creativity in a town as small as Ticonderoga.

Huestis observed that the Heritage Museum is open daily from Memorial Day to Columbus Day. She added that she had recorded the events she had spoken of, along with many others, in the museum's latest book, which she authored, Once Upon a River. The work's reference to a river is, of course, to Ticonderoga's LaChute River, a major waterway and power source in the town's industrial heyday.

The book is available at the Heritage Museum during the season and at a variety of local stores year-round. The price is \$20, half of which goes to support the work of the museum.

Ed. Note: If you haven't been to the Heritage Museum, I strongly recommend it be put on your places to visit this summer. If you have children, be sure to get the museum's list of weekly programs put on especially for them...djh

LENDER NEW LGA EXECUTIVE

The Lake George Association has announced that C. Walter Lender of Ticonderoga has been named its new executive director - chosen from a field of more than 40 candidates from across the country. He becomes only the third executive director for the Association, replacing Mary-Arthur Beebe, who is retiring from the LGA after more than 26 years.

Previously, Lender was employed by Fort Ticonderoga as the Director of Development/Government and Corporate Relations Officer. Lender relishes the challenge of moving from a non-profit with a focus on history to one focused on the environment and natural resource conservation. "I want my kids to grow up knowing Lake George like I knew it when I was a kid," he stated.

As of July 1, 2005, new rates for garbage collection will be in effect at the Transfer Station under the agreement between Casella Waste Management and the Town of Hague approved by the Town Board at their April meeting. While most of the pricing remains the same, disposal of the 15 and 30 gallon bags will each cost an additional \$.50. Metal scrap will be charged \$10 per yard.

New hours will also be in effect as of July 1st. The Transfer Station will be open all year on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 am to 5 pm. During July and August only, it will be open on Sundays from 12 noon to 4 pm.

CARTOONS AT BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE

On display now until May 13, 2005, is an exhibit of original editorial cartoons by area cartoonist Stan Burdick of Ticonderoga at the Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts in Blue Mt. Lake, NY.

The collection is called "Life and Laughter - 2004" and contains art pieces that appeared in the Lake Champlain Weekly publication during 2004.

Among the featured cartoons can be seen the race to the presidential election with Kerry and Bush, a humorous slant on the gay marriage trend, and the gas price escalation.

Burdick has been staff cartoonist for the Glens Falls Post-Star, the Plattsburg Press-Republican, The Hague Chronicle and other newspapers. He takes pleasure in creating spoofs and spin-offs of both national regional events. His work often depicts current cultural trends with a humorous twist.

For further information contact 518-585-7015 or tfguild@capital.net.



Trailing Arbutus ~ the Mayflower by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

My grandmother often told me of the Trailing Arbutus, the Mayflower that used to grow in the woods next to our house in Forest Bay. My grandfather would pick the fragrant blossoms for her in the spring when they arrived at the lake in May, but she hadn't seen them in years and could only tell me of their beauty and fragrance. I searched for them too, but they eluded me as well and I had to be satisfied with the nostalgic stories of the early years at the lake.

Trailing Arbutus, a member of the Rhododendron family, is a creeping evergreen shrub. The plant has 2-4" leathery oval leaves, grows 2-4" high and spreads along the ground on rusty, hairy stems for only about 12". It likes to grow in part sun and shade on north or east-facing slopes and its blossoms are white to pink waxy bells that form clusters at the tip of the stems in May.

The heady perfumed fragrance of the flowers holds after picking and this made for spicy, sweet scented corsages and boutonnieres for the cut flower industry of the late 19th century; the leaves stay green through the winter and were a favorite winter decoration making the widespread harvest of this plant a cause for alarm. In response to this, a group of Bostonian women formed what was to become the New England Wildflower Society and helped pass a law making it illegal to commercially harvest the plants. It is still protected today, currently listed as "exploitably vulnerable" by the New York State Protected Native Plants Regulations because of its inability to recover from repeated harvesting and its low transplant survival rate.

I was delighted and excited last summer, when I found several plants growing along the trail in the Gull Bay Preserve ~ the first I had ever seen! And then, while hiking up the Cook Mountain Preserve Trail, I had to crawl under a fallen tree blocking the trail and found myself face to face with another! There I was, on my hands and knees, staring at this little plant calling after my husband who was already hiking on ahead, "Hey! There's Trailing Arbutus here!" He shook his head, rolled his eyes and kept walking, thinking it was just an excuse for me to take yet another rest, but it took that close a look for me to notice and sometimes that is what it takes to find a treasure.

This spring I'm going to take another look for the elusive plant in Forest Bay, and return to both the Gull Bay Preserve and Cook Mountain in hopes of seeing ~ and smelling ~ the blossoms my grandmother spoke of so long ago.

Trailing Arbutus



Hurrah! At last the beautiful weather is upon us. Finally, after such an extended winter pattern we can now be confident that great conditions will be with us for at least the next six months.

When spring enters between March and April every year I revert back to the same excitement I felt as a six year old. The first days of full sun and gently warming breezes, not to mention the robin's first appearance, triggers that sensational feeling. It took longer this year and I would say that spring fever hit on March 31 when the thermometer skyrocketed to 62 degrees. Snow melt, heavy rains, rising streams and ice jams in early April called for flood warnings and watches. Now, three weeks later, due to the wonderful sunshine and breezes, we are hearing warnings about dryness and brush fires.

The ice left the lake April 14-15, depending upon where you looked. Not much smelt ran this year in the Hague brook. Looks like spring is springing all around.

ANNUAL CLEANUP DAYS

Tuesday, June 7th and Wednesday, June 8th have been designated as the cleanup days by the Town. From 7am to 3 pm on those days, residents may take one standard size pickup truck load to the Transfer Station containing only sorted acceptable items. There is no cost to residents as the Town will reimburse Casella Waste Management at the rate of \$85 per ton for waste collected on those days.

For Hague residents age 60 or over and those who are handicapped, items will be picked up by the Town Highway Department on Tuesday, June 7th between the hours of 6 am and 2 pm for those registered. In order to arrange for this pickup, residents must register by Friday, June 3rd by calling the Community Center at 543-6161. The items for pickup must not exceed a combined total that would fit into a standard size pickup and they must be sorted and placed at the curbside by Monday, June 6th.

Those items that are acceptable include white goods (stove, washer, dryer, etc but NO refrigerators, freezers) and furniture (chairs, TV, sofa, rugs, etc.) but NO air conditioners, propane tanks, dehumidifiers, recyclables, garbage, brush, construction material or tires. NO metal (wire fence, pipe, bicycles, gas grill, etc) should be included because these items can be taken to the transfer station for FREE during regular hours.

April - May 2005

April

22 Earth Day USA <www.earthday.net>
 26 1:30pm Senior Citizens Mtg. (p. 2)
 26 7pm TCS Budget mtg
 27 1pm Extra Helping Distribution
 28 7pm Zoning Board of Appeals
 29 National Arbor Day <www.arborday.org>
 30 5pm TFG Luau (p. 1)

May

5 7pm Planning Board
 5 7pm TES concert & art show
 7 10:30am CWU event (p. 1)
 8 Happy Mothers Day
 10 1-5pm School voter registration-CC
 10 6:30 pm Town Board
 10 7pm TCS budget hearing
 12 6:30pm "Taste of Ti" - THS (p. 1)
 17 12N-8pm TCS budget vote-CC
 19 7:30pm THS spring concert
 19 11am Garden Club - CC
 21 Armed Forces Day

Weekly Events

Tuesday 7:30am Rotary - SBA, Watson Hall
 Tuesday 7pm AA meeting - Baptist Church
 Thursday 1-2pm Hague Food Pantry - CC



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