



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

April 2007

YOUR TOWN AT WORK

(Third in a series of articles about the people who work in Hague as we celebrate the Hague Bicentennial.)

The heart of town government works at the Community Center. Beside the elected officials, there are six employees in the Center. As you first enter you will be greeted by Bertha Dunsmore who functions as a receptionist, secretary and office manager. In the office next to the Supervisor is Diane Trudeau who is the Secretary to the Supervisor and Town Bookkeeper. Having mastered the new computer software, Hague's financial status is kept up to date by Diane.

Walking down the hall you come to the office of the Zoning Enforcement Officer, Cathy Clark. For questions about zoning laws or to find out what permits are needed for a project, Cathy is the one to see. (Of course, it would help if you first checked out the Hague Town website for a good overview of the work of her office.) Cathy not only has an office, but attends all the Planning and Zoning meetings as well as doing extensive work in the field.

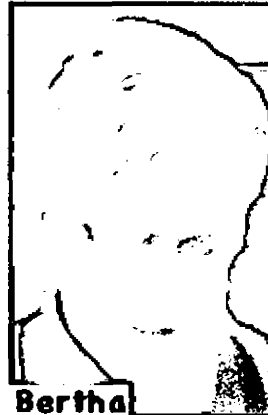
If you move over to the other hallway, you come to the assessor's office where you first are greeted by Anne Johns who is the assistant to the assessor, Dave Martucci. Anne and Dave work in conjunction with Councilman Gladu to keep residents informed about assessment issues. The other important member of the team is Mike Manning who can be found in a number of places, both indoors and out. Mike maintains the Center and Town Park and sets up for the many functions held at the Community Center.

We are fortunate to have these dedicated workers who are all residents of Hague, know the concerns of their neighbors and lend a hand with many tasks beyond their stated positions.

TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL

The Tentative Roll will be available for inspection **after** MAY 1, 2007 at the Hague Community Center, Mon-Fri from 10 am to 3 pm. David Martucci, Sole Assessor, will be in attendance with the Roll on the following dates, by appointment only: Monday, May 7, Wednesday, May 9, and Wednesday, May 16, from 9 am to 1 pm and Saturday, May 19, from 4 to 8 pm. Please call (518) 543-6161 for an appointment.

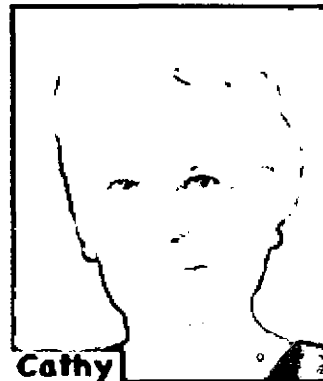
The Board of Assessment Review will meet on Tuesday, May 22, 2007 from 4 to 8 pm at the Hague Community Center to hear complaints. Complaint forms (RP 524) are available at the Community Center or online at <orps.state.ny.us>.



Bertha



Diane



Cathy



Anne



David



Mike

"BINGO" - That word was heard several times during our March Bingo Party. Lots of prizes, lots of winners and lots of laughs were had by all. Marguerite West and Kathi Ramant were the big winners of the day, but as always no one went home empty handed. Thanks to our volunteers the refreshments were exceptional as well.

The "Care Package Program" to collect items for our Warren County Troops in Iraq is ongoing. The Club has opted to continue its drive until our May Meeting which will be held on Tuesday, May 22nd at 1:30 PM. At that time, Julie Coon, the GF National Guard representative, will be present to explain in detail the workings of this Program, share some neat stories with us and to pick up all the boxes we have ready.

Soldiers have requested the following items: socks, stationery materials, unscented toiletry items, Slim Jims/Beef Jerkey, hard candies/gum/nuts, instant soups, instant coffee, etc. Anyone wishing to contribute to the cause, please drop off items by May 21st at the Community Center where we have "Care Package" boxes available. . . . mp

FLOWER BASKETS

The Hague Enhancement Committee has announced that their spring beautification project is underway. Committee members, Chair Edna Frasier, Diane Farinick, Rudy Meola, Art Hatfield, Diane Martino, Kay Barton, John Brown, Art Steitz and Dottie Henry will again have baskets with flowers hung from poles along the roads in the hamlet. A donation of \$30 will help defray the cost of the flowers which has greatly increased. For that donation an identification plate will be put on the basket with the name of an individual for whom the donor wants to remember or honor. The committee regrets that they will be unable to assign a spot to any particular individual, however, upon request, they will let the donor know where the basket has been placed.

If you wish to participate in this enhancement project, a check (with "memorial basket" indicated in the memo) may be sent to: Town of Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836-0509.

SNO-GOERS MEET

The next meeting of the Hague Sno-Goers will be at The Firehouse Restaurant on Thursday April 19th at 6 pm. Tom Haskell, Club President, is hoping to have a barbecue in May since it will be the last meeting until late August.

On Tuesday, April 24th, at 1:30 PM at the Community Center, the Senior Club will have as its guest speaker Craig Lonergan, a retired Social Studies teacher. He will share a bit of Hague history with his program, *Good Old Days in Graphite*. What could be more fitting during Hague's Bicentennial Year! The Seniors extend an invitation to all who are interested to please join us. It is open to the public. You do not have to be a club member to share in what promises to be an interesting afternoon. Refreshments will be served. . . . mp

CALLING ALL HAGUE VETERANS

This year's Memorial Day Parade will have a brand new Veterans Memorial which is presently being built by volunteer Art Hatfield. Plans have been in the works for several months now and this Special Parade Unit will be the focal point of our Memorial Day Parade. However, Veterans, we need your help to act as Escort for this Memorial as it makes its way along the parade route. If you wish to walk, that's great - if you prefer to ride in a vehicle, that's fine too. Please help us to create an image that brings to mind the true meaning of Memorial Day!

Call Madeline Pelkey at 543-6130 for details.



MEMORIAL DAY 2007

Saturday, May 26th will be here before we know it. The big new attraction for the Funfest at the Beach is Linda Benway's "Ready-To-Go Doggy Show" with the Dog Whisperer, N.Y.S. Canine Search & Rescue, Dog Competitions, Demonstrations etc. All you 'pups' wishing to be contestants, please call Lin at 585-6884. This is a first for Hague and promises to be a big plus for the day.

We also hope to see some great Hague Floats this year. Get your thinking caps on and join in the fun. Don't forget Prize Award Categories are:

- BEST IN PARADE, MOST PATRIOTIC
- MOST CREATIVE, BEST YOUTH
- BEST HAGUE BICENTENNIAL/HISTORICAL
- HONORABLE MENTIONS ADULT & YOUTH

To be in the parade, call Madeline at 543-6130 for placement and Unit #.

Since this is Hague's Bicentennial Year, the Committee has gone all out to make this Celebration the best ever! Any financial assistance will be greatly appreciated. We thank all those who have donated to date. Checks should be made out to Hague Senior Citizens Club-Parade Account. Mail to the Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836. . . . mp

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is mailed out by volunteers on the Thursday after the third Tuesday of each month. The news deadline is six days earlier. Please send news or questions to <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com> or to the address below.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly tax deductible contribution to:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
PO Box 748
Hague, New York 12836-0748

Editor: Dorothy Henry Publisher: Judith Stock (518-543-6517)

MISS HAGUE BICENTENNIAL

Hague will be represented by Miss Bicentennial during all the special events of the Town's Bicentennial. She will be in the Memorial Day parade and preside over the other activities during the summer. All local or locally-connected young ladies of high school through college age are encouraged to participate.

To apply, send a letter of interest to the Miss Hague Bicentennial Committee c/o Town of Hague, Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY, 12836 by May 2, 2007. The letter should include name, address, phone, community and school activities and why you should be selected to represent the town. Any other information which will help the committee in the selection process, such as what Hague means to you, is welcomed. All who apply will be invited to a personal interview.

OPEN WATER SWIM UPDATE

According to Graham Bailey, Chairman of the Lake George Open Water Swim, several professional swimmers, including two from Argentina, have already signed up for the marathon swim. Taking place on Saturday, June 30, 2007 with a start in Lake George Village and a finish in Hague, this event will bring national recognition to our area especially Hague. In recognition of that fact, additional occupancy tax funds have been allocated by the Hague Town Board toward the funding of the event. Since town and county funds cannot be used for prize money, additional sponsors and donors are being sought.

The LG Open Swim Committee has been hard at work over the past year getting the races formally sanctioned by U.S. Masters Swimming and the U.S.A. Swimming Inc., recruiting volunteer certified officials, and creating a safety plan in collaboration with both the Sheriff's office and the Lake George Park Commission. There has also been a significant amount of interest in the 6 K amateur swim from Silver Bay to Hague on Sunday, July 1. The committee hopes to add a 10 K amateur swim next year since that event will be in the next Olympics.

Another important need will be volunteers to help with the event. Anyone wishing to offer his or her services during that weekend as host families for the professional swimmers, boat drivers, greeters, registration or other tasks are encouraged to visit the website, <www.swimlakegeorge.org> or call Graham Bailey at 543-6811 for more information.

FOURTH OF JULY UPDATE

The Town of Hague will be celebrating the Fourth on the second! The fireworks will be held off the beach at the Town Park as usual and will begin around 9:30 pm.

Randy Engler has informed us that the Blue Grass Festival planned for that day will not be held this year although he hopes to do it in 2008. He is concentrating on plans for the Triathlon which will be held on Saturday June, 30, 2007.

TASTE OF TI

The Ticonderoga Heritage Museum will hold its fifth annual "Taste of Ti" at the Ticonderoga High School cafeteria on May 17 at 6:30 pm. Tickets are on sale for \$17.50 each at Rathbun's Jewelers and Ti Paint Store or from any member of the board of the Ticonderoga Heritage Museum.

Last year more than 25 restaurants and businesses contributed to the menu. More than 40 appetizers, entrees, and desserts were professionally displayed and the response from the guests was overwhelming. This year promises to be bigger and better than ever. Be sure to get your tickets early, since the seating is limited.

TI CHAMBER FUNDRAISER

For the fifth year in a row, the Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce is inviting area businesses and organizations to join them at the Chamber's annual fundraiser on Friday evening, June 8th at Emerald's Restaurant at the Ticonderoga Country Club. For 2007, Debbie Malaney, Executive Director, has announced an exciting new theme event: "Escape to Pair-a-Dice" featuring "Casino Night" games, a delicious buffet, auctions, raffles, and more.

The Chamber is partnering with the Ticonderoga Elks Club, which is licensed to operate the "Casino Night" portion of our fundraising activities. The goal for the evening is to encourage fun and interaction of Chamber members and guests in a relaxing "tropical theme" atmosphere while raising some funds at the same time.

Co-Chairs of the event are Susan Rathbun and Scarlett Merfeld. For further information contact the Chamber office at 585-6619.

KEEPING IT GREEN

Are you recycling all that you can at the transfer station? Help the environment and save money by recycling all paper - newspapers, magazines, mail (take out the unwanted pens, key chains, etc from junk mail first!) and clean paper food containers. The paper goes in the same recycling bin with the aluminum, plastic and glass.

The plastic grocery bags are not recyclable so consider taking your own tote bag to the store when you are buying only a few items that you can carry.

SPRING PLANT SALE

The Warren County 4-H is currently conducting a spring flower sale of bulbs such as gladiolus, lilies, and begonias as well as wildflower seeds, hanging tomato and strawberry plant kits. Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension at 668-4881 for the full catalog of plant, bulb and seed offerings. Deadline for orders is April 24th.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 3/22/07

SPECIAL MEETING ON CELL SERVICE

Chairman Robert Goetsch and members George Ianson, Lindsay Mydlarz, Bill Pittman, Glen McKee and Donna Charboneau were present. Martin Fitzgerald, II was absent.

MARSCHNER (43.17-1-6) 29 Springdale Manor Dr. (TR-1)

The applicant wishes to add a second story to a legal non-conforming house. If approved living space would increase by 100%. The foot print would remain the same. The Board deemed the application complete and will hold a public hearing next month.

PLANNING BOARD - 4/5/07

Chairman Dave Swanson and members Pam Peterson, Erwin Siwek, Rolly Allen and Tim Costello were present. Peter Foster and John Brown were absent.

RYPKEMA/AUERBACH 93.12-1-9.1 & 93.12-1-8 Lakeshore Dr. (TR1)

Extension given for Lot Line Change which was approved February 1, 2007.

MARSCHNER (43.17-1-6) 29 Springdale Manor (TR-1)

The Planning Board, needing more information, made no referral to the Zoning Board .

CORBO (26.6-1-8) 36 N. Forest Bay Road (TR-1)

Approval was given for the applicant request for a 12' x 10' deck addition to a pre-existing cabin with the deck being 88' from the Lake.

GLADING (12.18-1-5) 9606 Lakeshore Drive (TR-1)

Applicant is requesting a Variance for more than 25% increase of square footage to a legal pre-existing non-conforming house. The house sits 48 1/2 feet from the Lake. The owner would like to enlarge the second story of house by 600 sq. ft. The foot print of the structure would not increase. Septic is in compliance for the proposed addition. A site visit will be held.

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING ON ENHANCEMENT

Board members Edna Frasier, Art Steitz, Dan Belden and Dick Gladu met on March 19th to discuss the Enhancement Committee proposals with Lisa Nagle who did not make the meeting. They discussed the plans for the walkway at the beach and agreed to put the bid proposal in the Post Star and Times of Ti.

The meeting was rescheduled for March 26th and Board members Belden, Steitz, Frasier and Gladu met with Enhancement Committee members Art Hatfield, Diane Martino, Rudy Meola, John Brown, Diane Farinick, Kay Barton and Dottie Henry and Elan Planners Lisa Nagel and Jarrod Tatich.

The Board approved the map, plan and report by Elan Planners for the Waterfront Park Enhancement project. Bids will be opened for the project on April 17. Those present then toured the former American Legion property to review and discuss different options to enhance that area.

A special Town Board meeting concerning cell phone service issues was held on 3/29/07. Present were Dan Belden and Dick Gladu. Others attending were Pam Peterson, Marty Fink, Attorney Dominick Viscardi and Cathy Clark.

The subject for discussion was Cell Phone Towers for Hague. Dan suggested that Dick Gladu be appointed Chair of the committee.

Pam Peterson voiced her concern about cell towers if they appeared to be ugly and spoil the natural beauty of the Adirondack Park. She noted that she did not object to cell towers per se as long as they kept them from being objectionable.

The biggest problem with being able to secure cell towers for this area is in getting a service provider. Cathy said there would be no objection from the APA. They have suggested that perhaps we could go in with another community such as Putnam, which would keep the cost down.

The biggest goal for this project would be to provide safety and convenience for the people of Hague. It would also help the economic growth of Hague since most of the tourists depend on cell phones while they are vacationing here as well as local residents who would benefit from them. Some of the local businesses have said they have lost customers because of the lack of cell phones.

Crown Communications may be a contact point to guide us in what would or wouldn't make sense. Some towers have been placed on private property; the owner would have to take care of the upkeep and would collect a fee for the use of the property. The committee all agreed that the towers should be substantially invisible and would have to investigate the financial liability, permitting, permanence and upgrade liability; also, the feasibility of the town becoming a co-applicant.

Dick Gladu will get site maps, names of providers and other pertinent information necessary. The first thing that has to be done is to pass a local law and resolutions. Permits will need to be obtained and a survey of the numbers of people which would be involved.

Next meeting of this committee will be held on April 10, time to be announced. Dick will give a status report at this meeting. ...dh

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING - 4/3/07

Supervisor Belden and Board members Gladu, LaPointe and Frasier met with Attorney Viscardi with regards to necessary information about Sewer District #2 that needs to be submitted to NYS Audit and Control.

Additional supporting affidavits of fact were received from David Martucci, Assessor, Deborah Manning, Town Clerk and Judy Stock, Publisher of The Hague Chronicle.

Supervisor Belden as Budget Officer of the Town confirmed with the Town Attorney that the Town of Hague has no outstanding indebtedness.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 4/10/07

Supervisor Dan Belden and Town Board members Dick Gladu, Art Steitz, Edna Frasier and Tom LaPointe were all present.

A moment of silence was held for Bill Doran, Mason Belden, Glenwood Michaud and Dorothy Davis.

David Dunn, Co-President of the Chamber of Commerce, mentioned that any local organizations can submit event dates to himself or Karen Laudree to be put on the calendar on the Chamber website.

Committee Reports:

Buildings & Grounds/CC - The ongoing discussion about work in the hallways of the Community Center continued. It was finally decided to use 12 x 12 ceramic tiles and to hire David Dunn to do the work for \$11,140 including labor and materials although his was not the lowest bid. Also approved was an exterminator to get rid of carpenter ants.

Care Program/Enhancement - Information has been published for bids on the work in the park.

Highway - Superintendent Don Smith mentioned that the department will be using a pickup sweeper on the roads that will pick up the sand rather than blow it.

Museum & Historian - The renovated museum will be opening in May. With the elevating of Ethel Andrus to an Historian Emerita position, the Board has not yet made a decision on appointing someone as Town Historian for the daily responsibilities.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - The Board received the written monthly report from Cathy Clark, Zoning Enforcement Officer, and among the items was information on abandoned mobile homes. According to the report there are at least 8 such homes in the Town of Hague. Costs for removal run around \$5000 and in many cases this cost would be a hardship for the property owners. Further avenues for removal are being explored.

There will be a NYS Department of State Training Day (on Planning & Zoning) in Hague on April 25 from 4 pm to 9 pm. Designed for members of the local boards, other residents wanting to participate should contact the ZEO.

Sewer Dist. #1 & #2 - Supervisor Belden has met with engineers from the county and DOT. Lakeshore Drive (Rt. 9N) will be closed around the big turn in the Island Harbor area so the sewer work can be done in about 2 weeks. (If not closed it would take 4 - 8 weeks with one way traffic.) Detour signs will be put up on the Northway and only local traffic allowed. Any local trips to Ticonderoga will be made over the West Hague/ New Hague roads back onto Rt. 9N near the campsite. A retaining wall by the Beaty homes and cutting back rocks around the Ruah property could be done at the same time by the DOT. The DOT will notify the school, fire department and ambulance services. The APA permit should take a couple of weeks.

Town Park - The town would like to hire a full time person (35 - 36 hours per week) to water the flowers, pull weeds, cut grass and do other maintenance work at the park from the end of June through the summer. A job description and wages will be discussed at a special meeting.

Transfer Station - Casella Waste Management has submitted their request for new pricing of items at the transfer station. The approved price list is available at the Community Center. Of interest to residents is the revised cost for the 15 gal bags (\$3.00); 30 gal bags (\$4.00) and 50 gal bags (\$7.00). The Town has cut the rent Casella pays but they still lost money last year.

During June, the hours will change to 9 am - 4 pm on Wednesday and Saturday. From July 1 - September 2 the hours will be 8 am - 5 pm on Wednesday and Saturday and 1 - 4 pm on Sunday.

Under other business, the Board:

Authorized the Supervisor to sign a contract with Alonzo Fireworks for fireworks and use of the barge for July 2 (30 minutes for \$8000) and August 18 (35 minutes for \$9000).

Authorized the Supervisor to sign an agreement with the Gourmet Gal for the August 17th Reunion lunch and August 19th Bicentennial brunch with costs being reimbursed by ticket sales.

Heard a report from Graham Bailey, Chairman Lake George Open Water Swim and approved \$3000 from the occupancy tax money for this event which will benefit Hague's tourism.

Approved a request from the Chamber of Commerce for waiving of fees and use of the Community Center and Town Park Boat Launch and Visitor Center for the NYS Bass Federation events. The dates are June 16-17 and for ESPN sponsored events on September 8-9 and 22-23.

Approved attendance for 4 people for the Lake George Watershed's 3rd Annual Forum on Water Quality Management & Resource Conservation on May 17th (with applications due by April 24, 2007).

Passed a resolution in support of cell towers to be sent to government representatives. (see related article on page)

Approved attendance at ACC by Tim Costello to update his license for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Supervisor Belden reported that Hague and Bolton are both back in the budget and will get a 3% increase in state aid.

At the county level he reported that there will be a public hearing in May at the Glens Falls Civic Center for a public hearing on how to pay for the new Social Services building as the old building is not safe.

Just when a mother thinks her work is done she becomes a grandmother. author unknown

COST CONTAINMENT IN SCHOOLS

An interesting article from the March 2007 NYS School Boards Association newsletter, sent to us thanks to Dick Gladu, lists "a snapshot of some effective cost-containment approaches" in order to "stretch precious taxpayer dollars." The ideas are bold and as they noted "out-of-the-box". But the approach to the problem is from the spending side and may provide more relief than the band-aid approaches to reducing taxes (such as the Star rebates) that we have seen. While some of them may not be as applicable to schools in our area, it does focus on the need for reduced spending and to think about creative ways for that to happen.

Among the ideas are:

Save on utility bills and transportation costs by increasing the length of the day and closing schools on Fridays.

Pool school districts to purchase health insurance.

Renovate rather than build anew when it comes to construction needs.

Purchasing goods or services through pooling of resources and using online auctions.

More sharing of personnel among districts such as superintendent, principal, technology coordinator, business administrator, social worker, etc.

Out-sourcing of services such as food, custodial, transportation, etc.

TICONDEROGA SCHOOL BUDGET

At the April Town Board meeting, Dick Gladu reported on the dates of interest concerning the proposed Ticonderoga School Budget. On April 17th there will be a public hearing on the proposed budget. On April 21st the tax report card will come out. The vote on the budget and for school board members is on May 15th.

On April 26th at 6 pm, Dick has volunteered to be at the Community Center in Hague to give a status report on a variety of tax reform activities underway as well as an update on the TCS budget. Anyone who might be interested is welcome to attend.

Hague taxpayers pay a substantial portion of the Ticonderoga School taxes and individual taxpayers feel the pinch every year. And yet very few (really only one or two) taxpayers attend any of the School Board meetings. We should take every advantage of Dick's effort to keep us informed.

April 26th - 6 pm - Gladu Budget Report

May 15th - Ti School Budget Vote

GILLIBRAND ACTIVE IN AREA

Representative Gillibrand, our newly elected congresswoman who represents our area has sent a press release of her various activities since she was elected. The following are just of few of the projects she intends to pursue.

Ms. Gillibrand has announced that she will be holding a "Congress At Your Corner". She has already held meetings with her constituents in Delhi, Glens Falls, Clifton Park, Averill Park, Hudson, Lake Placid, Hyde Park and Greenwich. She plans to schedule public appearances in communities throughout the district at weekend hot spots. We hope to let you know when she plans to be in our area.

Ms. Gillibrand, as a member of the House Budget Committee, has asked Chairman Spratt of that committee to reject the President's proposal to cut funding for the COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) program. While the additional funds for the COPS program in the House Budget Resolution is a good sign, no funding will be final until an appropriations bill with the funding passes both the House and the Senate and is signed by the President.

Representative Gillibrand has also supported the following:

- Middle Class Tax Cuts which would match the President's budget on defense spending; expand health care for children; provide soldiers and veterans with care worthy of their sacrifice; support education for the 21st century workforce; invest in renewable energy for an energy independent America.

- Supported HR 401, the Rail and Public Transportation Security Act of 2007, which provides \$7.3 billion dollars to enact security measures for rail and public transportation over the next five years.

- Wounded Warriors Act, to give injured troops the medical attention they deserve.

- Firefighter Grant Program, a new round of Federal Grants for Firefighters. This program is open to municipalities for first responders and city, town and village firefighting departments. She encourages all local governments to apply. More than \$492 million will be available for the awards, which are determined on a competitive basis. Application period ends on Friday, May 4, 2007. Applications are available online at three locations: www.firegrantsupport.com, www.usfa.fema.gov, and www.grants.gov.

- Iraq Supplemental Bill (U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Health and Iraq Accountability Act). This bill appropriates \$1.7 billion more for military health care, including money for Walter Reed and other hospitals; \$2.5 billion more for improving the readiness of our stateside troops, and \$1.4 billion more for military housing allowances.

To contact Congresswoman Gillibrand, e-mail her at www.gillibrand.house.gov or contact her Glens Falls office at 333 Glen Street, Suite 302 or phone: 743-1391.

~SOUNDINGS~

DIED: Dorothy Davis, 79, Dodd Hill, Hague, on March 25, 2007. She is survived by three sons, Andrew, Ogdensburg, NY, Gilbert, Hague, and George, Ticonderoga. Also surviving are three granddaughters and four grandsons, three great granddaughters and one great grandson.

DIED: Mason J. Belden, Sr., 50, Hudson Falls, NY on March 31, 2007 at the Glens Falls Hospital. Besides his mother Helen, Hague and uncle, Hague Supervisor Dan Belden, he is survived by a daughter, Jaime, Lake Placid and son, Mason, Jr. who is serving in Iraq, four grandchildren, five sisters, and two brothers. He is also survived by several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

NEW POSITION FOR JOHNSON

Mark Johnson, a former director of the Silver Bay Association of the Adirondacks and a past member and chairman of the Lake George Park Commission, was appointed executive director of Fellowship for Reconciliation in March 2007. The organization, formed in 1914 is an international, interfaith organization dedicated to the prevention of war. Johnson has served for the past four years as an officer of FOR's Chicago Area chapter and currently serves as special events chair of the Alliance for Middle East Peace, a coalition of U.S., Israeli, and Palestinian NGOs engaged in peace work.

LOCAL SKI WHIZ

Dennis McDonough is an eight-year-old ski racer who enjoyed a great deal of success this year. He skis with the New York Ski Education Foundation (NYSEF) located at Gore & Whiteface. He won the Gold Medal overall title of JVI (7-8 year olds) World Cup at Gore Mountain and Gold Medals in 5 out of 9 races for the season (with three Bronze Medals as well). He took fourth place in the statewide open race, Hovey Memorial at Whiteface, and 5th place at the Gore Spring Open, and West Mountain Kandahar.

Dennis is the son of Kevin and Heather McDonough of Silver Bay and Irvington, NY, and the grandson of Dennis and Pat McDonough of Hague.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT OUT

The Hague Creek Cafe has resumed their Wednesday night dinners. You can check at the Cafe or Post Office for their menu each week.



TI MIDDLE SCHOOL MERIT ROLL

The following Hague students have been named to its Sentinel Merit Society for the second quarter:

Grade 6: Olivia Bissell, Grace Ginn, Bryana Goetsch, Chelsea Kearns, Karney Manning

Grade 7: Corey King, William Lawrie, Walter Porter, Harley Trudeau

Grade 8: Kaylene Ross, Autumn Winney

IN THE SERVICE

An article sent to us recounts the activities of Frank Fitzgerald, 32, from Readfield, Maine who was on his first tour of duty in Iraq with the Army's 1st Cavalry Division when he won the Bronze Star for valor and the Purple Heart.

Frank is the son of Charles and Sharon Fitzgerald who currently spend time between Maine and Florida. Charles (known as "Frank" when he lived in Hague and went through Hague Central School) is the nephew of Martin ("Blacky") Fitzgerald, Sabbath Day Point. Sharon Fitzgerald is a former President of the Hague Board of Education.

As told by his parents and his wife Veronica Fitzgerald, of Readfield, Frank was in command of the lead tank in a column of tanks and lesser-armored vehicles such as Bradley Fighting Vehicles on Aug. 22, 2005. A lightly armored Bradley Fighting Vehicle, with 12 to 16 American soldiers in it, pulled out in front of Frank's tank. It was then that Frank spotted an Iraqi insurgent with a rocket-propelled grenade launcher aimed directly at the Bradley.

Frank quickly ordered his tank to the head of the column again, shielding the Bradley from fire and saving the lives of the men in the Bradley. His tank took the brunt of the grenade blast head-on. It shattered the vision glass in the turret where Frank was stationed. Glass went into his eye and his shoulder. But his action gave time for the other vehicles and the infantry to pull back and regroup.

Frank served his first tour in Iraq from Jan. 11, 2004, to Feb. 5, 2005 and returned to Iraq for a second tour of duty last Nov. 16 as a sergeant first class embedded with Iraqi troops in Baghdad, training the Iraqi soldiers.

HAGUE CENTRAL REUNION

Over 340 letters have gone out to graduates and former students and staff of the Hague Central School informing them of the All Class Reunion as part of Hague's Bicentennial from August 16 - 19, 2007.

Anyone who has not received a letter or knows of someone who should be on the list, please contact Judy Stock at <haguejudy@nycap.rr.com> or mail to Hague Bicentennial Reunion, Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836.

HHS POSTCARD PROGRAM PRESENTED

An intriguing look at Hague's history through postcards was presented at the first program of the year for the Hague Historical Society hosted by the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks. With nearly 40 members and guests in attendance, Jules Halm and Dennis McDonough projected views of their postcards on a large screen at the Silver Bay YMCA's Watson Hall on April 2nd. Jules showed pictures of the Sabbath Day Point and Silver Bay areas and described seven eras that could be identified by the way the cards were made. Dennis chose highlights of his collection from the popular Hague hotels and images of the Lake and steamboat dock area.

The "Pioneer" era of postcards was from 1893 to 1898 with pictures of big cities or popular destinations and the terms "souvenir card" or "greetings from" written on them. From 1898 to 1901, the address side had "Private Mailing Card" on it while the picture and room for messages was on the other. The "undivided back" postcard with only address on one side and the picture on the other with just a white strip on the front for the message was used from 1901 - 1907. The next period, from 1907 to 1915, ushered in cards with a divided back where the message and address were separated by a division on one side and the picture filled the reverse side. From 1916 to 1930 the picture side was surrounded by a "white border." From 1930 to 1945, the "linen" cards were in vogue, very recognizable by the textured look of the photographs. The "photochrome" cards originated in 1945 and continue to be used. One of the most familiar makers of these cards in our area is Richard Dean.

Jerry Crammond had on display part of his extensive collection of the area and Dottie Henry also brought several cards for display. The Historical Society hopes to repeat this program in the summer with the additional display of collections by many more people in our town who pursue this fascinating hobby.



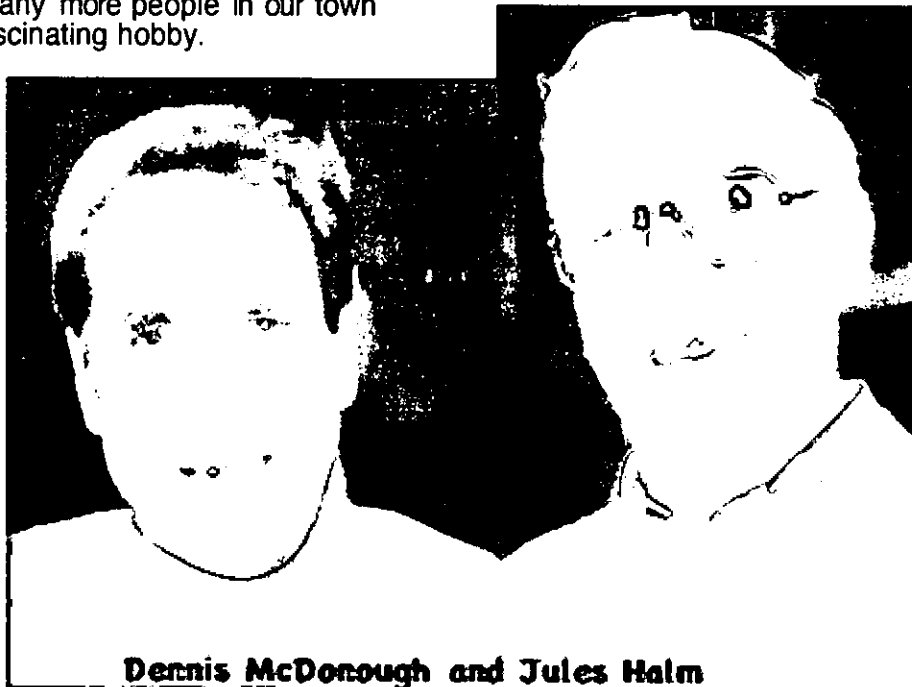
CARTOON MUSEUM OPEN

The Ticonderoga Cartoon Museum at 132 Montcalm Street opened for the spring-summer season on April 2, according to Stan Burdick, director.

Several new exhibits await visitors, young and old, this year. One is the hand-crafted wooden cut-outs of cartoon characters made by the legendary Arto Monaco of Land of Make-Believe fame.

The theme for the museum as well as the "Best Fourth in the North" this summer will be "Comics Are for Kids." Various exhibits will carry out that theme.

The museum will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2 to 4 pm and other days for groups by appointment. Call 585-7015 for more information.



Dennis McDonough and Jules Halm

WEATHER NOTES by JoAnne DeFranco

March 18 - April 15, 2007

The last two weeks of March were typical maple sugaring weather. Days were sunny with temperatures in the 40's and 50's and nights down below freezing. There were two nights on the 20th and 21st that temperatures dipped to 6 degrees below zero. March 27th was the warmest day of the month at 62 degrees.

April started out warm with 59 on the 1st, 58 on April 2nd and 50 on April 3rd. Most of April's showers have been the frozen variety. Snowstorms occurred on April 4 with 4" of snow and on April 12 with 6" of snow. There were flurries on several days with no accumulation. Easter Sunday was the coldest on record. On Friday, April 13 we had a high of 39 degrees and a low of 34 degrees with snow and rain showers. Looking back one year to April 13, 2006, the high was 73 degrees and low of 45 degrees. So far, April weather has been below normal.

The ice on Lake George is beginning to break up. The area around Hague Bay is almost entirely clear from one side to the other. The rest of the lake remains steely gray color that indicates the ice is softening. With the high winds predicted with today's (April 15th) snowstorm and the open water in Hague Bay, we could see significant ice movement. I will have to report on this latest snowstorm in next month's issue as we are going to press before the storm is over. Precipitation started as rain at about 8 am. At 1:30 pm it turned to heavy wet snow greasing the roads. Winds are supposed to pick up as the storm moves across NJ.....To be continued. Needless to say, those of us who live in Hague year-round are tired of winter and snow. We hope the remainder of April brings showers, not snow.

LGA AND LGLC OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR APRIL AND MAY

The Lake George Association (LGA) and the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) sponsor several programs of interest to those who wish to discover and help the natural history of the area.

On Saturday, April 28, 2007 the LGLC is holding a Family Arbor Day Nature Scavenger Hunt from 10 am to noon at the Pilot Knob Ridge Preserve in Fort Ann.

In May, the following programs will take place:

- 12 - Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) training, 10 am - noon refresher for previous volunteers and 1 - 4 pm for new volunteers. Advance registration is required with the LGA.
- 12 - Vernal Pools Exploration for Families from 9 am - noon; meet at the LGLC office in Bolton Landing.
- 17- Lake George Watershed Conference (LGWC) Annual Forum "It's your Watershed - Exploring Stewardship Opportunities on Lake George", 9 am - 5 pm (8:15 am registration) at Fort William Henry Conference Center.
- 17 - LG Nature Talk: Lake George Birds: Native and Migrating Species, Joan Robertson, 7 pm at the LGA office.
- 19 - LG Turtle Monitoring Program (LGTMP) training, 9 - 11 am at LGA with advance registration required.
- 19 - LGLC Spring Migration Birding Hike from 8:30 am - noon; Cat and Thomas Mountains Preserve, Bolton.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

On April 21 from 10 am - 12 noon Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks will be observing HEALTHY KIDS DAY at the Ticonderoga Elementary School. Families of all ages will enjoy an obstacle course, frisbee, golf, and a fitness test and informational demonstrations including fire safety, oral hygiene, blood pressure testing and bike safety. Healthy snacks will be provided.

On the first Friday of each month at 6 pm, Silver Bay will host a dinner and movie on the BIG screen. It is free and open to the community with donations welcome.

On the last Saturday of each month at 6 pm there will be Cook-Offs and Themed Potlucks at Silver Bay. Bring a dish to pass and the recipe to share.

For more information call 543-8833, Ext. 249 or email <dsham@silverbay.org>.

On April 25 at 7 pm, Emily DeBolt, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Lake George Association, will present a program on "Lake George Is Drinking Water". Fort Ticonderoga is hosting this program.

On April 26 at 7 pm in the Ticonderoga Elementary School cafeteria, the Spring concert will be held.

On May 6, 2007 at 4 pm, the Glens Falls Symphony Orchestra will perform its final concert of the season at The Performing Arts Center at Glens Falls High School. Call 793-1348 for more information.

On May 9 at 7 pm, Joan Viault, Museum President, will present a program on "A Stitch in Ti" at the Ticonderoga Heritage Museum.

On May 16 at 7:30 pm in the Ticonderoga High School auditorium, the spring concert will be held.

Happy Mother's Day!

Calling kids of all ages - On Sunday, May 13th, you can take your Mother to Brunch at:
Silver Bay YMCA Store from 10:30 am - 1:30 pm
Hague Creek Cafe from 9 am - 2 pm
Hague Market from 9 am - 3 pm
Uptown Store from 9 am - 2 pm



April - May 2007

April

24 1:30 pm Senior Citizens (p. 2)
 25 1 pm Extra Helping Distribution
 25 4 - 9 pm Zoning Training Day (p. 5)
 26 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals

May

2 Deadline for *Miss Hague Bicentennial* letter (p. 3)
 3 7 pm Planning Board
 8 6:30 pm Town Board
 13 MOTHERS DAY
 17 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed
 17 6:30 pm "Taste of Ti" (p. 3)
 22 1:30 pm Senior Citizens (p.2)
 22 4-8 pm Board of Assessment Review (p. 1)

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Wednesdays & Saturdays:
9 am - 5 pm

Hours to change in June.

For additional activities see page 9

MIND & BODY EXERCISES

Wednesdays T'ai Chi classes with Mae Pagan
6:15-7:15 pm at the Community Center

Saturdays Pilates Mat classes with Brenda-Jean Rider
Upstairs at the Hague Creek Cafe
10 am - Beginner; 11 am - Intermediate

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR OUR BICENTENNIAL

May 26: Memorial Day Parade & Funfest (see page 2)
 June 30 - July 2: Swim Marathon/Triathlon (see page 3)
 August 16 - 19: Hague Central All Student Reunion (see page 7)
 August 17 - 19: Bicentennial Celebration Weekend

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*Celebrating the 200th Anniversary
 of the Town of Hague*