



THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

July 2008

DONATION DATE

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We no longer include notes - thank you, gift or donation due - in any issue. It frequently put the weight over 1 ounce requiring extra postage and it was much too labor intensive. We will, however, send a letter in January of next year to anyone who sends in a donation this year noting that it is a tax-deductible contribution. ...js

ALCOHOL PERMISSION CONTROVERSY

At the June Town Board meeting a request was made by the Chamber of Commerce to be able to use the Town Park for an event where alcohol can be served. This request was approved by a vote of 3 (Meola, Gladu, Martucci) to 1 (Frasier) with the Supervisor being absent.

Afterward, resident George Ianson started a petition in opposition. He adamantly opposes allowing alcohol in an area where there is a playground for children and he also believes it will open the door to other similar requests. His petition containing 80 signatures was received by the Town Board at their July meeting.

At that meeting, Mr. Ianson stated, "It's a park - a playground - I take my children there. We don't allow it (alcohol) in state parks. It could be done in the town hall but not in a park where children are." He also said the open container law covers the whole Town if you suspend it.

Councilman Rudy Meola read Mr. Ianson's petition at the July meeting but stated that the Board's action did not amend the Park Ordinance which would be a lengthy legal process. He stated the Board did not "suspend" or do away with the Park Ordinance which states "It shall be unlawful to bring any alcoholic beverage into the park." He said "It (the Board) simply approved the availability of beer and/or wine within the park under the supervision and care of the Chamber of Commerce at a specific event." The attorney for the Town advised the Town Board on the validity of its action.

As the petition was being discussed, some of the Board members were less supportive than on their previous position. At this point the President of the Chamber, David Dunn, requested that the location of the Art Show be changed to the Community Center. The request was approved 3 (Meola, Martucci, Belden) to 2 (Frasier, Gladu). ...js

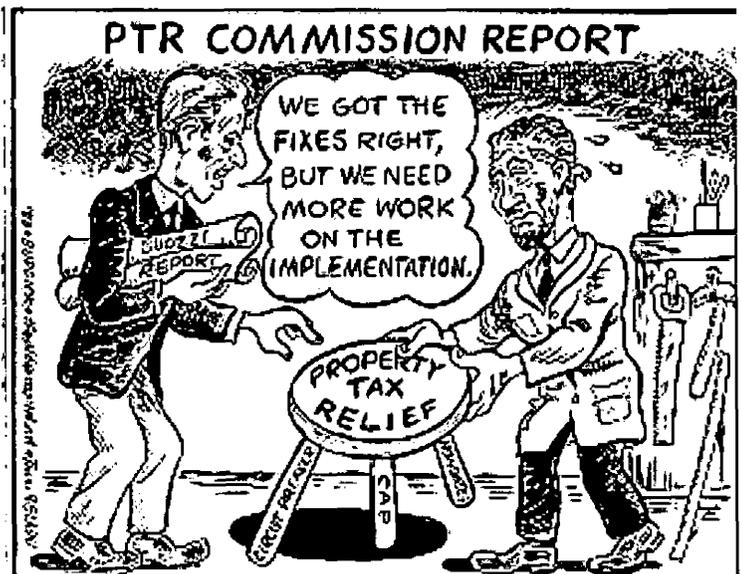
PROPERTY TAX BURDEN

Bob Schwarz, a longtime Hague seasonal resident, appeared before the Town Board at the July meeting to publicize his plan for school tax relief. His stated purpose was "to enlist support from fellow property owners in getting Hague's portion of Ticonderoga school taxes reduced from 11 times that which Ticonderoga pays." He believes that it is inherently unfair that in Hague the cost is over \$55,000 per pupil and in Ticonderoga it is \$5,000.

Although we have not verified his figures, according to Mr. Schwarz, in 2007-2008 Hague property tax payers paid \$4,500,000 for 82 students (\$54,878 per pupil) and Ticonderoga property tax payers paid \$4,000,000 for 888 students (\$4,505 per pupil) which is actually a ratio of 12 to 1.

Mr. Schwarz said, "This has been going on for almost 30 years and will not change by virtue of any of the various bills being put forward in Albany." He believes that the only recourse is to take legal action - with legal expenses being recouped in future savings. He has left a sign up sheet at the Community Center for other interested taxpayers to join him in a task force. For more information on Mr. Schwarz's proposal, you may contact him at 543-6384.

Councilman Dick Gladu responded that the only way to reduce taxes is to get the State to assume more responsibility for school funding. He has been working on the issue through a statewide effort to bring about necessary legislation, also discussed by the Governor's commission, providing for a three-fold solution of a circuit breaker, a tax cap and funding mandates. ...js



HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Hague Seniors had a covered dish luncheon in June. The business meeting was a very quick one as the membership was salivating at all the goodies Joan Steitz and Shirley Carey were putting out for us! It was a lovely luncheon topped off by a delicious cake made by our member Imogene Frasier.

Lunch was followed by a rollicking afternoon of bingo led by our own Judy Stock! Judy kept the games going at a good pace and spiced up the afternoon with her good humor. There were many winners of the "white elephant prizes" provided by the players -- though it did seem at times as though a few members were really making a haul!

Our next meeting will be the annual Seniors Picnic at the HVFD pavilion on Tuesday, August 26, at noon. Mark your calendars now and think about a dish you might want to bring. We'll be calling to confirm menu contributions! All are welcome!
Pat McDonough

HAGUE FISH & GAME CLUB

The Hague Fish and Game Club announced the winners of the Knight 50 Cal muzzel loader are Tina & Travis Millington. The winning ticket was drawn at the Club's 1st Annual Bluegrass Jam, which was a huge success and enjoyed by many.

On Saturday, July 19th the Club will hold a 50th Anniversary Steak Bake from 4-7 pm at the Club grounds on West Hague Rd. This promises to be another hit with music and fun for all.
Steve Ramant

NATIVE PLANTS PROGRAM

The Hague Historical Society invites you to join us on Tuesday, July 29, at 7 pm at the Community Center for a presentation on Native Plants to be given by Nancy Wotton Scarzello. Nancy is an herbalist and naturalist; who works for United Plant Savers, a non-profit organization, as well as being the nature columnist for *The Hague Chronicle*. It promises to be a very interesting evening.

ARTS FAIR IN HAGUE

The 37th Annual Hague Arts Fair will be held on August 2nd and 3rd at the Hague Community Center on Route 8 just west of the intersection of Routes 8 and 9N. The fair will be open from 10 am to 4 pm Saturday and 10 am to 3 pm on Sunday. Approximately 50 exhibitors will participate coming from the local community, neighboring counties and states.

Over the many years this show has been held, the quality of the handcrafted items has continually been refined and improved. Some of the items to be displayed are handmade jewelry, hand woven baskets, Adirondack photography, handcrafted stoneware pottery, handmade soap, dried floral arrangements and many, many others.

Exhibitors will also present herbs, spices, jams, jellies, and kettle corn. Lunch items and snacks will be available both days.

For further information, please contact Karen Laundree at 518-543-8841 or Judy Schultz at 518-543-6769.

HVFD STEAK ROAST

On Sat. Aug. 2nd the Hague Fire Dept. will host its annual Steak & Clam Bake from 3 'til 9 pm. Adults \$12.00, kids under 12-\$7.00, for the usual great meal complete with dessert. There will be a D.J. and raffles for your diversion. This is a good opportunity to bring together family and friends to have a great time while supporting the work of our Firemen and E.M.T.s. Mark your calendar NOW.

The mechanical and structural problems with our current rescue boat are more serious than expected. A decision has been made to acquire a new Emergency Fire & Rescue Boat for delivery in mid-summer. It will be a commercial hull 27' Boston Whaler equipped with twin 225 hp. engines, G.P.S., radar, 750 g.p.m. on board pump, a side access door and a mounted water nozzle. Recent serious incidents on the lake underscore the need for just such a dependable and well equipped vessel.

By now most of you have received our annual summer letter of appeal for support. All the usual expenses as well as the new boat make it all the more urgent that you, the people we serve to protect, respond in as generous a way as possible.

In June there were a combined total of 24 E.M.S. and Fire calls, and 9 members provided 46 emergency support hours for the recent very successful triathlon.

The lake gets more crowded each day, so observe safe boating rules and don't become a statistic.

Joe McCranel

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 address corrections to Judy Stock at <HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com>.

The Hague Chronicle is supported by its readers and you may send your yearly tax deductible contribution (check your label) to: the Treasurer, George Ianson at:

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE
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Our website: www.thehaguechronicle.org

At the Historical Society's Annual Meeting on June 24 officers and new board members were elected. Joining the board are Susan Darrin, Debbie Manning and Ray Snyder. New officers are Pat McDonough, President, Gale Halm, Vice President, Judy Stock, Secretary, and Kathi Ramant, Treasurer. Then Gale Halm and outgoing president Holly de Buys presented archival films from Silver Bay that reflected bygone days from the first half of the 20th century.

Memberships are still welcome and the \$5 dues can be mailed to Hague Historical Society, PO Box 794, Hague, NY 12836. Our note cards are once again available at Junipers and the Silver Bay General Store. We hope you'll support these local businesses and the Society by stopping in and purchasing cards. Pat McDonough

HHS CEMETERY CLEANUP

The Hague Heritage Cemetery on Pine Orchard Road was the scene of a voluntary clean-up effort by Historical Society members on Wednesday, July 9th. Despite the oppressively hot weather, volunteers Doug Allen, Bruno Brauner, Susan Darrin, Holly and Bob de Buys, Donna and Jim Henderson, Rudy Meola, Doris Moran, Pam and Myles Peterson, Steve Ramant, Ray Snyder and Judy Stock were able to accomplish a good deal. They were supported by Highway Superintendent Don Smith and his crew who brought trucks and helped to take away the debris. Special thanks to Jason Laundree who worked through the morning to help clear the downed limbs from past storms.

More work remains to be done and we're hoping to meet again in the fall to continue the care of this historical treasure. The Town is ordering replacement parts for the split rail fence which has suffered from storms these past few years.

Looking Back



Excerpted from the July 1980 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.

A poem written by Virginia Shattuck

A MEASUREMENT

How poor we look in census charts
But we don't feel that way.
We own our house with space around
Where all the kids can play.

The Gucci/Pucci clothes and shoes
You need in private jets
Would hang around in closets just
For moths and dust to get.

While we breathe free in dungarees
And polyester drips
Upon the line in sun and rain
And hardly ever rips.

You may prefer Patou and Worth
You've never smelled, no doubt,
The clean and fragrant odor of
The washing hanging out.

It's hard to get good help today?
We really wouldn't know.
In things we do ourselves we find
A satisfying glow.

In people, that's where real worth lies
In family and friends
Who lend a helping hand and feel
On you they can depend.

Our town is rich as Croesus then.
In that commodity,
We have more friends per capita
In great variety.

We look around and revel in
The glory of our views.
A kind of fortune, you could say,
And that's the kind we choose.

On June 24, the Northern Lake George Rotary Club held their installation Dinner at Emerald's at the Ti Country Club. Members, spouses and friends enjoyed themselves with a fine dinner and the installing of this years leadership, Bob Johnson, President, Michelle Benedict, Vice-president, John Barber, Secretary, and David Cornell, Treasurer.

Paul Harris Fellow Awards were presented to Marty Fink, Diane Krans, Julie Cook, and Robert Whitaker. Our Volunteer of the Year was Chip Devenger and our Rotarian of the Year was Brian Sann. Incoming President Bob Johnson praised and thanked outgoing president, Chip Devenger for his leadership and songs.

The club is looking forward to an exchange student this year from Taiwan. To underwrite her stay and to support our local charities, we are planning a Spelling Bee challenge to any teams of three people who would like to compete. "Lets return to our school days" ... The fee for each team is \$100. Right now we are planning for the last week in August. More information will be coming soon.

To continue our support of local charities we are raffling off a kayak. The kayak is a 9 1/2 ft Heritage Featherlite that includes a personal flotation device, a paddle and a one-hour kayaking lesson by Lake George Kayak Company in Bolton. The tickets are \$2 each, 3 for \$5, 7 for \$10 or 15 for \$20 and the drawing will be October 14, 2008. To purchase a raffle contact Brian Sann at 543-6299.

The NLG Rotary Club is a service club that meets at Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks at 7:30 am every Tuesday. A full breakfast is offered before the business meeting and a local guest speaker. Please contact Bob Johnson at 543-6127 for more information. New members are always welcomed.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS

A Defensive Driving Class will be offered at the Hague Wesleyan Church on August 25 & 26 from 6-9 pm on both evenings. This class will give participants a 10% reduction on their auto insurance and reduce up to 4 points on their driving record.

For more information and to enroll call Charlie Antonetti at 585-3450.

PLANNING BOARD - 6/5/08

Acting Chairman Rolly Allen, Dick Frasier, John Brown, Bruce Clark, Pam Peterson and Martin Fitzgerald, Sr. were present. EJ Siwek was absent.

The Board discussed applications of La Pointe and Strutz which are described under the 7/10/08 Planning Board minutes.

Dick Frasier suggested that a committee of the ZBA, Planning Board and Town Board be formed to review and revise the Zoning Code and there was general agreement that modifications are needed.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 6/26/08

Chairman Robert Goetsch and members Glenn McKee, George Ianson, and Bill Pittman were present. Absent were Martin Fitzgerald, Donna Charboneau, and Lindsay Mydlarz.

KOSSBIEL (12.14.-1-21) 9651 Lakeshore Dr (OC I)

The applicant requested a variance for sideline setback and percentage of coverage in order to have a 14' x 22' open deck to the front of a house and a 54 sq. ft. walkway with stairs. The application was placed on the July ZBA agenda and a site visit was scheduled for July 1, 2008 at 7:00 pm

PLANNING BOARD - 7/10/08

Chairman EJ Siwek, Dick Frasier, John Brown, Rolly Allen, Bruce Clark and Pam Peterson were present. Martin Fitzgerald, Sr. was absent.

LA POINTE (24-1-43) 9042 Graphite Mtn Rd (TR-3/OCII)

The applicant revised his application according to recommendations at the last Planning Board meeting and is requesting sketch plan approval of a two lot subdivision of a 40.47 acre parcel. If approved lot 1 would consist of 2.2 acres and lot 2 would consist of 38.27 acres. Currently lot 1 has a house, garage with an apartment above, and barn on it.

The Board accepted the sketch plan as amended and resubmitted allowing Mr. La Pointe to move forward with a formal survey and mylar. Site visit set for 7/17.

RAJOPPI (25.4-1-13) 9626 Graphite Mtn Rd (OC-1)

The applicant requests a two lot subdivision of a 11.24 acre lot. If approved lot 1 would consist of 8.33 acres and lot 2 would contain 2.91 acres. A 30 foot right-of-way is proposed through lot 1 for a means of access to lot 2. The application was accepted as complete and a site visit was set for 7/17.

KOSSBIEL (12.14.-1-21) 9651 Lakeshore Dr (OC I)

The applicant requests a variance for sideline setback and percentage of coverage so he may install a 14' x 22' open deck to the front of a house and a 54 sq. ft. walkway with stairs, mostly over an existing cement staircase, to provide two means of egress from the current structure.

The ZEO reported that at their site visit the ZBA had asked for a survey to be completed to determine where the south side property line is located. The Planning Board withheld any recommendation to the ZBA but advised seeking an official survey on the property.

STRUTZ (26.18-1-10) 9222 Lakeshore Drive (TR-1)

The applicant would like to place a 8' x 12' storage shed 75' from the Lake. Mr. Strutz said that they want to live in Hague year-round and need storage that can be accessed from the parking lot for shovels, a snow blower, etc. They tried to accommodate previous Planning Board concerns. However the Board still wanted them to consider alternative placement of the shed and voted to keep the application open so the applicant can consider other plans.

PETER HAVEN, LTD (43.13-1-7) 27 Abenakis Dr (TR-1)

The applicant would like to replace an existing 306 sq. ft. one story, storage building with a new 612 sq. ft. two story storage building. The building is a legal nonconforming structure due to the five foot setback from Lake George and was in existence before 1973. The footprint will remain the same. Additional information was requested by the Board and a site visit was set.

In other business, Pam Peterson asked for the Board to be given periodic updates on previously approved projects. She also noted that a limit on absences had been mentioned at the last Town Board meeting and suggested instead that alternates be appointed.

TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - 6/17/08

Supervisor Belden and Board members Frasier, Gladu, Meola and Martucci were all present.

The Board sold the 1985 International dump truck to Walt Waters who submitted the highest bid of \$2,650. They also accepted the E-One grinder pump as the standard for the sewer districts. They agreed to apply for funding for the third phase of the downtown enhancements. Also the Board conditionally approved the hiring of Barbara Mizer as clerk to the Town Justice.

Supervisor Belden introduced Nancy Williams from the Lake George Land Conservancy who discussed a proposal for the Town of Hague to purchase the LGLC property adjacent to the Hague Brook.

Ms. Williams has clarified several points in a letter to *The Hague Chronicle*.

The land was gifted to the LGLC in 2004 by the Darrin family and included a restriction against any building or any change to the land that would detract from its natural beauty. She states, "It is wonderful to see youngsters there, hauling in their windsurfing boards, or a reader quietly enjoying the shady beachside. We like to think that the \$2000 that we expend annually for maintenance demonstrates our commitment to our mission and also to the lovely Hague hamlet."

The LGLC has offered the Town a chance to buy this property for the price of \$450,000 which was arrived at through appraisals and consideration of restrictions. The motivation for selling this property is to increase available funds for other projects which benefit everyone on Lake George.

Cont'd from page 4 - Town Board

Ms. Williams feels that the Town would benefit from ownership of this property. She states, "As the owner, the Town could schedule community and nonprofit events as local officials may wish. The Town might lease the property to private parties and weddings. Canoes and kayaks could access the Lake from the shoreline and small children would enjoy the shallow waters developed along the delta from Hague Brook. One last thing to consider: it is LGLC's policy to exclude camping, swimming, alcohol, open fires, and fishing on our properties. Owning this property, the Town could allow any of these uses."

According to the official minutes of the meeting, if the Town does not buy it, it "would remain as is" although there was also mention of the property possibly being sold to the State. The Town Board agreed to consider the offer, hold a meeting to discuss it and will respond in the not too distant future.

The next item of business was a report to the public from Jim O'Toole, chairman of the Walkway Committee. The committee was thanked for all the effort put into the proposals. The Town hired the LaBerge group to do a preliminary engineering study of the plan and to apply for a grant if approved. The cost of the project was estimated to be \$3,060,000 with the hope of a grant of \$2,448,000 which would leave \$612,000 to be raised by the Town and does not include maintenance costs.

Audience members addressed the Board on the issue. The majority felt that the project cost would be too high for a small town. A motion to approve the plan failed with none of the Board members voting for it.

Supervisor Belden did mention that the State will be repaving 9N in 2010 and it might be possible to work with them to widen the path.

TOWN BOARD SPECIAL MEETING - 7-7-08

Re-cap of the North County Triathlon:

Founder, Randy Engler presented a comprehensive review of the second North Country Triathlon including a financial statement. With 230 total registrations plus family members, volunteers and visitors, it is estimated that 500 people were on hand for the race representing 19 states. 97% of the registrants were from out of the local area and many stayed at local motels or B&B's or rented homes for the week or weekend.

Mr. Engler, who has a great love of the area, stressed that this event is building an awareness of a world-class destination to those visiting and drives traffic to the local businesses. He also noted, "This race is a highly successful and positive event for the community of Hague ... it brings people (over 70 volunteers as well as racers) together and promotes healthy, active lifestyles." He hopes to have a greater financial commitment from the Town for next year as well as more Town Board participation in the ceremonies.

The date for the 2009 Triathlon has been set for Saturday, June 27th. Mr. Engler also hopes to have a fall mountain bike race.

Public Hearing on the Noise Ordinance:

Several residents cited an example of a severe noise problem on Dodd Hill Road with loud, unruly revelers. It was stated that this action would be considered "disturbing the peace" and it should be reported to the police so that a case can be established.

Many other residents spoke in favor of a Noise Ordinance citing noise in the hamlet.

Councilman Gladu will revise the Local Law taking note of comments made. The Board would like to have all residents (not just registered voters) have the opportunity to vote on the measure and will set a date and the requirements for voting.

Hearing on the proposed local law on dog control:

There were speakers for and against the law. In reference to a limit of 4 dogs per household, Judy LaPointe said, "It should not matter how many dogs someone has - the concern should be what type of living conditions there are."

George lanson stated, "Don't put laws on the books that we cannot enforce."

Councilman Meola stated that complaints on New Hague Road have not been satisfied and that a local law would help enforcement. Councilman Gladu noted that the proposal would help control the noise made by a large number of dogs and asked how the Board might help the situation on New Hague Road. The Board voted to revise the proposed law and then review it next month.

TOWN BOARD -7/8/08

All Town Board members were present.

Bob Schwarz presented a proposal related to the school tax burden. (See article on page 1)

Chris Navitsky asked about permit requirements for private fireworks displays and felt that if issued should include some type of public notification to the public and neighbors. Supervisor Belden will further investigate the incident cited.

In response to a question by Sandy Rust about the LGLC property, it was reported that the Board will have a meeting on July 15th to discuss it further.

In response to a question about Sewer District #2 by Phil Smith, President of the Forest Bay Property Owners, it was reported that the Board will have a public information meeting on July 16th. Mr. Smith noted that he was at the bid opening and learned that the costs are much higher than anticipated. He said that the residents in Forest Bay still felt that the Town ought to proceed with the sewer as designed and not consider alternatives which will cause more delays. Although they recognize that the user costs will be higher they still support going ahead before costs escalate even more.

These meetings have been posted as required at the Community Center but are unfortunately being held too close to publication date to be included in this issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.

A moment of silence was held for Diane Dickson's mother, Linda Coffin and Bernard Fortune.

Cont'd on page 6 - Town Board

Cont'd from page 5 - Town Board

Committee Reports:

Assessor/Justice - Councilman Gladu reported an equilization rate of 73.3% for Hague which is an improvement of about 4%. 53% of the school tax was paid by Hague last year and it will be better this year.

The Town Justice has a new clerk and they are working off the backlog of 30 violations from the campsite over Memorial Day.

Councilman Meola stated that he has tried to work through the proper channels with the Board but the issue of the office hours of the Assessor has not been worked out. The Assessor, who earns \$20,000, has office hours on Monday but is only coming in for 4 hours with other time being in the field. Other Board members noted that as long as the work was getting done there could be flexibility in the schedule. Mr. Meola said, "If the Board wants to change the hours that is fine but it should not be ignored."

Buildings & Grounds/CC - Council member Frasier reported on problems with the air conditioner and the Board approved having it taken care of. The sensor on the fuel oil tank is also indicating a problem and someone must find out if it is a problem with the sensor or with the tank. Highway Superintendent Don Smith will attend to it tomorrow.

Once again mention was made of work needed on the Community Center which is "going to be done."

Enhancement Committee - There were few donations for the flower baskets this year and Council member Frasier said they will have to start earlier next year.

Fire Dept - Councilman Gladu thanked the HVFD for their efforts during a recent boating accident. Judy Stock mentioned concern that a newspaper article seemed to indicate that the emergency contacts were not working properly and that it was only due to an individual's call to Ray Mury of the Department that an ambulance was on site in a timely manner.

Highway - The Highway Department will be working on blacktopping, inventory on the shed, inspections on trucks and will help the Historical Society with clean-up of the cemetery.

Museum & Historian - Council member Frasier reported that the Historical Society had held their annual meeting and program. They will be cleaning up the Pine Orchard cemetery and the Board approved repairing the fence.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - It was mentioned that some Planning Board and Zoning Board members have missed meetings and the Board discussed the need for a rule about how many meetings can be missed.

Personnel - The Board approved advertising for an floating assistant position for Town clerical work. In response to questions by Councilman Meola, the Board learned that the committee looking into rentals will meet after the season and that some violations of the junk law have gone out.

Sewer District #1 & #2 - Myles Peterson noted that in the plans for Sewer District #2, there are EDU's that have not been ascribed in multiple dwelling units. He also asked if the sewer main is supposed to be heated and what the expected power usage would be. Supervisor Belden said those issues would be addressed at the 7/16 information meeting.

Town Park - On a suggestion by Councilman Meola, the Board agreed to put up containers for recyclables in the Park. Town Park committee is working to resolve issues on use of the parking and launch areas.

Transfer Station - Councilman Martucci reported that they are looking into requests for safety rails around the bins. Highway Superintendent Don Smith will fill in the pot holes and grade area off.

In other business, the Board

1. Approved the bid by Peckham for screened sand and by Armstrong for bank run gravel.
2. Approved a motion to work with the Chamber of Commerce to draw up a request for proposals on hiring a professional marketing company. Council member Frasier noted that we need to know what we are promoting and how to address the parking problem.
3. Approved a request to use the Town Park for the Costello Memorial Coffee House on July 31st from 6 to 9 pm.
4. Approved an Intermunicipal agreement with Warren County for notification system. Councilman Meola explained that if the Town has a message to send out to specific people it goes to the Warren County Sheriff's Department and they use a "hyper-reach" notification system and then charge the Town 20 cents per minute.
5. Amended Budget to put money received from DOT for increased salt and fuel oil prices into a machinery fund for fuel oil and the balance into snow removal.
6. Approved a request from the Chamber of Commerce to use the Community Center for an Arts Show on September 5th from 4 - 8 pm. (See article on page 1)

Supervisor's Report:

The Assessor needs to complete a listing of properties for the Warren County GIS (Graphic Information System). The County Clerk's revenue is down by \$2 million. Person doing good job on Warren County publicity is leaving.



The North Country Triathlon, founded in 2007 by Hague property owner Randy Engler, was again a huge success. For a recap by Mr. Engler see the Town Board article on page 5. To get more information go to <www.northcountrytri.com>.

...photo of Randy Engler courtesy Seddon Beaty

~SOUNDINGS~

TMS HONOR ROLL

BORN: A son, Toby Thomas Voige, on June 9, 2008 to Jennifer and Tim Voige of Fulton, Maryland. The delighted grandparents are Joyce and Tom Fritz of Eatontown, NJ, and long-time Hague visitors.

HENRY SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Samantha Abare, winner of the Dorothy Henry Scholarship at graduation. This scholarship is given annually by *The Hague Chronicle* to a Ticonderoga High School graduating senior from Hague.

THS HONOR ROLL

The following students from Ticonderoga HS who live in Hague are on the Honor Roll for the 4th Marking Period:

- GRADE 10 - First Honors: Kaley Manning
Second Honors: Jamie Patchett and Jessie Patchett
- GRADE 11- First Honors: Jared Best, Brendan Carberry and Molly Ginn
- GRADE 12- First Honors: Samantha Abare

WITH THE LGA

The Lake George Association has produced a 2009 calendar that will benefit the environmental non-profit's work. Proceeds from sales of "Lake George - A Scene of Beauty" will go to support the LGA's Lake Saving Programs and Projects. The 12-month calendar will be available for sale in some stores around the Lake, or it can be purchased directly from the LGA.

The New York State Safe Boating Course will be offered at the offices of the Lake George Association (LGA) on State Route 9N in the Town of Lake George. The 3-part course will take place on July 22nd, 23rd and 24th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. This course is open to adults, as well as to children as long as they are 10 years old by the first day of the course. Registration is free.

On Saturday, July 19th from 8 - 9 am the 8th Annual Loon Census will be held to monitor and assess long-term trends in the loon population summering in the Adirondack Park. All census observers on Lake George should contact the LGA to sign up for a section of the Lake.

For further information and to see previews of the calendar images go to <www.lakegeorgeassociation.org>.

PRIORY RETREAT HOUSE

The Priory Retreat House on Pine Notch Road (off of Route 8) in Chestertown will hold its "World's Largest (Private) Garage Sale" on Saturday, July 19 and Sunday, July 20, from 9 am to 3 pm.

For more information on the retreats and workshops see <www.prioryretreathouse.org>

Over 80% of the Ticonderoga Middle School who live in Hague are on the Honor Roll for the 4th Marking Period. They are:

GRADE 6:

First Honors: Jeanette Coon, Ty Denno, Sean Lawrie, Kimberly Porter

Second Honors: Rebecca Porter

GRADE 7:

First Honors: Grace Ginn, Bryana Goetsch, Chelsea Kearns, Karney Manning, Jordan McKee

Second Honors: Kenneth Deragon

GRADE 8:

First Honors: Abigail Gurney, Corey King, William Lawrie

Second Honors: Harley Trudeau

8TH GRADE GRADUATION

Eight students from Hague -- Jacob Demarais, Abigail Gurney, Edward Kearns, Corey King, William Lawrie, Walter Porter, Joseph Silliman, and Harley Trudeau -- graduated from Ti Middle School's 8th grade at a ceremony on June 26, 2008. The following are the recipients of honors and awards:

Jacob Demarais - Dr. Frank P. Varney award for improvement, potential & commitment in the area of Social Studies during his Middle School years; Presidential Academic Fitness Award for having earned honor standing for academic achievement; and Triple "C" Award for students who develop their minds, strengthen their character and are an inspiration to all.

Abigail Gurney - Presidential Academic Fitness Award; and Yearbook Award.

Corey King - Presidential Academic Fitness Award; Dedication & Musical Achievement Award; Award for Three Year Participation in Band; and Jazz Band Member Award.

William Lawrie - Catholic Daughters of America-Court St. Mary's #794 Award for outstanding achievement in ALL classes; Presidential Academic Fitness Award; Ticonderoga Fire Auxiliary Award for service in school & community; Award for Excellence in Technology; Award for Excellence in French; and Award for Perfect Attendance.

Harley Trudeau - Presidential Academic Fitness Award; Dedication & Musical Achievement Award; Award for Three Year Participation in Band; Jazz Band Member Award; and Award for Excellence in Home & Career Skills.

William Lawrie, valedictorian, also gave the address on behalf of the Eighth Grade Class. Although there was no award, Mr. Tubbs, middle school principal, announced that in the Regents classes for algebra and biology, among the three top students in that group, the lowest score was 96, and two of those students were from Hague -- Corey King and William Lawrie!

Barbara Smith

GRACE MEMORIAL - AUGUST SERVICES

Grace Memorial Chapel at Sabbath Day Point has the following schedule for the remainder of the 124th season. The services begin at 10 am and will be conducted by the following ministers:

July 20 by The Rev. Dr. John B. Paterson, Retired: United Presbyterian Church, Barre, Vermont,

July 27 by The Rev. Dr. Charles Stratton, Retired: United Presbyterian Church, Hadley, New York,

August 3, with communion, by The Rev. Nickolas Miles, Minister: United Reformed Church of Rosendale, Bloomington, New York,

August 10 by The Rev. Peter Durkee, Retired: United Presbyterian Church, Olmsteadville, New York

August 17 - The Rev. Dr. Glen C. Knecht, Minister: Christ Reformed Evangelical Church, Annapolis, Maryland

August 24 - The Rev. Robert Johnson, Retired: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Silver Bay, New York.

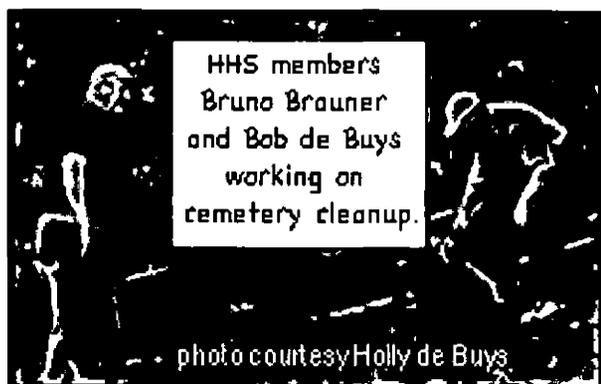
August 31 - The Rev. Gerard Van Heest: Chaplain, Emeritus, Hope College, Holland, Michigan

GRACE MEMORIAL - AUGUST CONCERTS

The *Chamber Music at Grace Chapel* series continues on Saturday, August 2 with Susan Marie Pierson, an internationally acclaimed soprano, singing selections ranging from American musicals to classic operas. She will provide a free Children's Program at 10am, and an evening concert at 7:30pm. Both events are at Grace Memorial Chapel on Sabbath Day Point, off Route 9N south of Silver Bay. A freewill donation will be taken at the door for the evening concert. For further information, please see www.gracememorialchapel.org.

The final concert in the series is on Saturday, August 16 with Seventh Partial Brass, a quintet of trumpets, French horn, trombone and tuba playing a mix of music ranging from Debussy to Gershwin.

This series is made possible, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts Decentralization Program and Warren County, administered locally by LARAC.



HHS members
Bruno Brauner
and Bob de Buys
working on
cemetery cleanup.

photo courtesy Holly de Buys

TI FESTIVAL GUILD NEWS

The adult concert season continues at 8 pm under the Festival Guild Tent in Ticonderoga with a return visit from Too Human, a pop and jazz combo, on July 29, The P's and Q's, a barbershop quartet from Saratoga and Cape Cod on August 5, and the traditional Ticonderoga Community Band Concert will take place on August 12. The last one will begin at 6:30 pm and follow a picnic under the tent for those who wish to bring their supper with them.

The Children's Arts Trek program will have The Puppet People presenting "A Christmas Carol" for Christmas in July on July 23. Two of a Kind from Pennsylvania brings a program of ecology awareness through music and fun to the stage on July 30. The Seagle Colony will return with a new children's opera, Hansel and Gretel, on August 6. Craig Babcock the mime returns on August 13 to offer another silent program of drama and fun as he did in 1998. The children's programs are at 10:15 am and are free to all area children and those who bring them. Donations are accepted.

HAGUE SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

Performers for the remainder of the "Music in the Park" summer series will be Nelson Shapiro who will play jazz on July 23rd, the Silver Bay Quartet playing classical music on July 30th, Rick Bolton presenting blues and jazz music on August 6th, Stan Burdick leading square dancing on August 13th and Vicki Russell performing classical/rock/folk music on August 20th. The series will be held at 7:30 pm in the Hague Town Park or the Community Center in case of rain.

SEMBRICH EVENTS

Summer events continue at Sembrich Studio, 4800 Lakeshore Dr, in Bolton Landing:

July 30: 1:30 PM \$5 Video lecture:
"Remembering Beverly Sills"
August 1: 7:30 PM \$20, \$15 "Opera
Showstoppers" *(Charles R. Wood Theater)

SEMBRICH HERITAGE WEEK: August 3 - 9, 2008

August 3: 7:30 PM \$20
"A Concert of Polish Songs and Arias"
August 4: 7:30 PM Free
"The Pianist" (2002) (at Bolton Town Hall)
August 6: 5:00 PM \$10
"A Celebration of Polish Culture"
August 9: 11 AM & 1:30 PM Free Symposium
August 13: 7:30 PM \$20
"Bel Canto Songs and Arias"
August 17: 7:30 PM \$25 Liebesfreud Quartet
"Composers Sembrich Knew"
August 20: 1:30 PM \$5 Video lecture: (First Public
Screening) "Florence Foster Jenkins: A World Of Her Own"
August 30: 7:30 PM \$25 Luzerne Trio
"Composers Sembrich Knew"
September 3: 7:30 PM Free film: "La Traviata" (1983)
(at Bolton Town Hall)

For further information call 644-2431 or go to
<www.operamuseum.org>.

NATURE NEWS

-9-

by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

Mushrooms of Summer

Ducking under low branches of a hemlock tree, I reach for the golden trumpet on the forest floor. The chanterelle mushroom joins a handful of others in my basket, their sweet aroma of apricots filling my nostrils as I follow the trail in the summer forest. I cut them close to the earth, the way I was taught by the experienced mushroom hunters, the way they learned in the old country. We take our golden treasures back to the house and prepare them for dinner ~ gently sautéed with a little butter and onion. I am enchanted with this wild food and a journey begins.

This was my introduction to wild mushrooms and although this event took place more than 25 years ago, I can still remember it as a remarkable experience. Wild culinary mushrooms flourished in the woods behind our home in Vermont and chanterelles remained a favorite, but my Italian neighbor soon began to introduce me to his. I would come home and find a bag of assorted mushrooms on my doorstep; Frank would appear and describe to me how to cook them into fabulous dishes. Over the years we came to delight in Porcini Risotto, Fried Chicken of the Woods, Puffball Parmesan, Marinated Mushrooms and a variety of sauces for pasta. I told my kids we were eating like royalty and we were!

I loved collecting wild mushrooms for food but had never considered them for any other use other than rustic decorating and crafty things. I had several varieties of dried mushrooms lining my bookshelf including an Artist's Conk with a pretty design etched in it and often used them for table decorations. While attending the Women's Herbal Conference about 10 years ago, I happened to attend Kate Gilday's workshop on Medicinal Mushrooms. As a medicine maker I was intrigued by the concept of using mushrooms as medicine, but was completely surprised to find that these medicinal mushrooms were not to be purchased in the store, but were the very ones I had been seeing in the woods and collecting to line my bookshelves! Chaga? But I had seen this charred looking growth over and over and had thought, since childhood, that this was where the tree had been hit by lightning! Those shiny red-skinned fungi I had dried and put on my shelf were Reishi? Didn't they have to come from China? The Artist's Conk with the pretty etched design was medicinal? Bubbling over with excitement, I returned home to the woods where I began a new relationship with wild mushrooms in my own backyard.

It never ceases to amaze me when I find that the plant medicines that I need for healing are the very ones that are growing where I am ~ they seem to know it before we do! This was true of the mushrooms growing near my home. Chaga, turkey tail, and reishi flourish here and when I put them together, added the shiitake I was growing I found I had an awesome immune system support extract. This is what I needed for myself and found that its other applications for cancers, tumors and depleted immune systems were what family and friends needed too.

But the wild mushrooms I find for food are still my favorites and this is when they are most plentiful. Last week I made "Chicken Nuggets" with a large cluster of Chicken of the Woods mushrooms and even the kids loved them for appetizer at our Fourth of July picnic! And this week I have Porcini drying for later use and several Chanterelles waiting to be added to our scrambled eggs. The Black Trumpets remain a favorite and we need to check the place where they appear every July before we miss them and the opportunity for Wild Mushroom Risotto with their heady aroma filling the kitchen. One of the funniest discoveries was a patch of Meadow Mushrooms on the Ticonderoga Golf Course ~ looking for a lost ball, I thought I had found a cluster of them but they turned out to be dinner instead. Never found the ball. I guess I got distracted.



Meadow Mushrooms

...photo courtesy Nancy Scarzello

CONGRESS MEMBER GILLIBRAND

Among her actions this past month our local Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand:

- 1) voted to recognize the Korean War Veterans Association with a federal charter.
- 2) voted to update the G.I. Bill for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans.
- 3) voted to modernize the foreign surveillance system.
- 4) announced sponsorship of legislation that will attempt to rein in rampant oil speculation.
- 5) voted for legislation to shield taxpayers from paying the AMT next year by closing tax loopholes.
- 6) voted to reauthorize a grant program which helps to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system.
- 7) voted to crack down on gas price manipulation by helping pass the Price Gouging Prevention Act
- 8) voted for a bipartisan bill that will reverse a pending 10.6% payment cut for Medicare doctors.
- 9) announced interest rates on need-based federal student loans will drop from 6.8% to 6% on July 1st.
- 10) announced support for legislation that will provide a \$500 tax credit for individuals and families who face significant home heating costs this winter.

7/08

July - August 2008

July

19 4 - 7 pm Fish & Game Steak Bake (p. 2)
 19 - 20 9 am - 3 pm Priory garage sale (p. 7)
 24 7pm Zoning Board of Appeals
 29 7pm Historical Society Program (p. 2)

August

2 3 - 9 pm HVFD Steak & Clam Bake (p. 2)
 2 10 am - 4 pm 37th Annual Hague Arts Fair
 3 10 am - 3 pm (see page 2)
 7 7pm Planning Board
 12 6:30 pm Town Board
 21 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed

ONGOING EVENTS

1st Monday: Fire Department (7 pm)
 2nd Monday: Senior Bus to Glens Falls (8:30 am)
 3rd Monday: Chamber of Commerce (7 pm)
 1st & 3rd Tuesday: Mohican Crafters (10 am)
 3rd Tuesday: Ticonderoga School Board (7 pm)
 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club (7:30 pm)
 3rd Tuesday: Sno-goers
 4th Wednesday: Extra Helpings Distribution (noon)
 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club (11 am)
 1st Friday: Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:30 am)

Every Tuesday at 7:30 am - Rotary Club meets
 Every Thursday at noon: Kiwanis meets

FREE: A Conn Electric Organ, Model 312 with bench seat, instructions and some music. It has 2 44-note keyboards, 13 note pedal board, and more. Dimensions are: console - 45 3/16" wide, 35 5/8" high, 23 1/8" deep; bench - 27" wide, 22 3/8" high, 14" deep. Does need repair - service manual included. Call 543-6690 anytime between August 4 and August 17.

Mae Pagan, <returntomountain@yahoo.com>, has Tai Chi classes that people can join anytime on Tuesdays at 10:30 am and on Wednesdays at 6 pm at the Community Center.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Wednesday: 9 am to 4 pm
 Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm

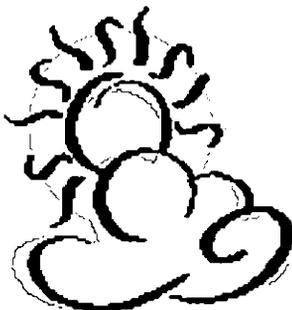
SUNDAY HOURS noon to 3 pm
 Through July & August

Please help us get the news by sending us any information you have about events, organization meetings or reports, soundings and other items of interest.

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