



VOLUME 37 NO 11 HAGUE, N.Y. 12836 November 2008

2008 LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS

After an initial mix-up of results, the proposed Local Law on Noise was defeated. The results were "yes" - 137 and "no" - 271. Other results showed local Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand with 297 votes against Sandy Treadwell with 178. In the presidential race, Obama received 272 votes to 234 votes for McCain. Across Warren County, Obama garnered 50% of the vote and McCain 47%.

DUAL RESIDENCY by Councilman Dick Gladu

A report by Brian Nearing, October 28, 2008 in the *Albany Times Union* states, "The Appellate Division of State Supreme Court says eight residents of New York City can vote in the Delaware County town of Bovina, where they also have weekend or vacation houses. The legal standard for people who have two or more houses has long been, however vaguely, that they pick one, depending upon attachments to a given area. For those eight voters in Bovina, the court says they have forged sufficient ties with the place where they spend weekends and vacations (to allow them to vote). In the Adirondacks, for example, almost 50,000 of 83,000 residences are seasonal homes. More people might want to vote there."

The following is a statement from Attorney Dominick Viscardi regarding a similar case (Willkie):

"As I read Willkie the great majority of our summer residents, if not all, can register to vote in Hague as maintaining a residence to which they intend to return. The right to vote by the holding in Willkie would also apply to voting in school elections.

"Indeed, it is clear that the Election Law does not preclude a person from having two residences and choosing one for election purposes provided he or she has 'legitimate, significant and continuing attachments' to that residence.

"Each party will have to make an election as to which residence he or she elects as a voting residence."

Given this finding as a base, I see this as an opportunity for our seasonal residents to vote in Town elections and on school budgets as long as this is the only place they register to vote.

SEWER DISTRICT #2

Digging has started! Route 9N, from the Hague intersection north to Forest Bay, will be closed until mid-December so that work, including blasting, can continue unimpeded. Construction going south will begin next spring. For more information, see "[Sewer District #1 & #2](#)" under Town Board on page 5.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

We want to keep publishing The Hague Chronicle but we need more volunteer help to do it!

Almost all of the work is done by email or the internet so it is not necessary to be located in Hague.

We need an assistant editor to help with one or more of the following:

- 1) Collect information (press releases, individual email submissions, other sources)
- 2) Edit and/or write articles from that information
- 3) Write original articles of interest
- 4) Work on layout (plan and execute design including graphics & images)
- 5) Save work in pdf form and upload to Staples

APA REVISIONS

According to a press release from the Adirondack Park Agency (APA), during its deliberations on Friday, November 14, 2008 the agency adopted regulatory reform which addresses subdivisions involving wetlands, expansion of non-conforming shoreline structures, land division along roads or rights of way owned in fee and clarified definitions for floor space and hunting and fishing cabins. These changes are expected to take effect on December 31, 2008.

"The Agency deleted provisions allowing unlimited expansion of pre-existing non-conforming shoreline residential structures located within the setback area established by Section 806 of the APA Act. As a result, most expansions will require a variance, similar to the variance required by many municipalities for non-conforming structures under local zoning. The right to replace pre-existing structures is unaffected by the revision, and in the eighteen towns (Hague is one of them) with Agency-approved local land use programs, these variances will continue to be administered by the local zoning boards."

Also according to the APA the adopted changes to "subdivisions involving wetlands" will "remove long recognized unintended consequences that ensnare individuals in inadvertent violation of the law and often resulted in the creation of lots with no development potential, solely to avoid APA jurisdiction. The adopted regulation carefully tailors jurisdiction to the potential for impacts to the wetlands protected by the statutes."

For more information on the regulatory revisions you can wade through the APA website <www.apa.state.ny.us>.

For a different perspective go to: <www.pressrepublican.com/archivesearch/local_story_319225740.html>

SENIOR NEWS

The headless horseman rode again! At our October meeting a small local group of thespians put on a production of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" which had been adapted and produced for us by our own Christine Ianson. The players included Kay Caldera, Pat McDonough, Madeline Pelkey, Shirley Smith, Ray Snyder, and Judy Stock with appropriately scary music provided by Mike Vassallo.

Costume prizes were won by Madeline Pelkey, Kay Caldera, Dolly Kennedy and Christine Ianson.

Our November meeting is Tuesday, November 25, at 1:30 pm. The program is a "Holiday Show and Share." Everyone is encouraged to bring something that's traditional in your family for celebrating the holiday season. Bring a special recipe, a favorite decoration, a photograph or other holiday memento and tell us about it. Or just come and tell us about your favorite Christmas or Thanksgiving - perhaps a special memory. Let's kick off the season by sharing a bit of the past with one another. Guests are always welcome - try us, you'll like us!

While you're in the mood for sharing, we'd like everyone to bring some canned good or other non-perishable food for the Hague Food Pantry.

On Tuesday, December 16, at 12 noon the annual Seniors Christmas Party will be held at the HVFD firehouse with special Christmas music provided by Michael Vassallo. The luncheon will be catered by The Gourmet Gal and the Hague Chamber of Commerce will announce the Hague Senior of the Year.

KIWANIS SENIOR HOLIDAY DINNER

The annual holiday dinner sponsored by the Kiwanis will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 2 pm.

Any Hague Seniors who would like a ride to this event can call Judy Stock, Hague Senior Citizens Club President, at 543-6517.

CHRISTMAS TREE SHOP

The Hague Seniors will be holding their annual Christmas Tree Shop during the Holiday In Hague weekend. On Saturday, December 6th, you will find us in the Tourist Building at the Beach from 10 am to 4 pm. Items for sale will be holiday giftware, ornaments & decorations along with those ever popular 'Senior Baked Goods'!! WOKO Radio Christmas Music will be on tap along with hot coffee to sip while you browse. ... mp

HOLIDAY IN HAGUE WEEKEND

The 7th Annual Holiday in Hague will be celebrated on Saturday, December 6, 2008. Under the umbrella of the Chamber of Commerce, plans include activities for children, a tree decorating contest, shopping venues, eateries, tractor pulled hay wagon rides and various displays at the Town Park. Later in the day the Town of Hague will hold the annual Christmas party.

Hamlet shops will be open from 11 am to 4 pm as well as special venues for the day including the Locust Inn and the Town Park. A tent in the park will house various local organizations which will have displays and items for sale. The Visitor Center will feature holiday gifts and baked goods for the benefit of the Memorial Day Parade.

The results of the tree decorating contest will be announced at the Hague Firehouse Restaurant at 4 pm with a special visit from Santa Claus. Staff from Silver Bay will supervise games and crafts at the Community Center from about 2:30 pm until 4:30 pm when Santa will arrive at the Community Center via fire truck.

The Christmas party at the Community Center will follow and will feature singing carols around the decorated tree, enjoying snacks for all and then the handing out of Christmas presents to Hague youngsters. All are invited to attend and donations of cookies will be appreciated.

BAPTIST CHURCH PROGRAM

On December 7, 2008, a Christmas Program of drama and Christmas carols will be presented by the Hague Baptist Church at 6 pm. The drama's title is "If we'd only known."

Everyone is welcome to share in this precious time of year - a great time for remembering "the reason for the season." Refreshments will be served immediately after the program. ... Pastor Utterback

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:

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RECORD CROP WALK DONATIONS

About 50 people walked on Saturday, October 18, 2008 in the Ticonderoga Area Crop Walk. \$4,855 was raised to assist hungry and needy people here and around the world. The amount raised beats the 2006 record of \$4,520 in donations for the Church World Service Walk. Locally, the funds raised benefit the Hague, Ticonderoga, and Crown Point Food Pantries, as well as the Ti Pastor's Association Indigent Assistance Fund.

Groups that walked and provided sponsors included Ti First United Methodist Church, Putnam United Presbyterian Church, Saint Mary's Catholic School, Ticonderoga Middle School, Northern Lake George Rotary Club, Church of the Cross (Episcopal), Moses Ludington Hospital, Adirondack Torch Club, Champlain Valley Chorale, Carillon Garden Club, and Ticonderoga High School.

Elks Lodge 1494 provided registration and restroom facilities, and rest stops were provided by St. Mary's School and Assembly of God Church. Refreshments for the walkers were donated by members of Ti First United Methodist Church. Carol Barnwell from Hague and Martha Soliday from Silver Bay helped with registration. Pastor Scott Tyler led the pre-Walk prayer. Other helpers for the Walk were Beverly Jones, Sandy Sprague, Sister Sharon Dalton and Pastor Eric Stokesbury. Advertisements for the Walk were provided by the Times of Ti and The Hague Chronicle. The Ti Police were on hand to give assistance, if needed.

"I'm in awe and very proud of our community that, despite this recession, our area responded so well to our Walk," said Beverly Sann, Ti CROP Walk coordinator.

TAX COMMITTEE REPORT

On Saturday, November 8, only 12 Hague supporters of the Ti school Tax Imbalance concerned citizen group, out of 132 signed up supporters, met with Bob Schwarz. They spent two and one half hours hashing over the same warmed-over strategies from the past that have resulted with the old refrain "Nothing Can Be Done."

Schwarz observes that, "for obvious reasons, there is no shortage of Supporters for this Most Worthy (Dollar Payback) Cause." He further observes that there is a shortage of support, at least from those present at the recent meeting, for the strategy he put forward. He is pursuing this one on his own, their support notwithstanding. More to follow on this.

He asks any Hague citizen to come forward with "that" winning idea that he or she feels has merit. There is still ample time for this to happen. He can be reached at 543 - 6384 or rschwarz7@nycap.rr.com.

... Bob Schwarz

NLG ROTARY CLUB NEWS

On October 14th, the Northern Lake George Rotary Club picked out the winning ticket for the Heritage Featherlite Kayak that included a personal flotation device, a paddle and a one-hour kayaking lesson by Lake George Kayak Company in Bolton. The winner was David Hartwell from Pleasantville, NY. Congratulations, David, and thank you to all who supported the NLG Rotary Club raffle.

The NLG Rotary Club will be hosting its annual Christmas party on Tuesday, December 16th at 6 pm at the Craig Fam in Putnam, off route 22. The Rotarians will be bringing potluck dishes and Bill and Eleanor Smith, owners of The Craig Fam, will be providing beverages and ham. The dinner is \$30 per person or \$40 per couple that will go towards raising money for The Hague and Ticonderoga Food Pantries. Please come with a wrapped gift for other adults to bid on during the silent auction. The proceeds from the auction will go to Tiny Tim.

The NLG Rotary Club is a service club that will meet from December 2nd thru the end of March in Ticonderoga at the Inter-Lakes Health Crown Terrace. A full breakfast is offered before the business meeting and a local guest speaker. Please contact our President, Bob Johnson, at 543-6127 for more information on the meeting or any of our events. New members are always welcomed.

AARP TAX HELP

Each year from February 1 through April 15, AARP Tax-Aide volunteers prepare federal and state tax returns for middle and low-income taxpayers, with special attention to those age 60 and older. The AARP Tax-Aide Program is the nation's largest, free, volunteer-run tax preparation and assistance service. As our local program continues to grow, we are continually recruiting dedicated individuals to join our team. AARP provides the necessary training.

For more information about volunteering to provide this service, call Jan or Bob Whitaker at 543-6826. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are welcome.

HISTORIAN REPORTS

Gerald Crammond, Town Historian, has been organizing local documents. He reports:

Recently while doing some research I found the burial records of the old Hague Cemetery. The cemetery is now known as The Hague Heritage Cemetery and located at the beginning of Pine Orchard Road. The records indicate that there are a total of 59 burials of which 14 are children and one is a revolutionary war veteran by the name of Nathaniel Garfield. The oldest burial was Betsy Taylor age 19 died April 22, 1803 and the last recorded burial was Elmer H Stark age 1 year 3 months who died October 13, 1870.

He further notes that many of the other names are familiar such as Rising, Bevins, Patchin, Holman, Fish, Smith and Balcolm and that for many years the Hague Historical Society has maintained the site. You can contact him at the Community Center if you are interested in reviewing the list. Bruce DeLarm has also created a wonderful website listing all the burials in Hague cemeteries.

You can access Bruce's website directly at http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~hagueny/cemetery_listings.htm

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 10/23/08

Chairman Robert Goetsch, Lindsay Mydlarz, George Ianson and Martin Fitzgerald, II were present. Bill Pitman and Glenn McKee were absent and there is one vacancy.

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

The application was approved for a sideline setback and percentage of coverage variance to install a 14' x 22' open deck to the front of a house and a 54 sq. ft. walkway with stair to provide two means of egress from the current structure. The walkway and staircase are to be no wider than 4 feet in width.

ANDES (43.13-1-38) 35 Bayberry Lane (TR-1)

The application for a partial second story 959 sq. ft.(491 sq. ft. of living space) was approved while the request for an addition of a 12'x 15' deck to the non-conforming house was not approved.

Due to lack of applications the Zoning Board of Appeals will not hold a regular Zoning Board meeting in November. A training session will be held instead for all Zoning & Planning Board members who have not completed their mandatory 4 hour training for 2008. Town Attorney, Dominick Viscardi will be on hand to answer legal questions pertaining to Planning And Zoning.

PLANNING BOARD - 11/6/08

Chairman E J Siwek, Bruce Clark, Pam Peterson, John Brown, Rolly Allen, Dick Frasier, and Martin Fitzgerald, Sr. were all present.

CLARK (43.5-2-18, 19, & 20) 9015 Lakeshore Drive

The applicant is requesting a minor subdivision which will create a total of 4 lots. The Board discussed possible conditions which could be placed on this subdivision if any further subdivision takes place on the property and is requesting guidance from the Town Board. The issue was tabled but the Planning Board must make their decision within 2 months.

RYPKEMA (24-1-2) 263 Summit Drive (OCI/OCII)

The applicant is applying for a two lot subdivision which would create one lot of 25.81 acres and the other of 174.42 acres. A 300 foot strip of land will provide access to Lot 2 from Summit Drive. The Board tabled this decision as well in order to consider possible conditions on future subdivisions.

HANNA (60.9-1-25) 83 Pine Cove Rd. (TR-1)

Applicant is requesting an 869 sq. ft. addition to the 2nd story of an existing house for a master bedroom, bath and deck. The application falls under site plan review by the Planning Board because it is new construction within 100' of the Lake. The application was deemed complete and a site visit was scheduled.

HAGUE FIREHOUSE RESTAURANT - Ginn/DeLarm (43.5-1-3) Graphite Mountain Road

The owners were asked to address the issue of noise based on a condition of the June 1, 2006, Planning Board approval for a poured concrete rear patio.

Attorney John Breitenbach spoke for Crispin Ginn and Sheri DeLarm and said that Sheri agreed to close the exterior doors at 10:30 pm when they had entertainment.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 11/10/08

Supervisor Dan Belden and Council members Edna Frasier, Dick Gladu, Mark Martucci and Rudy Meola were all present.

After the Pledge of Allegiance a moment of silence was held for Ed Yaw, Barbara Rawson, Nancy Tamlyn, Walter Lender, Tim Watts, Mrs. Pucek and Joan Sarjeant.

The floor was then open for public comments.

George Ianson spoke about recent issues - Noise, Dog and Rent. He felt those have to do with only a few people and should have been solved by people talking to one another. He suggested that the noise issue should not have been on the ballot because it was costly to the Town and that the Town Board should have made a decision.

Bruce Clark, President of the Board of PRIDE of Ticonderoga, Inc., reported on the expenditures under the Restore Grant Program. They have already given out funds for emergency repairs including furnace and heater replacements and a roof leak. Residents seeking repairs and meeting income eligibility are urged to apply at PRIDE. \$14,548 has been allotted to Hague residents so far. The grants are given out on a first come - first served basis.

Tom Jarrett from Jarrett-Martin engineering spoke on behalf of Robert Dickson who is requesting a waste water variance. A Public Hearing was set for December 9, 2008 at 6:15 pm.

Steve Ramant informed the Board about an Ice Fishing Tournament, sponsored by the Hague Fish and Game Club, which will be held from February 28 - March 1, 2009. Supervisor Belden said that the Town will help with advertising and suggested that they apply also to the County for 2009 funds.

Regular Committee Reports:
Assessor/Justice (Gladu/Meola)

Councilman Gladu reported that he and Councilman Meola met with Assessor Dave Martucci, Town Clerk Debbie Manning and ZEO Cathy Clark to ensure that all three people are "on the same page relative to the assumptions on sewer edu's, building permits and inventory sheets."

Councilman Gladu also talked to Ticonderoga Superintendent of Schools John McDonald about getting Hague on the agenda for budget reviews.

Enhancement Committee (Frasier/Meola)

Councilwoman Frasier mentioned the planning for downtown enhancement with Elan Planners is progressing but not as fast as hoped.

Supervisor Belden reported that the Town has been awarded a grant from the State on the work done on entrances to the Town.

Finance & Insurance (Frasier/Martucci)

Councilwoman Frasier said the auditor will be coming back by the end of the week.

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Buildings & Grounds/CC (Martucci/Frasier)

Councilman Martucci reported on work that has been done - carpets have been cleaned in the Community Center, floors have been redone with five coats of finish, the air conditioning ducts have been cleaned, and a slight mold problem in the basement has been remediated, etc. Plans are to get the kitchen up to speed including cleaning the floors and the walls. The construction work will be done by Bo O'Leary when the materials come in.

The bushes around the Community Center need to be thinned out and additional proposals should be requested. The Supervisor suggested that a letter be written to the Garden Club asking for their input.

Fire Department (Gladu/Martucci)

Councilman Martucci reported that the new Fire & Rescue boat is in.

Highway (Martucci/Gladu)

Superintendent of Highways Don Smith reported that the trucks are set for winter and they are working on the turnarounds. Culverts have been cleaned out including the major one in Pine Cove. Highway expenditures to date are only 71% of what was budgeted.

Museum & Historian (Frasier/Meola)

Council member Frasier, on behalf of the Hague Historical Society, asked if the Board wanted the Society to continue with displays in the lobby case and the Board indicated that would be fine.

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater (Gladu/Meola)

Councilman Gladu indicated that an issue has come up dealing with subdivisions. A subdivision can be considered "minor" if 4 or fewer lots are created. The requirements for a minor subdivision are a lot less stringent than the requirements for a major sub-division which contains conditions and restrictions relative to safety and needed services. The problem arises when a property created in a minor subdivision is then subdivided again into 4 or fewer lots resulting in "minor subdivision creep."

Councilman Gladu has talked with ZEO Clark and Planning Board Chairman Siwek and the Town Board gave them permission to meet with Town Counsel for guidance on possible code restrictions to deal with the problem.

There are candidates for the Zoning Board vacancy and interviews will be done soon.

Recreation/Promotion & Youth (Meola/Martucci)

Councilman Meola reported that plans are underway for a Christmas Party on December 6th. (see related article on page 2).

Councilman Martucci announced that there is currently a Cub Scout Pack in Hague which meets at the Fish & Game Club.

Sewer District #1 & #2 (Belden/Frasier)

Supervisor Belden will set up a meeting in January to address the EDU's and some vacant lands in the district that can't be built on as well as other questions about Sewer District #2. Supervisor Belden said he would send a letter to the presidents of the homeowners associations in the district with copies of the letter, which will include an agenda, to be sent to all the Board members. He will also ask Bill Lamy and a representative from Clough Harbour to attend.

The Supervisor reported that the contractors have about 1000 feet already done in Friends Point. He will put a number up on the bulletin board about the person who can do the laterals. They can direct bore to the property owners house but the expense will be borne by the homeowner. Boring will be less expensive than open cutting.

Town Park (Meola/Martucci)

Councilman Meola said that signs are needed for the beach for next summer and the Board gave approval for him to get prices for the signs.

Bruce Clark mentioned a problem with a drop-off at the boat launch which needs to be addressed before next summer. Supervisor Belden said it would need to be put on the agenda and to get a permit from DEC.

Transfer Station (Martucci/Gladu)

Councilman Martucci reported that he and Councilman Gladu met to get the new contract ready since the old one expires this year. They are looking at other options besides Casella.

Under other business the Board:

Approved a motion to reappoint Richard Dykstra to the Board of Assessment Review with a term to expire on 9/30/2012.

Approved a motion to authorize Supervisor Belden to sign a 36 month contract with Tech Valley Communications on the phone system.

Approved a motion to give the Hague Senior Citizens permission to use the Visitor Center on 12/5 and 12/6 with access to heat and hot water for the Holiday in Hague.

Approved a motion to give the Chamber of Commerce permission to use the Community Center on July 31 for setup and on August 1 & 2 of 2009 for the Annual Arts Fair chaired by Judy Schultz.

Approved resolution #83 to renew Warren County Snow & Ice contract for \$53,988 for 2009.

Approved resolution #84 to transfer \$200,000 from Capital Fund Improvement for the Museum to the General Fund in order to cover additional sales tax monies which will be left with the County to reduce the county tax

Approved resolution #85 to use funds from Contingency to replace the 20 year old Christmas Tree used inside the Community Center.

Approved a plan to request proposals to thin out over-grown plants at the Community Center and to set up a meeting with the Garden Club asking for their input.

Cont'd on page 6 - Town board

Cont'd from page 5 - Town Board

HVFD ACKNOWLEDGES MAJOR GIFTS

Learned from Supervisor Belden that there are four big trees by the Hague Brook that need attention. Two of them are completely dead and leaning toward the Methodist Church. He will get proposals to take the trees down.

Approved attendance by the Supervisor at the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages (AATV) meeting on December 7 & 8, 2008 in Lake George.

Approved a request by the Chamber of Commerce to use the Community Center on December 6, 2008 from 11 am to 4 pm and to put a tent in the Park for a display of local artisans as part of the Holiday in Hague activities.

Declined an offer from the Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) to sell to the Town the LGLC park (former Bywater/former Darrin property). In a meeting with Supervisor Belden, Councilwoman Frasier, Nancy Williams of the LGLC and David Darrin, the terms were discussed and restrictions were still in place that were not what the Town wanted and the price was still too high.

The Supervisor reported that the County will be short \$390,000 just on one department which will have to come out of County surplus due to cutbacks from the State. The County Board worked hard to get the budget done.

Supervisor Belden commented that he felt the Board had done a good job going through the evening's agenda. He thanked the public for coming and wished everyone a "Happy Thanksgiving."

Councilman Gladu noted that on the rental issue, the code allows rentals of single family homes only in 5 of 13 zoning districts. His committee recommends modifying the code to allow rental of single family homes in all zones. The committee report would be released to the Planning Board for their review with comments to be sent back to the Town Board for formal adoption. Also the Town Clerk would release the document to the APA for their informal review. The Board agreed to follow that process.

Due to the difficult economic times, Councilman Gladu suggested that a small group of people look at a spending strategy over a 5 year horizon.

Myles Peterson asked if the Town was planning to pay the excessive \$100,000 in engineering costs for Sewer District #2. Supervisor Belden said they will pay whatever the engineer is charging.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

EMERGENCY HOME REPAIRS

PRIDE of Ticonderoga has been awarded a \$125,000 RESTORE Grant to fund emergency home repairs. There is a maximum of \$5,000 for residents of Hague, Putnam and Ticonderoga. Residents who are 60 years and older and seeking emergency repairs are urged to contact PRIDE at 585-6366 or <cfairbanks@prideofticonderoga.org> and ask for a RESTORE Application or stop by the office at 111 Montcalm Street in downtown Ticonderoga.

To qualify, homeowners must met the HUD income eligibility guidelines for Warren County.

Stimulated by a lead gift from Ethel Andrus, the HVFD has recently been the benefactor of contributions of \$25,000 given anonymously, \$5,000 from the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks (in addition to the \$2,275 raised from the EMPS musical) and \$500 from the Northern Lake George Rotary Club. These gifts will give us a good start in meeting the fiscal challenges faced by both the Fire Department and the EMS Squad in the year ahead. We hope that this will encourage all residents and property owners in the Town of Hague to get behind this effort and contribute as best you can, even in the face of these difficult economic times.

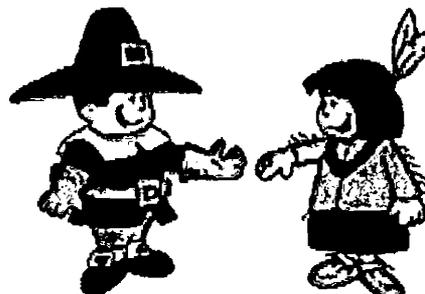
The Fire Rescue Boat has finally been delivered and is currently being rigged and lettered by Dockside Marina. We will announce an open house showing at the fire house at a later date. Also, Fire Engine #344 is at the Pierce shops for a total rehab and will be out of service until Spring 2009. It will come back to us as a nearly new truck, saving over half of the cost of a needed new purchase. Our Department will be present at the Town Park for the Holiday in Hague on December 6, 2008 from 1 - 3 pm.

On a a less than happy note, one of our firemen had some major pieces of his turn-out gear stolen from his car a short time ago. This is very expensive equipment, so we ask the community that if you see any fire gear that is not being used at an actual fire scene, please notify us or the police immediately.

Looking ahead, Sal Santinello reports that events for the 2009 Beste Scholarship Weekend - Saturday breakfast, Scholarship Dinner and Fred LaPann Memorial Road Race - will all take place at the fire house along with the newly popular Chili Cook-off on Sunday afternoon.

In October there were 15 Fire and EMS calls using 64 man hours as well as 3 training drills. There will be a mandatory OSHA training class for all active members at the fire house on Saturday, January 10, 2009 from 9 to 5 pm. Also, Doug Sham, a new member and fitness director at Silver Bay, is planning to offer a low key conditioning program for any members who would like to take part.

The heating and holiday seasons are upon us. Check your heating systems for efficiency and safety. Install all holiday decorations in accordance with directions and have a safe and sane holiday season.
... Joe McCranels



~SOUNDINGS~

BORN: A daughter, Tessa Elizabeth Giersch, on September 9, 2008 to Beth Whitaker and Jason Giersch of Charlotte, NC. Maternal grandparents are Jan and Bob Whitaker of Silver Bay; paternal grandparents are Carol and Davis Giersch of Telford, PA.

BORN: A daughter, Joy Moriah, to Mark and Nanci Dee on September 12, 2008. She joined her brothers Christian Dee Marco and Peter Joseph. She is the granddaughter of Janet Hoffay, formerly of Hague.

MARRIED: Victoria Fish and David Hoffay on September 13, 2008 in Hague. Vicky works at The Hague Market and Gore Mountain and Dave is a long-time employee of Morgan Marine.

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**KUDOS:** To Christian Meola, a Guilderland HS freshman and grandson of Councilman Rudy Meola, who recently starred as Jem Finch in "To Kill a Mockingbird" produced by the Barrington Stage Company.

### HISTORIC GRACE MEMORIAL

On Friday, October 5, 2008 the Board of Trustees of Grace Memorial Chapel at Sabbath Day Point received an award in recognition of their long-term commitment to restoration efforts of their historic building. The Adirondack Architectural Heritage (AARCH) Stewardship Committee presented the award to Bob Strong, President of the Board of Trustees, during a luncheon at The Hedges in Blue Mountain Lake.

In accepting the award Bob remarked on the history of the Chapel, which was built in 1884 using a design by architect William B. Tuthill, who also designed Carnegie Hall. He said that it was especially meaningful to be receiving this recognition as the Chapel prepares to celebrate its 125th anniversary in 2009.

The Chapel, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, has benefited from the excellent stewardship of many people over its long history. Most recently, the efforts of Trustees Jules Halm and Larry Zinn brought the Chapel to the attention of AARCH, which provided guidance and technical assistance on preservation and funding issues.

Bob also told the audience that the final stage of the five year stained glass window preservation project started in October when Mary Clerkin-Higgins and her staff removed and transported the east windows to her studio in Brooklyn, NY. The windows will be cleaned, repaired and re-leaded during the winter and replaced in their frames before the first Sunday service of the 2009 season.

**DIED:** Barbara J. Rawson, 57, of Hague, on October 17, 2008, as the result of an automobile accident. Survivors include her husband, Boyce "Bud" Rawson Sr.; nine children, 19 grandchildren and a large extended family. Barbara spent her life helping, encouraging, and blessing her family, friends and the community.

**DIED:** Edward Grant Yaw, 88, of Hague, on October 23, 2008, in Ballston Spa, NY. Mr. Yaw was a graduate of Hague High School and a veteran of the U.S. Marines, having served during World War II. Survivors include his wife of 50 years, Bessie E. (Riedell) Yaw; two step-daughters, Elinor H. Faulkner of Valley Falls and Katherine A. Doty of South Glens Falls and their families.

**DIED:** Nancy W. Tamlyn, unexpectedly on October 25, 2008 at her residence in Millbrook, NY. Her son Bruce is the Chaplain and Spiritual Life Director of the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks. Mrs. Tamlyn is survived by two other sons, Rev. Keith Tamlyn and Rick Tamlyn, and four grandchildren.

**DIED:** Edwin ("Brick") Howe, of Ticonderoga, on November 3, 2008. Mr. Howe was an active advocate for the revitalization of Ticonderoga. He was also a founding director and vice president of the Inter-Lakes Health Foundation as well as an active member of the Kiwanis Club. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, son Christopher, daughters Melissa and Katie and 2 grandchildren.

**DIED:** Joan Waterman Sarjeant, on November 7, 2008 in the presence of her family, in Orange City, Florida. From her childhood she had spent summers at Silver Bay. She is survived by her husband Alex of 63 years, sons Dale and Dean, daughters Dannie Koplak and Debbie Sarjeant and their families, including many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**DIED:** Allan Evans Johns Sr., 82, of Hague, on November 13, 2008. Al retired to Lake George in 1985 and became a well known fish taxidermist. He was active in Kiwanis, and had been treasurer of the Arcady Bay Homeowners Association for many years. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Anne J. Johns; two children, Carolyn E. Johns of Waddington, NY, and Allan E. Johns Jr. of Putnam Station and 2 grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on November 22, 2008, at 11 am at the Putnam United Presbyterian Church on Lower Road in Putnam Station. The Rev. Bruce Tamlyn will officiate.



After three years at the helm, CEO Marty Fink has announced that he will retire from Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks. His retirement will allow his wife Marisa - long the trailing spouse - to take a lead in their professional lives as CEO of the Central Douglas County YMCA in Roseburg, Oregon.

In announcing the change, Marty Fink said "this change will allow me to pursue some dreams that I have always wanted to accomplish and it will allow Marisa to fulfill some of hers." Fink plans to spend more time on bicycle tours, earn a master's degree and build their home from the ground up.

During its November meeting, the Silver Bay Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Vincent Smith as Interim CEO. Smith, who served as vice-president of the board, has stepped down from the board to begin his new position in December. Smith's vice-presidential seat will be filled by Barb Folkemer, a longtime trustee.

Fink began his work as CEO of Silver Bay in December, 2005. With more than 30 years experience working for the YMCA, Fink previously served as CEO of the Muncie Family YMCA in Indiana - a five branch \$5 million operation, and CEO of the Greater Hartford YMCA in Connecticut.

During his tenure, Silver Bay has changed its name - from Silver Bay Association to Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks - to highlight its affiliation with the YMCA, posted three years in the black after long periods of significant deficits and significantly increased fundraising.

Carol Giersch, president of the Board of Trustees, will begin forming a search committee to conduct a nationwide search for the best candidate to serve the interests of Silver Bay.

#### FREE WINTER MEMBERSHIP

Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks is offering a free winter membership to all residents of the towns of Hague, Ticonderoga and Putnam. The membership is available from December 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009 and includes access to the Fitness Center, hiking trails, library, snow shoes, sledding, special events, Spiritual Life Programs, and ice fishing access off Slim Point.

Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks is always looking for ways to reach out and serve the local community. People come from all over the country to see Silver Bay, "but our neighbors and our community are the constant, always near us and always in our minds."

The free winter membership is an excellent opportunity to join Silver Bay in our mission to "renew, refresh and nurture your spirit mind and body." Get a full workout at the Fitness Center, which includes elliptical trainers, stairmasters, treadmills, recumbent bikes, Cybex weight equipment and free weights. Look for special events like the monthly Dinner & A Movie, held the second Friday of each month.

A donation of \$5 is suggested to cover the cost of pizza and soda for the evening.

A monthly schedule of hours and events - the Silver Bay Breeze - will be available online at <[www.silverbay.org](http://www.silverbay.org)>. If you want to sign up, or know someone who does, have them call 543-8833.

Entering the Thanksgiving and Christmas season, the Spiritual Life Center at Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks is offering several programs.

Weekly programs include yoga, centering prayer, spiritual direction, pastoral support, and a workshop in exploring art. In addition all are invited to the center's twice a month spiritual life reading group, and men are invited to our Men's Prayer Breakfast held the first Friday of the month at 7:30 a.m. at Brookside Community House.

Days, times and locations for all of the Center's programs are published in the *Silver Bay Breeze*. You are also welcome to call the Spiritual Life Center at 543-8833 x 293.

In addition, the Spiritual Life Center invites you to the following gatherings:

A Thanksgiving Service - Tuesday, November 25, 2008 at 10:30 am in Brookside Community House

A Christmas Service - Friday, December 19, 2008 at 10:30 am in the Chapel

A Christmas Eve Candle Light Service - December 24, 2008 at 7 pm in the Chapel

And finally, the Spiritual Life Center always accepts clothes and can goods that are distributed to people in need. These can be dropped off at the Chapel or at the Spiritual Life Center located on the ground floor of Trinity House.

... Bev Hudak

## Looking Back



Researched by the Hague Historical Society and excerpted from the November 1974 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.

"The Hague Historical Society held its meeting on November 20 (1974) with a good turnout of members and guests including many members of the Lonergan family.

Mr. Wilford Ross played a tape recording of good quality with his recollections of Graphite, much of it in rhyme. Mr. Ross, who is now 84 years old, was two years old when the graphite mines were first opened. His father, Amos, a farmer in the area, went to work in the mines at wages of \$1. per day. During haying season he was given a leave of absence. Later he became night foreman and his salary was increased to 40 cents an hour. Working ten hours a day seven days a week, he managed to earn \$28. a week.

The Town of Graphite had a population of about 400. It maintained a two-room schoolhouse with two teachers and about 60 pupils. There were three saloons, a pool hall, and Echo Mountain Hall, operated by Tom Lonergan, where movies were shown.

The 80 men working in the mines were able to extract about 60 to 70 cars of ore each day. About 30% of this was graphite and this was then taken to Ticonderoga for refining. The mill in Ticonderoga had been refining graphite brought in from New Jersey for ten years before the discovery of graphite in Hague."

# NATURE NEWS

- 9 -

by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

## Stick Season

I actually look forward to *Stick Season*, as November is sometimes called. I've been taking painting lessons from Richard Stout and he told us in the beginning of the class that we would soon look at everything around us differently, a new way of "seeing", and I've found this to be true. Seeing the "art" in nature, it's design is more evident than ever in this stick season where I can see the line, form, structure and design patterns in the trees and landscape more clearly than when all the focus was on the vivid colors of autumn. Walking among the trees, bare of their leaves, I see the *bones* of the forest, rocks and ledges revealed as the *bones* of the earth.

November is often depicted as the least favorite of months, that in-between time when the trees are bare of leaves and the snows have not yet arrived to bring the white beauty to the landscape. When summer activities have abruptly ended and winter sports are not yet possible, social calendars packed with too many obligations suddenly open into the holidays. I welcome it though, and sense this from others too, as I feel myself begin to let go of a lot of unnecessary "stuff", relaxing into this slower pace. Just a few red apples still cling to the tree outside my window and where this may have brought sadness to me in previous times, that the beauty and abundance of autumn is "all over" for another year, I'm smiling now as I look at them. Partly because of the basket of windfall apples sitting on my counter, partly because of the deer, squirrels, birds and even one entertaining porcupine that come to it and partly because the few remaining apples on the leafless tree remind me of red Christmas ornaments dangling from the branches.

One day I sat outside and watched a flock of goldfinches ~ a hundred or more of them were passing through. Flying high, the whole group landed in the treetops but only lingered for a few moments before swirling around to another. One took off after the others, but changed course, dove then flitted up and around riding the thermal, dove again and I thought, "Oh, to be able to fly like that!" as it glided towards the earth and me. And then I saw that it was not a bird, but a leaf ~ the last one clinging to the tree had let go. No sadness here, no ending, but a continuation in a different form. As it lay upon the earth it transforms and becomes life sustaining once again as the nutrients it contained for the tree will now leach into the soil as it decomposes, the leaf itself becoming enriched soil for new life to emerge from.

Winter is sometimes referred to as the time of the "little death". As trees go into dormancy they let go of their leaves and they no longer can make the food to promote growth, their sap descends down the branches and trunk to the roots deep within the earth where it will not freeze. Here it stores the nutrients all through the coldness to keep the tree alive and ready for that rebirth in the spring when it rushes upwards to fuel the emergence of the new leaves. We can follow nature in this "little death" and utilize this powerful time to let go of that which is no longer serving us ~ attitudes, relationships, emotions, habits, material things, attachments ~ like the leaf on the tree that served a useful purpose at one time, in one form, it now will serve better if it is let go. Both the tree and the leaf move into different spaces, more enriching than if it had held on. And so by letting go, we too create space for the powerful opportunity to go within, like an intake of breath it fills us up and we create space for the development of something new to emerge as we let it go. No wonder we take this time to celebrate Thanksgiving, offering gratitude for the abundance in our lives. And so, in this stick season, I offer my gratitude to all ~ Happy Thanksgiving!

## WEATHER NOTES

by JoAnne DeFranco

October 22 - November 16, 2008

Our weather remains on a see-saw pattern of warm in the 60's and then dropping down into the 30's and 40's. Up, down, up, down... And speaking of down... The leaves were all down on the ground by Nov 8 including the oaks.

A full moon occurred on Nov 13. Sunrise is now at 6:47 AM and sunset at 4:30 as of Nov 15. There has been .5" rain from Nov 1- 15. Lake George water temperature is about 50 degrees.

The first accumulating snowstorm occurred on Oct 28, although at lake level in Hague we only got 1.26" rain, some sleet, and a few flakes of snow. Lake Placid received 12" of snow.

Oct 20-25: Days in the mid 40's with clouds/rain.

Oct 25-31: Days in the 50's, then a cold front arrives dropping daytime highs to high 30's and 40's.

Nov 1- 7: Warm front brings in temperatures back up in the 60's.

Nov 8-13: Temperatures drop back into the 30's and 40's with nighttime lows in the 20's.

Nov 13-16: Warm temperatures back in the 60's but Sunday 11/16 a cold front arrives with rain.

Temperatures to drop AGAIN.

November - December 2008



November

- 19 Route 9N to Ti closed (see page 1)
- 20 7 pm Zoning/Planning Training only
- 25 1:30 pm Senior Citizens (see page 2)
- 26 - 30 Schools closed
- 27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING

**TRANSFER STATION HOURS**

Wednesday: 9 am to 3 pm  
 Saturday: 9 am to 3 pm

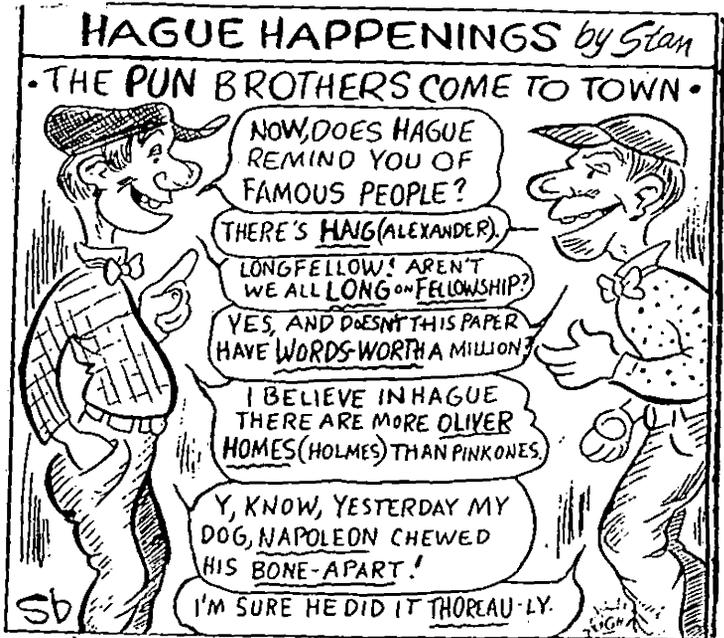


FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Help stock the Hague Food Pantry for the coming season when it is so needed. Canned goods and peanut butter are the most useful items and can be dropped off at the Community Center. Food is distributed on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 1 - 2 pm or in emergencies. For more information on the Food Pantry, call the Town at 543-6161.

December

- 2 7 pm Elementary School Holiday Concert
- 4 7 pm Planning Board
- 6 All day HOLIDAY IN HAGUE (see page 2)
- 7 6 pm Baptist Church program (see page 2)
- 9 6:30 pm Town Board
- 10 2 pm Kiwanis Senior Holiday luncheon (see page 2)
- 11 7 pm Middle School Holiday Concert
- 12 Deadline for news for next issue
- 16 noon Senior Christmas Luncheon (see page 2)
- 17 7:30 pm High School Holiday Concert
- 18 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed
- 18 *The Hague Chronicle* Staff Brunch
- 18 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals



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