



VOLUME 36 NO. 11 HAGUE, N.Y. 12836 November 2007

### MEOLA, GLADU ELECTED

In the only contested position in town, Rudy Meola and incumbent Dick Gladu were elected to the Hague Town Board for four year terms, garnering a few more votes than incumbent Art Steitz in a closely contested race. Again the importance of a few votes was critical. In the counting on election eve, Gladu was in front and Steitz had a one vote lead over Meola. However, after the absentee ballots were counted the final totals were: Meola - 220, Gladu - 217 and Steitz - 213.

There was no opposition in the other races with the candidates running on both the Republican and Independence Party lines. Supervisor, Dan Belden - 258 (207/51); Town Clerk, Debbie Manning - 328 (253/75); Highway Superintendent, Don Smith - 276 (213/63) and 2 year unexpired term on Town Board, Mark Martucci - 252 (195/57).

The Hague vote on the statewide proposition on the land swap was yes - 150 and no - 25. There were 246 votes for Bud York who was elected Warren County Sheriff, 225 votes for re-elected County Clerk Pam Vogel and 156 votes for Francis O'Keefe who was re-elected County Treasurer over Nick Caimano who received 129 votes. For further information on voting in Hague and Warren County see:

<<http://www.co.warren.ny.us/boe>>

### MEOLA AND GLADU ISSUE THANKS

Both candidates have issued statements of thanks to their supporters. Meola stated, "It is with deep gratitude and humility that I acknowledge your (Hague voters) support for my candidacy in the recent Town Board election. I appreciate your kindness and the encouragement you showed me as you welcomed me into your homes when I campaigned throughout our town. During the next four years I will do my best to serve you, to retain your trust and be worthy of the confidence you have placed in me.

I am planning on forming an advisory committee to help me with the various issues facing the Town. We will meet periodically when I will seek your input and ask for your feedback. If you would like to join me in this endeavor, please call me or call the Community Center."

Gladu's statement included, "I just want to thank the voters of Hague for their support during the past election. I look forward to a productive four years as the Board addresses the issues that are key to you, our residents. Once again, register and vote in Hague, your vote really counts here."

### HOLIDAY IN HAGUE

The Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the 7th annual Holiday in Hague on Saturday, December 8, 2007 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Downtown shops will be open for opportunities for local Christmas shopping. Juniper, Hague Antiques & Gifts and Carriage Barn Antiques will be open. Also at the Hague Creek Cafe will be gifts with Beth Iuliano, designer faux pocketbooks and accessories upstairs and Carolyn Dunn will have samples of baked goods which can be ordered for the holidays. At the Locust Inn Jim O'Toole will have his art work for sale and Joanne DeFranco of Sew and Sow will have her inventory. The Hague Senior Citizens Club will again have items for sale at the Visitor's Center.

The Chamber will also provide trees for a downtown tree decorating contest. The trees will be put up along the brook and may be decorated in any theme. Participation is open to individuals or groups and judging will be done by the Holiday in Hague shoppers who can put their choices in a basket by each tree. The prizes will be \$50 for first place, \$35 for second place and \$20 for third place with the winners being announced at 4:30 pm on the 8th at The Firehouse Restaurant.

ANNUAL MEMORY TREE - See page 10.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Hague Chronicle must expand its volunteer base and we need YOU!

You can volunteer seasonally (any season!) or year-round for whatever amount of time you can give. We can use help to research, write, type, edit or count beans - whatever your skills we can use you.

Please let Publisher Judy Stock know at <[HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com](mailto:HagueChronicle@nycap.rr.com)> if you would like to join the Hague Chronicle team.

### GOOD LUCK, SENTINELS!

The Ticonderoga High School Sentinels have had a very successful football season and are heading to the Class D State Championship at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse on Friday, November 23, 2007 at 10 am.

We wish them good luck but they are already winners for having made it as far as they have!



*Go Sentinels!*

October's Halloween Party was a 'screaming success' as always. We had some pretty neat costumes in attendance for the delightful luncheon catered by Katie Wells which was totally enjoyed by all. Our Costume Parade Judges, Debbie Manning & Diane Trudeau, had tough decisions to make but the winners were BEST IN PARADE - Dolly Kennedy as *The Leopard*; 1st RUNNER UP - Thelma Middleton as *Lieutenant Thelma*; 2nd RUNNER UP - Kathi Ramant & Judy Stock as *The Pumpkin Twins* and HONORABLE MENTION - Shirley Smith as *Hop-a-Long Cassidy*

November 8th's outing thru the Adirondack High Peaks area was a fun day trip. We visited Gokey's Auction/Discount House in Hudson, the North Country Taxidermy Shop in Keene, the Adirondack Store in Lake Placid, had lunch at the Noon Mark Diner in Keene Valley and then ended our excursion with a stop at Gunnison's Orchard for apples & donuts. Just a note folks, we saw lots of that 'White Stuff' on the countryside in the Placid area, enough to let us know that winter is indeed upon us.

November's meeting will be on Tuesday, the 27th, at the Community Center at 1 pm (note time change). The theme for the day will be a surprise. Election of the Club's 2008 Executive Board of Officers will take place and we will also have the final signup available for the Annual Christmas Party which will be held on Monday, December 17th at noon at the HVFD firehouse. This always-festive luncheon will be catered by The Gourmet Gal. ... mp

### CHRISTMAS TREE SHOP

The Hague Seniors will be holding their annual CHRISTMAS TREE SHOP during the HOLIDAY IN HAGUE weekend. On Saturday, December 8th, 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 and, of course, those 'Senior Baked Goods'!! We will have WOKO Christmas Music on tap along with hot coffee to sip while you browse.

Come check us out and share a few Ho-Ho-Ho's. ...mp

### SENIOR WALKING EXERCISE

The Ticonderoga Elementary and Middle Schools will be open from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm Monday through Friday for senior citizens who would like to exercise by walking. Enter through the Ti Middle School to change into walking shoes and to leave coats etc. Please register at the Middle School office 585-7442, Ext. 216. This service is available only when school is in session.

An Open House/Farewell Party for Rev. Rusty and Sally Bissell and family will be held on December 8, 2007 from 2 pm to 5 pm at the Hague Community Center. Everyone is welcome.

Rusty and Sally and their 3 daughters, Michelle, Sarah and Olivia, moved from Plattsburg, NY, to Hague in July of 1997 to take over the pastorate of Hague Wesleyan Church. During their 10 years in Hague, they have become familiar faces in the community. Rusty and Sally joined the HVFD. Rusty became a member of the Northern Lake George Rotary and also started driving a bus for the Ticonderoga School District. Sally worked for a time at Moses-Ludington Hospital. Under Pastor Rusty's leadership, Hague Wesleyan Church has grown in membership and was able to add on a fellowship wing.

Replacing Rusty as senior pastor will be Rev. Skip Trembley who is currently assistant pastor. The Bissells plan to move to Fort Meyers, Florida in December of this year. Hague will miss them.

... Barbara Trainor

### CONCERT AND HOLIDAY MAGIC

The Champlain Valley Chorale will present its holiday concert, "Christmas Now and Then" on Sunday, December 9, 2007, at 3:00 P.M. in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church, Wicker Street, Ticonderoga, NY. Following the concert, the Carillon Garden Club will sponsor a reception for all attendees, featuring its annual "Holiday Magic".

The public is cordially invited to attend these admission-free events.

### SENIORS HOLIDAY PARTY

The Kiwanis and Ticonderoga School District are holding a Holiday Party for Senior Citizens on Wednesday, December 5, 2007. Entertainment will take place in the Elementary/Middle School Cafetorium at 2 pm and a light turkey lunch will be provided. The snow date, ... 6th.



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

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

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748

Editor/Publisher: Judith Stock (518-543-6517)

Editor/Publisher, Emerita: Dorothy Henry

## SHIRT FACTORY OPEN HOUSE

The 6th Annual Holiday Open House sponsored by the Shirt Factory Artists Association will be held at The Shirt Factory, located on the corner of Lawrence and Cooper Streets in Glens Falls, NY. The Shirt Factory is home to a variety of artist studios, galleries, shops, and services.

The Holiday Open House begins with a preview on Friday, November 23, from 5-8 pm and continues on Saturday, November 24 and Sunday, November 25 from 10 am - 5 pm.

Over 40 artists will be exhibiting their art and fine crafts throughout the building. The Open House is an opportunity to meet the artists, visit their studios and shop for unique art and one of a kind handcrafted items for the holidays.

## CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Chilson United Methodist Church will be having a Christmas Market on November 30 and December 1, 2007 from 9 am to 3 pm each day. The event will be held at the former Arthur's Drugstore on Montcalm Street and will feature Crafts, Greens & Wreaths by Sue, Santas by Mary Lou, barely used items, new toys, some furniture, glassware, Christmas decorations and a limited clothing boutique.

For questions or further information call Lois Gunning at 585-4470.

## NEWS FROM THE HYDE

The Hyde Collection, an historic house and art museum located on Warren Street in Glens Falls, has several events taking place in the next few weeks.

One event is a holiday shopping night for ladies at the Museum Store at The Hyde on Thursday, November 29, 2007. The Museum Store will stay open until 7 pm that night and coincides with the current exhibition *Natura Morta: Still-Life Painting and the Medici Collections*.

Tickets are on sale for a fundraising opportunity to win \$10,000. Only 350 tickets will be sold at \$100 each and the drawing will be on Friday, November 30, 2007 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at a reception at The Hyde. Additional prizes will be given.

Another fund-raising event will be the Holiday Luncheon held at The Queensbury Hotel on December 12, 2007 starting at noon.

For further information see <[www.hydecollection.org](http://www.hydecollection.org)> or call 792-1761.

## ADIRONDACK VOICES CONCERT

The Adirondack Voices will present their annual holiday concert on Monday, December 3, 2007, at 7:30 pm, at Christ Church United Methodist, 54 Bay Street, Glens Falls. This year's concert is titled, "A Christmas to Remember," and will consist of a rich variety of holiday favorites, including several a cappella pieces.

Admission for the performance will be \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for senior citizens (60+) and students. Tickets will be available at the door.

## KUDOS TO HVFD

Last summer a Silver Bay guest, David Poach, Sr., learned of a motorcycle accident on Lakeshore Drive and went to the scene to help. He is a retired professional firefighter from Connecticut who is also a licensed Paramedic and EMS instructor. On his arrival at the accident site, the Hague Fire and EMS volunteers were there and Poach found it safe and secure. Working beside these Hague volunteers he was so impressed that he wrote a letter of commendation to Hague Fire Chief James Young.

Among the accolades Poach stated, "Their professionalism, training and team work was excellent and had a positive outcome in patient care." He made special mention of Renee Swinton, lead technician on the scene, who "directed fellow responders with a command presence and guided her team in patient care" and who made the right decision to call for air transport.

Poach also mentioned Joanne Trudeau, Lu Megow, Meg Haskell, Ernie Trudeau and Dave Hoffay for their "hard work and dedication." Although he did not get the names of all those at the scene, he said they all should be recognized for "teamwork and a job well done."

We are very fortunate in Hague to have this dedicated crew who are well-trained and work as a cohesive team. We add our commendation for their hard work and professionalism.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Hague Volunteer Fire Department was first formed in 1948 and incorporated in 1949 under Richard J. Bolton. The first firehouse was built by members in 1948 and the first Fire Chief was Robert Hoyt. source: <[www.haguefire.org](http://www.haguefire.org)>

## FAMILY WEEK TOPICS

During the week of Thanksgiving, communities across the United States will celebrate National Family Week (November 18-24). Started almost 40 years ago, National Family Week embodies the premise that children live better lives when their families are strong, and families are strong when they live in communities that connect them to economic opportunities, social networks, and services.

Cooperative Extension of Warren County has the following information packets available:

- Make Lemons Into Lemonade: Use Positives for Disciplining Children,
- The "New" Father Image,
- Listening For Love,
- Family Meetings,
- Stress: How It Affects You and Your Child,
- Parent Pages: Strategies for Parenting Adolescents

To request any or all of the free topic sheets, contact Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Warren County at 668-4881 or email at <[warren@cornell.edu](mailto:warren@cornell.edu)>.

There was no Zoning Board of Appeals meeting last month.

PLANNING BOARD - 11/1/07

Chairman EJ Siwek, Pam Peterson, John Brown, Rolly Allen and new members Bruce Clark and Dick Frasier were present. Peter Foster was absent.

The first order of business for the new chairman was to welcome the new members. The Planning Board now has its full contingent of 7 members when all are in attendance.

GORELIK (60.13-1-6) 35 Red Fox Lane (TR-1)

A site visit was made and the application for a 12' x 60' open deck addition 53' from Lake George was approved 4-2.

CORNELL (25.4-1-29) Graphite Mountain Rd. (OC1)

Applicant is requesting approval to construct a one family house 75 feet from a brook. The engineered septic system's leach field will maintain a 110 foot setback from the brook and neighboring wells. On June 7, 2001 the Planning Board approved a similar application for a house 75 feet from the brook. Plans were made for a site review.

BELDEN (24-1-34.1, 24-1-34.2, 24-1-34.3) 9064 Graphite Mountain Rd. (OC-1)

On November 6, 2003 the Planning Board approved a four lot subdivision of 15.9 acre parcel. The survey was filed with the zoning office, but was not stamped or signed by the Planning Board Clerk. The Board agreed to have this clerical error corrected and the documents were signed as necessary.

ZEO Clark presented the Board with a document suggesting a new definition of "structure" in the zoning code. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

SPECIAL MEETING - 10/12/07

A Special Town Board meeting was held in conjunction with the Budget Workshop at 9 am. Board members Belden, Frasier, Steitz, Martucci and Gladu were all there.

The Board met with Jim Young and John Barber from the Hague Volunteer Fire Department. They approved a budget of \$226,800 for the HVFD for 2008. The Board would like more accountability in the expenditures and would like regular statements from the Fire Department.

Richard Frasier was appointed to the Planning Board by a vote of 4-0 with Edna Frasier recusing herself. Bruce Clark was appointed to the Planning Board 5-0.

TOWN BOARD MEETING - 11/13/07

Dan Belden, Art Steitz, Dick Gladu, Edna Frasier and Mark Martucci were all present.

Jim O'Toole presented a slide show report on the work of the committee investigating a "pedestrian walkway, running parallel to State Route 9N; connecting the secondary hamlet of Silver Bay to the town center of Hague." The walkway would

accommodate two-way pedestrian traffic and take advantage of existing local parallel paths and roads where possible such as Dock Road and Pudding Island Road.

The committee recommendation for the hiring of the consulting firm of Loberge Group was approved by the Town Board. The firm will do an engineering study and prepare an TEP application for funding (federal moneys administered through the state) for this transportation project. Initial cost for their work is \$10,600 and it is hoped that grant money will cover additional engineering expenses.

Committee Reports:

Assessor/Justice - Councilman Gladu reported that "pending legal situations are underway." He also noted that the Assessor is continuing work on the inventory sheets.

Buildings & Grounds/CC - Councilman Steitz reported that he and Councilman Martucci are going to meet to make up some specs for the work on the back porch and ramp so that it can go out to bid. Supervisor Belden asked them to include the stairs in the front.

CARE/Enhancement Committee - Council member Frasier reported that there is plenty of food and encouraged more people to use this facility. She also remarked that the enhancement project at the park looks good and thanked Art Steitz for serving as clerk-of-the-works on the project.

Finance & Insurance - Councilman Gladu reported that Diane Trudeau will attend a conference on cybersecurity, that the sales tax money has been invested while leaving enough for the current bills and that the audit of the books would now be appropriate.

Highway - Daniel Steitz, Assistant Superintendent of Highways reported that all the plows are on and ready to go. The truck that had been ordered still needs work before the Town can accept it as ready to use.

Personnel - Council members Gladu and Frasier have continued to work on the employee manual and hope to have it ready by the end of the month.

Recreation/Promotion & Youth - Joe McCranels spoke to the Board of his concern about a new approach to grooming the ski trails at Rogers Rock, discussed the plan for a reenactment of the Battle on Snowshoes on the 250th anniversary, and suggested that he would be willing to train and oversee Park staff.

The Board will continue with plans to have the Sno-goers snowmobile club oversee the grooming and asked Joe to submit a budget for the Snowshoes event which can be funded out of occupancy tax funds.

Con't on page 5 - Town Board

Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - ZEO Cathy Clark's written report to the Board noted permit requests for 58 Land Use developments, 5 subdivisions and 11 wastewater systems. She also reported attending the NYS DEC stormwater training and said that a key recommendation is to map the town culverts that drain into Lake George or its tributaries.

The committee researching the renting of single family homes consists of Dick Gladu, Mark Martucci, EJ Siwek, Rolly Allen, George Ianson, Alison Craig and Cathy Clark. Councilman Gladu noted that there are discrepancies between what people are doing and what the ordinances say with regard to rentals. There may have been oversight when the code was created and they want to have a reasonable agreement allowing rentals of single family homes with some possible restrictions. There is a difference between commercial rentals and renting one's own property. Since the code at present does not allow the latter, the committee recommended delay of enforcement until new regulations are on the books so that there is no disruption to people who are already making rental plans.

Town Park - Councilman Steitz reported that the new lighting in the Town Park looks good and there are people willing to donate trees.

Transfer Station - Councilman Gladu stated that when the contract comes up with Casella in the spring they will work to resolve the recycling charges as well as the disposition of yard waste.

Under other business, the Board:

Approved the 2008 budget.

Set a public hearing for Tuesday, December 11th at 6:30 pm on aligning the income limitations of the town partial property tax exemption for residents over 65 years of age with that of the county. Warren County allows an exemption of 50% for those with incomes of \$18,000 or less and uses a sliding scale for those over \$18,000 but less than \$23,700.

Decided to continue discussions with the LGLC on their offer to sell to the Town of Hague the Conservancy owned park adjacent to the brook which was donated to the LGLC by previous owner, Peggy Darrin. There would continue to be deed restrictions and no price was discussed.

Approved a resolution to apply for funds for improvements, recommended in the Enhancement Committee plans, to the Town parking lots and to the "Historic Town Boat Dock."

Supervisor Belden reported that the vote on the County budget would be held on November 16th and they are working on a new contract with the DPW.

## BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Board members Belden, Gladu, Frasier and Martucci met at 6:30 pm for a Public Hearing on the 2008 Town Budget. In the notice of the meeting the following salaries were indicated: Supervisor - \$16,995 (receipt of that same amount additionally from Warren County for the Board of Supervisors); Highway Superintendent - \$36,050; Council members - \$5,923 each; Town Clerk - \$14,420 and Town Justice - \$8,240.

A motion was passed to add an additional \$200,000 of sales tax revenue to the \$300,000 already left with the County to reduce the Hague taxpayers portion of the County tax. A change was made for personal services by the Town Attorney to \$23,000.

## 2008 TOWN BUDGET

The bottom line again shows no tax levy for the Town in the 2008 townwide budgeted expenses of \$2,391,630. Most of the needed funds come from sales tax revenue (\$510,000), interest and earnings (\$47,000), mortgage tax (\$45,000) and payment in lieu of taxes by Silver Bay (\$25,000) as well as unexpended balances from previous budgets (\$1,107,330).

There will be a tax levy rate of \$0.76 per thousand to raise \$221,400 for Fire and Ambulance. Sewer District #1 has no taxes with a budget of \$144,725 offset by user fees of \$119,700 and unexpended balance of \$25,025.

## HAGUE FOUNDATION PARK

Hague Brook, with the help of its neighbor, LGLC's Hague Foundation Park, has undergone a major facelift recently, thanks to a collaboration between LGLC, Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), the Town of Hague, the Lake George Association and Lake George Watershed Conference.

The 2-acre Park, gifted to LGLC in 2004 by the Hague Charitable Foundation, was used by the SWCD to access the brook and create a 140-by-20-foot sediment pond, from which approximately 700 yards of material was removed. The pond is designed to slow the brook's water flow before it enters Lake George, allowing the sediments to settle into the pond instead of adding to the large delta at the mouth of Hague Brook.

LGLC also has colorful plans for the Park in 2008. Together with local volunteers and the United Plant Savers, which will be providing a grant for the project, LGLC will install a series of educational native plant beds and an accessible trail to create a welcoming resource for the Hague community and its guests. Anyone interested in becoming part of this exciting project can contact Sarah Hoffman at 518-644-9673, or email <shoffman@lgic.org>.

After two years of moving up on a long waiting list, on October 20 I was finally able to move into Woodlawn Commons in Saratoga Springs, a 35-acre not-for-profit corporation in the heart of Saratoga Springs, sponsored by the United Methodist Church. This beautiful complex is located across the street from Skidmore College in a wooded section of the city. It encompasses three levels of care - independent living, assistive living and a very large nursing home.

I was registered for independent living but apparently people like living here so much that nobody seems to move out. However several weeks ago I was offered a room in assistive living and I happily accepted the offer. Since I have been here an opening in the independent living became available and I was lucky enough to be accepted there, so I will be moving in mid-December into an apartment in the same building on the second floor. Yes, there are elevators! I am becoming very spoiled and I have to admit that I like it. My friend Dolly teases me about the "old folks home", but if that is where I am, I'll take it any day.

Last November when I fell and broke my second leg I was confined to the Health Center (Rehab), for 2 1/2 months, just across the campus from where I am now. I had very good treatment there too, but in a completely different setting. At least now I can get around.

There seems to be something going on all the time here. I am kept very busy and I haven't even begun to explore the city, where there are all sorts of available activities. I've already met a number of new friends. That is not to say I don't miss Hague and all my wonderful friends there, because I do. I still have my car and use it occasionally. Transportation to most things is furnished plus public busses and two grocery stores which have vans to pick up residents for shopping. I haven't done that yet because in this section I eat all my meals in a dining room, with a restaurant-like setting.

Saratoga is not so far that I won't be able to come "home" from time to time and hopefully at least some of you will stop in and see me here. In the meantime, know that I am most appreciative of all my friends I have made over the past 67 years in Hague. A great big thank-you to Judy Stock and all the staff of The Hague Chronicle for the great job you are all doing. I have enjoyed working with you all for the past 28 years (some not quite that long) and wish you all lots of luck and best wishes for the paper in the future. I am looking forward to receiving my copy each month.

I also want to thank everyone for the early morning party you gave me before my move, for all the cards and best wishes, and for just getting up so early to say good-bye. I hope to see you in my new quarters from time to time. Call me first - I seem to be out wandering around a lot! I'd love to hear from you. My address is 156 Lawrence St. #16, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866. Telephone # is 306-6136. After December 15 the apartment number will be #209. I'll be looking forward to hearing from you.

We knew it wouldn't take long! Dottie Henry has already been featured, including a picture, in an article in the Saratoga Springs daily newspaper, *The Saratogian*. The article was by Lifestyles Editor, Jeannette Jordan who reported on the Heritage Garden Club luncheon and some of her excerpts are as follows:

"Past President June Keane was seated with Dottie Henry, who just moved here three weeks ago from Hague where she made her home. Henry spend more than 30 years at *The Hague Chronicle* as writer-publisher-editor. She also was dedicated to many other organizations in Hague."

"Henry said, 'I wanted to down size and had been waiting for a place in Woodlawn Commons,' she said. Once she received a call that she could move there she was ready and raring to go."

"'You'll be hearing more from Dottie now that she's part of Saratoga,' Grant Van Patten promised. We hope so. She's a delight."

#### FRASIER IN HALL OF FAME by Chris Ianson

Hague's own Richard A. Frasier, owner of Lakeshore Garage, received the highest honor of his profession on September 14, 2007 with his induction into the International Towing and Recovery Hall of Fame in Chattanooga, Tennessee—home of the first wrecker ever built.

Dick Frasier obtained the contract from New York State to be the official towing service during the 1980 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid. He provided 30 wreckers and was responsible for organizing the equipment and manpower from seven states to cover the Olympic region.

In 1981, Dick was a founding member of the Empire State Towing and Recovery Association (ESTRA). In recent years, he was instrumental in setting up ESTRA's education scholarship which awards \$1000 a year for 4 years for which a child of an ESTRA member can apply. Dick worked with ESTRA's lobbyist Pete O'Connell and the NYS Motor Vehicle Department to create the original tow truck operator's license plate and the tow truck endorsement for driver's license.

In our own community, Dick's Lakeshore Garage is well known. Longtime residents and newcomers, too, have come to depend on Dick's expertise for emergency repairs or routine vehicle maintenance. Dick does not turn his local customers away. And he takes civic responsibilities seriously, too.

Dick is a longtime member of the school board of which he is the current vice-president, as well as longtime member of the Moses Ludington Hospital Board in Ticonderoga, on which he has served as chairman and is the current treasurer. He has been a longtime board member for the Town of Hague and currently serves on the town's Planning Board.

Dick's achievements were showcased in the July-Sept. 2007 issue of *The Hook*, the Empire State Towing and Recovery Association's publication. The honor is well deserved. In Chattanooga and right here in Hague, NY, we're proud of you, Dick, and of Lakeshore Garage. Congratulations!

# ~SOUNDINGS~

**BORN:** A son, Mason Andrew Leerkes, to Tony and Jessica (Frasier) Leerkes on September 19, 2007. Mason Andrew is the grandson of Dick and Edna Frasier, Hague.

**BORN:** A son, Willem Storrs Foster, to Jason & Kristin Foster of Gansevoort, NY on October 5, 2007. Willem is the grandson of Judy & Peter Foster of Hague and Kathy Richmond & Bob Roggow of Colorado. His great-grandmother is Jeannette Foster, a former longtime resident of Silver Bay.

**BORN:** A girl, Ashling Grace, to Lisa (Henry) and Jon O'Driscoll, Atlanta, GA. on November 3, 2007. Ashling is the granddaughter of John and Nelly Henry, Puerto Rico and Gerry and Stewart Whitehead, Woodstock, GA and the great-granddaughter of Dottie Henry.

**BORN:** A boy, Joshua Tobias to Darcy and Stefan Kuenzel in Cape Coral, FL on November 7, 2007. Josh is the first grandson for Ginger Henry Kuenzel, Hague and Boston, MA and Andreas Kuenzel, Munich, Germany, following three granddaughters. He is also the first great-grandson for Dottie Henry, after six great-granddaughters.

**BORN:** A girl, Layla Isabel, to Ashley Fuller of Ticonderoga on November 14, 2007. She is the granddaughter of Wendy Fuller, Ticonderoga and the great-granddaughter of Bertha Dunsmore, Hague.

**ENGAGED:** Ashley Abare, daughter of Bernadette Michalak, Hague and Michael Abare, Littleton, NH, to Joseph Barth, son of Gary Barth and Rosemary Barth of Hastings, NE. Ashley is a 2007 Cum Laude graduate of St. Lawrence with a BS in Computer Science. Joseph also has a BS degree in Computer Science from St. Lawrence.

**MARRIED:** Megan Taylor and David Hawley on September 15, 2007 in Diamond Point, NY. Megan is the daughter of Judy and Greg Taylor of Hague and Winchester, MA and the granddaughter of Bert Ferguson, longtime summer resident of Hague. Meg and Dave reside in Kittery, ME.

**DIED:** Reverend Gary Bergh, 69, unexpectedly on October 13, 2007 in Syracuse, N.Y. Gary was a pastor with the United Methodist Church and a long term member of the Silver Bay Association. Gary and his wife, Linda were the first Coordinators of Brookside House at Silver Bay. In addition to his wife, Linda, of Syracuse, he is survived by his son David Bergh and wife, Nancy Young and children Eve and Drew Trombley of Hague, NY; his daughter Susan Bergh McNulty and husband Ryan and granddaughter Lily of South Glens Falls and his sister Nancy Tetz and husband Frank of Saratoga Springs, NY.

**DIED:** Martha Wallace Fitzgerald, 71, of Lakeshore Drive, Silver Bay on November 14, 2007. Marty was a 1955 graduate of Hague Central School and owner of the Northbrook Cottages in Silver Bay. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, Martin Fitzgerald and their children Debbie Manning, Hague Town Clerk, and her husband Mike and Martin Fitzgerald II and his wife, Heidi, all of Silver Bay. She is also survived by four grandchildren, Kaley and Karney Manning and Nicholas and Michael Fitzgerald.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Bruce Clark who shot a hole-in-one at the Ticonderoga Golf Course on October 21, 2007.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To Ted Santaniello who has been appointed Assistant track coach at SUNY Plattsburgh. He will coach the sprint team (55m - 400m) relays and hurdles and is also working as supervising trainer at the college's fitness center.



## T'AI CHI CLASSES

Mae Pagan has announced that a new session of t'ai chi classes is being held at the Hague Community Building. The five week session runs from 6:15 pm to 7:15 pm on Tuesday evenings. People can join at any time and sessions will be run throughout the year. For further information contact Mae at 543-6605.

## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The students involved with the Ticonderoga Central School District 21st CCLC After School Program this fall had a nice surprise in the first session. The students learned that they were able to go to the Silver Bay Association six times during the session.

Mr. Frank Fontana, Mr. Doug Sham, and the Silver Bay staff have worked diligently on creating programs for the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders who take advantage of the Silver Bay days. The students and staff have enjoyed canoeing, kayaking, team building activities, archery, and orienteering activities on the different days.

The After School Program usually runs from 2:50 to 5:05 p.m., Monday through Thursday, but on these special days the program runs until 6:30 p.m. The Silver Bay staff works with the Ticonderoga students for two hours at the Association. Throughout the year, the After School Program has the opportunity to go to the Adirondack Bowling Alley and the Moriah Central School pool, and of course, returning to Silver Bay.

... Bruce Tubbs, Middle School Principal

Today's 4-H programs have youth working on cooperative research and community development programs using GPS (global positioning systems) and GIS (geographic information systems). Nanobiotechnology, engineering and healthy lifestyle programs are all part of the modern educational programs 4-H is now teaching.

Warren County 4-H Development is also looking to expand its traditional agricultural programs such as the 4-H Horse program which is the fastest growing livestock program in New York. Another program which has been growing in members is the 4-H Shooting Sports program which reaches over three million youth nationwide.

4-H in Warren County, coordinated by Cornell University Cooperative Extension, is seeking new members (youth 5-19), club leaders and volunteers to help assist with programs. There is no fee for youth to join the 4-H program at this time, though specific programs and clubs may have minimal fees.

If you or someone you know might be interested in joining or working with 4-H, please contact John Bowe at 668-4881, 623-3291 or email at <jfb32@cornell.edu>.

#### PISTOL SAFETY PROGRAM

The Warren County 4-H Shooting Sports offers an Introduction to Air Pistol program. The program will focus on air pistol safety, proper handling and firing of air pistols, and improving shooting skills with air pistols. The program is open to youth 12-19 years of age. Parents or guardians are encouraged to attend.

The event is scheduled to occur on Wednesdays - November 29th, December 5th & 19th - from 7 pm until 9 pm. The range portion of the program will occur at a local indoor range built for air rifles/pistols and archery. All equipment will be provided by either the Warren County 4-H Shooting Sports program or the NYS 4-H Shooting Sports program.

At this time there is no fee for the program. However, all participants will be required to join the Warren County 4-H program, which at this time is free. Several required forms must be completed for youth to participate in the program and they will be sent when you pre-register for the class. The class size is limited so please register as soon as possible by calling 668-4881.

#### LOCAL BIRD COUNT

On Saturday, December 15, 2007 the Christmas Bird Count will be held in the Bolton Area. The count is a nationwide activity organized by the Audubon Society that uses "Volunteer Citizen Scientists" to gather information on bird numbers. You can be part of this effort by joining LGLC staff to observe birds in the Bolton/southern Lake George area. Observations are reviewed by a panel of regional experts and included with the cumulative data made available to the public and researchers for review and scientific study. Please call 644-9673 for details. \$5 fee



#### LARTER ON LGLC BOARD

Judy Larter, Silver Bay summer resident, is rejoining LGLC's Board of Directors after holding an Advisory Board position since 2000. As a Dunstable, MA resident, she has worked for several decades to conserve land in the area, including protection of family farmland in Dunstable and Chelmsford. "I am privileged to be a part of LGLC," said Judy, "It is more of a challenge than ever to protect the watershed of this lake we all love."

#### YOUR VOICE IN WASHINGTON

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand has voted in favor of legislation which would keep the internet tax-free for another four years. The Internet Tax Freedom Act prohibits the ability to tax access to the internet.

Gillibrand has also voted for the Free Flow of Information Act of 2007 [H.R. 2102], a bipartisan bill that will support the freedom of the press by protecting their confidential sources. Passage of this bill is essential because there is not a clear standard in federal courts for recognizing a reporter's privilege of having confidential sources.

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand passed a bipartisan amendment on the floor of the House of Representatives to ensure that businesses which knowingly hire illegal immigrants should not be eligible for federal contracts. The federal government provided over 8 million contracts last year worth \$417 billion. The Gillibrand amendment was to the Small Business Contracting Program Improvements Act [H.R. 3867], which will help small businesses procure federal contracts.

Congresswoman Gillibrand, on a report on the rise in uninsured U.S. veterans: "I am appalled by the troubling information in this study. The men and women who have worn the uniform of the United States deserve better." Earlier this year, Gillibrand voted in favor of the largest increase in Veterans Affairs funding in our nation's history. However, Congresswoman Gillibrand has said that funding, "Is just a start - we need to do more."

# NATURE NEWS

by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

## An Unexpected Visitor

Imagine driving home, late one autumn evening, when the car's headlights flash on a huge animal blocking the road. You slam on the brakes stopping just feet from the beast as it leisurely takes a few steps towards the woods. Fumbling for your camera, the creature pauses before moving off the road, and lingers long enough for a couple of quick photos for proof of the sighting. Jim and Sally Rypkema's recent encounter with a moose in Hague is no imaginary tale ~ I've seen the photo and heard the lively story firsthand ~ but it is unusual to see a moose *at all* in the Adirondacks, let alone right here in Hague.

The moose once roamed this area quite freely, but a cow (female moose) shot near Raquette Lake in 1861 is often cited as the last of the Adirondack's moose and they remained absent for over 100 years! Disappearing for a variety of reasons, the moose has only one primary predator ~ man. Moose are dependent upon wetlands and the early stages of successional vegetation created by beavers, so when trappers decimated the beaver population in the early 1800's, those habitats disappeared and the moose moved on. Hunting was the other major factor in their demise and the largest of our Adirondack mammals were soon eliminated altogether. Only as recently as 1980 have they made their way back, wandering into the park from Canada and Vermont, with only 15 - 20 animals accounted for by 1987. Their return is slow but increases steadily as they establish themselves by finding suitable habitats for feeding and reproducing. The cow that Jim and Sally saw was probably on the move since sightings in September through November usually reflect the typical searching pattern of adults seeking mates. At the current rate, there may be as many as 500 moose in the Adirondack Park in the very near future.

Moose are big. That's an understatement as males (bulls) can reach a maximum weight of 1400 lbs. although 800-1000 lbs is more likely for us to see. The females (cows) are significantly smaller at 600-700 lbs. Both sexes have long legs with their shoulders higher than the rump, a short neck and a short, stumpy tail. Both have a dense wooly grayish to blackish-brown undercoat and coarse, hollow guard hairs that form a 10-inch mane on the shoulders. Only the bulls bear the enormous palmate antlers that develop from the frontal bones of their skull each spring and then are shed in early winter. That's right, *every year* they grow a brand new pair of antlers.

The moose is an herbivore, using its flexible upper lip and tongue to browse the nitrogen rich tips of branches, twigs and foliage of shrubs and trees, and to graze herbaceous and aquatic plants, consuming 35-60 pounds per day. They prefer aquatic plants in summer and will often "ride down" saplings to reach the terminal buds or strip the bark from trees ~ favoring birches, maple, balsam fir, hemlock, cedar and alder. Their long legs and large

hooves make for easy travel through wetlands either by wading or swimming and also for traveling through deep snow and reaching higher branches in winter when other food is buried in snow.

Moose thrive in cold weather and have an intolerance of prolonged temperatures above 75 degrees Fahrenheit. With this in mind we welcome their return to this part of the North Country, yet we must be aware that the return may be short-lived with the threat of global warming and know that human impact may yet again drive the moose to colder climes. I'd like to think that we'll be sharing the park with them for a very long time.

*Nancy is the author of "Nature Through the Seasons", a compilation of Nature News essays from the Hague Chronicle. The book is available for a great holiday gift - in Hague at Juniper, the Hague Super Market and Silver Bay General Store; in Ti at Rathbun's and the Hancock House or contact Nancy directly at <forestbay@wcv.com>.*

## WEATHER NOTES

by JoAnne DeFranco

Weather Notes: October 14- November 17

November is typically the cloudiest month of the year. In looking over the notes for the past 4 weeks, that is certainly the trend. The latter part of October was unseasonably warm, hitting a high of 78 degrees on October 19. WOW! The average daily temperature for October was 54 degrees, which is +20 degrees warmer than usual. Most days were part sun/part clouds. Since November arrived the temperatures have chilled down. The killing frost, which officially ends our growing season, occurred on November 7. There were several heavy rainstorms to wet down the soils and give the plants and trees a good amount of moisture going into the winter season. We are still under the usual amount of rain. Daylight savings time ended a week later than usual on November 4.

Oct. 14 - 19: Partly cloudy days with a warming trend reaching a high of 87 and humid on 10/19. Heavy rain came in by 6 pm and over 1" was in the rain gauge by morning.

Oct. 20 - 23: Warm days of 68-74 degrees before a completely rainy day on 10/27. It was still warm at 67 degrees.

Oct. 26 - 27: Heavy rains - about 1".

Oct. 28: Rains cleared out but very chilly and windy (42 degrees).

Nov. 6 - 14: Daytime temperatures in the 40's. Nighttime down to freezing.

Nov. 15 - 16: We had steady rain all day. Higher elevations had some snow. High temperature only 37.

Better get the winter snow toys ready. We know it is on the way.



November- December 2007

November

- 21 - 25 No School-Thanksgiving Break
- 22 **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**
- 27 1 pm Senior Citizens Meeting (p. 2)
- 28 1 pm Extra Helping Distribution
- 29 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 30 - Dec 1 Christmas Market in Ti (p. 3)

December

- 5 2 pm Kiwanis Party for Seniors (p. 2)
- 6 7 pm Planning Board
- 8 10 am - 4 pm **HOLIDAY IN HAGUE** (p. 1)
- 8 2 - 5 pm Farewell to Bissell Family (p. 2)
- 9 3 pm Champlain Chorale & Holiday Magic (p. 2)
- 11 6:30 pm Town Board
- 17 noon Senior Citizen luncheon
- 26 1 pm Extra Helpings Distribution
- 20 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

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

ONGOING EVENTS

- 2nd Monday: Senior Bus to Glens Falls
- 1st Monday: Fire Department
- 1st Tuesday: Mohican Crafters
- 3rd Monday: Chamber of Commerce
- 3rd Tuesday: Mohican Crafters
- 3rd Tuesday: Fish & Game Club
- 3rd Tuesday: Sno-goers
- 3rd Thursday: Carillon Garden Club

HAGUE COMMUNITY MEMORY TREE

Each year a felt tree is placed in the lobby of the Community Center containing the names of deceased loved ones or those whom you would like to honor. Donations of \$1.00 per name should be sent to Imogene Frasier, 2 Whippoorwill Lane, Hague, NY 12836. Checks must be made payable to the Hague Chamber of Commerce.

All funds raised are donated to the Hague Emergency Squad by the Chamber. A list of honorees will be published in the Hague Chronicle.



**HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING**



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

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 3  
HAGUE, NY 12836

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT



X/07

Name
Address
State
Zip

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