



VOLUME 37 NO 4

HAGUE, N.Y. 12836

April 2008

#### TV TURNOFF WEEK - APRIL 21-27

Cornell University Cooperative Extension and Warren County Health Services are collaborating for the worldwide TV Turnoff Week 2008 from April 21-27. Families around the globe are being encouraged to turn off their televisions, computers and electronic games for seven days and tune into the world around them.

The purpose of Turnoff Week is to take an extended time from screens and give families the chance to read, be more physically active, converse, think, create and do, rather than view.

Visit the website at [www.cce.cornell.edu/warren](http://www.cce.cornell.edu/warren) and click on "Family Focus" for suggestions on turning off the screen and tuning into your family or visit Warren County Health Services web page at [www.co.warren.ny.us/healthservices/](http://www.co.warren.ny.us/healthservices/).

#### BERRY GROWING WORKSHOP

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) of Warren County (WC) will host an evening workshop for beginner berry growers on Wednesday, April 24th from 6:30 - 9:00 pm at the WC CCE Center on Schroon River Road in Warrensburg, NY.

Berry Specialist, Laura McDermott will discuss the keys to successful berry farming. The talk will focus on strawberries, brambles and blueberries, but there will be some discussion of other minor fruits. Experienced growers, new growers and home garden berry enthusiasts are encouraged to attend.

The fee for this program is \$10 per farm or family for handouts and refreshments. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required by April 21st. Phone 518-668-4881 for registration, questions, directions, or special needs; or e-mail Laurel Gailor, Extension Educator: [lr6@cornell.edu](mailto:lr6@cornell.edu).

#### YMCA HEALTHY KIDS DAY 2008

On Saturday, April 26, 2008, the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks invites families to "put play in your day" and bring healthy habits home during the nation's largest health day for children and families. This special event uses free, fun, engaging and creative activities to encourage children and families to adopt behaviors that support a healthy lifestyle.

Join us as we celebrate national YMCA Healthy Kids Day. From 10 am to 12 noon, we will be at the Ticonderoga Elementary/Middle School providing games, face painting, demonstrations, a bounce house, healthy snacks, and more! Bring your whole family to this free event and fill your morning with fun.

New this year, YMCA Healthy Kids Day also marks the launch of new resources made possible by Eli Lilly and Company. "Starter Kits", providing practical tools for children and parents to work together to embrace healthy habits at home (while supplies last). The YMCA and Eli Lilly and Company have partnered to create Healthy Family Home because it leverages two of the most powerful forces affecting health and well-being: the family home and proven impact of small, sustained changes.

For more information about YMCA Healthy Kids Day, call Doug Sham at 518-543-8833 ext. 249 or visit [www.silverbay.org](http://www.silverbay.org).

#### LGLC SPRING CLEANUP

On Saturday, April 26, 2008 from 10 am to 2 pm, join LGLC staff and volunteers to help clean up Gull Bay's trails for spring in honor of Earth Day and Arbor Day. They will have some tools, but extras are welcome for trimming back branches, clearing debris from trails, replacing trail markers and removing litter. It is planned to enjoy lunch by the rookery, so be prepared with your own food and drink. Pre-register for this April outing by calling contacting LGLC's Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator Sarah Hoffman, at 518-644-9673 or email [shoffman@lgc.org](mailto:shoffman@lgc.org).

#### PART TIME OPENINGS

Clerk for Town Justice  
Secretary for Planning and Zoning Boards

Call the Community Center at 543-6161

#### Vote for Ticonderoga School Budget and Board of Education

May 20, 2008  
12 noon to 8 pm

The Hague Seniors really enjoyed Mae Pagan's T'ai Chi introduction at their March meeting. Everyone got into the spirit of it and in fact, a number of our members followed up and are going to Mae's classes at North Country Community College. It's worth noting here that NCCC offers their classes free-of-charge to citizens 60 and over.

Our April meeting is on Tuesday, the 22nd, and we'll be hosted by the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks. Members should note that we'll be meeting at the Community Center at 1 pm to form carpools for the drive to the Silver Bay Campus where we'll be meeting in Gullen Hall in the main Inn building. The program for the day will be some wonderful old films which were recently discovered in the Silver Bay archives and have been converted to DVD's. The Silver Bay staff will also be offering golf-cart tours for folks who arrive prior to 1:30 pm or would like to stay after the meeting for a tour. We encourage all to attend whether you are a member of the Senior Club or not.

After the April 22 meeting at Silver Bay, the AARP Tax Aide team will be available to help any citizens who have not yet filed a 2007 tax return to qualify for the stimulus payment - generally, these are the folks who would not otherwise have to file a return. Stimulus payment returns can be filed after the normal April 15 general filing deadline. Seniors who would like this help should bring their Social Security statements and any other interest, dividend or pension statements that they have received. The AARP Tax Aide team will complete and submit returns to the IRS.

The Hague Seniors are once again organizing the AARP Safe Driving Course instructed by Charlie Antonetti of Hague, on Wednesday, June 25, 2008 from 9 am to 5 pm. The Club will provide refreshments for the morning break and participants should bring their own "brown bag" lunch.

This driving course is open to all Club members and any other Seniors (50+) in the area. There is a limit on the number of participants so you must sign-up in advance by contacting Club President Judy Stock at 543-6517 or <haguejudy@nycap.rr.com>. Successful completion of this full-day class entitles you to a three-year discount on your automobile insurance with most insurance companies. ...Pat McDonough

Saturday, May 24th is fast approaching, with the Parade Committee diligently completing the tasks at hand to ensure a wonderful celebration for the people of Hague. During the FUNFEST which will run from 10 am to 4 pm you will find the beach packed with many fun activities ~ White Elephant Tables, Crafters, Artists, several Food Concessions, all day WOKO Music plus a Cambridge Band Concert at 12:30, Games for the Kids, Face Painting, Dunking Booth, and of course, Linda Benway's DOG SHOW starting at 9 am.

The GOD BLESS AMERICA PARADE will start promptly at 2 pm, rain or shine, with Dottie Henry as this year's Grand Marshall. Prizes will be awarded as follows: Best in Parade, Best Adirondack Theme, Most Patriotic, Most Creative, Best Youth Presentation and Honorable Mention for adults and youth.

The Committee is well aware that Hague abounds with many clever, creative people!! So let's get those thinking caps on folks . . . plan a float . . . can be big or small . . . for a club group, a family, a single person, a unique decorated vehicle works too, etc. We can't wait to see what you come up with. Also - we still need clowns - remember - dressed as a clown you can have fun acting as 'goofy' as you want and no one will know who you are, so just go for it!

For further information the phone contacts are: Linda Benway at 585-6884 for the Dog Show, Emily Cobb at 543-6325 to help setup for the Funfest, and Madeline Pelkey at 543-6130 to be in the Parade.

We want to thank all those who have donated to the Parade Fund to date. Your generosity makes this celebration possible. For those who still wish to contribute, checks should be made out to the HAGUE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB-PARADE ACCOUNT. Mail to Hague Community Center, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836. ... Madeline Pelkey

HAGUE VETERANS NEEDED

The Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Service need your help! PLEASE! We need Veterans to escort Hague's Memorial Unit. You can march or ride in the parade - Uniforms or Hat would be nice but not necessary. Lineup at the Community Center is 1 pm with parade at 2.

For those who wish to be at the Memorial Service, chairs will be provided. PLEASE, make us proud!! Give Madeline a call at 543-6130.

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

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

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE  
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### NLG ROTARY CLUB NEWS

### HAGUE FISH & GAME CLUB

The NLG Rotary Club is a service club that meets at Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks at 7:30a.m. every Tuesday. A full breakfast is offered before the business meeting and a local guest speaker. Please contact Chip Devenger at 543-8833, x215 for more information. New members are always welcomed.

Emily Palmer an active senior at Ticonderoga High School came to speak to the Rotary Club at Silver Bay in March about her trip to Niagara during her February break. She traveled to the country to work with the North Country Mission of Hope to build homes for women. She visited an orphanage, built a home and brought medical supplies to the citizens of Niagara.

Emily's presentation was very informative giving an insight into the many needs of the people of Niagara.

The up-coming guest speakers are:

May 6th - Mr. Andy Belkevick a "history addict" of Ticonderoga recently from Chilson will be talking about "Forming a Ticonderoga Militia". Andy, a long-standing historical re-enactor recently talked at the Kiwanis Club and has been actively working towards initiating a local militia.

May 13th - Mr. Bill Dolbeck, a Ticonderoga Historian will be talking about "The History of Ticonderoga and the International Paper Mill". He is an avid collector of old Ticonderoga photographs of people and places representing the commercial, industrial and social traits. Bill was born and raised in Ticonderoga and is also the president of the Ticonderoga Historical Society and a Vietnam Veteran of the U.S. Navy.

The Northern Lake George Rotary Club will be hosting an International Dinner representing six continents at the Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks, Gullen Lounge on Thursday, May 15th at 6 pm. Tickets will be \$28 per adult, \$14 for children (6-12) and free for children 5 and under. To have an enjoyable authentic dinner with friends and family, contact the following people to purchase your tickets; Hague: Julie Cook 543-6421; Ticonderoga: Stan Burdick 585-7015 or Walter Thorne 585-6894. The dinner is to benefit the Rotarian's many community projects. ...Beth Barton-Navitsky

### MOVIE & A PIZZA

Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks offers a movie/pizza evening for the general public on the 2nd Friday of each month (through May) at 6 pm usually in Watson Arts Center. It is a fun get-together where neighbors spend a little time with other neighbors. For a suggested donation of \$5 we offer a movie on the big screen as well as pizza, salad, and beverages.

We would appreciate an RSVP before the Friday to ensure that we have enough pizzas for all. The next event will be on May 9th with the movie "Music & Lyrics." ...Chip Devenger

As the ice storm raged across the North Country, the Hague Fish & Game Club's Annual Ice Fishing Contest was another HUGE success. With registrations from all over the North Country many anglers braved the elements with hopes to "HOOK" some cash. Thanks to all of our 30+ Proud Sponsors over \$800 in cash & prizes were awarded on Sunday afternoon at the Clubhouse to many happy fishermen. George Brightly won the Lake Trout, Mike Gibson was the Salmon winner and Alvin Frasier, with a real whopper, won the Perch contest. Plans are now under way for next year's contest. The Club has been in contact with local Northern Lake George "movers & shakers" to plan an even greater contest in 2009.

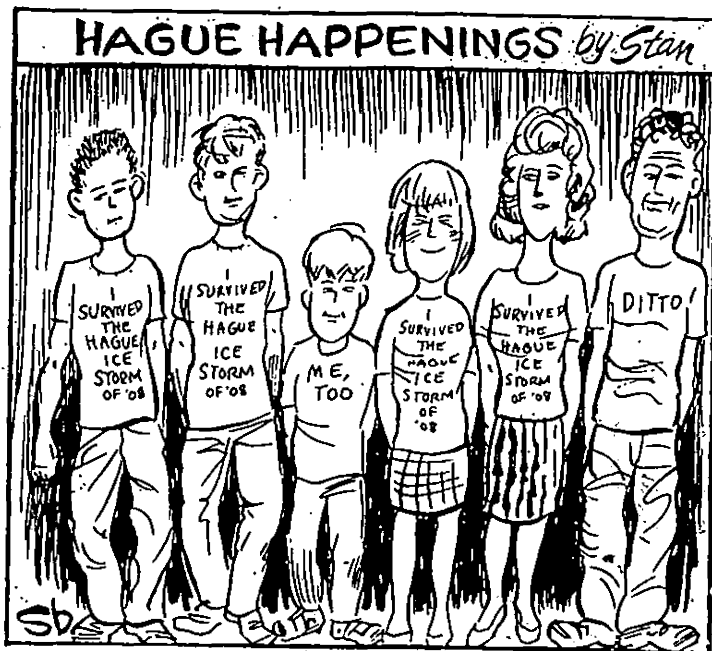
The Hague Fish & Game Club will host a **Hunter's Safety Course** on Saturday April 26th from 9am to 4pm at the clubhouse on West Hague Rd in Hague. Walt Monroe, Director for Warren County Hunter Safety Program, will be the instructor. There is no fee for the class and it is being limited to the first 50 enrollees, minimum age is 11 years old. To register and to arrange to pick up the course books, which must be completed by the course day, please contact the following: in Ti, please call Ed Vosburg @ 585-9030, in Hague, please call Val Lawrence @ 543-6846. Lunch will be provided by the Hague Fish & Game Club. This course is an important step in getting your Certificate to apply for a hunting license. ...Steve Ramant

### HAGUE CHURCH PLANS CONCERT

The Hague Baptist Church will host John Osborne Ministries for a free Country Gospel Concert on Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 7 pm. Everyone is invited.

John will have tapes and CD's for sale and the church will take a free will offering to assist in his ministries as well.

The church is located on Route 8 off 9N.



4/08

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

No comments were given at the public hearings and the Board approved both of the following proposals.

Connolly (26.18-1-8) 9236 Lakeshore Dr. TR-1

Application for a 60 sq. ft. raised walkway added to a legal non-conforming structure.

Sperling (59.20-1-5) 30 Watts Hill Rd. TR-1

Application for construction of a 26 ft. by 32 ft. two-car garage with storage within 7 ft. of the front property line and 12 ft. from the rear property line.

The meeting was adjourned after 15 minutes.

PLANNING BOARD - 4/3/08

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Siwek at 7 pm. Board members Dick Frasier, Rolly Allen, Martin Fitzgerald, Sr., E. J. Siwek, Bruce Clark, John Brown and Pam Peterson were all in attendance.

RYPKEMA (93.12-1-9.1), 7942 Lakeshore Dr. TR-1

Neil Rypkema appeared with a request for an amendment to his application which had been approved by the Planning Board in March. He now wants to build the garage closer to the house and will not be constructing the breezeway to the shed. The garage will be broader and shallower than the previous plan but the height will remain the same. The square footage will be less than the combined total square footage of the previously approved garage and breezeway. The distance from the closest spot on the garage to the lake will be 82 feet.

The Board approved the request with conditions that a satisfactory stormwater management plan is approved by the ZEO and that design changes as discussed will be submitted to the ZEO.

LUKE VENTURES (43.5-1-26) .9077 Lakeshore Drive (Hamlet)

Randy Engler would like to add a Kayak rental shop to his existing office building. No exterior modifications to the building are planned, with the exception of a kayak rack and a sign. This action will be a Type I site Plan Review.

The Board previously approved his request for use as an office building. He will continue to use that building as an office for triathlons but wants to add the rental use. A drawing was submitted for the 2 1/2 foot by 5 foot sign to be suspended from the post currently on the property. The square footage of the sign is within the limit allowed under the Town code. The existing post appears to encroach on the NYS DOT right of way. The underground storage tanks from when the property was used as a gas station also may be on the NYS DOT right-of-way.

The DEC also is involved in an on-going investigation of the underground tanks which they have mentioned in a letter to Mr. Engler with a copy to the ZEO.

The Board noted that issues of responsibility for parking, launching and restrooms may need to be addressed as well as a concern for safety standards and the possible need for a marina permit. The Board did not feel they could take action on the application until other issues are resolved and deemed the application incomplete.

MORE (93.12-1-13) 132 Sabbath Day Pt Rd (TR-1)

Dave More would like to construct a 706 sq. ft. deck within 100 ft. of the lake. On May 6, 2006 the Planning Board approved a 1200 sq. ft addition to an existing structure and a two car garage. The applicant has since decided not to pursue the addition or the garage but would like to put a 12 foot wide deck across the front of the house facing the lake. The closest point from the deck to the shoreline would be 71 feet.

EJ Siwek moved to deem the application incomplete for lack of plans that would indicate the railing and position of the stairs but members are in conceptual agreement with the proposed plans.

SZABO (24-1-35) 9150 Graphite Mtn Rd (OC-1)

ZEO Clark presented copies of the deeds which showed that the stipulation for this six lot subdivision was met under Section 160-61 Gifts, Devises and Inheritance.

Code modification:

ZEO Clark has proposed changes in the zoning code with regard to the definition of "structures." Structures under 100 square feet which are located within the shoreline setback area are treated differently than those not on the shoreline. The intent is to make this more equitable.

After much discussion and attempts at clarification, Chairman Siwek stated that he will circulate among the members a document with the issues for feedback and then bring Town Attorney Dominick Viscardi in to work on the exact language needed.

Pam Peterson requested that the packets of information for meetings be mailed if a member is unable to pick them up from the Community Center. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

PART TIME OPENINGS

Clerk for Town Justice  
Secretary for Planning and Zoning Boards

Call the Community Center at 543-6161

TOWN BOARD - 4/8/08

Present: Dan Belden, Rudy Meola, Dick Gladu, Edna Frasier, Mark Martucci

Dave Decker, Executive Director of the Lake George Watershed Conference, appeared before the Board to update them on the recent work of the LGWC. The LGWC serves as a coordinating group for the various Lake George related towns, agencies and non-profit associations. Decker thanked Supervisor Belden for his aggressive support of the work of the conference.

In a graphic handed out, Decker noted that salt concentrations in Lake George have doubled in the last 20 years; however, it has not appeared to affect the transparency (a measure of clarity) of the Lake. He also noted accomplishments in the treatment of storm water and installation of sewers in the Lake George basin.

One of the key projects is the draining of the delta in Hague. In response to a question from Councilman Meola he said that they will take core samples in June which is the last data needed before the permit application to the DEC. Environmental impact statements had been done previously by the LGA. If the permit is approved in the fall, they will start the mechanical dredging in the following spring using moneys from the Environmental Protection Fund. The LGWC will have a public presentation on core samples and tell what the dredging will be like.

Bruce Clark asked about the cleaning of the stormwater basins. Decker noted that they know where all the basins are located from GPS data and they have funding for 2 years for a contract to clean the basins. For additional information see <lakegeorge2000.org>.

Art Hatfield announced that the Kiwanis have approved \$1000 for picnic tables for the Town Park and hope to have them by Memorial Day. Supervisor Belden thanked Art and the Kiwanis for their continuing support.

Hannah Cole appeared before the Board with a request to use animal traps which have apparently been loaned out by the animal control officer. Control Officer Benway told the Board that they would have to issue the traps since she questioned the use of them in this case. Hannah also asked when other trailers in town would be removed and when the turnaround on Yaw Road would be done. The Board indicated that both of these matters are currently being worked on.

Chris Navitsky, Lake George Waterkeeper, updated the Board on his concerns about the spill of PCB's and mineral oil when a transmitter fell onto 9N below the Ginn's home during the storm. DEC hired a company to contain the hazardous material but when the ice moved in the lake it disrupted part of their containment measures by the Town dock. Mr. Navitsky had warned the DEC about this possibility beforehand. He will continue to monitor the situation and make his concerns known to the Town, the DEC and the LGPC.

Committee Reports:

Assessor/Justice - Councilman Gladu reported that the equalization rate will probably be about 5 points higher which is to Hague's benefit and the results will be known next month. He encouraged residents to get involved in the school budget process [dates on p. 7]. The Board approved the published notice, retroactively, for the position of Clerk for the Town Justice which is currently vacant.

Councilman Meola reminded the Board that the Assessor's office hours are from 8 am to 4 pm on Mondays and they should be posted and followed.

Buildings & Grounds - Councilman Martucci reported on areas in the Community Center where repairs are needed and Councilwoman Frasier said there is need for a complete cleaning of the building from top to bottom including the air ducts which may be a source of health problems.

Supervisor Belden reported that he has spoken to Lara Smith and her son wants to do community service for the Boy Scouts. Custodian Mike Manning will oversee his work in helping to clean up areas that were cited as fire hazards.

Councilman Gladu will contact CNA to set up the testing of water in the various Town locations.

Councilman Meola reported on proposals for landscaping work and the Board awarded the work to DeFranco Landscaping which submitted the lower bid.

Councilman Meola gave a report on the status of the lights purchased in 2005 which were not used. According to his figures, \$33,702.48 was spent for 28 poles and globes, 28 poles and 16 globes were sold to neighboring towns for \$17,850 for a loss of \$15,852.48. 3 of the remaining globes are missing and the 9 globes still at the community center are not salable because the optics and wires are missing.

Finance & Insurance - Councilman Martucci reported that no bids were submitted for an audit. Requests can be sent out again in May when it isn't as busy for auditors.

Council member Frasier reported that the banking options of TD Banknorth and Glens Falls National Bank were compared. The committee recommended TD Banknorth which has the capability for remote digital capture of scanned checks, will give 1.75% on the checking account and 2.25% on a money market account with more than \$10,000.

The recommendation was accepted by a 4-1 vote with the negative vote from Councilman Meola who noted that the Investment Officer [currently the Supervisor] needed to be more attentive to the finances. Councilman Gladu wondered if sweep accounts had been investigated and said the Board should consider the question, "On a daily basis is there a management system that maximizes our return on our checking account?"

Councilman Martucci reported that 3 proposals on insurance had come in and they will meet on April 23rd to go over them.

Fire Dept. - Councilman Gladu said the 1st quarter for the HVFD was over and the accountant was in the process of preparing a report for the Board to review. It was noted that the Board had requested a year-end report which has not yet been received.

Cont'd on page 6 - Town Board

Highway - Superintendent of Highways, Don Smith, estimated that 100 yds of brush have been chipped and brought up to the shed and as much was chipped into the woods. He reminded residents that branches from the recent storm can be piled along the road and the highway crew will remove them by chipping before April 30th.

Councilman Meola repeated a recommendation to improve the work of the department through training on specific items such as the proper way to clean sidewalks in the winter. Planning/Zoning/Stormwater - Councilman Gladu stated that the ZEO has arranged for a training session for Planning and Zoning Board members on May 14th. In response to questions about the members picking up their monthly packets of applications, he said that if members were in town, they are asked to pick them up and if not, they can contact the ZEO to mail them.

ZEO Cathy Clark noted that there is still a vacancy for the position of secretary to the Planning and Zoning Boards. She had previously requested clarification on the Board's desire for inspection of wastewater systems and they agreed to stay with what is being done.

Recreation & Youth - Councilman Meola has the summer program ready to go. He would like to see members of the Chamber of Commerce pulling together to improve the businesses in town. He had talked to a planner who had some ideas but the chamber seemed to feel everything was ok.

Sewer District #1 & #2 - Supervisor Belden said the EPA approval should be done by the end of the week and then a request for bids can put out. The actual start of construction will be after September 1, 2008.

Transfer Station - Councilmen Martucci and Gladu will meet with Casella and try to negotiate some changes in the contract.

#### Under other business, the Board

1. Discussed a proposed letter to TSD School Board. Councilman Meola suggested asking to meet with the Ticonderoga School Board to work on the inequity issue. Councilman Gladu said that the issue is how schools are funded in general. He suggested a letter that would go to the head of the NYS Office of Real Property Services. Mr. Gladu's proposal was approved.

Pam Peterson spoke from the audience and said the Ticonderoga School Board should hold meetings in Hague since we pay half the taxes. Councilman Gladu will talk to Superintendent McDonald.

2. Approved recommended changes to the Employees Manual.

3. Set a date of June 10, 2008 for Public Hearings on the Proposed Noise Ordinance (at 5:30 pm) and the Proposed Dog Control Local Law (at 6 pm). The format will be decided next month. The agenda had called for just a discussion of the Dog law but Bruce Clark urged the Board to include a public hearing for the Noise Ordinance which had never been held. He said, "You owe something to the people who worked for many hours on the noise ordinance."

Councilman Gladu noted that these issues are really about respect for neighbors and personal responsibility. He said, "What happens is that we go through all this effort and then we need to enforce the regulation which costs the Town money."

4. Accepted an offer from Susan Disbrow for her Calliope.

5. Approved an amendment to the 2008 budget on snowmobile contracts

6. Accepted the resignation of Kathi Ramant as Park Attendant.

7. Discussed the issue of water freezing on Pine Orchard Road. The highway department will work on it.

8. Approved \$590 toward Warren County support of the NYS Fire Chiefs Association Convention in Lake George in June.

9. Approved a request from the Hague Fish & Game Club for \$250 toward a hunter gun safety course.

Supervisor Belden reported that Warren County is in a financial bind. It will take a cut in money from the state for social services programs. If the county budget is decreased by 5%, the county will still need an additional \$4 million under the current budget so further cuts will have to be made. Another route is to increase the county sales tax. He noted that only 5 counties still have a 3% sales tax (along with 4% state tax). Of the current 3% tax that is collected from the county, the towns get back 1.5% [which is a major source of revenue for Hague]. Although the County Board will not vote on a raise in the sales tax this year, it is something they will take a look at.

He said the county also must build a Human Resources building since they are currently spending \$60,000 per month in rent. In 2010 the burning plant will be paid off which will relieve some of the budget burden but "2008 and 2009 are tough."

Councilman Gladu mentioned cell towers and rentals and Councilman Meola noted that "All Town organizations receiving money must submit a detailed account on the use of that money and return what is not used." Then the meeting was adjourned after a lengthy 2 hours and 15 minutes.

### ARTS FAIR VENDORS SOUGHT

Vendors of hand-crafted items are being solicited right now for the 37th Annual Hague Arts Fair sponsored by the Hague-On-Lake-George Chamber of Commerce to be held on August 2nd and 3rd. All vendors are invited to participate at a reasonable cost. The show is held at the Hague Community Center, Route 8, Hague, New York. Both inside and outside spaces are available. Deadline for registration is June 15th.

For further information please contact: Karen Laundree at 543-8841 or Judy Schultz at 543-6769 or e-mail <hagueartsfair@yahoo.com>.

### DEFENSIVE DRIVING

A 6 hour Defensive Driving Class will be given by long-time instructor Charlie Antonetti at the Hague Wesleyan Church on April 28th and 29th from 6 to 9 pm each evening. To enroll or for more information call Charlie at 585-3450.

# ~SOUNDINGS~

## COUNCILMAN MEOLA REPORTS

DIED: Steven Frank Tetz, 48, near Princeton, NJ, on March 13, 2008. Steven was the son of Nancy and Frank Tetz of Sabbath Day Point and Saratoga Springs, NY. He is survived by his brother, William of Los Angeles and sisters, Lucinda of Ridgewood, NJ and Barbara of Holland, MI.

Steven loved Lake George and spent many summers at the Silver Bay Association. He volunteered through SBA for helping with the Lake Placid Olympics and was in the press box there during the "Miracle on Ice" when the US beat Russia in hockey. Steve considered this his "mountain-top" experience.

Bruce Tamlyn, SBA Chaplain, will participate in a memorial service for Steven in Blawenburg, NJ at 1 PM on April 19th.

NEW ADDRESS: Ethel Andrus would enjoy calls and visits at the Moses Ludington Adult Home, Ticonderoga, NY, 12883. Her phone is 518-585-4079.

### TI MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

We finally are able to publish the honor roll for the sixth graders. Every one of the Hague students are on the High Honor Roll for both the first and second marking periods and most are on the Sentinel Merit Society as well.

They are: Taylor Coffin, Jeanette Coon, Ty Denno, Sean Lawrie, Kimberly Porter and Rebecca Porter.

For the second marking period, these students in Grade 7 are all on both the High Honor Roll and the Sentinel Merit Society: Grace Ginn, Bryana Goetsch, Chelsea Kearns, Karney Manning and Jordan McKee.

For the second period, these students in Grade 8 are all on both the High Honor Roll and the Sentinel Merit Society: Abigail Gurney, Corey King, William Lawrie and Harley Trudeau.

We can be very proud of the accomplishments of the Hague residents in the Middle School with over 80% of them on the High Honor Roll!

### TICONDEROGA SCHOOL BUDGET DATES

- April 22nd - Hearing on the School Budget
- April 24th - Adoption of budget to go to voters
- April 25th - Property Tax Report Card available
- May 2nd - Latest date for copies of budget to be available
- May 13th - School Voter registration
- May 20, 2008 - Vote on Budget 12 noon to 8 pm

### LGA SCHOLARSHIP

The Lake George Association has announced a scholarship opportunity for graduating high school seniors who will be attending college and plan to pursue studies in an environmentally related field. The LGA will award \$500 to the graduating senior who submits the best essay on the role Lake George has played in the student's life and why the lake and its watershed should be protected for the future.

Essays must be postmarked or submitted to the LGA by Friday, May 30, 2008. For further details see <lakegeorgeassociation.org> or call 518-668-3558.

Last fall as I campaigned for a seat on the Town Board, you welcomed me into your homes and shared your concerns with me about Town issues. I discussed with you the issues I would address if elected. I am now reporting to you on the actions I have taken to fulfill those commitments.

At the first meeting of the Town Board in January I asked that the Glens Falls National Bank also be designated as a depository of Town funds in addition to the long standing TD Banknorth. I also asked that proposals for banking services for the Town be solicited from several banks. The Town Board refused. I continued to make the same requests at subsequent Board meetings. It wasn't until the middle of March that the Finance Committee, not the entire Town Board, met with representatives of these two banks.

For many years it has been the practice for TD Banknorth to pay minimum interest on the Town's various checking accounts while Glens Falls National Bank pays 75% of the Federal Reserve Target Rate on all checking accounts. In 2007 the Federal Reserve Target Rate was 5.25% thus Glens Falls National Bank would have paid 3.94% in interest while TD Banknorth paid 1.31%. With hundreds of thousands of dollars of Town funds sitting in the various checking accounts, the Town of Hague lost thousand of dollars in interest. A case in point: during the month of January 2008 the Town collected and deposited \$1,182,479.44 in taxes. The general fund had an ending balance for that month of \$591,251.38, both accounts earning 1.31% in interest. Glens Falls National Bank would have paid 75% of the Federal Reserve Target Rate. In their new proposal TD Banknorth ties its interest rate to the Federal Reserve Target Rate. This is a big change from the past.

I asked Tim Langlois of Casella Waste Management for a plan to institute curb garbage pickup in the Town. He is still working on the proposal. At each Town Board meeting I keep asking that the appropriate committee work to eliminate the fee being charged on recyclables.

I proposed to the Town Board that we ask for a meeting with the Ticonderoga School Board to discuss the inequity of school property taxes between Hague and Ticonderoga, one of your greatest concerns. Three Board members opposed asking for such a meeting and my proposal was defeated.

I asked the Town Board to allow the taping of monthly meetings and show them on the Ticonderoga Public Access Channel. This would give many people the opportunity to see the workings of their town government. This proposal was rejected.

I have continued to be a proactive representative of all of our residents and will continue to do so. If there is an issue that you would like for me to work on, please let me know.

# Looking Back



Excerpted from the January 1989 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.

## COLONEL MANN REALLY WAS by Ursula Montbriand

Colonel William d'Alton Mann is possibly one of Hague's most interesting characters. .

He really was a colonel. This was questioned not only in this area but in later years among some of his enemies and people who didn't think too highly of him. It was said that probably it was just a pretentious title and he had never earned it but, as you will see, he did:

He was born in Sandusky, Ohio, Sept. 27, 1839, of Puritan stock – possibly descending from the Kentish Manns who arrived in Mass. about 1627 . . His father was a Jeffersonian Democrat, to which philosophy Col. Mann remained faithful . . There were several children in the family – one named Horace but Col. Mann never claimed any kinship to the distinguished educator . . By 1858 he left home for an education as a civil engineer . . there is no mention of his alma mater.

Leaving New York in 1859, he undertook to run an Inn on property left to him in Ohio. This venture was not successful and left him in debt but this did not deter him.

In 1861, Fort Sumter had fallen and Mann applied for a commission in the First Michigan Cavalry, the first volunteer cavalry regiment to take the field. They fought under Gen. Pope in the 2nd Battle of Bull Run. Mann was prominent in suggesting the use of mounted riflemen. Under orders of Sec. of War, he returned to Detroit where he organized the 1st Mounted Rifles. Along with two horse artillery companies, which he raised, this became the 5th Michigan Cavalry. At his suggestion they were armed with new rapid-fire magazine guns.

In 1862 he organized a second regiment, the 7th Michigan, and was given command, receiving his Colonel's commission shortly after his 23rd birthday thereby becoming the youngest Colonel in the Army. .

He was given credit for capturing some of Mosby's men and artillery. Col. Mosby, 'The Gray Ghost', was a famous scout for confederate General J.E.B. Stuart.

The high point of the war for Col. Mann was Gettysburg, (1863) where his 7th Michigan was part of 'the great cavalry fight of the war' – a fierce tournament in a cow pasture – which provided the margin of victory at Gettysburg, itself traditionally the turning point of the rebellion. The regiment was one of four in the Brigade under command of Gen. George Custer . . The previous year Custer had vainly applied for command of the 7th Michigan which went to Col. Mann because he had raised it . . Shortly thereafter Custer was suddenly promoted to youngest general in the Army, despite his having "ranked thirty-fourth in a class of 34" when he was graduated from West Point in 1861.

Custer led the charge . . against Stuart . . then turned aside and Mann and his regiment 'dashed into the open field and rode straight at the confederate line . . Custer's brigade suffered 219 casualties – 100 of these were from Mann's regiment. Even Custer declared, in his official report, 'Colonel Mann is entitled to much credit.'

At his funeral in New York City the coffin was draped with an American flag on which was laid his Gettysburg Sabre. Three Colonels and a Major General attended and a Sergeant from Seventh Regiment sounded taps. He really was a Colonel!

*Watch for Part II of Colonel Mann's story in May*

Researched for *The Hague Chronicle* by the Hague Historical Society

## HVFD EMT TRAINING

The Hague Volunteer Fire Department began a new course in EMT certification in March with four department members among the participants. When completed, this will add much needed strength to our EMT crew.

President Ray Mury recently met with Highway Superintendent Don Smith with a plan for HVFD members to volunteer in assisting the elderly and disabled in removing storm debris from their properties to the roadside for chipping and pick up. In a related matter, Supervisor Dan Belden thanked the Department for their countless hours of volunteer work during the ice storm disaster.

As a part of our reorganization effort, and to cover the many tasks necessary for the department to operate smoothly, the Board of Directors has created ten work groups which will each have the responsibility for carrying out the tasks of that group and reporting monthly on their progress.

The ice is out, and with it comes a word of caution to early season boaters and fishermen. The water is REALLY cold at this time, and hypothermia can occur in a matter of minutes. . . . Joe McCranels

## DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU

A resident recently needed ambulance service, but no local drivers were available and the ambulance from Bolton had to be summoned. There must be many among our readers who can volunteer to be a member of the HVFD ambulance crew. You can support the work of the department and you may help to save a neighbor.

## WITH THE LOWER ADK ARTS COUNCIL

The Celebration of Life Holocaust Project, featuring paintings, drawings, poetry, prose, and PowerPoint presentations from students in 18 area schools, will continue through April 26, 2008 at the Lapham Gallery.

The 2008 Annual Members Show will take place from May 9 - June 15, with an opening reception on May 9, from 5-7 pm. Those interested in becoming new members of LARAC may join as they drop off their work. For additional information contact Diane at 798-1144, ext. 2 or <gallery@larac.org>.

## BUILDINGS BEING SOLD

Sale of the Hague Creek Antiques & Cafe buildings is pending. It is rumored that the new owners may use the buildings for a home and another business would be lost to the Town.

The Town has been greatly served by the attractive buildings and caring owners. Diane Farinick and Carol Pittman have contributed enormously to the pleasing character of our downtown area. It will be a major loss for the Town.



# NATURE NEWS

by Nancy Wotton Scarzello

## Into the Desert

This month I scoot out for a short retreat into the desert of southern Arizona. I'll visit my folks, Betty and Bob Wotton, for a few days in Green Valley (it's really green!) and then head out with a small group of herbalists to a retreat center in a sycamore canyon beneath the towering sacred Baboquivari Mountain in southern Arizona. We'll be studying the native plants, foods, medicines and traditions of the people of the Sonoran Desert. Our leaders include herbalists, a master gardener and an ethnobotanist to teach us about the natural history of the ecosystems and plant communities of the high desert and riparian zones, the Baboquivari peak and the Tohono Oodham people. There will be plenty of time for hiking in the canyon, bird watching, relaxing and rejuvenating among fellow plant lovers.

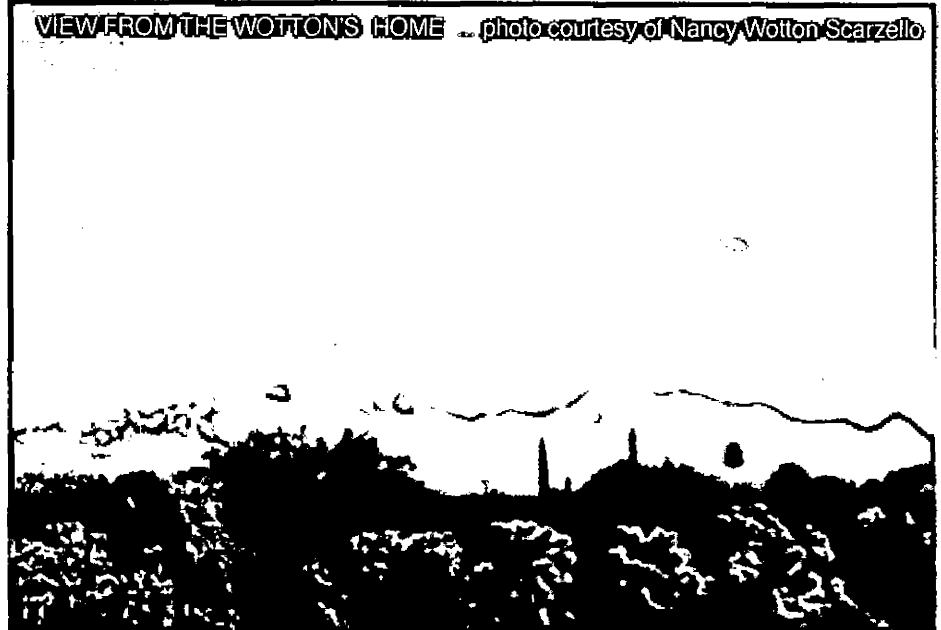
By the time you are reading this I will be back in Hague full-time, clearing the fallen branches that are all over the yard from the ice storms. We had a tree land on the house, but no damage, thank goodness, but I am well aware that there are many less fortunate in that respect and my thoughts and prayers are with you. Happy Spring!

## GILLIBRAND NEWS RELEASES

Congresswoman Kirsten Gillibrand has supported the Traumatic Brain Injury Act [S. 793], bipartisan legislation that coordinates the research and treatment of traumatic brain injuries. This program is critical for the thousands of brain injury survivors who are returning home from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Last year, Congresswoman Gillibrand voted for the largest increase in funding for veterans' health care in the VA's history. The bill increased funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs by \$6.6 billion, which will allow the VA to treat more than 5.8 million veterans, including more than 260,000 veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Gillibrand, a Member of the Agriculture Committee, has also voted in support of an amendment to H.R. 2016, the National Landscape Conservation System Act, to protect hunting and fishing on federal public lands.



VIEW FROM THE WOTTONS HOME ... photo courtesy of Nancy Wotton Scarzello

## WEATHER NOTES

by JoAnne DeFranco

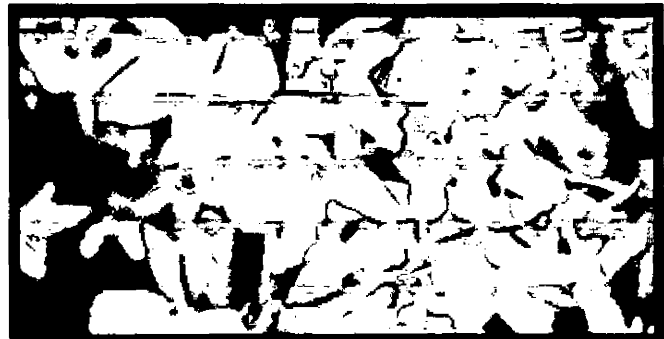
March 17- April 13, 2008:

Since the last report on March 17th, we have seen the daytime temperatures inching up the mercury. The average daytime temperature was 43 degrees. Several days have climbed up to 68 degrees. I even turned off the heat and opened the windows for fresh air at least 3 days during the week of April 7-12. Saturday, April 12th was one gorgeous day. It was 68, sunny, and just peachy. The weatherman had predicted rain. April 12th was the warmest day since last October and just right for raking up the yard. One day later, Sunday April 13th, we saw snow showers most of the day.

The ice started to move around a bit on April 2nd. By Monday, April 7th it was starting to break up with a south wind blowing it into the west shore. Tuesday, April 8th the wind was still from the south but stronger. By afternoon the lake was clear from Sabbath Day Point to Arcady Bay with the Hague Bay area still frozen. By April 9th the ice was out in the north basin from Tongue Mountain to Ticonderoga. The next day I saw a lone boater out there.

Precipitation in the form of snow occurred on 3/15, 3/19, 3/28, and 4/4 amounting to 7.5". Precipitation in the form of rain occurred on 3/20, 3/31, 4/1, and 4/11. Rivers and streams are high with snow melt and rain. Lake Champlain is nearing 100'.

If you are anxious for spring flowers, you can force forsythia indoors. I picked a bouquet of stems on April 1st and it took about 10 days for them to open.



April - May 2008

April

- 14 - 21 No School - Spring Break
- 22 1 pm Seniors meet at CC; carpool to SBA
- 24 7pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 26 10 am - 2 pm Healthy Kids Day (p.1)
- 26 9 am - 4 pm Fish & Game Safety Crse (p.3)
- 26 7 pm Baptist Church Concert (p. 3)

May

- 1 7pm Planning Board
- 13 6:30 pm Town Board
- 14 3 pm Planning & Zoning Mtg (p.6)
- 15 6 pm Rotary International Dinner (p. 3)
- 20 noon-8 pm School Budget & Board of Ed Vote
- 22 Next *Hague Chronicle* mailed
- 22 7 pm Zoning Board of Appeals
- 24 Memorial Day Celebration (p. 2)

ONGOING EVENTS

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

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

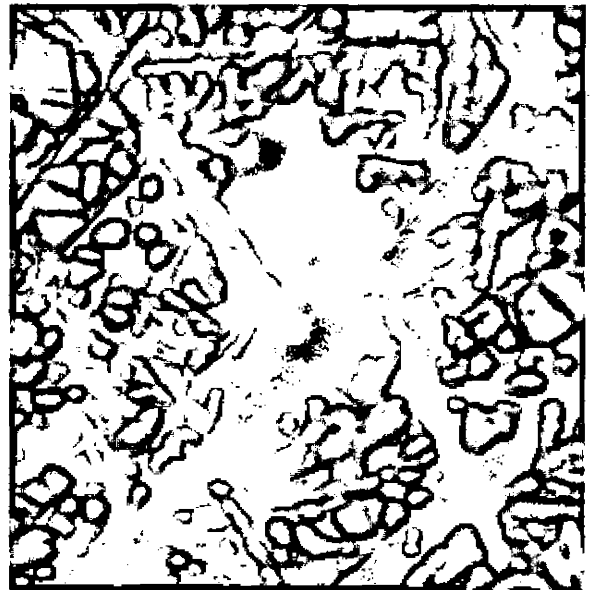
Tuesday, June 10, 2008

5:30 pm - Proposed Noise Ordinance  
 6:00 pm - Proposed Dog Control Local Law

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Wednesday: 9 am to 4 pm  
 Saturday: 9 am to 4 pm  
 note: these hours continue for April, May & June

CLEAN UP DAYS  
 JUNE 13 & 14, 2008



Gertrude Raczkowski took this picture of a brave cardinal on March 9, 2008, at the height of the ice storm.

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

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