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Hague, New York 12836  
April 2019

## MEMORIAL DAY 2019

by Maureen Cherubini

The 17th Annual FUNFEST and Parade will be held in Hague on Saturday, May 25, 2019.

**CALLING ALL VETERANS** - We are still seeking ALL military veterans to march or ride in the parade along with Hague's Memorial Unit. Uniforms would be great, but are not necessary. Just contact me at 518-543-6463 or email me at [mmcherubini@aol.com](mailto:mmcherubini@aol.com).

Anyone interested in being a vendor, marching in the parade, entering a float, having his or her band play, or helping should also contact me. It's not too late.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## MAIL SERVICE IN HAGUE SPORADIC

Hague residents say that the mail service has been sporadic since September when a popular and longtime mail carrier familiar with the town was reassigned. Several replacements have been hired and have quit. Residents and town board members say their appeals to the US Postal Service have been unsuccessful.

Deputy Supervisor Steve Ramant said he has given up getting any satisfaction out of Albany and is working with elected representatives in DC to try to resolve the issue.

*(Continued on page 3)*



## ICE ON OUR LAKE

by Anthony DeFranco

The question most people ask this time of year is: "Has the ice gone out yet?" Whether you own a dock on the lake or just enjoy summertime activities like boating or swimming, you want to know when the ice goes out. It's a sign that summer is on its way. As of this writing (April 8, 2019), the answer is, "No, it has not gone out yet, but that could change any day."

Calm, cold nights in January and February helped the lake freeze over. The ice formed, continued to expand, and then pressure ridges formed along the shore.

There is a constant debate: Does the ice actually "go out" on Lake George? Ask anyone who has a dock on Lake George and they can attest to the fact that the ice moves with an almost unimaginable force when the prevailing wind pushes it toward Ticonderoga or, if there is a north wind, back into Hague. For this reason, there are locations on the lake where the only option



*Ice breaking up on the shore of Lake George in Hague. Photo courtesy of Anthony DeFranco.*

*(Continued on page 3)*

## SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

I would like to thank everyone for coming out and making our St. Patty's Day party a great success. Thirty-two people were at the event. There were many prizes given out and lots of fun and laughter.



On April 12, 2019, we took a trip to Saranac Laboratory Museum followed by a visit to the Adirondack Carousel. Then we had lunch at the China Buffet.

The meeting for April will be on the 23rd at 1:30 pm. We'll be discussing the Memorial Day Parade and the White Elephant Sale, setting up the tents, and doing the marking. Please come to the meeting so you'll know what's happening and how you can help. As the saying goes, "Many hands make light work," so please help make it more fun and easier for all involved.

On May 3rd, we'll be heading down to the Automobile Museum in Saratoga and we'll have lunch at a location to be announced. Tentatively, on May 10th, we'll go to Skene Manor in Whitehall for a tour followed by lunch.

On the 25th of May, we'll be busy with the Hague Memorial Day Parade and the White Elephant Sale. ■

## TENTATIVE ASSESSMENT ROLL

The Tentative Roll will be available for inspection after May 1, 2019 at the Hague Community Center, Monday - Friday from 9 am to 2 pm.

Sole Assessor David Martucci will be in attendance (by appointment only) on the following dates: Monday, May 6th, Monday, May 13th, and Monday, May 20th from 10 am to 2 pm and Saturday, May 18th from 4 to 8 pm. Call 518-543-6161 for an appointment.

The Board of Assessment Review will meet on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 from 4 to 8 pm at the Hague Community Center to hear complaints. Complaint forms (RP 524) are available at the Community Center or online at [https://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current\\_forms/orpts/rp524\\_fill\\_in.pdf](https://www.tax.ny.gov/pdf/current_forms/orpts/rp524_fill_in.pdf). ■

## DONATIONS MADE TO THE BESTE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

by Kathy Santaniello

Several people and organizations made donations to the Beste Scholarship Fund between May 2018 and March 2019. We sincerely appreciate everyone's continued support, now enabling us to expand the awards to include up to four years of higher education.

### THE DONORS WERE:

Bruno and Dorothy Brauner, The Hague Oktoberfest Committee, Jules and Gale Halm, Richard and Susan Liddell, Lu and Linda Megow, The Northern Lake George Rotary Club, and Christopher and Anne Parlin.

The following donations were made in memory of Tom James: Robert Gladding, Don and Audrey Lehn, Carolyn Losey, Deborah Phillips, and Sal and Kathy Santaniello.

The following donation was made in memory of Bob and Shirley Bryant: The Bryant-Taylor LLC.

It's never too late to give! Send your donations to:

"The Beste Scholarship Fund,"  
c/o The Hague Community Center,  
PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836. ■

## HVFD

by Meg Haskell

During the month of March, we had 11 fire calls and drills with 127 volunteer hours. The EMS squad had seven calls with 37.5 volunteer hours.



We are sad to report the deaths of two members this month, Gene Moran and Pat Swinton.

Nate Swinton and Macie Peer attended the training for Fire Police and are now certified Fire Police Officers. Congratulations to both!

We'll hold our annual Open House on April 27, 2019 at the HVFD from 10 am - 2 pm. We'll be serving hotdogs and hamburgers, offering free car washes, and doing blood pressure checks. Stop by and visit!

Please remember, there is a burn ban in effect until May 14th! ■

## ROTARY TALK

The Northern Lake George Rotary and the Silver Bay YMCA will host a talk on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 7 pm in the William Boyd Center Conference Room at Silver Bay YMCA. The presentation will be "Geology of the High Peaks." The speaker will be Michael DiMarco, geologist and Town of Hague resident. It is free and open to the public. ■

## TICONDEROGA CENTRAL SCHOOL CALENDAR 2019-2020

The Ticonderoga Central School District Board of Education approved the following calendar:

First Day for Students — Sept 5  
Last Day for Students — June 26  
Parent/Teacher Conferences — Nov 25 (No school for students)

### School will NOT be in session:

October 14
November 11, 26 - 29
December 23 - 31
January 1 - 3, 20
February 17 - 21
April 13 - 17
May 25

## MAIL SERVICE IN HAGUE SPORADIC

*(Continued from page 1)*

At the March town board meeting, town officials and residents said, if anything, the situation is getting worse.

"We still have people calling saying they haven't gotten their tax bill," Supervisor Edna Frasier said.

Post Office Spokesman Mark Lawrence said officials are aware that troubles have arisen in finding a replacement. He said, "We are not aware of reported widespread misdeliveries, however if delivery issues are experienced, customers are asked to call 800-ASK-USPS (800-275-8777). This allows the opportunity to address the specific problem as well as document the occurrence."

Ramant indicated the route was reassigned after a count came in just below the threshold for a satisfactory number of customers. The US Postal Service has blamed the "economy of the location" for the reassignment. But Ramant said the study was done in March when summer residents are not in Hague. He also said the study does not take into account the difficulty of the rural, hilly route. He said he has volunteered to go along with new carriers to show them the ropes, but his offers have been declined.

Ramant also said that the mail does not arrive to our local post office pre-sorted, which causes new carriers more time and aggravation. ■

*Adapted from an article in the March 28, 2019 issue of the Sun Times by Tim Rowland*



*Photo courtesy of Sandy Powell*

## ICE ON OUR LAKE

*(Continued from page 1)*

is to have an articulating dock. But, ice ridges along the shore can still damage even these docks. Sandy shorelines can even be pushed up, creating a distinct mound of soil along the water's edge. Nothing is really safe on large bodies of water like Lake George unless it is completely out of the water.

At this time of the year, the sun gets higher on the horizon and becomes stronger, the temperatures rise, and the days lengthen. The ice begins to shrink and turn a darker color, it softens at the surface, the ridges sink back down into the water, and large plates of ice fracture apart. These sheets of ice can shift back and forth from the north to the south, moving "up and down the lake" as the wind intensifies. The ice sheets almost dance around with the breeze as if synchronized! The wave action breaks up the edges of the large sheets into tiny ice particles that float and make a distinct, mesmerizing, tingling noise with the waves. It is charming.

A few years ago, we witnessed the ice moving out and down the lake toward Ticonderoga. Six to eight-inch thick sheets of ice scraped along the side of a boathouse like a slow moving locomotive rolling down the tracks. It left the wooden boathouse shaking, shuttering, and creaking with the crackling sounds of lumber splintering. We



*Two photos above courtesy of Anthony DeFranco*

wondered if the boathouse was going to break off its crib and take a ride toward the LaChute River! Fortunately, it survived that spring ice-out with minimal damage, as do most docks and boathouses.

Last season was truly a rough ice-out; damage to docks was at an all-time high, creating a three to five-year backlog of dock repairs due to the shortage of dock builders in our area. Let's hope this year will be kinder to us!

And so, we continue to wait patiently with anticipation for exactly when and how the ice will go out, bringing the open water to again enjoy summer on our lake.

■

## MEMORIAL DAY 2019

*(Continued from page 1)*

### Here is the schedule of events:

10 am to 4 pm: FUNFEST

FUNFEST at the Hague Town Park will include Mike's Karaoke Machine, Cambridge Band, Up Yonda Farms, Penelope the Clown, Teresa's Face Painting, crafters, jewelry, spices, the White Elephant Sale, games for the whole family, a bounce house, and a food concession by the Hague Fish & Game Club, where hot dogs, burgers, soft drinks, and more will be served.

2 pm: PARADE

The parade from the Hague Community Center on Route 8 to the Hague Town Park on 9N will feature Grand Marshal Lu Megow, Seniors of the Year Emily and Bill Cobb, and bands, floats, clowns, classic cars, and more.



After the parade:  
MEMORIAL DEDICATION SERVICE

A memorial dedication service will be held at Hague Memorial Park. The speaker will be Dr. John C. McDonald, Jr., the Superintendent of the Ticonderoga Central School District. The prizes for the following will be announced at that location after the service: Best In Parade, Most Creative, Most Patriotic, Best Adirondack, Most Humorous, Best Youth, and Honorable Mention for Adult and Youth. Also after the parade will be A CHICKEN BARBECUE at the HVFD on West Hague Road.

*SPONSORED BY THE SENIOR CLUB and sanctioned by the Hague Town Board*



## 9N ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

As you can see from these recent photographs, progress is being made on the 9N road construction project. Holes were drilled through rocks for large steel H-beams to be placed and cemented. Wooden timbers are now being stacked horizontally against the beams so fill dirt can hold the slope in place and support the roadway. No confirmed completion date has been reported to us yet. ▣



*Photos courtesy of Sandy Powell.*

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 3/28/2019**

Chairman Robert Goetsch and Board Members Maureen Cherubini, Jon Hanna, Lindsay Mydlarz, Chris Navitsky, and Ray Snyder were present. Linda Mury was absent.

**HANNA (93.16-1-40) 36 Sabbath Day Point Road (TRIR)**

Jon Hanna recused himself and the board approved the request for a new 14' x 28' shed on the roadside of their property, 2' from the sideline and 2' from the frontline, replacing a 12' x 25' legal nonconforming shed from the lakeside of their property.

**MATO PROPERTIES, LLC. (12.18-1-15.1) 9574 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)**

The owners are applying for a variance to convert a large (4,000 sq. ft.) single-family dwelling into a two-family dwelling. The building was formerly a restaurant first called Indian Kettles and then called The View. The board deemed the application incomplete and requested documentation on dock permitting, stormwater management, and site potential for installing a septic system. ■

**PLANNING BOARD OF APPEALS - 4/4/2019**

Chairman Dick Frasier, Deputy Chair Pam Peterson, and Board Members Martin Fitzgerald II, Meg Haskell, and Judy Gourley were all present. Dan Belden was absent.

**FRASIER (25.3-1-11.1) 9427 Graphite Mountain Road (OCI)**

Dick Frasier recused himself. The applicants requested a Sketch Plan Review of this 79.09-acre parcel to subdivide it into four parcels. There were no concerns.

**MATO Properties, LLC (12.18-1-15.1) 9574 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)**

The applicants are applying for a variance to convert a large (4,000 sq. ft.) single-family dwelling into a two-family dwelling. The building was formerly the restaurant called Indian Kettles and later The View. It was noted that the Zoning Board of Appeals deemed the application incomplete at their last meeting. A site visit will be held.

**WHITE (26.10-1-25) 63 Friends Point Road North (TRIR)**

The applicants would like to demolish a legal nonconforming cottage and rebuild a new cottage on the same footprint. The square footage would increase by six percent. The application was deemed complete and a site visit will be held.

**TOWN OF HAGUE (25.2-1-33 & 36) 170 West Hague Road (OCI)**

The town would like to install a six-foot-high chain link fence, with gates, along the front of the properties, to secure materials and equipment. Commercial use allows up to an eight-foot high fence. A site visit will be held. ■

**TOWN BOARD - 4/9/2019**

Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Jack Bast and Joshua Patchett were present. Martin Fitzgerald II and Steve Ramant were absent.

A moment of silence was held for Pat Swinton, Dolly Kennedy, and Robert Myers.

The board held a public hearing on the SEQR for the proposed Solar Code. They agreed that there was no environmental impact and there will be another public hearing on the final law.

Donna Wotton, Executive Director of the Ticonderoga Alliance, reported that a feasibility study conducted with regard to a connection with North Country Community College and local groups for technology education has now been completed. Unfortunately, it found that NCCC would not be able to sustain the relationship, so Ti Alliance has turned to other projects. It has partnered with the Ticonderoga Schools to create a brochure listing all the trade programs in the area. Copies of these brochures are available at the Hague Community Center. Ti Alliance is also working on an internship program with Ticonderoga students and area businesses.

Kevin O'Brien of Upstate Insurance appeared before the board to make sure it had received a check his company had sent when the town did not renew its insurance with them. He also requested that a reason be given for the lack of renewal. Supervisor Frasier told him she would be in touch.

ZEO Cathy Clark reported on the meeting that Supervisor Frasier, Councilman Ramant, and she attended with members of the Sno-goers and the Lyme Timber Company. She characterized it as a good meeting and said that Lyme Timber will not be logging in the Fly Brook area for another 25 years. They have put up a fence to prevent ATV and other off-road use, but will open it for the snowmobilers next winter.

ZEO Clark also mentioned that she has attended county meetings where discussions were held about requiring a bed tax from home rentals. Further action will need to be taken by the towns involved.

Supervisor Frasier read a request from Claire Best to use the Community Center for Osteobuster Exercise classes. The board approved it.

The board passed a resolution to be sent to New York State in support of snowmobiling and requesting that they increase the number of snowmobile trail miles to the original number approved for the Adirondack Park. ■

**HAGUE CHRONICLE NEWS:**

Please send all news items to Editor Bobbi Bryant Taylor at: [editor@thehaguechronicle.org](mailto:editor@thehaguechronicle.org).

## SOUNDINGS

**DIED:** Mildred P. Stout, 93, of Farmingdale, NJ and Hague, on March 10, 2019. She and her husband Bob began vacationing at Silver Bay in 1959 and, in 1979, purchased a home in Hague from the Turners. They opened their Hague house as early as the weather allowed and were here until Columbus Day Weekend every year. Mildred loved Hague, Lake George, and the Adirondack and Vermont regions.

She was predeceased by her husband, Robert W. Stout, and her daughter, Mary Elizabeth.

She is survived by her son, Richard, and his partner, Victoria Stewart, of Hague; her daughter, Melanie Lanz (Kerwin), of Farmingdale, NJ; and five grandchildren: Ian, Rory, Wesley, Hillary, and Abbey.

**DIED:** Patricia A. Duell Swinton, 79, of Hague, on March 22, 2019 at her residence.

Pat lived most of her life in Hague and Crown Point. She was a kind and loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She enjoyed her many years of working at Silver Bay YMCA. She was a long-time member of the Hague Volunteer Fire Department and the Women's Auxiliary.

Patricia was pre-deceased by Richard Myers, Frank Swinton, and her life-long friend, Gary Boyd.

She is survived by her eight children: James Smith, Karen Jean Gannon, Betty Ann Hotaling, Richard Smith, JoAnn Smith, Rick Myers, Robert Myers (Tracy Winch), and Angela Swinton; four step-children, Kenny Swinton, Kevin Swinton, Eddie Swinton, and Jack Swinton; and two granddaughters, Anna Hayes and Caitlin Myers, both of Hague. ▣

## HAGUE'S OLDEST RESIDENT HAS DIED



Dorothy "Dolly" C. Kennedy died on April 1, 2019 at her home in Hague. Dolly, who was born in Hague in 1818 and spent every summer here, celebrated her 100th birthday with her many friends in the community last September. According to her wishes, this wonderful celebration was all that was needed, so there will be no calling hours and a private family burial will take place at Valley View cemetery in the future.

Dolly's stories of her memories of life in Hague over the last 100 years were a treasure trove for local history buffs. Some of her stories are recorded in past issues of *The Hague Chronicle* and others in documents and videos in the Hague Historical Museum.

Dolly married J. Edsal Case and during World War II was a secretary to the Air Inspectors at Air Force bases in North Carolina and Utah. After Ed's death in 1959, she married John J. Kennedy and after retirement, they moved to Hague year-round.

Dolly was past president of the New Horizons Literary Club and past vice president of the Carillon Garden Club of Ticonderoga. She was an active member of the Rotary Club, the Hague Senior Citizen Club, the Northern Lake George Yacht Club and the Hague Historical Society. She played golf and duplicate bridge for over 60 years.

She was pre-deceased by her husbands, James Edsal Case and John J. Kennedy. Survivors include one daughter, Pamela Peterson of Hague; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. ▣

## HAGUE MARKET OPEN FOR SEASON

The Hague Market is now open for the 2019 season. The market is open 7 am - 5 pm Monday through Saturday and closes at 4 pm on Sunday. ▣

## QUIZ BOWL TEAM MAKES NATIONALS

For the second year in a row, the Ticonderoga Quiz Bowl team has qualified for the National Academic Championships in Washington, D.C. To get there, the team placed third among 23 teams from seven counties.

The team consists of

Michael Fitzgerald, son of Heidi and Mickey Fitzgerald II of Hague, Ethan Kerr, Aidan Porter, and Natalie O'Neil. Natalie also qualified for the Individual Player National Championships Tournament in Chicago.

The Quiz Bowl is an academic challenge with different formats and a broad range of categories. Ticonderoga team members say they have varied strengths that complement each other in terms of subject matter and personality. ▣

Adapted from the *Sun Times* March 30, 2019 article by Tim Rowland



*Ticonderoga High School students Michael Fitzgerald, Natalie O'Neil, Aidan Porter and Ethan Kerr*

## LEE AND BOB WOODRUFF WIN AWARD

Lee and Bob Woodruff of Silver Bay and the Bob Woodruff Foundation were recently awarded the 2019 "Ticonderoga Award for a Continental Vision" by the Fort Ticonderoga Association for their significant work helping wounded service members, veterans, and their families thrive long after they return home.

"Fort Ticonderoga is thrilled to honor hometown heroes Lee and Bob Woodruff and the Bob Woodruff Foundation for their impactful work," said Fort Ticonderoga President and CEO Beth Hill. "Our mission is to preserve, educate and provoke an active discussion of the past and its importance to present and future generations. We foster an ongoing dialogue about subjects, citizens and soldiers through our nation's military heritage. Connecting the extraordinary work that the Woodruffs are undertaking to support soldiers and veterans was an obvious connection to Ticonderoga where we



explore issues surrounding service. These issues are as hotly debated today as they were during our nation's founding era."

"Ticonderoga is one of the most pivotal places in our nation where we fought for democracy," said Lee Woodruff. "We are honored that the Fort Ticonderoga Association has recognized the Bob Woodruff Foundation as an organization that keeps alive the legacy of caring for American veterans."

The Bob Woodruff Foundation (BWF) was founded in 2006 after Bob

Woodruff, a reporter, was hit by a roadside bomb while covering the war in Iraq. Since then, the BWF has led a call to action for people to stand up for heroes and meet the emerging and long-term needs of today's veterans.

To date, the BWF has invested more than \$57 million to Find, Fund and Shape™ programs that have empowered impacted veterans, service members, and their family members across the nation.

For more information, visit [bobwoodrufffoundation.org](http://bobwoodrufffoundation.org) or follow it on Twitter at @Stand4Heroes. ■

## SALT REDUCTION PROGRESS

Lake George Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky told a meeting of the Adirondack Park Agency in March that the Fund for Lake George knew they'd need to earn the cooperation and respect of the people who drive the snow plows for the town if they were going to reverse the 40-year trend of escalating salt use.

"They were not believers at first, and they did not want us coming into their garage," Navitsky said. "But for the initiative to work, we needed to have a discussion with the people who are actually behind the wheel applying the salt."

The drivers wanted proof that they were using excessive amounts of salt and they were able to view the hard data. Navitsky said that then the drivers went from skeptics to interested participants.

Everyone involved had the same goal: that the roads be made as safe as possible during winter weather. So, the Fund for Lake George has been showing how those results can be achieved while



*Lake George Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky speaks to the Adirondack Park Agency. Photo by Tim Rowland*

saving the towns money and the drivers time.

According to the Fund for Lake George website, "sodium chloride levels in Lake George have tripled since 1981...Each year, 13 tons of road salt is applied per lane mile in the Lake George watershed for a total of 15,000 tons annually. At least another 15,000 tons are applied on private roads and walkways."

Navitsky said the initial equipment buy-in was admittedly expensive, but towns will recoup the cost in time. For example, a

special plow blade with a flexible edge gouges out pockets of ice that a regular blade would skip over, reducing the need for salt. Navitsky said that tough hills like Tongue Mountain in Hague can stay just as clear with less salt and fewer passes of the plow.

Brining the highway before the storm is also being done to reduce salt use.

Higher salt levels in lakes can kill off the small creatures that feed on algae, leading to increased blooms that have become an increasing threat to New York lakes and beaches.

Since recreation and fishing are central to the Adirondack economies, Navitsky said towns are realizing it is in their economic interests to cut back on the use of salt. ■

*Adapted from an article by Tim Rowland in the March 28, 2019 issue of the Sun Times.*

## WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by Mike Strutz

In the February issue, I wrote about the inner workings of a typical septic tank. Not much to talk about since, in its simplest form, it's merely an empty, watertight tank.

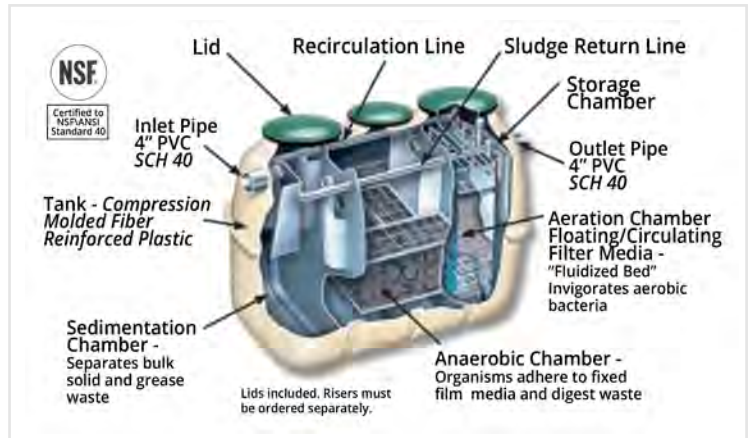
Watertight is the key thing to remember. Many tanks that are installed around the lake are more than 30 years old and, more than likely, suffer from typical issues such as rust in metal tanks or pitting/cracking in concrete tanks, both of which cause leaks. Some estimates are that 60-75 percent of the septic systems in the Lake George basin would not pass inspection. Many would also not pass current building codes, which have setback requirements for distances between the tank system and the lake,



“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”

tributaries, and drinking water wells.

This is where advanced treatment technology is a perfect fit. One unit that is being used extensively worldwide (over 10 million installed) and in the Lake George basin (about 40 installed) is the Clarus “Fusion” system. As shown in the diagram, the system combines the normal sedimentation and flotation of solid waste found in a typical septic tank, with removal of dissolved pollutants through anaerobic and aerobic treatment chambers. Biochemical oxygen demand (an overall measure of pollution) can be reduced from a 200-mg/l level in the effluent of a



standard septic tank, down to 10-20-mg/l, a level typically found in a well-operated municipal secondary treatment plant. It basically eliminates the need for an extensive drain field. The effluent, after UV sterilization, can be discharged into a dry well. This works well for lakeside properties where ledge and poor soil create challenging situations. Such is the case in Dunham's Bay, where many of

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## NATURALLY SPEAKING

by Connie Smith

I hope you celebrated the Worm Moon on March 20, when the full moon and the vernal equinox (the time of the year when the day and the night are of nearly equal length) coincided. Native Americans named full moons for events that occurred with them, so the “Worm Moon” is the time of the year when worms are springing to life.

The word “worm” has been used to describe a cowardly or pitiable person which would seem to make the earthworm the Rodney Dangerfield of the animal world. They “get no respect,” but they should. Without them, the earth would be a very different place.

Worm castings or manure is the end product of the breakdown of organic matter by earthworms. These castings have been shown to contain reduced levels of contaminants and a higher saturation of nutrients than the organic materials contained before the earthworms ate them. Plants readily

absorb the worm castings and need only minimal efforts to obtain minerals in simple forms because the earthworms grind and mix them. The worms' digestive systems create environments that allow certain species of microbes to thrive to help create a soil environment for plants. The soil that goes through the digestive tract of earthworms is called drilosphere.

So, they are more than just fish bait! Earthworms create tunnels in the soil by burrowing which aerates the soil to allow air, water, and nutrients to reach deep into the soil. Worms eat decaying vegetation or leaves, which plants cannot access. However, the plants can access the worm's castings.

The worm's segmented body helps the worm to move. Each segment has muscles and bristles, which anchor and control the worm's movements through the soil. The earthworm uses segments to either contract or relax independently to cause the body to lengthen in one area or contract in other areas.

Earthworms breathe through their skins. Oxygen and carbon dioxide



Photo courtesy of USDA NRCS.

pass through the worm's skin, which must be kept moist. This is why worms usually surface at night when it is probably cooler and the evaporating potential of the air is low. Even though worms do not see, they have tissue located on their heads that is sensitive to light. When the worms detect light, they do not surface during the daytime.

The next time you are hiking in the woods or admiring a lovely garden, give a special thank you to the earthworm that aerates and fertilizes the soil and helps plants to grow. The earthworm is helping Mother Nature keep our Earth a healthy place to live.



## WATER QUALITY MATTERS

continued from page 8

these systems have been installed. Studies by the FUND for Lake George have shown improvement in near-shore waters where these units are being used.

If you think this is new technology that is not tried and proven, think again. First developed over 50 years ago, the design and operating simplicity have been tweaked through continuous improvements since then. It will fit into the space of your current septic tank. If you are thinking of upgrading your current system or are building a new home in a tight situation, you might want to consider this or similar technology for your application. Keep in mind that these units require an annual service contract to ensure efficient operation.

Eric Murdock, P.E., has been involved with installations in our area and has also taught the procedures for septic tank inspections in the Town of Lake George and in Queensbury.

Further information can be obtained from Eric at [eric@onsite-engineering.us](mailto:eric@onsite-engineering.us) or by visiting his company website at [onsite-engineering.com](http://onsite-engineering.com).

Information on the Clarus Fusion system can be found at [clarusenvironmental.com](http://clarusenvironmental.com).

Visit the Hague Water Quality Awareness Committee on Facebook or contact one of our Steering Committee members: Al Rider (Chairman), Jim Beaty, Lance Clark, Ginger Kuenzel, Josh Patchett, Steve Ramant or me. ■

## SPRING IN HAGUE

by Chris Parlin

Spring has sprung. Somewhere. Somewhere, but not in Hague, where winter's icy grip continues with a freshly fallen shroud of snow. Winter will not last forever, though.

Some glorious sunny morning the apple trees will be in full bloom and the peepers will begin their nightly chorus. Spring has come to Hague. ■

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION TEAM RECEIVES DONATION

The Substance Abuse Prevention Team of Essex County, Inc., known as "The Prevention Team," has received a \$1,250 donation through the Stewart's Holiday Match Program. Stewart's Shops will also be advertising The Prevention Team on their shop television networks, social media pages, and website.

The funds will support the "Girl Strong Program" (formerly "Girls Run 4 Fun"). Girl Strong helps young girls understand their personal power and responsibility to make decisions that support a healthy lifestyle. During the spring, they meet weekly with their adult coaches to build essential life skills and personal habits. With the program's emphasis on both social-emotional and physical health, the girls participate in activities that promote self-care, a healthy diet, positive relationships, and physical activity.

This year, approximately 150 girls in grades four through six will be involved in the program from schools in Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Moriah, Westport, Willsboro, and Keene, as well as from St. Mary's School.

Sophie Hubbard from Hague is participating in the program. ■

## CUMMINGS ON LGLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) is pleased to announce the appointment of Glens Falls and Bolton resident Paul Cummings to its board of directors.

Cummings is a Senior Planner and Project Manager at The Chazen Companies, a multi-disciplinary engineering, planning and land-surveying firm with an office in Glens Falls. His extensive background includes working with various land trusts, nonprofits, and municipalities to identify conservation priorities and strategies and developing smart growth land use plans that focus on sustainability and preservation of natural and cultural resources. He is also skilled in public participation and using a number of mapping, visualization, and data management technologies, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Cummings has a Master's degree from the University of Albany in Urban and Regional Planning, Environmental Planning and Community Development, is AICP and LEED® AP certified, and has trained at the National Charrette Institute (NCI). He lives in Glens Falls with his wife Katy and their two young sons. ■



## TASTE OF TI

Annual Ticonderoga Heritage Museum's Taste of Ti is coming to the Best Western Plus on Thursday, May 16th, 2019. The yearly event is a major fundraiser for the museum. It features "tastes" of foods prepared by local restaurants; everything from appetizers to desserts.

Appetizers will be served starting at 6 pm, with dinner following at 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$17.50 per person and can be purchased at the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce office, Libby's Bakery and Café, or by calling Jane Bassett at 518-585-6178. A cash bar will be available.

Please join us for an evening of fun with friends and family. There will be door prizes provided by local businesses, basket raffles, and a 50/50 drawing. Thank you for your support. ■

## STREETFEST 2019 REGISTERING MERCHANTS AND VENDORS

The 11th Annual StreetFest will be held on Saturday, July 27, 2019 in Downtown Ticonderoga from 10 am to 3 pm. It is a day-long celebration with sidewalk sales, shopping, a variety of food, live entertainment all day, arts and crafts, kids' activities, and much more. Details are being finalized for this event and the music and entertainment schedule will be available as the event gets closer. It is free and open to the public.

Robert Dedrick is this year's StreetFest chairperson. The StreetFest Committee is in the process of registering merchants and vendors for the 2019 celebration. Vendors, including downtown merchants, area businesses, retail stores, restaurants, food vendors, non-profits, artisans, farmers, arts and craft vendors, and vendors with local handcrafted products are encouraged to participate. Vendors, non-profits and organizations looking to participate must offer something that will enhance the event (i.e. an item for sale, a kids' activity, etc.); information-only booths are not allowed. Downtown Ticonderoga and other merchants are asked to have products for sale and to create exciting displays in front of their business that will attract customers to their business locations.



*Image from a previous StreetFest, courtesy of TMSP.*

The 2019 vendor fee is \$40 before May 24th and \$50 after that date. There is no fee for Montcalm Street merchants and businesses. The deadline to register is July 12th. Space is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you are interested in participating in StreetFest, you must fill out a Merchant/Vendor Form and be approved. Merchant and Vendor applications are available at [www.timainstreet.org](http://www.timainstreet.org) or by calling 518-585-6619. Completed applications can be returned to the Chamber Office at 94 Montcalm Street, Suite 1, Ticonderoga. Checks should be made payable to "TMSP."

Call 518-585-6619 or email [tmstp@timainstreet.org](mailto:tmstp@timainstreet.org) for more information. Stay up-to-date on StreetFest news by liking and following the Ticonderoga Montcalm Street Partnership and the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook pages. You can also visit [www.ticonderoga.com](http://www.ticonderoga.com). ■

## TRIATHLON COMING



The Hague Endurance Festival, which was held in Hague last summer,

will now be the Ticonderoga Triathlon Festival and will be held at Black Point Beach in Ticonderoga on June 22 and 23, 2019, produced by Wilson Endurance Sports (WES). Live music and a festival atmosphere will make this a fun weekend event.

There are many options for athletes of all ability levels; the focus is on fun and fitness. There will be the Sprint Triathlon and AquaBike, Olympic Triathlon and AquaBike, Duathlon, and Kids Triathlon. Relay Teams are welcome for the adult triathlons and the duathlon, making these events perfect for those who aren't ready to jump in by themselves, but want to share the fun with co-workers, friends, or family members.

There will be a volunteer party on Friday evening with a fire pit, pizza, and refreshments. Volunteers will get their work assignments and event t-shirts then.

Each participant will receive a race t-shirt, finisher medal, food from The Wind Chill Factory, and Southern Tier Brewing Company post-race beer.

This year, a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Ticonderoga Area Backpack Program. For more information, to register, to volunteer, or to become a sponsor, visit the website at [www.CoachMarkWilson.com](http://www.CoachMarkWilson.com) or call 914-466-9214. ■

## TACC SEEKS SPONSORS

The 17th Annual Fundraiser Dinner and Auction for the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will be held on Friday, June 14, 2019, at The Barn at Lord Howe Valley. The theme of this year's event is "Americana - A Flag Day Celebration." The community's support is deeply appreciated and makes the services, programs, and

efforts of TACC possible. This event will be their premier fundraiser of the year.

To accommodate various levels of support, TACC is seeking monetary contributions, auction items, or a combination of the two. The following sponsorship levels are available:

Chamber Champion at \$1,000; Diamond at \$750; Platinum at \$500; Gold at \$250; Silver at \$125; and Bronze for under \$125.

All donations must be received by Monday, June 3, 2019. They can be mailed or dropped off at the TACC office in Downtown Ticonderoga during normal business hours or arrangements can be made for them to be picked up.

Sponsors will receive recognition for their level of contribution during and after the event in a variety of ways. ■

## FUNDRAISER AT MADDENS PUB

There will be a fundraiser for the Best 4th in the North Celebration at Maddens Pub in Ticonderoga on Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 6 – 9 pm. The 2019 Grand Marshal for the Best 4th will be announced during the event.

The proceeds will be the tips that the guest bartenders receive. The current list of bartenders includes:

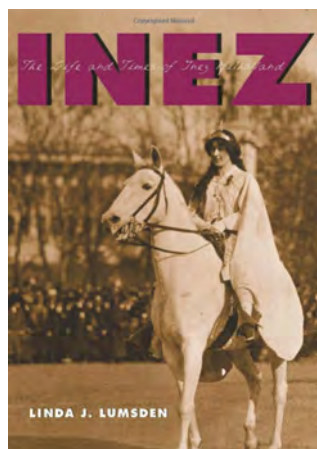
6 – 7 pm: Brian Little and Pat Titus

7 – 8 pm: Mickey Fitzgerald and Chuck Gijanto

8 – 9 pm: John Beeman and Cory Thompson

For more information, visit [www.timainstreet.org](http://www.timainstreet.org) or the Best 4th in the North Facebook page or contact the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) at 518-585-6619. ▣

## TICONDEROGA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S "BIG READ"



As a part of its ongoing programming related to women's suffrage, the Ticonderoga Historical Society (THS) invites readers across the region to join them for a "big read" project focusing on the life of famed suffragist and Adirondack resident, Inez Milholland.

*Inez: The Life and Times of Inez Milholland* is a 2016 biography by Linda J. Lumsden. The book provides insight into the life – and untimely death – of Milholland and it traces Milholland's evolution into one of the most charismatic and influential women of her time.

"Inez was a born activist," says Historical Society Program Manager Diane O'Connor. "From her early years until the time she collapsed and died at age 30, she was working at the forefront of

important social causes that included, but certainly were not limited to, women's right to vote. She was certainly not a plaster saint, but a very genuine person, and her story will be of interest to everyone who takes part in this project."

The project kicked off on April 15, 2019 with e-mail and Facebook updates and discussions. Those reading the book are encouraged, but not required, to register with the THS to receive e-mail updates regarding the project. Registration can be done via e-mail to: [tihistory@bridgepoint1.com](mailto:tihistory@bridgepoint1.com) or by calling 518-585-7868.

Readers may purchase the book from the THS, borrow one from the THS, or borrow one from a local public library.

An in-person discussion group will be held at the historical society's Hancock House headquarters in August. If enough participants are interested, a field trip to the Inez Milholland grave in Lewis will be planned. ▣

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## LIFE'S TRANSITIONS AND CHANGES WORKSHOP

Is there a person anywhere who has not experienced many life changes, both major and minor; ones that bring happiness or sadness?

Recently at gatherings or meetings, discussions of transitions in people's lives and how they cope with them have often come up. People lose jobs and must resort to Food Pantries; family members become ill and there can be financial and emotional devastation; new parents are overcome with joy, but must learn to cope with added responsibility; and, of course, we all face aging and retirement.

Reverend Tyler and the Mission Committee of First United Methodist Church of Ticonderoga have been pondering these questions for some time. They are offering a workshop that is FREE and open to the public on Saturday, May 11, 2019 from 8:30 am to noon in the FUMC Fellowship Hall.

The workshop leader will be Reverend Bruce Tamlyn, Pastor and Spiritual Life Director at Silver Bay YMCA. He has been training, studying, and practicing human relations improvement for the past 25+ years and is a favorite presenter in our area and beyond.

If you would like to acquire some new coping skills or suggestions to aid you through life's transitions, please join us. Call 518-585-4470 or 518-585-7995 for more information. ▣

## MASON/STAR DINNER

A roast beef dinner, sponsored jointly by the members of Mount Defiance Lodge No. 794, F. & A.M. and Fort Ticonderoga Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, will be served Friday, April 26, 2019, from 4:30 - 6 pm in the downstairs dining hall of the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street. Take-outs will be available. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children 12 years old and under and will be sold at the door. Parking will be available along Montcalm Street and at the Hancock House. ▣

## THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

## CALENDAR

April 2019

### APRIL

23	1:30 pm	Senior Club Meeting
25	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
27	6 – 9 pm	Fundraiser at Maddens Pub

#### TRANSFER STATION HOURS:

September 2 through June 30

Wednesday: 10 am to 4 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

### MAY

2		Tentative Roll Assessment available
2	7 pm	Planning Board
11		Transition Workshop at First United Methodist Church
13		DEADLINE for the May issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>
14	6 pm	Town Board
16	6 pm	Taste of Ti
23	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals
25		Memorial Day Celebration in Hague
27		TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
28	4 – 8 pm	Board of Assessment Review