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COVID-19 UPDATE

As of May 16, 2020:

All NY residents need to wear a mask or face covering when in situations where they are unable to socially distance.

LOCATION	CASES	DEATHS
Worldwide	4.56M	308K
US	1.47M	88,237
NYS	346K	22,304
Warren County	219	28
Essex County	30	0

Sources:

— <https://www.statnews.com/2020/03/26/covid-19-tracker>


— Additional source statistics can be found [HERE](#).

Local resources during COVID-19:

Warren County Public Health –
518-761-6580


Mental Health Assistance –
518-792-7143

Domestic Violence Assistance –
518-793-9496

State COVID-19 Hotline –
1-888-364-3065 

NY STATE PARKS

For information on the status of New York State Park facilities during the pandemic, visit: parks.ny.gov.

For information relating specifically to COVID-19 and state parks, go to: https://parks.ny.gov/covid19/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery. 

NEW YORK STATE'S PLANS TO REOPEN

The status of the New York State restrictions due to COVID-19 changed on Friday, May 15, 2020 when Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that regions of the state that meet certain criteria would be allowed to re-open. Re-opening refers to non-essential businesses; essential businesses already open will remain open.

The re-opening criteria are:





- 14 days of decline in total net hospitalizations
- At least 30% percent surge capacity in total hospital and ICU beds available
- The ability to conduct 30 COVID-19 diagnostic tests for every 1,000 residents per month
- Having a baseline of 30 people who can serve as contact tracers for every 100,000 residents

The North Country Region, which includes Essex County, met those criteria and started the first phase of re-opening on May 15th. Warren County is in the Capital Region, which has not yet met the criteria, mainly due to the numbers in metropolitan Albany.

The <https://forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard> provides information on where each region in the state stands with reference to meeting the above requirements for reopening. This site is updated daily.


In Phase One, the following industries will be allowed to re-open if they meet guidelines:

- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Retail - ONLY Curbside Pick-up
- Wholesale Trade
- Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting

 <p>Phase 1</p> <p>Construction Manufacturing Wholesale Trade Select Retail for Curbside Pickup Only</p> <p>Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing</p>	 <p>Phase 2</p> <p>Professional Services Finance and Insurance Retail Administrative Support</p> <p>Real Estate, Rental, and Leasing</p>
 <p>Phase 3</p> <p>Restaurants and Food Services</p>	 <p>Phase 4</p> <p>Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation Education</p>

Details about each of the four phases of re-opening are outlined at <https://forward.ny.gov/industries-reopening-phase>.

A phased re-opening focuses on getting people back to work and easing social isolation. But, it is not back to business as usual. We are all adapting to a new normal. Please continue to practice these precautions:

- Wear a face mask when in public spaces
- Wash/sanitize hands frequently
- Limit trips and gatherings 

GOLF COURSE OPENS



Opening Day at the Ticonderoga Golf Course was Friday, May 1, 2020. It was great to see golfers again walking the beautiful course.

On May 16, 2020, NYS declared golf essential! Golf carts may now be rented by anyone. Go to ticonderogagolfcourse.com to book tee times. Keep to one rider per cart unless from the same household.

The club has these protocols in place:

- Practice proper social distancing (six-foot minimum)
- Only one group will be on each hole at a time
- Book tee times and pay online
- Arrive five minutes before tee time
- Follow instructions on signs on the course

The pro shop staff is all back. To buy pro shop items, go online or call 518-585-2801. ▣



Exterior Clubhouse photo courtesy of Mickey Fitzgerald

HAGUE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

by Meg Haskell

For the month of April, we had three Fire and EMS calls and drills using a total of 40 volunteer hours.

As ambulance captain and chairman of the Warren County EMS advisory group, I am in daily contact with the state and local officials who are monitoring COVID-19.

Thankfully, the numbers in the North Country continue to decrease. Please be sure to use social distancing and frequent hand washing as well as wearing a mask in public as these are the best ways to stop the spread!

We will be serving a drive-thru chicken barbecue dinner on Saturday May 23, 2020 from 4 - 6 pm. It will include one-half of a chicken, corn-on-the-cob, baked potato, and a roll for \$10. All proceeds will benefit the HVFD. ▣



HAGUE BOAT LAUNCH TO OPEN

According to Town Councilman Steve Ramant, the Hague Town Boat Launch will open on May 22, 2020 and will have mainly weekend hours until July 1st. ▣



TICONDEROGA CENTRAL SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021

The Ticonderoga Central School District Board of Education approved the following calendar for 2020-2021:

First Day for Students: Sept 3 Last Day for Students: June 25
Parent/Teacher Conferences: Oct 30 (No school for students.)

Days when school will NOT be in session:

September 7	December 23 - 31	April 5 - 9
October 12	January 1, 18	May 31
November 11, 23 - 27	February 15 - 19	June 28 - 30



COVID-19 TESTS AT HUDSON HEADWATERS IN WARRENSBURG

On Tuesday, May 5, 2020, Hudson Headwaters Health Network expanded its COVID-19 testing at the Warrensburg Health Center. This test detects the virus that causes illness; it is not the antibody test that indicates whether someone has been exposed to COVID-19 in the past.

Any community members (not just established Hudson Headwaters patients) who are currently experiencing symptoms, as well as those who believe they have been exposed to COVID-19, even if asymptomatic, can make an appointment to be tested.

COVID-19 symptoms may include headache, fever over 100.0 F, cough, chest congestion or shortness of breath, chills and shaking with chills, nausea and vomiting, diarrhea, muscle pain, or loss of taste and/or smell.

The test requires a sample to be collected using a naso-pharyngeal swab, which is inserted deep into the nasal cavity. "The test is unpleasant, but it is not what I'd call painful and it only lasts for a few seconds," said Dr. John Sawyer, chief medical officer at Hudson Headwaters.

Hudson Headwaters says they will submit claims for testing to patients' insurance companies. They stated that no one would be turned away due to insurance status or inability to pay.



Physician Assistant Molly Merkel collecting a sample from a patient

Call Warrensburg Health Center at 518-623-2844 to schedule the required appointment.

Testing may be available at other locations in Warren County. Check with your usual healthcare provider.



CHASING THE COVID-19 BLUES

by Chris Parlin

An out-of-state friend asked what Angie and I were doing in Shelburne, Vermont to keep body and soul healthy during this trying time of the prolonged stay-at-home mandate.

We get up at dawn and exercise. When we got tired of exercising to old Jack LaLanne workouts, I thought that Hide and Seek would be a novel and fun way of getting exercise; Angie readily agreed. We wore our masks (in case we came across any early morning dog walkers) and roamed around our condo neighborhood.

We had a ball until a nervous neighbor saw me hiding in the bushes next to his unit and called the cops. As a result, we had to move our game inside. Who would have thought that two adults playing Hide and Seek in a three-floor townhouse could be such fun? Angie usually wins. She's so much

smaller than me that she can hide in places where I can't. Two mornings ago, it was in the cabinet under the sink in the kitchen.

All this exercise creates hearty appetites. We've found that a pitcher of Cuba Libres makes a great substitute for orange juice. (Ernest Hemingway would approve.) Good exercise and large breakfasts serve as the prelude to our first naps of the day.

Then, we devote the afternoon to mental stimulation. After trying several different activities, we've hit upon acting out Shakespearean sonnets and plays. "To be or not to be" is tiring, so after that, it's time for our afternoon naps.

Angie showcases her great cooking at dinner, except on those nights when I open the Fannie Farmer cookbook and fix whatever recipe is on the randomly-selected page. Who knew that Spam with Velveeta is actually quite tasty? The hardest part that

night was picking the right wine pairing; I decided on a cheap retsina.

This is an average day for us. Nothing extraordinary. Just a Mister Rogers-like "beautiful day in the neighborhood."

We returned to Silver Bay on May 15th and, with social distancing restrictions still in place, we assume our routine will continue, with some variations, for weeks to come. Hide and Seek and naps will remain essential parts of every day.

But, what else is there to do in the Silver Bay/Hague area? Snipe hunts in the woods with family and friends (all masked and at least six feet apart, of course), weekly trips to see how much more cardboard is in the dumpster at the Recycling Center, and water ballet routines (it'll be like the hippos in *Fantasia*). We'll start with these as we ponder other exciting ways to chase the COVID-19 blues.

I hope one and all stay safe (and sane). ▣

TOWN BOARD - 5/12/2020

Present were: Supervisor Edna Frasier and Board Members Jack Bast, Martin Fitzgerald II, Joshua Patchett, and Steve Ramant. A moment of silence was held for Marilyn Patchett, Kaye Parlin, and Rod Geer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Buildings/Grounds: Fitzgerald/Patchett - Maintenance has been repairing the bathrooms at the park.

Highway: Ramant/Bast - They are working at Coldwater Canyon and seeking FEMA funds. Highway Superintendent Smith is doing sidewalk repairs on Route 8. A contractor will do the pour. The costs are the town's responsibility. Concern was expressed that another storm could wash out the sidewalk again if the wall is not repaired by NYS first.

Personnel: Bast/Fitzgerald - The town will be posting for the position of Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) after ZEO Clark researches other towns' salaries.

Planning/Zoning: Fitzgerald/Patchett - Clark has been doing site visits and checking on enforcements. Public hearings for the Planning and Zoning Boards will be held when the governor lifts regulations on gatherings.

Town Park/Beautification: Ramant/Frasier - Madison Derrico and Leo Lucas (sub) have been hired as park/boat launch attendants, joining Bob Gavaletz, Wally Peterson, Jr., Wally Peterson, Sr., Karen Lucas, Judy Gourley (sub), and Beth Navitsky (sub). The boat launch will open Friday, May 22, 2020. New protocols will be posted. The board decided: only personnel will be allowed in the building; the public restrooms will remain closed at least until the renovations are complete; the beach will be closed and there will be no lifeguards on duty or buoys in the water; the Visitor's Center will be closed and informational pamphlets will be displayed; and the boat slips will remain available for boats to dock. Next month, the board

will re-visit these issues based on NYS and Governor Cuomo's guidelines. It will decide then whether to close the park for the season and whether Music in the Park and the Independence Day fireworks will be held.

Environmental Concerns: Ramant/Patchett - The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) is matching the funds for the Knotweed Control Project.

Sewer District #1 and #2: Bast/Frasier - Hague Sewer Law Enforcement Status Report:

Background:

- In February 2019, 22 property owners had not yet connected, as required. First Notices of non-compliance were issued requiring connection by 12/31/2019.
- At its 10/8/2019 meeting, the board extended the deadline to 12/31/2020.

As of May 8, 2020:

- Nine properties are now in connection compliance.
- Four properties have appealed and have been granted extensions due to land issues.
- Seven properties were issued Second Notices on 4/23/2020 by ZEO Clark, legally informing them of their continuing non-compliance and the 12/31/2020 deadline. Clark is tracking these.
- Two properties are expected to connect shortly.
- Progress is being made toward achieving 100% compliance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Landfill: Scales are being purchased. There will be designated times for contractors. A plan for clean, segregated recycling is needed.

2. Census: Residents need to complete the 2020 Census as the town relies on the funding that comes from it. Frasier said only 15% of the town's residents have completed it so far.

The board went into an executive session to discuss the request for consideration for health insurance by the Town Clerk. ▣

FIREHOUSE RESTAURANT

Sheri DeLarm and Cris Ginn, owners of the Firehouse Restaurant in Hague, have told *The Hague Chronicle* that they will not be opening the bar or dining room of the restaurant this summer, but they plan to offer dock/curbside pick-up only, probably beginning in June. ▣



THE HAGUE MARKET AND JUNIPER ON 2

During these difficult times, as we are all dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a lot of uncertainty about what businesses will be open this summer. Residents of Hague have been wondering if The Hague Market and Juniper On 2 will be open.

Owners, Jim and Sally Rypkema did a "soft opening" of the market on May 16, 2020 and look forward to a busy summer season. Juniper On 2 will be opening soon at a date yet to be determined. ▣



SOUNDINGS

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Dennis Steven McDonough on graduating cum laude from Fordham University's Gabelli School of Business. Dennis is the son of Kevin and Heather McDonough of Silver Bay and the grandson of Pat and Dennis McDonough of Hague and North Creek, NY. Well done, Dennis!

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Cassie Martucci, who recently graduated magna cum laude from Siena College with a BA in English, with a minor in Education. Cassie is the daughter of Dave and Bonnie Martucci of Hague and the granddaughter of Jacques and Faye Thibeault (both deceased) and Robert (deceased) and Kay Martucci, all of Hague. Impressive job, Cassie!



The Hague Chronicle is happy to publish important happenings in the lives of our readers. Please send announcements of births, marriages, graduations, anniversaries of 50/55/60/65+, awards, or deaths to editor@thehaguechronicle.org and we'll publish them as space permits. Thank you.

HAGUE SNO-GOERS

by Thomas Haskell, President

Right now, all of our club activities are on hold. Hopefully, we can have our club meeting in June as we do not have meetings in July or August. Our Super Raffle will be drawn on June 6th. There are over 50 prizes including three snowmobiles plus great getaways and cash. We are hoping to resume trail work beginning in June after mud season.

The forum our club members will be attending in Syracuse has been rescheduled again. The new date is August 27-29, 2020.

We hope everyone stays safe and positive. ■

DON'T DELAY THE CARE YOU NEED

Illnesses and injuries happen. During the COVID-19 pandemic, University of Vermont Health Network providers have found a concerning trend: *people are delaying the care they need*. Out of concern for coronavirus infection and to reserve care for critically ill patients, people are deferring care and smaller health concerns are growing into larger ones.

"The disasters of delaying care are more real than viral exposure at this time," says Amanda Young, MD, Medical Director of Hospital Based Services and Emergency Medicine at Porter Medical Center. "During this pandemic, I have seen ruptured appendices, advanced heart damage due to the delay in coming in for a heart attack, skin infections that need surgery, bowel infections that have invaded the bloodstream, and even an infected ingrown toe nail that was in jeopardy of amputation."

At Elizabethtown Community Hospital, the Emergency Department is finding the same reluctance from patients in need of care. "We are very concerned about community health and to respond, we have put processes in place to minimize potential risk of exposure – and any small risk far outweighs the risk of delaying care for these medical conditions," says David W. Clauss, MD, head of the Emergency Department at Elizabethtown Community Hospital and its Ticonderoga Campus.



Emergency departments and urgent care facilities across the network have made the following changes:

SCREENING - All employees arriving for work are screened with health questions and a temperature check. Employees who screen positively are sent home. All arriving patients and visitors are screened at the front desk.

MASKING AND PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) - All employees are required to wear masks, including the front desk staff that perform patient screening upon arrival. All patients are required to wear masks. Scrubs are required for all employees to minimize infection transfer. Employees change into scrubs when they arrive at work and leave them to be laundered at the hospital. All employees working with COVID-19 patients wear PPE.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING - Many front desk staff are separated from patients and visitors by clear acrylic partitions. For most COVID-19 patients, registration is conducted by phone to minimize exposure. Positive COVID-19 patients who are ill are placed in separate, negative pressure rooms (prevents airborne cross contamination from room to room) that are cleaned according to current CDC guidelines.

Expanded eHealth video visits and telehealth appointments are available across the network to allow secure, video conferencing appointments between patients and providers. To learn more about this care option, visit www.uvmhealth.org/COVIDvideo.

"Anyone with an injury or concerning symptoms should feel very comfortable that we have a full range of care available and that we have altered our processes to minimize any potential risk of exposure," says Dr. Clauss. "People should not hesitate to come into the Emergency Department or Urgent Care, especially for symptoms that concern them." ■

WATER QUALITY MATTERS

by Mike Strutz

Trophic State. Sounds like some state of mind after consuming too much alcohol during happy hour.

In fact, Trophic State refers to the general water quality classification of a lake based on algae growth, phosphorus levels, and water clarity. If a lake accumulates too many nutrients, the natural process called “eutrophication” is accelerated. This accelerated growth of plants and animals causes a depletion of oxygen in the water as their remains settle to the bottom of the lake and decay.

Did you know there is a “dead zone” in the southern basin of Lake George that forms in late summer where no fish can live due to the lack of oxygen? Fortunately, this is a small area compared to the overall size of the lake. Projects including upgrades to the Village of Lake George sewage treatment plant, septic system replacements, and storm water runoff



“Dedicated to Protecting the Water Quality of Lake George”

reduction are all underway to address the problem.

Generally speaking, Lake George is classified as Oligotrophic. This type of lake is characterized by cool, clear, low-nutrient water. Plant life is relatively sparse and shorelines tend to be rocky.

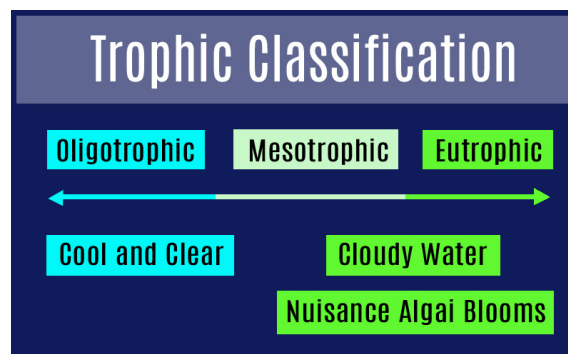
On the other end of the scale, Eutrophic lakes are characterized by cloudy water, high nutrient levels, and relatively high levels of plant growth. When nutrient levels are high and the temperatures are just right, nuisance – and sometimes harmful – algal blooms can result.

Mesotrophic is used to describe lakes that are between Oligotrophic and Eutrophic. They are characterized by medium levels of nutrients, medium relative levels of plant growth, and reduced water visibility. Certainly, some of the shallow, weedy bays on Lake George may look more Mesotrophic than the rocky, steep shorelines of Hague. Local factors affect the water quality.

In the Town of Lake George Septic Initiative Program (see articles in

previous issues), the term “Trophic Index” was used to describe areas that need focus for nutrient reductions. Algal biomonitoring identified species that were more commonly found in Mesotrophic or Eutrophic water bodies. About half of the testing sites during the 2016-2017 study were “impacted” by local sources of pollution.

How does the water look where you are?



For more information on how you can help, please 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. ■

NATURALLY SPEAKING

by Connie Smith

Here's a question that has been troubling me for days, so I'm making the answer the topic of this article.

My question is: “Why is Hague Brook called a brook? Why isn't it Hague Branch or Hague Creek?” My puzzlement led to other questions: “Is there an order to water terminology?” For instance, “Does a run become a branch, then a brook, then a creek, and then a river?” Here are some answers, but don't expect specifics.

There is no “International Standards Committee” to dictate the ranking order of the various terms available for a watercourse. There is no strict delineation based on the flow, channel width, depth, or any other attribute. Geologists use “stream” for any body of running water from a small trickle to a huge river. By definition, a stream is a

body of running water that is confined in a channel and moves downhill under the influence of gravity, regardless of the size. Therefore, by that definition, a river is just a large stream.

Some sources define rivers as waters that are usually hard to cross, often are navigable, and have bridges across them. A brook is a small stream that flows swiftly in rugged terrain of lesser length and volume than a creek, which may be navigable by a boat.

So, Hague Brook is aptly named. It flows swiftly. It is in rugged (a broken, rocky and uneven surface) terrain. If it were longer or had a greater volume of water, it would be Hague Creek, but how much longer or what greater volume is unknown.

One popular saying is “You can step over a brook (not in Hague you can't), jump over a creek, wade a stream, and swim across a river.” Are you still confused? I know I am.

Regional terms like a run, such as Bull Run in Virginia, is a small stream. Kill from the Middle Dutch word “kille,” meaning a riverbed or water channel, is used in New York with “creek” or “river” added to them, such as Fishkill River or Catskill Creek.

According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), a brook is simply a small stream. A creek is a natural stream of water normally smaller than and often a tributary to a river. A river is a natural stream of water of considerable (how considerable one might ask) size and larger than a brook or a creek. That's it. Remember, I warned you about a lack of specifics.

Some may find this lack of strict parameters disturbing, but maybe it actually gives us freedom. Individuals or groups of people have the power to call their watercourse whatever they wish. Hague Kill sounds deadly. Hague Run sounds cowardly. Yes, Hague Brook sounds just right to me. ■



AMERICADE 2020 AND COVID-19

As of May 15th, Americade, one of motorcycling's most popular touring rallies and a signature event for the Lake George region for nearly 40 years, will still be held in 2020. Americade organizer Christian Dutcher announced that the events, traditionally held the first full week of June, will be held the week of July 21 – 25, 2020.

"The health of our community and our guests is paramount, but it is our sincere hope that by late July, it will be possible to bring Americade back to Lake George as long as there are no federal, state or local regulations that would preclude it," Dutcher said. "We will be very sensitive to public health concerns. We will conduct Americade 2020 in a manner that is respectful of the terrible ordeal this pandemic has caused."

The 2020 "touchless" Americade will emphasize current public safety protocols including social distancing, handwashing, and scenic tours rather than large group gatherings. Organizers will comply scrupulously with health and safety guidance and work closely with Warren County Public Health Services.



"Americade gives many people the opportunity to get out on the open road, see some of the most scenic and remote places and breathe the fresh air of the Adirondacks," said Dutcher. "So many people have reached out to us and asked us to try to find a way to keep the tradition alive this year. This year, we will pay tribute to the heroic work of our

local first responders and frontline hospital workers and, in their honor, organize a special fund-raising effort among our visitors, vendors, and participants."

Senator Betty Little said, "Americade is a tradition that motorcycle enthusiasts from all over the country look forward to each and every year. Canceling the event not only would be a major disappointment, it would be a big financial loss for the region. It is great news that Americade will happen, though a little later in the summer, but no doubt with the same enthusiasm and at a time critical for the recovery of many of our small businesses."

The Visitor Center at the Hague Town Park is currently CLOSED.

If things improve, it could possibly be open for the Senior Café to operate during Americade, but probably not. ▣

TROUT BROOK BOARDING

by Pat McDonough

Living in a small town has its advantages and disadvantages, but, in Hague, one of the many advantages is a local place where we can board animals. If Uncle George or Aunt Bethany arrives for a week's visit with a shedding golden retriever, you can board the dog right here in town at Trout Brook Boarding! That's an advantage!

As we learned from owner Olivia Van Wert, "Trout Brook Boarding opened at the end of September 2019 after we bought the property previously known as Meadowbrook Boarding and Grooming. We provide dog, cat, and horse boarding services. The previous owner, Lara Smith-Ryder, continues to run her grooming business here as well." Presently the Van Werts are boarding nine horses and they have the capacity to board 25 dogs and five cats.



Gerrit Van Wert, Olivia's husband, grew up in Ticonderoga and they were happy to return to this area last summer. They were eager to start their next venture. "Having both grown up around many animals and knowing the important role they play within our family, it was a natural fit to open up Trout Brook Boarding. Our mission is to provide the care, attention, and love that we would want our furry friends to receive when we are away," stated Olivia.

The community certainly welcomes Olivia and Gerrit and is pleased to have their services available.

As one local dog owner and frequent client of Trout Brook Boarding reports, "They are a lovely couple and we are very happy with the service they provide."

We wish them well in their new endeavor. ▣

LOOKING BACK

A HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF HAGUE

Compiled by Diane Frasier and Laura Meade for the August 14, 1987 Celebration of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution



Hague, once known as Rochester, is nestled in the Adirondack Mountains on the west shore of Lake George in Warren County, New York. On April 6, 1807, when it was known as Rochester, it was set off from the Town of Bolton. Effective one year later, the name was changed to Hague. When the town was first established, there was no town hall, so meetings were held in private homes during daylight or by candlelight.

Lake George was a primary waterway for the transportation of soldiers in Revolutionary War days and large groups stopped on the shorelines of what is now the Town of Hague. In 1758, General Abercrombie landed at Sabbath Day Point with 15,000 men and the following year, General Amherst landed there with 12,000 men. Both were on their way to battles at Fort Ticonderoga. Major Robert Rogers' famous escape from the Indians by sliding down a rock precipice, took place in the northernmost corner of the Town of Hague, where Rogers Rock Campsite is now located.

In the early 1800s, family names included Balcom, Bevins, Hayes, Holman, Cook, and Rising, to name a few, some of which are still present today.

The first industries were sawmills, grist mills, tanneries, lumbering, farms, boat building, and blacksmith shops plus taverns, stores, and "boarding houses," the tourism of its time. Perhaps tourism began with Sam Adams' "House of Entertainment" as far back as 1764. This "boarding house" was later expanded to be the Sabbath Day Point House and was run by the Carney family for 57 years.

In the early days, the town was divided into various school districts, each with its own schoolhouse. One such school was on Split Rock Road; one was near Sabbath Day Point; and another in West Hague. A log school was located near the present Hague Cemetery. In 1909, a two-room schoolhouse was built in the hamlet. In 1927, the Hague Central School was constructed and all the districts were consolidated to the central location. In 1979, the Hague Central School became annexed to the Ticonderoga Central School. Now the children are bussed to the Elementary-Middle School or the High School in Ticonderoga. The former Hague Central School has been torn down.

In the mid-1800s, after the steamboat company began transporting passengers on Lake George and docks were built, hotels began springing up along the shores. A hotel built by the Garfields in 1810, later called the Phoenix Hotel, and now called the Beachside, has burned and been rebuilt several times. Besides Sabbath Day Point House and the Phoenix Hotel, one might stay at Uncas Inn (now Silver Bay Lodge),

Island Harbor House, the Iroquois (later Trout House and now developed into Trout House Village), the Rising House, or the Hillside Hotel. Most of these are gone now, having been torn down or burned. Six steamboat passengers met untimely deaths in 1856 when the steamboat John Jay lost control due to the burning of a rudder rope and crashed into Calamity Rock south of Island Harbor. The skeletal remains of the boat are well preserved and can be seen when the water is calm.

The present Inn at the Silver Bay Association (SBA) was built by Silas Paine in 1898, occupied in 1899 and run for three years as a private enterprise before a Mr. Wishard prevailed on Paine to donate the inn for use by Christian conferences organized by the YMCA. In 1904, Paine sold the inn and grounds to the YMCA for \$70,000 (then a \$125,000 value). In 1910, various boys' organizations banded together to form the Boy Scouts of America at a Council Ring on the property. A private boys' school was run at the SBA from 1918-1934, during which time many of the small cottages were constructed. The SBA is a bustling place for summer conferences and recently it added a modern dining hall with hopes of expanding into a four-season center.



In 1887, Sam Ackerman discovered the mineral graphite in the Town of Hague. The mine, which was an open pit, was active only in the summer, with the graphite hauled to a processing plant in the winter because it was easier for a horse-drawn sleigh to move it over ice and snow. The area near the mine came to be known as Graphite and it had its own church, school, store, three saloons, and a post office, which was in service from 1890 to 1921, the year the mines closed.

In 1880, a water sports club was formed. First called the Hague Rowing Club and later called the Lake George Regatta Association, it was organized for rowing races. When motor boats became popular, speed boat races were held in Hague Bay from Island Harbor to Arcady. At Friends Point, the Northern Lake George Yacht Club now holds regular sailboat races for various classes of boats plus operates a youth waterfront and sailing program.

In 1906, Col. William Mann, quite a prankster, made a 30-pound wooden fish to tease Harry Watrous about his inability to catch fish. In retaliation, Watrous created a Lake George "monster" (George) from wood and insulators. It was rigged on a rope pulley so Watrous could pull it up to emerge from the lake depths to scare people, especially Col. Mann.

In 1947, the Hague Volunteer Fire Department organized and was chartered the next year. The department was located where the laundromat is located now. It started with a Jeep, which towed a 200-gallon tank on a trailer. Robert Hoyt, the first chief, was instrumental in getting the building constructed to house updated equipment in 1954, the same year that an ambulance squad was formed. The Fire/Police were organized in 1957. A fire department sub-station at Silver Bay provides quick response to emergencies in that area.

(Continued on page 9)

TICONDEROGA HISTORICAL SOCIETY POSTPONES UPCOMING EVENTS

The Ticonderoga Historical Society (THS) has plans for a vigorous 2020 program season, promising no cancellations in planned activities, as long as social-distancing restrictions begin to ease in late spring.

THS President Bill Dolback said, "Staff and volunteers have put a tremendous amount of effort into our exhibits and programs and we're promising our members and supporters that, while events have been postponed, nothing will be cancelled."

With 24 programs, exhibit openings, and activities on the schedule for the season, THS has an ambitious year ahead.

"We fully realize that we are not in control of the situation," he noted, adding "we are committed to full compliance with the recommendations of the governor and health officials regarding gatherings."

Among the exhibits slated to open in 2020 are "Mapping the Adirondacks" and "Champlain Valley Prohibition."

Programs encompass a diverse range of topics, including Women's Suffrage, the Fenian Raids, the American Civil War, Landscape Painters of the Adirondacks, and the Irish in Musical Theater, as well as outdoor talks in the colonial garden and the popular free movie series. ■

TACC FUNDRAISER DINNER AND AUCTION

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce's (TACC) Annual Fundraiser has been postponed due to COVID-19 and re-scheduled for Friday, August 13, 2020. ■

LOOKING BACK *(Continued from page 8)*

The Town of Hague occupies approximately 80 square miles and boasts a population of just under 1,000. It is served by four churches: The Wesleyan Methodist (1879), Grace Memorial Chapel (1885), Baptist (1912), and Blessed Sacrament - Catholic (1924). Hague's current supervisor is Daniel Belden.

For more detailed history, consult with town Historian Clifton West or members of the Hague Historical Society or read back issues of *The Hague Chronicle*, a monthly newspaper written and published by volunteers since 1972. ■

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT

Fort Ticonderoga's 2020 opening has been postponed due to COVID-19. The fort is offering a 2020 "Digital Campaign," which features interactive programming, an engaging lectures series, and a preview of experiences which will be featured on-site once the fort's gates open in 2020. This unique opportunity will bring the fort's layers of history and natural beauty into the homes of digital visitors across the globe.

"Through this 'Digital Campaign,' we are eager for our virtual visitors to enjoy behind-the-scenes information, previews of our upcoming programs, and special insider content on the 2020 season wherever your 'fort' may be. We look forward to inspiring visits and welcoming guests again to Fort Ticonderoga sometime in the not-too-distant future," said President and CEO Beth L. Hill.

Visit fortticonderoga.org for live videos, lectures series, and educational at-home activities. ■



Photo courtesy of Carl Heilman II

TICONDEROGA AREA FARMERS' MARKET

The Ticonderoga Area Farmers' Market plans to open in July to provide access to produce and products that are locally grown, fresh, and of high quality and to provide local farmers and producers with a viable economic outlet in Ticonderoga. The open-air market is in a large lawn space at 1114 Wicker Street, allowing spacious spots for vendor booths and social distancing to meet all COVID-19 protocols.

The market will be open Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm from July 11 through September 26, 2020. For additional information, contact the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) at chamberinfo@ticonderogany.com or 518-585-6619. ■

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Publisher: Judy Stock
Editor: Bobbi Bryant Taylor
Layout Editor: Chris Quinn

Treasurer: Bob Whitaker
Staff: Claire Best, Tina King, Ginger Henry Kuenzel, Pat McDonough, Sandy Powell, and Jan Whitaker

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

May 2020

MAY

23	4 – 6 pm	HVFD Barbeque Chicken Dinner
25		MEMORIAL DAY / HAGUE TOWN OFFICES CLOSED
26	4 pm	Hague Board of Assessment Review Grievance Day
28	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals

TRANSFER STATION HOURS: September 2 through June 30

Wednesday: CLOSED until further notice
Saturday: 10 am to 4 pm | Sunday: CLOSED

Check for updates at:
<https://townofhague.org/departments/transfer-station>

JUNE

8	The deadline for the June issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>
6 pm	Town Board
19	The June issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> will be published
20	The Summer Solstice - the official start of summer!
21	FATHER'S DAY

These are what is planned at this time. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home orders, please check with these groups to be certain these events will, in fact, be held.