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FIREHOUSE RESTAURANT OPENS

The Hague Firehouse Restaurant will open in mid-June using the same business model as last year. They will have cocktails, wine, beer, and other drinks inside and will have various food trucks and pop ups outside on a rotating basis offering diverse and delicious culinary specialties.



Cris and Sheri are still putting together the food truck/pop up schedule. Go to their Facebook page to see which trucks will be there on which evenings and then make plans to bring your friends and family to enjoy delicious food and drinks at the Firehouse Restaurant. ❑

WORSHIP SERVICES AT GRACE CHAPEL

The Sunday morning worship services at Grace Memorial Chapel at Sabbath Day Point in the summer of 2023 will be at 10 am from July 2nd - September 3rd.

Specifically, they will be on July 2nd, July 9th, July 16th, July 23rd, July 30th, August 6th, August 13th, August 20th, August 27th, and September 3rd.

All are welcome. ❑

KAYAK EXCURSIONS COMES TO HAGUE

Kayak Excursions is a paddle sports rental concession with locations in Fort Myers, FL, and Kennebunkport, ME – and, as of this summer, also at Rogers Rock Campground. It is owned and operated by Stefan Kuenzel, son of Ginger Henry Kuenzel of Hague.

In addition to offering kayak, canoe, and paddleboard rentals for day use visitors and campers, Stefan is seeking highly motivated individuals to work for him there. Hours are 9 am – 5 pm; duties include welcoming customers, setting up new bookings, providing paddling and safety instruction, rinsing and putting up returns, keeping the launch area neat, and having fun! For more information or to apply, visit <https://kayak-excursions.com/employment/> or email Stefan at stefan@kayak-excursions.com. ❑

MUSIC IN THE PARK STARTS JULY 3RD

Remember, Hague's Music in the Park Series starts July 3rd at 6:30 pm with Barkeater Band and, at 9:15, FIREWORKS! On July 5th, Hague's own Rick Bolton will perform! Bring your chairs and your dancing shoes and enjoy! ❑

LAKE GEORGE LAND CONSERVANCY TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS AT PEGGY'S POINT

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) has been awarded a \$44,500 grant to fund improvements at Peggy's Point, its beloved waterfront park in Hague. The work will redevelop the trail and add amenities to make the park and waterfront more accessible. Educational signage will enhance the visitor experience, and native plantings will strengthen the shoreline against erosion from storm events.



This is one of two recent grants from the 2023 New York State Conservation Partnership Program (NYSCPP), which is funded through New York State's (NYS) Environmental Protection Fund. The second grant, for \$23,800, will help increase the LGLC's ability to effectively engage and communicate with the public. This effort will include, among other things, upgrades to the LGLC's conference room equipment for multipurpose public programs and the purchase of field equipment to enhance stewardship efforts and citizen science capabilities. ❑

REVAL ISSUES AND SCHOOL TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There are two hot topics in Hague at this time: the assessor's reval and the new Hague School Tax Advisory Committee. To be "in the know," be sure to read the details in the town board report, which begins on page four. ❑

SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

The Senior View Café is open now and will be open from 11 am - 4 pm through June 4, 2023.



We are tentatively planning to go on an ADK Cruise on Saratoga Lake on June 8th. Please contact me at 518-543-6502 to see if it is on.

On June 22nd, we'll be going on the Floating Classroom, leaving from the Hague boat launch at 2:30 pm. We'll be going out to dinner at a place to be announced.

Our Appreciation Meeting and Luncheon will be held at the Hague Community Center on June 27th at noon. The Senior Club would like to treat those who worked on the Memorial Day Parade, the White Elephant Sale, and Americade to a free lunch compliments of the club.
■

HAGUE STUDENTS ON THE 3RD QTR HONOR ROLL

Grade 1:
Honors - Liam Blanchette
High honors - Anniyah May

Grade 2:
Honors - Elizabeth Gargan
High honors - Jackson Porter

Grade 4:
High Honors - Noah Mydlarz,
Maddison Smith, and Cerina Swinton

Grade 7:
First Honors - Wyatt Barnes

Grade 8:
First Honors: Zebulon Denno,
Brady Mydlarz, Miya Savage, and
Kaiden Smith

Grade 10:
First Honors - Alyssa Mydlarz

Grade 11:
First Honors - Sophie Hubbard

Grade 12:
First Honors - Quentin Gargan

BOATING SAFETY COURSES

In 2023, all boaters born after January 1, 1983, will need a boating safety certificate. In 2024, all boaters born after January 1, 1978, will need the certificate. And in 2025, all boaters in New York State will be required to have this certificate. To obtain the certificate, you will need to complete an approved boating safety course. You can attend the course in person or online. Visit the [New York State Safe Boating site](#) to find out where the classroom courses are offered and to register. For information about approved online courses, Click [HERE](#).
■

HVFD

by Macie Peer

For EMS, we had ten calls using 69.5 man hours.



For Fire, there were 14 drills and/or calls, consuming 129 man hours.

May 21 – 27, 2023 was EMS Week and we would like to thank everyone who expressed appreciation to us for the work we do in Hague.
■

“MUSIC FOR SUMMER EVENINGS” AT GRACE CHAPEL

Grace Memorial Chapel on Sabbath Day Point will present four Saturday concerts this summer in their “Music for Summer Evenings” 2023 series. Concert dates are July 1st, 15th, 29th, and August 5th. All concerts begin at 7:30 pm. Free will donations (suggested \$10 - \$20) will be taken at the door.

On Saturday, July 1st, the acoustic rock/folk duo *Storm Windows* will play. This duo is brothers Rob (guitar, piano, and vocal) and Don (upright bass and vocals) Mathews, long-time summer residents of Sabbath Day Point. *Storm*



Windows plays original songs and reworked cover songs in a blend of folk, rock and even jazz-laced sonics that the duo describe as a “survey of the American landscape, with a few love (or love-gone-wrong) songs” thrown in. Their music is like a travelogue: part road trip, part nostalgia for something lost, part optimism for something coming. To listen to them, go to www.thestormwindows.com or stream their albums on Spotify or Apple Music.

Details about the July and August concerts will be in the July issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.

These concerts are made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the NY State Council on the Arts, with the support of the office of the Governor of NY and the NY State Legislature. They are administered by the Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council.
■



MADE IN HAGUE

Made in Hague is going to be open again this year at the same location as last year next to the Silver Bay Post Office. It will be open on Saturday and Sunday of Memorial Day weekend from 10 am – 4 pm.

The hours will continue to be 10 am – 4 pm all summer. In June and September, it will be open Saturdays and Sundays. In July and August, it will be open Thursdays through Sundays.

There will be artwork, pottery, jams, glassware, jewelry, soaps, tee shirts, wooden lake and flag wall hangings, lamps, driftwood sailboats, coffee mugs, and new children's books for sale.

Made in Hague is looking for a few more talented crafters to join their artisan's collective. There's so much craft talent in our community — so many great things that are made in Hague like pottery, jewelry, quilts, baskets, signs and wall hangings, furniture, lake art, and more!



Residents and visitors have come to rely on Made in Hague for unique gifts for family and friends. Residents who have an unusual or beautiful craft and can produce inventory to sell throughout the summer, could be selling it at this collective.

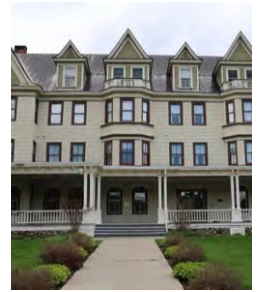
Members must have a family home in Hague (at least part time). It is an all-volunteer collective, so all members pitch in to staff the shop. It is open four days/week. Members are asked to take a minimum of three shifts/month in July and August, and a few on the weekends in June, September, and October. Shifts are just three hours long (two per day), so that it's a minimum amount of time for each member.



Residents who would like to be part of this creative and fun store should contact Sandy Swanson at handyswan101@gmail.com.

SILVER BAY IS PAINTED

The painting of the Silver Bay Inn continues! Each day the inn looks a little different as the painters make their way across the building. Go over to see it in person!



NEW PROGRAM TO KEEP WASTEWATER OUT OF LAKE

Did you know...there are about 6,000 private septic systems in the Lake George Basin, and 2/3 of them may be failing? That's the bad news. The good news is that the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) is now authorized to inspect all septic systems in the critical environmental area (CEA) to determine which ones need repairs, upgrades, or replacement. The CEA includes properties near the lake and its tributaries. If you have a septic system, and your property is in this CEA, you've already received communications from the LGPC about the program. Perhaps you've even already had your inspection performed. These will be carried out every five years for every property owner, which means 20 percent of the systems will be inspected each year. This is a huge step toward keeping wastewater out of Lake George.

The LGPC has a wealth of information about its septic inspection program, including FAQs, a downloadable flyer about septic systems for homeowners as well as a flyer for rental properties.

To learn more, click [HERE](#).

The Lake George Association also has a special part of its website focused on safe septic information. There you'll find information about how to properly maintain your system, financing options, and service providers, along with a safe septic guide. Click [HERE](#) to learn more.

SILVER BAY'S NEW FOSTER CARE PROGRAM

There are over 391,000 children and youth in foster care, according to the Children's Bureau and up to 80 percent of children in foster care have significant mental health issues.

In honor of National Foster Care Month, and this year's theme of "Strengthening Minds. Uplifting Families," Silver Bay YMCA has added another respite program, "Foster and Adoptive Family Retreat."

This program is offered to give families who are currently fostering or have recently adopted the opportunity to get to know each

other and bond in a safe and friendly environment.

Foster and adoptive families from across the nation who meet the criteria can enjoy a stay at Silver Bay at no cost for up to one week anytime throughout the year. The stay includes meals in the William Boyd Center Dining Hall and programs. Some of the program offerings include archery, beaches, the climbing wall, campfires, hiking, watercolor classes, and more. Programs offered vary per season.

The Foster and Adoptive Family Retreat Program is 100 percent donor funded. Any individuals or businesses interested in supporting this program or any of Silver Bay's efforts to improve lives in our community please email wlander@silverbay.org or visit <https://silverbay.org/give-now/>.

To learn more about the Foster and Adoptive Family Retreat Program, visit <https://silverbay.org/wp-content/uploads/Foster-Family-Retreat-2022-Fillable.pdf> or call 518-543-8511.

SOUNDINGS

DIED: Francis Joseph McCranels, 88, of Upper Jay and formerly of Silver Bay, on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at the Adirondack Medical Center of Saranac Lake.

Born in Corning, NY, he was the son of the late Kenneth and Beatrice (Martin) McCranels.

Joe was a graduate of Paul Smith's College and was a member and past president of their alumni association.



He was a Veteran of the U.S. Army, having served during the Korean War.

Joe was employed as the Associate Director of the YMCA Association in various locations including Holiday Hills in Pawling, NY, Greenkill Retreat Center in Huguenot, NY, and, most recently, the Silver Bay Conference and Retreat Center here in Silver Bay.

He loved the outdoors and hiked, camped, and canoed much of the Adirondacks. He enjoyed fly fishing and also loved to travel.

He was past president of the Pawling Rotary Club and the Kiwanis Club of Ticonderoga and a member of the American Legion.

He was pre-deceased by his: first wife, Cynthia B. (Bovard) McCranels; second wife, Sylvia Norton; parents; step-daughter, Lee Ann Kegel; sister-in-law, Margart Paolucci; and brother-in-law, Peter Bovard.

Survivors include his: son, Steven McCranels (Amy Ullrich); grandson, Gavan Kelly (Olivia); great-granddaughter, Aurora Kelly; three step-children, Roger, Doug, and Tim Norton, and their families; brother, Jack McCranels (Betsy); sister-in-law, Ellen Metcalf; two nephews, Mike McCranels and Jay Paolucci; and two nieces, Laurie Willard and Lisa Forkey. A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date at a time to be announced.



POSB SUMMER MEETING

by Linda Fusco

The Property Owners of Silver Bay's summer 2023 membership meeting will be on July 31st at 1 pm at the Hague Community Center.

All POSB members and non-members are welcome to attend. Property owners anywhere in Hague can become members for an annual fee of \$10, payable at the meeting.

At the meeting, I will provide a brief history of the POSB based on our archives, beginning in 1975.

The other topics to be discussed include: the March 2023 tax assessment, Silver Bay YMCA programs and outreach, garbage recycling, donations to local charities, and short-term rentals.

Dave Martucci, Hague Town Assessor, will be one of our speakers. He will address the March 2023 property tax assessments.

Residents should feel free to email me at lindafuscophd@gmail.com with any community issues they would like to see addressed.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/SBPropertyOwners.

Linda Fusco, Ph.D. is the vice-president of POSB.

BLUEGRASS IN HEAVEN AT SILVER BAY

Silver Bay's First Bluegrass Festival is coming September 15 - 17, 2023. There won't be a bad seat in the house and guests will have what could be considered an "up close and personal" experience with the artists.

Onsite accommodations (which include meals) and two ticket options to the festival will be available.

Residents from Hague, Silver Bay, Bolton Landing, Ticonderoga, and Crown Point will receive a discount on tickets, which can be purchased at the Store at Silver Bay YMCA. The store's hours are listed on their activity calendar [HERE](#).

Ticket prices are \$35 for a festival pass and \$70 for an all-inclusive pass.

To learn more about the performers, click [HERE](#). To purchase tickets, click [HERE](#). To book a room, click [HERE](#).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WAVE PROGRAM

Want a reason to spend more time by the water while helping to protect the lake? Help NY State map and evaluate one of the many streams that flow into Lake George. As a volunteer for the WAVE program, you will collect macroinvertebrates from a stream near you in the Lake George

watershed. The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) will use these samples to help determine the water quality of the stream. All you need is some time and the desire to be outdoors. The LGA will supply training and equipment. Training: June 30, 2023; Sampling: July 1 - September 30 To register, click [HERE](#).

APPLICATIONS FOR BEST 4TH IN THE NORTH PARADE PARTICIPATION

2023 parade applications can be found at www.timainstreet.org, www.ticonderogany.com, or picked up at the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TMSP Coordinator) office in Downtown Ticonderoga. The organizing committee has expanded and updated the parade participant rules. All parade participants must read and sign off on the rules as well as submit an application by June 23, 2023. No exceptions will be made.

Parade participants are encouraged to register as early as possible for planning purposes. The organizing committee would like to see floats from attractions, businesses, sports teams, clubs, organizations, and more. There is no charge to participate in the parade but all entries must pre-register, be family friendly, and follow all parade guidelines.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 4/27/2023

Chairman Robert Goetsch and Board Members Jon Hanna, Linda Mury, Ray Snyder, and Alternate Cathy Clark were present. Chris Navitsky was absent. Also present was ZEO Matthew Magee.

WILSON/DAVIS (93.12-1-11) 7930 Lakeshore Drive (TR-1)

The applicants are requesting the total replacement of a non-conforming structure requiring two variances: greater than 30% lot coverage and greater than 25% increase in square footage. Since the last meeting, the applicant revised the square foot increase from 52% to 78%, with the addition of living space in the walk-out basement and the structure has been shifted two feet further away from the lake. Current lot coverage of 38% (more than 30%) would not increase, but will remain nonconforming, hence requiring a variance. A public hearing was held. Three letters from neighbors were read; one in favor, one concerned about the proposed 78% increase in square footage impact for a small lot, and another against approval due to the proposed structure impacting the character and nature of the neighborhood and the visual and environmental impact on the lake. No one in the audience spoke for or against. The owners were present. The application for more than 25% increase in square footage was approved four to one (Mury), with conditions. The conditions are: 1.) a stormwater permit must be submitted to the town if the Lake George Park Commission does not require one, 2.) a new wastewater system must be approved and installed, 3.) post-construction inspection of an existing septic line must be done to ensure there was no damage during construction, and 4.) if a ledge is found that requires blasting, any blasting must occur between Columbus Day and Memorial Day Weekends, with notification to neighbors. The application for greater than 30% lot coverage was unanimously approved.

ASIEL (60.9-1-46) 20 Bobkat Lane (TR-1)

The applicants propose constructing a screened-in porch over the existing deck. The house and deck were constructed on this lot in 1981. The original building application was approved, stating all components of the structures were to be 50' from the MHW of Lake George. A recent survey has found a small, long, and narrow portion of the existing deck to be within the 50-foot shoreline setback. The total area within the setback is approximately 75 sq. ft. The proposed project will not make the deck more nonconforming. The applicants are requesting a shoreline setback variance for the 42-year-old miscalculation. The board accepted the application as complete, scheduled a site visit, and put the application and public hearing on the agenda for the May 25th zoning board meeting.

INGREY (60.5-1-14) 31 Pine Cove Road (TR1)

The applicants propose constructing a second-story addition and a new first-floor entry addition to an existing house. The second-story addition (781 sq. ft) and the new first floor entry addition (80 sq. ft) make for an 861 sq. ft increase in living space beyond the current, which translates to a proposed 55.9% increase of square footage of living space. Current lot coverage is 30.28% and the proposal would result in an increase of less than 1%. The zoning issues are new

construction within 100 feet of the lake, a proposed living space increase of more than 25%, and more than 30% lot coverage. The board accepted the application as complete, scheduled a site visit, and put the application and public hearing on the agenda for the May 25th zoning board meeting.

RIZZA (42.20-1-6.3) 8835 Lakeshore Drive (TRI)

On July 23, 2020, the owners received approval from the Hague Zoning Board of Appeals to construct a 625 sq. ft. accessory structure on a vacant parcel with a variance for frontline setback. That approval has since expired and the owner is re-applying to build the same structure. The 2020 application approval had a condition that the slope is not to be disturbed by construction. The board accepted the application as complete, scheduled a site visit, and put the application and public hearing on the agenda for the May 25th zoning board meeting.

SDP HOLDINGS LLC (93.06-1-34) 50 Sabbath Day Point Road (TRIR)

The applicants request approval to replace an existing wood seawall with rocks and add a shorefront patio with stairs within a foot or two of the retaining wall at the shoreline. The land is sloped, so a second wall a few feet tall would need to be installed on the uphill side of the patio. The board accepted the application as complete, scheduled a site visit, and put the application and public hearing on the agenda for the May 25th zoning board meeting.

MCCLOUGHLIN (76.8-1-6.2) 252 Silver Bay Road (HS-R)

The owners are requesting a two-year extension of their May 6, 2021, Site Plan Approval.

See the August 2021 edition of *The Hague Chronicle* for details. The two-year extension to August 2025 was unanimously approved with all original conditions. ▣

TOWN BOARD - 5/9/2023

Present were Supervisor Edna Frasier, Board Members Steve Ramant, Jack Bast, Joshua Patchett, and Maureen Cherubini.

Also present were: Deputy Highway Superintendent Matt Coffin, ZOOM Technician Tim Fiallo, Peter and Peggy Carney, Donna Trudeau, Pat Hintze, Caroline Mossip, Alice Patchett, Linda Baker, Mary Lou Doulin, Chad Dunklee, Linda Mury, Carol Barnwell, Donna Wotton, Susan Sandman, Cathy Clark, Meg Haskell, Luke Winters, Peggy Kowalsky, Luann Fritzy, Michelle and Adam Mesko, Bob Levenstien, and Joe Tinnirella. Approximately 17 persons attended via ZOOM.

The Moment of Silence was held for Joseph McCranel.

WELCOME GUESTS/PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Frasier read the following statement: "With regards to the very important subjects of the recent reval and the separate but related school tax issues, which have been

TOWN BOARD, CONTINUED

discussed at length in the last two town board meetings, I want to provide you an update on information and on actions the board has taken since then."

1) Reval and Tax Rate

"As stated in my April 20th letter to you, the board seriously considered postponing implementation of the 2023 reval, including obtaining legal advice and counsel. It is not an option. The town board does not have the authority to value properties and set assessed values, so it would not be able to dictate whether the revaluation numbers are used to set the assessments for the 2023 (tax) roll. The valuation and assessment of properties in the town is the responsibility and obligation of the assessor and it is not advisable for the town board to interfere with this process. Therefore, Hague's 2023 tax rolls have been filed and are based on the 2023 reval assessments.

"In my letter, I noted that we did not then know the Ti Consolidated School District (CSD) school tax rates. At the Ti School Board presentation here in Hague last Wednesday, it was announced that the latest determination of Hague's 2023 school tax rate is \$7.33 per thousand dollars of assessed value. This will be the rate **IF** the Ti CSD budget is approved next week.

2) 3- or 5-year averaging

"Carney suggested to the town and the Ti CSD School Board that the substantial bump in the school taxes resulting from the 2023 reval be "averaged" over a three- or five-year period, rather than being implemented in one big jolt. The school board has no previous knowledge of this concept. However, in last Wednesday's presentation, School Superintendent Cynthia Ford-Johnston committed to research it and to get back to Hague and to Carney with the findings.

The board hopes there's some relief here. It will inform the public of the results of the Ti CSD investigation.

3) East Shore Taxing

"Carney proposed property taxing the more than 400 docks and boathouses on the lake's east shore, since they are in Hague's jurisdiction. He says such revenue would decrease the tax burden on Hague's residents. Preliminary estimates of the proposal by both our town attorney and by Mark Schachner have been obtained. They both stated that it would take 'extensive and expensive research' to determine the property tax law legality of such an assessment.

"The Hague Town Board judges that such an expense is not warranted. Even if it were determined to be legal, which the board believes is highly unlikely, it thinks that common sense and ethics should prevail. The board believes:

- Property taxes, including school taxes, are for the purpose of funding services.
- Hague cannot impose property owners on the east shore with Hague property taxes because those residing in towns other than Hague would not receive any associated Hague services such as fire protection, highway services, transfer station, beach and town park, a sewer system, town government and administration services, etc.

- We cannot tax for school services only, nor can we expect other towns to support us in paying for our school services, i.e., our school taxes.

Therefore, assessing east shore docks and boathouses in Hague waters will no longer be considered by the Hague Town Board or its assessor.

4) Apportionment and Redistricting

"As expected, the 2023 reval has adversely affected the apportionment of the tax levy for Ti CSD. In last Wednesday's presentation by the school board, it was stated that Hague's share increased from 50.83% last year to **55.92%** for **2023-2024**. The Hague school tax rate of **\$7.33 per thousand** is based on this sharing percentage.

"This is indeed painful to the residents of Hague, but neither Hague nor the Ti CSD School Board has any control over the apportionment - it is determined by NY State law. It is simply the result of the decision made by Hague in 1979 to terminate the then-existing Hague CSD and to (a) consolidate with Ticonderoga and (b) on an apportionment basis.

"The town board believes it's time to fight this - again. Several previous efforts have had no effect. The Hague Town Board is appointing a citizen committee to advise it on this particular matter.

"Assessor Dave Martucci is not in attendance as he is attending the Ticonderoga School Budget Public Hearing. The Hague Town Board will not be answering any questions on behalf of Martucci."

Concerns of the audience and ZOOM members were:

- The town board was asked to release the FULL Town Assessment to include ALL properties and the cost of the reval.
- Some people still are unclear as to why the reval was done.
- It was suggested that more town services be offered (such as garbage pickup) with any monies received by the town because of the reval.
- It was suggested that the residents of Hague ask the Ticonderoga CSD if the school tax bills can be billed quarterly rather than once a year.
- Patchett explained his comment ("The increase the town will see in sales tax due to the reval is not needed.") from the April 11th town board meeting, After lengthy conversation regarding sales-tax income and how it does not relate to the reval, Frasier explained where the sales tax comes from and the percentage that it applies to, stating that if there was no sales tax income, there would have to be a town tax put into place, which would be substantial.
- A new issue raising concerns before the board is Short-Term Rentals. The board agreed to set a meeting with the Short-Term Rental Committee to review its progress and proposed new ordinance. Residents will be welcome to attend. The conversation will only be between the board and Short-Term Rental Committee; a public hearing will be set in the near future.

TOWN BOARD, CONTINUED

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Buildings & Grounds: The Highway Department offered to do the repairs on the town boat launch walkway. The town is working with the town attorney regarding ownership of "Union Cemetery."

Highway: Five tons of debris have been removed from the beach. It will help maintain the beach this summer. It is doing prep work at the landfill with plans to pave this summer. A motion was unanimously passed for Fiallo and Coffin to attend Highway School June 4, 5, and 6, 2023.

Museum/Historian: The museum will display an exhibit about Arcady Bay.

Personnel: Clark has recently successfully completed her appointed responsibilities and duties as Assistant Zoning Enforcement Officer in the ZEO Department/Office. Frasier thanked her for her years of dedicated service to the town.

Planning/Zoning/Storm Water: Board members were asked to review the Lake George Park Commission letter dated April 28, 2023. A copy of the letter is available for review in the Zoning or Town Clerk Office and [HERE](#) online.

Town Park/Beautification: The boat launch will open Friday, May 19th. Wally Peterson Sr., Tom Haskell, Meg Haskell, Karen Semigran, Leo Lucas, Gil Engler, Pat Hintze, Marge Pote, and Mindy Swinton will work there. The Visitor Center will open Saturday, June 24th and the employees there will be Susan Adair, Joyce Houck, Karen Semigran, Pat Hintze, and Kathi Ramant. The beach will be opening Monday, June 26th and the lifeguards will be Jenny O'Neill, Emily Best, and Tasia Osier.

The low areas of town park lawn will be filled in with sand to provide better drainage.

Plans for the Hague Memorial Day Parade are coming together. There is still time to add a float to the parade.

Sewer District #1 & #2: Eric Kramer has completed his second of three weeks of training. Scott Manning was thanked for helping out at the WWTP while Eric is away.

Environmental Concerns: Ramant contacted the DEC to remove fallen trees and branches at the parking area of the DEC hiking trail near the fish weir. He has also been in touch with the Lake George Association (LGA) about the invasive species Hydrilla making its way into the lake. He said measures are being considered such as locking all access areas around the lake at night and at the end of the season.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

A motion was unanimously passed for Town Clerk Coffin to attend a Tax Collection Training Seminar June 11 - 14, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A resolution was unanimously approved for the Hague Highway Department workers to work ten-hour days Monday – Thursdays from 6 am – 4 pm from May - October. This will affect their holidays, vacation, and personal days.

2. After a discussion, the board and the Short-Term Rental Committee tentatively set the date of Wednesday, June 21st at 6 pm to discuss what the committee is proposing for the NEW Short-Term Rental Ordinance. The confirmed date and time will be posted on the town's website and Facebook pages. This is between the board and the committee. It is open to the public; but there will be no public discussion until the subsequent public hearing.
3. There have been concerns with how the town and the community communicate. The Assessor's and Town Clerk's Offices have been posting information on the town's website and Facebook pages in addition to publishing in *The Hague Chronicle*; however, there is still a need for a better means of communication. Frasier asked Patchett to work with Amanda Peterson to come up with ideas. Wotton mentioned that she knows there are many effective communication platforms available.

Establishment of Hague School Tax Advisory Committee

In accord with the authority vested in it by Town Law, Chapter 2, Paragraph 2-29, the Hague Town Board announced that it is establishing a citizen Hague School Tax Advisory Committee.

The purpose of this committee is to investigate and advise the board on ways to improve Hague's existing school tax situation. Such situation is determined by NY State law and is the result of the decision made by Hague in 1979 to terminate the then-existing Hague CSD and to (a) consolidate with Ticonderoga CSD and (b) on an apportionment basis.

Changing circumstances over the past 44 years have resulted in increasingly negative consequences for Hague in this arrangement. Hague's 2023 reevaluation has further highlighted the need to change the current terms and conditions.

Ticonderoga CSD has no control over the current districting and apportionment rules and regulations. To change them will require extensive research into existing NYS law and Central School District redistricting.

The board is seeking interested and knowledgeable persons willing to volunteer service to advise the board in this important and complex regard.

Interested persons should promptly submit applications in writing for membership on this committee to Edna Frasier at Supervisor@TownOfHague.org. The town is eager to get this action started and to achieve school tax relief for all our citizens as soon as is practical. ▣

PLANNING BOARD - 5/4/2023 & 5/12/2023

Present at the May 4th meeting were Deputy Chairman Pam Peterson and Board Members Judy Gourley, Sandy Powell, and Meg Haskell. Chairman Dick Frasier was absent. Also present were ZEO Matthew Magee and Recording Secretary Cathy Clark. The meeting was held open until after the site visit on May 12th.

PLANNING BOARD, CONTINUED

Present on May 12th (a continuation of the May 4th meeting) were Deputy Chairman Pam Peterson and Board Members Sandy Powell and Meg Haskell and ZEO Matthew Magee. Chairman Dick Frasier and Board Member Judy Gourley were absent.

ASIEL (60.9-1-46) 20 Bobkat Lane (TR-1)

The applicants propose constructing a screened porch over their existing deck. The house and deck were constructed on this lot in 1981. The original application was approved stating all components of the structures were to be 50 ft. from the MHW of Lake George. A new survey has found a small, long, and narrow portion of the existing deck to be within the 50-foot shoreline setback. The total area within the setback is approximately 75 sq. ft. The proposed project will not make the deck more nonconforming. The applicants are requesting a shoreline setback variance for the 42-year-old miscalculation. The board made a unanimous positive recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) with the suggestion that all window openings are screened only, i.e. no use of glass or similar window material.

INGREY (60.5-1-14) 31 Pine Cove Road (TR-1)

The applicants propose constructing a second-story addition and a new first-floor entry addition to an existing non-conforming house. The proposed second story addition (781 sq. ft.) and new entryway (80 sq. ft.) will increase the applicant's living space by 861 sq. ft. or 55.9%. The zoning issues are new construction within 100 ft. of the lake, a proposed living space increase of more than 25%, and more than 30% lot coverage. Peterson recused herself due to jointly owning a nearby property. The application was missing some information, so was deemed incomplete. A letter from a neighbor was read expressing concern that the addition of a 2nd floor would block their view and would result in devaluation of their property. A site visit was set. The meeting was left open to allow decisions on a referral to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to be made after the site visit on May 12th. A quorum could not be met after the site visit as Pam Peterson recused herself, so no actions for recommendations to the ZBA were taken.

RIZZA (42.20-1-6.3) 8835 Lakeshore Drive (TR-1)

On July 23, 2020, the owners received approval from the ZBA to construct a 625 sq. ft. accessory structure on a vacant parcel. The approval has since expired and the owner would like to re-apply to build the same structure now. A site visit was set. The meeting was left open to allow decisions on a referral to the ZBA to be made after the site visit on May 12th. After the site visit, the board made a unanimous recommendation to the ZBA to approve the application with the same conditions as the 2020 approval. (Click [HERE](#) to read *The Hague Chronicle*, Aug 2020 issue. Go to page 4.)

SDP HOLDINGS LLC (93.06-1-34) 50 Sabbath Day Point Road (TR-1R) The owners are proposing the addition of a shorefront stone paver patio with stairs in conjunction

with the replacement of a wooden seawall within the 50-foot setback. A site visit was set. The meeting was left open to allow decisions on a referral to the ZBA to be made after the site visit on May 12th. The board unanimously approved and made the following recommendations to the ZBA.

- There should be no changes in the seawall positioning and no new extension of the seawall to the south of the existing seawall.
- Because the seawall continues across the north neighbor's waterfront, it is recommended that the neighbor rebuild their portion of the seawall at the same time to minimize disturbances at the shoreline. If the neighbor does not make changes to their seawall, the transition of the new to old seawall should occur at least ten feet before the neighbor's property line.
- There should be no disturbance to the existing shoreline vegetation to the south of the existing seawall.
- The permeable paver patio should be no larger than and located in the same place as the existing gravel dining area (roughly 15 ft. x 10 ft.).
- If the proposed boathouse is approved and built, access to the boathouse from the beach is to be by a path from the existing stairs on the south end of the seawall onto the lawn around the land side of the existing shoreline vegetation and to cross the shoreline vegetation in line with the boathouse catwalk from the lawn, i.e., path to be perpendicular to the shore. There is to be no disturbance of any existing shoreline vegetation other than the lawn access path to the boathouse catwalk.
- Have a native plant buffer of a minimum width of 15 ft. along the entire length of the lakefront other than in front of the existing gravel surfaced dining area (approximately 15 ft. along the seawall).

WILSON/DAVIS (93.12-1-11) 7930 Lakeshore Drive (TR-1)

The applicants are requesting the replacement of a nonconforming structure requiring two variances: greater than 30% lot coverage and greater than 25% increase in square footage. The applicants' engineer reviewed the project changes since the last Planning Board meeting. Those changes include sq. ft. increase from 52% to 78% with the addition of living space in the walk-out basement, shifting of the structure two ft. further away from the lake, eliminating any structure from the deeded easement, and adjusting the proposed lot coverage to be just less than the current lot coverage of 38%. At the April meeting, the Zoning Board of Appeals approved the application with conditions. (See Zoning Board of Appeals.) No Planning Board actions were needed at this meeting. The Planning Board will conduct a Site Plan Review once APA comments have been received or the 30-day comment period has expired.

OTHER BUSINESS: A draft summary of the Hague Short-Term Rental Ordinance was given to the planning board members to review and provide comments back to the town Short-Term Rental Committee. ▣

LOOKING BACK

ANNA GERTRUDE SMITH RIDER - A WOMAN BEFORE HER TIME



by Bobbi Bryant Taylor

As Americans still continue today to grapple with the issue of women's rights, Hague's own Al Rider has a family story that illustrates how far we have come in what is possible or considered appropriate for women.

Al's grandmother, Anna Gertrude Smith Rider, was born in Mechanicville, NY in 1877. She grew up there and also lived in Albany, Tampa, FL and in the family's home on Assembly Point on Lake George.

As a young girl, she learned to paint in the Hudson River School style in art classes she took somewhere in the Mechanicville area. She learned many techniques such as perspective and shading. The booklets with her notes are still in mint condition and are displayed at the Lake George Historical Association Museum (LGHAM) in Lake George.

She painted mostly landscapes. Although there were times when she ventured out by boat to see the beauty of Lake George such as to the Horicon Hotel in Black Mountain with her father and on family picnics, it is most likely that she painted from postcards and probably those of Seneca Ray Stoddard.

She probably painted dozens of paintings, but she gave most all of them away to family. Al does not know where those all are today.

There are two of her paintings in the LGHAM and Al and

his wife, Brenda, have the other two in their living room on Pine Orchard Road in Hague. Al had all four restored by Emily Phillips in Essex, NY, who did a remarkable job of bringing them back to their original grandeur. Emily discovered they had been done on linen, an indicator that the family was fairly affluent. Al had the gold leaf on the frame restored to perfection by a gentleman in VT.

The painting the family treasures most is one Rider did in 1894 of Paradise Bay. She did not title it nor did she sign it. It is special to the Rider family, mainly of course, because she painted it, but also because it is of Paradise Bay, which Al says is, "THE place on the lake. For people who love Lake George, it's revered. People even go there and sing hymns on Sunday mornings."

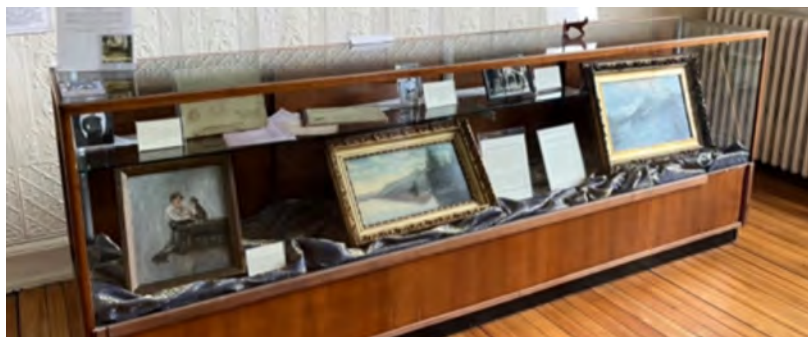
At the LGHAM, there is a display cabinet with her painting of a dog and a boy, her painting of Paradise Bay, and other information about her alongside a similar painting by Stoddard.

The fascinating and actually quite sad part of this tale is that Ms. Rider's father made her stop painting at the age of 17 because it wasn't considered proper at that time for an adult woman to be a painter. She never picked up a paint brush after that and, as Al says, the world was deprived of her talent.

When I asked Al what he thought would have happened if his grandmother had lived during his era instead of back then, he replied, "She'd be a very well-known artist. I'd put her work up against anyone."

Al explained that his reverence for

Lake George comes from these grandparents. His family has always been stewards of the lake...and he is carrying on that tradition. Thank you, Al! ▣



TOP Al Rider, Second row (L to R): photo of Anna Gertrude Smith Rider and painting by Anna Gertrude Smith Rider; BOTTOM: Display case at the LGHAM showing Anna Gertrude Smith Rider's work at the Lake George Historical Association Museum

EXPLORE, LEARN, ENJOY! TAKE A TRIP ON THE FLOATING CLASSROOM

For 30 years, future generations of Lake Protectors have begun their protection journeys on board the Lake George Association's Floating Classroom. This informative and interactive family program provides participants the opportunity to learn about the remarkable ecology and health of our lake — and how to protect it — through hands-on activities and experiments. In a fun- and fact-filled cruise, participants measure water clarity, catch zooplankton, investigate other water quality parameters — and return to shore with a whole new understanding of what it takes to keep Lake George clear and clean. This is a great learning adventure for the entire family!

To find out more, including the schedule, and to buy tickets, Click [HERE](#). ▣

TICKETS ON SALE FOR LGA SUMMER GALA

Tickets are now on sale for the Lake George Association's (LGA) Annual Summer Gala, which will be held on Friday, July 14, 2023 at the Sagamore Resort in Bolton Landing. It will be a memorable evening of cocktails, dinner, music, and dancing to celebrate everyone's love of Lake George and commitment to protecting it. To order tickets before they sell out, Click [HERE](#). ▣

LGLC EVENTS IN JUNE

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) has a number of exciting events planned for 2023. These include a Paint 'n Sip on June 1st and a Summer Solstice Happy Hour on June 21st. On June 28th, Pete Nelson will examine the history of the underground railroad in this area in a program entitled "[Underground History – The Mystery of Eagle Nest](#)." On June 3rd, 24th, and 30th, the LGLC will host its popular Discovery Series programs. For more information on the June events and to register, Click [HERE](#). ▣

FORT TI AND MOUNT DEFIANCE OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Fort Ticonderoga's museum staff brings history to life every day! The fort's epic history and signature stories are highlighted through innovative storytelling about historic trades, the daily life of its soldiers, thrilling weapons demonstrations, outdoor activities, and special events.

This year, Fort Ticonderoga debuts a new chapter in its history. Visitors can experience 1760 and see the unfolding story as British soldiers and American provincials ensure military dominance on Lake Champlain and deep into the heart of French Canada.

To learn more about featured events and daily programs, visit the [Fort Ticonderoga website](#). ▣

LGA LAKE PROTECTOR SUMMIT

Science meets solutions at the Lake George Association's (LGA) inaugural Lake Protector Summit on June 22, 2023 at the Fort William Henry Hotel & Conference Center in Lake George Village. The LGA invites all those who live, work, or own property in the Lake George basin to attend this free interactive event. Guests should bring their questions, ideas, and concerns – and get involved.

A select group of scientists, landscapers, excavators, banks, realtors, and experts on the economics of protecting water quality will focus on the actions we all can and must take to protect Lake George. They will address questions such as how water quality affects property values, the growing threats of stormwater, wastewater, and algae growth in Lake George, and solutions to help owners be Lake Protectors on their own property.

The event will start at 8:30 am. To register for the free summit, Click [HERE](#). ▣

NATURALLY THYME OPENS

Naturally Thyme, an all-natural, preservative-free, low-packaging company has opened for business in the Adirondack Trading Post in downtown Ticonderoga. Owner Nicole Hurlburt TeRiele says that her love for nature sparked her desire to give back to the people, animals, and environment. She adds that her goal is to provide customers with high-quality products from suppliers who share her environmental views and goals of reduce, reuse, and recycle. Naturally Thyme is a woman-owned and operated business. In addition to the location at the Adirondack Trading Post, Naturally Thyme will also be present at the Ticonderoga Area Farmers Market July through September. ▣

FORT TICONDEROGA'S CARILLON BOAT TOURS

The *Carillon* is back again at Fort Ticonderoga, offering 75-minute narrated boat cruises. The tours feature a narration of Ticonderoga's epic story as one of North America's most strategic strongholds and places the iconic fort into a larger context as part of the imperial struggle for the continent in the 18th century.



As Beth L. Hill, Fort Ticonderoga president and CEO, explains, "Fort Ticonderoga's layers of history carry right from the land onto the water.

The *Carillon* boat tours help ignite visitors' imaginations as they explore this internationally strategic stretch of water."

Boat tours will run Tuesday - Sunday through mid-October. Tickets are available online at www.fortticonderoga.org or can be purchased onsite, as available. Tours run rain or shine. ▣

BECOME AN LGA ALGAEWATCH VOLUNTEER

To protect Lake George, everyone has a role - or even multiple roles - to play. In addition to taking protective steps on one's own property, owners can become part of AlgaeWatch, now in its second season. This is a program of volunteers who help the Lake George Association (LGA) gather data on algae in Lake George.

Thanks to last year's volunteers, the LGA documented nuisance algae growth around the lake, including the confirmed HABs that occurred in and around Basin Bay in October 2022. By reporting to the LGA and the Jefferson Project where and when excessive algae growth is happening, residents can help them find the causes and then develop solutions. To [register to volunteer](#). [Click HERE](#).



TI ARTS DOWNTOWN GALLERY

The Watercolor Society show will run through June 10, 2023. From June 15th - July 8th, the gallery will host Ichthyography, a show by [Stephen Mutsugoroh Dicerbo](#), illustrator, fine artist, and printmaker. An opening reception will be held on June 16th from 5 - 7 pm.

The gallery is located at 119 Montcalm Street in Ticonderoga.

Normal hours are Wednesday - Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm. For this show, the gallery will also be open Sundays through July 9th from 10 am - 4 pm.



TICONDEROGA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FUNDRAISER

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will hold its 21st Annual Fundraiser Dinner and Auction on Friday, June 9, 2023, at The Barn at Lord Howe Valley from 5:30 - 10 pm. The theme of this year's event is "Shipwrecked." The event will include a fantastic menu, silent auction, live auction, music by DJ Cruz, dancing, photographs, and exciting theme aspects. Early reservations are suggested as space is limited. RSVP to: 518-585-6619, email emullen@ticonderogany.com, or at www.ticonderogany.com.

The event is business, business casual, or theme dress attire.

SUPPORTING THE HAGUE CHRONICLE :You can make a tax-deductible donation to *The Hague Chronicle* any time [HERE](#). Our all-volunteer staff thanks you for the encouragement and the support you provide! We couldn't do it without you!

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Publisher: Bobbi Bryant Taylor
Editor: Bobbi Bryant Taylor
Assistant Editors: Ginger Henry Kuenzel, Jodee Keller
Layout Editor: Chris Quinn

Treasurer: Bob Whitaker
Staff: Claire Best, Tina King, Pat McDonough, Sandy Powell, and Jan Whitaker
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TACC \$500 FRIDAYS

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will again be holding its Spring/Summer Fundraiser, "Five Hundred Dollar Fridays." Every Friday in July, TACC will give away \$500. A ticket for a chance to win requires a \$20 donation and only 300 tickets will be available each week. Tickets will be available at the TACC office throughout the month of June, as well as from TACC board members, ambassadors, and volunteers.

Drawing dates are: July 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th, 2023. All proceeds will benefit the TACC programs, services, events, and their other efforts to serve and promote the greater Ticonderoga area.

For additional information, please call 518-585-6619 or email chamberinfo@ticonderogany.com.

The TACC office is located at 94 Montcalm Street, Suite 1 in historic Downtown Ticonderoga.

TICOUSTICS MUSIC STARTING JUNE 15

Ti'coustics is a music show that provides a chance to enjoy good music and support our local musicians.

It started in 2013 and has had over 180 shows to date. Each show is made up of several acts, featuring mostly guitars, with songs spanning a range of music genres. The musicians play for free. Voluntary donations from the audience go to local charities.

The shows for this summer start on Thursday, June 15, 2023 from 7 - 9 pm at the new Ledge Hill Brewery at 92 Montcalm Street in Ticonderoga (formerly Libby's). Shows will be on the first and third Thursday of each month from 7 - 9 pm. The brewery has craft beer as well as snack food.

To receive email notices of the shows, please contact Lance Clark at lanceclark49@gmail.com. Musicians who are interested in playing in Ti'coustics, should contact Roberta Whiteley at rsw57@nycap.rr.com.

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

June 2023

JUNE

1-10		Ti Arts Downtown Gallery Watercolor Society Show	18		FATHER'S DAY
1	7 pm	Planning Board Meeting	19		JUNETEENTH
		LGLC Paint 'N Sip	21	6 pm	LGLC Summer Solstice Happy Hour
3		LGLC Discovery Series			Town Board discussion on Short Term Rental Ordinances
8		Senior Club ADK cruise on Saratoga Lake (date tentative)	22	7 pm	Zoning Board Meeting
9	5:30-10 pm	TACC Annual Fundraiser Dinner and Auction		2:30 pm	Senior Club Floating Classroom
13	10 am	Historic Board Meeting			LGA Lake Protector Summit at Fort William Henry
	6 pm	Town Board Meeting	24		LGLC Discovery Series
14		FLAG DAY	27	1:30 pm	Senior Club Meeting and Appreciation Luncheon
15	7-9 pm	Ti'coustics Ledge Hill Brewery (Every 1st and 3rd Thursday)	28		LGLC Pete Nelson examines Underground Railway history
16	5-7 pm	Ti-Arts Downtown Gallery Reception Stephen Mutsugoroh Dicerbo	30		LGLC Discovery Series

TRANSFER STATION HOURS: Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm