



Published Monthly Since 1972
Volume 54 Number 02

www.thehaguechronicle.org

Hague, New York 12836
February 2024

BERTHA FRASIER DUNSMORE RETIRES

by Judy Stock and Pat
McDonough

If you remember the proverb "All good things must come to an end," you may want to apply it to Bertha Dunsmore's recent retirement from the Hague Community Center staff. Bertha worked for the town for more than forty years and was the face of the town to all who passed through the community center's halls and the town's environs.



It was Bertha and her cheerful countenance who greeted us in the lobby of the community center; it was Bertha who asked after our families; it was she who asked what she could do for us. She had her fingers in so many pies and wore so many hats that there was very little she couldn't help us with. We all think of her as the Hague Community Center Receptionist, but over the years, her hats have included the Hague Highway Department Secretary, the Hague Town Receptionist/Clerk, the Hague Community Center Coordinator, the Hague Food Pantry Coordinator, the Hague Deputy Town Clerk, and the Hague Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics.

Need something? "Call Bertha; she'll know!" was the frequent refrain.

Bert was born in Warrensburg, the eldest of the nine children of Mary and Clifford Frasier.

The family moved to Hague when Bert was four years old. Being the oldest child is most likely when her caring for others began and it has continued throughout her life. She graduated from Hague Central School in 1958. Bert raised her own six children here in Hague. They spent some interesting summers when she and her husband, Jack, the last Swede Mountain Fire Observer, lived with four of their children in a three-room cabin on Swede Mountain.

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FITZGERALD APPOINTED TO HAGUE TOWN BOARD

Martin "Marty" Fitzgerald, II has been appointed to the Hague Town Board to fill the vacancy created when board member Joshua Patchett was elected Hague Town Supervisor. This is the second time Fitzgerald has been appointed to fill a vacancy.

He was first appointed to the town board in January 2012 to fill a vacancy and then served two full four-year terms, having been re-elected in November 2013 and November 2017.

Fitzgerald is a lifelong Hague resident and has served in many roles in the HVFD and on the Ticonderoga School Board.

Congratulations, Marty, and thank you for serving! ▣

THE MEXICAN GRILL AT THE WIND-CHILL FACTORY

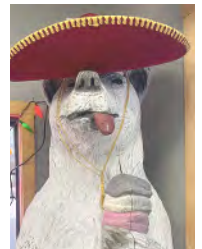
by Bobbi Bryant Taylor

Twenty-eight years ago, in the spring of 1996, Bob Porter opened the Wind-Chill Factory in Ticonderoga. At that time, it had just two ice cream machines (I loved the chocolate and vanilla swirl soft serve, which they still have) and also offered pretzels, chips, and Michigan hot dogs. That was *it*.

In the years since then, Porter has added many items to the seasonal menu including pizza, burgers, wraps, fries, ice cream specialties, and more.

Stopping at the Wind-Chill has become a much-loved family tradition for those living and visiting in the area. I'll bet most of us have photos of our children and/or grandchildren happily posing with Mr. Wind-Chill Bear, dripping ice cream cone in hand!

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SENIORS CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze



Best wishes to everyone for a happy, healthy and blessed New Year 2024!

We started 2024 with Game Night on January 4th. It was a good get-together and a lot of laughs.

Then, we had our annual International Dinner on the 18th. A nice group of people come out in 16-degree weather to share the delicious dishes.

On Tuesday, January 23rd, we held our meeting to close out 2023 and install officers for 2024. Our officers are:

- President** - Pat Hintze
- Vice-President** - Annette Wells
- Secretary** - Jean Yeager
- Treasurer** - Maureen Cherubini
- Trustees** - Ray Snyder and Karen Lucas

On February 1st, we'll have Game Night at 6:30 pm, so come on out and enjoy some snacks, laughter, and fun.

Tentative events for February include John Brown's Sleigh Ride in the Snow and the Winter Carnival Ice Castle. Check the Hague Senior Club Facebook page for details.

On February 27th, we will be at the Hague Volunteer Fire Department at noon for our meeting, snacks, and dessert. ❑

The Hague Chronicle is happy to publish announcements of births, marriages, graduations, anniversaries of 50/55/60/65+, awards, or deaths.

We will now include a high quality photo for publication in Soundings.

Please send information and photos to editor@thehaguechronicle.org.

HVFD

by Donna Trudeau



For the month of December, Hague Fire had five calls for 35 volunteer hours and EMS had four calls for 18 volunteer hours. We had one marine rescue, one welfare check, and one stand-by for our mutual aid company.

We had a great turnout for our Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Raffle, which benefited the University of Vermont (UVM) Children's Miracle Network and honored Liam Scoville. It was successful because of those who donated baskets or items and the support we got at the dinner.

Now that it is snowing, we would like to remind everyone that snow needs to be cleared away from your heat vents.

For your health and safety, be sure you drink lots of fluids when shoveling and take plenty of breaks.

We will hold our annual Firemen's Buffet Breakfast on February 17, 2024 from 9 - 11 am. The cost is \$12 for adults and kids under 13 are \$6.

February 18th will be a big day for the fire department. We will have our Polar

HAGUE FISH & GAME WINTERFEST EVENTS

by Bobbie Jean Fish

The Hague Fish & Game Club's Winterfest will be held on February 17, 2024 starting at 1 pm. There will be a bonfire and hot cocoa all day. The sliding hill will also be open all day.

Events will be:

1:30 pm - Kids' Coloring and a Giant Jenga Challenge

There will be two towers with teams comprised of two adults and two kids each. The final team standing will win a \$50 gift card.

2:15 pm - Frying Pan Toss

There will be three categories for the competition: Adult Women, Adult



Siblings Miya, Liam, Elijah, and Maleena at the spaghetti dinner

Plunge at 2 pm at the Trout House Village dock. Registration is at 1:30 pm and the cost is \$5 per person. WOKO radio will be there. Plungers who raise at least \$150 will get a free t-shirt. There will be a \$15 charge for a shirt for those who want to support the UVM Children's Miracle Network. There will be free hot cocoa and hot coffee at the HVFD afterward for all the plungers.

Then, our annual Chili Cook-Off will be from 4 pm - 8 pm. Those who would like to enter their favorite chili should drop it off at the fire department at 1:30 pm. The entry cost is \$15 per person. The winners will get bragging rights and a trophy. We will have hamburgers and hot dogs available.

We hope to have the continued support from everyone in our community. ❑

Men, and Child (12 and under). Each contestant throws twice. Winners will receive a Hague Fish & Game Club membership for 2024-2025 and a shirt.

3 pm - (The "ever-favorite") Chainsaw Challenge

Contestants should bring their own stock saws. It will be a timed event and the first to go through three full slices moves on. The winner gets bragging rights, \$100, and a Hague Fish & Game Club shirt.

3:30 pm - Kids' Snowman Build (weather permitting)

6:30 pm - Spaghetti Dinner (eat in or take out) - \$15

7 pm - 10 pm - Rich Ortiz

A small fireworks display will conclude the day. ❑

BERTHA DUNSMORE RETIRES, CONTINUED

Bertha has been a member of most organizations in town, and, even if not a member, she has always been on the list of volunteers, offering helping hands. The Hague Volunteer Fire Department, the Hague Historical Society, the Hague Seniors Club, *The Hague Chronicle*, Meals on Wheels, the Rotary Club, the AARP Tax Program, the Hague Winter Carnival Committee, the Hague Memorial Day Parade Committee, and the Hague Bicentennial Committee, among others, all benefited from her cheerful dedication to making good things happen in Hague.

She has often been the recipient of awards for her efforts. In 2005, the Chamber of Commerce Senior Citizen of the Year, Rotary Volunteer of the Year in 2011 and, in 2012, she was the Grand Marshal of the Memorial Day Parade. The accolades have accumulated over the years, but perhaps Bertha's greatest compliments come from those people in our community who she has tended to with kindness and caring.

We at *The Hague Chronicle* have enjoyed a long relationship with Bertha Frasier Dunsmore and we know that you, our readers, join us in wishing her a happy, healthy, well-deserved retirement. ❑

FISHING TOURNAMENT

by *Bobbie Jean Fish*

The Hague Fish & Game Club Annual Fishing Tournament will be held on February 24 and 25, 2024. The locations will be all public Essex, Warren, and Washington County waters.

The categories will be Lake Trout, Perch, Salmon, and Pike.

The entry fee is \$40 for those 16 and older for both days. Those under age 16 are free. There will be a 75% payout for adult registration and junior door prizes will be donated from local merchants.

The weigh stations will be at the Hague Fish & Game Clubhouse at 488 West Hague Road on Saturday from 8 am – 3 pm and on Sunday from 8 am – 3 pm *sharp*. Awards will be handed out at 4 pm.

Those interested should pre-register at these bait shops: Silver Bay General Store, Norm's Bait and Tackle in Crown Point, the FMB Bait Shop in Port Henry, Fish 307 in Lake George, or Crossroads Country Store in Chestertown. ❑

SILVER BAY HAPPENINGS

Dinners at the Bay are back with a new name: the Mountain View Grille. Not only are they bringing this Silver Bay favorite back, but they are offering even more restaurant hours.

On Fridays from now through February 23rd, this pop-up restaurant will be open by reservation only, which can be made by emailing abasile@silverbay.org or by calling 518-543-8475.



Some things to look forward to are:

- A new menu weekly consisting of appetizers, soups and salads, entrées, pasta dishes, and house-made desserts.
- A beer and wine menu.
- Reservations starting at 4:30 pm, with the last seating at 7 pm.

Silver Bay's Winter Weekend will be held February 16-19, 2024. Go to silverbay.org for details. ❑

FREE INCOME TAX PREP

Free income tax preparation services for tax year 2023 are available at the Hague Community Center from today until April 11, 2024. Volunteers are trained and certified each year with special attention to changes made by the IRS and New York State Tax and Finance.

The volunteers will prepare returns on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 3 pm.

Call their new phone number (518-543-6366) to schedule your free tax preparation appointment. They look forward to seeing you!

Last year, for tax year 2022, the Hague AARP Tax Aide Program prepared 300 returns for local taxpayers. This free tax preparation program started for tax year 2005 and prepares federal and state returns for taxpayers in Hague, Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and surrounding areas at no charge to the taxpayers.

There is no age or income limit and you don't have to be a member of AARP to receive this service. ❑

HAGUE FISH & GAME CLUB BIG BUCK WINNERS

by *Bobbie Jean Fish*

Please congratulate all our Big Buck winners:



- First** - Kevin Hart
- Second** - Alvin Frasier
- Third** - Tim Denno
- Largest Muzzle Loader** - Maysen Lapoint
- Smallest Buck** - Joey Trudeau (youngest contestant)
- Large Buck for Women** - Abby Braunius
- Hidden Weight Award** - Tom Brassard

Thank you again to our sponsors and to all the contestants who continue to support the Hague Fish & Game Club! ...'til next year! ❑

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 11/16/2023

Present were Chairman Robert Goetsch, Ray Snyder, Chris Navitsky, Linda Mury, and Jon Hanna. Also present were ZEO Tristan Shappy, Acting Zoning Enforcement Officer Cathy Clark, and Recording Secretary Kathy Santaniello.

PUBLIC HEARING:

KIMBLE (26.17-2-42.122) 9112 Lakeshore Drive (Hamlet) VAR 15-23

No one spoke in favor of or opposed to the project. Four letters were read from nearby property owners who had questions regarding the zoning issues involved. Clark reported the Planning Board had carried out a site visit and made a positive recommendation, with conditions. Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed that the public hearing be closed.

REGULAR MEETING

OLD BUSINESS:

1. JESBERGER (43.13-1-29) 7 Bayberry Lane (TR-1) VAR 08-23, VAR 09-23, VAR 10-23

The applicant is applying for three variances for an addition to a nonconforming structure. The home is in the sewer district and the project has received approval from the Cape Cod Association.

Zoning Issue: 160-65 (A)(1) More than 25% increase to a nonconforming structure.

Two of the variance requests have been eliminated, leaving only Variance 08-23, Zoning Issue 160-65 (A)(1), more than 25% increase to a nonconforming structure. Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

2. KIMBLE (26.17-2-42.122) 9112 Lakeshore Drive (Hamlet) VAR 15-23

The applicants would like to remove an existing 100-sq. ft. shed and construct a 200-sq. ft. gazebo 30' from the MHW.

Zoning Issues:160-50 B (b) (3)

There were questions about the right-of-way/easement situation, how far back from the lake the structure will be, retaining the easement for pedestrian access to the lake, and whether there will be lights in the structure.

Two conditions were discussed: 1. The amendment to the easement to be ten feet. 2. No permanent lights on the structure. The motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously including only the first condition.

OTHER BUSINESS: At 7:20 pm, the board went into executive session to discuss possible litigation. After discussion, the motion was made, seconded, and carried 4-1-0 (Goetch recused.) to adjourn the executive session. ■

TOWN BOARD - 12/28/2023

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

Also present were: Town Clerk Kim Coffin, Deputy Highway Superintendent and ZOOM Coordinator Tim Fiallo, Linda Mury, Annette Wells, Peggy Kowalsky, Karen Galow, Mike Galo, Meg Haskell, and Karen Lucas.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously that the board authorize payment of bills in the General Fund, Highway Fund, and Sewer Funds #1 and #2.

Frasier read Diane Trudeau's resignation letter. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously that her resignation be effective December 31, 2023.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously that Desiree Diskin would work at the front desk at the rate of \$17 per hour, effective January 2, 2024 and until the board approves a replacement for Bertha Dunsmore.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously that Donna Clark's salary be raised to \$19.50 per hour so it is in line with other town employees.

Patchett read his letter of resignation for his unexpired Hague Town Board term, effective December 31, 2023 at 11:59 pm. The letter in its entirety is on file at the town clerk's office.

Frasier reminded the board that the judge's, town clerk's, ZEO's and bookkeeper's books need to be audited by January 20, 2024 and that the 2024 organizational meeting will be held January 3rd at 6 pm.

At 3:10 pm, the board went into executive session to interview applicants for the upcoming open town board position. The session was closed.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to appoint Martin Fitzgerald II to fill the seat vacated by Patchett, effective January 1st. ■

TOWN BOARD - 1/11/2024

Present were Supervisor Joshua Patchett, Board Members Steve Ramant, Martin Fitzgerald, and Jack Bast. Board Member Maureen Cherubini was absent.

Also present were Town Clerk Kim Coffin, Highway Superintendent Chad Dunklee, Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) Cathy Clark, ZOOM Coordinator Tim Fiallo, Tom Jarrett from RU Holmes Engineers, Erik Sandblom from SRA Engineers, Stephanie Bitter, Ken Parlin, Gregory Klingler, Tim Klingler, Sheri Vaillancourt, Sue Forlie, Mary Lou Doulin, Donna Wotton, Seddon Beaty, Bill Fritzky,

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TOWN BOARD 1/11, CONTINUED

Linda Mury, Bill and Annette Wells, Mike and Peggy Kowalsky, Pat Hintze, Lara Smith-Ryder, Karen and Leo Lucas and several others who did not sign in. There were 25-30 attendees via ZOOM.

PUBLIC HEARING #1:

Ellie Hitzrot at 24 Tower Point Road, *Tax Map # 76.12-1-14* is seeking six variances pertaining to her septic system. Sandblom stated that the owners want to replace their system to meet the current standards. The proposed system will be a NSF Certified Enhanced Treatment Unit, Fuji CEN-5 tank, a pump tank, and new absorption field, which is suitable for the limited space. Cedarwood Engineering has reviewed the application and has made recommendations in a letter dated January 8, 2024. That letter is available for review in the town clerk's office. Patchett stated the Hitzrot Public Hearing will remain open until the February 13, 2024 town board meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING #2:

Oxford Cottages, Inc./Lee Cunningham, *Tax Map #76.20-1-3.2*, 4 Silver Bay Road (TR-1R) The applicant is seeking five variances pertaining to the existing septic system. Jarrett gave an overview of the previously-approved Oxford Cottages, Inc./Lee Cunningham application. Several audience members and ZOOM attendees spoke either in favor of or against the application.

Due to a clerical error in the original application, the application had to be resubmitted for town board approval. Stephanie Bitters from Bartlett, Pontiff, Stewart & Rhodes, P.C., Attorneys, who was retained by Peter and Carol Sisca and Callie Sullivan, provided and reviewed documentation as to why they retained the firm. The document, dated January 11, 2024, is available for review in the town clerk's office. Patchett stated this public hearing will remain open until further notice.

Jarrett then gave brief reviews of the following sewer-related applications:

Thomas Simunek at 5 Greyford Way *Tax Map # 12.18-1-29.2*

David Lance Clark at 9657 Lakeshore Drive *Tax Map # 12.14-1-18.1*

Mike and Beth Regan at 7929 and 7931 Lakeshore Drive *Tax Map # 93.12-1-24.1 and 93.12-1-24.2*

The motion to set these public hearings for February 13th at 6:15 pm was made, seconded, and passed.

WELCOME GUESTS/PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

David DeFranco presented documents explaining his concerns and suggestions regarding the applications for Thomas Simunek and David Lance Clark.

Doulin said we need to focus on the lake's water quality, including preventing bacteria in the lake.

REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Buildings and Grounds/Community Center/Enhancement: Patchett stated the community center building needs fresh paint on the interior and exterior.

Highway: Dunklee stated the highway department crew has been welcoming and helpful during his transition period.

Museum and Historian: The scheduled meeting was canceled due to weather.

Personnel: The interviews for highway and front office help will be held in the near future. Interviews for the opening on the planning board will be conducted on January 17th. Bast is still working with Civil Service regarding the ZEO position.

Planning/Zoning/Storm Water: ZEO Cathy Clerk stated her office has been extremely busy and for the board to expect many more variances.

Recreation/Promotion/Youth: Fitzgerald reminded Patchett to review the 2024 budget to confirm the Silver Camp monies were budgeted for the upcoming year.

Sewer Districts # 1 and #2: The truck is having major mechanical issues that need to be addressed. The Sewer Advisory Committee continues to work on the placement of an emergency generator at Cape Cod Village.

Town Park and Beautification: Ramant is working with Todd Fish and National Grid on the replacement of some streetlight bulbs.

Technology and Communications: Patchett explained this is a new committee, which will focus on better communication between the town board and the members of the community.

Coffin stated there had been an issue with the Hague E-Check payments online due to the fact that the managing credit card company did not activate the option on the town's website. The issue was promptly addressed. Anyone who made payments via E-check online before January 10th is asked to please contact Coffin.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Patchett reminded the community the town is searching for a volunteer to organize the Memorial Day Parade. Interested persons or groups should contact him.

Patchett stated that the updated Short-Term Rental (STR) changes have been distributed to the town board members for them to review for a future public hearing. These changes are also on the town's website.

NEW BUSINESS:

Patchett reminded the board to schedule appointments to audit the books of the judge, ZEO, bookkeeper, and town clerk by January 20th.

This meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed by clicking [HERE](#).

SOUNDINGS

DIED: Yves Darves-Bornoz, 93, on January 11, 2024 in Albany.

Yves was born and spent his childhood in La Chapelle Bouvexic Maure-de-Bretagne, France, the youngest of seven children. He moved to Montreal in 1951 and a few years later met and married Josée Leroy.

During Yves' early career as a tool and die maker and engineer, he and Josée moved to the US and lived in NY, OH, and CA with their young sons, eventually settling in NY State, where Yves worked for IBM. Over the course

of his career, Yves was awarded numerous patents and merit citations for his work.

Throughout his life, Yves cultivated and maintained a strong sense of cultural community among his American and international friends. He was remembered fondly by his colleagues and friends.

He and his wife retired to their second home in Hague, where they enjoyed boating, sailing, and



picnicking on Lake George. They also enjoyed skiing at Gore Mountain with their Backwoods Ski Club friends.

Yves is survived by: his wife, Josée; his sons, Gilles Pierre (Bonnie) and Daniel Lincoln (Suzanne); his grandchildren, Derek Yves, Natalie Jeanne, Jacqueline Patricia, Anne Louise, and Peter Yves; and his great-grandchildren, Rosalie, Sophie, Rhys, Jack, and Jasper.

Those wishing to remember Yves may send contributions to the Alzheimer's Association of Northeastern NY, 4 Pine West Plaza, Suite 405, Albany, NY 12205. ▣

WIND-CHILL FACTORY, CONTINUED

Until now, the Wind-Chill has been open from March through October, with its busiest months being June, July, and August. The long summer lines attest to that!

It has employed scores of teenagers and adults from Ticonderoga, Hague, Arcady, and Gull Bay. In the heart of the summer, about 40 people man the pizza, grill, fryers, and ice cream areas.

The exciting news is that, as of January 2024, the Wind-Chill has also "gone Mexican" by opening the Mexican Grill on site!

When asked why he wanted to stay open all year and why Mexican food, owner Bob Porter explained, "We have great employees in the summer and we want to continue employing them. We decided that with Mexican being a quick-service model and with it being the fastest-growing ethnic food, it would be the right menu to try. Also, nobody else in town offered Mexican on a permanent basis."

So, after Columbus Day weekend 2023, Bob and his crew made a number of modifications to the building. They studied nationwide Mexican restaurants to see what each did well and what he and his crew could do even better. Bob's sister, Karen Whalen, helped in every facet of the transition.

The manager, Tyler Lauder milk, and workers Erin Burroughs and Chantal Smith did research, Porter attended cooking shows and met with Sysco Foods, and they all learned how to make authentic Mexican-style dishes. They committed to going above and beyond the norm by trimming the fat off meats prior to cooking, chunking the beef, and marinating the meats in their own flavorful marinades.

After much work, they were ready. The official ribbon-cutting ceremony occurred on Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 4:30 pm...and quality Mexican food became available on an everyday basis in Ticonderoga!

The Mexican Grill offers made-to-order burritos, burrito bowls (similar to Chipotle's), tacos, taco salads, and seven different signature bowls, featuring a variety of healthy and delicious optional ingredients. Kid's meals are also available.

The employees make their own pico de gallo, salsa verde, corn salsa, and regular salsa and they even whip their sour cream so it's extra light and creamy. Now, that *is* special!

The grill has a self-serve fountain with sodas and iced teas. Bottled sodas, Mexican sodas like pineapple and mango, and authentic Mexican Coca Cola in glass bottles (which uses sugar cane instead of the American corn syrup version) are all available. Incidentally, soda aficionados say the

Mexican Coke tastes much better than our American variety!

There's an original Slush Puppy machine in which they can make blue raspberry Slushies and even virgin margaritas.

A milkshake machine (like they have at Five Guys and Chick-fil-A) creates tasty milkshakes that are so thick, they require extra fat straws!

To place an order, customers can call 518-585-3044, order online at windchillfactory.com, or by downloading the app. Porter says it's super easy to use and food can be completely made to order. The customer places an order, the staff is alerted, it accepts the order, and the app tells the customer how long it will be before the order will be ready. Simple!

The Mexican Grill is open for takeout *only* from 11 am – 7 pm, seven days a week. There is a drive-up window for pick ups and delivery service is available. It is located at 794 Route 9N in Ticonderoga.

Porter says he plans to continue operating the Mexican Grill during the summer, along with all the delicious offerings we've come to love from the Wind-Chill Factory. That is good news!

"If you haven't tried the Mexican Grill, please come out and try it. I think you'll be pleasantly surprised. We offer service, quality, quantity, and a good price," said Porter. ▣

THE STORM WINDOWS RELEASE NEW SONG

The Silver Bay-based acoustic duo “The Storm Windows” will celebrate the release of the first song from their new five-song extended play (EP). An EP is a musical release that is longer than a single, but shorter than a full-length album.

The song "Blue Town" will be performed at two local events: Friday, March 1, 2024 at Ledge Hill Brewers in Ticonderoga from 7 - 9 pm and Saturday, March 2nd at Beck's Tavern in North Creek from 2 - 5 pm. Both events are free and attendees will receive a copy of the EP while supplies last.



“The Storm Windows” consists of brothers Rob (guitar) and Don (upright bass) Mathews. They play a mix of original songs and popular tunes (such as The Band, The Grateful Dead, etc.).

They have two albums available on Spotify and Apple Music and videos/links can be found [HERE](#). 📌

SALMON IN THE CLASSROOM

We all know that fish travel in schools. With its *Salmon in the Classroom Program*, the Lake George Association (LGA) literally puts the fish in schools. Guided by this program, students raise landlocked Atlantic salmon through the first three stages of life (egg, alevin, and fry) and then release them in the Lake George watershed. Students use a tank setup that mimics an outdoor environment, including rocks where salmon can congregate and a chiller to control water temperature.

In January, the salmon eggs were delivered to participating schools. Each week, tank temperature is increased by one to two degrees. During the month of February, the eggs will hatch, releasing tiny alevin that spend time on the rocks. An attached nutrient sac provides food through this stage, which lasts approximately six weeks. In March, the salmon transition to the fry stage and the students begin feeding them. By the end of May, the fry are two to three inches long and tank temperature is the same as the water in local streams.

After obtaining a release permit from the state, students set their salmon free within the watershed, as the school year draws to a close. Through their five months of being caretakers for the salmon, the students learn valuable lessons about the life cycle of salmon. 📌

TREE AND SHRUB SEEDLING SALE IN WARREN COUNTY

Before we know it, the snow will be gone, the ground will thaw, and property owners will start thinking about their yards and gardens. Residents may want to consider taking advantage of the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District's annual tree and shrub seedling sale to improve the landscape around their properties.

Buying young bare root seedlings can provide beneficial habitat for wildlife, encourage pollinators such as hummingbirds, butterflies, bees, and more, help reduce soil erosion, improve water quality in Warren County, and beautify landscapes.

Fruit trees, conservation packs, tree shelters, bluebird, bat, and wood duck houses, wildflower seed mixes, deer plot seed mix, and upland game bird seed mixes can also be ordered.

The deadline for ordering is March 6, 2024. Pickup date is April 19th. Click [HERE](#) for more information. 📌

LGLC EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) events in February 2024 will be:

February 16th and 17th: The annual Walk on Water to Dome Island is **full**, but those interested can sign up for the waiting lists for either day.

February 22nd: A free 1.2-mile snowshoe hike at Amy's Park to kick off this year's Discovery Series. An Up Yonda Farm naturalist will help participants search for animal tracks and more. Snowshoes are available upon request.

February 23rd: Participants will snowshoe to Bradley's Lookout at the Pinnacle Preserve, led by an Up Yonda Farm naturalist. Snowshoers will learn about animal adaptations and enjoy a wintery view of Lake George. 1.5 miles total distance. Free. Snowshoes are available upon request.

February 24th: The LGLC NextGen Committee will host a guided snowshoe hike to the iconic Pinnacle view with NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Biologist Ashley Meyer. Open to all, this hike is geared toward young professionals looking to connect with fellow outdoor enthusiasts.

Click [HERE](#) for more details and to register. 📌

LGLC SUMMER INTERNSHIP

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) is accepting applications for a paid summer internship for 2024. This position will support the work of the LGLC's Conservation Program and Education and Outreach Program. Working alongside conservation staff, the intern will learn about land monitoring, management, and stewardship and will help coordinate various summer events designed to raise public awareness. The intern will have broad exposure to all facets of the LGLC's operations. If interested, click [HERE](#). Applications must be submitted by March 1, 2024. 📌

TI-ALLIANCE RECEIVES GRANT FOR CHILDCARE

The Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance has received a \$25,000 grant from the Cloudsplitter Foundation to support the Ticonderoga Community Childcare Project.

“We’re excited to be a part of bringing public childcare to another Adirondack community. Early learning is essential to preparing our children for school and has such a significant impact on their ability to be successful throughout their lives. The availability of childcare for working families also helps to raise the level of household incomes and supports a healthy community economy. We can’t wait to visit the new facility,” said Cloudsplitter Foundation Director of Grants and Administration Chenelle Palyswiat.

The funding comes at a critical time as renovations on the building at St. Mary’s School began in January. Other planning for the center’s opening is ongoing including a final operating plan, facility upgrades, staffing, and curriculum.

Pre-registration is open and pre-registered families will have priority for final enrollment.

Individuals interested in working at the center and families interested in enrolling children should contact Ti-Alliance for an application or click [HERE](#) to download a pre-registration form.

Since early 2022, Ti-Alliance and a dedicated team of committee members have been working to bring public childcare to Ticonderoga. The grant is part of a funding goal of nearly \$1 million needed to build a sustainable public childcare facility that will serve Ticonderoga and all the surrounding towns for many years to come.

At the outset, the center will support approximately 50 children and create 11 full time jobs, all providing living wage salaries and benefits. The center is expected to open this spring. ❑

PLANETARIUM PROGRAM IN TI

Did you know that Ticonderoga has a planetarium? It does and it’s located at the Ticonderoga Junior/Senior High School!

Mark your calendars for March 23, 2024 at 10:30 am for the program *Science Through Shadows* as well as a tour of the school. This program will highlight the upcoming April 8th solar eclipse.

Those interested in attending should contact Linda Fusco at lindafuscophd@gmail.com. ❑

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!

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE is a monthly news journal, which has been published by volunteers since January 1972. Please send all news items and Soundings by the deadline listed in the calendar, to editor@thehaguechronicle.org Please send any questions to publisher@thehaguechronicle.org .

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Editor: Bobbi Bryant Taylor	Staff: Claire Best, Tina King, Pat McDonough, and Sandy Powell
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CROSS-COUNTRY SKI

Cross-country skiers can Join leader David Thomas-Train for a challenging/intermediate cross-country ski at Cat and Thomas Mountains Preserve on February 3, 2024. This four-mile-round-trip ski will follow the low-land trails to and from Edgcomb Pond and is expected to take five to six hours.



Participants must bring food and liquid (preferably hot), dress in several non-cotton layers, and bring a wind shell.

This trip requires a high level of experience with cross-country skiing and physical fitness.

Trip leaders reserve the right to decline participation by any person if they deem, in their sole judgment, that such participation would present a danger to themselves or others.

For more information or to register, email Sarah Hoffman at shoffman@lgc.com. ❑

TI'COUSTICS MUSIC IN TICONDEROGA AND HAGUE

Ti'coustics, the music shows featuring local musicians on guitars and other instruments, will have two shows in February 2024.

The first will be held on Thursday, February 1st from 7 – 9 pm at the Knights of Columbus at 103 Montcalm Street in Ticonderoga. It will feature Kathy Blanchette and Lance Dolbeck; Mike Ianson and Joe McDowell; and Christine and Ken Romano.

The second show will be on Thursday, February 15th from 7 – 9 pm at the Hague Community Center. It will feature Pat Pengitore, Lance Clark, and Mike Donahue; Brad Peria and Doug Cossey; and Dan Rabideau.

Anyone who wants to be on the email list for information on Ti'coustics shows, please contact Lance Clark at lanceclark49@gmail.com . ❑

TI-ARTS GALLERY

The Ti-Arts Gallery will be closed from February 18 – March 2, 2024 for painting and other maintenance. It will reopen on March 7th with a show by Judith Ellers. The opening reception for her work will be on Friday, March 8th from 5 – 7 pm. ❑



Cool January morning on Lake George, courtesy of Paul Budd

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT

February 11, 2024 from 2 – 3 pm

Virtual Author Series

The Fort Ticonderoga *Author Series* features presentations by authors of books related to colonial and revolutionary war history.

Andrew Wehrman will present *The Contagion of Liberty: The Politics of Smallpox in the American Revolution*.

This program requires pre-registration. For a full description click [HERE](#).

February 17, 2024

Living History Event: 1776 Winter at Ticonderoga

Soldiers at Ticonderoga in February 1776 struggled to maintain their vital link in the supply chain that kept an American Army alive at the gates of Quebec City.

Visitors will see how soldiers and teamsters kept sleds running over the ice of Lake Champlain to feed and clothe the Continental Army soldiers in Canada.

Visitors will also explore how the small garrison of New York troops survived through the depths of the winter. ❑

MASON STAR PUBLIC DINNER

A public roast turkey breast dinner, sponsored jointly by the members of Mount Defiance Lodge No. 794, F. & A.M. and the Fort Ticonderoga Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, will be served Monday, February 26, 2024, from 4:30 until 6 pm at the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street, Ticonderoga (across from the Stone House).

Take-outs will also be available. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 12 years old and under and will be sold at the door.

Parking for this event will be available along Montcalm Street and also at the Hancock House parking lot. ❑

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

CALENDAR

February 2024

FEBRUARY

1		BLACK HISTORY MONTH begins	17	1 pm	WINTERFEST — Hague Fish & Game Club
1		The February Issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> is published	18	2 pm	HVFD'S Polar Bear Plunge at Trout House Village Dock
1	6:30 pm	Seniors Game Night	18	4 - 8 pm	HVFD Chili Cookoff
1	7 - 9 pm	Ti'coustics at the Knights of Columbus	19		PRESIDENT'S DAY
1	7 pm	Hague Planning Board Meeting	20	6 pm	<i>The Hague Chronicle</i> deadline for the March issue
3		Cross Country Ski Cat and Thomas Mountains Preserve	22	7 pm	Hague Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
11	2 - 3 pm	Fort Ticonderoga Author Series	22		LGLC Snowshoe event Amy's Park
13	6 pm	Hague Town Board Meeting	23		LGLC Snowshoe event to Bradley Point
14		VALENTINE'S DAY	24		LGLC Snowshoe event for NextGen to Pinnacle View
15	7-9 pm	Ti'coustics at the Hague Community Center	24 - 25		Hague Fish & Game Club Annual Fishing Tournament
16		LGLC Annual Walk on Water	26	4:30 - 6 pm	Masonic Star Public Roast Turkey Breast Dinner
17		LGLC Annual Walk on Water	27	12 pm	Seniors Meeting at the HVFD
17		Fort Ticonderoga Living History			
17		1776 Winter at Ticonderoga			
17	9 - 11 am	Fireman's Buffet HVFD			

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