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## ELECTION DAY 2024 IN HAGUE

Three candidates are running for local positions in Hague this year.

Edna Frasier is running to fill the one-year unexpired term on the Hague Town Board. Chris Richards and Lara Smith Ryder are competing to fill the three-year unexpired term on the Hague Town Board.

Here are their statements and photos.

### Edna Frasier

I have opted to run for a one-year term on the town board. Twelve years as Supervisor, town board member for six years and Deputy Supervisor for two years, I am confident that I can contribute and make a difference. I served as Chairman of the Health Services committee for Warren Country, allowing me to better understand Public Health, Mental Health and Office of the Aging.

I have lived in Hague my entire life, have concerns about some of the changes being made and would like to be your voice.

Challenges ahead of us include the need for a new highway garage, proposed visitor center, and fostering a better working relationship. Listening is key and critical, and we must strive to listen more to our constituents and their concerns.

Please vote on November 5 and remember, you are always welcome to attend public meetings.



### Chris Richards

I came to Hague in 2015 and currently work as the facilities director for Fort Ticonderoga. In July, I was unanimously appointed by the Town Board to fill Steve Ramant's unexpired term. In this election, I am honored to have the endorsement of town board members from both parties, which I view as a testament to how well we work together.

My diverse skill set and knowledge base can benefit the Town of Hague in many ways. My main goals are to support small business, promote competitive wages for town employees, protect our natural resources, advance affordable housing, and manage short-term rentals for the benefit of all who live in and enjoy our community.

I ask for your support on November 5 so we can continue to move the town forward into a future that is good for everyone in Hague.

Let's keep the positive momentum and cohesiveness going!

### Lara Smith Ryder

I have been a fulltime resident of Hague since 2004 and have summered here since 1968.

While raising four wonderful sons as a single parent, I was also a self-employed business owner for 25 years, operating two successful businesses, including a local business, Meadowbrook Acres Boarding & Grooming, from 2009 to 2019. I am now "semi-retired" and enjoy



substitute teaching at Ticonderoga School.

I have a great love for the Adirondacks and, to an even greater extent, our town. I believe that we need a voice that will convey accurate and fair representation for the community and for the issues that directly affect us which include, but are not limited to, a new highway department building, competitive wages for town employees, and a visitors' center that is practical without being excessive.

It would be an honor to serve the fellow members of this community. Let's move forward together!

*To see a sample ballot listing all of the candidates running for office this year, see page 8.* ■

## HAGUE TOWN BUDGET

The Hague Town Budget has been submitted to Town Clerk Kim Coffin, who has made copies available for residents in the community center lobby. \*A public hearing on the budget will be held on November 4, 2024, at 6 pm at the community center. ■

## VETERANS DAY IN HAGUE

Join us in a salute honoring our veterans and their families Monday, November 11, 2024 at 11 am at Hague Veterans Park. We will be paying tribute to our veterans, both living and dead, who served our great nation in war and peace. Jim O'Toole will be the speaker.

In the event of rain, the ceremony will be held at the community center.

The HVFD is serving free soup and sandwiches at the firehouse after this veterans service. ■

## SENIORS CLUB NEWS

by Pat Hintze

The fall colors are as beautiful as ever in the Adirondacks.



We had a perfect day for our annual gathering, the Senior Picnic. It was wonderful to see Judy Stock stop by, visit for a bit, and enjoy some food. She even took some extra food to share with members who couldn't attend, which was very thoughtful—thank you, Judy.

We visited the Indian Lake Moose Festival on another beautiful day. Afterward, we enjoyed lunch together and everyone had a great time. Some of us even found goodies to take home.

We had a fantastic turnout for Game Night at Maureen's house. Every seat was filled and we shared lots of laughs, fun, and, of course, plenty of snacks!

We had a lovely day on the Lake George Fall Foliage Luncheon Cruise aboard the Lac Du Saint Sacrament. The cruise was delightful, the lunch was delicious, and we even had entertainment! Many of us got up to dance—some might call it exercise and others got their steps in—but what mattered most was that everyone enjoyed a wonderful day out with friends.

Some seniors made it to the Garlic Festival in Warrensburg. They even picked up some garlic for those of us who couldn't make it. Thank you! ▣

## HAGUE MEMORY TREE TIME

The Hague Memory Tree, started 35 years ago by Imogene Frasier in memory of her son Dale, offers a meaningful way to remember loved ones and honor those still with us. All proceeds benefit the Hague Volunteer Fire Department.

To participate, please list the names of those you wish to remember or honor and send a check for \$1 per name made out to HVFD to Memory Tree, PO Box 509, Hague, NY 12836. You can also contribute in person at the community center with cash or a check.

Donations are kindly requested by December 13, 2024. Thank you for your support! ▣

## AARP TAX ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The local American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) TaxAide team is preparing for the 2024 income tax season

Each year, the team prepares federal and state tax returns at no cost for approximately 300 residents from Hague, Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and nearby communities.

After coordinating the team for 20 years, Jan and Bob Whitaker are ready to transition to support roles. To ensure the continuation of this valuable service, they are seeking volunteers to take on roles as local coordinators, tax preparers, and greeters.

To learn more about volunteering for this rewarding program, contact Hague AARP TaxAide Local Coordinator Jan Whitaker at 518-543-6826. ▣

## HAGUE FOOD PANTRY

The Hague Food Pantry has received many generous donations and is nearly fully operational.

Community members are encouraged to spread the word that the food pantry is open during the regular hours of the Hague Community Center, from 8 am to 4 pm. Those in need of grocery deliveries can call the community center at 518-543-6161.

There is also an unlocked box outside the community center entrance with food that residents are welcome to take at any time.

In-person donations are welcome or items can be sent directly to the community center through the Amazon Wish List [HERE](#).

The organizers of the Hague Food Pantry greatly appreciate the community's support. ▣



## HVFD

by Donna Trudeau



The Hague Volunteer Fire Department had a busy September, responding to a combined total of nineteen Fire and EMS calls. The department also held six Fire and EMS drills and participated in three standbys—one for Ticonderoga Fire and two providing EMS services during the balloon festival—for a grand total of 311 hours.

The Schroon Marathon provided excellent training and we hosted a class at our station covering updated material and hands-on training with water flow fundamentals.

We were honored to participate in the Annual Fire Prevention Event at the Ticonderoga Schools alongside the Ticonderoga Fire Department.

Thank you to everyone who supported our recent fundraiser. We would like to extend a special thanks to Tom Holman for providing the cooker and to Tim Fiallo for roasting the pig. We also appreciate all who contributed to our basket raffle.

As a reminder, please change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

Fire blankets are available for community members to help prevent small fires from getting out of hand during cooking mishaps. For more details, call the firehouse at 518-543-6059. ▣

## PROOFREADER NEEDED

*The Hague Chronicle* is looking for a volunteer to assist with proofreading each issue. This role, like all positions at the *The Hague Chronicle*, is unpaid and would require about two hours of your time around the 24th of each month.

If you already enjoy reading *The Hague Chronicle*, why not support your community by helping to proofread and share suggested edits with the editor? Your contribution would be greatly appreciated!

If interested, please contact Editor/Publisher Bobbi Bryant Taylor at [editor@thehaguechronicle.org](mailto:editor@thehaguechronicle.org) or call 336-287-3567. ▣

## SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) UPDATE

by Committee Chair Jack Bast

### BoE Meeting Streaming

Regarding the streaming of Ticonderoga School Board of Education (BoE) meetings, the Hague School Advisory Committee (SAC) considers the BoE's previous token responses of "*under consideration*" to be insufficient. Upon SAC recommendation, the Hague Town Board passed Resolution #96 of 2024 at its October 8, 2024 meeting.

Resolution #96 of 2024 (authored by Ginger Henry Kuenzel) and its transmittal letter request that the Ticonderoga Central School District BoE take all necessary steps to fulfill its obligations under the law and to make available timely and important information to its constituents.

This includes, but is not limited to, the board beginning to:

- stream its public meetings live online.
- record said meetings via a streaming platform and make it available for public viewing after the meeting has concluded.
- post and publicize the link to the streaming platform meeting on the school district's website.

Our letter emphasizes, "streaming is in the interest of good governance and transparency and is in the spirit of the law. Ticonderoga CSD needs to make its meetings accessible to the greatest possible number of Hague (and Ticonderoga) residents, parents, and taxpayers sooner, not later."

Supervisor Joshua Patchett effectively announced Resolution #96 personally at the October 17th BoE meeting. Patchett stated emphatically that the majority of Hague's voters are senior citizens and attending BoE meetings for many of them is not possible. Other than acknowledgment they had received our letter and resolution, there has been no comment from the BoE (only five of the nine members were present).

### Hague BoE Representative

It's not too early to note that, in May 2025, elections will be held for three open seats on the BoE. Hague's Donna Wotton was elected to the board this year. We need more Hague BoE representatives. Willing candidates need to step up now to start establishing recognition and to gain support.

Those interested in being candidates should contact me at jackbast@nycap.rr.com soon. ▣

## TOWN ADVISORY COMMITTEE LOOKS AT HAGUE'S FUTURE

by Ginger Henry Kuenzel

As Yogi Berra once advised, "Be very careful if you don't know where you're going because you might not get there." With this in mind, the Hague Town Board appointed a seven-member advisory committee earlier this year to take a look at using grant money to make improvements in the town's infrastructure. The committee, which consists of Supervisor Josh Patchett and Town Councilman Chris Richards as well as five public members, is working on updating Hague's Comprehensive Plan, which was first created in 2002. The town adopted a limited update to the plan in 2017 and now it's time to take another look. Some of the elements of the plan have been implemented and others have not. Furthermore, as times change, some of the unimplemented elements are no longer relevant, while there are likely new needs that are not yet in the plan.

One of the first focal points of the advisory committee is the town park, where the town is looking at building a new Hague Welcome Center and a performance pavilion. Hague applied for, and was awarded, two grants to help finance the initial planning. In terms of construction costs, grants are available that could fund 75% of the costs. The committee plans to present the concept for these structures at an informational meeting in the community center later this year in order to gather input and ideas on the proposed design. ▣

## HAIKU

by dl mattila

changing leaves  
the scent of wood smoke  
in the inn ▣

## GINGER HENRY KUENZEL FEATURED IN LAKE GEORGE LIVING

The October issue of *Lake George Living* shines a spotlight on Hague's own Ginger Henry Kuenzel in a feature written by Amanda May Metzger, with photos by the magazine's publisher, Arcady resident Sharon Burnstein.

A fourth-generation Hague resident, Ginger was born at Ticonderoga Hospital and her family's connection to Lake George dates back to the 1870s. She's deeply involved in the community, having served as a board member for the Town of Hague and currently as the president of the Hague Historical Society and a member of the Sewer Advisory Committee and the Comprehensive Plan Committee. She's also a board member of the Lake George Association.



(Continued on p. 8)

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 9/26/2024

Present were Chairman Robert Goetsch, Board Members Linda Mury, Tina Barth-King, Jon Hanna, and Chris Navitsky (via ZOOM). Also present were Zoning Enforcement Officer Ed Kirchberger, Recording Secretary Kathy Santaniello, Jeffrey Shapiro, Steve Smith, Sandra Rust, Jill Stull, and Rich Kimball. Randy Engler, Lee Cunningham, and Cathy Clark attended via ZOOM.

### Zoning Issues

#### 1. CUNNINGHAM (OXFORD COTTAGE) (76.20-1-32), 4 SILVER BAY ROAD (TR1) VAR 10-24

The applicants are seeking a variance after the fact for a small shed attached to the cottage to house the water system (water tank, hot water heater, and sediment and UV filters).

#### Zoning Issue: 160-50 B (b) Shoreline Setback

Cunningham, property owner, summarized the steps leading to the variance application. Several members of the Sisca family (neighbors to the north) opposed the project, citing multiple reasons outlined in a letter from Andrea Sisca. Their attorney, Shapiro, also argued against granting the variance. Navitsky inquired about the safety concern that led to the installation of the shed and asked why the water system couldn't be relocated. Cunningham explained the steep slope made the previous water pipe location difficult to access, making the current site more practical.

#### 2. ENGLER (43.5-1-26), 9077 LAKESHORE DRIVE (HP) VAR 08-24, (SP) 04-24

The applicant proposes replacing the existing retail single-story building with a two-story mixed-use building, with retail space below and a residence above.

#### Zoning Issues: 160-20 A Front Yard Setback, 160-65 Continuation of Non-Conforming Structure, 25% increase

Engler, the property owner, outlined proposed property improvements and traffic safety measures. Several neighbors expressed concerns about parking, snow removal, traffic hazards, and potential impacts on views. Navitsky asked about the gas tanks, driveway changes, and the possibility of banning short-term rentals. Barth-King questioned the height of the retaining wall and whether the town would maintain the widened driveway. Hanna asked for clarification on the building's new placement.

#### 3. SMITH (43.5-1-32), 9104 LAKESHORE DRIVE (HP) VAR 12-24 AND VAR 13-24

The applicant wants to replace a nonconforming single-family structure with a conforming one.

#### Zoning Issues: 160-50 B(b) Expansion within Shoreline Setback, 160-20A Expansion within Frontline Setback

Smith, the property owner, explained that demolition and rebuilding are necessary due to structural issues. He noted the new plans include better setbacks, less lot coverage, and stormwater runoff provisions. Rust, a neighbor, spoke in favor of the project, while neighbors Stull and Kimball expressed concerns about views and property values.

#### 4. CUNNINGHAM (OXFORD COTTAGE) (76.20-1-32), 4 SILVER BAY ROAD (TR1) VAR 14-24

The applicants are seeking permission to live in their now-accessory structure until their new home is completed, with plans to remove kitchen and shower plumbing afterward.

#### Zoning Issue: 160-10A Accessory Structure

Cunningham and Clark, both speaking via ZOOM, clarified their understanding of the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) process and the future use of the accessory structure. Several Sisca family members and their attorney opposed the request, citing concerns about setting a precedent for after-the-fact variances.

The motion to close the public hearings (except for the Engler's case, which will be tabled for Planning Board consideration) was unanimous.

#### 5. CUNNINGHAM (OXFORD COTTAGE) (76.20-1-32), 4 SILVER BAY ROAD (TR1) VAR 10-24

The board temporarily granted by a unanimous vote the variance for thirty days to allow the applicants time to connect the new water system and remove the shed.

#### 6. SMITH (43.5-1-32), 9104 LAKESHORE DRIVE (HP) VAR 12-24 AND VAR 13-24

After discussion, the board approved the variances 4-1 (Mury).

#### 7. CUNNINGHAM (OXFORD COTTAGE) (76.20-1-32), 4 SILVER BAY ROAD (TR1) VAR 14-24

The board, by a unanimous vote, temporarily granted the variance for thirty days, with conditions for plumbing removal and submission of a full site plan.

#### 8. HARRISON (26.17-2-42.121), 9110 LAKESHORE DRIVE (HP) VAR 11-24

The application for a variance for a retaining wall over four feet was deemed complete by a unanimous vote and will be included in next month's meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### CUNNINGHAM (OXFORD COTTAGE) (76.20-1-32), 4 SILVER BAY ROAD (TR1) VAR 15-24

The applicants requested approval for a six-foot wall to address a dangerous situation created during excavation. After discussion, the board deemed the application complete by a unanimous vote.

*This article was written by the editor of The Hague Chronicle from draft minutes of the Zoning Board of Appeals.* ■

## PLANNING BOARD - 10/3/2024

Present were Chairman Pam Peterson and Board Members Sandra Powell, Judy Gourley, Meg Haskell, Edna Frasier, and Alternate Henry Friedman.

Also present were Zoning Enforcement Officer Ed Kirchberger, Recording Secretary Kathy Santaniello, Erik Sandblom of SRA Engineering, and Randy Engler via ZOOM.

### REFERRALS TO ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (ZBA)

#### 1. Engler (43.5-1-26) 9077 Lakeshore Drive (HP) VAR 08-24, SP 04-24

## PLANNING BOARD, CONTINUED

Replacement of an existing single-story retail building with a new two-story mixed-use building (retail on the bottom and residence above).

### **Zoning issues: 160-20A Front Yard Setback and 160-65 Continuation of non-conforming structure, 25% increase**

Powell recused herself due to a conflict of interest and Friedman stepped in. Peterson noted that a site visit took place on August 12, 2024, with members from both the PB and the ZBA. Engler's application, which was withdrawn on September 5, 2024, was brought up again.

Engler participated via ZOOM. Peterson inquired about the DEC spill incident report from 2004 and the removal of gas tanks. Engler confirmed that the well on his property had not been tested for contamination. The well will require testing if it will be used, and further information must be provided. Engler also discussed the driveway, confirming that the new plans would widen it, improving safety.

After discussion, a motion was made to make a negative referral to the ZBA, citing concerns about the driveway, traffic, and water source. Vote: 4-1 (Friedman). Motion passed to make a negative referral.

### **2. Cunningham (Oxford Cottage) (76.20-1-32) 4 Silver Bay Road (TR1) VAR 15-24**

The applicant seeks approval for a six-foot wall to remedy a situation caused during excavation.

### **Zoning issue: 160-52B Wall Over Four Feet**

After a discussion, a motion was made for a positive referral to the ZBA with the following conditions:

- The wall must have a certified engineer's stamp.
- The applicants must address storm water and ground water drainage.
- If delayed, they must implement temporary erosion control.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Smith (43.5-1-32) 9104 Lakeshore Drive (HP) VAR 12-24 and VAR 13-24**

The applicant seeks to replace a lawful non-conforming single-family residence.

### **Zoning issues: 160-50B(b) Expansion Within Shoreline Setback and 160-20A Expansion Within Frontline Setback**

After review of plans, a motion was made and seconded to approve the site plan with conditions. The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Harrison (26.17-2-42.121) 9110 Lakeshore Drive (HP) VAR 11-24**

### **Zoning issue: 160-52B Wall Over Four Feet Erected**

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the ZBA that they consider the town engineer's negative report. Vote: 4-1 (Haskell). Motion passed to send a negative report.

### **2. Young/Bergh (43.5-2-31) Lakeshore Drive (HP) SP 06-24**

### **Zoning issue: 160-20C(1)(p) Within 100 Feet of Lake**

After discussion, the application was deemed complete, and the motion to approve was made and seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Rosselli (93.16-1-6) 92 Sabbath Day Point Road (TR1) SP 07-24, VAR 16-24**

### **Zoning issue: 160-50B(b)[1] Shorelines**

A motion was made and seconded to deem the application complete. The motion passed unanimously.

### **4. McEwan Family Trust (42-1-36) 57 Shattuck Robbins Road (TR2) SP 08-24**

### **Zoning issue: 160-25C(1)(b) Shoreline Within 100 Feet of Wetlands**

A motion was made and seconded to deem the application complete. The motion was unanimously approved.

*This article was written by the editor of The Hague Chronicle from draft minutes of the Planning Board.* ▣

## TOWN BOARD - 10/8/2024

Present were Supervisor Joshua Patchett and Board Members Maureen Cherubini, Chris Richards, Jack Bast, and Martin Fitzgerald. Also present were Highway Superintendent Chad Dunklee, ZOOM Coordinator Tim Fiallo, and 20 community members. Nine people also joined via ZOOM.

A moment of silence was held for Rolly Allen, Gordon Streeter, Clair Van Alostine, and Brian Coughlin.

Town Clerk representative Nancy Young presented the revised Town of Hague Tentative Budget. Budget workshops will be held on October 9th, 15th, and 16th at 4 pm at the Hague Community Center.

### **The following resolutions were passed unanimously:**

- Scheduled a public hearing for November 12th at 6:15 pm regarding a proposed law allowing alternates to serve on the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Scheduled a public hearing for November 12th at 6:15 pm regarding proposed changes to the Short-Term Rental Law

### **Privilege of the Floor:**

- There will be a Town Wide Garage Sale on October 12th from 9 am to 4 pm.
- CPR classes will be hosted by the HVFD on October 10th and 24th at the firehouse.
- There was a discussion regarding the Short-Term Rental Law and concerns about its enforcement.

### **Committee Reports:**

- **Administrative (Patchett):** The committee has been working on the budget.
- **Highway (Dunklee):** The crew was thanked for its hard work.

## TOWN BOARD, CONTINUED

- **Sewer (Bast):** Financial concerns for Sewer District One and Sewer District Two were discussed. The committee is working on budget analysis and grant opportunities. The objective is to establish a sufficient capital reserve so that expected and unexpected expenses can be met without imposing large and sudden assessments on users. Normal operating expenses and maintaining a reasonable capital reserve are funded by users and accomplished by setting Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) rates each year. A new air compressor was installed at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The town is seeking to purchase a permanent emergency generator for the Cape Cod Village Club pump station.
- **Technology/Communications: (Patchett):** Progress is being made on changing the town's domain name from .org to .gov.
- **Communications and Petitions (Patchett):**
  - ▶ The current Ticonderoga school board has not been receptive to Hague's suggestions including streaming future board meetings. School Advisory Committee

(SAC) Chair Jack Bast encouraged Hague residents to consider running in the next school board election. (See article on page 3.)

- ▶ The Halloween Trunk or Treat event will be on October 26th, from 11 am to 1 pm at the firehouse.
- ▶ The Food Pantry is accepting donations. Thanks to Amanda Peterson for overseeing it.
- ▶ A motion was unanimously passed to fund Beth Barton-Navitsky and Dr. Linda Fusco in attending the Winter Conference of the Rural Schools Association of NY (RSA) on December 4th and 5th in Saratoga Springs.

### The following resolutions passed unanimously:

- Requesting that the Ticonderoga Central School District stream its school board meetings.
- Discontinuing litigation against the Lake George Park Commission and agreeing to work collaboratively.
- Requesting proposals (RFPs) to stain the Hague Community Center.

*This article was written by the editor of The Hague Chronicle from draft minutes of the Town Board.* ■

## SOUNDINGS

**DIED:** Roland J. "Rolly" Allen, 84, of Hague and formerly of New Canaan, CT, suddenly, on October 2, 2024.

Rolly was born in Monticello, NY.

He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Vermont, where he majored in psychology and was a leader in the student government and his fraternity, Sigma Phi. He remained active as a UVM alumnus, serving as president of both the alumni association and head of fundraising for its Ira Allen Society.

During college, Rolly was enrolled in the Air Force ROTC and spent the first four years after graduation as an officer in the Strategic Air Command working in Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles at bases in Texas and Nebraska.

He enjoyed a long career in human resources. He worked for General Foods for 24 years, relocating to several states as he took on bigger roles within the conglomerate's different subsidiaries. He also served



as SVP of Human Resources for Liggett Group and worked in executive search.

Rolly was known and loved widely for his zest for life, warm hospitality, and infectious laugh. He spent the last 25 years in his dream home on Lake George, entertaining family and friends, volunteering for different organizations, riding in his beloved boats and his old Ford truck, reading books on American history, and marveling at nature.

Rolly was always active in the community. Most recently, he served on the boards of Fort Ticonderoga and the University of Vermont Health Network. He was also on Hague's Planning Board, served as president of Kiwanis, and was active in the Lake George Association.

Rolly is survived by his: bride of 63 years, Katherine Ann (née Brother) Allen; children, David Allen and Robin Lee (Rick) Parmenter; grandchildren, Nicole and Jessica Parmenter; brother Don (Diane) Allen; niece Tina Allen (Jothan Cashero); and sister-in-law Beliz Brother (Vicky Lee).

The family plans to have a celebration of life in 2025 and asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be directed to Fort Ticonderoga HERE and/or the UVM Medical Center Foundation HERE in memory of Rolly. ■

**DIED:** Brian Tait Coughlin, 60, of Hague and Cazenovia, NY on October 5, 2024 in an aviation accident at the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome in Rhinebeck, NY.



Brian was born on September 9, 1964 in Syracuse and grew up in Fayetteville and Manlius. He graduated from Lemoyne College in 1986. From a young age, Brian was an entrepreneurial businessman, operating Coughlin Construction for more than 40 years. He was a meticulous craftsman, known for his dedication to quality, whether building new homes or restoring historic buildings.

Brian's love for aviation was central to his life. He restored numerous historic planes to flightworthy condition, including a Sopwith Triplane, two Sopwith Pups, two Fokker Triplanes, three Fokker DVIII's, and many others. His work is known worldwide, with several of his planes displayed in museums and still flying today.

In 1994, Brian met Jenny Larter, a fellow aviation enthusiast, at the Rhinebeck Aerodrome and they were married one year later. Together, they restored their home, Crosswinds Farm, in Cazenovia, complete with a runway and a hangar.

## SOUNDINGS, CONTINUED

The farm became a gathering place for family and friends, hosting numerous events and celebrations.

Brian was deeply involved with the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, where he served as a trustee and project site manager. He was instrumental in many improvements and was dedicated to preserving aviation history. He was also active in his community, serving as a board member of the Cazenovia Preservation Foundation and as a governor at the Cazenovia Club.

Brian is survived by his: wife, Jenny; daughter, Elsa Coughlin; son, Teddy Coughlin; brother, Rick (Mary) Coughlin; sister, Cindy Becker; mother-in-law, Judy Larter; and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome HERE, Cazenovia Preservation Foundation HERE, or the Limestone Creek Hunt HERE. ▣

## PAINT & SIP WITH THE LGLC

For those feeling a touch of cabin fever, Patrice Jarvis-Weber is hosting a guided acrylic painting workshop with the



Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) on November 14, 2024 from 4 - 6 pm.

Participants will learn simple skills and techniques to bring their artwork to life, regardless of experience.

All supplies are provided and attendees can enjoy complimentary wine and cider donated by Adirondack Winery. The cost is \$35 per person and registration is required.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register. ▣

## SILVER BAY YMCA RECEIVES COMMUNITY AWARDS

Silver Bay YMCA has been recognized with three awards for its contributions to the local community.

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) honored it with the *TACC Appreciation Award*.

Senator Daniel G. Stec presented Silver Bay with a *Certificate of Recognition*.

New York State Assemblyman Matthew J. Simpson awarded Silver Bay a *New York State Assembly Citation*. ▣



## Q & A WITH THE LGA – A NEW WEBINAR SERIES

The Lake George Association (LGA) held the first in its planned series of webinars during which subject matter experts speak about lake-related topics and answer questions from listeners.

This initial webinar, which was held on October 23, 2024, addressed the water, plant, and soil monitoring in the two bays where the herbicide ProcellaCOR was applied in late June of this year to combat Eurasian Water Milfoil.

LGA Board Chair Dr. John E. Kelly III and Lake George Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky talked about data that has already been collected as well as the plans for continued monitoring to assess the impact of ProcellaCOR on the lake's ecology.

If you missed the live webinar – or want to listen to it again – the recording is available [HERE](#). ▣

## LOW-SALT DIET FOR LAKE GEORGE

We all know that we should limit our salt intake. Reducing the amount of salt that goes into Lake George is critical to maintaining our lake's legendary quality and preserving its fragile ecosystem.

The Lake George Association (LGA) is working hard to reduce the amount of salt that municipalities and the state use on our roads and it also urges homeowners to limit the salt used on their driveways and walkways. To learn more about why road salt is considered the "acid rain of our time," click [HERE](#).

This month, there are two news items related to salt reduction:

**Winter Salt Watch in Lake George:** Residents can help track chloride levels in our local waters by being part of Salt Watch, a program launched in 2018 by the Isaak Walton League of America (link [HERE](#)). The LGA is part of this program. The LGA will supply volunteers with easy-to-use test kits and instructions. The task requires about half an hour once or twice a month to monitor a nearby stream or other body of water. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and to sign up.

**LGA 9th Annual Salt Summit:** The Salt Summit in Lake Placid on October 1, 2024 attracted about 200 people including highway crews, state officials, people from non-profits, students, and concerned citizens, who learned about how to use less salt while keeping roads safe. As *The Hague Chronicle* has reported extensively in past issues, our Town of Hague Highway Department has been working closely with the LGA for a number of years to reduce its salt usage, which has resulted in tremendous savings for the town (and for us as taxpayers), while also helping to protect the lake.

You can watch videos of the Salt Summit and an NBC news report on the event [HERE](#). ▣

## EVENTS IN THE AREA IN NOVEMBER 2024

**November 2nd and 3rd** — 34th Annual St. Mary's Craft Fair, Sister Sharon Neighborhood Center, Ticonderoga

**November 5th** — Election Day Dinner, Ticonderoga Methodist Church

**November 7th, 4 - 7 pm** — Spirit of Christmas Open House, Small Town Boutique & The Adirondack Trading Post

**November 9th, 10 am - 5 pm** — Living History Event, Fort Ticonderoga

**November 11th, 11 am** — Hague Veterans Day Program, Hague Memorial Park, Hague

**November 15th, 16th, and 17th** — William Shatner Weekend, Star Trek Original Series Set Tour

**November 16th, 9 am - 2 pm** — Methodist Church Christmas Fair, Ticonderoga Methodist Church

**November 22nd and 23rd, 6 pm on Friday and 12 pm on Saturday** — My Hope Flower Farm Holiday Open House, Ticonderoga

**November 30th** — Small Business Saturday/Think Local/Shop, Spend, Support ☐

## NOVEMBER 2024 SAMPLE BALLOT

Official Ballot for the General Election  
November 5th, 2024  
State of New York, County of Warren  
Elizabeth McLaughlin, Commissioner  
William Van Natta, Comptroller

Instructions  
Mark the oval ☐ to the left of the name of your choice as such: ☐ To vote for a candidate whose name is not printed on the ballot, mark the oval to the left of "write-in" and print the name clearly in the box labeled "write-in", staying within the box. The number of choices is listed for each contest. Do not mark the ballot for more candidates than allowed. If you do, your vote in that contest will not count. Any mark or writing outside the spaces provided for voting may void the entire ballot. You have a right to a replacement ballot.

Offices	Electors for President and Vice President (Vote for one)	United States Senator (Vote for one)	Representative in Congress (21st District) (Vote for one)	State Senator (45th District) (Vote for one)	Member of Assembly (14th District) (Vote for one)	Town Council Member (1 Year Unexp. Term) (Vote for one)	Town Council Member (3 Year Unexp. Term) (Vote for one)
Democratic	<input type="radio"/> Kamala D. Harris for President <input type="radio"/> Tim Walz for Vice President	<input type="radio"/> Kirsten E. Gillibrand	<input type="radio"/> Paula Collins				<input type="radio"/> Christopher Richards
Republican	<input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump for President <input type="radio"/> JD Vance for Vice President	<input type="radio"/> Michael D. Saporcone	<input type="radio"/> Elise M. Stefanik	<input type="radio"/> Daniel G. Stec	<input type="radio"/> Matthew J. Simpson	<input type="radio"/> Edna A. Fraser	<input type="radio"/> Lara Smith-Ryder
Conservative	<input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump for President <input type="radio"/> JD Vance for Vice President	<input type="radio"/> Michael D. Saporcone	<input type="radio"/> Elise M. Stefanik	<input type="radio"/> Daniel G. Stec	<input type="radio"/> Matthew J. Simpson		
Working Families	<input type="radio"/> Kamala D. Harris for President <input type="radio"/> Tim Walz for Vice President	<input type="radio"/> Kirsten E. Gillibrand	<input type="radio"/> Paula Collins				
LaRouche		<input type="radio"/> Diane Sore					
Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in	<input type="radio"/> Write-in

Official Ballot for the General Election  
November 5th, 2024  
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**Proposal Number One, An Amendment**  
**Amendment to Protect Against Unequal Treatment**

This proposal would protect against unequal treatment based on ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, and sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity and pregnancy. It also protects against unequal treatment based on reproductive healthcare and autonomy. A "YES" vote puts these protections in the New York State Constitution. A "NO" vote leaves these protections out of the State Constitution.

☐ Yes ☐ No

## GINGER HENRY KUENZEL IN LAKE GEORGE LIVING, CONTINUED

Ginger's impressive career in journalism began as a legislative assistant and speechwriter for a congressman in Washington, D.C. She later became a reporter in the high-end art market, an English/German translator (after becoming fluent while traveling Europe and meeting her German husband), and worked in corporate communications in Boston. Over the years, she's also contributed as an associate editor for *The Hague Chronicle*.

Her passion for storytelling has led her to write four books about Adirondack life: *Lake Reflections* (co-authored with Frank Leonbruno), *Stewards of the Water, Downtown: Historical Tales From a Fictional Adirondack Town*, and *The Buzz on Lake George: Speedboat Racing 1900-1964*.

Well known as a "free spirit," Ginger embraces life with an open mind, always eager to try new things and to continue learning. Her personal motto — "You can't get what you want if you don't ask for it...even then you might not get it, but if you haven't asked, you're certainly not going to get it" — has led to a life full of adventure.

In the 1970s, she hitchhiked for seven months through Europe, including Eastern Europe and the Balkans, experiencing many bold adventures.

These days, in her spare time, Ginger enjoys paddleboarding, hiking, playing pickleball, and spending time with family and friends. She's also started work on her next book about her European vagabond experience.

To read the full article in *Lake George Living*, click [HERE](#).

For more about Ginger and her writing, visit her website [HERE](#). ☐

### HAGUE CHRONICLE NEWS:

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

## TI-ALLIANCE BOARD MEMBERS FIRED AND PETITION FOR REINSTATEMENT

At the Ticonderoga Town Board meeting on September 12, 2024, seven Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance (TRA) board members—Pat Ida, Nancy Archer, Lance Clark, Pam Nolan, Peter Reale, Chris Mallon, and Bobby Porter—were dismissed. This is the history and subsequent story of that action.

In December 2023, Sandy Morhouse of the TRA board proposed an affiliation with PRIDE, later renamed the North Country Rural Development Coalition (NRDC), to foster collaboration between the organizations. The plan was for both to retain separate boards and separate leadership, promoting cooperation without merging.

Early in 2024, the plan evolved into a proposed “combination,” in which there would be a single board of directors and Nicole Justice Green would be the executive director, overseeing both the TRA and the NRDC. Several members of the TRA were concerned that there would be no consideration of outside recruitment or of the suitability of the newly-named TRA Executive Director Kathleen Coffman, who has an MBA and years of business mentoring experience.

The seven TRA board members view the two organizations as very different. The NRDC does projects with a start date and an end date like repairing a house, improving a facade, or building a playground, whereas TRA identifies an economic problem, works with experts and the community to find a solution, seeks financial resources to implement the solution, and plans for the long-term sustainability of the solution.

The Ticonderoga Early Learning Center is a good example of this TRA approach. The childcare center's doors are open and it is serving children and parents. But, the endowment fund has only been initiated with a \$50,000 grant from Sylvamo. More money is needed in the endowment fund to ensure that the Ticonderoga area does not once again become a childcare desert.

The funding mechanisms of the two groups are also different. NRDC is predominantly government funded, while the TRA has a combination of federal, state, private individual donors, and private foundation donors. There is grave concern that the newly-restructured TRA will lack the capacity to secure the endowment required to sustain childcare and other endowments such as the George C. Singer Scholarship Endowment Fund.

These issues, added to concerns about the lack of due diligence, transparency, and financial management and with no plan for how to manage TRA's many programs other than

108 Montcalm, led the majority of the TRA board members to vote NO to the “combination.”

At the September 12, 2024 Ticonderoga Town Board meeting, the seven TRA board members who voted against the combination—Pat Ida, Nancy Archer, Lance Clark, Pam Nolan, Peter Reale, Chris Mallon, and Bobby Porter—were dismissed from their positions on the TRA board. This decision was made without prior notice and had not been listed on the town board's agenda, as is believed to be required by state regulations.

The Ticonderoga Town Board met again on October 10, 2024. Despite requests, Town Supervisor Mark Wright did not place the issue on that meeting agenda, relegating it to a public comment period, which did not permit any dialogue and limited speakers to only three minutes each.

The dismissed TRA board members believe the entire premise of Supervisors Wright's justification to dismiss the seven was incorrect. Wright claimed that TRA lacked the capacity to carry out the work on 108 Montcalm and that the failure of the project could result in the \$1.265 DRI funds that were being awarded to TRA being pulled or reallocated outside of Ticonderoga. The TRA board members argue that the TRA has expertise with years of experience in large scale construction and cite that the NY Department of State and Empire State Development have both stated that once DRI funds are awarded, there is no risk of them being pulled.

The October 10th meeting was standing-room-only, filled primarily with supporters of the “Fired 7.” Public comments supported their reinstatement. Lauren Singer, representing the Singer family, stated they had pulled a \$100,000 contribution meant for the scholarship fund due to the lack of trust in the current leadership. The Singer family, along with other donors, urged the town board to reverse its decision.

The board entered into executive session without addressing the reinstatement of the fired members.

A dismissed TRA board member stated, “Nine months ago, Ti-Alliance was a strong community organization, with a loyal donor base. Now, donor trust has been eroded. Over \$300,000 in contributions have been lost since this decision was made by the Ticonderoga Town Board. The Workforce Development and skilled trades scholarship fund is at risk and paying clients who have shown up for work at the Ti-Works workspace have been locked out.”

*The Hague Chronicle* reached out to Supervisor Wright for a comment, but he did not respond by the stated deadline date for this publication. ■



**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AS REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS FOR THE HAGUE CHRONICLE.  
PLEASE CONTACT Editor/Publisher Bobbi Bryant Taylor at [editor@thehaguechronicle.org](mailto:editor@thehaguechronicle.org).**

## LOOKING BACK

by Shelly Gautreau and Nancy Young

These are excerpts from an interview of Mary C. Beste (1883 – 1974) that was done by Virginia Shattuck and which were published in the November 1974 issue of *The Hague Chronicle*.

*Miss Mary Cutting Beste was born and brought up in New York City.*

*Miss Beste, who celebrated her 91st birthday in October, has lived in Hague for some seventy years off and on.*

*She refused to let us list her many contributions to the community, for which she is well known, but the following is a description, in her own words, of her reaction and appreciation of the opportunity of living here.*

*"In the foothills of the Adirondacks, there is a little town called Hague. It is situated on the shores of one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, deep set like a jewel in the surrounding mountains where game is plentiful and the lake abounds with fish."*

*"The pioneers who came this way stayed and built their log houses and later on, a little one-room school house. Hague grew and flourished and became a township of splendid people. They had their religious and other differences of course, but these seemed to be solved quietly and with ease, leaving a feeling of cooperation and brotherhood."*

*"Then gradually came an influx of other people having heard of the beauty of this lake. Among them came many doctors, captains, and generals to enjoy the peace and beauty of this place."*

*"Hague is still a community where men own their own land, build their own houses, and raise their own families. Each person knows his neighbors and each child his*



*schoolmates. If anyone is dishonest, word gets around quietly. There is no jail in Hague."*

*"The foundation for this peaceful atmosphere was laid in the one room schoolhouse and continues in the present well-equipped modern one. I am glad the proposition to abandon the local school for a larger one in Ticonderoga was defeated. This would have entailed much hardship for the children in winter. And reducing taxes for newcomers would prove a false economy if it introduced a new element in the Town of Hague, producing the kind of atmosphere which people came here to escape."*

### Update 50 years later

We are so lucky to have had such a wonderful, caring, and gifted soul as Mary Beste as a resident in our town!

She started the Mary C. Beste Scholarship in 1964, which provides money for college to children from Hague. This fund continues today and many children have benefitted from it, going on to better themselves and the world around them.

Each student now receives \$500 per year for four years, and this support continues into master's programs for those who remain in school, according to Kathy Santaniello. Donations to the fund are still welcome. Checks should be made payable to the "Beste Scholarship Fund" and mailed to: Kathy Santaniello, 14 Braisted Hill Road, Silver Bay, NY 12874.

The entire interview between Miss Beste and Virginia Shattuck can be found in the November 1974 *Hague Chronicle* binder in the Hague Museum at the Hague Community

Center, which is open from 8 am to 4 pm Monday – Friday.

While you are in the museum, be sure to also check out the writings and interviews by Judy Stock and Ginger Henry Kuenzel in the "Colorful Characters Research" binder. ■



Spectacular fall color from the Black Mountain Summit Trail. Photo courtesy of Sandy Powell.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT

Fort Ticonderoga has announced the reopening of the British Powder Magazine in the Southwest Bastion, now accessible to visitors for the first time in 50 years. Visitors can explore this space, viewing reproduction cannon shot and powder kegs. Young visitors can roll their own cartridge and learn about the supply chains that supported the fight for American independence.

The reopening is part of Fort Ticonderoga's multi-year program, REAL TIME REVOLUTION™, commemorating America's 250th anniversary. Running from 2024 to 2027, the program brings Ticonderoga's history to life, focusing on the years 1774 to 1777. The Powder Magazine, important during the French & Indian War and the Revolutionary War, plays a central role in this historical narrative.

Fort Ticonderoga has also launched the Northern Department, a tourism initiative connecting historic sites across New York, Vermont, and Canada. This project, part of the 250th

commemoration of the American Revolution, will run from 2025 to 2027.

Inspired by the 1775 creation of the Northern Department, the initiative promotes historic destinations related to the war for independence. An interactive website highlights 18 key sites, and brochures are available at participating locations. Video productions and social media features will further showcase the region's historical importance.

Visit [HERE](#) to plan a Northern Department adventure during America's 250th anniversary.

Fort Ticonderoga recently received major funding for restoration of the Southwest Bastion and South Curtain Wall by a Semiquincentennial grant from the Historic Preservation Fund administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, commemorating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. This funding will assist in stabilizing and restoring this iconic and historic fort, ensuring that future generations will be able to experience this nationally significant historic site. ▣



**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. Current board members are Taylor, Quinn, McDonough, Schaffer, (see below) and Paul Budd.

Please send all news items and Soundings to [editor@thehaguechronicle.org](mailto:editor@thehaguechronicle.org) by the 20th of the preceding month. Please send any comments to [publisher@thehaguechronicle.org](mailto:publisher@thehaguechronicle.org).

**Publisher/Editor:** Bobbi Bryant Taylor  
**Layout Editor:** Chris Quinn  
**Secretary:** Pat McDonough

**Treasurer:** Charlene Schaffer  
**Staff:** Claire Best and Tina Barth King

## TI ARTS GALLERY: UPCOMING EXHIBITS

The Ti Arts Gallery will host an exhibit called SMALL WORKS from November 21, 2024 - January 4, 2025. The Opening Reception will be Friday, November 22nd from 5 - 7 pm.

The gallery is located at 119 Montcalm Street in Ticonderoga and is open Thursday through Saturday from 10 am - 4 pm.

*Programming at Ti Arts is made possible by the NYS Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the NYS Legislature.* ▣

## EARLY LEARNING CENTER ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS

The Ticonderoga Early Learning Center is now providing much-needed childcare to the Ticonderoga area and surrounding areas. The center can care for up to 50 children between the ages of six weeks and five years old.



Registrations are available [HERE](#). Completed registration forms should be turned in to the center. ▣

## MASON STAR DINNER

A public roast pork loin dinner, sponsored jointly by the members of Mount Defiance Lodge No. 794, F. & A. M., and Fort Ticonderoga Chapter No. 263, Order of the Eastern Star, will be served Monday, November 18, 2024, from 4:30 to 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 available at the door. Parking 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

November 2024

NOVEMBER

1		November issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> published	12	6 pm	Town Board Meeting
3		Daylight Savings Time ends (set your clocks back an hour)	14	4 - 6 pm	LGLC Paint and Sip
2 and 3		St. Mary's Craft Fair	15, 16, and 17		William Shatner Weekend
5		ELECTION DAY	16	9 am - 2 pm	Methodist Church Christmas Fair
		Election Day Dinner, Ti Methodist Church	18	4:30 - 6 pm	Mason Star Dinner
7	4 - 7 pm	Spirit of Christmas Open House, Small Town Boutique & The Adirondack Trading Post	20	6 pm	Deadline for the December issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>
	7 pm	Planning Board Meeting	21 - January 4, 2025		SMALL WORKS exhibit at Ti Arts
9	10 am - 5 pm	Living History Event at Fort Ti	21	7 pm	Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting (moved earlier from Thanksgiving Day)
11		VETERANS DAY/TOWN OFFICES CLOSED	22	6 pm	My Hope Flower Farm Open House
	11 am - 12 pm	Veterans Day Program in Hague	23	12 pm	"
			28		THANKSGIVING DAY
			30		Small Business Saturday in Ti

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