



# THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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Hague, New York 12836  
March 2026

## ICE IN ON JANUARY 26, 2026

Lake George officially froze over for the second consecutive year on January 26, 2026.

This date is just one week later than the average.

Here is a photo from the satellite Sentinel-2.



## HAGUE FISH & GAME CLUB HOSTS WINTERFEST

The Hague Fish & Game Club will host its annual Winterfest on **March 21, 2026** beginning at **1 pm**, offering an afternoon and evening of family fun and friendly competition.

Daytime activities will include s'mores by the fire, sliding, and caricatures by Phil Singer. Families are encouraged to come out and enjoy the winter festivities together.

Adults can test their skills in several lighthearted competitions, including a chainsaw contest, axe throwing, and a frying pan toss.

A chicken barbecue, prepared by guest cooks Marty Fitzgerald and Kevin Dinsmore, will begin at **3 pm** and continue until sold out. Dinners are \$15.

The day will conclude with live music by Rich Ortiz from **5 pm to 8 pm** at the clubhouse. ❑

## KATY WELLS ANNUAL POLAR PLUNGE

The Hague Volunteer Fire Department's (HVFD) Annual Katy Wells Polar Plunge brought together a dedicated group of volunteers and brave plungers for a day of winter fun and community spirit. The plungers jumped into the frigid water at the Trout House Village dock.

Serving as EMTs were Terrie Davis and Donna Trudeau. HVFD members Mike Nyisalosky and Rick Myers were also on hand to ensure the event ran safely and smoothly.

The Rescue Squad team included Chris Lee, Nate Swinton, and Aaron Walker.

Michael Begnoche kept the crowd

energized as the announcer, while Pat Hintze handled the registrations.

This year's plungers included Kim Baldwin, Zerenity McKeown, Leon McKeown, Katie Ross, Joey Ross, Cadence Ross, Lila Ross, Cheyenne Nast, Tayten Cahalane, Theresa Morzello, Linda Morzello, Sean Hurley, Ashley Pezanowski, and Jennifer Hunson. The participants demonstrated courage and enthusiasm as they took their icy dips.

All proceeds will go to support the Vermont Children's Hospital in honor of Katy Wells.

The HVFD extends its appreciation to all who volunteered, participated, and supported the event. ❑



## SAC UPDATE *by SAC Chair Jack Bast*

The Hague School Advisory Committee's (SAC's) mission has two primary components: monitoring academic performance and ensuring financial accountability, particularly in the apportionment of school taxes.

We are now at a turning point in the academic portion of our work and believe a change in approach is necessary.

*(Continued on p. 2)*

## SENIORS CLUB NEWS

by Judy Stock



The Hague Senior Club met in the main room of the HVFD for its meeting on February 24, 2026, where the members enjoyed sandwiches and delicious soups (spicy creamy chicken, broccoli cheddar, and corn chowder) that were provided by Luann Fritzky, Pat Hintze, and Diane Snyder.

Most of the winter events of the club were canceled due to snow or extreme cold. Treasurer Maureen Cherubini reported that the balance at the end of January was \$7,926.46 after receiving \$5,000 from the town for the year.

Wishes were extended to those with February and March birthdays. The club then held a moment of silence for Martin (Blackie) Fitzgerald, Sr.

During the meeting, President Pat Hintze initiated discussions of two of the events the club has put on annually. The first was the Americade café; everyone agreed to sponsor this event again this year. *(Continued on page 3)*

## BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

The Hague Fish & Game Club will host its annual "Hop on In and Have Pancakes with the Easter Bunny" on **Sunday, March 29, 2026, from 9 am to 11 am.**

Families are invited to enjoy a festive pancake breakfast while welcoming the arrival of spring. Children will have the opportunity to meet the Easter Bunny and will receive a special Easter treat bag.

For pricing and additional details, please contact the Hague Fish & Game Club.



## HVFD

by Donna Trudeau



In the month of January, we had four Fire calls with one EMS assist, totaling 26 volunteer hours.

EMS had nine calls for service totaling 46.5 paid/volunteer hours.

Please always use the buddy system and make sure you have proper and safe gear and shoes when going out onto the ice.

We are always looking for volunteers who would like to help out the community. Just stop by our building at 4 West Hague Road or go to <https://haguefireems.org> and print the application.

Thank you for your support.

### CORRECTION

There were two errors in our February 2026 issue: Lara Smith did NOT abstain for the Ginn sewer extension; she DID abstain for the school board vote as she is employed by the Ticonderoga School District.

## SAC UPDATE, CONT'D

In March 2025, SAC reported at a Hague Town Hall Meeting that we consider the academic performance of the Ticonderoga Central School District (TCSD) to be very concerning. This conclusion is based on rankings published by the New York State Education Department (NYSED), comparing 731 central school districts that administer standardized tests and award New York State diplomas.

The TCSD has been dismissive of SAC's concerns. In October, as a last resort, the Town of Hague and the SAC jointly requested NYSED's assistance in improving academic performance. In late December, NYSED responded that there were no grounds for their intervention and stated further, that regional test score rankings are not a meaningful comparative measure, while offering no alternative metric to support its conclusion.

At the January 22, 2026 Board of Education (BoE) meeting, an Annual

Academic Update, an audit, and BOCES reports were presented acknowledging these concerns. However, the Academic Update also rejected statewide Grade 3 - 8 test scores as a meaningful measure of performance and again did not identify a clear alternative standard.

As a result, SAC, NYSED, and the TCSD BoE remain at an impasse, lacking a shared framework to measure academic performance or assign accountability. Given these constraints, SAC is evaluating its academic strategy for 2026.

Academic performance at the TCSD affects residents of Ticonderoga, Putnam, and Hague alike, and potentially even Crown Point residents in the future. SAC welcomes and encourages community input and suggestions on how best to improve outcomes for all students.

On another subject: On the financial aspect of SAC's continuing mission, there were, in fact, two SAC-related

items on the February 10th Hague Town Board agenda. We have strengthened our current SAC project concerning assessments and equalization rates.

Also, the town board passed Resolution #62 of 2026 opposing the change in the Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) cable project's PILOT Agreement to a Host Community Agreement (HCA). Converting a Pilot to an HCA raises a number of concerns including, for Hague, aspects of the full market value being included in the School Tax Levy apportionment calculation exposing residents to higher school district taxes. For Ticonderoga, Putnam, and Hague residents alike, the change adversely affects governing law and potentially creates a material impairment of school district finances.

The **March** TCSD School BoE meeting is on **Tuesday the 17th** at the high school cafeteria at **6 pm**. SAC encourages Hague residents to attend! SAC will be there too!

## SENIORS CLUB NEWS, CONT'D

The other event was the White Elephant Sale, which the group agreed takes a lot of work and has been disappointing recently. The quality of the items donated has been poor and therefore the sale has not brought in much money. Many items even had to be taken to the transfer station. The club members who were present agreed they did not want to continue with this event. It was mentioned that folks wishing to donate items might be able to do so at the Town Wide Garage Sale.

A question was asked about who would be sponsoring this year's Memorial Day Parade and the response was that the HVFD has committed to organize it this year.

Upcoming events include a game night at the home of Pat Hintze on **Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 6:30 pm**. Come to enjoy games, laughter, and snacks.

The Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be held on **Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 5 pm** at the HVFD. The club will provide corned beef, potatoes, cabbage, carrots, and onions. Members are asked to bring the extras such as butter,

mustard, soda bread, rye bread, salt and pepper, desserts, soda, or water. If you are not a member and would like to come for this delicious spread, the cost is \$10. Please be sure to sign up (or call Pat Hintze at 518-543-6502) so there is an accurate head count for the food. In addition to the feast, the members will play trivia and there will be prizes.

The next monthly meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 1:30 pm** at the HVFD. After the business meeting, the members will play Bingo and enjoy snacks. Please bring a small gift for the prizes. ❏

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## 2026 HAGUE MEMORY TREE

The Hague Memory Tree, started 36 years ago by Imogene Frasier in memory of her son Dale, offers a meaningful way for those in Hague to remember loved ones and honor those still with us. All proceeds benefit the Hague Volunteer Fire Department. This year, donations were made in the names of:

Alfreda Gautreau Bernard  
Evelyn Gautreau Bernard  
John and Betty Braisted  
Bob Bryant  
Shirley Bryant  
Edna Middleton Butler  
Irene Arsenault Calden  
Edward F. Cassidy  
Ted Conant  
John "B Good" Costello  
Cory C. Cronan  
Catherine Cunningham (baby)  
Kathy Palone Davis  
Anna (Robins) Denno  
Barbara (Tyler) Denno  
Beatrice Denno McCoy  
Beatrice "Midge" Denno Middleton  
Bernard "Buck" Denno  
Bernard "Two Buck" Denno  
James R. Denno  
Joseph J. Denno  
Marie (Murray) Denno  
Mabel Rock Denno  
Nicholas Denno (baby)  
Peter B. Denno  
Ralph H. Denno  
Robert A. Denno  
Floyd and Betty Densmore  
Helena Fish  
Linda Fish Megow  
Charlie Foot  
Mary (Maggie) Foot  
Beatrice Robbins Frasier  
Christopher Lee Frasier  
Ruth Flint Frew  
David J. Hoffay Gall

Erene T. Gautreau  
Theresa M. Gautreau  
James Girard  
Dee Goodrich  
Guerrieri Family  
Jon Hanna  
Robinson/Henderson Family  
Pauline Robins Hill  
Theresa Hitchcock  
Jane W. Hoffay  
Judy Hoffay Rypkema  
Makeisha Hoffay Pendarvis  
Mary Hoffay Morin  
Hintze Family  
Tom James  
Jeff Jordon  
Peter and Alice Kihss  
Wendy Kihss  
Kay Kuebler  
Richard Kuebler  
Timothy Kuebler  
Ryan "Rybee" Lawrence  
Evert Lindquist  
Georgina Lindquist  
Irene Main  
Tom Main  
Dolores Marcy  
Donald Marcy  
Eugene Marcy  
William Marcy  
Anita R. Maston  
Wesley E. Maston  
Linda Middleton  
Aaron Middleton  
Alvin Middleton  
Bea Middleton

Emma Middleton  
Grace Middleton  
Julia Middleton  
Len Middleton  
Mary Middleton  
Ray Middleton  
Scott Middleton  
Walt Middleton  
Gary Mieliewski  
Nicholas A. Mosca (baby)  
Dee Murphy  
Juanita Robbins Nestor  
Peterson Family  
Benajah M. Robbins  
Bertha Spalding Robbins  
Della Robbins Bennett  
Ernest Robbins  
Laura Robbins Fricke  
Leona Robins Stratton  
Paul Robbins  
Rena Chase Robbins  
Drian D. Runnals  
Camille Santaniello Pomponio  
Sal Santaniello  
Sierra Rose Santaniello  
Silvo Santaniello  
Ted and Lucy Santaniello  
Phillip T. Schoolcraft  
Leroy Scott  
Sarah Scott  
Betty Ursell  
Hubert Ursell  
Joseph Yanklowitz  
Waz ❏

**PLANNING BOARD - 2/5/2026**

Present were Chairperson Sandra Powell, Board Members Pamela Peterson, Alane Vogel, and Henry Friedman, and Alternate Jami Jordan. Also present were Engineer Anthony DeFranco, Vice President of Development and Government Relations of Silver Bay YMCA Walter Lender, Douglas Michels, Ric Santamaria of Roundtree Construction, Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) Ed Kirchberger and Recording Secretary Kathy Santaniello.

There were no public hearings, site visits, or old business.

**SUBDIVISIONS/NEW BUSINESS:**

**Silver Bay Association for Christian Conferences and Training, 87 Silver Bay Road (76.12-1-19)**

*Development within 100' of shoreline; variance for 160-50B(1)(b) Development within 50' of shoreline setback.*

The applicant proposes fabricating and installing an ADA accessible ramp to the waterfront over an existing concrete slab and steep gravel pathway. ZEO Kirchberger explained that discussion of the ramp was postponed because representatives from Dock Doctors were not present and additional necessary information had not been submitted in time for the meeting.

He noted that because the Americans with Disabilities Act involves federal jurisdiction, there is a question whether the ramp is required under federal or insurance mandates or is voluntary. If it is federally mandated, federal law could supersede local and state law, potentially affecting whether the Hague Zoning Board of Appeals can process the application. In addition, while the minimum ADA width between railings is 36 inches, the applicant is requesting 48 inches, which would require a variance.

The Warren County 239 review has been received. The application will go before the Hague Zoning Board of Appeals once complete, and ZEO Kirchberger will consult with the Adirondack Park Agency (APA) regarding jurisdictional questions.

**Silver Bay Association for Christian Conferences and Training, 87 Silver Bay Road – Slim Point Area (76.16-1-4)**

*Development within 100' of shoreline; no variances required.*

The applicant proposes renovating the Slim Point pavilion and improving accessibility by replacing the existing compacted dirt path with a six-foot-wide ADA-compliant walkway, thus integrating Slim Point more fully into the campus. Native plantings and invasive species removal are also planned.

Anthony DeFranco presented the project on behalf of Silver Bay, along with Walter Lender. Phase 1, planned for spring 2026, includes the ADA pathway, pavilion rehabilitation (new roof, removal of concrete benches, replacement of the floor, and masonry repointing), construction of a patio, removal of the volleyball court, lawn regrading, stormwater management improvements, and plantings.

The project involves approximately 19,000 square feet of disturbance and an increase of about 3,200 square feet of impervious surface, triggering stormwater provisions such as swales and rain gardens. A jurisdictional inquiry has been

submitted to the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC), and an APA jurisdictional determination will also be required before the application can be deemed complete. Warren County provided written notice that it has no significant concerns under its review criteria.

The board determined that a public hearing was not required at this time. Once jurisdictional materials are received and the application is deemed complete, the board expects to review SEQR and the site plan at the next meeting and could make a determination then. Board members may visit the site individually with the applicant's permission and provide notes for the record.

**Michels, 73 Pine Cove Road (60.5-1-24)**

*Development within 100' of shoreline.*

Douglas Michels and his contractor, Ric Santamaria, presented a proposal to demolish two pre-existing nonconforming houses and replace them with two conforming homes. The lots were previously merged. The new homes are anticipated to be approximately 3,500 to 4,000 square feet each. No variances are currently requested.

The existing homes do not meet shoreline or side setbacks, but the proposed replacements would be brought into conformity. Board members discussed lot coverage, building dimensions, height, driveway configuration, parking, stormwater, and the relocation of a retaining wall. ZEO Kirchberger reminded the applicant that setbacks are measured from the eaves and that retaining walls over four feet within 100 feet of the lake would require a variance.

The applicant has submitted a SEQR form, but additional details are needed before the application can be deemed complete, including structure dimensions, lot coverage calculations, and identification of permeable versus impervious surfaces. Once complete, the board will determine whether a public hearing is necessary and will likely schedule a site visit with structures clearly staked.

**SUBDIVISIONS:**

**McMahon, New Hague Road (24-1-9)**

No representative was present. The proposed project appears to be a major subdivision of approximately eight lots on more than 40 acres. No new roads are currently proposed.

Board members discussed potential concerns including water supply, septic feasibility, natural features, springs and possible underground streams, lot buildability, fire access, and preservation of rock formations. Although the applicant has reportedly been advised by the APA that no wetlands are present, further jurisdictional review will be required. A completed SEQR form, preliminary plat, and topographical information will be needed. A public hearing will be required during the subdivision process.

Chairperson Powell suggested arranging subdivision training with the New York State Department of State to assist the board in reviewing major subdivision applications.

*(Continued on p. 5)*

## PLANNING BOARD, CONT'D

### OTHER BUSINESS:

Chairperson Powell reviewed upcoming APA training scheduled for **May 6 and 7, 2026**, and the possibility of rescheduling the May Planning Board meeting due to the conflict. ZEO Kirchberger reported that a comprehensive review and revision of the Hague Town Code is anticipated and requested advisory assistance from board members. Further discussion will take place at a future meeting.

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

## TOWN BOARD - 2/10/2026

Present were Supervisor Joshua Patchett, Councilmembers Jack Bast, Maureen Cherubini, Edna Frasier and Lara Smith. There were no absences.

Paul Belden addressed the board regarding a 2023 trespassing issue he said was clarified through a recent social media post by a town department. Board members apologized.

Scott Fearis of Hybrid Building Solutions presented two options for a new salt shed for the Highway Department, recommending the structure with the stronger foundation.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Code Change Recommendations  
The public hearing on code change recommendations from the Zoning Enforcement Officer remains open until March. No one spoke.

The board approved minutes from the January 13, 2026 regular meeting and the January 6, 2026 Organizational Meeting.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Buildings/Grounds (Frasier/Patchett):** Todd Fish has been painting the interior of the community center.

**Highway (Frasier/Cherubini):** The department continues snow removal. Frasier thanked the crew for work supporting grant funding efforts.

**Museum/Historian (Bast/Smith):** The Hague Historical Society is preparing a Hague Central School exhibit.

**Personnel (Bast/Cherubini):** The town seeks applicants for Planning Board Member and Zoning Board of Appeals alternate positions. Applications may be submitted to the community center.

**Planning/Zoning/Stormwater (Cherubini/Frasier):** The zoning report was received, and short-term rental refunds are being mailed. Cherubini attended a New York State Department of State SEQRA Basics course hosted by Warren County Planning.

**Sewer (Smith/Patchett):** A new computer system was installed at the wastewater treatment plant and is being tested. The plant received a plow for the new pickup truck; warning lights are expected this week.

**Town Park/Beautification (Smith/Frasier):** Winter flags will be replaced in March.

**School Advisory Committee (Bast):** SAC continues evaluating academic performance in the Ticonderoga Central School District. After requesting assistance from the New York State Education Department and receiving no intervention, SAC remains at an impasse and is reassessing its academic strategy for 2026. Community input is welcome.

The board adopted Resolution #62 of 2026 opposing a proposed change to the Champlain Hudson Power Express PILOT agreement to a Host Community Agreement, citing financial impacts. The vote passed 4-0-1 (Smith abstained).

The next Board of Education meeting is **March 17, 2026 at 6 pm.**

### COMMUNICATIONS

Supervisor Patchett announced grant awards:

- Up to \$228,000 through the Water Quality Improvement Project program for a salt storage shed (25 percent town match of \$57,000).
- Up to \$50,000 through the Nonpoint Source Planning Grant program for Hague Brook nutrient controls planning (10 percent match of \$5,000).
- \$90,000 through the Consolidated Funding Application to develop a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, requiring a \$22,500 match.

### NEW BUSINESS

A Special Town Board Meeting was scheduled for February 19 at 6 pm for a public informational meeting on the proposed Length of Service Award Program for the Hague Volunteer Fire Department. The vote passed 4-0-1 (Cherubini abstained).

The board approved allowing the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to place net pens at the Hague Town Dock in late April for its experimental Atlantic salmon project.

Leslie Midgley was reappointed to the Board of Assessment Review for five years.

Mike Maxwell Appraisal Services was authorized at \$175 per hour plus expenses for SAC appraisal services in 2026.

The board declared intent to serve as lead agency under SEQRA for potential amendments to Chapter 160 addressing guest cottages, accessory structures, and short-term rentals.

**Highway Garage Project:** The board amended its contract with Cedarwood Engineering Services, adding \$7,500 for electrical updates and preliminary drawings. A new 2026 budget code was created and funded at \$95,800.

**Sewer District Study:** A new 2026 budget code was created and funded at \$58,200 for a Sewer EPG Grant Study, including a \$48,500 grant and \$9,700 match.

The next regular town board meeting will be held **March 10, 2026 at 6 pm.**

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

## SOUNDINGS

**DIED:** Theodore W. "Ted" Conant, 88, of Raleigh, NC and formerly of Silver Bay, on December 5, 2025.

Ted was born in 1937 in Brooklyn, NY, and grew up in Rutherford, NJ. He raised his family in Sparta, NJ and Richmond, VT, before retiring to Silver Bay, where he personally built the home he had long envisioned.



An electronics engineer with the federal government during his career, Ted's talents extended far beyond his profession. He was always ready to

lend a hand with a project, especially if it involved his extensive collection of tools, and to share his knowledge, often accompanied by his quick wit and warm sense of humor.

He served his community as a volunteer EMT for more than 32 years. During that time, he became well known for his expertise in moulage, which is creating realistic simulated injuries for immersive medical training exercises.

In his final years, he lived in Raleigh, NC, closer to the family he deeply loved. In keeping with his lifelong commitment to service, his final act was donating his body to the anatomical department at a local medical school to help train the next generation of physicians.

He was predeceased by his: parents, Elizabeth "Betty" Conant and regionally known artist H. Weston Conant; and sister, Joyce Buchanan (Denis).

He is survived by his: wife of 62 years, Winifred "Wini" Conant; children, Sandi Conant, Bill Conant (Kathy), Bob Conant (Chari); grandchildren, Grace Conant, John Conant, and Kayleigh Conant; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, please support your local EMS, fire, rescue, or first responders by volunteering or making a donation.

Condolences and favorite stories about Ted may be shared with his family [HERE](#). ▣

## MARINE PATROL MARKS 63RD SEASON OF SERVICE

The Lake George Park Commission's (LGPC) Marine Patrol, established in 1962, completed its 63rd consecutive season in 2025, continuing its core mission of promoting safe and enjoyable recreation on Lake George while protecting the lake's natural resources. Officers provide public education and assistance to boaters, respond to emergencies, conduct search and rescue, address hazards, recover lost property, and enforce New York State Navigation Law, Environmental Conservation Law, and LGPC rules.

The patrol's season ran May 1st through October 31st, operating at full strength seven days a week from June 29th through Labor Day. Six to eight patrol vessels were on duty daily during peak season, with officers logging 7,389 patrol hours in 2025 (up from 6,838 in 2024).

The commission also purchased a new Ford F-250 to support patrol operations and mechanical work, replacing a 2007 Chevrolet Suburban that had 195,000 miles on it.

The report highlights increased public safety activity. Rescues and



EMS/first-aid responses rose from 27 in 2024 to 70 in 2025, searches increased from 21 to 36, complaints addressed jumped from 679 to 897, and warnings issued nearly doubled from 1,072 to 2,094. Total arrests and citations increased slightly to 160. The Marine Patrol issued four tickets for loud boats exceeding the state's 90-decibel limit and reported no BWI arrests in 2025, noting that the boaters who were stopped where alcohol was present typically had a designated operator.

The patrol also supported invasive-species prevention by educating boaters, checking unattended launches, and enforcing inspection requirements. Three vessels were caught launching without an inspection in 2025. Public education continued through boater-safety instruction:

nine officers are certified instructors and eight classes were held, with 106 students earning safety certificates.

With Brianna's Law fully in effect as of January 1, 2025, the marine patrol encourages anyone without certification to complete the course.

Among notable incidents described were multiple rescues involving children and swimmers, a serious fall at the Calf Pen requiring stabilization and airlift, storm-related emergencies on August 17th that generated numerous simultaneous calls across the lake, and a ten-week cormorant study that found summer populations as high as about 170 birds. The patrol also recovered more than \$260,000 in lost or stolen property during the season.

The report concludes by crediting officers' professionalism and readiness to respond at all hours.

For the full report, click [HERE](#). ▣

## HAIKU

*by dl mattila*

murmuration  
after all these years  
we find our rhythm ▣

## DINNER FROM AROUND THE WORLD CONTINUES AT SILVER BAY

March 2026 brings a global culinary adventure to the Mountain View Grille at Silver Bay with the continuation of its “Dinner from Around the World” series.

Each week, guests are invited to enjoy an authentic, chef-curated menu inspired by a different country. In addition to a thoughtfully prepared international dining experience, attendees receive take-home recipes so they can recreate the flavors in their own kitchens.

The March schedule includes:

March 4th to 5th – South Africa	March 18th to 19th – Spain
March 11th to 12th – South Korea	March 25th to 26th – Brazil

The series transforms one dining room into four unique destinations throughout the month, offering a chance to explore global cuisine without leaving Lake George.

Reservations are encouraged and may be made through OpenTable by searching for Mountain View Grille at Silver Bay YMCA or by clicking [HERE](#). ▣

## ACREAGE IN BOLTON NOW PERMANENTLY PROTECTED

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) purchased 192 acres in the Town of Bolton on November 21, 2025. This “Wing Pond Addition” was one of several priority conservation projects identified in last summer’s 2025 Land Campaign. Featuring three acres of wetlands and more than 1,000 feet of stream corridor, the property provides critical water quality protection.

The undeveloped forested property shares nearly half a mile of its boundary with the LGLC-owned Wing Pond Preserve and also borders the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)-owned Wild Forest. Its stream flows into the LGLC’s recently protected 207-acre Sundew Pond Preserve, which flows into Lake George’s Northwest Bay.



The LGLC is grateful to the Miller family, who owned and cared for the land for decades.

Sarah, Jim, and John Miller said, “When Captain James Miller purchased acreage in North Bolton in the late 60s, it was to protect and preserve the land. His children are grateful that going forward, the LGLC will be taking over the stewardship of this beautiful property.” ▣

## LGA GALA SET

The Lake George Association (LGA) will host its annual gala on **July 10, 2026** at the historic Sagamore Resort.

Guests are invited to enjoy an elegant evening of cocktails, dinner, music, and dancing, all in celebration of a shared love for Lake George and a collective commitment to protecting its water quality for future generations.



Registration and sponsorship details will be announced soon. Supporters are encouraged to watch their emails for more information. ▣

## LGPC 2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since its founding in 1987 as a New York State agency, the Lake George Park Commission (LGPC) has focused on protecting the lake’s celebrated water quality, while promoting safe recreational use.

In 2025, the commission addressed a wide range of responsibilities and emerging challenges. Core efforts included reviewing hundreds of dock and stormwater permits, operating its Marine Patrol program, conducting septic system inspections, and continuing aggressive prevention and management of aquatic invasive species.

The commission also strengthened its scientific partnership with the Darrin Freshwater Institute, contributing to an expanded study of Lake George’s algae communities to better understand the lake’s ecosystem.

In recent years, the commission has increased its focus on planning and implementing conservation projects throughout the park. Working closely with local municipalities and conservation districts, it continues to advance shared goals for maintaining a clean and clear Lake George.

The 2025 report reflects a year of progress made possible through regional partnerships and ongoing support from state leadership, as the commission works to safeguard Lake George for future generations.

To see the entire report, click [HERE](#). ▣

*The Hague Chronicle* is happy to publish announcements of births, marriages, graduations, anniversaries of 50/55/60/65+, awards, or deaths in Soundings. We can include a high quality photo.

Our submission deadline for Soundings, and all other articles, is 6 pm the 20th of each month, for inclusion in the following month’s issue.

Please send to [editor@thehaguechronicle.org](mailto:editor@thehaguechronicle.org).

## LGLC PROTECTS 160 ACRES NEAR HULETT'S LANDING

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) purchased 160 acres near Huletts Landing in the Town of Dresden on January 29, 2026. This "Spruce Mountain Addition" has more than 1,100 feet of stream corridor within the Lake George watershed, including the headwaters of a tributary that flows into Lake George.

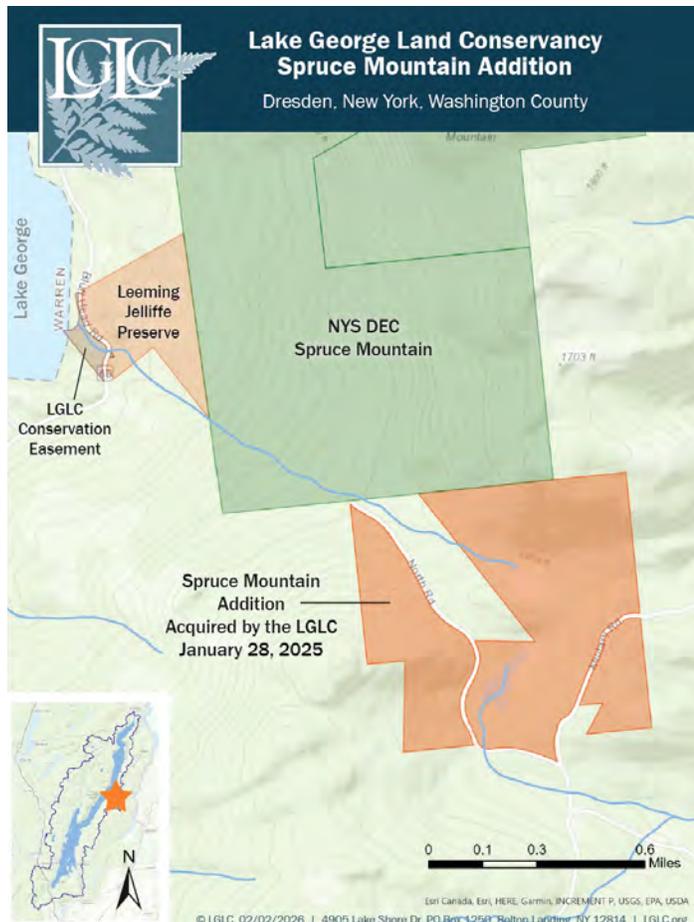
The mostly forested property adjoins the 488-acre Spruce Mountain, protected by the LGLC in 1996 and currently owned by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. This land, in turn, shares a boundary with the LGLC's Leeming Jelliffe Preserve close to the lake's shoreline in Huletts Landing. Together, this connected stretch of land provides critical habitat for a variety of wildlife, including the timber rattlesnake, which is a threatened species in New York State.

LGLC Executive Director Mike Horn said, "In addition to safeguarding the water quality of Lake George, this region of the watershed provides important resources for wildlife. By connecting parcels together, we are expanding the safe areas through which wildlife can roam and thrive."

"I want to thank the landowners," Horn continued, "for working with the LGLC to permanently protect this land, ensuring that the forests and streams will forever remain wild, protecting everything we love about Lake George and this whole region."

The LGLC will develop a management plan to address past disturbances and improve forest health.

At this time, the Spruce Mountain Addition does not have public access for recreation. ❑



## PUTNAM TOWN BOARD REPEALS PLANNING BOARD, RETAINS SITE PLAN REVIEW LAW

On February 12, 2026, the Town of Putnam, located partially within the Lake George watershed, held its regular town board meeting and a noticed public hearing to consider repealing its Site Plan Review Law and abolishing its Planning Board.

Ahead of the hearing, the Lake George Association (LGA) issued an official statement and Action Alert opposing the move and supporting targeted amendments rather than eliminating local planning tools that help protect the water quality of Lake George and of Lake Champlain.

More than twenty people spoke at the hearing, all opposing the proposal. The LGA reported that 245 letters were submitted in opposition, including fifty-eight from Putnam residents and others from neighboring communities such as Ticonderoga and Hague.

During deliberations, the town board amended the resolution to retain the Site Plan Review Law while abolishing the Planning Board, transferring review authority to the town board. While the LGA welcomed the decision to keep the Site Plan Review Law, it raised questions about how reviews will function without a dedicated and trained planning board.

The amended resolution passed 3-1, with one abstention from a board member citing a desire for additional discussion and information before voting.

Chris Navitsky, Lake George Waterkeeper and a professional engineer, attended the meeting in person to speak on behalf of the LGA and its constituents. The organization is now evaluating the decision and considering next steps, thanking residents who participated and submitted comments in support of long-term lake protection.

To stay informed as this issue evolves, follow the LGA on Facebook. ❑

## TICONDEROGA END OF WINTER CARNIVAL SET FOR MARCH 7

The Ticonderoga Montcalm Street Partnership and the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will host the Ticonderoga End of Winter Carnival on **Saturday, March 7, 2026**, offering a full day of family-friendly activities throughout the community.

From **10 am to 4 pm**, complimentary snowmobile rides for children and families will be available at the Ticonderoga Recreational Fields, provided by the Adirondack Trailriders. Rides are weather and snow dependent.

At **11 am**, Rockin’ Ron, the Friendly Pirate, brings an interactive pirate music show to the Ticonderoga Armory.

The Indoor Winter Carnival runs from **12 to 2 pm** at the Ticonderoga Armory, featuring games, prizes, food, a bounce house, face art, caricatures, music by DJ Dan Whitford, and giveaways.

A Winter Farmers Market will be held from **4:30 to 7 pm** at the Ticonderoga Knights of Columbus, with local vendors and a cash bar and a menu available.

Campfire and Cocoa begins at **7:30 pm** at Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park, followed by the Winter Wonderland Fireworks Display at **8 pm** over Bicentennial Park.

For more information, visit [timainstreet.org](http://timainstreet.org) or [ticonderogany.com](http://ticonderogany.com). Information is subject to change. ▣

## HILL NAMED ECONOMIC DEVELOPER OF THE YEAR

The North Country Chamber of Commerce has named Beth L. Hill, president and CEO of Fort Ticonderoga, as its Economic Developer of the Year.

The award recognizes Hill's leadership in transforming Fort Ticonderoga into both a premier cultural destination and a major driver of regional economic growth. Under her direction, the fort attracts more than 70,000 visitors annually and plays a key role in supporting local jobs and businesses through sustainable tourism.

Hill has positioned Fort Ticonderoga at the center of America's 250th anniversary commemorations and is blending historic preservation with forward-looking economic strategies.

She said the honor reflects the dedication of the entire Fort Ticonderoga team and its commitment to strengthening the North Country's economy while preserving its history.

North Country Chamber President and CEO Garry Douglas praised Hill's leadership, noting her role in elevating Fort Ticonderoga from a historic landmark to a dynamic economic partner for the region.

The award highlights the fort's continued impact on the local economy and its role in celebrating and preserving the legacy of 1776. ▣



## LGLC PARTNERS WITH UP YONDA FARM

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) is again partnering with [Up Yonda Farm Environmental Education Center](#) to offer a series of Naturalist-led hikes from now through October 2026. Geared toward learners of all ages, all outings take place at preserves primarily within the Town of Bolton.

Thanks to a grant from [Sylvamo](#), the 2026 Series includes three new excursions which will be held at: Peggy's Point in Hague, the Sucker Brook Preserve in Putnam, and the Schumann Preserve in Fort Ann.

Hikes vary in difficulty, but are generally easy/moderate and take one-and-a-half to two hours.

Registration is required at least 24 hours in advance at [upyondafarm.com](http://upyondafarm.com). ▣

## HAGUE SECOND QUARTER HONOR ROLL

**Grade 2:** 100 Club and High Honors - Charleigh McLaughlin

**Grade 3:** High Honors – Frankie Rowe

**Grade 4:** Honors – Anniyah May

**Grade 5:** High Honors – Jackson Porter

**Grade 6:** High Honors – Traeh Andersen

**Grade 7:** First Honors – Noah Mydlarz and Maddison Smith

Second Honors – Colton Andersen

**Grade 8:** Second Honors – Marcelo Maltese

**Grade 9:** First Honors – Elena DeFranco

**Grade 10:** First Honors – Wyatt Barnes and James DeFranco

**Grade 11:** First Honors – Brady Mydlarz and Kaiden Smith

Second Honors – Zebulon Denno, Breyten Andersen, and Miya Savage

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

## LOOKING BACK

by Hague Historical Society Board Members  
Shelly Gautreau and Nancy Young



### Hague Chronicle – March 1976 – 50 years ago

Fifty years ago, readers of *The Hague Chronicle* were introduced to a brand-new masthead.

“The new masthead which was used for the first time last month,” the paper reported in March 1976, “was provided by H. Weston Conant of Rutherford, N.J., and a long-time resident of Silver Bay.” The editors wrote that they were “forever in his debt” for the time and trouble he took in creating it.

Mr. Conant graduated from Pratt Institute Art School in Brooklyn in 1931. He had planned to become a magazine illustrator, but during the Depression, “one took what he could get.” He first traveled with a marionette show — “but,” he said, “it wasn’t very remunerative.” Four years later, he took a job as a page with NBC. Over the course of 41 years, he moved from radio sound effects into television, serving in a variety of technical positions. In his final years with NBC, he supervised a technical area that supplied television shows with the extra and specialized equipment they required.

Upon retiring, Mr. Conant hoped to devote more time to painting in watercolors and oils. The demanding schedules of the broadcasting business, he noted, had prevented him from enjoying many activities. “Soon I hope to find out what it is like to live like people,” he added with humor.

### Fifty Years Later

*The Hague Chronicle’s* masthead has continued to evolve over the decades.

In 1985, a design contest was held for a new masthead. Laurie de Buys Pannell, daughter of Harry and Betty de Buys of Hague and Birmingham, AL, created the winning entry. Her design depicted a gull flying over the lake with mountains in the background. Over time, repeated copying caused the image to lose some of its crispness.

In January 2009, the paper began using an updated version by graphic artist Christine Quaglieri, who volunteered her services to improve clarity for printing.

Another redesign debuted in January 2014 when Hague artist Richard Stout created a refreshed masthead that continues the tradition while sharpening its visual impact.

The above history appears on *The Hague Chronicle’s* website and reflects the care that has gone into maintaining the paper’s identity while allowing it to grow with the times.

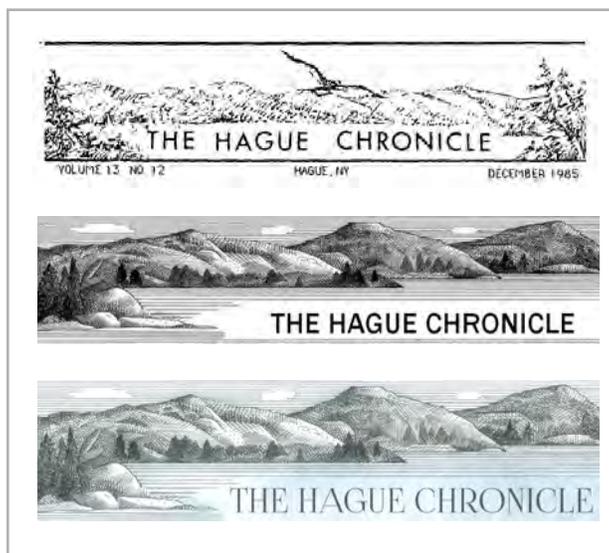
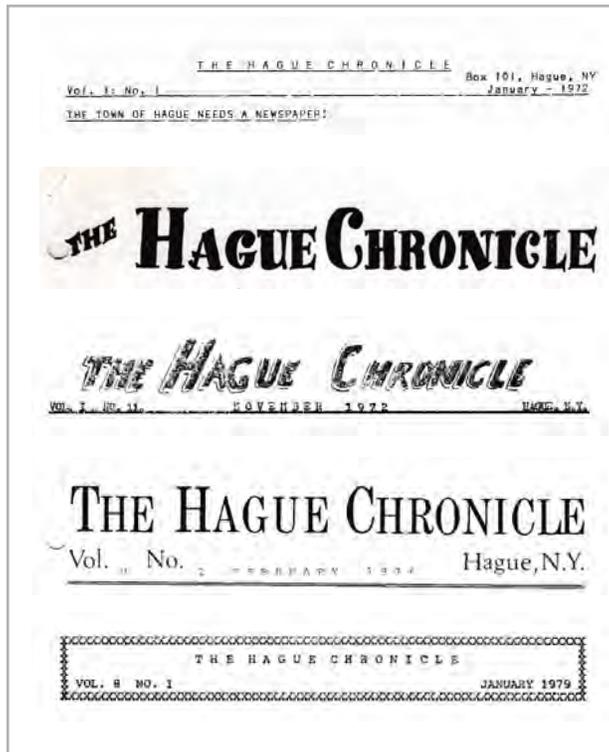
Board member and Layout Editor Chris Quinn recently shared archival images with the Hague Historical Society, noting, “Thought you might enjoy seeing how it’s evolved a little, but is still holding up very well.”

We agree and hope the design continues to serve the community well into the future.

For decades, *The Hague Chronicle* has remained an informative, easy-to-read addition to the life of our small town. Without relying on advertising, it has been sustained by donations from readers and the dedicated efforts of volunteers who spend countless hours writing, editing, publishing, and distributing each issue.

Kudos to all who have helped keep *The Hague Chronicle* strong for fifty years — and counting.

Note from the editor: See the Soundings section on page 6 of this month’s issue for the obituary of H. Weston Conant’s son, Ted Conant. ■



GROUP OF FIVE, TOP: The mastheads used in the 1970s represented many iterations. GROUP OF THREE, BOTTOM: Starting in 1985, the masthead became more of an illustration. It, too, evolved through the years, culminating into the current one, in color, shown last.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT

Fort Ticonderoga continues its multi-year REAL TIME REVOLUTION® 250th commemoration this winter, with special living history events and community programming in **March 2026** that will bring the American Revolution to life 250 years to the day.

On **March 17th**, Fort Ticonderoga educators will take part in the 250th Anniversary of Evacuation Day in Boston, MA. Working with Revolution250, the fort's living history team, complete with oxen and reproduction cannons, will participate in the procession to Dorchester Heights National Historic Park.



There, interpreters will portray the artillery crews who manned the batteries overlooking Boston Harbor. Visitors will have the opportunity to examine reproduction artillery ammunition and instruments and learn about the science and skill behind this pivotal military achievement, which began with the capture of cannon at Ticonderoga.

Back at the fort, visitors can experience a special Winter Quarters living history program on **March 28th** titled "Proceed to Canada." This immersive event explores Fort Ticonderoga's critical role as a supply hub for the Northern Department of the Continental Army. As American forces struggled to sustain operations in Canada during the winter of 1776, Ticonderoga became essential in equipping and supplying soldiers.

Through live interpretation, guests will step into the daily work, strategy, and challenges of keeping an army provisioned during one of the most demanding chapters of the American Revolution.

These March programs are part of Fort Ticonderoga's broader Winter Quarters season, offering residents and visitors alike the chance to engage with history in a vivid, hands-on way.

For schedules, ticket information, and details about additional programming, visit [fortticonderoga.org](http://fortticonderoga.org). ▣

**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, Carolyn Hoeschele, and Maureen Iannuzzi

## TI ARTS

Ti Arts will host an open entry Abstract Art Show from **March 3 to 28, 2026**. Many artists from the area will participate. The opening reception is **Friday, March 6th from 5 to 7 pm**. ▣



*Photo of a piece by Ti resident Robert Hacunda*

## MASON/STAR DINNER

A public chicken and biscuits 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 open to the public on **Monday, March 23, 2026, from 4:30 to 6 pm** at the Ticonderoga Masonic Temple, 10 Montcalm Street, Ticonderoga (across from the Stone House). Take-outs will 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 along Montcalm Street and in the Hancock House parking lot. ▣

## TACC HOSTS CHAMBER CHATS

The Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce (TACC) will host Chamber Chats: Coffee and Conversations — "Bagels and Business" — on **Thursday, March 19th, from 8:30 to 9:30 am** at Ticonderoga Bagel and Coffee.

This informal networking event gives local business owners and community members an opportunity to connect and share ideas over coffee. ▣

**THE HAGUE CHRONICLE**

PO Box 748

Hague, New York 12836-0748



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

**CALENDAR**

March 2026

**MARCH**

1	Hague taxable status date Hague exemption application deadline <i>The Hague Chronicle</i> published	18 - 19	Spanish Dinner, Silver Bay
3 - 28	Ti Arts Abstract Show	19	8:30 - 9:30 am TACC "Bagels and Business" 6 pm Hague Zoning Board of Appeals Mtg.
4 - 5	South African Dinner, Silver Bay	20	6 pm FIRST DAY OF SPRING Deadline for the April issue of <i>The Hague Chronicle</i>
5	6 pm Hague Planning Board Mtg.	21	1 - 8 pm Hague Fish & Game Club Winterfest
6	5 - 7 pm Ti Arts Opening Reception	23	4:30 - 6 pm Mason Star Dinner
7	10 am - 8 pm TACC End of Winter Carnival	24	1:30 pm Seniors Monthly Mtg.
8	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS	25 - 26	Brazilian Dinner, Silver Bay
10	6 pm Hague Town Board Mtg.	28	Fort Ti "Proceed to Canada"
11 - 12	South Korean Dinner, Silver Bay	29	PALM SUNDAY
12	Seniors St. Patrick's Day Dinner		9 - 11 am Breakfast with the Easter Bunny
17	ST. PATRICK'S DAY Fort Ticonderoga educators in Boston		
6 pm	TCSD BoE Meeting		

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