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2026 ELECTION RESULTS

In the race for town supervisor for the Town of Hague, Tom LaPointe, in a write-in campaign, won over his opponent, Lindsey Smith, 214 to 149.

Proposition 1 for LOSAP passed with 220 yes votes to 53 no votes.

LOSAP stands for Length of Service Award Program. It is a pension-like retirement and financial incentive program designed to help municipalities and emergency service organizations recruit, retain, and reward active volunteer firefighters, emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, and rescue workers.

VERIZON COPPER LANDLINES IN HAGUE

Verizon has asked the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for permission to end traditional copper-wire phone service at eligible addresses in parts of New York State. Its application proposed November 30, 2026 as the earliest date service could end, subject to regulatory approval. Whether any Hague addresses are covered by the proposal remains unclear.

Verizon has begun notifying some copper-line customers. Residents who receive a letter can ask Verizon when service would change at their address, what the replacement would cost, and how long it would work during an outage. If Verizon cannot resolve a service concern, customers can contact the New York State Department of Public Service at 800-342-3377.

For Hague residents with weak cell reception, a key question is whether a

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LAPOINTE ELECTED HAGUE TOWN SUPERVISOR

Tom LaPointe will take office as the Hague Town Supervisor in January after winning the November 3, 2026, election as a write-in candidate. He received 214 votes to Lindsey Smith's 149.



LaPointe said protecting Lake George prompted him to run. He wants town boards and lake organizations to confer on projects that affect the lake. One of his priorities is the growing delta at the mouth of Hague Brook. He said the town will seek an engineering study to determine whether dredging or work upstream could help address the problem and protect water quality. He would also consider adding a third sewer district to address septic concerns.

He wants to bring the Hague Community Center up to code, add a fireproof vault for town and Hague Historical Society records, and explore an addition for a museum. He said he would review the needs of the fire department and emergency medical services and bring the proposed visitor center back for discussion.

LaPointe said Hague's rural setting is part of its appeal, but the shift from about 500 year-round residents to an estimated 6,000 in summer makes it hard to sustain a year-round store. He credited Paul Budd of the Silver Bay General Store and Callie Sullivan of Sullivan's Firehouse Restaurant for their contributions to the local economy.

He wants to update zoning laws that date back to the 1980s and consult with nearby towns as to how they regulate short-term rentals.

A Ticonderoga native, LaPointe studied business administration at North Country Community College and Green Mountain College. He and his wife, Judy, settled in Hague, where he started LaPointe Construction and later founded Graphite Mountain Builders. He has served on the Hague Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

LaPointe credited his campaign's six weeks of Tuesday meetings and his door-to-door visits with giving him a chance to hear directly from residents. Questions ranged from fire safety and school taxes to how the town would pay for projects. LaPointe said he wants residents to have a clear picture of where town money comes from and how it is spent.

FRIENDS POINT ROADS TO CLOSE

The Friends Point Roads will be closed for the 24-hour period of 12:01 am on Friday, January 1, 2027 to 12:01 am on Saturday, January 2, 2027.

SENIOR CLUB NEWS

by Mike Kowalsky

As 2026 comes to a close, we look back on a wonderful year of day trips, social events, and friendships.

In August, we played the part of tourists for an hour aboard the Minne Ha-Ha.

We cruised Lake George again in September on the Lac du Saint Sacrement, trying to solve a murder mystery.

In October, we "leaf peeped" our way from Burlington through the mountains of Vermont on the Champlain Valley Dinner Train.

We traveled north in May to relive the glory of the Miracle on Ice at the Lake Placid Olympic Museum. We went south to the Old Fort House Museum in August to a time when school tablets were made of paper and the parlor was where friends were entertained.

We stayed close to home in July, visiting the Port Henry Iron Center Museum, learning what a hard life really looks like.

We ate well in 2026. We were Irish for a day in March, dressing in green and feasting on corned beef and cabbage at our St. Patrick's Day Dinner. We ate lunch in May at the Americade Café as we welcomed our motorcycle-riding guests to join us. Even though our Senior Picnic in August was moved inside, the flavor of summer stayed with us throughout the day. We said goodbye to our friends travelling south for winter at our Snowbird Dinner in September. We will celebrate the holidays at our annual Christmas Party at Frederick's in Bolton Landing on December 1st. And let's not forget, we had ice cream for dessert every Wednesday during Hague's Music in the Park!



Senior Club Officers: Edna Frasier, vice president; Jean Yager, secretary; Pat Hintze, president; and Maureen Cherubini, treasurer

At the November 17th meeting, all senior club officers were re-elected for 2027: Pat Hintze, president; Edna Frazier, vice-president; Jean Yager, secretary; and Maureen Cherubini, treasurer.

It is with heavy hearts that we said goodbye to our longtime senior club member and good friend, Joan Steitz, who recently passed away.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and very Happy and Healthy New Year.

TOWN BOARD OPEN POSITION

Councilwoman Maureen Cherubini has announced that she is resigning from her town board position effective January 1, 2027.

The Hague Town Board is seeking candidates for appointment to Maureen's unexpired 2027 term. Candidates should submit written expressions of interest to the community center by **Friday December 11, 2026.** Interviews are planned on or about **December 15th.**

Note that the appointment will be for the remainder of calendar year 2027, expiring on **December 31, 2027**. Special consideration will be given to candidates who intend to seek election in November 2027 for a full four-year town board term of office.

This is a paid position with an annual salary of $7,210.

Call the community center at 518-543-6161 or email administration@hagueny.org with questions.

HVFD

by Donna Trudeau

The Hague Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) had one fire call, five EMS calls, seven combined fire/EMS drills, and three EMS assists from firemen for a total of 116 volunteer hours.

We are thankful for those who voted yes on our proposed LOSAP retirement and retention fund.

We helped the Ticonderoga fire department teach fire safety in the schools. Each family should plan an escape route and hold a drill of how to get out in case of a fire. Remember STOP, DROP, and ROLL.

Always have bottled water and snacks in your vehicle and slow down when it's raining as the leaves are slippery.

Santa will have breakfast and do crafts on **December 20, 2026 from 9 – 11 am**.

VERIZON COPPER LANDLINES IN HAGUE, CONT'D

replacement phone service would allow them to call 911 during a power outage.

A traditional corded phone on a copper line can often keep working because it draws power from the telephone network. Verizon has identified fiber, fixed wireless, cellular, and satellite as possible replacements. Options vary by address and service during an outage may depend on backup power or a reliable wireless signal.

U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer asked the FCC for more time to review the application and urged Verizon to tell customers what replacement service would be available at their address, what it would cost, and how it would work during an outage. He called for uninterrupted service and protection from higher costs, particularly for seniors, people on fixed incomes, and small businesses.

Businesses that use copper lines for fire alarms could also face equipment replacement costs.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAC) UPDATE

by Chair Jack Bast

I note with enthusiasm that Supervisor-Elect Tom LaPointe attended the SAC's November monthly meeting. The full support of the supervisor is absolutely critical to any SAC effectiveness. Based on Tom's active participation so far, the SAC is confident we can count on Tom following Josh Patchett's outstanding performance in this important area. Thanks, Josh and Tom!

The SAC is trying to figure out how to get more Hague, Ticonderoga, and Putnam parents of Ti students actively involved in our two missions of improved academic performance and financial accountability. Parents should be key to getting the attention of the Ticonderoga Central School District (TCSD) Administration and the Board of Education (BoE). The SAC will be directly contacting parents soon.

On a positive note, the SAC met recently and productively with the Executive Director of the Northern Lake George Foundation (NLGF) Mike Corbo. NLGF's current four pillars of youth development efforts and their accomplishments already are impressive. The SAC clearly shares mutual objectives with the NLGF in wanting our school district to be the best it can be academically and financially. The SAC eagerly looks forward to cooperating and collaborating with the NLGF whenever possible.

In the November 17th regular BoE meeting, teacher Tracy Price provided the Annual Special Education Report. There are 209 students enrolled in Special Education out of a total student enrollment of 670. This 31% special education enrollment rate is substantially higher than both the New York State average of 20% and the available statewide rural-school average of 17%. TCSD's reported 31% rate is unusually high and warrants further examination. The figures may reflect a different reporting date, enrollment definition, or measure of special education participation.

The regular December BoE meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 15 at 6 pm.**The SAC will be there with questions. The more Hague residents there, the better. Be there!

NORTH COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

The Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce's (TACC's) 17th Annual North Country Christmas Celebration continues now through **December 6, 2026**, with holiday shopping, the Ticonderoga Parade of Lights, and the Festival of Trees.

Wednesday, December 2nd: Spaghetti for a Cause starts at **4 pm** at the Ticonderoga Knights of Columbus and continues until sold out. The $15 dinner benefits FallFest and the Town of Ticonderoga's new all-inclusive playground. Hodgepodge will perform from **5 to 7 pm.** Call 518-585-6520 to reserve a dinner.

Thursday, December 3rd: The Ticonderoga Heritage Museum and Ti Arts Holiday Shoppe will be open from **2 to 4 pm** at the Ti Arts Downtown Gallery. It will also be open **Friday from noon to 8 pm and Saturday from 11 am to 2 pm.**

Friday, December 4th: Holiday Shopping and Dining Night runs from **5 to 8 pm** in the Ticonderoga business district, with performances by the Champlain Valley Chorale and a chance to win gift certificates through the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce's (TACC's) Holiday Lucky Bucks program. The Holiday Farmers Market will run during the same hours at the event at the Knights of Columbus.

From 5 to 8 pm, families can visit a free photo booth at the TACC office or take their own photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus at Ashley Rivers Photography Studio. Both are at 94 Montcalm Street.

The Ticonderoga Parade of Lights runs from **6 to 6:45 pm**. It starts at the Welcome to Ticonderoga sign on Wicker Street, passes through the Elderwood/ hospital campus,



continues down Montcalm Street to North Country Community College, and returns up Montcalm Street to the fire department. To enter the parade, call Mary Cunningham at 518-586-6912.

Saturday, December 5th: Breakfast with Santa runs from **7 to 11 am** at Burleigh's Luncheonette. The Grinch will also make an appearance.

Sunday, December 6th: Hunter Way Farm will host its North Pole event from **noon to 3 pm** with visits with Santa, hot cocoa with Mrs. Claus, and farm animals.

The Hancock House will hold its Festival of Trees Open House from **1 to 3 pm**. This year's display, "A Revolutionary Christmas," spans four floors. It will be open **Wednesdays through Saturdays from 10 am through 4 pm through December 31st.**

The schedule is subject to change. For updates, call TACC at 518-585-6619 or visit ticonderogany.com.

HHS PUBLISHES FALL/WINTER 2026 NEWSLETTER

The Hague Historical Society (HHS) has published its latest newsletter. You can enjoy stories about shopping in Hague back in the day, Dorothy Watts Goodfellow's memories of Christmases past, colorful character Sam Patchin, the bells of Hague, Hague's own little drummer boy, and more. Click HERE to read the newsletter.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - 10/15/2026

Present were Chairman Robert Goetsch, Deputy Chairman Chris Richards, and Board Members Oliver Gourley, Tina Barth-King, and Thomas LaPointe. Also present were Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) Ed Kirchberger, Recording Secretary Kathy Santaniello, and Cape Cod Village Club President Mike Rizza.

NEW BUSINESS

McEwan, 10 Anchor Way (VAR 09-26 and VAR 10-26)

Zoning Issues:

The applicant proposed adding a second story and extending the house over the existing patio. The addition would extend the portion of the house within the required side setback. The applicant sought a seven-foot side setback where the code requires ten feet and a variance to enlarge a non-conforming structure by more than 25%.

The Hague Planning Board voted to recommend approval (5-0), with conditions requiring stormwater controls, including the proposed gutter upgrade, replacement of at least one tree on the Anchor Way side, and protection of the roots of a large tree on the south side from soil compaction during construction.

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) reviewed the revised drawings, which showed 32.2% lot coverage, including the eaves. Kirchberger agreed to correct the rear setback shown on the application from 26 to 25 feet. The correction did not change the lot coverage. A motion was made and seconded to deem the application complete and schedule a public hearing for the November meeting (5-0).

A motion was made and seconded to designate the ZBA as lead agency for the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) (5-0). A motion was made and seconded to issue a negative declaration (5-0). The board found that the project would have no significant adverse environmental impacts, citing minimal disturbance to soil and vegetation, no adverse effects on wildlife, provisions for stormwater runoff, and no significant increase in traffic.

OTHER BUSINESS

Brown,Shoreline Variances, 23-29 Abenakis Drive

Kirchberger reported that he and Hutchins, the applicant's representative, were working on a site plan for the planning board's November meeting. He said the Adirondack Park Agency's 30-day review period had expired without action, allowing the four variances to stand. The Lake George Park Commission stormwater permit remained open. Warren County had issued a temporary certificate of occupancy and Kirchberger had yet to issue a final one.

Planning Federation. Kirchberger said he would arrange for the Town of Hague to join so he could receive training notices directly.

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

PLANNING BOARD - 11/5/2026

The planning board met November 5, 2026, at the community center. Present were Chairperson Sandra Powell and Board Members Henry Friedman, Alane Vogel, Chris Navitsky, and Jami Jordan. Also present were Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) Ed Kirchberger, Recording Secretary Kathy Santaniello, applicant representatives Kristin Darrah, Santamaria, Hutchins, and Scott Miller, and local property owners, including Karen Costello.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

McMahon, New Hague Road, Summit Drive, and Cold Water Canyon Road, Tax Map No. 24.-1-9. The applicant revised the proposed subdivision of approximately 50 acres from eight lots to six.

Before the hearing, a motion was made and seconded to rescind the October 1st conditioned negative declaration under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) because required procedures were missed (4-1) (Navitsky opposed). A motion was made and seconded to rescind the earlier determination that the application was complete (5-0).

The board reviewed stormwater runoff, the stream on Lot One, and the lot's proximity to the Pharaoh Lake Wilderness. It noted that an Adirondack Park Agency review is required for Lot One and that state stream and Lake George Park Commission stormwater permits may be needed. Following the review, motions were made and seconded to issue a negative declaration (5-0) and deem the application complete (5-0).

Darrah presented the preliminary plat, soil testing, and proposed driveway access. Property owners asked about the wilderness area, the approval process, and possible building locations. Kirchberger read a letter from Town Supervisor Joshua Patchett urging the board to base conditions on the Town of Hague Zoning Code. A motion was made and seconded to close the hearing (5-0).

A motion was made and seconded to waive the park or recreation area requirement (5-0). A motion was made and seconded to approve the preliminary plat with four conditions. The final plat must list deed restrictions and applicable state health and town sewer requirements for on-site sanitation and water supply, remove the reference to stormwater management and erosion controls, and provide for permanent monuments at all lot corners. The motion carried (4-1) (Navitsky opposed). Navitsky said the approval would lead to the subdivision's impacts being considered separately.

PLANNING BOARD, CONT'D

OLD BUSINESS

Burke/Day, 29 Waltonian Road, Tax Map No. 26.4-1-13.

Zoning Issues: Section 160-24 C (1), development within 100 feet of Lake George.

A motion was made and seconded to approve a 500-square-foot main patio, replacement of the 130-square-foot side patio, and replacement of the fire pit no closer to the lake (5-0). Conditions include redirecting deck runoff, replacing removed vegetation in kind, managing runoff from any wall drain openings, planting a continuous barrier atop the six-foot retaining wall, using erosion controls during construction, and rebuilding the stairs along the same route with uniform steps and a fixed handrail. Kirchberger requested engineer-stamped wall plans.

Brown, 23–29 Abenakis Drive, Tax Map No. 43.13-1-7.1.

*Zoning Issues:*Sections 160-52 A (1) and 160-52 B, shoreline setbacks and wall height, and Section 160-23 C (1)(g), development within 100 feet of Lake George.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the site plan with the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) variance conditions and the applicants' planting commitments (4-1) (Vogel opposed). The conditions include native plantings in the seawall and a 15-foot shoreline buffer with 14 trees. The applicants agreed to replace plantings that die or become diseased within seven years. The board recommended moving two trees into the opening in front of the house. Vogel questioned tree spacing and shoreline shade.

SKETCH PLAN REVIEW

Beneduce, Dodd Hill Road, Tax Map No. 42-1-52. Miller presented a proposal to create four lots from the existing 39.5-acre Lot 11, with a shared gravel road, individual wells, and proposed septic systems. The board discussed possible town sewer connections and stormwater management. Review will continue at the next meeting. Powell asked Kirchberger to obtain the original subdivision records and forward board members' questions to Miller.

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

TOWN BOARD - 11/10/2026

Present were Board Members Jack Bast, Maureen Cherubini, Edna Frasier, and Lara Smith, and Supervisor Josh Patchett. Also present were Town Attorney Mark Schachner, Deputy Town Supervisor Sally DeLarm Rypkema, Highway Superintendent Chad Dunklee, Bob Holmes of RU Holmes Engineering, Town Clerk Kim Coffin, and Hague Historical Society President Ginger Henry Kuenzel.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Joan Steitz, Bruce Vickerson, Susan Liddell, and Jo Wray.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The board held public hearings on wastewater system variances.

- Dickson, 62 Sabbath Day Point Road (tax map 93.16-1-23). Two variances approved.
- Corsi, 274 Silver Bay Road (tax map 59.20-1-2). Five variances approved.
- Fallahpour, 28 Paine Road (tax map 76.8-1-14). Four variances approved.
- Johnson/Blike, 30 Paine Road (tax map 76.8-1-11). One variance approved.
- Penfield, 14 Silver Bay Road (tax map 76.16-1-15). Two variances approved.
- Porpora, 239 Silver Bay Road (tax map 76.8-1-8). Five variances requested. Tabled until the December Town Board meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

- A request for proposals to study nutrient controls in Hague Brook was scheduled for publication in *Sun Community News* on November 14th. Proposals are due December 18th, with a contract award expected in January 2027. The Warren County Planning Department is helping administer the Nonpoint Source Planning Grant.
- Coffin provided a timeline for annual changes to equivalent dwelling units assigned to properties in Sewer Districts #1 and #2. After Sewer Advisory Committee approval, it will go to the zoning enforcement officer and assessor.
- Patchett announced a Veterans Day ceremony at Veterans Park for November 11th at 11 am, followed by soup and sandwiches at the firehouse.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings and Grounds/Community Center/ Enhancement (*Frasier/Patchett*): Patchett was exploring repairs to the Hague Community Center roof and furnace.

Highway (*Frasier/Cherubini*): Dunklee said the salt shed was nearly complete, the county fuel system was in place, and the trucks were ready for winter.

Museum and Historian (*Bast/Smith*): Kuenzel said the Hague School exhibit would come down in January and the Historical Society would develop a new exhibit. She noted the upcoming release of *A Pictorial History of Hague*.

Personnel (*Bast/Cherubini*): The town seeks one alternate each for the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board. Both positions are paid and part-time. Apply promptly at the Hague Community Center.

Sewer District #1 and #2 (*Smith/Patchett*): Smith said the sewer department passed all October tests and was seeking warranty coverage for a failed pump at the Cape Cod pump station.

Technology and Communications (*Patchett*): The town purchased a laptop for Jessica Tuthill to update its website and Facebook page.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made and seconded to designate the board as lead agency for the Performance Pavilion Project's State Environmental Quality Review (5-0). A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 120, issuing a negative declaration for the project (5-0).

Patchett reviewed nine factors, including the pavilion's public use, site suitability, and whether review could delay construction and affect summer availability. A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 115, granting limited immunity from formal Planning Board site plan review (5-0).

A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 116, accepting A.J. Catalfamo Construction's $77,500 concrete estimate (5-0). A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 117, accepting Woodlot Woodwork's $116,300 estimate, including $108,800 for the pavilion and $7,500 for a standing seam metal roof (5-0). Both resolutions authorized Patchett to sign the contracts.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize School Advisory Committee members Linda Fusco and Michael Galow to attend the Rural Schools Association of New York Winter Conference in Saratoga Springs on December 3rd and 4th for up to $1,500 total (5-0).

A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 118, authorizing the Highway Department to purchase a New Holland PowerStar 75 tractor with an 88-inch Kut-mor right-wing flail mower system for $110,621.06 plus $770 shipping (4-1) (Patchett).

A motion was made and seconded to accept a $20,000 Lake George Association grant for a stormwater collection and reuse system at the new highway salt storage facility (5-0). Collected water will be used to make brine for winter road maintenance.

The board adopted the 2027 preliminary budget as its final budget under Resolution 119 (5-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Residents raised concerns about deteriorating headstones and the condition of older cemeteries. A suggestion was made to form a committee to seek grants for headstone repairs.

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

SOUNDINGS

DIED: Joseph John Wania, 62, of Glenville, NY, November 20, 2026.

Joseph died surrounded by his family following a recent cardiac episode. His mother, Patricia, stayed by his side, continuing the care she and his father had given him throughout his life.



Joseph attended Oak Hill School in Burnt Hills and Maywood School in Colonie and graduated from Schalmont High School's IEP program. He worked at Pine Ridge Industries in Scotia and Essex Industries in Mineville, where he enjoyed making canoe parts.

Joseph loved the Adirondacks and especially enjoyed fishing with his dad, boating on Lake George, and sitting by the fire with family at their lake house in Hague. He adored his four nieces and loved spending time with his favorite dogs, Cooper and Riley. His family remembers his gentle nature, his delight in small things, and the kindness he showed to everyone.

Survived by his: parents, Patricia and Joseph Wania; sister, Laurene Tompkins (Brian); brother, James Wania (Kerry); nieces, Victoria and Rebecca Tompkins and Caitlin and Madelyn Wania; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

The family will hold a private service. A celebration of life will be held in Lake George in spring 2027, with details to be announced.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites donations in Joseph's memory to the Eddy SeniorCare PACE program through the Samaritan Hospital and The Eddy Foundation, 310 South Manning Blvd., Albany, NY 12208. Donate online.

LGLC 2026 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The Lake George Land Conservancy (LGLC) invites volunteers to take part in the Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Count on **Sunday, December 20, 2026.** The nationwide winter bird census has relied on volunteers for more than 100 years.

The local count covers a 15-mile-wide circle that extends from Amy's Park in Bolton south to Pilot Knob Preserve in Fort Ann and from the Schroon River in Warrensburg east to Sleeping Beauty and Black Mountain in Dresden.

Volunteers can survey a route on foot, by car, by boat, or count birds at a feeder. They then report their bird counts, weather conditions, and hours spent counting to the LGLC, which compiles the results and submits them to the Audubon Society.

Those interested should register by **5 pm on Thursday, December 17th** using the link below.

For more information, email Events and Fundraising Manager Janice Reynen at jreynen@lglc.org.

SILVER BAY HAPPENINGS

There will be a virtual/in-person town hall from **6:30 pm to 7:30 pm on Wednesday, December 9, 2026**. Here is the information for the virtual meeting:

CLICK HERE
Meeting ID: 825 9160 2106
Passcode: 472951

The Charles R. Wood Foundation awarded Silver Bay YMCA's Ticonderoga Community Early Learning Center (TCELC) a $10,000 grant to support operations. The center provides child care and helps prepare children ages six weeks to five years for school.

Walt Lender, Silver Bay YMCA's vice president of development and government relations, said the grant helps sustain child care for families in Essex, Warren, and Washington Counties. He said 80 percent of the children enrolled come from low-income working families and that continued enrollment helps keep the center operating.

Jackie Paladrani, Silver Bay YMCA's education director, said reliable child care allows parents to work while giving young children a foundation for learning.



Enrollment is currently open.

For information about enrollment or to make a donation, visit silverbay.org/early-learning-center or call 518-585-7433.

CORRECTION: In the November issue, in the article about the town board meeting that took place on September 8, 2026, under Privilege of the Floor, it said "John Smith made a comment." That should have read "Jonathan Smith."



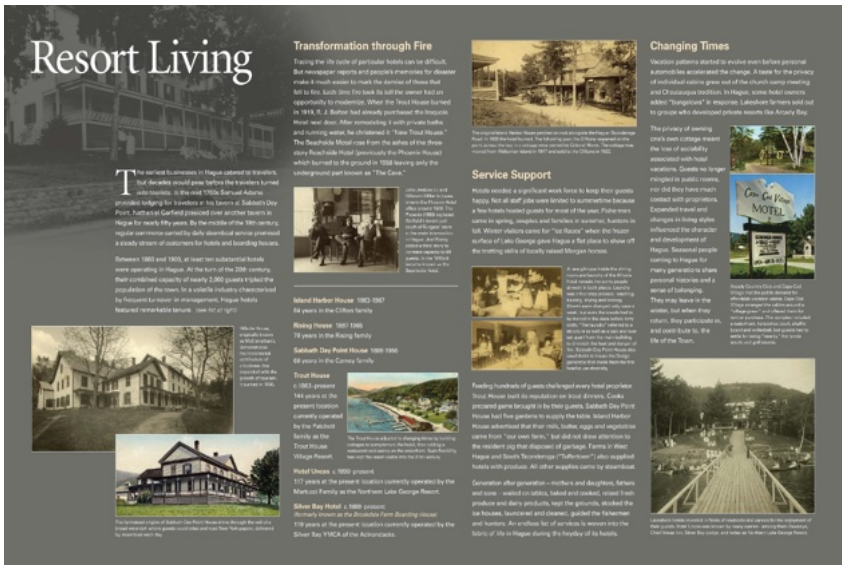
Photo courtesy of Carl Heilman Photography

LOOKING BACK

Showcasing Hague's History: #3 of Six Panels

by Ginger Henry Kuenzel

This is the third in our series spotlighting the six panels created in 2007 to celebrate Hague's history in its bicentennial year. The panels are on display in the court room in the Hague Community Center. We encourage everyone to spend some time learning about the fascinating history of our town. This month, we take a look at panel number three, entitled "Resort Living."



By the middle of the 19th century, daily steamboat service brought a steady stream of guests to the hotels and boarding houses that were growing up along the lake's shore: the Trout House, Island Harbor House, Hotel Uncas, Sabbath Day Point House, and others. Between 1860 and 1900, at least ten substantial hotels were operating in Hague. At the turn of the 20th century, their combined capacity of nearly 2,000 guests tripled the population of the town.

Hotels needed a significant work force. Not all jobs were limited to summertime, as some hotels hosted guests throughout the year. Generation after generation, mothers and daughters, fathers and sons waited on tables, baked and cooked, supplied fresh produce and dairy products, kept the grounds, stocked the ice houses, laundered, cleaned, and served as guides for guests who had come to fish or hunt.

Feeding hundreds of guests challenged every hotel proprietor. Trout House built its reputation on trout dinners. Sabbath Day Point House had five gardens to supply the table. Island Harbor House advertised that their milk, butter, eggs, and vegetables came from "our own farm," but did not draw attention to the resident pig that disposed of garbage.

Farms in West Hague and South Ticonderoga ("Tuffertown") also supplied hotels with produce. All other supplies came by steamboat.

Expanded travel and changes in living styles influenced the character and development of Hague beginning in the mid-20th century. The advent of the automobile and the wherewithal to be able to afford second homes led to the evolution of Hague as we know it today.

NEWS FROM THE LAKE GEORGE ASSOCIATION

by LGA Board Member and Hague Resident Ginger Henry Kuenzel

LGA AWARDS $20,000 TO HAGUE FOR STORMWATER AND ROAD SALT REDUCTION

The Lake George Association (LGA) recently awarded Hague a $20,000 grant to install a seamless gutter rainwater collection and conveyance system on the town highway department's new salt storage facility. The new system delivers a double win. It will not only prevent the roof water runoff from flowing into Hague Brook and thus into Lake George, but will also be used to make brine for our winter roads, thereby reducing the amount of salt used.

Pollution from stormwater runoff and road salt are two of the greatest threats to Lake George. The *Hague Chronicle* has reported extensively over the past several years on Hague's leadership - in partnership with the LGA - in salt reduction. As a result of these efforts, the town has cut the amount of salt it uses in half, thereby saving taxpayer money while also protecting the lake, streams, and groundwater. With this grant, Hague will be able to continue its commitment to addressing the harmful effects of stormwater runoff and road salt. Click HERE for more information on the grant.

Click HERE to learn how the LGA can help you reduce stormwater runoff on your property.

Click HERE to learn about LGA stormwater grants for your property.

LAKE GEORGE WATERKEEPER CHRIS NAVITSKY CELEBRATES HIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

The LGA is part of the Waterkeeper Alliance, which unites communities across six continents to protect waterways and defend the fundamental right to clean water. The alliance and its waterkeepers patrol and protect more than six million square miles of waterways throughout the world. Chris

(Continued on p. 9)

NEWS FROM THE LAKE GEORGE ASSOCIATION, CONT'D

Navitsky, who lives in Sabbath Day Point, has been the Lake George Waterkeeper for 25 years. If you've ever wondered what the Lake George Waterkeeper actually does, click HERE to find out.

A VOICE FOR LAKE GEORGE: MEET BRIAN MATTES, RPI SENIOR RESEARCH SPECIALIST



Brian Mattes never passes up an opportunity to listen to people's questions and to talk about what the Darrin Fresh Water Institute and the LGA are doing to protect Lake George. His passion for all things related to Lake George, his passion for science, and his passion for people are contagious. He's truly a voice for Lake George.

I've known Brian for several years and have always been in awe of his ability to explain to me – a non-scientist – the complex ecology of Lake George and what is being done to protect it. I was excited to have the opportunity to sit down with him recently to learn more about what his day-to-day job entails and how he monitors the health of the lake to help ensure it remains protected for generations to come.

Click HERE to read the full article.

LGA EXPANDS ITS ADVOCACY EFFORTS TO PROTECT LAKE GEORGE



Nicholle L. Gotham has joined the LGA as its first-ever Director of Government Relations. This marks a significant milestone in the LGA's 141-year history and a major investment in expanding its advocacy efforts to ensure the enduring protection of Lake George's world-renowned water quality and clarity. The newly created position advances the LGA's 2026-2030 Strategic Plan, which emphasizes helping to shape meaningful policy and legislative action based on scientific research. Working alongside Lake George Waterkeeper Chris Navitsky, Nicholle will strengthen the LGA's government relations efforts and engagement with state lawmakers, agencies, and policymakers on issues affecting Lake George and other freshwater bodies across New York State.

Click HERE to read more.

MEGAN SEELEY PROMOTED TO VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS



Megan Seeley has been promoted to vice president of communications for the LGA, overseeing communications, marketing, brand strategy, and public engagement. One of her key areas of focus is to connect the LGA's science-driven mission with the people, businesses, organizations, and communities who share a commitment to protecting Lake George. Megan previously held the role of LGA's Membership and Development Manager.

Click HERE to read more.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FORT



Fort Ticonderoga will re-enact a clash between Continental Army soldiers on **Saturday, December 19, 2026**, as part of its Winter Quarters series. The event, titled "Riot!" marks 250 years since tensions between Pennsylvania soldiers known as "Buckskins" and New England soldiers known as "Yankees" erupted into violence inside the garrison.

The clash came less than two months after the soldiers had defended Ticonderoga against a British invasion. The re-enactment follows the garrison into the early winter, when soldiers faced cold weather, short rations, and expiring enlistments.

For details and tickets, call 518-585-2821 or visit 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, Kowalsky, Schaffer, (see below) and Paul Budd.

Please send all news items and Soundings to **editor@thehaguechronicle.org** by the 20th of the preceding month. Please send any comments to **publisher@thehaguechronicle.org** .

Publisher/Editor: Bobbi Bryant Taylor
Layout Editor: Chris Quinn
Secretary: Mike Kowalsky
Treasurer: Charlene Schaffer
Staff: Claire Best, Carolyn Hoeschele, and Pat McDonough

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

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

THE HAGUE CHRONICLE

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Hague, New York 12836-0748



ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

DECEMBER

December 2026

1		December issue of *The Hague Chronicle* published
2	4 pm	Spaghetti for a Cause
	5 – 7 pm	Hodgepodge performs
3	2 – 4 pm	Ti Heritage Museum and Ti Arts Shoppe open
	6 pm	Hague Planning Board Mtg.
4	Noon – 8 pm	Ti Heritage Museum and Ti Arts Shoppe open
	5 – 8 pm	Holiday Shopping and Dining Night/photo booth open
	6 – 6:45 pm	Ti Parade of Lights
5	7 – 11 am	Breakfast with Santa
	11 am – 2 pm	Ti Heritage Museum and Ti Arts Shoppe open
6	Noon – 3 pm	Hunter Way Farm Open House
	1 – 3 pm	Hancock House Festival of Trees Open House
6 - 31	10 am – 4 pm	Hancock House Festival of Trees open
8	6 pm	Hague Town Board Mtg.
9	6:30 – 7:30 pm	Silver Bay Town Hall
11		Deadline for Hague Town Board candidates
15	6 pm	TCSD BoE mtg.
17	6 pm	Hague Zoning Board of Appeals Mtg.
19		"Riot" re-enactment at the fort
20		Deadline for the January issue of *The Hague Chronicle*
20		Christmas Bird Count
24		CHRISTMAS EVE/Town offices closed
25		CHRISTMAS DAY/Town offices closed
31		NEW YEAR'S EVE

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