



## FROM THE SUPERVISOR'S DESK

April – May 2017

As I sit here at my desk reflecting on the events of the past few hours it is hard to believe that such an event would occur in our quiet little town. Everyone has been so supportive and cooperative, but shocked that a shooting would take place at the Hague Market. What a sad way for the town to be in the limelight! There was almost as much law enforcement as there are residents this time of year. But 2 days later, life seemed to return to normal. My neighbor was out walking her dog at 7:30 am and as I drove up Tongue Mt. at 8 o'clock I saw a lady who always walks early in the morning making the trek up the mountain.

Last month for Inter County we traveled to Lewis County where we toured Otis Technology, Manufacturer of gun care products for pistol, rifle and small caliber firearms. It is a family owned business which provides employment for over 100 people in the area. We observed robots at work there and watched how these gun care products are made, saw inventions they themselves had designed to speed up the operation. They try to make everything there so as not to go to outside vendors. This month we went to Fulton County where we toured the Crystal Water bottling plant in Johnstown, N. Y. It has been in business for 5 years, spent \$20 million on the facility and only employs 27 people. Why, you ask? Automation is evident throughout the plant—from expansion of the bottle to labeling, filling the bottle, packing and shrink wrapping. It was quite impressive.

### **A few reminders:**

- 1. Town Clean Up –June 23 & 24, 2017**
- 2. Spring Zing- Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am- 2:00pm at the Fish Hatchery in Warrensburg  
(It is a FREE fishing clinic and open house)**
- 3. Hazardous Waste Day for Warren County—Saturday, May 20, 2017**
- 4. Memorial Day Parade—May 27, 2017, followed by the Chicken Barbecue at the Fire House**
- 5. At our July board meeting (July 11, 2017) the CEO from Interlake's Health will brief us on all that is happening there.**

The county has been stocking the ponds and brooks. 300 brook trout were put in the Hague Brook and 1000 rainbow trout put in Jabes Pond in April.

I like to keep you informed of how our tax dollars are spent. The cost of nine state mandated programs and services now equal 99% of the property taxes collected by all the counties in New York State, outside of New York City. How does this make you feel? The local taxpayers in New York's 57 counties and New York City are required under law to pay \$7.5 billion annually to support New York's Medicaid program, the largest in the nation. New York's county taxpayers spend more than triple what all other county taxpayers in the nation pay combined. Shocking, isn't it?

This year the county started a new evaluation program. Various supervisors have met with the department heads to see if they are attaining their goals and how they can improve moving forward. I covered my 5 department heads as well as Support Services department heads for Supervisor Vanslow who has been out with health issues. It was time consuming as I spent many hours down there meeting with all these people and discussing their policies and programs. Then a group of 5 met with each person to discuss their performance and rate them. My take away was that we have some very capable people running these departments on very tight budgets.

Please contact the community center if you do not yet have cable. We are trying to get that project completed.

The town is working on having a video done highlighting the scenic areas and what we have to offer. Bob English from Luzerne Productions will be working on it. He has asked Rick Bolton to come up with music to set the video to and Rick has agreed. Mr. English plans on being in Hague the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to do some filming.

The April monthly meeting at the county moved right along with reports by all the chairmen of the committees. We brief the supervisors on what transpired in our meetings and explain the resolutions we are bringing forward. The county chairman fills us in on his monthly activities. April is Mental Health month as well as Older Americans Month.



QUOTE: Life is not the way it is supposed to be. It's the way it is. The way you cope with it is what makes a difference.  
Virginia Satir.