

Statewide anti-line coalition formed

BY BETSY BAKER
 "The utilities want to keep us stupid, ignorant and uninformed," Werner Kuhn stated, "so we can't organize around the fact of what will really happen to our areas when nuclear plants and 765 kv lines are built."
 Kuhn was speaking to 125 participants in the "People over Power" Conference held in Canton on Labor Day. The conference was the last event in the two week series of anti-765 kv line activities sponsored by protest groups throughout New York State.

In addition to the legal workshop, workshops were held on direct action, communications, legislation and new group recruitment. The final workshop of the day was on creating a citizen alliance of anti-powerline, anti-nuclear groups.
 Conference spokesman EdDubinsky stated: "Today we are taking an important step in the development of a statewide coalition against the 765 kv line."
 Dubinsky said agreement was reached on the formation of a statewide coalition before the conference ended.

The organizational meeting of that group will be held on September 24 in Syracuse.

The most recent march along the route of the line ended in Edwards Sunday with a rally.

Since August 24 marchers have been walking the entire length of the proposed line, starting from Ft. Covington in the north and Marcy in the south.

Also on Sunday over 700 people attended a country music festival held on the Ken Theobald farm south of Canton.



WERNER KUHN, former counsel to the DEC, shown here leading a workshop on legal action at the "People over Power" conference held Labor Day in Canton. Over 125 representatives of anti-765 kv line and anti-nuclear groups throughout the state attended the meeting, sponsored by UPSET and the North Country Defense Committee. (Betsy Baker photo)

Stokes named new editor of Courier and Freeman

Formerly a counsel for the State Department, Environmental Conservation, Kuhn was featured speaker at the legal workshop portion of the conference. He is currently director of the Public Utility Law Project, a Federally funded public interest legal advocacy group formed to represent the interests of low income utility consumers. While with DEC he was instrumental in developing the idea of health and safety hearings on the 765 kv line.

Representatives from about 30 groups statewide attended the conference, as well as several individuals from areas where groups had not yet been formed. Regions represented included mid-Hudson, Genesee Valley, Binghamton, Albany and Northern New York.

Hal Stokes, city hall reporter for The Journal and Advance News since July of 1974, has been named editor of the Potsdam Courier and Freeman, a weekly publication of Park Newspapers of St. Lawrence Inc.
 The announcement was made today by general manager of the newspapers, Charles W. Kelly. Stokes, who has also served with the Massena Observer,

another paper in the Park chain, will replace Mike Billington at Potsdam, who has resigned effective Sept. 16. Billington, 30, has served as managing editor of the Potsdam paper for the past three years.

Stokes, 23, is a 1975 cum laude graduate of St. Lawrence University where he majored in fine arts, studying photography and filmmaking. There he also studied journalism and was news editor of the college's Hill News.

He served with The Massena Observer from October of 1975 until coming to The Journal and Advance News in July, 1976. At Massena he held the positions of sports editor, photographer, and general assignment reporter.

At The Journal and Advance News, Stokes served as city hall reporter covering all facets of city government.

Stokes was born in Gary, Ind., and later lived in Crown Point, Ind., Orlando, Fla., and Ramsey, N.J. He is the son of Henry F. and Ruth Stokes. His father is first vice president of the J. I. Kislak Realty Corp. He has a married sister, Sandy Melmaris, 29, in Brookfield, Conn.

He has served for two seasons as a firefighter with the U. S. Forest Service in Quincy, Calif., and was chosen as an assistant instructor at the North American Wilderness Survival School. He is a National Ski Patrolman and traveled with the St. Lawrence carnival ski team.

He has also done some writing for Bike World Magazine.



HAL STOKES

Students important to local economy

BY BILL LARUE

The students at State University College at Potsdam and Clarkson College of Technology are important for the economic prosperity of many downtown businesses, according to several local merchants.

Though no actual figures are available, if every student at the two colleges spent only one dollar a week for the 32 weeks of the school year at a downtown business, approximately \$214,000 would be spent in the community.

That's a very conservative figure, if you consider that most students probably spend much more than that. Wally Siebel of the staff of Northern Music, said "we feel the difference when they (the students) come back in the fall. Traffic in the store falls away in the summer, down about 30 to 35 percent."

Siebel said the staff does a lot of "crazy things" for the students and that Northern Music "tries to be fair with everybody."

Calipari's music store "hasn't geared our business as much for the students as the community at large," according to owner Joseph Calipari.

Calipari was the only businessman

questioned who indicated students are not major customers.

Calipari said he receives some business from students at the Crane School of Music, but for the most part students who shop at the store only have music "as a hobby."

Calipari added "There are just too many places selling records for us to sell a lot to the students."

"Our business is low during the summer," Calipari noted, "not as much because of the lack of students, but because a lot of people are camping or away for vacations."

A "Welcome Students" sign hangs near the Entrance of Harold's Men's Shop.

"I would say that students are a great deal of our business," said Ken McGowan, manager of the shop. McGowan estimated that students make "50 percent and up" of Harold's business.

The Giant Steps Bookstore depends almost entirely on students," said bookstore owner Joel Ray.

The bookstore, which carries books and records experiences a definite "hull" during the months students are away.

Giant Steps does sell some textbooks

to State College students and would like to do the same for Clarkson College.

Weston's bookstore, which is owned by Clarkson, "insists" according to Ray, that Clarkson professors funnel their textbook lists through the department chairman who then turn them over to Weston's. The legality of this is "questionable," said Ray, although he has "no intention" of legally challenging it.

"Because our job is serving Clarkson and as we are owned by Clarkson, we have to receive book orders from the Clarkson professors so we can have the books available," explained Lee Matott, manager of Weston's.

"Students get very P.O.'d at us if we don't have the books," he added. Matott believes it is "bad P.R." for the State University College bookstore not to carry all of their students textbooks. Because of student pressure, Matott said, "I think the Potsdam State bookstore will have to someday require the professors to order all their books at that store."

Weston's Bookstore, Matott added, "tries to get as much town traffic as possible. We try to bring items which appeal to all clientele."

Public invited to opening

The new owners of the Potsdam Paper Mill will welcome the public to ceremonies opening the plant at Unionville on Monday, September 12.

The ribbon-cutting will open the former Nekooza-Edwards plant, idle since 1974. By the time the paper machines are in operation later this fall, 135 people will be working at the mill, many of them former employees.

William Cook, director of the County Office of Economic Development will co-host the event with Harry Walters, president of the Potsdam Paper Corporation. The reception marks the culmination of more than a year's effort to reopen the mill and restore all those jobs to the community. Senator Jacob Javits is expected to fly in from Washington to be guest speaker.

The opening will give the mill management and local business and political leaders involved in economic development a chance to meet each other and the public over coffee and doughnuts.

The festivities will be held outdoors from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m., with Senator Jacob Javits scheduled to speak at 10. Following the party for the public, the former workers at the mill will be treated to a barbecue by the new owners.

To reach the mill, take Route 56 north from Potsdam or south from Norwood. A large sign on the west side of the road reading "Nekooza Edwards Paper Mill" marks the short road to the plant. Everybody is welcome.

Day care center book sale

The Potsdam Day Care Center will hold its sixth annual used book sale Thursday September 8 and Friday September 9, in the basement of the Civic Center, Potsdam. (Watch for signs) Hours of the sale will be 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Book sale chairperson Betty Bradley said: "I'm really excited about the sale this year; it's going to be our biggest and best yet." Bradley noted that many new books have been received from all over St. Lawrence County, and she urged patrons to come early for a good selection.

Available will be fiction, non-fiction, textbooks, children's books, magazines

and paperbacks. Technical books and records will also be sold.

An unusual feature of the sale will be coffee for patrons at 10 cents a cup.

All proceeds from the sale will benefit the Potsdam Day Care Center, a state licensed, non-profit day care facility serving children from three to five years of age on a year-round basis. The center is located at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

Day care sources have indicated that monies will be used to supplement income from parent fees, government grants and the United Way of St. Lawrence County.

Potsdam Rescue Squad enters twenty-third year

BY AL RICKARD
 Ever since their first ambulance rolled in 1954 to take a heart attack victim to the hospital, the Potsdam Rescue Squad has been faithfully serving people in the Potsdam area.

The idea of forming a rescue operation was first conceived in 1952 by four men: Andy Rodger, Sanford Dewey, Ralph Lawrence and Bob Spotswood. All four had previously worked as firemen.

The volunteer organization began operating in 1954 with the purchase of two vehicles for \$200 with the help of a personal bank loan from Rodger. These two vehicles were the first ambulances in this area, and they soon began earning their keep. The doctor on the scene with the heart attack victim on that first call later praised the rescuers, saying "If you guys hadn't been there he would have died within 10 minutes."

The Squad has been on the upswing since then, receiving funds from town and village contracts, donations and bequests. Prometheus a service fraternity at the State University College, has also held fund raising activities for the Squad's benefit.

Money collected from these sources goes towards vehicle and malpractice insurance, upkeep and equipment and supplies.

Bill Corbett, Chief of the Squad, noted that he is "very grateful" to everyone who has donated money. "People have covered us as far as money concerned. We wouldn't operate without them."

Duties that the Squad performs are widely varied, ranging from standbys at graduations to the transport of patients to hospitals as far away as Syracuse. The Squad also stands by at fires, sporting events and many other places where large crowds gather for an event.

All this is in addition to the regular load of calls, which averages three per day. These calls can be for anything from a dog stranded on a frozen river to a head-on auto accident.

Corbett explained that "we will go anywhere anytime we are needed."

Calls are relayed through the police station and then transmitted to Rescue Squad members via radio, who then move into action. The time it takes for an ambulance to hit the road after a call is received is usually about two minutes, according to Corbett. He pointed out that valuable time can be saved if the caller gives accurate directions and information about the situation.

At the scene of an accident spectators should let Squad members work alone unless they ask for assistance because they are "well trained for their job and need to work quickly without interference," Corbett said.

That the Rescue Squad is well trained is evident when one looks at the honors they have received.

The Squad was voted the outstanding service organization of Potsdam in 1961 as well as being selected to display their equipment at the New York State Fair.

In addition, the Squad was exclusively chosen to stand by at such dignitaries as Queen Elizabeth II, President Dwight Eisenhower, and President Richard Nixon on their visits to the St. Lawrence Seaway.

children and depreciation of property. We want to be left alone on our quiet little street," she said. She also cited the already existing traffic from village trucks and equipment to the Public Works facilities.

Despaw said most of the signers of the petition are long-time residents of

After school day care set

The "Satellite" After School Day Care Center, located at St. Mary's School in Potsdam, will begin operation on Monday, September 12. The program will serve children ages six through twelve years of age, Monday through Friday, from 2 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The program will be designed to offer

Cherry Street, and represent "many cumulative years of tax dollars to the Village."

Garner was out of town, and could not be reached for comment on the matter. Norma Thayer also had no comment, although she said she had received and read the petition.

Revote likely on relief route

The staff of the Squad consists of 24 male and female volunteers and is administered by a president, chief and three assistant chiefs.

Each member of the Squad is required to be on duty once every six days from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. and answer to all general calls at any time. While on duty, members take care of such things as building maintenance, vehicle checks and supplies in the vehicles.

Periodic training sessions are also held to keep the Squad proficient at all types of emergency treatment.

Although Squad members are often called to duty at any and all hours of the day or night, they have no quaims or complaints about doing so.

As one member put it "we feel it is a privilege to be able to serve the community in this way and we are very proud of our work."

He added that "anyone who feels that this type of community participation is something that he or she would find rewarding, should talk to a member of the Squad and fill out an application for membership. We would be happy to interview anyone interested."

Prospective members should realize that large amounts of time are required for this type of work and the utmost dedication to the job is essential.

Corbett emphasized that "we are a volunteer organization only until a call comes in. Then everyone must be ready to go."

Members are also required to live within one half mile of the village and complete an 81 hour Emergency Medical Training course within the first year of membership.

The Board's criticisms of the various plans have been instrumental in delaying the project for at least a year, and village officials have indicated that there is a need for cooperation with the board in getting any plan underway.

The modified C route includes a highway bridge over the Racquette River and a section east of the railroad corridor with exits across from Broad Street and along Cherry Street.



THE POTSDAM Volunteer Rescue Squad's new ambulance is currently helping the squad perform its many varied service functions to the Potsdam community. The ambulance is priced at \$18,000. (Mike Billington Photo)