

Patchwork: West Potsdam Area News

BY MARY ANN MILLER
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Is there a person in the area without something frozen? I doubt it. Our thermometer has sucked itself up and left perhaps an inch or so of mercury.

Valentine's Day
In the cold, I found myself housebound on Valentine's Day. I called Bailey's Greenhouse to see if Valentine's was busy for them. I talked with Joretta Creighton about it. It seems it was a very busy time for them. They had six vehicles making deliveries that day. The biggest problem was delivering the flowers in temperatures zero and below. All flowers had to be wrapped three times. The flowers were hustled to preheated vehicles. Drivers were instructed to knock on doors first and be sure someone was home and then bring the flowers in. The most popular flowers for Valentine's Day were roses. In many cases, a single red rose was sent due to the current high cost of roses. Also spring flowers were very popular. Joretta also mentioned that three of their four children have been sick with the flu.

The best local Valentine event I found was a nice one. Bruce Friedel arrived home specially for Valentine's. His wife Sheila had bought a box of pecan delights for Bruce as those are his favorites. Bruce just laughed when Sheila gave him his present and said, "Look in my suitcase." Sheila did, and there was a box of pecan delights!

To do something different, I decided I'd go through some of the many piles of goodies I have and see what I could find for Valentine's Day. An old clipping, perhaps from the early 1900's, follows: "A former Potsdam Girl and an Ohio Photographer Play Tag With Hearts."

"The Carthage Tribune has the following complicated love story: 'Recently a young photographer named Sherer, from Springfield, O., went to Theresa intending to wed one of

Theresa's charming daughters. He had been engaged to her about eight years, and had presented her with many valuable gifts, including a \$125 diamond ring. Before the wedding day arrived, however, the circumstances were so entirely changed that it was decided that the ceremony should not take place. The truth was alleged to be that the young lady had a decided preference for another handsome young man who could brook no rival. Their presents were all returned to Sherer. It seemed strange that there was still another couple in Theresa contemplating matrimony, and that they should fall out and form new attachments. Miss Helen Still, a graduate of Potsdam Normal School, and one of the most fascinating and beautiful young ladies of that place, had become known as the fiancee of Mr. Hobb, a rich gentleman of Baltimore. Sherer, losing his place in the affection of his first love, began paying attentions to Miss Still, and after a brief courtship, about one week, Miss Still hastily packed her trunk, and leaving it at her home drove with Sherer to Philadelphia, this country, where they were married unbeknown to their parents. Miss Still, now Mrs. Sherer, wrote home telling of the steps they had taken and saying that they were going to the World's Fair, asking that the trunk be forwarded to them. This was done and now all Theresa is talking of the unexpected but happy ending to the mixed up love affairs of that village. Another wedding may follow soon."

I also asked around for old Valentine verses. From a book owned by Tracy Town, I came up with, "Roses are red, Violets are blue, Vinegar is sour, And so are you!" Or how about this one? "Our eyes have met—Our lips not yet—But oh! You kid—I'll get you yet!"

Jackie Swingle held the first organizing meeting for the Trout Brook 4-H Club at her home on Wednesday evening. There were 20 children and four mothers attending. Projects were

discussed and signed for. The group's interests were wide and varied as they chose projects including wildlife habitat and cooking. They did their first community service project. They made favors for the trays of meals that Kay Thompson serves Marion Olmstead Allie Campbell, and Mabel Hook. These ladies are residents at Kay's home. The group will hold its first official meeting Feb. 21 at 3 p.m. The group will meet at the Firemen's Hall. The program will include a contest to rename the club, plan trips, elect officers, and plan more community service projects. The fire safety program will be held in March. New members are still welcome.

Jackie and I had a great chat. The Swingles are busy putting together a new farm and herd together. The Swingles have their cattle on a diet prescribed by a University of Pennsylvania professor. They are willing to try old and new methods as the herd builds. They are milking three times a day and are getting very good results. Daughter Carol does most of the milking. They had an exciting day when a favorite cow milked 100 pounds (that's for three milkings).

The senior citizen events are really getting people busy and interested. Lucy Bates and Amy Blanchard went to the covered dish dinner Tuesday. This dinner was held in Waddington at noon. Harold Adams and Harold Goldie were there. It was Amy's first visit with the group. She found so many people she knows and hasn't seen that she had a great time. In fact she had such a great time, she joined the club.

Here Cindy Talcott is in the Potsdam Hospital. Hope she's home in time to read this.

Reports have filtered to me that Dorothy and Kenneth Friedel have made it safely to Panama City, Fla. They have rented an apartment there for a

month. Also I'm told it's cold there. Margaret and Lee Pierce also arrived safely in Orlando, Fla., at the home of their son, Douglas and his wife Susan. Seems they had bad weather most of the way down with snow into South Carolina.

Mary Jo Freidle will remember the flu forever. Mary Jo has a perfect attendance record for her four years of going to school. That was until last week, when MaryJo got the flu and missed two days of school.

Debbie Pierce celebrated her 11th birthday with a dinner party at her home. Anita and Rodney Frary and son Douglas were guests.

This coming week's vacation for the school children has Kay Thompson waiting for her guests. Daughter Barbara and husband Jay Pelsue of

IRS Films Aid Taxpayers

ALBANY—"Doing Your Own Tax Return", a 27½-minute film which leads taxpayers line-by-line through the 1978 Form 1040A Federal income tax return, is available for loan free from the Internal Revenue Service.

The 16 mm color film explains each section of the tax form in the order in which it is completed. Filing status, exemptions, and tax benefits such as the Earned Credit are discussed.

Other films available from the IRS include "The American Way of Taxing", on the U.S. tax system and services offered to taxpayers, and "Hey, We're in Business", which covers the tax rights and responsibilities of small businesspersons. Both may be borrowed free of charge.

Groups that would like to book any of these IRS films should contact the IRS Public Affairs Officer, Clinton Ave., and North Pearl St., Albany, N.Y., 12207, giving preferred and alternate dates.

Rochester will arrive with children Jodi and Dale. The parents can stay the weekend, but the children will stay for the week and visit relatives and do some skiing.

When Charlie Lumley came home on leave from the Air Force during Christmas he not only thrilled his family and friends with his return, but bought an engagement ring for Kim Dumas of Waddington. There has been no date set

for the wedding. Charlie is now stationed in England for the next 13 months. Congratulations Charlie and Kim.

Happy birthday to Bruce Friedel on Feb. 20. Lets all send him sunflower seeds.

Most sincere sympathies to the family of Margaret and Jerry Bradshaw. Marge's father, Albert Plotner, passed away Feb. 14.



THEY ABSTAINED—Two disc jockeys from radio station WPDW, Dave Cady and Derry Loucks, gave up cigarette smoking for one day during the "Great American Smokeout," and pledges from listeners totaled \$400 for the St. Lawrence County Unit of the American Cancer Society. They are shown below receiving a plaque for their effort. From left to right are, Marion Cameron, executive director of the county unit; Cady; and Loucks.

Cornell Reports Good Supply Of Corn, Oats Seeds This Year

Seed supplies of corn and oats are plentiful, but stocks of leading forage crops including alfalfa, red clover, and timothy are short.

That's the seed supply picture shaping up for this spring, and farmers are urged to move fast to obtain the varieties they want. Though spring seems far away, seed buying is active this time of year.

Prof. William D. Pardee, field crops specialist at the N.Y. State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University, reports that seed stocks of alfalfa, the leading hay crop in New York, are in short supply, and prices are 10 to 20 percent above last year's. He attributed the situation to unfavorable weather conditions in seed production regions of the Far West, including California, Washington and Oregon. As a result, the national output of alfalfa seed was well below normal. Despite the overall shortages, seed supplies of top varieties such as

Honeye, Inroquis, and Saranac—all from Cornell—are in better shape than others, though supplies are limited, Pardee reports.

As for red clover, the situation is similar to that of alfalfa. Seed supplies of new improved varieties, which live longer with bred-in resistance to some of the debilitating diseases, are in short supply. However, stocks of common red clover seed should be sufficient to meet farmer's needs for this crop. Supplies are also tight for timothy. Champlain timothy, new from Cornell, will be readily available for the first time this year, with seed supplies probably adequate for up to 40,000 acres. Champlain is a late-maturing type with superior feed value.

The brightest spot in the picture is corn, with plentiful supplies, while the quality of seed is excellent. Supplies of several new varieties like Cornell 281 and Cornell 410 are moderate.

Cornell 410, the newest variety released by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, is new this year. It's a tall, high-yielding corn designed for grain or silage production. Cornell 281, also a Cornell release, was grown widely in New York for the first time last year.

Supplies of oats are strong, with excellent seed quality resulting from last summer's favorable weather in New York and the Midwest. Astro, a Cornell introduction, continues to be the best-producing variety in New York trials, Pardee reports.

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