

editorials & commentary

A Faster Way

It took an escort of two police officers on motorcycles and enough grain to get a horse 64 miles, but an Idaho senator proved his point that there's a quicker way to send a letter than by the U.S. Mail.

Rep. Steve Symms, the sponsor of a bill to let private companies deliver first-class mail, invited reporters to a Washington, D.C., street corner Monday and handed a letter, addressed to the mayor of Harpers Ferry, W.Va., to volunteer rider Valerie Kanazy.

Then Symms dropped another letter, also addressed to Mayor Bradley D. Nash, into a red, white and blue mailbox on the corner.

With two motorcycle policemen leading the way, Ms. Kanazy rode off on her Arabian horse for the 64-mile journey and delivered the letter to Nash in Harpers Ferry at about 7:16 p.m.

N. David McLean, news director for the Postal Service, said the letter in the box would normally arrive on Wednesday. A first-class letter to Boise, Idaho, he noted, might take a day longer, at the same new rate of 20 cents, up 2 cents as of Sunday.

Symms didn't say how long it might take the horse to get to Boise. Nor did he say how much it cost to operate the horse, or tie up two police escorts.

But he did say the mail delivery business "needs to be injected with a stiff shot of competition...Prices will never come down unless the free market is allowed to operate." McLean said the law against private delivery of first-class mail is to "insure that there will be a universal service at a universal cost."

The Flight Of The Geese

The undulating V points southward in the autumn sky, a chorus of calls drift earthward. They sound much like those heard in March when the V was headed in the opposite direction. Are they?

Those with better trained ears or equipped with electronic devices, however, might not get different tonal qualities and conversational expressions in the honking and cackling gossip. In the fall, flocks are predominately first-time migrants, whereas the returning flocks in the spring are relatively more mature geese, not only by age but by surviving the experience of migration.

Perhaps this is why there seems to be a more genuine excitement in their spring voices. They are approaching the land of promise. Not only are they returning with the prospect of seeing their natal grounds again, but of mating and rearing their own families in the weeks ahead. Instinct, no doubt, adds its spaces also.

On the other hand, in the southward migration, the older birds know by experience that things are not going to be peaceful as they were in the spring flight. Great caution must be taken as to where they land to rest and feed. Harassment awaits them without warning. Their keen vision and wariness helps them avoid most of it. So it is not that carefree flight of jubilation for the older birds that remember last fall's ordeals and perhaps those of a few other years also.

Then there is the added responsibility of leading the young to the wintering area that they also were brought to by their elders. This is a learned experience and not merely compliance with the dictates of instinct. It is learned by following the leader. In a sense this is their "imprint," or better still their remember — its flight, especially if they might have to come this way next year without adult leaders.

Truly, this V in the sky is a miracle of the wilds available to all those who listen and look upward when it is in sight. But upon closer examination the stamp of man may be found on much of this miracle. For example, with a powerful telescope a serious observer would notice in low flying

geese that a few are wearing small, colored collars, blue for males, yellow for females or traditional numbered leg-bands put there by man.

Man, then, acts not only as the harvester of waterfowl but also as its saviour, by helping to provide it with abundant nesting grounds, and monitoring its populations throughout the country through various means of identification such as colored collars and leg bands. For example, in northern Canada, Ducks Unlimited has spent many, many millions of dollars since the 1930's colonizing countless lakes to create shallow impoundments in order to provide adequate marsh

geese do not "imprint" where they were born but where they first learned to fly though the two usually go together. Not always, however, as in the case, of transplanted female goslings.

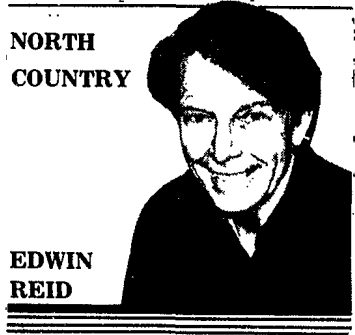
These geese are only netted and transferred to new sites before their flight feathers have developed. Such goslings forget their "birth" place, but never forget their "flight" place. In the spring, however, male goslings from other populations accompany females to these sites and establish new nesting populations.

On the other hand, the adult geese that were transplanted with the goslings and reared there will return the following spring to where they were netted for this will always remain as their geographical "imprint."

Before this specific "imprint" tool, provided by nature, was understood and used, geese were merely transplanted to their nesting grounds the following spring to the consternation of those who were attempting to establish new populations in different areas. Now controlled dispersion means legs crowded nesting conditions, better feed, higher survival and more geese in the following spring.

The familiar V is usually made up of several Canada geese families joined together for the good of all. So think not of the flocks as groupings or gangs of carefree vagabonds in their separate age classes: young with mothers and fathers. There is an important reason for this mingling. Migration, such as made by geese, is a dangerous undertaking. For example, it has been found that juveniles who attempt it alone have only a 22 percent chance of making it. In contrast, the birds, accompanied by adults and guides who know where they are going, the chances of the juveniles reaching their destination are upped to 89 percent.

A distinct honk is still heard although the V is almost indistinguishable. In another moment the eye cannot see it. Like each new generation the flock continues on to face what it must, to live or to die, in the near or far horizon. The astounding wonder about the trumpeting migration of Canada geese is that so many return.



EDWIN REID

conditions for high waterfowl productivity. These marsh conditions are sustained even through most drought periods. Had it been left to nature the water levels would have dropped so drastically at times so that many thousands of waterfowl of all kinds depend upon inland marshes for nesting sites would not have nested or if they had would not have been able to successfully rear their young. And this includes thousands of geese.

Even in these controlled areas, however, one area may be more productive than another in such cases, biologists net-trap goslings and adult birds during the moult and transfer female goslings are released where they were netted.

Here biologists are using the "imprint" tool to facilitate the dispersing of geese concentrations in the nesting grounds. It has been learned that

letters

Robar's Will Refund

Students' Money

To the Editor:
To Whom It May Concern:
Frances Conrad and Edward Robar, D/B/A Robar's Taxi intend to refund all pre-paid fares of students who were not provided ride services as promised.

Due to our current financial situation we can not make full restitution immediately. As soon as possible those persons who present receipts or cancelled checks to Robar's Taxi will receive their refunds.

We are extremely sorry for the situation that has occurred and can assure the college and community that they may rely on our usual village service.

Frances Conrad
Edward Robar

Associated Colleges

Expresses Appreciation

To the Editor:

The Assorted Colleges of the St. Lawrence Valley would like to use your newspaper to publicly thank the area's radio and television stations for their outstanding cooperation on Tuesday, Oct. 27, when it became necessary to reach many hundreds of people with the announcement that the Misha Dichter concert that evening was cancelled.

Because of this cooperation, very few ticket-holders or ticket purchasers were inconvenienced by an unnecessary trip. We are certain that all the others who had heard the announcements are as appreciative as we.

Sincerely,
Fritz H. Grupe
Executive Director

Protests Budget For Cooperative Extension

To the Editor:
With county budget time fast approaching and the threat of double or possibly even triple county taxes hanging over us, or legislators are taking the ax to every budget request that comes along. This, of course, is a

Improperly-Installed

Grates Alarm Him

To the Editor:
I happened to notice that the drain gratings on the Market St. end of the new by-pass apparently are installed upside down. I am very much concerned about the safety of pedestrians and especially for bicyclists. Pedestrians could easily turn an ankle and bicyclists, once caught in the grooves of the grating, would have a hard time avoiding an accident. I do hope (or rather insist) that the gratings be changed before the road is open to public use!

Sincerely,
George L. Leedom

Getting The Message Across

To the Editor:
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you very much for the courtesy and cooperation extended to the Associated Colleges of the St. Lawrence Valley Tuesday, Oct. 27, when we had a last-minute morning cancellation of the Misha Dichter concert to be given that evening.

Because of your willingness and ability to carry a brief notice that the concert was cancelled, very few Potsdam area ticket-holders made an unnecessary trip. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Fritz H. Grupe
Executive Director

SOLAR ENERGY: A Design That Works

CLINTON — Research at Hamilton College indicates that "passive" solar heating can and does work in upstate New York, a finding that could lead to a breakthrough in the design of solar-heated buildings everywhere.

The experiment, conducted during the past four years under the supervision of Dr. James Ring, Winslow Professor of Physics at Hamilton, were all performed in the college's specially designed solar classroom, located on a hill one-half mile above the main campus. Unlike the more familiar, or "active," solar units that absorb the sun's energy and transport it from outside to inside the building, the "passive" design requires that the house itself act as a collector, absorbing the sun's radiation to a maximum degree and then retaining it within walls, foundation, and ceiling — all protected against heat loss by careful insulation.

While the passive concept is not new, work carried out by a team of scientists at Los Alamos, N.M., and published in 1980 indicated that it would not be very successful in the cold and overcast northeastern United States, since the sun is too often obscured by clouds to generate the necessary heat.

"Ironically," said Ring, "had the Los Alamos charts and tables been available back in 1977 when we started this program, we probably never would have gone forward with the classroom....But the building's performance has been absolutely marvelous to date. There is something special about this particular building that makes it work, and we have to find out what it is and pass it on."

Simple Design
The basic design, worked out by Ring (himself a Hamilton graduate)

and Elihu Root III of Clinton (also an alumnus of the college), is simple, and therein lies its potential. Oriented lengthwise along an East-West axis, the building looks southward through ten sealed, triple-glazed windows. Such exposure guarantees that, as long as the sun is shining, the classroom will be absorbing radiation in optimal amounts.

This warmed, the classroom acts as its own thermal reservoir. Polystyrene on the outer walls, covered over by a layer of synthetic stucco; fiberglass on the ceiling; and a composite mass of concrete, gravel, and crushed stone underneath the floor effectively insulate the building against heat seepage and store the heat from sunny days to use at night and on cloudy days.

According to recent data, the sun now supplies nearly 70 percent of the building's heating needs, reducing the annual cost for electricity to \$120. Dramatic evidence of the classroom's efficiency was recorded this year, when temperatures dropped prematurely and forced the college to start the electric heat in mid-September. But as of Oct. 30, the classroom was still operating exclusively on solar heat; and the back-up booster units had yet to kick in.

The success of the experimental building has generated considerable excitement in scientific circles. In 1979, Ring co-authored a paper with student Anne Hamilton, a member of the Class of 1980. Entitled "The Solar Heating and Cooling Systems Operation Results Conference in Colorado Springs," it was also submitted to the Academy for Educational Development for a competition in which more

noble deed as long as the don't put on a pair of "binders" and forget to look at what they are getting for their, and our, money.

The particular budget I have in mind is the one for Cooperative Extension. Their budget had not increased in the last two years and the legislators want a no-increase budget again for 1982. The problem is that Cooperative Extension has had increases in rent, taxes, heat, electricity, phone, etc., totaling \$11,000. When their offices relocated, at the request of the county legislators, to make more room for the welfare offices, they were told that the state would be paying additional money to the county for the extra welfare office space. This money has never been seen, though, at least not by Cooperative Extension; and they have had to keep squeezing to get by. Well, you can squeeze things or milk things or however you want to phrase it just so long and then you have nothing left. This is where I am coming from. They are not familiar with the Cooperative Extension Service, you may wonder what they do. They are probably most noted for their technical help to farmers; everything from taxes to crops to livestock and general agriculture. They also have one of the best and largest youth organizations in the county—4-H, with activities for youth of all interests, rural, suburban or urban. The Home Economics Department can help you with everything from consumer affairs, cooking, sewing, food preserving, money management and most anything else relating to home and family.

Cooperative Extension is an agency that all of us in this county can use and benefit from. How about letting your county legislators know that this is one of the programs that you support. They will be voting on this budget on Monday, Nov. 9 so let them know now.

Sincerely,
Jack A. Ward
Potsdam, New York

From Our Files

Aug. 12, 1867 — The Clerk of the Board of Trustees was directed to serve a notice upon the occupant of the South Academy requiring him to abate the nuisance within 48 hours.

Aug. 12, 1867 — A New Milking Machine. The last novel in the line of Yankee ingenuity is a milking machine. This new implement consists of an air pump, operated by two short levers in the hands of the milker, who by a lateral motion of the hands works the pump apparatus, within which by exhausting the air, draws the milk.

Aug. 12, 1867 — The man who never told an editor how to better his paper recently married the woman who never looked into a looking glass.

Sept. 5, 1867 — Wanted: at the M.E. Parsonage, a good girl to do general housework. None but an experienced hand need apply.

ELLSWORTH (now Hannawa Falls), Sept. 5, 1867 — Mr. S.J. Wright has invented a hose dryer, which has won favorable commendation from the ladies. Will be on exhibition at the

Fair.
May 14, 1868 — Mr. Tupper speared a muscalunge in the bay above the bridge, which weighed 19 pounds. It had a mullet weighing a pound or two about half swallowed when caught.

May 14, 1868 — Incomes for 1867. We give below the total list of incomes for St. Lawrence County as taken from the assessor's book. The figures represent the taxable income, the \$1,000 exempt by law having been subtracted. A few of the thirty from the Town of Potsdam were W.J. Baumum, \$360; T.S. Clarkson, \$3,152; I.T. French, \$364; Wm. A. Fonda, \$1,846; H.I. Knowles, \$3,569; E.A. Merritt, \$1,619; Geo. Post, \$286; Geo. B. Swan, \$3,288; H.D. Thatcher, \$150.

June 11, 1868 — Garfield Cemetery. A meeting was held in the school house, with James Fay, chairman, Robert Pierce and F.E. Fay stated they had bought an acre of land joining the ground on the East for \$100.50 and would deed it to the association, who on the 12th of the month, the association was formed with Norman Swift, Robert Pierce, and Waldo Wilson as trustees and Milton Garfield, treasurer. Many improvements need-

ed, old board fence is now rotten and ground grown up to bushes. Estimate \$450-500 needed to put the cemetery in respectable condition.

June 11, 1868 — South Woods. Persons going to the woods this hot weather should not fail to take with them some of Peck's salicylate in catle wet feet. At Peck's Drug Store.

Items From Deeds
In a deed dated Sept. 6, 1871, Nobel Elderkin of Potsdam sold a lot of 38 acres to Reverend Peter Gorrie for \$373.80. Included in the deed was the right to collect lumber and other floating materials from the river. This property was along the Raquette near Spring Street.

On May 1, 1854 at a sale to settle an estate the deed stated, "sold at auction in the house of Eli Wortham between 9 a.m. and the setting of the sun on April 29, 1854."

1827 — Contract to build casks. Parish offers Augustine Palmer lumber, saw and tools and \$2.20 per month, one-third of the cost in cattle or grain, at land office prices, to make two 50 gal. casks per day or 52 casks per month.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Crazy, Or Depressed?

Editor's Note: Following is the first in a series of question-and-answer columns that will periodically be answered by professionals from the staff of the St. Lawrence County Community Services, PO Box 229, Potsdam.

Q. I am 45 years old and have lived with my parents since college. My mother died two months ago and I thought I handled it well. Lately I have been feeling very sad and empty and just don't feel like doing anything. I'm tired all the time but can't seem to get a good night's sleep. Is this serious? I am afraid I will end up in the hospital. Am I going crazy?

A. No. The symptoms you describe are commonly experienced by people suffering from depression. Other signs might include loss of appetite or weight loss, difficulty concentrating and irritability. Occasionally, however, some people eat or sleep excessively. There are various reasons why people can be depressed, among them situational factors, life events, significant losses of physical (medical or biochemical) factors. When there seems to be no obvious cause or reason to be depressed, this is called an "endogenous" depression, meaning "coming from within." In this case, however, it is likely you are suffering from a "reactive" depression which is related to the loss of your mother. This is called a grief reaction and is usually a normal part of the mourning process. Sometimes the mourning process starts immediately, but it also can be delayed for many reasons, and at times it may not be clear that the troubling symptoms are part of an emotional process which eventually helps us to adjust. Frequently just the realization that some of these symp-

toms are normal can take considerable strain off an individual and remove some of the fear that they are ill or going to get worse.

It is usually comforting to be able to talk about some of the difficulties that depression presents and is better than keeping this bottled up inside. Being aware of such problems and gaining

some understanding of them helps us to deal more effectively with them. An understanding friend, relative, a pastor, counselor or physician can help in this regard. Whenever the pain of grieving or any other depression becomes severe enough to seriously interrupt our daily lives, it is best to consult a professional person.

VIEWPOINT: Independent Colleges And Budget

Editor's Note: The following viewpoint was prepared by the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities.

President Reagan's newest round of proposed budget cuts could deal a death blow to many of our nation's independent higher education institutions. The impact in this state would be far greater than most.

To this point, New York has been able to provide high quality, diverse higher education opportunity while holding tax levy appropriations for this purpose below the national average on a per capita or \$1,000 of personal income basis. This has been possible due to the number of students (over 40 percent of the state's total postsecondary enrollment) at non-government operated colleges and universities. Now, New York may lose this advantage if low and moderate income college students lose federal loan funds that make it possible for them to attend independent campuses.

If the current Reagan proposals take effect, the federal Guaranteed

Student Loan Program (GSL) will be closed to new enrollees in New York State for the 1982-83 school year, according to State Education Commissioner Gordon Ambach.

Our state's independent colleges and universities, where students rely heavily on federal student aid programs, will suffer disproportionately from the Reagan cutbacks. With less federal aid available, more students will be denied collegiate access or will be forced to enroll at lower-tuition government operated campuses where the cost to state taxpayers per student is six or seven times greater than the tax levy support provided for students on independent campuses.

We see the major flaw in Reagan's federal higher education program reductions as the net effect of reducing student choice — net taxpayer burden. The President should send David Stockman back to the budgetary drawing boards with the clear understanding that he does not want proposals for federal tax reductions that generate an overall increase in tax burden by forcing the states to multiply their higher education appropriations.

Courier & Freeman

A Park Newspaper

HAL STOKES, Editor
SALLY RANDOLPH, Business & Circulation
PATRICIA A. MONGADA, Advertising
PAUL LASHOMB, Production

Published every Tuesday by Park Newspapers of St. Lawrence Inc. (USPS 135-460), 71 Market St., Potsdam, N.Y. Member of the New York Press Association, the National Editorial Association, and Audit Bureau of Circulations. Subscription rates: carrier home delivery in Potsdam, 25 cents per week. By mail outside Potsdam in St. Lawrence County, \$11.00 per year and \$11.50 elsewhere in United States and Canada. Entered in the post office at Potsdam, N.Y., as second class mail, POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Courier & Freeman, Inc., 71 Market St., Potsdam, N.Y. 13676.

All Set
Potsdam and Tru Monday with a litanion one Mayor it by a Republic wounded and pres hard hat inspectr hydroel such an his head to close t Murph the boar later with War II G he said o N Gettin trustees and refu district, quiring t to be covered, boxes to no trash five feet alleyway Thir r resolutio
INTER member the Inte describe Lawren and coo commet at Pots China, c
Sorr Of I
Memb have ex alone on the villa been no tack or n In a neck, th Sigma S walking is dange protecti Sue G said Mor tacks bo Collee streets. last mon others o the fall s But Po last weel of repor urged a molest the polle
The p had a patrol di Ms. G women I aware of Her let "I kno
MUSEU unvelled the mus