

Patchwork: West Potsdam Area News

BY MARY ANN MILLER
285-6708

Well, our friend the rain has been with us the past three days. I'm calling the rain a friend now as I checked last year's notes and found we had snow at this time of year. I'd rather have the rain.

The area men are still hunting and hoping to bring one home. Fred Henderson came home with a crotch-horn he got at the Sylvan Falls hunting club. I found it out when I went in the walk-in cooler at the fire hall and saw bones there; they were from Fred's deer.

Dewey Pierce had his hunting thrill for the year. He and Al Ames, Mike Aldrich, Mike Copper, and Rodney Fray left last Sunday for Cincinnati (20 miles south of Cortland) to do some hunting. The party came home with five deer. Dewey got a crotch-horn and a doe. They came home with some humor besides; seems one member, a sharp shooter, missed two bucks. We have to guess who that is.

Larry Dalton did the milking for Dewey while he was gone. The men returned home Tuesday.

Trapping season is now in full swing. The beaver dam below the creek here is beginning to show itself clearer. The creek stays high for longer times and now you can see trees down that they have recently chewed off. You can see them from the road now. Mark Richardson got his trapping license and got his first muskrat; he was a very excited young man.

The new Relief Route opened Thursday in Potsdam. Ardie Richardson said she used it and it made it easier for her to get out of downtown. Shirley Lumley said she used it and she also felt it made getting out of town easier.

The real fun comes (today) when the village returns to two-way traffic. Son Peter said he is going to get his folding chair and sit and watch the action. I've heard several others say the same thing. As for me, I think I'll sneak into town about four some morning and practice.

Speaking of town and traffic problems, the rash of tickets being issued to those who park there is wild. The snow removal laws are in effect and those paying \$10 each to know this are complaining.

Nov. 18 was a big day for the Burdick family. Talked with Barbara Burdick and daughter Pat and husband Dave Suckow are now the proud parents of a nine-pound son. He was born at the A. Barton Hepburn Hospital at 5:43 p.m. Barbara said they have not selected a name yet. Barbara and Claude were minding the newborn's sister, Kristina, who is one year and nine months old.

Barbara also mentioned that they have heard from Ret Burdick. Ret is no longer in the apartment she has used for so many winters. Instead, she is in a mobile home in a park and likes it. She's still in Deland, Florida.

I was at the Canton-Potsdam Hospital visiting Helga Stuart when I met Mae McEwen in the hall. Mae was all excited, as they were going to bring Homer home. They did, too, Wednesday morning. Homer will be on oxygen full time now, but Mae got a hospital bed through the Madrid American Legion and so Homer should be most comfortable. One thing for sure, Homer is glad to be home after at least eight weeks in the hospital.

As for Helga, her disc problem is showing some progress. She is now standing and is able to take short walks with assistance.

The North Country welcomes two guests from Poland. Walter and Sabina Wedzick of the Wright Road are the hosts. Sabina's sister, Helen Mrkwcz, and Helen's daughter, Natalie, have a three-month visa. It is their first visit to this country and they are enjoying all of everyday. They will celebrate their first Thanksgiving ever. Sabina said that Christmas will be fun, as the customs here are very different than in Poland.

Oh yes, Sabina said that Thanksgiving will be special for another reason. Daughter Christine and husband Jeff Night will arrive from their home in Albany for the holidays.

What have the guests enjoyed most so far? "Shopping." And then, as she was trying to not mix her Polish with her English, she came out with, "they love it! Nothing like this have they ever seen." Made me once again remember how very lucky we are in this country.

Agnes Bonno's mother, Helen Butterfield, suffered a stroke Monday. She is in the Canton-Potsdam Hospital and Agnes said doing very well. The family is looking for someone to help Helen in her home for a few weeks after she returns from the hospital.

I talked with Rosemary Sanford about the 4-H club, the Agri-neers. She will hold an organizational meeting at her home for all interested persons. They must be from age nine to 19 years. The meeting is set for Dec. 2 at 7 p.m.

Also, Rosemary has the whole scoop on the bridge in Slab City if anyone is interested.

Judy Hinman called to give me the latest on the Hoofs-a-Flyin' 4-H Club. This club is made up of members interested in horses. The meeting was held Nov. 10 at the home of Sue Butter-

field. Election of officers was held. The new officers for this year are Jamie Butterfield, president; Ed Dean, vice president; Shannon Hinman, secretary; Kim Dean, treasurer; and Robbie Dean, news reporter. The club has six new members this year.

The club participated in Achievement Night held at Maxey Hall Nov. 14. The club received an award for 100 percent completion, which means all projects by members have been completed. Darlene Barker was awarded the Marion Fuhr Memorial trophy. It is the highest award offered and is awarded to a person who has excellent knowledge of horses, has participated in many events, and shows willingness to help others. Congratulations, Darlene.

The next meeting will be their Christmas party Dec. 8 and will be held at the home of Bob and Sharon Dean.

The ladies auxiliary held workbees Tuesday and Wednesday evening to prepare for the banquet for the regular meeting of the St. Lawrence County Fire Chiefs' Association, held Thursday evening. West Potsdam was the host for this meeting and the auxiliary prepared the meal.

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of a certificate for outstanding duty above and beyond the normal. Tom Hebert and Richard Priot, members of the Heuvelton Fire Department, were both awarded for their actions Aug. 22 at a fire at the Grove Apartments. They rescued a four-month-old child from the burning building. Congratulations, men.

There were two birthday people at the banquet, Lee Farrington and Winnie Tyler. Lee had his happy birthday shirt on.

While I was one of the workers at the banquet I had the opportunity to talk with Charlie Bates. He, Kerwit Rutherford, Fred Hallster, Mark Watson, and John and Jerry Molnar have been hunting in the Dundee area. Charlie left the party early as he had

the banquet to attend, but when he left, the party had four deer taken. Charlie got a doe while there. The party stayed at a motel in Dundee.

Two people in the area will be celebrating their birthdays Nov. 20, Ardie Richardson and Gerald Pierce.

Congratulations to young Chris Lumley. She made the honor roll at the Madrid-Waddington school.

McGowan Named Manager At Kriff's

Ken McGowan has recently been appointed manager of Kriff's Furniture Store in Potsdam. McGowan joined Kriff's in February 1979 as a salesman. He became the assistant manager of the Potsdam store in 1980 and now replaces Ron Steenberge as manager. Steenberge has been named manager of Kriff Furniture's Malone store, and has already assumed that position in Malone.

McGowan is married to the former Ann Nicholson. The couple have four children, Sarah, Robert, Steven and Kevin. They reside on Lawrence Avenue in Potsdam. McGowan is a four-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, and attended Providence College in Providence, R.I. He was manager of Harold's Men's Shop before coming to Kriff's. He is secretary of the local Lodge of Elks, and an active bowler.



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