

editorials & commentary

Reach Out To Someone

The turkey has been ordered, the pumpkin, apple and mince pies baked, the table linens freshly pressed, the house cleaned, the extra chairs dusted and readied for company.

Or, as is more often the case in our mobile society, the plane tickets have been purchased, the animals boarded, the milk deliveries halted and the bags packed.

In our own ways, we are all getting ready for Thanksgiving, looking forward to a special gathering of family and friends, a time of warmth, sharing and fellowship.

But some are not so lucky, and we don't have to look far to find them.

They are the forgotten ones. They may be our next door neighbors, even though we seldom think of them. They may be sick, disabled or old; too shy, too sad or too bitter to reach out to those around them.

Thanksgiving passes them by, and they feel they have nothing to be thankful for.

Find one of them this Thanksgiving. Reach out to one of them, and make the effort they may be unable to make. Share with them the warmth of your Thanksgiving celebration. By easing their loneliness you may find that your own joys are multiplied.

Large Deer Take Necessary

A statewide deer harvest that "should approach 200,000 animals" is predicted for the 1982 hunting season, says Commissioner Robert Flacke of the Department of Environmental Conservation.

These days we have become too accustomed to things being described simply by using huge numbers. Sometimes they are almost meaningless. For example reflect for a moment not on the statistical estimate but on such a number of deer massed together.

No matter how you view it, 200,000 deer is a lot of venison on the hoof. Surely it is more meat than sport. Sportsmen, therefore, should be willing to demonstrate their gratitude for the chance to harvest such an enormous number of deer by doing their utmost to see that these animals are put to good use.

The casual, non-hunter newspaper reader might think this a kind of unnecessary slaughter of wildlife aimed at ultimately decimating the deer herd to near extinction. Nothing could be further from the truth. The fact is this large take is necessary to keep the herd in line with its vegetative habitat. In addition to this, the herd must be maintained at levels that do not seriously conflict with other vital land uses.

Even if this year's harvest greatly exceeds present estimates, the whitetails of this state would not be headed down the road of doom. There is too much in favor of the herd for this to happen. For example, with 11 months of complete protection throughout most of the state, its remarkable sense of adaptability and a fantastic reproductive rate vacancies created

by the hunting season are quickly filled. Think of it this way. If 100,000 bred, adult does in the southern zone survive the hunting season and the winter they will produce a crop of 170,000 or more fawns the following season. Actually, with this kind of reproductive potential on ranges of quality browse, the whitetail's greatest enemy is not man but itself.

At the turn of the century it was estimated that there were no more than about 500,000 whitetails in the entire United States. In New York State at that time the only place they were found in huntable numbers was in the Adirondacks. Things are a lot different today in regards to deer distribution in this state. Now the semi-wild areas of the southern part of the state is where large concentrations of deer are found. And the state as a whole now supports a deer herd that is probably greater than that found in the entire country 82 years ago. It is doubtful, however, that such

NORTH COUNTRY

EDWIN REID



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a high population can be maintained or even allowed to exist for too many years. If it is not cut short by realistic management the herd may damage their habitat enough to bring forth their own reduction by starvation and a lowered productive rate.

Nov. 22 is the opening day of the deer hunting season in the southern zone. This is the region where the major portion of the deer harvest is made in New York State each year. To assure this year's high harvest goals DEC has issued 252,120 deer management area permits for holders to take a second deer of either sex in special units throughout this zone. This is a 42 percent increase over the 1981 quota. Last year's deer take was calculated to be 167,027 a state record. The state wants to break that with this fall's harvest. This high quota trend is expected to continue into 1983.

In spite of this management mania to trim the deer herd, I recently received my non-selective certificate from the Division of Fish and Wildlife politely informing me that I was bypassed in the computerized random selection of applications for deer management permits.

No doubt, I am in the company of thousands of others who receive similar notices. So you see, a DMA permit is a very special thing and is not to be taken so lightly. Maybe it denotes a certain degree of management and control of the situation beyond the computer.

Whatever, wherever you go, have a good hunt. When you get your venison take care of it. Dress it out as soon as possible. Keep it clean and cool. And cook it so it is tender and juicy. Good hunting.

From Our Files

July 2, 1913 — Blake school closed Friday with Miss Clara McEwen as teacher. Mr. Lowery, minister at Stark, will take charge of Miss McEwen's Sunday School Class here at the school house while she is absent.

July 2, 1913 — The People's Bank of Potsdam began business May 1, 1889, now has a grand surplus of \$100,000. The year 1912 proved the best year for the bank. It now pays 3 percent on Certificate of Deposit, if left six months.

Oct. 22, 1913 — The downfall of Sulzer. The impeachment trial of William Sulzer, Governor of the State of N.Y., came to an end Friday, when after a fair and impartial trial, 43 members of the court found him guilty and directed his removal from office. While professing to be a friend of the people he was receiving thousands of dollars from the Ryan interests, the telephone interests, the brewing interests and others.

Oct. 22, 1913 — Henry Johnson of Hague caught a white bear weighing 500 pounds in a trap. Hoped to get a good price for it from a circus proprietor.

Oct. 29, 1913 — Day of rest for creameries. Creameries must observe "the day of rest" according

to a decision by the Industrial Board of the State Labor Department. Owners will have to do all the work on Sundays.

Oct. 29, 1913 — A new theatre opens on Raymond Street. Wm. Anderson the contractor, Prof. Shanefelt the artist, will seat 500.

Oct. 29, 1913 — The automobile season which is drawing to a close has witnessed a steadily increasing use of motor trucks and delivery wagons by business corporations in this vicinity.

April 6, 1913 — Sylvester Nicolette, who recently purchased the buildings on the location for the new Central Fire Station began the work of moving the so-called McDonald house two doors west, where Mr. Nicolette owns a vacant lot.

WEST STOCKHOLM, April 6, 1913 — There will be an ice cream social at the home of Rolla P. Davis Friday evening, June 20 for the benefit of the school at Old Forge district, ladies are requested to bring cakes.

EBEN, April 6, 1913 — Miss Bessie Lytle and Earl Blanchard were quietly married at Miss Lytle's home Tuesday morning, June 3.

April 6, 1913 — Norah wasn't alarmed. "Norah," said her mistress

severely, "if you have that policeman in the kitchen again I shall speak to him." "Go as far as you like, Mum," said Norah, "but you'll never get him. We're to be married next Thursday."

June 11, 1913 — Two hundred and thirty laborers arrived in this village last week enroute to the lumber camps of H.W. Downey and A. Sherman company. The men are mostly Norwegians, Russians and Swedes.

COLTON, June 18, 1913 — Hepburn Library for all people. There are at present about 1,200 volumes in the library.

PLEASANT VALLEY, June 18, 1913 — Mr. Selleck of Parishville was shearing sheep for Marshal Barton and Peter Wellings recently. He sheared 30 sheep at Barton's in one day.

SOUTH COLTON, June 25, 1913 — Ten of the ladies of this village hired an auto and went to Colton to the commencement exercises.

July 2, 1913 — Vega chapter O.E.S. celebrates 20th anniversary.

July 2, 1913 — Arthur Wood pleaded not guilty of running a motorcycle faster than 15 miles an hour. He was fined \$25.

Treat your friends better, then love your enemies. compiled by Earl Pattison

letters

Doctors Wrong

To the Editor:
Doctors refusing Medicaid patients. Now really. Whatever happened to the medical code of ethics, Christian values, donations to cut personal taxes at least or hiring someone? Killing the unborn isn't thrilling enough? Now the poor and the sick must be picked on?

I suppose the physician assistants will do surgery so the doctors can avoid all the paper work? The poor can't afford the high cost of living now and the doctors want them to shop around? That is added expense to the taxpayer, who pays for the rides to the doctor's office.

Wouldn't it be something to hear a doctor in the unemployment line saying he lost his job because of all that paper work. I hope the hospitals get packed to the ears with Medicaid people rejected by independent doctors. Then maybe doctors will get hassled to a point in accepting Medicaid patients.

I don't think all that education bypassed the heart and lodged in the brain only. For those who entered the medical profession to help people, congratulations. It may be going well for some doctors to reject the ill, but have these doctors ever thought how they'd feel being refused medical care? Cruel isn't it?

If doctors think they've got too much paper work, why not work for the Social Service department. They might appreciate their positions then. And don't forget the Creator. Doctors get buried in three days too. The scriptures say there will always be poor in the land. So, why don't doctors stop adding to human sufferings and accept all the paper work and praise God they have that to do.

Chap. L. Johnson
Madrid

Finnegan Workers Thanked

To the Editor:
I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to everyone who worked diligently on the Paul Finnegan election campaign. To the financial donors, the volunteer workers, who stuffed and addressed envelopes at campaign headquarters, the telephone volunteers all over the County, the committeemen and women in the 32 towns and the City of Ogdensburg, the precinct workers on Election Day and to the voters of St. Lawrence County, who by their support and faith in Paul Finnegan helped him to make the great showing he did on Election Day, a heart-felt thank you.

I extend a special thanks to the campaign committee for their enthusiasm, diligence and faith. Paul Finnegan, thank you for being the great candidate you are. Your dedication, energy and spirit inspired us all. You certainly fought the good fight and we are very proud of you.

Congratulations to Assemblyman John O'Neil on his re-election to the 112th assembly seat.

Jim Dawson
Campaign Co-ordinator
Friends of Paul Finnegan

THANKSGIVING: Memories Are Made Of This

BY MARGARET "PEG" CALL
With Thanksgiving Day rapidly approaching, some of us older folks enjoy looking back to those early years. The years before the frozen foods, quick eating spots and the TV ads that remind us that if we exercise, eat right, use a certain fact cream and keep "regular," we will look beautiful, have a gorgeous body and live to be a hundred.

It would be just wonderful if it really worked that way, but it doesn't, I'm sorry to say. The years come, some of us mellow, wrinkles appear and we have extra padding here and there. One time-consuming luxury some of us enjoy is remembering and retelling bits and pieces of our lives, even to the point of telling the incident more than once and boring the listener to death.

I love and enjoy people; the more conversation the better. My early childhood had much to do with my makeup, I'm sure.

I came to Potsdam and lived with my grandparents after my mother died in 1921. I've often said blessed is the child who has a grandparent to tell them stories, especially of "when they were little." Children love it, and I was no different.

We were poor by today's standards, but I brought to my adult years a treasure of stories and folklore that my children enjoyed years later. Gramp and Grandma Wolfe gave me so much that money could not buy.

On cold winter nights Gramp would tell me about his father serving in the Civil War. The family lived in a log house near Malone, and they endured hardships and struggles until the conflict ended. He returned home and lived out his life surrounded by his large family. I loved the storytelling.

I looked forward to the holidays, for it meant a special meal, and "chicken" plus pie. A few days before Thanksgiving Gramp and I would have a big discussion as to which fat hen, or the big old rooster, would end up in the kettle. I hated the thought of their impending doom, although when I sat down to the chicken and biscuits and her delicious lemon pie I forgot that I had watched her plucking the feathers from the plumppest of the flock the day before.

After the hearty meal, sometimes relatives would come to visit. The violins were brought from the old parlor, and my uncles, Leon and Vernon, and Gramp would tune up. Their square dance music, waltzes and ballads would fill the old frame house.

People back then enjoyed just going to someone's house to sit around and swap stories. My uncles did more swapping in other areas too, horses

Participate In Celebrity Artist Series

To the Editor:
We hope that everyone here in Potsdam and, as a matter of fact, your entire readership, appreciates the exceptional artistry which is brought to this community by the Celebrity Artist Series.

The cultural advantages of this program both to the schools in the area and to the communities at large are invaluable. Artists like Itzhak Perlman and Ely Ameling are of worldwide reputation and stature. Their appearances in Potsdam add greatly to the cultural essence of the community. Each and every individual or group of artists who have been selected to perform here should be greeted by full houses.

These performances place the Potsdam-Canton community and their colleges and universities alongside great universities such as the University of Michigan and the University of California, who regularly schedule these artists and other with equal talent to perform for their students, faculty and area friends.

The cost for this series of concerts is minimal in relation to the price paid for the same tickets in other areas. Our community deserves the opportunity to see and hear this kind of talent and only through attendance and support can such greatness be brought to Potsdam. We urge everyone who feels that this area deserves these great cultural events to participate by attending.

Very truly yours,
Quentin and Marcia Reutershan

Games Hearing Shows Board Inconsistencies

To the Editor:
It was with great interest that I attended an "open" hearing of the Potsdam Village Board last night. I noticed some rather unusual inconsistencies.

The same village board that refused to renew funding for the Potsdam Hire-a-Youth (and in doing so ended a major source of part-time work for local youth) now professes a desire to protect that youth from the perceived evils of video games.

The person chairing the hearing did, on several occasions, make editorial comments on items being discussed rather than serve as an unbiased coordinator. There was also a great concern that the village board meeting start on time rather than a full examination of the valid concerns of local business people and residents be conducted.

It is somewhat incredulous that a local law was proposed as a result of a reading from the Readers Digest, not generally known as a scholarly journal.

Legal and personal opinions presented regarding the proposed law on amusement machines and live entertainment made it clear that the village board had not done their homework well.

With the recent announcement that village elections this spring will serve to elect a major and two trustees, residents should begin thinking if the above actions represent the direction that our village board should be taking.

Sincerely,
Joseph Sarnoff
159 Leroy St.

The Courier and Freeman welcomes letters from readers. The writer must sign his or her name and give a complete address and telephone number through which the letter can be verified in order for the letter to be published.

Names will be withheld by request at the discretion of the editor.

Letters should be typed and double spaced, if possible, or neatly written or printed. Letters should not exceed 250 words (approximately 2 1/2 typewritten pages) in length.

Cancer-Causing Agents May Be In Fish Food

To the Editor:
We tolerate cancer-causing agents in our environment at our own peril as was clearly shown by a fish disaster. In the spring an epidemic of liver cancer appeared among rainbow trout in many federal, state and private hatcheries. Trout in both eastern and western parts of the United States were affected; in some areas practically 100 percent of the trout over three years of age developed cancer. This discovery was made because of an arrangement between the Environmental Cancer Section of the National Cancer Institute and the Fish and Wildlife Service for the reporting of all fish with tumors, so that early warning might be had of cancer hazard to man from water contaminants.

Though studies are still underway to find the exact cause of this epidemic over so wide an area, the best evidence points to a chemical present in the prepared hatchery feeds. They have an incredible variety of chemical additives and medicinal agents in addition to the basic foodstuffs.

The story of the trout is important for many reasons but mainly as an example of what can happen when a potent carcinogen is introduced into the environment of any species. Dr. Hueper of the National Cancer Institute has described this epidemic as a serious warning that greatly increased attention must be given to controlling the number and variety of environmental carcinogens. "If such preventive measures are not taken," says Dr. Hueper, "the stage will be set at a progressive rate for the future occurrence of a similar disaster to the human population."

Mary Rita Crowe
10 West St.
Canton

Expresses Gratitude
To the Editor:
I have just returned home after a 16-day stay in the Canton-Potsdam Hospital, and wish to express my pride and satisfaction in the service offered patients there.

In particular I am impressed by the dedication and selfless care given by the nurses. This is a marvelous group and we are most fortunate to have them. They deserve great commendation.

Helen M. Hosmer

Justice For All?

To the Editor:
This is my first experience with writing a letter of complaint to a newspaper, but I would like to express my views on "justice".

What is justice? According to the dictionary, justice is "Merited reward or punishment." "Rightfulness."

Well, I am in complete disagreement with this.

A couple of weeks ago, on my way home from the doctor with my son, I was stopped by a deputy sheriff for speeding. I received a ticket for speeding, which I suppose I deserved. When it came time to appear, the local judge did not take into consideration that I have had a driver's license for 25 years and this was the first ticket I had ever received. I had to pay a \$5 fine.

Then I heard on the news and saw in the paper that the fellow that hit the college girl in Canton and killed her received a \$20 fine. I also heard that the deputy sheriff that hit the pedestrian in Canton and put him in the hospital in critical condition refused to submit to an alcohol test. When he had his motor vehicle hearing, he lost his license for six months for refusal of the alcohol test and when he appeared before the local judge, charges were dropped against him.

This really struck me kind of funny. Quite some time ago, a relative of mine was stopped for DWI. He also refused to submit to the alcohol test. He lost his license for six months and had to pay a large fine. Of course he was not a deputy sheriff, nor did he hit a pedestrian.

I guess that all of this just proves a point — if you are going to drive fast, make sure you kill an innocent person and if you have had even a couple of drinks and you hit someone, make sure you refuse to submit to the alcohol test. You should get off scott free.

One more thought. The fellow that refused the alcohol test got suspended from his job as deputy sheriff for 30 days. Now you have to be a deputy sheriff or is he going to remain on sick leave for another five months? How can he be considered qualified to uphold the law when the law itself doesn't seem to understand the law?

"Justice" is who you know — not what you know.

Name Withheld By Request

Courier & Freeman

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