

LAST WEEK'S WEATHER

	Hi	Lo	Pcp
Tues.	33	4	tr
Wed.	37	34	tr
Thurs.	38	34	tr
Fri.	37	28	.31
Sat.	24	-5	.3
Sun.	6	-2	.1
Mon.	8	4	.1

# Courier Freeman

A PARK NEWSPAPER

Curfew changes under consideration. See story this week.

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## Hydro Plant Woes Persist

After about a month without producing electricity, the Village of Potsdam's hydroelectric plant was restarted last week only to automatically shut down again after three days, Mayor Joseph Calipari said.

A technician from the Phoenix company, builders of the turbine's exciters, was on hand late last week until Saturday morning, Calipari said.

The exciters are the devices that spark the generators into producing power.

Some problems with the interfacing between the hydro plant's computer and the exciters has caused several problems recently.

Representatives from the company that built and programmed the computer, was expected at the plant sometime this week to try to clear up those problems, Calipari said.

The Phoenix technician, Calipari said, started the plant up on Thursday and it continued producing a minimum amount of power until after the technician left Potsdam.

On Saturday night, Calipari said, the plant underwent an "emergency shutdown," although local officials did not know as of Monday afternoon what caused the problem.

With the discovery and removal last week of an 11-foot steel beam that kept the gate on the number two turbine from closing, the mystery of why the gate would only close part way was solved.

The beam, Village Administrator Victor Bortnick said last week, was inadvertently left when the gate assembly was installed.

## Parcel Sale Could Be Final This Week

An agreement for the sale of Urban Renewal parcel 13 to Lawrence E. Smith of the Northern Travel Bureau could be signed this week, according to Potsdam UR Agency director Robert Juravich.

Meanwhile, the last two parcels remain unsold, although a local physician has expressed interest in the purchase of one for use as the site of a medical building.

The sale of parcel 13 received final approval in separate meetings last week from the village board of trustees and the urban renewal agency.

The land disposition agreement and the deed of conveyance for the sale of the property could be signed as early as Thursday, Juravich said.

The parcel is located on Elm Street between the Elks Lodge and the Marine Midland Bank.

Northern Travel Bureau has submitted plans to village officials for an 8,000 square-foot structure, that will house office and storage space for the travel agency.

There will also be office and warehouse space available to lease, according to plans submitted to the village.

### Two Parcels Remaining

With the completion of the sale of parcel 13, two Urban Renewal lots in the village remain unsold.

Dr. Brian McMurray has indicated interest in purchasing parcel 12, adjacent to the St. Lawrence National Bank on Market Street.

McMurray, URA officials have said, hopes to construct a four to six unit medical office building on the lot.

The status of the other lot, known as the "motel parcel," at the intersection of Main and Market streets, remains unchanged, according to Urban Renewal consultant Richard Walrath.

There are as yet no plans to change the status of the lot, Walrath said, and currently there are no developers interested in purchasing it.

Urban Renewal plans call for the construction of a hotel or motel on the downtown Potsdam site.



CHAMBER OFFICERS — The new slate of officers for the Potsdam Chamber of Commerce was elected today (Tuesday) with Gordon Theisen, Sr. chosen as president for 1984. Shown from left are Mary-Lynne Pfeiffer, first vice president; Harold Hughes, secretary-treasurer; Theisen (seated); Al Cunningham, second vice president; and Joan Stanford, third vice president. (Ron Robertson photo)

## Mary Verlaque Named To Waste Authority Post

BY JOANNE SKOOG

CANTON — County planning officer director Mary Verlaque was named acting executive director of the St. Lawrence County Solid Waste Authority Monday, making way for the appointment of an executive director by the authority by next July.

The appointment was made despite the objections of legislator Donald Burns that planning office projects would suffer. "My belief is the Solid Waste Authority should have a director as soon as practical," Burns said, "and this time could serve as a training period."

In order to keep continuity with the county-wide solid waste incinerator project which the planning office has been involved with for the past five years, Mrs. Verlaque was named executive director for a period not to exceed seven months in a resolution by the legislature's planning and conservation committee.

While she estimated she is currently working on the project a quarter of her time, the project is moving ahead toward a target date of late next summer for the start up of construction, requiring more involvement. Mrs. Verlaque was authorized to work with the authority for up to 50 percent of her time.

In return, when the authority is funded, they will pay back to the county.

## Traffic Patterns To Be Discussed

Problems with traffic patterns and street lights are expected to be under discussion tonight (Tuesday) when the village's planning board meets with an official from the state Department of Transportation.

The meeting will be held in the Civic Center board room.

At its last meeting, the board expressed concerns over the operation of the traffic lights and the way the traffic patterns on main village streets can cause traffic tie-ups and confusion.

DOT regional engineer Ray Powers will be on hand at the meeting to answer the board's questions.

Also on the board's agenda will be further discussion on a proposed new sign for the Super Duper on Elm Street. The board tabled discussion on the proposal pending detailed sketches of the sign and where it will be located.

The board will also consider a proposal for a new sign for the ACS Computer Center, 16-18 Market St.

ty 50 percent of Mrs. Verlaque's salary until an executive director is hired. Mrs. Verlaque was also authorized to work with the personnel department to reorganize her office staff to cover the workload while she is executive director of the authority. She will make her recommendations for staff changes at the committee's February meeting.

She was also authorized to negotiate with the authority for a stipend to cover her additional duties.

"We'd like to be better organized structurally," Robert McNeil, chairman of the Solid Waste Authority said. "We're at the stage where we'll be putting out requests for proposals. We're looking at \$4 million from the state and we're looking at the size of the plant."

"We'd like (Mrs.) Verlaque to function as temporary executive director with the understanding that it's a temporary position and try to have an executive director by this summer."

"We can't continue to impose on the planning office. They've been crucial to the project. She has been functioning up until now as executive director," McNeil said.

The executive director position has not been defined yet, McNeil said but

the authority will be outlining the job description soon. "We may not need an executive director position except during construction and start up," he said.

"We haven't made any definite commitments to a long term executive director but we do need one."

Committee members Lloyd Moore and Betty Bradley joined Burns in expressing their concern that assigning Mrs. Verlaque to the executive director position could mean a cutback in the projects undertaken by the planning office. But Mrs. Verlaque's authorization to rework the four staff members in her office will attempt to keep that to a minimum.

One of her first duties, McNeil said, will be to work with the authority to find a replacement.

Legislator Augustus Marshcer, who was sitting in on the meeting, also disagreed with the appointment. "The request is only for six months," he said. "Some projects would have to take a back burner to this if you're talking about \$11 million."

"It should take special priority over other projects that don't have the same kind of impact. I don't think we should need to hire more staff," Marshcer said. "I don't think we have that kind of money."

## Theisen Chosen Chamber Prexy

Potsdam auto dealer and real estate agent Gordon Theisen was selected Potsdam Chamber of Commerce president this morning (Tuesday) by the chamber's board of directors.

Mary-Lynne Pfeiffer of Clarkson College was elected to the post of first vice president; Al Cunningham of Kinney Drugs became second vice president; Joan Stanford of the Little Red Shoe House was elected third vice president; and Harold Hughes was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Carol Blair, outgoing president, turned the meeting over to Theisen who addressed the board with his plans for the chamber in the coming year.

In his address, Theisen said "It is with pleasure and excitement that I accept the position as president of the Potsdam Chamber of Commerce. Mindful of our rich history and flourishing growth, I want to call attention to all that we should cultivate and take care of what we have now."

Theisen said that chamber officials should appeal to Potsdam residents to shop in Potsdam and to encourage local businesses to grow by their patronage.

## Brass Firemen At 30% Of Fund Goal

NORWOOD — With just a month to go until their trip to the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, the Brass Firemen are at better than 30 percent of their fundraising goal.

Band manager Bob Haggert said this week that \$3,250 in pledges and \$3,600 in contributions has been received thus far.

Band members need \$18,000 for their trip to Sarajevo, where they will perform at the opening ceremonies of the Olympics.

Several fundraisers have been planned this week, including a 3-4 grade bake sale at Norwood-Norfolk Central School; a "Coffee Day" Wednesday at Peggy's Lunch, Mechanic Street in Norwood; and a benefit dance Saturday night at the Norwood Masonic hall.

On Wednesday, proceeds from sales of coffee at Peggy's Lunch will go to the band.

Saturday's dance, from 8 p.m. to midnight at American Legion Post 68, will feature the "Good Ol' Boys." Cost is 43 per person, \$5 a couple.

Also he said, Potsdam is geographically the "hub of the North Country." Because of its key location, he said, some 20,000 shoppers could be encouraged to come here.

"We should all be thankful," Theisen said, "because the quality of life is very good in the North Country."

"A town, business, or family never stands still, Theisen said. "They either deteriorate or grow."

"Potsdam," he continued, "is the envy of other communities, because it has virtually blossomed during the past two years."

Theisen cited the start-up of "approximately 14 new businesses just this past year and a half."

Theisen said his most important goal for 1984 will be to encourage residents to shop at local businesses.

"All year long," he said, "we will remind people to shop in Potsdam. When you spend \$100 in town, statistics show that it gets around three times over."

"When you go out of the county to shop," he said, "it is a total loss."

"The Potsdam Chamber of Commerce will call attention to the fact that residents should have a civic pride, almost a patriotic duty to support your local merchants, churches, hospital, doctors, lawyers, and civic organizations," he concluded.

## Church Wants Tax Debt Erased

Representatives of a Potsdam religious group have appealed to the village board of trustees to erase a tax debt the church group said shouldn't have been created in the first place.

According to Ernie Thacher, a representative from the First Church of Christ, Scientist, a tax bill on a rental house behind the Elm Street church that was torn down at least three years ago continues to plague the church.

The matter came up at the trustees' Jan. 3 meeting.

Originally received in May of 1981, the bill has increased over the years from \$59.41 to \$107.12, Thacher said.

The 28½ Elm St. rental house was torn down in 1980, he said.

The property, he said, had been removed from the Potsdam town and school tax rolls, but through some undiscovered error, was listed as a vacant residential lot in village records.

## Under Curfew Law Change Parents Or Juveniles Could Receive Tickets

BY RON ROBERTSON

A recent dismissal of a curfew violation in Massena may not affect a proposed Potsdam curfew law, since the provision that provided the case for the Massena defense is not included in Potsdam's ordinance.

Under the Village of Potsdam's proposed curfew law, Village Attorney Stephen Easter has said, either the juvenile or the parent can be ticketed for the offense.

Under the Massena ordinance, only the parent can be ticketed.

Easter said Monday night that who is charged with a violation of the curfew law in Potsdam "is up to the discretion of the police."

Proposals are underway to amend Potsdam's curfew ordinance. The law currently in effect makes it unlawful for youths under the age of 16 to loiter in village streets past 11:30 p.m. each day.

The proposed amendments call for the curfew to be in effect from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m. each day.

A public hearing on the amended law is scheduled for 7:15 p.m., Jan. 23, in the Civic Center board room, preceding the trustees' meeting.

The changes in the curfew law are the results of appeals to the board by members of the Potsdam Chemical People Task Force.

Representatives from that group argued before the board that an earlier curfew would help curb some of the drug and alcohol problems currently faced by local youths.

Getting them off the street at an earlier hour, task force members said, would help decrease delinquent behavior among juveniles.

A 10 p.m. curfew, some people said at board meetings in November and December, would help parents keep better track of their children.

Massena Dismissal  
A curfew violation case in Massena was dismissed recently when the prosecution failed to prove that the parent did not exercise "reasonable diligence" in trying to keep his child off the streets.

The proposed Potsdam law does not contain a reasonable diligence provision.

The Potsdam proposed law contains three major sections: one dealing with the unlawfulness of a minor remaining on village streets within the prescribed hours; a provision detailing under what circumstances a juvenile can be out of his home within those hours; and a provision rendering it illegal for a parent or guardian to allow his or her child to roam free.

The Massena ordinance, adopted last month, contains similar provisions and two additional ones.

The first of these additional sections describes the procedure police must follow in enforcing the law.

Under the Massena law's provisions, the police must return the offending juvenile home and issue an ticket to the parent or guardian to appear in Massena Village Court.

The other provision outlines the

liability of the parent or guardian for the penalty.

The parent or guardian must "exercise reasonable diligence in the control of the child to prevent him from violating the provisions of this ordinance."

Any parent who does not exercise such diligence or who "encourages, aids, causes, connives at, or promotes" a violation is "liable for the penalty prescribed" in the ordinance.

The violation and conviction in Massena yields a \$25 fine, while a curfew violation in Potsdam results in a penalty not to exceed \$100.

### Proposed Curfew

The proposed Village of Potsdam curfew ordinance, which will be the subject of a Jan. 23 public hearing, follows in full.

The public hearing, scheduled for 7:15 p.m. at the Civic Center, is the next step in amending the law so that it will take effect at 10 p.m., rather than the current 11:30 p.m.

The law reads as follows:

"A. No person under the age of 16 years shall remain upon any public street, alley, or public place in this municipality after 10:00 o'clock at night until 5:00 o'clock the following morning unless such person is accompanied by a parent or guardian, or other such person having custody of such minor.

"B. This section shall not be construed to prohibit a minor under the age of 16 years from going directly to his or her home or place of residence from any place of entertainment, church, school activity, place of employment, or any other social or group activity sponsored by a religious, charitable, educational, eleemosynary, or public institution or group nor to prohibit such a minor from being in a public place in any emergency situation involving such minor.

"C. No person having the legal custody or care of any minor described above shall allow or permit such person to remain upon any public street, alley, or public place in the nighttime as prohibited in subdivision A of this section, except under circumstances described in subdivision B."

The ordinance further reads: "In the event that any court of competent jurisdiction shall declare any portion of this local law to be void or unenforceable, all other provisions of such law shall continue to have full force and effect."

## Blood Drive

A community blood drive will be held from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., Jan. 18 and 19 in the multi-purpose room of the Potsdam College Union, on the college campus.  
The blood drive is sponsored by the Order of Prometheus.



SIGN ORDINANCE — The one-year moratorium on the Village of Potsdam overhanging sign ordinance has expired, village officials have said. The Board of Trustees faces a decision to either enforce the ordinance or modify it. Some suggestions include stipulating a grandfather clause so that a business may retain its overhanging sign until the business is sold. Shown above are several overhanging signs that remain in downtown Potsdam. (Ron Robertson photo)



BANK GIFT — St. Lawrence National Bank has provided some "travelin' music" for the Norwood Brass Firemen in the form of a \$1,000 contribution toward the band's trip to the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. Shown above, from left, are Bob Haggert, band manager; Keitha Camp, assistant cashier-manager of SLN's Norwood branch; and Bob Thorpe, band director. (Betsy Baker photo)