

LAST WEEK'S WEATHER

	Hi	Lo	Pcp
Tues.	13	4	1.4
Wed.	4	-10	tr.
Thurs.	0	-20	0
Fri.	10	-6	tr.
Sat.	19	10	.9
Sun.	12	-26	.04
Mon.	2	-31	tr.

Courier Freeman

A PARK NEWSPAPER

Budget impact on college noted. See story this week.

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SWEETS FOR BAND — The 3-4 team at Norwood Elementary School held a benefit bake sale for the Brass Firemen on Friday, and raised \$190, which representatives of the 3-4 team presented to the band. Shown above accepting the check from Billy Gotsch and Scott Cota is band member Bill Felix, far left. Kneeling are Andrea Clark, Erin McKenna, Malissa Hopackier and Gene

Robidoux. In the second row, from left, are Josh Cook, Kathleen Mariano, Erin Meader, Mindie Peterson, Debra Potocar, BiliJean Planty and Sarah McDonald. Third row, 3-4 teacher Mary Grant and Brass Firemen Andy Van Duyn and John Wolfe. Jan Murphy and Lori Dunne, not shown, are also 3-4 teachers. (Betsy Baker photo)

Cuomo Budget: 'Status Quo' For College

BY BETSY BAKER
Governor Mario Cuomo's proposed \$35.3 billion budget is a "status quo proposal" for Potsdam College, officials here said this morning (Tuesday).
Funding levels for the college will remain about the same, but the governor's proposal offers no compensation for previous losses of services and staff, and the college will still have to eliminate 22 positions by March 31 this year, but college officials said there would be no new cuts.
Potsdam College's total recommended budget for 1984-85 is \$19.9 million, an apparent decrease from the current \$20.8 million, but a change in the way dormitory staff and maintenance positions are funded mean those costs no longer appear in the college's budget, according to Lisa Cania, director of news services for the college.
College President Humphrey Tonkin said that Governor Cuomo "has proposed a budget for SUNY in which a decrease in support for the public university has been arrested. The level of funding will remain steady, with extra dollars included to cover inflationary increases," Dr. Tonkin said.

Dr. Tonkin said: "We have a budget that maintains the status quo and forces no new cuts, but we need to recognize that in the course of 1983-84 we suffered a significant decrease in support, so we start from a lower base."

Tuition, Dorm Fee Hikes
The governor's budget also proposes tuition and dormitory rent increases: an additional \$200 in tuition and \$150 more in dorm rent. For out-of-state undergraduate students, the tuition hike would be \$500.

SUNY Chancellor Clifton R. Wharton has already criticized the proposed tuition and dorm rent increases. Similar increases were turned back by the state legislature last year.
Dr. Tonkin pointed out that if the increases are rejected by the legislature, "alternative sources of funding will have to be found to compensate SUNY for the loss of revenue." The increases are projected to produce \$32.7 million in state revenue.

"SUNY faces a difficult situation with tuition increase proposals," Dr. Tonkin said. "We do not believe that students and their families should

assume greater burdens for education. However, the governor has constructed a SUNY budget that relies on tuition and dormitory rent increases in order to maintain programs and staffing levels," he continued.

Other Provisions
Other provisions of the executive budget include:
— Incentives for early retirement for teaching faculty and provisions to allow SUNY campuses to replace retiring faculty rather than mandating the position losses.

— A change in the way SUNY dormitories are funded. Staff positions and maintenance allocations will no longer be included in the state budget, but will be funded separately based on dormitory occupancy.
New initiatives for college-public school cooperation, including in-service education programs, a state teacher corps, cooperative programs among businesses, colleges and public schools and new programs for beginning teachers.

Ms. Cania said these incentives, included in the governor's planned \$1 million for elementary and secondary programs, could benefit Potsdam College.

LaBaff Wants More For Kitchin

CANTON — In an effort to make amends for the pay hike Social Services Commissioner Donald Kitchin was denied last year, St. Lawrence County Legislator Ernest LaBaff (D-Norwood) asked his fellow legislators Monday night to vote to withdraw the proposed local law establishing a seven percent pay raise for this year.

Instead, LaBaff urged the legislature to wait and vote for a pay increase that would include the six percent raise Kitchin was denied last year in addition to the seven percent raise recommended by the finance committee this year.

Pay increases for George Fox, director of real property, (to \$33,175.35), Bruce LaRose, director of data processing (to \$32,041.15), Kevin McDonough, personnel director (to \$25,005.90), Anthony Miller, purchasing agent, (to \$21,266.25), Richard Buckley, county treasurer (to \$26,215), and Board of Elections Commissioners Robin St. Andrews and Jacqueline White (to \$17,066.50) were all approved at the legislature's special meeting by a vote of 20 to 2.

Rosemary Sanford (R-Potsdam) and Allen Dunham (R-Hammond) voted against all of the raises.
County highway superintendent John Cook's pay hike to a salary of \$32,668.25 was approved by the board by a margin of 14 to 8.

"I do not believe the way to penalize a person is to withhold pay," LaBaff said, referring to the denial last year of a raise for Kitchin. "If it's something wrong with an individual, you either discuss it or get rid of him," he said.

Kitchin's raise last year was turned down by a vote of 10-8 with legislators citing a lack of cooperation from the Commissioner and reports of unsatisfactory treatment of clients.

"I don't think it was fair and I think it should be corrected," LaBaff said. "The stigma goes on forever."
"He's caught between us and the people and the union and the state and

everyone else. It's probably the toughest job in the county in my opinion," he said, asking the legislators to withdraw the motion to pass the local law and the seven percent increase until they "had a month to think about it."

The legislators voted 13 to 9 to withdraw the motion, requiring another public hearing and the rewriting of the local law which the board will have to vote on.

The pay hike recommended by the finance committee last night would have raised Kitchin's salary by 7 percent from \$33,500 to \$37,985. LaBaff's proposal to raise the salary 13 percent would mean an increase of \$4,615 bringing Kitchin's annual salary to \$40,115 for 1984.

"I really feel the social services commissioner's professional performance did not warrant an increase," Betty Bradley (D-Potsdam) said after the meeting, speaking of her vote against withdrawing the motion. "There should have been greater productivity. I was going to vote against both raises."

"I'm afraid Mr. Kitchin may not get anything," Allen Rische (D-Ogdensburg) said. "LaBaff won't be able to introduce a new law until March." The pay hike is slated for 1984, Rische said, and "I'm not in favor of going back."

Cook Gets Raise
Eight legislators voted against Highway Superintendent John Cook's raise including Bradley, Burns, Marscher, McNeil, Purvis, Rische and Sanford with some citing Cook's controversial firing of former Deputy Superintendent Fay Blair last year as one of the reasons for their no vote.

Bradley said: "He was reprimanded, and I'm not sure we should reprimand a man one year and give him a pay raise the next."

Merit Increases
Rosemary Sanford, who opposed all the pay hikes last night, said she believed in merit raises instead.

No Electricity; Ozone Not Working

BY RON ROBERTSON
While representatives of the Rist-Frost consulting engineering firm were being interviewed in Potsdam on Monday for Business Week magazine, the water treatment and hydroelectric plants were still not functioning to specifications.

According to Potsdam Mayor Joseph Calpari, Rist-Frost engineers were being interviewed because of the national magazine's interest in the ozonation process to be employed at the filtration plant.

Unfortunately, that process has not worked for about six weeks, Calpari said.

Calpari said that officials had hoped to have a training session on how to operate the plant for village employees on Wednesday. Problems in the ozone generation system, he said, may force postponement of that session.

No Juice
In addition, he said, the hydroelectric plant has not produced any significant amounts of power for over a week.

Despite the continuing problems at the two plants, Calpari said that he hopes a public open house for the facilities can be held sometime in either late January or early February.

Open houses that had been tentatively set for early December and January had to be postponed because of plant difficulties.

Calpari said that Rist-Frost engineer William Simcoe is preparing

a six to eight page information package to present to the public during the open house.

That package, he said, could be presented to the village Board of Trustees at the Jan. 23 meeting. The board might set the open house date at that time, he said.

Plagued with many small problems, the mayor said, the \$5.6 million water plant's main difficulty is currently the inability to use the ozonation process for purifying the village's drinking water.

The ozone process was the main selling point of this particular plant design when the plans were submitted to the village several years ago.

At the time, engineers argued that the process — virtually unused in the United States but common in Europe — was the best for purifying Racquette River water, known for its poor quality and large quantity of organic substances.

A defective cooling oil pump caused the ozone generator to be shut down for a few weeks while a new part was on order. A cracked glass tube, Calpari said, is the current cause of the lack of ozone.

Hydro Woes
The main difficulty with the hydro plant, Calpari said, has been the inability of the fully-automated computer to run through the sequence of checks necessary for starting up the plant.

According to Calpari, representatives from Digtek, the firm respon-

sible for the computer, have failed to come to the village to correct the problem.

A Rist-Frost engineer, Calpari said, was able to run the plant manually for a time last Thursday, but it was only able to produce some 50 kilowatts.

The plant's two turbines are designed for a maximum output totalling some 800 kilowatts.

Crosswalk Changes May Be In Offing

BY RON ROBERTSON
Downtown Potsdam shoppers and businessmen may see some changes in the village's crosswalk patterns, if suggestions from the village's planning board are accepted by the state Department of Transportation.

DOT regional traffic engineer Ray Powers, who was on hand at the planning board's meeting Jan. 10, said that word of DOT approval of the proposed changes may take about a month.

In a resolution to the village board, the planning board asked that the trustees pass a similar resolution requesting certain crosswalk changes from the DOT.

Powers indicated Monday that "within a month" the DOT will "be able to respond to most of the requests, and some of them sooner."

It wouldn't be until spring weather arrives, he said, before the suggestions will be physically implemented.

Among those changes is the addition of a protected crosswalk on Market Street from Robinson's Market directly across to Weston's Book Store.

The addition of that crosswalk, Powers said, "appears to be in the realm of possibility."

Possible changes included in that request could be the routing of a crosswalk from Eugene Earle Jewelers to the Potsdam town offices. Currently, that intersection is served by one crosswalk that runs diagonally from the jewelry store to Weston's.

The planning board also recommended that the "same type of crosswalk be affected across the Relief Route at the intersection with Market Street."

At that same intersection, the board's resolution states, a crosswalk should be placed across Market on the south side of the bypass.

The other major change the planning board has asked the trustees to consider is to ask the DOT to lengthen the time the downtown crosswalks are protected by the traffic lights.

Some board members expressed the opinion that it was difficult for elderly or handicapped people to cross the wide downtown streets by the time the "don't walk" light is activated.

Other Concerns
Other village traffic concerns aired at the planning board meeting included the timing of traffic lights at the intersections of Sisson Street and the May Road with Outer Market Street.

The detection system that makes the lights at either intersection change from red to green upon demand is "on the fritz," Powers said.

Hopefully, Powers said, the problem can be corrected by spring. Currently, the lights at those intersections will hold Market Street traffic up whether there are vehicles entering from the side streets or not.

Mayor Joseph Calpari, present at last Tuesday's meeting, acknowledged that he thought the building of the Relief Route "has really helped" to prevent downtown traffic congestion. "Our main concern," Calpari said, "is pedestrians."

Who Will Run?

With less than two weeks to go until party caucuses, village Republicans and Democrats seem to be facing uncertainty over candidates for the post of Potsdam mayor, trustees, and village justice.

Incumbent Village Justice Leon Penell, a Democrat, will not be running for re-election to that four-year post, and other incumbents have not yet officially decided whether or not they will seek re-election, they said when questioned Monday.

Penell, who was not available for comment Tuesday morning, is planning to move to Massena in the near future, sources said. Penell is a social studies teacher in the Massena public schools. He was elected village justice in 1980.

Joseph Calpari, appointed mayor following the death of Mayor James Penick in late September, said he is still undecided as to whether he will seek to run for the one year term of office in Penick's two-year term of office.

Calpari, a Democrat, had previously served as a trustee.
Democrat Trustee Charles Turcotte, appointed to fill Calpari's trustee seat, said he is also unsure as to whether he will seek a full two-year term. He has served on the board of trustees since Calpari's mayoral appointment in October.

Trustee Barbara Lenhart, a Republican, said she has not yet made a decision on seeking re-election.

Caucuses Set
The Potsdam Democrats will hold their party caucus on Jan. 30 at 8 p.m. in the Civic Center. All registered Democrats are eligible to attend.

The caucus for Republican voters is slated for Jan. 31 at 7:30 p.m. in the basement lounge of the Civic Center.

Cambridge Named Building Inspector

In a special meeting last Thursday night, the Potsdam Town Board fired its building inspector and named his replacement.

Richard VanDeusen, whose performance as building inspector had drawn fire during the past year, was dismissed by a unanimous vote of the three town councilmen present.

Named to replace Van Deusen was Richard Cambridge, former Village of Potsdam Department of Public Works chief.

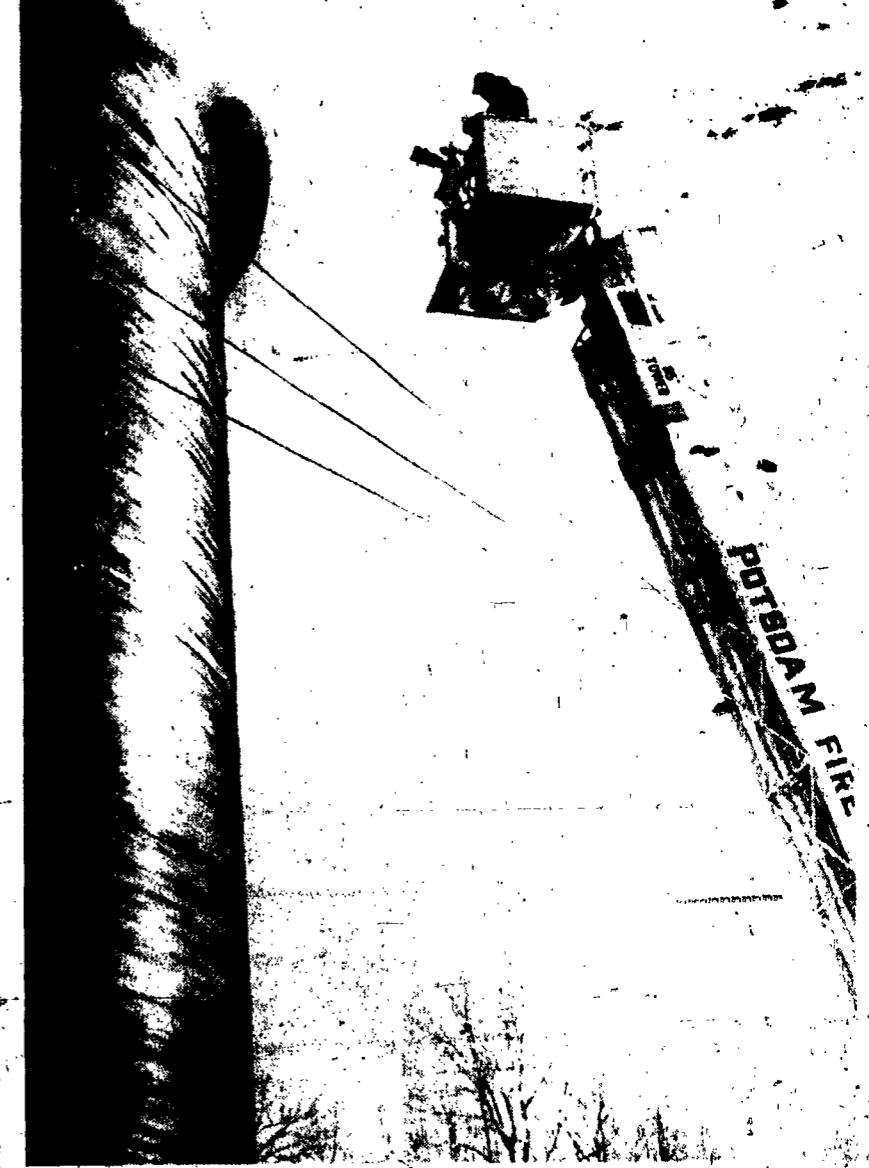
Councilman William Pelotte told VanDeusen: "Your successor will benefit from a better line of communication between the building inspector and this board," and Pelotte told Van Deusen that the dismissal was "in no way politically motivated, neither is it a personal rejection of you."

Councilman Wally Purves and supervisor Leslie Cook were absent.

Negotiations To Begin

Contract negotiations are expected to begin soon between the Village of Potsdam and the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA), according to Mayor Joseph Calpari.

A pre-negotiations meeting by the village board was held in executive session last week. Trustees Charles Turcotte and Barbara Lenhart, along with Village Administrator Victor Bortnick will represent the village in the negotiations, Calpari said.



USES LADDER TRUCK — The Potsdam Fire Department's ladder truck was called into play last Thursday morning in the fight against the blaze on a surge tank at the Sugar Island Dam power station owned by Niagara Mohawk. Firefighters were at the scene for several hours that morning. (Ron Robertson photo)



FROSTY TREE — Frigid temperatures and rising mist combined this week to produce frost-covered trees like the one shown above on Market Street. (Wally Siebel photo)