

Patchwork: West Potsdam Area News

BY MARY ANN MILLER
265-6708

I think my battle with the flu bug is at an end. We'll soon find out. I went through my books while I fought off the bug and came up with a copy of Patchwork dated Tuesday, Jan. 7, 1975. Ten years ago: a long time for some people and a short time for others; I shall point out some neighborhood events then.

The firemen had a memory tree then. Now no one has a memory tree in this area. The auxiliary was holding card parties in the schoolhouse then. Winners for that past card party were Pauline Petrie won the high ladies and Hazel Carr won the low ladies prize. Henry Johnston won the high men's prize and Harold Goldie won the low men's prize. The door prize was won by Agnes Bonno and the travelers prize was won by Lisa Sanford. The homemade fudge was won by Harold Adams, Harold Goldie and Paul Bonno. There are no more card parties, of course, and the schoolhouse is now a store.

And it was ten years ago that someone hit and killed Weldon Lumley's grand dog known for riding on the rear of the pickup anyplace it could fit at all times of year. People still recall Rastus.

Ten years ago Pat LaRoche held a cook's exchange party and Lillian Bassett, Denise Zevos, and Janet McFarland attended the party. Only Denise lives in the area

now. Sarah and Charlie Bates had a turkey dinner for New Years. Among those attending were Charlie's parents Bill and Lucy. Charlie and Sarah now have their home for sale and have moved back to the family farm and Bill Bates is deceased.

Marilyn Henderson held a snow party for local children. Today Marilyn lives in Bucks Bridge and she and husband Don Kingston operate a dairy farm and produce a candy stand.

Roy and Shirley Hogle spent a quiet Christmas at home. Today Ed Powell and his family own Roy's home and garage business. Shirley Hogle is now deceased.

Nellie Matthews had returned from the hospital after recovering from pneumonia. Today Gilbert and Jean Miller own Nellie's former home and Nellie resides at Mayfield Apartments, I believe.

Jim Warner was home for the holidays and worked for Dairy Queen in New Jersey someplace. Today Ed and Barbara Gordon now own the former Warner home and Jim went on to become manager and so on with Dairy Queen.

Leslie Ann Pierce celebrated her 11th birthday with a turkey dinner at her grandparents, Lee and Margaret Pierce. Today Leslie has graduated from college and has a good job in the Rochester area.

Bill and Betty Grant had a Christmas dinner at their home for the family. It was marred by the death of a family member and those who were at the events ten year ago.

Now for 1985. The firemen and auxiliary had bowling teams bowl in the Hopkinton-Fort Jackson tournament in Potsdam. The men entered two teams. Team 1 had Dewey Pierce, Ric Miller, Bill Grant, Harold Wilson and Mike Trivilino. That team unofficially placed second. Team 2 had Randy Merrick, E.J. and Henry Bradley, Bill Paige, and Greg Blanchard. The ladies team had Lyn Pearson, Peggy Merrick, Betty Grant, Debbie Roy and Linda Perry. Unofficially the team placed third.

The auxiliary held their regular monthly meeting at the fire station Tuesday evening with Betty Grant, the new president, running the meeting. Margie Tupper has resigned and the group will miss her. Margie married but stayed on as an active member traveling from Colton area to meetings and workbees. The Tupperes are expecting their first child and it is time for Margie to think of other duties. Annual reports were given by both treasurers and upcoming banquets were discussed.

The firemen's broomball team played Potsdam Sunday evening and lost 3-2. The team then stayed on for another game. West Stockholm had a game scheduled but the other team didn't show up.

Talked with Bonnie Corse. She sounds as bad as I felt last week. She has herself a nasty cold. She said Fred will soon be off to Camp Drum for two and 1/2 weeks of winter camp. And daughter Mandy traded cars and just in time. Made

the deal and went to drive her car in for the trade. Her car had died.

A group of area men had been spending Thursday evenings at the Norfolk Rod and Gun Club target shooting. I used to do that but the noise and cost of shells had me change to other hobbies. I know I don't have all the names but David Wright, Gary Grant, Tom Logan, Charlie Bates, Dewey Pierce are some of the men. The men use handguns.

That makes me think of the first time I pulled the string on a bow and got results. Not as easy as it looks and no one tells you about the string when it hits the inside of your arm.

Tonight is Thursday and about 7:53 p.m. I had just given Ric his dinner plate and turned to fix mine when the fire siren went off. I yelled to Ric and looked out the window. The first door to the station was going up and lights were on the first vehicle. Then Spencer Blanchard announced on the Electron system, "West Potsdam has a chimney fire at Rosemary Sanford's." By that time the first truck was almost passing this house and others were right behind him. In about four minutes and a ten below zero temperature both men and equipment were on the scene.

Spencer called on Ric and I got scared. I threw on heavy clothes and opened the pumping station. I called Mary Kathryn and Ardie Richardson called me. Ardie always calls in case she can help. I loaded the camera and left the house.

Before it was over the men had to cut into walls and the roof. Water was seeping through the ceiling but the house and most contents stands. The men covered the open gaps with tarps and tried to pick up. They drained the water pipes in the house and put anti-freeze in them. At this time (after 11 p.m.) they are still cleaning equipment and thawing hoses at the station. And I am going to do dishes and find something for Ric to eat when he gets back. His dinner went to the dogs. Honest, they found it where he put it down on a chair.

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Workshop Set

OGDENSBURG — For those interested in learning to make their own maple syrup, Mater Dei College will offer a workshop on backyard maple sugaring for beginners. The workshop will be held on from 7 to 10 p.m. on Feb. 5 on campus in the library building.

Presenting the workshop will be Michael A. Sullivan of the St. Lawrence County Cooperative Extension. He will cover the basic operations and procedures in making maple syrup including tree identification, tree tapping, gathering sap, construction of a firebox, and making the syrup.

Participants will be shown that backyard sugaring is a fun occupation and one which does not require a costly investment. They will learn to devise equipment that will work from what they have on hand or can get at little or no cost.

Registration fee for the three-hour workshop is \$5. Pre-registration is required as the workshop will be cancelled if there is insufficient enrollment.

To register, or for further information, call Sister Mary Patrick at 393-5930 before Feb. 1.

ODE MEMBER
Anne L. Barstow, daughter Mr. and Mrs. Roy Barstow of 7 Castle Drive, Potsdam, has been selected for membership in the St. Lawrence University chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon national economics honorary society. Ms. Barstow is a senior at SLU and has received honors as a Trustee Scholar and a dean's list student.

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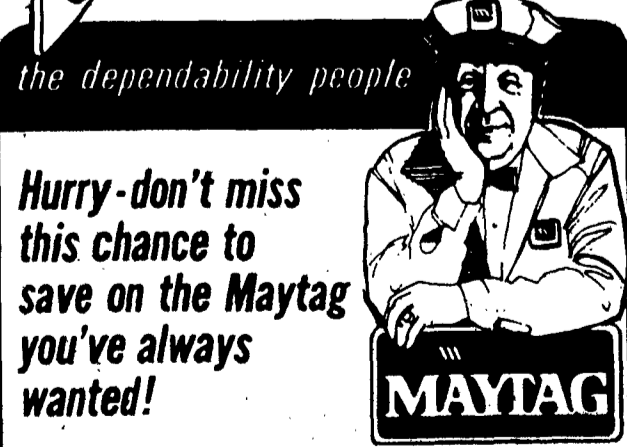
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