

LAST WEEK'S WEATHER

	Hi	Lo	Pcp
Tues.	17	9	.02s
Wed.	28	15	2.1s
Thurs.	24	11	tr.s
Fri.	20	15	2.5s
Sat.	18	0	0.5s
Sun.	21	4	0.4s
Mon.	17	-2	0.4s

Courier Freeman

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— news and photos
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County — inserted
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IN AND OUT — Jana Chaffee of West Stockholm escaped injury late Saturday afternoon after she fell into the West Branch of the St. Regis River near the West Stockholm bridge. Arrow at lower left of photo shows where she entered the water; arrow at right where she climbed back out. (Laird Chaffee photo)

GOP Caucus Comes Up Empty

Dems Tap Claffey, Belodoff, Sullivan

Potsdam village Democrats Monday night chose incumbent Mayor Paul Claffey as their candidate for a full two-year term in that office.

Claffey and his running mates, incumbent Trustee Jeffrey Belodoff and Robert Sullivan, may have clear sailing in the March election this year, after Republicans failed to nominate mayoral or trustee candidates at their caucus last Thursday.

Nominated last night for his first full term as mayor, Claffey was elected to a one-year mayoral term last March to fill the vacancy left by the death of former Mayor James W. Pennock.

Also tapped by the caucus for the two trustee seats at issue in the March 19 election were incumbent Trustee Jeffrey Belodoff and Robert Sullivan.

Belodoff, a resident of Clinton Street, was appointed trustee last year after former Trustee Claffey moved into the mayor's slot. He is employed by Norwood-Norfolk Central School district as director of the district's program for gifted and talented students.

Sullivan, a resident of Market Street, is a counselor with the county's Alcoholism Services Unit. He was an unsuccessful candidate for Potsdam Town Supervisor in the 1983 November election.

Claffey, a veteran trustee, is a self-employed civil engineer and surveyor. He lives on Grant Street.

Speaking last night, Claffey said the trustees and mayor will need to work together to see the village through the tumultuous times it is facing, particularly with regard to the water treatment and hydroelec-

tric plants. Belodoff said he has enjoyed the last year working on the board, and noted that the village faces substantial challenges in the months ahead, including "changes that will have to be carried out in our administrative form."

Sullivan, a longtime Democratic party worker, said he will be responsive to village needs. He said he intends to "take a look at the proposed engineer position," to see what effect it will have on the village.

Following their caucus last Thursday, village Republicans offered an empty slate of candidates for the general elections in March.

About 10 village Republicans turned out for the Jan. 24 caucus to learn the party had no candidates for the three seats open in the March 19 election.

"We were not able to field candidates for the upcoming election in March," said Town of Potsdam Republican Committee Chairman William Pelotte.

Pelotte, who also serves on the Potsdam town board, said the many problems currently facing the village might have deterred some people from seeking office.

Today (Tuesday) is the last date for party caucuses to be held for determining candidates for the village election, Jan. 31 is the last day to file certificate of party nomination and Feb. 3 is the last day for candidates to file a certificate of acceptance or declination of party nomination.

If one of the Democrats nominated decline the party's nod, Feb. 6 is the last date on which the

party could fill the vacancy. This date does not apply to the Republicans; no one was nominated, so no one can decline.

The first day independent nominating petitions can be filed is Feb. 19. The last day independent nominations can be accepted is Feb. 26.

Available in March are the trustee seats of Richard Murphy (R) and Jeffrey Belodoff (D) and Mayor Paul Claffey's (D) seat.

Serving another year of their two-year terms will be trustees Hugh Sprague (R) and Gerard Sullivan (R).

Claffey was elected last March for one year to fulfill the unexpired term of the late Mayor James Pennock, who died in late September of 1983.

Acting Mayor Joseph Calipari, who served as mayor following Pennock's death, did not seek to be elected mayor in March 1984.

Norwood Dems Choose Three

NORWOOD — Norwood Democrats have tapped Rollin Beattie to challenge Republican Mayor Michael LaComb, if the mayor is chosen to seek re-election at the Republicans' caucus tonight (Tuesday).

Also fielded by the Democrats at their Monday night caucus were incumbent Joseph Mariano, who will seek re-election, and Howard Todd, who will run for the seat now held by Republican Trustee Joan Ladouceur.

Norwood Republicans caucus at 7:30 p.m. tonight at the Norwood Municipal Building.

Clarkson Trustees Okay Tuition Hike

A tuition increase for the 1985-86 academic year was approved during the recent meeting of Clarkson University's board of trustees.

The board determined that tuition for the 1985-86 year will be \$8,300 for freshmen, sophomores and juniors, all of whom participate in the personal computer program, and \$7,900 for seniors. The average room charge will be \$1,749 and the board rates will be \$1,957 for the 19-meal plan and \$1,957 for the 14-meal plan. Health, recreation and student activity fees were not increased.

"Clarkson continues to keep its tuition charges lower than those of similar colleges and universities whose programs require state-of-the-art technological equipment," noted President Robert Plane. "The university is doing everything possible to operate efficiently and to hold student costs to a minimum."

Celebration Ends Tragically

A 21st birthday celebration ended in tragedy early Saturday morning after a Clarkson student who had been out drinking with friends at the Rusty Nail tavern Friday night apparently choked to death in her own vomit.

She was reportedly brought back to her Chestnut Street apartment by friends after passing out.

Bonnie Bauchle, 21, 25 Chestnut

St., a junior at Clarkson College and a native of Ithaca, was pronounced dead on arrival Saturday morning at Canton-Potsdam Hospital after she was discovered in her apartment by a housemate, say Potsdam police.

Miss Bauchle had been "drinking heavily" with friends in celebration of her birthday when she reportedly passed out, police said. Her friends then brought her home and placed her in her bed where she later died of asphyxiation after choking on her own vomit, an autopsy showed Monday.

Miss Bauchle's fully clothed body was discovered by housemates who called village police for assistance about 4:33 a.m. Saturday morning, according to police reports.

According to Dr. Antonio Valero, no foul play is suspected in Miss Bauchle's death.

A complete autopsy revealed no other unusual information about the cause of death, said Valero Monday.

Miss Bauchle is survived by her parents, Robert and Fern White Bauchle, of Ithaca, and one brother, Dennis, of Trumansburg, N.Y.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Ithaca.

Two, One A Child, Spared In Winter Mishaps

BY BETSY BAKER
Two area residents, one very young and the other very old, have survived a brush with wintry death this January.

Jana Chaffee, 8, the daughter of Laird and Eileen Chaffee of West Stockholm, slid into the icy West Branch of the St. Regis River in West Stockholm Saturday afternoon near that hamlet's bridge.

By her father's estimate, she traveled some 20 to 25 ft. under the ice, re-surfacing near a whirlpool that propelled her toward the opposite side of the river.

'84 Progress Noted Locally

Inserted in this week's Courier-Freeman is the annual progress edition — a look in stories and photographs, at St. Lawrence County in 1984, including a preview of 1985.

Locally, 1984 saw the announcement of, and the actual beginning of construction of, a long-awaited motel on a downtown parcel of land.

After more than ten years of delays, motel developers were finally able to put together a successful package for the project, which was part of the village's original Urban Renewal plan.

Also in 1984, a consortium of local college, university and municipal officials proposed the creation of a high technology "think tank" to be constructed in the village and to employ professionals in computer science and related fields.

While the completion of that project is some years in the future, organizers are hopeful that its success could benefit the local and regional economy.

Downtown Potsdam moved closer to completion of its revitalization project in 1984, with more Market Street storefronts added to the list of those refurbished with a combination of federal and private funds.

And the village began to take a long, hard look at its needs for the future, with examination of a plan for downtown parking.

Village officials also realized the need for some long range planning for capital improvement projects, including needed repairs to the fire station and Civic Center, and a plan to rebuild some of the village's streets.

The neighboring village of Norwood put the finishing touches on a new library early in 1985.

And municipal officials there will be taking a look at possible township status in 1985.

Shedding her boots and mittens, Jana pulled herself up onto the ice, walked some 50 to 60 ft. to shore, and sought help at a house on the Hatch Road.

In another incident, truck driver Monty Latimer of the Eben-Crary Mills Road, noticed 88-year-old Lucadia Novak sitting on the steps of her Lawrence Avenue home in the freezing cold temperatures of two weeks ago.

When Latimer passed back through town and saw the woman still sitting on the steps holding on to the railing, he stopped, took her to shelter across the street and waited while a neighbor called the rescue squad.

Mrs. Novak's door had locked behind her when she went out to sweep her front steps.

Playing With A Friend
Jana Chaffee had been playing with a friend, Sona Minnetyan, of the Hatch Road on Saturday. She left to return to her home on the Livingston Road, but doubled back to the river's edge after crossing the bridge, her father said.

When she slid in the water, according to her father, Jana, who

has taken swimming lessons at the Campus Learning Center, took a deep breath and held it.

When she resurfaced, one boot stuck, so she kicked it and its mate off because they were heavy, pulled her mittens off and pulled herself up onto the ice.

Finding no one home at the house she tried, Jana began to walk home.

By this time, Sona's father had heard Jana scream. He went to the Chaffees' house, alerted Laird, and the two went out to look for Jana, who had started back across the bridge to her house.

Laird found his daughter, put her in the car, took her home and put her in a warm tub.

State police were called in briefly after Jana said a man threw her in the river, but Laird and the state trooper investigated and decided that the child had fallen in and later invented the man. She had been told repeatedly to stay away from the riverbank, Laird said.

Laird found Jana's boots and mittens floating in the river near the spot where she climbed out.

Jana suffered minor frostbite to her fingers and toes, and some facial abrasions.

She has been writing an account of her mishap for her classmates at the CLC.

Locked Out
Latimer, who drives a truck for James Mitchell of Potsdam, noticed Mrs. Novak sitting on her steps when he passed through town at about 11:30 a.m.

On a return trip at about 1:25 p.m. he noticed that the woman was still there, so he stopped and told her "she'd been sitting there

Hydro Plant Down

After working well for several months — particularly earlier this month when the Racquette River was high — the Village of Potsdam's hydroelectric plant is out of commission.

According to Mayor Paul Claffey, one of the twin turbines in the plant ceased to function on Jan. 5 when an internal part broke. The second turbine, he said, later stopped functioning as a result of a short circuit in a computer-controlled mechanism.

Claffey said village officials were told by the company that manufactured the turbine that a replacement part for the first turbine would take four to six weeks for delivery.

Claffey also said that water treatment plant foreman Robert Stone, who is also in charge of the hydro plant, has said he might be able to fix the short circuit problem soon.

Tom Wicker Speaking Thursday

"The Role of the Media in the 1984 Presidential Election" is the title of a talk by New York Times editor Tom Wicker at Potsdam College at 7 p.m., Jan. 31 in Dunn Recital Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Wicker has written seven novels under the pseudonym Paul Connolly and under his own byline; his non-fiction works have included "Kennedy Without Tears" (1964), "JFK and LBJ: The Influence of Personality Upon Politics" (1968), "A Time To Die" (1975), "On Press" (1978) and "Unto This Hour" (1984).

The recipient of the A.B. degree from Harvard University, Wicker has served in correspondent and editorial positions at five major daily newspapers, including the Winston-Salem Journal and the Nashville Tennessean. He joined the New York Times staff as a member of its Washington bureau in 1960 and became its bureau chief in 1964.

His visit to Potsdam College is sponsored by the New York Times because College faculty and students purchase over 250 copies of the New York Times each day.

Clarkson Halts Sledding

For safety reasons, Clarkson University has announced it will prohibit sledding on the hill near the university's Science Center on the hill campus.

A university news release said there is a road at the bottom of the hill, resulting in a dangerous situation.

According to the release, "Potsdam Village Police have expressed concern because there is a road at the bottom of the hill, and they are afraid that a child may be struck by an automobile. It is possible for a sled to continue out onto the Back Hannawa Road, which is even more dangerous."

"From now on, Clarkson must prohibit sledding in this area," the release concluded.



TREES IN WINTER — These trees along the main street of Parishville tell the tale of snowy days this January. (Helen Condon photo)