

Patchwork: West Potsdam Area News

BY MARY ANN MILLER
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Welcome, 1986! Now if I can only remember to write a 6 instead of a 5 on the checks.

1985 ended with a few interesting things. One was weather — the Watertown area was reaching toward 100 inches of white stuff.

After Christmas Ric and Mary Kathryn and I drove to Clinton for a family gathering. Getting there was the interesting part. We'd checked highways with State Police in Gouverneur before we left. What they didn't tell us and what we found out the hard way was how much it was snowing in the Fort Drum area and how much was already on the ground AND as we entered that area the radio said "Fort Drum is closed!" Wonderful.

I repeat now what I said then: "How can you close an Army base?" Apparently it is easy — just don't plow it!

Anyway, we did make it to Clinton. Returning home from Lowville on up in places the snowbanks were at least twice as high as the car. Roads were then plowed and traveling good. Passed Willis and Judy Coleman's home on the Potsdam-Morley Road. They had decorated their TV dish nicely. A colorful five-pointed star adorned it.

1985 and its Christmas is now of the past. From what I could discover from all who I spoke to Christmas this year consisted of many gifts that require instructions and assembly but how to use. Like the light that goes on when you clap your hands, a video, a light that senses movement and lights the driveway, computers, telephones and just fun toys.

New Year's this year was the first for the 21 age drinking law. It was different. How different I'm not certain. Ric and I stayed home and played cards with close friends. I checked with a bartender working The Whiskey One in Potsdam. It was the only bar I have heard of downtown to stay open until morning. Maxfields was open and that's all I heard about. Both places had an excellent crowd. Drinks most requested this year, besides beer, were coke based with scotch, vodka, or bourbon and a few screw drivers. Many persons opted to celebrate and spend the night such as the package the Chalet offered. And many folks just stayed home with house parties. Weldon and Shirley Lumley had a few close friends in. As for traffic

here, there was very little. Christina and Francis Mason stayed at home. They do anyway. It's the only holiday they don't do up big.

In fact I asked Christina if she still has her beer balls up and lighted. She said she will leave them up for awhile. If anyone wants to see them lighted to just give her a call. The Masons live on Flat Rock Road. Since her unusual decorations showed up in the paper the road has seen more traffic than ever. For many folks, they had never heard of Flat Rock Road and had to call for directions.

Called son Paul and his wife Natale in Heinesburg, Vt. They are now in their new apartment. This one has two bedrooms. That's a room for guests for now. Come April it shall be the baby's room. He has a message for Rob and Robin Sanford who are expecting their first child in February. Paul said the bedroom is big enough for two babies and for them to plan to visit.

Had our usual seasonal call from a wonderful lady in Princeton, N.J. Her name is Myrtle Dunbar Silvester and she will be 96 in August. Her eyesight is not good but her hearing is very good. Her father's name was George and he used to work in the papermill and they lived on the Norwood Road four miles out of Potsdam. She walked to school, and claims it was the Normal school then just guess we'll have to try to visit her and write down all that she recalls. She moved to Princeton when she was six years old but still she does recall her life here.

Called Margie Harryman to see how her family enjoyed their holidays in West Potsdam. They shared the spirit of the season with a young man from Korea who attends college in Tennessee. He's been horseback riding and cross country skiing as part of his introduction here.

Margie also mentioned Bob will be leaving Canton-Potsdam Hospital in February to work in Watertown at the House of the Good Samaritan. From those I have met who were attended in the Emergency Room by him it appears this area is going to lose an excellent man. Watertown is fortunate to have him there. The home they have done tons of work on located on the Bucks Bridge Road is unfortunately going on the

market.

Reached Denise and Nick Zevos. They and their family live on the Blanchard Road. Their holiday season has been fun and very interesting. They are the hosts of an A.F.S. student, Zanania Partridge of North Island, New Zealand. She is 18 and a senior at the Potsdam Central School. She is taking some subjects she isn't offered in North Island such as photography, wood-working and really enjoys basketball. She spent Thanksgiving in New York City as Denise has relatives there. She managed to see many of the sights of the big city but some were a bit disappointing.

The zoo in Central Park is "gone" as it is being rebuilt and the Statue of Liberty is of course enclosed for the remodeling. When I called to-day Nick had taken Zanania to visit the city of Ottawa and a few days ago she managed to tour Montreal. It appears she is enjoying her stay.

Denise mentioned Zanania's thrill of snow at Christmas. And yes, there is a Santa in New Zealand. An interesting thought. Zanania left New Zealand in the winter. She arrived here in time for our winter. She will leave here in time to greet winter in New

Zealand. The big difference, of course, is that there is no snow in New Zealand.

Denise is enjoying the rush of the season. Son Dorian is home from Oberlin College where he is a sophomore and studying physics with Japanese history as a minor.

Oh yes, Denise is still maintaining her cross country trail and Zanania has done cross country skiing and snowshoeing for her first time.

A quick chat with Roberta Evans. All is peaceful on the farm with the usual winter chores going along well. Christmas and New Year's were pleasant and with the family. Dorothy Evans is doing well. She had a recent checkup and all is O.K.

Sanford, neighbor, as she is the first female to be elected head of the county legislature. Also I must mention she received Christmas gifts from Marcus Poschenrieder of Munich, Germany. He lived with Rosemary last year as an AFS student.

His mother is from Finland and she sent Rosemary a wind chimes from Finland for the door. It is very pretty and made of wood with four wires tightened to screws. There are four wooden balls hanging from different length strings that hit the different wires when blown about. The folklore that goes with it includes the fact that no stranger can be lost at night as he can follow the music to warmth and safety.

Hope all have a grand start for a good 1986. And keep those resolutions.

We must congratulate Rosemary



BEST SPELLERS — Top winners in a recent eighth grade spelling contest at Parishville-Hopkinton Central school were, from left, Brian Sullivan, third place; Kari Jacot, first place; and Joel Greene, second place. In back is teacher Michelle Tardelli. Besides the trophy, Miss Jacot also won the honor of representing the school at the county-wide spelling contest at the 1986 Gouverneur Fair.

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Local Students Complete SLU Talented Juniors Program

CANTON — St. Lawrence University has presented certificates to 77 students from eight area high schools who successfully completed course work in the university's Talented High School Juniors program during the fall 1985 semester.

The program, now in its 21st year, allows selected high school students to enroll in advanced study on the St. Lawrence campus.

Courses offered in the fall were human behavior; social relationships and self-confidence; stagecraft and stage lighting; architecture and the north country; discovering the source (beginning acting); and 35mm photography.

The following local students com-

pleted the program: — From Norwood-Norfolk Central School were Peggy Barr, Jenny Bates, Millissa Havington, Karri Peterson, Debra Pollock, and Laurel Wolfe.

— From Parishville-Hopkinton Central School, Mollie LeBeau.

From Potsdam Central School were Darian Bassim, Michael Blanchard, Shaune Brousseau, Amy Davis, Ewa Dubinsky, Hania Dubinsky, Phillip Hurley, Elizabeth Hourihan, Colin Knapp, Larry Mitchell, Debbie Newton, Bharet Patel, Stephen Sharlow, David Stoltie, Andrew Thacher, Derek Tomalty, and Adam Unsworth.

Arthritis Self-Help Course To Begin

MASSENA — The Arthritis Clinic, 44 Glenn St. here, is offering a self-help course to 16 people in St. Lawrence County.

Basic information about arthritis and techniques to help reduce pain and increase mobility will be taught.

The instructors will show you how to protect your joints, how to benefit from the proper use of exercise and medications. You will also learn stress management techniques to deal with your problems. You'll be able to participate in group discussions and learn from the experiences of others who have arthritis.

The course will start Jan. 9 at 1:30 p.m. with two hour sessions per week for six weeks at the clinic. Instructors are Mrs. Maxine Campbell and Helen Sucece. So help yourself to a life with less

pain and more independence. Remember things could be worse but you can make them better.

Please call 789-6559, write 44 Glenn St., Massena, 13662, or stop into the office for more information.

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