

Renowned businessman Franklin R. Forbes dies

EUSTIS, Fla. — Franklin R. Forbes, 86, retired president of Ayerst Laboratories (now Wyeth-Ayerst) of Rouses Point, died Sunday, Oct. 15, 1995, in Florida.

As head of Ayerst Laboratories, Mr. Forbes supervised one of the most important industries in this area. He also made sustained contributions to SUNY Plattsburgh and to education and medicine in the Northern Tier.

College President Horace A. Judson said Monday Mr. Forbes gave a great deal to the campus. "He served with distinction on the College Council from 1961 to 1976, which was a period of tremendous growth and development for this college. SUNY Plattsburgh benefited greatly from his wise advice . . . He will be missed," he said.

Mr. Forbes was born in Upper Stewiacke, Nova Scotia, Canada.

He received a bachelor's degree from Dalhousie University and a master's degree in biochemistry from McGill University in Montreal.

In 1934, he went to work for what was then known as Ayerst McKenna and Harrison, Ltd. in

Montreal. Two years later, he came to northern New York with the company's infant plant in Rouses Point.

During his tenure with the company, the name changed several times and the number of employees at the local facility grew from seven to about 1,200.

Mr. Forbes served the company in several capacities, including executive vice president and general manager. From 1971 until his retirement in 1974, he held the post of president.

A highly respected businessman, Mr. Forbes also was recognized as a supporter of education. The Franklin R. Forbes Lecture Hall and the Franklin R. Forbes Enzymology Laboratory at SUNY Plattsburgh were both named in his honor two years ago. They are used for biochemistry, cellular biology, microbiology and environmental science courses.

Mr. Forbes served on the Rouses Point Union-Free District Number 5 Board of Education and was actively involved with the consolidation of the Rouses Point and Champlain school

systems.

His involvement in the health field included serving two terms as a member of the Board of Governors of the Medical Center Hospitals of Vermont. He was instrumental in the creation of a medical center and the recruitment of physicians in the Northern Tier.

He was active with the Red Cross Disaster Committee and he worked closely with the CYPH Medical Center to establish a physicians' office building.

He also served on the National Savings Bank advisory board and on the New York-Vermont Interstate Commission on the Champlain Basin.

Mr. Forbes was honored in 1974 as Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce in Rouses Point and Champlain.

He was formerly a member of First Presbyterian Church of Rouses Point and later attended the First Presbyterian Church of Eustis, Fla.

He was a member of the Mount Dora Yacht Club and was a Mason.



Photo Provided
Franklin R. Forbes

He is survived by his brothers, Donald L. Forbes and Robert S. Forbes, both of Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada; and several nieces and nephews.

His wife, Katherine, died in 1991.

Funeral arrangements are with Hamlin and Hilbush Funeral Directors, Eustis, Fla. The date of a memorial service will be announced.

Essex lowers landfill tip fee to \$75

North Elba's plan to export trash reversed in hot debate

By LOHR MCKINSTRY
Staff Writer
Southern Essex Bureau

ELIZABETHTOWN — It took four tries to lower dumping fees at the Essex County Regional Landfill, and North Elba's permission to use county equipment to take its garbage elsewhere got rescinded.

After attempts to lower the dump fee from \$144.50 a ton to \$90, \$85, and \$80, failed, the Essex County Board of Supervisors finally agreed on \$75 for 60 days, starting Nov. 1.

The supervisors held a special meeting Monday to discuss lowering the dumping fee to see if haulers start using the facility again. When the U.S. Supreme Court struck down local trash flow control laws this year, commercial trash haulers began taking their loads to wherever the dumping fee was lowest.

The Town of North Elba, with 40 percent of the county's solid-waste, wanted to follow and got permission recently to use county transfer station equipment to do so. The Adirondack Resource Recovery Facility in Hudson Falls is charging \$65 a ton, with \$15 a ton transportation costs.

But the county took back its permission Monday, so North Elba will have to buy or rent its own equipment if it wants to go to the burn plant. The town would have paid \$1,200 a month rent for use of two trailers and other equipment at the transfer station.

Lowering the tipping fee was argued first.

"Hopefully, this will increase the tonnage," Supervisor Thomas Scozzafava, R-Moriah, said. "A reason we're losing the trash is because it's a very competitive market out there and they're going where it's cheapest."

Supervisor Matthew Clark, R-North Elba, advocated use of the burn plant instead of lowering fees.

"We have three months here to hope like the devil that Essex County will take its trash to the burn plant," he said. "I feel it could be done after the first of the year. I think the county should go there."

Supervisor Nona Duntley, R-Lewis, wanted the fee reduction at the landfill.

"I think we owe it to the tax-

payers for 60 days," she said. "All this board has done for the last six months is make it easier for everyone to go to the burn plant. I feel we should reduce the tipping fee and see what happens."

Supervisor Robert Purdy, R-Keene, said he'd rather see the county dump the landfill altogether. The county is currently considering proposals from private firms to do that.

"We've got to . . . get out of the (trash) business," Purdy said. "There are companies out there that know how to run this better than we do."

Clark said if the dump fee was reduced, he'd ask his Town Board about taking trash to the Essex County landfill again. But he then voted against the fee reduction resolution.

The measure failed under the county's weighted vote system. A yes vote from Clark would have passed it.

That upset Scozzafava, who was counting on the lowered dumping fee.

"I'll be damned if I'm going to subsidize North Elba, when he just voted not to reduce the tipping fee," Scozzafava said. "I was absent when the vote on the transfer station was taken, and under our rules, I believe I can put it back on the floor. I move to rescind it."

"My own community was quite upset with this decision," Supervisor Michael Connery, R-Ticonderoga, said. "I'll have to change my vote."

"I think it was a mistake to let North Elba out," Supervisor Teresa Sayward, R-Willsboro, said.

The board then voted by a more than a 2-1 majority to withdraw its permission for North Elba to use the transfer station equipment.

That upset Clark, who said the action ensured that his town wouldn't come back.

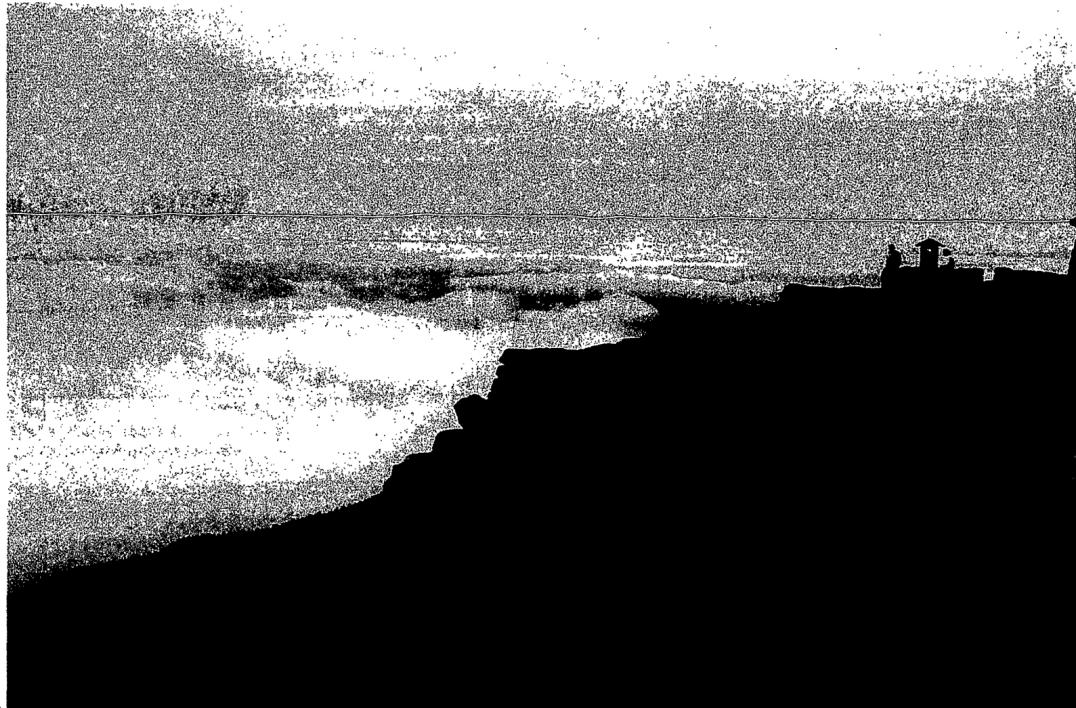
"Absolutely not — that's your answer," Clark said.

Votes to lower the fee to \$85 and \$80 were then defeated by Clark using his weighted votes.

But he relented, after a recess, and helped pass a resolution to lower the dumping fee to \$75.

"Now we'll see what happens, if North Elba comes back," Connery said. "Matt's going to take it up with his board."

Clouds closing in



Photo/P. Malcus

Clouds cover the top of Whiteface Mountain, leaving few patches of ground exposed. The foggy clouds in this recent photo are now replaced by snowy clouds. Already coating the High Peaks, snow will soon be closing in all around the North Country.

DEC chief vows to protect Lake Champlain

By JEFF MEYERS
Staff Writer

WESTPORT — Despite ever-growing budget constraints, the new regional director for the state Department of Environmental Conservation vows continued support for Lake Champlain.

"What we do results in the protection of the environment," said Stuart Buchanan, who has been at the helm of the Ray Brook office for about five months. "The current fiscal situation forces us to be more efficient. How we do that will rely on a number of things."

Buchanan spoke to nearly 100 members of the Lake Champlain Committee as it held its annual meeting at Camp Dudley Saturday. The director told the group the local DEC office will focus more on the needs of its customers, the people who live and work in northern New York.

"The better we can identify our customers and their needs, the better we can do our jobs," he added.

Nanos successes

Buchanan took a few minutes to summarize several recent accomplishments in the area since the creation of the federally-funded Lake Champlain Management Conference. Some of those highlights are:

- Several land acquisitions to improve habitat protection, including the purchase of 1,800

acres on the Heurich estate near Essex;

- A joint effort between New York and Vermont to develop wetlands-protection strategies throughout the basin;

- The sea-lamprey control program that has already led to an improved salmonid population in the lake;

- Identification and cleanup efforts in Cumberland Bay to remove a sludged contaminated with PCBs.

Phosphorus control issues

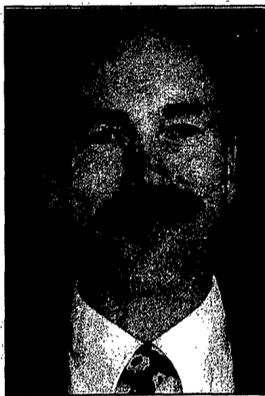
But phosphorus control in Lake Champlain continues to be a highly controversial issue that has piqued the interest of many Lake Champlain basin residents.

In 1993, New York, Vermont and Quebec signed an agreement that established acceptable levels of phosphorus in different sections of the lake. The Lake Champlain Management Conference is currently assessing ways to reduce the amount of phosphorus entering the lake so those levels can be reached.

Buchanan said the state is still committed to the 1993 agreement, but the DEC has recently presented a new plan that would set a lakewide limit for phosphorus being discharged into the lake from sewage plants and industries.

Plan to limit discharge

Until recently, New York and



Staff Photo/Jeff Meyers

Stuart Buchanan

Vermont have been discussing a plan that would set a limit for each facility discharging into the lake.

"We all recognize that Vermont approaches water-quality strategies differently from New York, but a lot of us are growing suspicious that (the plan to manage phosphorus) is backsliding," said committee member and longtime lake advocate Peter Paine, who wondered if the new policy direction had anything to do with the state's new government.

"I don't think New York has any less desire to protect and

improve Lake Champlain," Buchanan said. "Certainly there are other large bodies of water in the state — Lake Champlain is only one of them, but we are committed to honor the same goals we've agreed upon."

Flawed test model

Paine asked why the state wasn't prepared to approve an across-the-board limit for phosphorus discharges. Italo Carcich, head of the DEC's Bureau of Technical Services, explained that the lakewide limit (a proposed cap of 57 metric tons per year) would prevent an increase in phosphorus discharge while research on how and where the nutrient is entering and affecting the lake is updated.

"We're not saying the model (used by researchers to establish recommended phosphorus levels in the lake) is flawed," he said. "We're just saying the model should be updated."

The Lake Champlain Committee also honored the achievements of Robin Ulmer, executive director of the Boquet River Association, for the work she has done in improving the river's water quality while increasing the public's awareness and participating in lake-related issues.

"The administrators always get the award, but the work is being done by so many others," she said as she modestly accepted the group's honor.

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Ti Elementary celebrates fall book fair this week

TICONDEROGA — The Ticonderoga Elementary School will host its annual Fall Book Fair the week of Oct. 16 to 19.

Parent-Teacher Organizations volunteers and library staff will help the children choose books. Today, the Book Fair will be open to the public from 6 to 8 p.m. so parents can attend. For questions, call Librarian Bonnie Davis at 585-7437.

Staff development day planned in Malone Friday

MALONE — More than 2,000 area school teachers and non-teaching employees will participate in a Staff Development Day program designed to bring fresh ideas to all aspects of the educational program from the classroom, to the school bus, to the cafeteria.

The 7th-Annual cooperative Staff Development Day program, sponsored by the Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES, the Special Education Training and Resource Center, the Adirondack Teacher Center, and area school districts will be held Friday, Oct. 20.

Staff members from nine area school districts: Brushton-Moira, Chateaugay, Lake Placid, Malone, St. Regis Falls, Salmon River, Saranac Lake and Tupper Lake; the Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES, and also local parochial schools will be participating.

What does God look like?

Attention all you kids out there. We have a fun assignment for you.

We want to know what you think happens in the daily life of God. What does God look like? What does God do all day? Where is Heaven? Where does God sleep? What does He eat? What kind of clothes does He wear? Does He wear shoes? Who cuts His hair? Is He a He? Does God floss and brush? What makes God's day?

If you have any ideas about God, we want you to send us your color drawings or sketches. If you want to write a short story or poem to go with your artwork, thumbs up. Be sure your color drawing is on a piece of 8 1/2 by 11-inch white paper.

Send your submissions to Staff Writer Robin Caudell, Press-Republican, Box 459, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901-0459, by Nov. 2.