

WIND SWEEP



Saturday's high winds did a Sally Avenue homeowner a favor. They neatly swept all the leaves in the yard to one spot in the corner of a fence.

Mourning

3 cultures relate traditions

BY JEFF MEYERS
Staff Writer

PLATTSBURGH — Many cultures throughout the world share a common bond in how they approach the tragedy of death.

Speakers from three distinct cultures shared their thoughts on dying and the grieving process during a conference on hospice care held at SUNY Plattsburgh recently.

The Rev. Leland Udell, former director of the Pastoral Care Ministry in Burlington, Vt., represented the Christian viewpoint but pointed out that a lot of the Christian traditions are borrowed.

"I feel that the origins of true Christian grieving come out of the Jewish faith," Udell said. "But over the years, we have lost that connection, unfortunately."

Practices change

Udell said he remembers a time when widows would wear black for a year after their husband's death. But today, the physical recognition of grief does not last long.

For many Christians, grief must be held inside as they return to their regular duties in a matter of days. The condolences of friends and co-workers is relatively short compared to the grief that follows the loss of a loved one.

Udell recalled his father's death and how his tradition contrasted sharply with that of a black African friend. Udell returned to work two weeks after losing his father, and the friend was shocked that he had come out of grieving so soon.

In the friend's tradition, family members stay together for a month following the death of a parent.

Jewish customs

The Jewish faith shares a similar tradition.

"Dying is treated with great dignity and respect," said Rabbi Carla Freedman from Temple Beth Israel. "We sit for seven days and do not participate in any life activities."

During those seven days, mourners must attend morning and evening worship services to praise God in the face of death. However, mourning cannot begin until the body has been buried. That is why the Jewish faith buries its dead within 24 hours.

"We don't have an elaborate

theology after ~~the~~" Freedman said. "Many of us believe that when the body goes to the ground, the life is over completely. One lives on through what one does in the world, what one has taught others in that lifetime."

After seven days, mourners return to their everyday duties. However, they must continue attending morning and evening services for 30 days, and if the lost relative was a parent, they must attend services for an entire year.

Native American observances

Native American tradition also emphasizes a formal grieving process.

"If someone dies within the Bear Clan, the entire clan grieves together," said Barbara Barnes, of the St. Regis Mohawk Administration in Hogansburg. "In the Mohawk nation, it's the responsibility of the opposite clans — the Turtle and the Wolf clans — to designate someone to take care of the family members."

Other clan members speak to the grieving clan for the two nights of waking. The body stays at home those two nights and is then carried to the Long House, where it rests for the next eight days.

"The spirit remains all that time," Barnes said. "On the 10th day, everyone will come back together and have a feast. A plate is also prepared for the spirit."

Then, the body is taken to the gravesite, and clan members take turns placing earth on the coffin.

"Now the departed is ready to begin its journey into the other world," Barnes said.

Universal experience

Whatever tradition we follow, we all share the sense of pain when a loved one dies. It's a time that is largely misunderstood, but it's a time when feelings should be shared.

"Watching someone die gives us a profound sense of what it means to be human," said Sandra Bertman, director of the Program of Medical Humanities at Massachusetts Medical Center, who was guest speaker at the conference.

"For so many of us, the time of grieving can be a time of great healing, a time for sharing the specialness and wonder of life."

College sets programs on sexual harassment

PLATTSBURGH — SUNY Plattsburgh will hold its 2nd-annual Sexual Harassment Awareness Week, Nov. 13-17.

Monday, Nov. 13: Noon, panel discussion "Meet the Sexual Harassment Advisors Network" in Cardinal Lounge.

At 4 p.m. Arlene Sabo, assistant director of public safety, and Cori Jackson, a graduate intern in the college's Counseling and Psychological Resource Center, "Peer Harassment: Causes, cases and cures," Cardinal Lounge.

At 7 p.m., Dr. Gary Kreps, professor and executive director of the Greenspun School of Com-

munication at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, "How to Respond to Sexual Harassment in Professional Life," in the Warren Ballroom.

Tuesday, Nov. 14: Janet Saunders, director of affirmative action at SUNY Plattsburgh, on "Balancing First Amendment Rights and Sexual Harassment" at 12:15 p.m. in the Cardinal Lounge.

From 4 to 5 p.m., sexual-harassment videos in the Angell College Center Conference Room.

At 7:30 p.m. in the Cardinal Lounge, panel discussion on "Medical Forum on Domestic Vi-

olence."

Wednesday, Nov. 15: Panel discussion, "Women at SUNY Plattsburgh — Taking Charge," Cardinal Lounge from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

At 7 p.m. in the Warren Ballrooms, Ellen Schell, attorney and adjunct faculty member at SUNY Plattsburgh, "Lawyers in Love and Other Disasters: Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession."

Thursday, Nov. 16: Dr. Chris Sadler, associate professor of communications at the University of Wisconsin, "I Heard It on the Grapevine," Cardinal Lounge

at 12:15 p.m. and "Be Happy in Your Work: Creating a Non-Hostile Workplace," 7 p.m. in the Warren Ballrooms.

At 4 p.m., Melissa King, director of training with TransWorld Music, "Sexual Harassment in the Corporate World," in Cardinal Lounge.

Friday, Nov. 17: "How to Handle Sexual Harassment Situations," at noon, Cardinal Lounge. Chairperson is Barb Hebert. Activities are sponsored by the President's Sexual Harassment Committee, the Student Association and the Women's Studies Forum.

Presenting Old Glory

Woodmen of the World, Life Insurance Society Lodge 1016, Keeseville, donated a set of new flags to the AuSable Forks Fire Department. From left, are Woodmen Field Representatives Rodney Barber and Russell Blaise, and Fire Department President Scott Bombard and Vice-president Raymond Murphy. The flags will replace the aging ones the department has been using.



Photo/P. Maicus

Beekmantown sees progress in water-district funding

BY SUE BOTSFORD
Staff Writer

BEEKMANTOWN — Beekmantown Supervisor Neil Tallon hopes funding for the Southeast Beekmantown Water District will be in place by the first of the year.

The town has a commitment from Rural Economic and Community Development, formerly the Farmers Home Administration, for two grants of \$250,000 and \$750,000 and a loan of \$600,000.

Tallon said the development group has told the town it will get a \$440,000 grant as

soon as the new budget is in place. "We are top priority in New York state," he said.

Beekmantown's first water district was formed in response to the failing Hobbs Road Water District, which has had repeated run-ins with the Health Department because the system is antiquated and the water quality is not good.

Beekmantown now has an agreement with the Town of Plattsburgh to purchase high-quality water. The water will come from the tower on Route 9 north of the city.

Tallon said the town has been working with state representatives and Congressman

John McHugh (R-Pierpont) to secure the last of the funding needed.

When it all shakes out, the project should have 70 percent of the funding in grants and 30 percent in loans. It is estimated to cost \$2,040,000.

Tallon said that if the project stays on the timetable, the final engineering can be done early in the year and bids can be solicited before the construction season. It should be completed within one construction season.

It is estimated that an \$80,000 house in the district will pay about \$300 a year for water.

OF INTEREST

Beekmantown Board of Education meets Tuesday

BEEKMANTOWN — Beekmantown Central School District Board of Education will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the West Chazy School.

CCC nursing graduates all pass licensing exam

PLATTSBURGH — Clinton Community College's Director of Nursing, Agnes Pearl, announced a 100-percent pass rate for the May 1995 nursing graduates on the Registered Nurse Licensing Examination.

"No one could do better! Every one of the graduates writing the examination passed. Congratulations to the 1995 Clinton Community College nursing graduates and the Department of Nursing Faculty," Pearl said.

Clinton's rank in the state and country is exemplary. The number one ranking is shared with only 189 other colleges out of 1,437 in the nation.

Dr. Jay Fennell, president of Clinton Community College remarked, "These figures underscore the fact that we (Clinton Community College) have a nursing program to be envied by many other educational institutions. The dedication and talents of Agnes Pearl and the nursing faculty are the reasons why our graduates excel."

LOOK BACK

Week of Nov. 13 - 19

25 YEARS AGO — 1970

■ Lt. William Calley has pleaded not guilty to charges he ordered the deaths of 102 unarmed civilians in the hamlet of My Lai.

■ The Marshall University football team was killed when their chartered plane clipped treetops coming home from a loss to East Carolina University. On Oct. 2, a chartered plane crash in Colorado killed half of Wichita State's football team.

■ The Union Hotel at 15 Margaret St. in Plattsburgh was destroyed by a fire spotted by restaurateur Arnie Pavone as he locked up at 2:30 a.m. The blaze also damaged Nelson's Flowers next door.

50 YEARS AGO — 1945

■ The U.S., Britain and Canada will share atomic secrets

with Russia and other countries, if those nations will share their scientific developments and allow United Nations inspections of all atomic plants.

■ Gen. Charles DeGaulle was offered the interim presidency of France while a new constitution is written, but opposition by Communist representatives may stall his confirmation.

■ When he landed on D-Day, Capt. Frank Sullyman, a Skaneateles paratrooper, began daydreaming of a luxury hotel stay, and even took notes about steak, fresh coffee and a phone that only worked for outbound calls. When he wrote to see how much of the dream his \$500 savings would cover, New York City's Pennsylvania Hotel gave him, his wife and their infant daughter the entire fantasy for a week at no cost.

HARRIS BEAUTY SALON

will be closed

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday,

November 14, 15, 16,

to Celebrate the Home Coming

of Our Son,

After Four Years with the Armed Forces

44 Margaret Street Phone 364

Courtesy Feinberg Library

As World War II veterans began coming home a half-century ago, one North Country family decided the post-war boom could wait a few more days.

75 YEARS AGO — 1920

■ Six children were trampled to death in panic at a New York City moving picture house after

patrons smelled smoke from the basement furnace being started with paper and shouted "Fire!" The proprietor is being charged with taking improper precau-

tions and with admitting unaccompanied minors.

■ Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman, deported from the United States for socialist agitation, have left Russia after a disagreement with Lenin and Trotsky. The two are reportedly in Odessa in the Ukraine. Meanwhile, Sevastopol has been evacuated and Armenia has been cut off by advancing Soviet troops.

■ A Saranac Lake boys' marching band will give its second performance at the inauguration of President Harding in March. The group was formed this summer and an attorney with connections to the area arranged for their Washington appearance.

100 YEARS AGO — 1895

■ Chaos and death are reported throughout the Turkish empire amid rumors of the Sultan's madness. Massacres in Armenia have claimed 10,000 lives, Druse are rebelling in Arabia and an English mission in Jerusalem was attacked by a

mob.

■ Clinton County teachers at the Normal School's week-long institute have signed a petition requesting the state's mandatory anti-drug-and-alcohol curriculum be altered because it teaches certain facts that students will learn are not true, leading them to doubt all they are taught on the subject.

■ Grace Barker of Plattsburgh is one of five teachers awarded a lifetime teaching certification, allowing her to teach in any school in the state without having to take further examinations.

■ Jennie Metcalf, 15, was sentenced to two years in federal prison for horsestealing in the Oklahoma Territory. The light sentence was in exchange for her testimony in a murder case against members of the Dalton Gang, which she joined after leaving her husband.

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