

**SPEAKOUT**

**Hindsight**

Now the National Safety Board wants a nationwide check of signals at train crossings to prevent yet another accident like the one that killed seven teenagers. Isn't that hindsight again? Why must we continually wait until a tragedy occurs before we carry out routine safety checks to prevent such accidents? I think we should look into this much more seriously.

**Bingo**

Illegal bingos. I agree with the person who spoke out last week against churches who hold \$4,000 and \$5,000 bingo games. Where are the bingo inspectors? How come they're not doing their

job and seeing that state rules are followed? These bingos are illegal and should be stopped.

**Buses**

From what I heard from parents in other school districts, it is the bus-garage policy that a child picked up first in the morning is the first one off in the afternoon to prevent this child from being on the bus for long periods of time. For several years, parents in Beekmantown School District have complained that their children are spending way too much time on the bus, being one of the first ones on in the morning and one of the last ones off in the afternoon because it is convenient for the bus driver. They were told it is

because it is close to the bus drivers' homes. We pay school taxes to have our children bused to school. This is their job. It should not matter if they end up near their home or not.

**Club**

All year long, a local department store has had a buy more, save more club where with each \$150 in sales slips you take them to the service desk in these special envelopes and they will give you a free \$5 gift certificate. This offer expires Dec. 31, 1995. They pulled all the special envelopes off the counter around the middle of October. When you talk to the cashiers, they will tell you, they didn't run out of these special envelopes; they don't know why, they just pulled them off the counter and were not allowed to hand any more out.

Now this program is running thru Dec. 31, 1995, but without these special envelopes, they will not accept the sales slips. I know there must plenty of other people out there with this same problem.

**Timber**

Why does the state refuse clearing of downed storm-related trees in the Cranberry Lake area? Yet, large acres of state-owned forests in Chazy Lake is now being cut by an out-of-state firm.

**Rumors**

Somebody said that somebody said. Trouble was caused and suspicion fed. Somebody passed on an idle word. Someone repeated what someone had heard. There has been many a broken heart. Many a marriage has come apart. Many relationships have been changed. Many a neighbor become estranged. In many a home where peace once reigned, affection and loyalty have been strained and many a life is incomplete, all because someone was indiscreet. Many a friendship has been wrecked through gossip, unfounded and unchecked. Mischief was made and a rumor spread. Somebody

said that somebody said.

This goes out to everyone who thinks they know, all because somebody said that somebody said.

**Children**

My dear children, how I miss the days when you were growing up. We had the usual problems that many parents and children have but we were a happy family. You are all grown up now with children of your own. What happened to us and our close loving family? You only live a few miles away, but you seldom visit and when you do it's only a few minutes.

When I invite you for dinner, I don't hear, "I'd love to." Instead, I hear excuses. We would love to hear a dinner invitation from you sometime, but you probably have an excuse for that, too. Have my considerate children changed that much? Only God knows if we will wake up tomorrow morning. Don't wait too long to come

home again — you are not getting any younger, either.

**Girlfriends**

This is for all the men who have turned their backs on their children because their children don't like their new girlfriends.

And, of course, your girlfriends blame the ex-wife. Your children were raised with morals, and they know right from wrong.

They see the way your girlfriend acts and the way she treats her own kids, and your children know the time and money you spend on your girlfriend and her kids while your own children go

without your time or your financial help. Just showing up at a school function doesn't mean a whole lot. You're missing time you can't get back, and you're giving up that time just for a love life. Don't blame the ex-wife; look at yourself and your choices and grow up, see what you're missing — a beautiful child and children growing up and becoming adults.

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The Compassionate Friends  
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Hospice of the North Country, Inc.  
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North Country Girl Scout Council  
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