

Heard Around Town

If you'd like to share the comings and goings of your corner of the world, contact the correspondent nearest you:

East Lansing: Lorraine Groat 533-4156
King Ferry: Joan Neill (315) 364-7784
Lake Ridge: Tricia Torrey 533-7269
Ludlowville: Wanda Brink (533-4672) and Katrina Greenley (533-8892)
Lansing Station: Donna Scott 533-7228
Lansingville: Ruby Ferris 533-4969
So. Lansing: Jo Ann Vliet 533-7043

We would very much like to carry local news from Cayuga Heights, the Village of Lansing, Myers, North Lansing and Genoa. If you'd be interested in sharing the little pieces of information that bind a community together for one of these areas, please call Matthew at 533-7963.

Ludlowville

The Ludlowville Community Holiday dinner was a great success. Early arrivers helped to decorate the Rod and Gun Club with lights, candles, and greenery. As a delicious potluck supper was consumed, Gay Johnson, Larry Beck and their boys (Jared and Micah) helped to lead the crowd in singing Christmas Carols.

After dinner was over quite a few people met in the park and proceeded to carol door to door cheering neighbors who had been unable to join the Festivities. The caroling group ended up at the Federal House Bed and Breakfast, where proprietor Diane Carroll generously invited everyone in to her house for refreshments and further visiting. Special thanks to Diane for her hospitality; to the Rod and Gun Club members for the use of their facilities; and to Carolyn Long for coordinating the event.

Notes and cards of well-wishing could be appreciated at Mary and Tim Walters house (182 Ludlowville Rd) They had a holiday lacking in the usual cheer due to the fact that Tim Walters was unable to return home from Cayuga Medical Center in time for Christmas. He has had an unexpected lengthy stay in the hospital due to the severity and complications of a strep throat infection.

The Ludlowville winter wonderland has begun. Frost faeries have decorated the Ludlowville Falls trees with shining silver gowns. Many of us are waiting for the deep cold to descend that will lock Salmon Creek up tight. We look forward to cross country skiing up to the falls and all the way down to Myers. It is a special perspective that only deep winter can bring us.

- Katrina Greenley and Wanda Brink

East Lansing

Frank and Barbara Barry of East Lansing Road journeyed to Lancaster, Pa. to share Thanksgiving with Barbara's sister and husband, Carl and Louise Inn-Cooper. Barbara retired on Dec. 28. We wish her many happy, healthy and prosperous fulfilled retirement years.

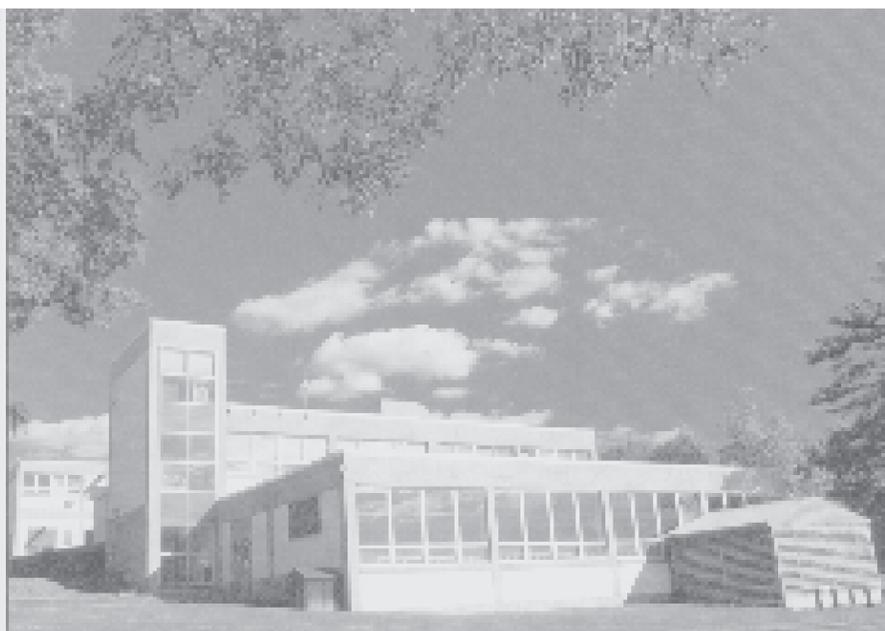
Lorraine and Howard Groat spent a few days in November with daughter and son-in-law Kathy and Vinny Keane at Lady Lake, Florida (about 50 miles north of Orlando). Although the nights were cool and days only up to 70 degrees, Lady Lake is truly a land of paradise and the only location in Florida we have visited thusfar where we might choose to live.

The highlight of the visit was attending the Tammy Wynette show on Sunday night. She was on an open stage in the field in the middle of a field. Because it was 48 degrees we put on our coats. Tammy wrapped herself in a white woolen shawl and said, "Lordy, Where did you all get this terrible cold weather?" They brought out two portable gas heaters for her and gave a great performance - ending with her well-known song "Stand By Your Man."

Zachary Wilhelm celebrated his 6th birthday with a party on Dec. 15. His parents are Harvey and Donna Wilhelm. They live in the East Lansing School House on Luce Road. Zachary had friends from kindergarten, Lansing United Methodist Church and his previous preschool (IACC). Lots of games were played, but the favorites were the fish pinata and the spoon race.

Our heartfelt sympathy and condolences go to Ruth Snyder and family on the loss of her daughter, Lucille Rollins, of Bacon Road.

- Lorraine Groat



INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION - The Bolton Point water treatment plant on East Shore Drive can process nine million gallons of water a day. [photo:SCLIWC]

Editorial Corner

- The editorial column of the Lansing Community News is available to all community members for the courteous expression of varying points of view.

A Report From Bolton Point:

An Opportunity To Cooperate For The Benefit Of The Consumer

By Kevin Kauffman
 Executive Director, Bolton Point Water System

The three largest water systems in Tompkins County have recently decided to combine their resources and technical expertise to meet the expanding local demand for safe, public water supplies into the 21 century.

To this end, the City of Ithaca, Cornell University and the Southern Cayuga Lake Intermunicipal Water Commission (SCLIWC) engaged O'Brien & Gere Engineers (OB&G) of Syracuse on November 1, 1996 to conduct a "Comprehensive Water System Evaluation." The draft report of their evaluation is expected to be completed by summer 1997 and will likely have a major impact on the provision, operation and maintenance of public water in Tompkins County for the next 50 years.

Lansing town and village residences and businesses that are currently connected to public water receive it uniquely from SCLIWC's East Shore Drive-based Bolton Point water treatment, transmission and distribution system.

The three largest water systems in Tompkins County decided to cooperate in funding the evaluation because it is simply an opportune time. The City of Ithaca must upgrade its water system to meet the needs of Ithacans for the next 50 years. As it considered this undertaking, it determined that technical and financial obstacles could best be overcome by collaborating with the Cornell and SCLIWC systems.

Once articulated by the City of Ithaca, the cooperation was endorsed and supported by Cornell and SCLIWC. Because SCLIWC itself is an intermunicipal agency owned and operated by the towns of Lansing, Ithaca and Dryden and the villages of Lansing and Cayuga Heights there are essentially seven (7) parties are involved with OB&G in the evaluation and planning process.

This unprecedented cooperation is expected to produce a benefit for all consumers. These benefits may include, among others, improved quality of service, a stable long term water rate structure, and ability to serve areas not presently served in the future.

To date, this work has concentrated on collecting and analyzing historic data about existing water consumption patterns and the systems' existing water distribution capabilities. With this data, OB&G will assemble a computer model to analyze the hydraulics of the three water systems under a variety of operating scenarios.

When this initial phase is complete, the model will be used in an attempt to identify more efficient operating systems. The prime consideration of potential systems will be engineering efficiency and lowest possible consumer cost rather than existing water system ownership or municipal boundaries.

Policy makers from Cornell, the City of Ithaca and SCLIWC will then review the technical report. With the benefit of public input, they'll discuss and debate the best alternatives and develop an implementation program. With this opportunity to increase cooperation among these three community water systems, consumer should directly benefit and be satisfied with the spirit and foresight of their civil leadership.

As of January 1, 1997, the Commission employs 18 people. Due to legal requirements, these staff people are technically Town of Ithaca - SCLIWC employees. This staff includes plant operators, distribution operators, clerical, administrative and maintenance people working together as professionals to provide every customer with high quality water and customer service at the lowest possible cost. The combined water system of the five municipalities and Bolton Point is one of the three largest water systems in Tompkins County.

To find out more about the evaluation process and where it may lead these three community water systems, readers are encouraged to contact either Kevin Kauffman at 277-0660, Larry Fabbri at 272-1717, or Jim Finnigan at 255-6614.



FACILITY	Supply Capacity	Treatment Capacity	1990 Actual	2000 Proj	2010 Proj
Bolton Point (SCLIWC)	24,000,000	9,000,000	2,223,000	2,601,000	2,931,000
City of Ithaca	5,400,000	7,000,000	3,800,000	4,134,000	4,387,000
Cornell University	3,200,000	3,600,000	1,670,000	1,817,000	1,928,000

Source: The Bolton Point Water System, p. 11

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