

—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Genung of Clinton were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Lynch, Sunday afternoon. Additional guests for buffet dinner included Mrs. Marilyn Hoesein and son, Bejan of California; Mrs. Merton Genung and son, Shaun of Pittsburgh; Miss Irene Genung of Wellsville; Bob Jones of Scio and Mrs. Fred D. Gibson and daughters, Alecia and Melanie of Scio.

—Mr. and Mrs. Dale Crandall of Dallas, Texas, called on Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Spicer, Tuesday afternoon.

—Mrs. Charles Pantan of Grove Street, has returned home after spending some time with her mother, Mrs. Elsie Nickerson of Emporium, Pa.

—Mr. and Mrs. James H. Kessler were called to Waterford, N. Y., Friday by the sudden death of Mrs. Kessler's brother-in-law, Mr. Oscar Fodder.

—Charles Whiting of New Orleans, La., and Merlyn Whiting of Fort Worth, Texas, arrived in Andover Monday to spend the Thanksgiving week visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Whiting.



Kenneth Waters, a patient in the Jones Memorial Hospital has been discharged.

Mrs. Robert Buckwalter is a patient in the Jones Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Dale Spencer is a patient in the Jones Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Ruth Manske is a patient in the Bethesda Hospital.

Sarah Rose is a patient in the Jones Memorial Hospital.

Michael Spoor, a patient in the Jones Memorial Hospital has been discharged.

Mrs. Francis Vickers, a medical patient at Rochester General, was discharged Wednesday and spent until Saturday at the home of her son, Mr. and Mrs. David Vickers and son of Rochester.

New Arrivals

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Perry (Cathleen McCormick), are the parents of a son, Craig William, born Wednesday, November 20, 1974 at the Bethesda Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Neil McCormick are the maternal grandparents; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Perry are the paternal grandparents and Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. McCormick are the maternal great grandparents.

CONSERVATION COMMENTS

By Paul M. Kelsey

SHEDDING DEER ANTLERS

As the deer hunter stands on watch during the latter part of deer season and sees one bald headed deer after another pass by, thoughts in his mind quite naturally turn to "Why no antlers?"

The fact that most hunters make every effort possible to get out into the woods just as early as they can on opening morning is good evidence that they recognize that a large number of bucks are removed from the herd in the opening hours of the season. This quickly changes the ratio of antlered to antlerless deer. During the third week of the season, which will carry on until December 10 in the Southern Zone this year, I am sure some hunters are going to wonder if some of the big does they see go by could possibly be bucks that have shed their antlers.

This is a distinct possibility, for the first bucks may shed their antlers during the last few days in November. Back in 1938, deer season in the Catskills was from December 1 through 15, which isn't too far from the late portion as we have it this year. At that time, about one buck in 20 of the legal reported take of 1,982 bucks, had either loose or easily-pulled-off antlers.

In 1959, a deer-of-either-sex season was held in the lower Hudson Valley and the South-eastern Catskill counties of Dutchess, Putnam, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester from December 15 through 18. During this season all deer were checked, and it was found that: 22.8 percent of all yearlings, 34.7 percent of all two and one-half-year-old bucks, and 61.8 percent of all bucks three and one-half or older, had shed their antlers. Though this is a little later than our current season, it indicates that at least the older bucks were well along in shedding their antlers.

During a December 4 - 16 deer season in West Virginia it was found that as many as 15 percent of the bucks checked had lost at least one antler. This would seem to indicate that antler shedding throughout much of the northeast is starting at about the same time.

Assuming this to be a fact, a study of shedding frequency made in Connecticut will give us a good picture of what occurs in New York. During the last half of December they found that 16 percent of yearling and 21 percent of older bucks had shed their antlers. Nineteen percent of yearlings and 32 percent of older bucks had shed their antlers by January 16, and by the end of the month, 68 percent

of yearlings and 67 percent of older bucks had shed.

Length of day is the triggering mechanism that starts antler growth in spring, but what starts the reaction in fall may not be as simple. At the end of breeding season the testosterone level in bucks drops, and when it gets low enough, antlers go too. Does the cycle just run its course, or does something regulate the testosterone level?

What occurred at the Seneca Army Depot gives cause for speculation. Here the protected deer population built to a peak on 1957. Four winters of hunting and starvation reduced the herd from about 2,500 to under 500 deer, and in balance with winter food.

Deer seasons during the last two week-ends in January of 1963 and 1964 showed that virtually all bucks had shed their antlers. During the last two week-ends of January 1965, nearly all bucks still had their antlers. The vitality of the deer herd had improved, and where previously no fawns were maturing to the point where they were bred, now nearly half of the well-fed fawns were bred during their first winter.

Due to an oversight, the law permitting a special hunt on the area lapsed and no hunt was held in 1969, permitting an undue increase in the herd. With more competition, very few female fawns matured in 1970, and interestingly, bucks shed their antlers early again. Did the maturing doe fawns, which came in heat later than the adult does, stimulate the testosterone production of the bucks?

Baptism Noted

Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Lynch and son, Brian, entertained at dinner Sunday, November 17, in honor of Miss Melanie Lynn Gibson who was baptized that day at the Blessed Sacrament Church in Andover. Father Knealy, friend of many of Melanie's direct ancestors and other relatives, officiated.

Guests at the Lynch home included Melanie's parents and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Fred D. Gibson and daughter, Alecia of Scio; and godparents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ketchener and children, Lori Bobby and Chad of Olean.

Melanie's great-grandfather P. D. Lynch and great-grandfather Henry Horan I. were among the early Irish settlers in the community who helped to establish the Catholic Church in Andover.

Use the Classified Ad Section

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



November 17, 1974

To The Editor:

I concur completely with Bill Burr's analysis of the recent county-planning report by out of town consultants. If some of our paid politicians and bureaucrats had only a small part of this intelligence, initiative, and foresight, those of us who have been alarmed at recent happenings could return to regular routine.

Any compilation of data given in that report, were it necessary at all, should most certainly have been done by Planner Petrichick and staff, or else that department removed from the taxpayers back. Instead, the taxpayers wind up paying \$10,000 (or about \$100 per page) to some out of town "Experts", and the charitable Legislators of Allegany County award Planner Petrichick with a \$500 raise! Congratulations once again to Legislator Schine for his sensible lonely vote of no.

Is this another example of flagrant fiscal foolishness or am I rabble-rousing?

Louis F. Specht
Box 28
Richburg, N. Y. 14774

UPW To Hold Annual Christmas Party

The United Presbyterian Women's Christmas Party will be held Tuesday, December 3, at 6:30 p. m., in the church dining room.

Husbands and guests are invited to attend. Please bring a tureen to pass and own table service.

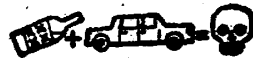
Legion Auxiliary Notice

The regular monthly meeting of Lynch-Burgett Post No. 397, American Legion Auxiliary will be held Monday, December 2 at 8 p. m., in the Legion Rooms. This meeting will be the Christmas Party and each member is to bring \$1.00.

Appreciation

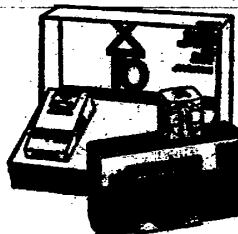
I wish to express my appreciation to all my friends and relatives for their visitations, cards, gifts and flowers I received while a patient in the Rochester General Hospital.

Mrs. Francis Vickers



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