

Sgt. Kurt L. Cordes Given Purple Heart

Marine Sergeant Kurt L. Cordes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick C. Cordes of 33765 Hamlin Ct., Farmington, was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in Vietnam.



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JIM GRAHAM shows some of the radio equipment he will be using from his service station at 27831 Orchard Lake Road while participating in a new test program to aid motorists in trouble. The project, sponsored by the Automobile Manufacturers Association, is called HELP for Highway Emergency Locating Plan. It utilizes two-way Citizens Band radio transceivers in vehicles so that a driver can call directly to a monitoring station for himself or other motorists in trouble on the highway. The test is being conducted from Detroit to Lansing with monitors located about every 10 miles along I-96.

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Letter From Teenager Describes Swiss Hike

Alice Engelbrecht, 14 years old, was a student in Farmington's East Junior High School, and attended eighth grade there last year. She has lived in Farmington Township, 20225 Staller Lane, for the last seven years. This past September she entered an International Boarding School in Switzerland, the Ecole d'Humanite in Golden, a small village high in the Swiss Alps, where she plans to study for one or two years. One of the major events of school life there is a three-day hike. Alice describes this hike in a letter to her family as follows:

Well, I made it back from the hike in almost one piece. Nothing dreadful happened, no broken arm or leg, just a few blisters and sore muscles. My whole letter will deal with the hike.

On Thursday morning our group of students had to wait in front of the school building at 5:45 a.m. This meant we



Alice Engelbrecht

had to get up at 5:15 a.m. The predicted weather was very bad: rainy. Luckily, I happened to have packed the night before, so I did not have to do it in the morning. My knapsack was very heavy, even though I packed the bare minimum. The sleeping-bag made it so heavy. I found out later that the other kids all had lighter sleeping-bags (but theirs probably was not very warm).

It was half way dark when we set out on foot to Meiringen. You might want to get out a map; so you can follow where we went. It took us 45 minutes to get to Meiringen. The knapsack got lighter and lighter, even though it hurt where the shoulder straps are. (It hurts on all knapsacks and there is nothing you can do about it — eventually you just get used to it.)

We took a train in Meiringen to Interlaken and there we changed trains to Lauterbrunnen. And on we went in a cable car to Murren. There we started hiking — for three hours to Boggangen. There we had lunch, maybe that place won't be on the map, 'cause it is only a little bit in a valley. The hiking there was not too difficult; but hard enough. We then climbed up a steep mountain, and I got tired real fast. Incidentally, the hut was run by a typically Swiss man with a long beard. It was a small but sweet hut, made of stone.

The mountain was so steep, and there was snow on the top! All the time it was raining lightly. It was so steep and hard, that we had to stop every 10 minutes. (Which is really bad.)

The descent was fun. In the snow area, we just slid down. Brrrr! Finally, at 6 p.m. we stopped at our destination for the first day. It was a cow shed! I was so relieved to stop, and so was everyone else. The place really was a large barn, with the top floor covered with hay for sleeping.

They had no electricity, so we ate by candlelight. There was fresh milk and coffee, and bread and real mountain cheese, given to us by the farmers. Terrific! We went to bed — in the hay — at 8 p.m. and slept to 8 a.m. When we got up we cleaned ourselves at the place where the cows drink, and had a good breakfast of bread, butter, jam, cheese and tea. And then we set out for our second hiking day.

We climbed over the Hohenlied Pass: was it tough! It

was raining again, and we went up so very steeply that sometimes they had to provide us with a rope to make it easier. We did not stop that day till 3:30 p.m. at the top of another mountain where our hut was. It was a Swiss Alpine Hut, this time, and was named Blumstein. It was located very high, 3760 meters high. Just when we got there it started to snow hard. Inside it was so nice, but no heat and no water. The inside temperature was 9 degrees Centigrade. For water you had to walk five minutes to a glacier. We had to wait for about an hour for 'lunch', which was at 5 p.m., and consisted of noodles and tomatoes with corned beef and gravy. It tasted real good with hot tea. Then we went into our beds for some rest, and just to keep warm.

At 8 p.m. that night we had our dinner: bread and cheese. We slept in our clothes, and really were warm. Next morning we looked out our windows and there were about seven inches of new snow and an icy wind was blowing. At breakfast our feet were freezing and our teeth chattering. Outside, it was 12 degrees below freezing point. We had porridge, bread and jam for breakfast and then got ready to go again. I wore everything that I had brought along, but I was still cold.

That whole day, we hiked down the mountains. It was very steep in the beginning, and so snowy, that we just sort of had to skid down. After 15 minutes of that we became warm enough and started taking off our many sweaters. We hiked into the city of Kandertal Valley. Here we had to wait for one hour for our train. We had run out of food, so we bought bread and ate that. The train ride back was so restful! When we got to Brunig we took the post bus back to school, and we were home finally at 7:30 p.m. Everybody looked so rednecked and healthy!

Everyday we hiked about 6 to 8 hours, and the first day we went about 30 kilometers. The scenery was absolutely breathtaking. Beautiful snow-covered mountains, green lakes, thick forests and rocky slopes. People, places and cows were all so interesting. All in all, it was real fun.

But now I have to clean up a bit. And then I have homework for next week too.

Love, Alice

Men Appear At Meeting

The Stamen Acres Civic Association held its general fall meeting at the City National Bank October 20.

Before the start of the meeting, time was allotted to Aldo Vagnoni to introduce himself to the members.

During the meeting, chaired by President James Collins, two new proposals for the subdivision were discussed. The first, the possibility of erecting a new entrance fence. It was brought out that the existing one was one of the first, if

not the first in the township. Palmer Esser, Ron Wiska and Norman Forsythe were appointed to look into the matter and come up with plans, sketches and estimate of cost for the next general meeting.

A de-acceleration lane for Orchard Lake Road at Rocky Crest Drive also came under discussion.

New members were asked to introduce themselves. Mr. and Mrs. Corell, Mr. and Mrs. Hofess and Mr. Maslak received a warm welcome.

After the close of the business meeting, Township Supervisor Curt Hall was on hand to answer questions from the membership on the roads and the churning of water. He was likewise allotted time to speak about the coming election.

Refreshments were served.



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