

New board members
in New Scotland

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Timeful youth

Holiday Gift Guide

Supplement Inside

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The Spotlight

Serving the Towns of Bethlehem & New Scotland

Volume XLIX No. 46 75 Cents

November 16, 2005

Porco awaits hearing

Friends, family support
accused murderer

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Although 22-year-old Christopher Porco is now in jail, he isn't lonely.

Porco, who was indicted Nov. 4 on charges for the murder of his father, Peter Porco, and attempted murder of his mother, Joan Porco, is reportedly doing as well as possible under the circumstances. Visitors and phone calls from family and friends lending support abound, and sources close to Porco remain hopeful that this Wednesday's bail hearing will see him back in the community.

A time still has not been given for Wednesday's bail hearing, according to Porco's lawyer, Terence L. Kindlon of Delmar. Judge Jeffrey Berry of Orange County will preside over the hearing.

"Either the judge will grant bail or he won't," Kindlon said. "If bail is denied, we'll file a writ of habeus corpus and ask for review. If it goes before a different judge, we'll appeal to the second appellate division."

Kindlon said Porco's mother, Joan, will be at the bail hearing.

Kindlon said he still doesn't know whether Porco will request a change of venue for the trial, but he said it is still too early in the process. If change of venue is requested, a motion must be first filed with the third appellate division, but because of Peter Porco's prior career in that division, the request will likely be sent to the second appellate division, closer to New York City.

"I really don't know at this point if he can receive a fair trial here," Kindlon said. "The general public in this area is potentially saturated with information from all sources, and it's further complicated by irrelevant and untrue garbage. Tips, leaks, and inaccurate information have been in circulation, and I know it will be difficult to find jurors that have not formed an opinion, or do not have opinions that have been colored by this information, however good their intentions may be."

Kindlon said he will be conducting surveys in town when the trial date is closer by talking to the public and organizing his results so they have statistical validity.

"I can't just offer my opinion to the appellate court that Porco can't get a fair trial here," he said. "It must be presented in a factual way, and it's tough to convince them."

Kindlon said also that New York courts are notoriously reluctant to grant requests for change of venue. He also refused to speculate on when the

PORCO/page 18

Little-known IDAs playing key role in region's future

By JAMIE D. GILKEY

With local governments making economic development a key priority in the Capital District, 21 unelected boards are having a major impact upon the future of towns and counties throughout the region.

Operating beneath the public's radar screen, the boards oversee tax-exempt organizations known as industrial development agencies (IDAs), agencies that have the power to grant millions of dollars in tax breaks to businesses, promising jobs and economic development to communities throughout the area. While no comprehensive list of the projects backed by these agencies is available, an audit released by the state Comptroller's office last year said there were significant problems with the agencies.

The main criticism was that IDAs in the city of Schenectady, the village of Green Island and the city of Albany went years without having set written criteria for

deciding which projects to support. Only one agency that was examined, the Saratoga County IDA, was unscathed in the report.

"IDAs operate in an environment where there is intense pressure to take action to improve the local economy," the state audit said. "We found that four of the five IDAs reviewed did not fully document their project evaluation criteria."

Despite the criticism, supporters

hail the region's IDAs and their boards as examples of grassroots participation in decisions that bring jobs to the area.

The boards commonly include a combination of business leaders and government officials. The close ties to local government assure that the agencies work hand-in-glove with municipal officials.

In Rotterdam, that has yielded

BUSINESS/page 39

Local IDAs offer incentives

By JOSEPHINE ORSINI and
STEPHANIE LUBIS

In Saratoga County, the IDA played an important role in drawing the popular food distributor Sysco to the area. Sysco has been in the town of Halfmoon for five years, and as it grows, its need for a larger cooler for its products is growing.

Before the company can build the cooler, the project must be referred to the county board, said Larry Benton, director of Saratoga County Planning

and administrator of the Saratoga County Industrial Development Agency. The SCIDA works with Saratoga County Planning, and helped draw Sysco to Halfmoon.

"Sysco had a substantial amount of high paying jobs," said Benton. "The IDA can provide tax breaks to induce businesses to locate into our county."

The county wanted Sysco because it provided a number of jobs and was planning on more employment

LOCAL/page 39

Election marks a political sea change

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Welcome to "Blue-thlehem," where for the first time, there are no Republicans on the town board.

Two years ago, Supervisor Theresa Egan became the town's first Democratic supervisor in 150 years. This election, she retained her position in a landslide victory with 7,994 votes, easily defeating Conservative candidate Robert Jasinski, who garnered 1,527 votes.

The race for town board was closer, with Egan's Democratic running mates Kyle Kotary and Sam Messina getting 5,542 votes and 6,025 votes respectively, while Republican incumbent George Lenhardt narrowly missed another term, garnering 5,325 votes. Mary Hammond, who ran on the Republican/Conservative ticket, received 4,350 votes. Hammond stepped in to run for town board with just five weeks left before the election, after incumbent town board member Thomas Marcelle left that race because he was nominated to run for state Supreme Court justice. He lost that race.

"I'm very happy with this win, and I

know it will be a very busy next two years," said Egan. "I will definitely miss George (Lenhardt)," she said. "He was a great member of the board, very knowledgeable."

Since Egan's win in 2003, Democrats have created a stronghold in town politics, something Egan said has much to do with changing demographics in the town.

"Now, the number of enrolled Republicans and Democrats is about the same," she said.

She also credited the "blueprint for Bethlehem," which outlined her visions and goals during her first term in office, for helping her secure victory. Kotary and Messina were very supportive, she said, and the three ran on the same slate. Both Messina and Kotary credit teamwork and clear communication of goals for their win.

"We ran for office because we want to serve," said Messina. "If you keep that in mind, you can keep your goals clear."

"It's not by accident that our message resonated with people," said Kotary. "Our platform was based on what people told us."

Robert Jasinski, who ran against Egan

for supervisor, said he will not run again, but he's interested in seeing what the newly elected officials accomplish for the town.

"I just hope they remember that government is for the people," he said. "I wish them luck."

Although Victor Rodriguez, the 20-year-old Selkirk native who ran against Egan for supervisor this year was only a write-in candidate, he said he has positive feelings about this year's election.

Both Rodriguez and Jasinski said they intend to remain active in town and attend board meetings regularly.

"At least the issues are being addressed now," said Rodriguez. "It's OK if my opponent uses my ideas, as long as things get done. I hope Egan does a good job."

The tally of write-in votes for Rodriguez is expected to be final today.



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Suspended streaker gets 10 hours of community service

School board member considers resigning

By JIM CUOZZO

Robin Storey is in the unenviable position of being a parent and a school board member privately and publicly dealing with a discipline issue between her son and the Bethlehem School District.

"It's a very awkward time trying to work through this," Storey said.

Her son, senior Brian Storey, served a five-day out-of-school suspension handed down by the district for streaking with barely any clothes on during halftime

of a high school homecoming game.

His mom, a past school board president and current board member was at a dedication ceremony near the stadium when her son raced across the athletic field clad in a thong and a ski mask.

The district's disciplinary action was swift: a five day out-of-school suspension for Brian Storey and a misdemeanor criminal charge to be tried in Bethlehem Youth Court. Last Thursday, Bethlehem Youth Court gave Brian Storey its minimum sentence, 10 hours of community service.

The school district code of conduct reads that any student can be disciplined for violating proper conduct on school grounds. The code, in section VI, article 5n, forbids "indecent exposure, that is, exposure to sight of the private parts in a lewd or indecent manner."

"At the time of the incident I was very mad at my son," said Robin Storey, "then I was very mad at the district. Pressing charges was going way too far."

There have been cases of student streakers in the past, but Storey said that none of them received anywhere near the severe discipline her son received. Her family has received many calls, all supportive, she said.

Storey has been a member of the school board for six years, and had served as president of Hamagrael Elementary School's PTA.

"I hope I can keep fulfilling my role as a school board member," Storey said. When asked if she had considered resigning over this matter, she

said, "Yes I have thought about it."

Current School Board President Richard Svenson said he does not want Storey to resign.

"We feel empathy towards her. She is a good board member, and we don't want to lose her," said Svenson.

The code of conduct policy is now being carefully scrutinized by every board member. "Obviously this incident has brought the code of conduct front and center. I can tell you the board is very concerned," Svenson said.

The charges were handed down by school Superintendent Les Loomis and the high school Principal Chuck Abba, in his first year as principal.

Loomis said only that he believes Brian Storey is a good student and a good person.

"The incident itself and the response by the district has been very public," Loomis said.

The school district's legal team, Girvan and Ferlazzo, is

now reviewing the current code of conduct policy. Storey said her family has not considered filing a lawsuit against the district, unless her son is turned down from certain colleges because this suspension is now on his record. "Everyone I spoke with thought the punishment was too harsh, but it was the district's decision, and the superintendent said they are not going to change it," said Storey.

Reaction from students has been mixed, according to Ben Finkle, leader of the high school Student Senate.

"Some kids feel it was the right thing to do, others think the punishment was too much," Finkle said. "I have talked to Brian about it, and he feels it was unfair."

DWI arrest on Route 9w

On Nov. 8, police arrested James Gibson, 47, of Old Ravena Road in Selkirk for DWI.

Police received a call about the vehicle, which was seen crossing the yellow line and swerving on Route 9W, police said. When stopped, a strong odor of alcohol was detected, and Gibson said he had one drink earlier, police said. He failed field sobriety tests and was scheduled in Town Court Nov. 15 at 4 p.m.

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Lotto winner taking her time

New millionaire calls experience 'mind-numbing'

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Karen Roche describes herself as really boring.

Roche, who won the \$1 million jackpot on a scratch-off ticket in September, said all she and her husband, Robert, have done with the money so far is install new windows in their Delmar home.

"We're doing the practical thing, like home repairs, and were putting some away for retirement," she said. "We're not wild and crazy, we're boring and practical."

Karen Roche, who has been married to lawyer Robert Roche for the last seven years, recently earned her master's degree in psychology, and does not work at this time.

"Right now, I'm taking time to spend with my husband, that's the most important thing to me," she said. "We are not blessed with children."

Although the shock has died down somewhat since she found out she won, she still describes the experience as "mind-numbing." Aside from her home repairs, she has donated some money to the victims of Hurricane Katrina, and said she would be donating more money to charity in the future.

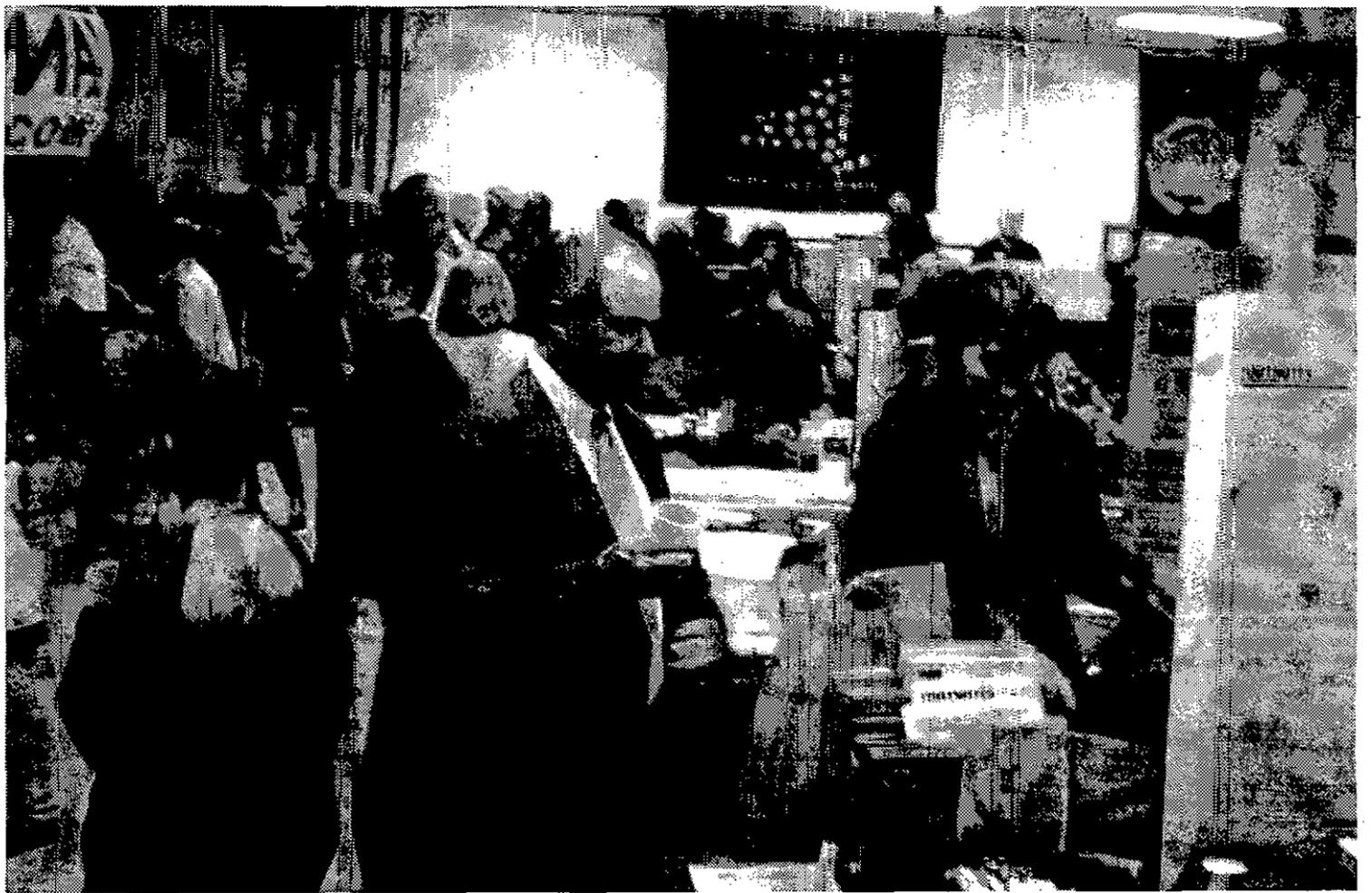
Roche's million dollar win was the first in the town of Delmar, but Roche said that with all the different lottery games, some people don't seem to think it's such a big deal anymore. Still, said she was quite happy to win. Her husband Robert was also happy.

"It's made her somewhat of an instant celebrity," he said. "It's a nice thing, and there are good uses for it. We have no big plans for now. We'd like to kick back a bit."

Karen Roche calls herself a "\$670,000-aire," because that's the amount she will receive after taxes. She gets paid \$50,000 per year for 20 years, but after taxes, it amounts to \$33,000 per year.

"It's a nice thing, but it's no million," said Robert Roche.

Karen Roche said her life will remain much the same. The couple plans to go on mini-vacations and travel for Thanksgiving and Christmas.



Dr. Joseph A. Manzi, of Bethlehem Foot Care, and his wife, Cindy stand by their booth at the Bethlehem Business Expo.

Business Expo sees attendance double

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

The second-ever Bethlehem Business Expo was such a success that plans are already in the works for next year's event, said Marty DeLaney, president of the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce, the driving force behind the event.

"Most of the people who represented their businesses had such a good time, they were really happy to get a chance to connect with other businesses in the area," she said.

As a continuing reminder to shop in Bethlehem, the Expo hosted about 40 of the area businesses, most of which had product samples and demonstrations.

Last year's inaugural Expo had about 100 participants, but this year's attendance was double that, according to DeLaney.

"This year, the public at large attended, not just businesses,"



Albany County Executive Mike Breslin gets a hot-stone massage from Mary Panza of Balance Massage.

she said. "This proves that there is a need for interaction, and we are excited to be able to meet this need."

Part of what drew the crowds this year, besides the DJ, refreshments and raffle tickets, was the opportunity to win tickets from

Southwest Airlines. The tickets went to Beverly Gershen of Albany.

"It's really a quaint story," said DeLaney.

DeLaney said earlier this year, Gershen had flown out to California to visit her children, but

while she was there she became ill and spent all her time in the hospital. Eventually she recovered and returned home, but ever since then she was wishing for an opportunity to visit her children again.

"Now she has the opportunity to go back, and you can't believe how happy she was," said DeLaney. "She was sobbing, thanking me and hugging me. It was great that she was so happy."

Along with *The Spotlight*, DeLaney wanted to thank three of the other sponsors who made the Expo possible. Verizon, CDPHP, and Southwest Airlines all stepped up to the plate, DeLaney said.

"There were a lot of logistics involved, and we're really thankful," she said. "The American Legion (site of the Expo) was also great to work with," she said.

DeLaney said in the future, the Chamber hopes to host Expos twice a year, in the fall and in the spring.

Every dog - and owner - deserves its day

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

OK, your dog may want to run and romp regardless of the weather, but humans are known for being creatures of comfort. Bringing a dog to Bethlehem's dog park no longer means humans - or pooches for that matter - have to get soaked during inclement weather.

Thanks to the work of a few volunteers, the dog park located on Delmar Bypass Extension will now house the town's first dog shelter.

The shelter, which volunteers began to build last spring, has been standing unfinished and was a relative eyesore until its completion last weekend. Town

resident Thomasina Hinman saw the workers completing the project last Sunday and commended their efforts.

"It's a nice community project," she said. "People were working hard on it, people who could have found other things to do."

The volunteers asked permission from the town parks department last spring, and built the entire structure with donations for building materials.

"I just want to give them a pat on the back," Hinman said. "It's a small town, and there are about 1 million dogs here. It's a good thing."

Nan Lanahan, head of the parks and recreation department,

said building the shelter was a long process. Brian Matala, mastermind of the project, began by looking for donations for building materials and getting together a group to build the shelter, Lanahan said.

"It finally came to fruition last month," she said. "It's a good idea, and it can be used year-round. Dog owners like to get in out of the cold and the wind. It's useful."

One of the neighbors to the dog park, Art Scheuermann, is glad the structure is finally completed.

"I don't have any problem with the shelter at all, but I did when they were building it a 10 O'clock at night," he said. "It was tough last April."

Scheuermann, who used to own a dog, is pleased that the town has planted pine trees in front of the shelter again, after the last crop reportedly died from

dogs urinating on them.

"I don't know if these trees will survive this round," he said. "Before it was completed, it looked ungodly, but now that it's done it looks good."

However, aside from aesthetics, he has some concern about dog bites.

"I've heard that there were about 10 dog bite cases there," he said. "And I know that many dog parks close because of liability issues."

Lanahan said, however, that she has heard of very few dog bite incidents.

"Of course, there are some instances where the dogs may get rough with each other, but it doesn't happen very often, and usually fights between dogs are resolved by their owners," she said. "But I haven't heard of any instances where people have been bitten. It's not a problem."

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Child's passion for languages challenges 'mommy brain'

By KATHERINE MCCARTHY

They try to say it kindly, knowing the words could be like a spark in a tinderbox.

"No offense, Mom," one of them will say gently when I promise that I'll remember something, "but you have a horrible memory." "Well, it's just that I have so much to remember," I usually snap just before launching into death by lecture. "I have to think about what we're going to eat, if everybody has clean clothes, if the bills are paid..."

While I enumerate for my children whose agenda rarely includes more than "homework, play with friends, watch TV, read," I also fret that maybe I am starting to lose it. I do get a little absent-minded from time to time, and in the past couple of years, I often draw a blank for the word I want, or a different word comes out instead. I can usually justify the other word, because as I'm saying one thing, I'm thinking of the next thing, and the sentences jumble together as my eye catches sight of that three-inch long, one-millimeter wide plastic light saber that goes with the fire-armed Annakin figurine that Cormac has emptied two closets and a toybox to find.

I have asked my doctor if I should worry about the

Commentary:

Mom's The Word



forgetfulness and the mixed-up words.

"It's only a problem if you don't know you're forgetting or mixing up the words," she reassured me.

Well, then, it won't be a problem, will it?

I mind that I'm getting more forgetful as the on-site physical demands of parenting yield to the trickier mental machinations that raising teenagers requires. The jury's still out in my absent mind about whether the pick-me-up, carry-me, diaper-changing, give-me-a-bath part of parenting was harder than the current but-that's-not-what-you-said, I'll-do-my-homework-later, you're-not-the-boss-of-me phase of parenting we're in right now. I feel outfoxed at too many turns sometimes. When a recent episode caused me to put the parental block on a couple of channels on the television as a disciplinary measure, I came home to find a grinning culprit curled up on my bed, the second television in the house tuned to his favorite channel. I gave him a check mark on the mental

scoreboard I shouldn't keep, tried not to outwardly admire his cunning...and blocked the other television after he went to bed that night. Funny, recently I've been thinking that I can't wait till they have children of their own.

A new book is challenging my own belief that motherhood has drained my brain. The book itself is on my to-read list — a mental list, I should add, so chances of it actually being read remain slim — but in today's information era, I've read enough about the book that I feel like I know all I need to know about it.

The book is *The Mommy Brain: How Motherhood Makes Us Smarter* by Katherine Ellison, and it alleges that being a mother causes a boost in motivation, fearlessness and the abilities to multitask and cope with stress. Perhaps the most interesting fact is that a mother responds to a baby's cry with the same parts of the brain that respond to pleasurable activities, further enhancing the bond between mother and child.

I wonder what part of the brain a mother uses to respond to a sarcastic teenager? Or a pre-adolescent child who "forgets" to turn his light out till 1 a.m. and is tortured by getting up for school the next day.

My greatest anxiety sometimes is whether these enormous children who seem incapable of getting their dirty clothes from the bedroom floor to the hamper will soon be out in the world, attempting to function on their own. We are starting to glance ahead to the days of our children choosing colleges — and choosing has been the word we've used to motivate them to do their very best academically, even in classes they can't stand or don't see as relevant. I understand their insistence that they'll never use math in a career; I can't remember the last time I needed to use a protractor. But I know that all knowledge is power, so I tell them to pay as much attention to math as they do to social studies and science.

Passion is a word that parents and educators use a lot, and seems to be an important asset as kids seek to get into the college of their choice. It has

often felt to me like my kids were behind the curve on the passion front. While other boys obsessed about baseball, soccer, or archaeology, mine remained generalists. Their passing phases were interesting; one of my favorites was Christopher's third-grade obsession with the Loch Ness monster.

"Do you think it exists?" some friends passing through town asked our then-8-year-old as he reread *Mysteries of Loch Ness* for the seventh time. "Oh, yes, oh, yes, oh, yes," he said, "and let me tell you why." And he did — in a five-minute lecture on the topic that made us wonder if he'd eventually settle in Scotland.

Cormac's passion for a while was cooking, and thanks to Sherry Hall's after-school cooking class for grade-school children, he was able to indulge it. It reappears periodically, but he has had five or six strong interests in the past few years. Currently, his wish to be a filmmaker leaves none of us safe from the little Digital Blue camera he carries around.

As the kids mature and pursue their own interests, I reassure myself that they will find the passion that will let them find their time and place. My worries when they were younger were a bad use of my mommy brain, a brain that should have been reminding me to enjoy this all-too-brief period of their lives.

Autumn is a particularly appropriate time to do that, and recent warm spells have eased some of the bittersweet aspects of the year's prelude to cold, dark days.

Christopher, in fact, has a current passion that's close to my heart, and one that he's willing to share with me. This tall man-boy has discovered that he loves learning languages, something that warms the German major in me. Given unlimited resources and nothing but free time, I've often said that I would gladly spend every summer of my life at Middlebury College in Vermont, when only languages are taught on the campus nestled between the Green Mountains and the Adirondacks.

Christopher liked Spanish in

middle school, and fell in love with Latin during his freshman year of high school, willingly giving up lunch so he could fit it into his schedule. This past summer, he took an intensive Ancient Greek class through Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth. Recently, he and I stood in a bookstore examining a Greek textbook.

"It's really expensive, but I'd love to have it," he said. "Maybe for Christmas?" "Or you could teach me what you know," I said, remembering three of the happiest weeks of my life, when a friend and I had bummed around the Greek islands.

Be careful what you wish for, I learned as we settled in to our first Saturday session of ancient Greek, and my multi-tasking brain thought ahead to raking the colorful leaves carpeting our back yard. Still, the autumn air was warm and sweet enough to remind me of the first weeks of college autumns, and the vows I always made that this semester, I would do all the readings, study well in advance of the tests and participate in class.

My resolve weakened only slightly at the sight of the Greek alphabet, with its squiggles that are letters. Two hours later, I realized that my mommy brain may be able to multitask, but I wonder if it will fully ever remember that lower-case sigma is written two different ways, depending on where it is in the word.

My professor is kind, though. "I think maybe you should work on memorizing that before we move on to diphthongs," he said.

Thank goodness, I breathed, and went to find my filmmaker son, so we could all have lunch. That afternoon, we put the leaf blower, the rake and the tarp to good use, and as light orange and yellow leaves swirled around us, I found myself reciting the Greek alphabet.

I can do this, I thought, as I hauled another tarp full of leaves to the curb and looked up into the giant maple tree to see how many leaves had yet to fall. When, I wondered, will I learn to count in Greek?

Got news or views?

Spotlight Newspapers welcomes announcements of programs or events occurring in our coverage areas.

All announcements should include the date, time, location and cost (if any) of the event, along with contact information. Announcements are published space and time permitting.

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Spotlight Newspapers also welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing for fairness, style and length.

All letters must include the writer's name, address and a daytime telephone number for verification.

Unsigned letters receive no consideration. All letters that are published must carry a signature.



WEEKLY WEATHER

Chief Meteorologist Mike Bono



TIME WARNER CABLE

Albany Almanac

Record high/low/year

AVERAGE HIGH 46° AVERAGE LOW 30°

| Day | High/Year | Low/Year |
|------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Wednesday, November 16 | 70°/1990 | 7°/1972 |
| Thursday, November 17 | 73°/1928 | 7°/1972 |
| Friday, November 18 | 71°/1928 | 10°/1972 |
| Saturday, November 19 | 71°/1921 | 12°/1972 |
| Sunday, November 20 | 72°/1991 | 6°/1986 |
| Monday, November 21 | 70°/1993 | 7°/1979 |
| Tuesday, November 22 | 70°/1931 | 9°/1969 |

ANNUAL PRECIPITATION

39.87 inches as of Friday, November 11th
6.23 inches above average

This week in weather

November 16, 1989, Severe thunderstorms produced 22 tornadoes from Virginia to New York. Winds gusted to 80 mph caused a wall at the Coldenham School in Newburgh, NY to collapse, killing 9 children

Sun & Moon

| Day | Sunrise | Sunset |
|-----------|---------|--------|
| Wednesday | 6:48am | 4:31pm |
| Thursday | 6:49am | 4:31pm |
| Friday | 6:51am | 4:30pm |
| Saturday | 6:52am | 4:29pm |
| Sunday | 6:53am | 4:28pm |
| Monday | 6:54am | 4:27pm |
| Tuesday | 6:56am | 4:27pm |

Moon Phases



| Planets | When | Where |
|---------|----------|------------|
| Venus | Evening | Bright, SW |
| Mars | Evening | High, SE |
| Saturn | Late Eve | Low East |
| Jupiter | Dawn | Low ESE |

Rivers & Recreation

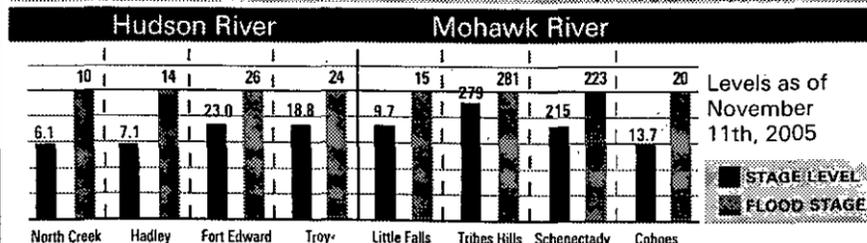
Tides at Albany

| Day | High | Low |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| Wednesday | 4:49am, 5:06pm | 11:08am, 11:52pm |
| Thursday | 5:39am, 5:49pm | 11:54am, --- |
| Friday | 6:19am, 6:31pm | 12:39am, 12:39pm |
| Saturday | 7:02am, 7:12pm | 1:25am, 1:25pm |
| Sunday | 7:46am, 7:55pm | 2:12am, 2:12pm |
| Monday | 8:32am, 8:40pm | 2:59am, 3:01pm |
| Tuesday | 9:21am, 9:29pm | 3:47am, 3:53pm |

Factoid

The temperatures for the first 10 days of November 2005 in Albany were 7.4 degrees above average. 5 of those days had highs of 67 or more and 3 days were in the low 70s.

River Levels



Police still searching for Slingerlands hostage-takers

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Police are still looking for three suspects who broke into a home in Slingerlands last Wednesday and tied up a dentist and his wife for four hours as they stole jewelry and used the couple's ATM card.

Police said when the victim, whose name has not been released, pulled his vehicle into the garage and got out, he was confronted by the suspects and

restrained with duct tape. The suspects demanded money and other valuables.

Police said during the incident, the suspects moved the victims into separate bedrooms and inquired about the couple's PIN numbers for their credit cards.

The victim also said that the suspects had him call the number on his Key Bank card and activate it, with the intention of drawing money out of the account. The victim said he heard the suspects

say that they withdrew about \$600 using the VISA card and also took jewelry and watches, and when they left, they stole the victim's Jeep, police said.

The victim was able to work his hands free from the duct tape and free himself and his wife, and then he called the police.

Officers Chris Hughes, James Rexford, and Adam Hornick responded to the call. Police took duct tape off the victim's hands and completed a search of the

interior of the home and insured that the suspects had left, police said. The outside of the home was searched as well, and the Albany County Sheriff's Department was called to assist with a canvass of the neighborhood.

Police said one of the suspects had removed the diamond ring from the wife's hand. The investigation continues.

Letters policy

The Spotlight welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing for fairness, style and length.

All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

Write to Letters, The Editor, The Spotlight, P.O. Box 100, Delmar 12054. Letters can be faxed to 439-0619.

Churches offer ecumenical Thanksgiving service

The annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving service of prayer, scripture and song will take place this Sunday evening, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m., St. Thomas the Apostle Church on Adams Place.

Members of 12 area church choirs will sing songs of praise. The Bell Choir from the Delmar Lutheran Church and two brass quintets from Bethlehem High School will provide additional music.

A reception will follow the service in the church's gathering hall. A free will offering will be shared with the Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless.

For information, call 439-4951, ext. 103.

United Methodist hosts Thanksgiving celebration

The First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville is hosting a 4 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Celebration on Sunday, Nov. 20 for people of all faith traditions.

The service features a community choir festival and an offering for the New Scotland Food Pantry. Please bring non-perishable foods or a monetary thank offering. You may make your checks out to the New Scotland Food Pantry or to the First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville with the notation: Food pantry.

This service coordinates with the annual Thanksgiving meal at the American Legion in Voorheesville, proceeds of which also support local charitable work including local food pantries and Community Caregivers.

Town adopts budget with 3 percent increase

By STEPHANIE LUBIS

Bethlehem's final budget for 2006 of just over \$36 million was passed Wednesday night, and residents can expect a 2.84 percent overall increase in taxes, down from earlier projected increases of 5 percent and then 3 percent.

The increase amounts to \$10.57 more per \$1,000 of as-

essed value.

"We decided against purchasing another police car, and the savings was applied to the town's general fund," said Supervisor Theresa Egan. "The tax increase from that fund is now less than one percent."

The town's tax doesn't include

other taxes from Albany County or taxes for the fire and ambulance services.

Town employees will receive a 4 percent cost-of-living raise. A survey analysis of town employee salaries is planned for 2006, and will cost from \$3,000 to \$5,000, Egan said.

Delmar Progress Club to hold meetings

The Delmar Progress Club recently announced its November meetings:

Nov. 16, Wednesday — Performing Arts BPL Revue. 7 p.m.

Nov. 17, Thursday — Travel around the Horn and Alaska in Town Hall. 2 p.m.

Nov. 30 Wednesday — Garden Group Holiday Table Dec. in Town Hall. 9:30 p.m.

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Matters of Opinion *Spotlight* in the

Gathering together for 36 years

A matter of perspective

Reasons to be thankful:

The election is over.

Thanksgiving is one holiday when gifts are not exchanged.

It is also a holiday when there is a good reason to go off a diet.

Leftovers mean we don't have to think about cooking anything for at least several days.

The Macy's parade.

Good health.

Relatives and friends.

The Equinox dinner and others that feed thousands of people every year.

The aroma of turkey cooking in the oven, and not deep fried, grilled or brined.

Reasons to be thankful or not:

Football games are endless.

Winter and lots of snow.

Some Thanksgiving specialties — ambrosia — are disgusting, yet someone always makes it and brings it to the host's house.

Dogs who eat the ambrosia left on the back porch.

Older kids who mutilate family stories such that embarrassed parents refer to the kids' "other families."

Relatives and friends.

Dogs who gorge themselves on any food left on the back porch or accessible countertop.

Things not to be thankful for:

Our troops are still in Iraq.

Political mudslinging even though the election is over.

Endless football games.

Outrageous heating and gas bills.

SUVs.

Winter and lots of snow.

Upcoming holidays when gifts are mandatory.

What to do with useless gifts.

Mincemeat pies.

Holiday clutter.

Gaudy decorations.

Boring stories told too many times at the Thanksgiving table.

Let us hope the holiday pluses outweigh the minuses on Thanksgiving Day this year.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Editorial

By SUSAN L. BLABEY

The writer is a member of the board of directors of Equinox.

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday.

There are no costumes to make, no presents to wrap, no endless strings of lights to untangle, and no candy to avoid.

I love having a holiday all Americans can share, one that brings us together and brings out the best in all of us as we partake in the blessings of food, family, friends.

But one of the things I like best about Thanksgiving is unique to our Capital Region community — the Annual Equinox Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner. I have been helping out with the dinner in various capacities for 15 years, but the event itself has a much longer history.

In 1969, a small group of Equinox volunteers decided to host a dinner for all those in the community who had nowhere else to go. About 100 people showed up for a delicious home-cooked meal at First Presbyterian Church in Albany. This year, Equinox plans to serve 7,500 meals, about 500 at the church for anyone who would like to share in the fellowship of a sit-down meal and another 7,000 that will be prepared at the Empire State Plaza and that volunteer drivers will deliver to the homebound on Thanksgiving Day.

Needless to say, this is a huge undertaking. The small group of volunteers that started this event, many of whom still participate, may have grown to 3,000 in number, but the community spirit that guides them has remained the same. The shopping list, on the other hand, has grown exponentially. The recipe for the dinner includes 7,500 pounds of turkey, 2,000 pounds of ham, 2,800 pounds of yams, 940 pies, 625 dozen dinner rolls, 48 gallons of cider, and 19,500 pieces of fruit.

Point of View

All the food and supplies are either donated or paid for with cash contributions from local businesses and individuals.

What a tribute to our community that there are so many people who care.

The caring and sharing that makes Thanksgiving such a heartwarming community event represents what Equinox does

also plays a role in educating the public about domestic violence and advocating for changes in public policy regarding these issues.

The Equinox Counseling Center provides individual and group outpatient substance abuse counseling for adolescents and adults. All clients are accepted regardless of their ability to pay. Services are individualized and innovative and include participation in our adventure-based programming



Volunteers slice turkey for the Equinox Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner. This year, Equinox plans to serve 7,500 meals.

all year round in the community.

Our shelters for homeless youth and victims of domestic violence are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and more than 4,000 individuals and families each year receive counseling and support services through the domestic violence, youth, and drug counseling programs.

Youth services include the Equinox House for youth, an emergency shelter for homeless and runaway youth age 13 to 17. Youth and their families receive counseling and support services with the ultimate goal to return youth to their families. When this is not an option, staff finds safe, permanent housing for youth. Often this can be provided through the Independent Living program, supervised apartment living for older homeless youth age 16 to 21. These youth receive counseling, job training, and financial support to help them become self-supporting, independent, contributing members of our society. Youth Outreach targets homeless and at-risk kids and provides counseling, support and prevention services, including after-school tutoring, life-skills training, and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Equinox also operates an 18-bed emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children, the only shelter of its kind in Albany County. Because the demand is so great, plans are in the works for renovating a much larger residence that will increase our capacity to 30. In addition to the shelter, Equinox offers court advocacy, counseling and support to victims of domestic violence and their children to help them break the cycle of violence in their lives. Equinox

with a high ropes course. A free medical clinic on site, staffed by Albany Medical College physicians, provides medical screenings and referrals for all Equinox clients.

Traditionally, Equinox receives 85 percent of its nearly \$4 million budget from local, state and federal government programs. But times are tough and government funding is not increasing to fill the needs. Equinox relies on the generosity of individuals and local businesses to support the work it does in the community.

This Thanksgiving, I shall relish the gathering of family and friends.

My children will groan good-naturedly when I once again go around the table and ask each person to name something for which he or she is thankful. The litany always includes the usual, but none-the-less worthy, things such as family and friends and good health.

I am enormously grateful for all these blessings. But I always have to add my thanks that there is an organization such as Equinox in our community, providing food and fellowship for the hungry or lonely on Thanksgiving Day and, even more importantly, providing caring, professional services to those in need throughout the year.

May the blessings of the holiday season be with everyone in the Capital District.

To volunteer or make a donation to the Thanksgiving dinner, please call the Annual Equinox Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner Information Hotline at 434-0131. For information about other Equinox services, call 434-6135 or visit www.equinoxinc.org.

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Matters of Opinion *in the* Spotlight

Town judge says thank you for voters' election support

Editor, The Spotlight:

Thank you to all the voters of Bethlehem for re-electing me to serve as our town justice. That support and confidence is both gratifying and humbling. Thank you.

Thanks also to my wife, Ruth, children, Caroline and Peter, and to all my friends and supporters who helped me in so many ways, large and small, during a very busy summer and fall.

There is one additional thank you I'd like to offer. During the course of the campaign, I spent one very enjoyable Saturday afternoon with 11-year-old Kevin Flynn, who was nice enough to walk me around his Quail Hollow neighborhood.

It is not an exaggeration to say Kevin knew everyone and everyone knew Kevin, and the greetings were always warm and friendly. With any luck, I will be long retired from public service before Kevin decides to throw his hat into the ring for any post I would seek.

On a final note, if anyone in town has a desire to talk to me about an issue of concern or interest (although I am not permitted to speak about pending or impending cases), please feel free to contact me at Town Court.

Once again, thank you Bethlehem.

Frank Milano
Bethlehem town justice

Money could be better spent

Editor, The Spotlight:

What is especially sad about Dr. Loomis's policies on prosecuting students for minor crimes is that our superintendent is sending kids into the juvenile justice system who probably don't need to be there, and as a result he is tying up county resources which could be spent on families in this county who need support, families whose parents cannot read, families whose kids cannot read, families who do not have the financial backing to send their kids to private schools, to send their kids to Hudson Valley, to send their kids anywhere.

As an educator, is he doing his job?

Dorie Valenti
Delmar

Court should decide Chris Porco case

Editor, The Spotlight:

People whose hearts aren't hardened to stone can understand how Joan Porco's suffering has been magnified by the images of her innocent son, Chris, being taken to a jail cell for a crime he didn't commit.

God willing, her memory will recover along with her shattered body, and she will be able to free him and end this nightmare.

In life, injustice and fate's cruel hand both have their handmaidens. For Christopher and Joan Porco, these have been the Bethlehem Police and Albany County District Attorney David Soares. They should be held to account for their stubborn malfeasance when Chris is found innocent in court.

Many of my neighbors in Delmar, who are understandably afraid, have let their fear influence their reasoning and have spoken wrongly about Chris. Please stop. No one knows what happened, but bearing false witness is an ancient human weakness that often carries with it dire consequences for both accuser

and accused.

Chris will be found innocent, and his accusers will be shamed when it's revealed that they ignored evidence until it became cold, refused to let the New York State Police assist in the investigation when it mattered, and made their case fit a theory, instead of letting the evidence lead them to the real killers.

Joan Porco knows her son is innocent. Trust her.

Mark Alesse
Delmar

Letters policy

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Your Opinion *in the* Spotlight

Thanksgiving needs to be high priority on families' list

Editor, The Spotlight:

I'm a regular at CVS. It seems I stopped at CVS on Delaware Avenue the day after Halloween, and I noticed that not only was the Halloween candy on deep discount, but the center aisle was already being replaced with Christmas and Hannukah decorations. Marveling at the efficiency of the turnover, I asked the clerk "What happened to Thanksgiving?" to which she replied without missing a beat, "It's in aisle 10b, half price at this point."

In a world of increased speed of communications, higher powered computers, nano-technology, Blackberrys (or as some of my colleagues refer to them "Crackberrys"), instant messaging/text messaging, it seems we're all a lot more connected, but frequently the opposite is true. Americans are more isolated and alone in the world than we used to be. Families today over-schedule themselves, and somewhere along the way, we have lost a precious cornerstone of family foundation: regular meals together. That's why glossing over Thanksgiving as an important event has taken me aback.

Halloween is a multi-billion dollar a year industry for costume manufacturers and candy companies. It's second only to New Year's Eve for the manufacturers of beer, wine and distilled spirits. And Christmas and Hannukah are of course the "largest grossing" events of the retail year. But the decreasing emphasis on Thanksgiving, and on eating together as a family in general, is a disturbing trend in my book. Thanksgiving is a time for the

celebration of the larger family unit — for cousins and aunts and uncles and grandparents, even neighbors and friends. I'm old enough to recall with great relish (pun intended), lavish spreads at the homes of my patriarchs and matriarchs over the years. Thanksgiving was literally a time to give thanks to God for the gifts of food, clothing and shelter. We take these things for granted today. I can recall as a child everyone taking a set of rosary beads from the "bead bowl" (which in my Irish grandparents'

home was made by Waterford) and all of us getting on knees in prayer after the feast. The rosary was led by my Great Uncle Paul Cuddy, who lived his faith for 53 years as a Roman Catholic priest.

The pure joy of seeing and playing with relatives reinforced a sense of who we were, where we came from, and where we were going. Who's getting married? Who's had a baby? Who's going to attend college, and where? It was thrilling, and it still is today for those families that

get together for Thanksgiving.

Regular family meals are disappearing as fast as you can microwave a hot-pocket. Parents today want their children to excel at everything early, and we give them more "stuff" than we had in our youth. But kids don't need to be challenged "24/7," they also need to chill. Family meals give us an opportunity to talk about our days, about what was learned (or rumored) at school. You can discuss plans for the weekends. Why, you can even have a

discussion, a lost art today.

My sons Mike and Connor can already multi-task with the best of them. But I'm most proud of the fact that they can be around adults, look them in the eye and converse with them. The art of conversation can't be downloaded, it must be passed on generation to generation. And the best place to do that is at the dinner table, one at a time, youngest to oldest.

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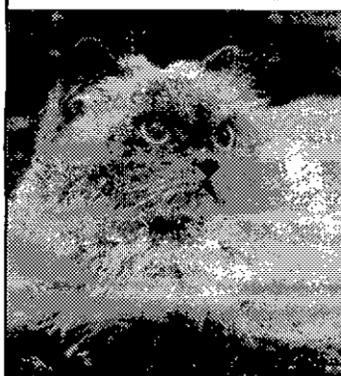
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Matters of Opinion *in the* Spotlight

Lenhardt proud of longtime town service

Editor, The Spotlight:

I once read that, as elected officials, we are only temporary stewards of the people's trust. As such, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens

of Bethlehem for their support for the past 12 years. During that time, the town grew in population because of all the amenities, like senior services, parks, schools and emergency services, that

attract families from near and far to live here. A national ranking as a desired location to reside does not occur overnight. Many years of exceptional leadership by elected representatives, heads of community organizations and business leaders contributed to the Bethlehem of today.

I am proud to have served this community as a town board member and for contributing my time and efforts on the Planning Board, Pedestrian Safety Committee, Veterans Park Committee, Slingerlands Fire Department, Slingerlands PTA, Delmar Dolphins, Bethlehem Soccer Club, etc.

Congratulations to Sam Messina and Kyle Kotary on their

election to the town board and to Terri Egan on her re-election as supervisor.

May they continue the tradition of keeping Bethlehem a better place to live and raise a family.

George Lenhardt
Councilman, Town of Bethlehem

Town GOP chair says thanks

Editor, The Spotlight:

I want to thank all the candidates for participating in the political process. I congratulate the winners and wish the candidates, who were unsuccessful the best of luck in the future.

Special heartfelt thanks must go to George Lenhardt, who admirably served Bethlehem for 12 years. To George, Lynne and their family I wish Godspeed.

Finally, I thank Mary Hammond for fearlessly joining the race with only five weeks remaining. Mary demonstrated a quick grasp of the issues which many voters supported.

The Bethlehem Republican Party is already preparing for the elections in two years. Sky rocketing taxes, spiraling crime and the looming city-owned dump in the southern end of the town are critical issues facing us. If these issues resonate with you, call the Bethlehem Republican Party and participate in a viable solution to those problems.

Art Scheuermann
Chairman
Bethlehem Republican Party



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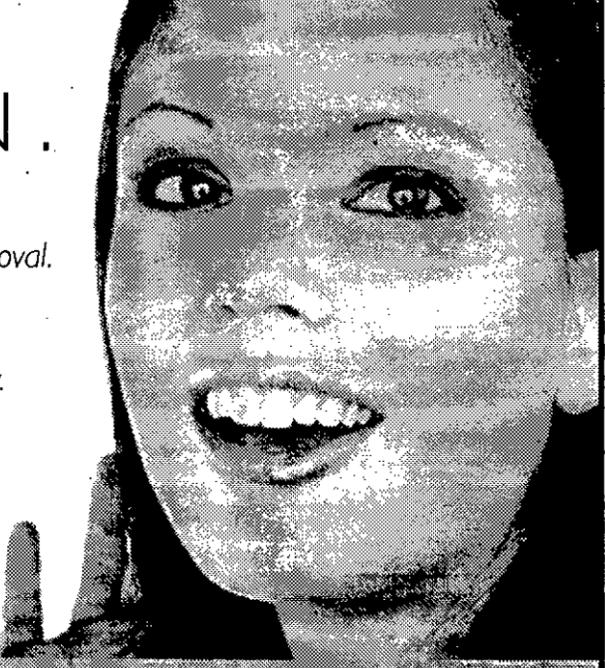
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Finance *in the* Spotlight

When disaster strikes, diversify your giving

By ROBERT G. DOLLAR
Senior Vice President,
McDonald Financial Group

In the world of investing, the word is so common it is a cliché: diversify. It is an approach to building wealth and securing your future that emphasizes stability and minimizes risk. The guiding principle is that by spreading your money among many different kinds of investments—stocks, bonds and short-term investments—you will be better positioned to withstand a decline in the market.

In the world of giving, however, “diversify” is less a part of the vocabulary than it is a cliché. The reason for this is that charitable contributions are generally made to agencies and causes that, as an

individual, you can support and believe in. And this is as it should be. It is a system that encourages generosity. It is a system that works. In fact, according to the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, Americans donated \$248.5 billion to nonprofit agencies throughout 2004. We are truly a sharing and caring people.

Perhaps our giving nature is best displayed in times of disaster, which we have suffered through with cruel frequency this past year. First there was the tsunamis in south Asia, which Americans responded to by donating \$1.3 billion. The tsunami was followed by Hurricane Katrina, which ravaged the Gulf Coast. Even with gas prices soaring, Americans contributed another \$1.3 billion to the relief effort. More recently we have been punished by Hurricane Wilma and tornadoes in Indiana and Kentucky, not to mention the aftermath of the earthquake in

Pakistan and the mudslides in Guatemala. It has been a devastating year, and, as Americans, we have opened both our hearts and our wallets to aid those who have been victimized by nature's fury.

Still, amidst these great disasters, it is important not to lose sight of the needs of the many organizations that make our communities better places to live. While it is appropriate to be proud of our response to catastrophe, and aiding people whose lives have been shattered by events beyond human control, the needs of the unfortunate and underprivileged where we live and work do not disappear. Although reports following the September 11 terrorist attacks show that there are very marginal long-term effects of increased giving to support victims of tragedies, nearly all non-relief related agencies report that when donations are “event” driven aid and

support of their agencies drop substantially, forcing them to deal with issues such as:

- earmarked donations, which place demands on an the agency's resources but cannot be used to address the agency's needs;
- decreased funding, which may either limit an agency's ability to carry out planned fundraising campaigns, as in the agency cannot afford to do a mailing, or force an agency to tap into extra resources for additional fundraising campaigns, as in the agency will do two mailings to raise the capital typically generated by one mailing; and
- inability to hire needed staff, as agencies cannot make the assumption that the drop in giving is short term.

Therefore, it is important that we continue to support these agencies...even in times when large disasters are garnering so much media coverage and public attention. We can do so by diversifying our approach to giving.

DIVERSIFY YOUR GIVING

According to Independent Sector, a nonprofit coalition of more than 700 national organizations, foundations and corporate philanthropy programs, the majority of people who donate time and money to relief efforts continue to support charities they have always supported. After September 11, for example, 73% percent of people who donated money to the relief effort said they would continue to give. However, of that 73% percent, 50% percent said they would reduce their giving.

Today, the trend seems to be similar, with many people citing that their reduction in giving is more attributable to the lagging economy than to increased donations to disaster relief efforts. This may be partially attributable to the fact that many people making donations are new to philanthropy—29% percent of new donors following September 11 said they planned to continue making charitable donations in the future.

What some of these new donors may not know, and you may be one of them, is that planned giving, a philanthropic strategy, can make your charitable dollar go farther by utilizing the maximum allowable tax deductions to increase the value of your donations. In addition, many people are not aware of how effective a conduit foundation can be as a conduit for donations, as they have the experience and knowledge of varying deductibility rules to ensure that donations serve a donor's objectives. For example, the Community Foundation for the Capital Region serves as both our eff's savings account and as an efficient and secure conduit for donations to worthy recipient organizations, ensuring that your charitable dollar is spread out to in-need agencies throughout the region. This is one great way to be sure that your donations are diversified.

Another way to be sure that you diversify your charitable giving is to work with a professional giving expert, as different and often

confusing rules govern the deductibility of assets. The Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005, for instance, provides you with an opportunity to take advantage of charitable deductions on your tax returns that far exceed the prior benefit. A professional giving expert can also help you with estate-planning tools that

maximize the useful value of your estate. The idea is that the less money you have to pay in taxes, the more you can contribute to various agencies.

CHARITY AT HOME

The Capital Region has more than 1,550 nonprofits with combined revenue of more than \$4 billion. These nonprofits then employ 60,000 residents and have a total annual economic impact of \$7.8 billion. They enhance our quality of life and promote human dignity and compassion. They provide opportunities for volunteerism and participation in civic life. They also strengthen the infrastructure of our communities and act as a catalyst in attracting businesses and new residents.

Perhaps one of the more important services that certain nonprofits provide is that they act as conveners to address specific areas of need, seeking strategies to confront or solve issues. For example, a grant from the Community Foundation for the Capital Region to the Corporation for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES, Inc.) in the amount of \$90,000 in funding for homeless services was leveraged into \$18 million in additional grants and funding over a three-year period. These funds were used to address the needs of more than 30 Capital Region agencies serving homeless individuals and families.

The Community Foundation for the Capital Region is just one example of the many great and needed nonprofit agencies in the Capital Region. Although they may not garner much media attention, nor tug our heartstrings the way images of the recent disasters do, they still need our support. They are vital to our communities. They work to improve our quality of life, and the quality of life for our neighbors, in ways we don't often see. The good news is that you don't have to sacrifice. You don't have to choose one form of charity over another. With smart planning, and with a compassionate heart and generous spirit, you can make a difference wherever you choose...especially in your own community. Talking with a professional giving expert can be your first step in that direction.

About the author: Robert G. Dollar is senior vice president and trust officer of McDonald Financial Group. He has more than 30 years' experience in estate and financial planning and his office is in Albany. He can be reached at 391-1433 or rdollar@mcinvest.com.



Robert G. Dollar

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New Scotland voters pick 2 new council members

By JIM CUOZZO

The New Scotland incumbent supervisor will work with two newly elected members of the town board come January.

Republican Ed Clark won re-election to a third term as supervisor, defeating Democrat Elizabeth Stewart 1,846 – 1,265.

“I feel very good about getting the approval of the voters for a third term. It’s very reassuring,”

Clark said the day after his victory. “I take that to mean the voters approve of the direction the town is going in.”

Pursuit of an updated comprehensive plan and negotiations to bring more water to the town are two pressing issues on Clark’s agenda over the next two years.

“Hardly a week goes by without someone calling me to tell me their well has gone bad,” Clark said. “We have to keep seeking solutions to provide water to all the hamlets and

homes in New Scotland.”

Clark believes the town will continue to see new development and that the town board should revisit an updated comprehensive plan devised by them in 1994 but never adopted. He believes people are satisfied with the rural character of the town as it exists.

Ed Clark

“I feel very good about getting the approval of the voters for a third term. It’s very reassuring. I take that to mean the voters approve of the direction the town is going in.”

“We have to make sure whatever change comes our way that we preserve the town in the best rural atmosphere that we can,” Clark said.

Douglas Lagrange, a Republican, received the most votes in a four-way race for two seats on the town council. Lagrange captured 1,618 votes. The second spot on the council will go to Democrat Margaret Neri, who received 1,562 votes. The very tight race saw incumbent Republican Andrea Gleason lose her spot on the council. Gleason finished third with 1,493 votes. Not far behind was Wayne LaChappelle with 1,384 votes. Lagrange and Neri will replace Gleason and Scott Houghtaling. Houghtaling opted against running for re-election.

In the race for town justice, Thomas E. Dolin defeated Susan Aron-Defronzo 1,925-1,102. Diane Deschenes ran unopposed for re-election to the town clerk’s position.

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Guild presents Christmas musical

The Classic Theater Guild presents the play, “A Child’s Christmas in Wales,” a family musical based on a Dylan Thomas story and adapted for the stage by Jeremy Brooks and Adrian Mitchell.

The play tells the story of a young boy’s experience on a typical Christmas growing up in Wales in the 20s. Performances are Dec. 9, 10, 11, and 16, 17, 18.

The theater is located at the Hilton Center for the Arts, Russell Road, Albany.

For information and tickets, call 356-3197.

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Library program brings books to homebound residents

"A library at your doorstep" is the catchphrase for Bethlehem Public Library's outreach program to homebound residents of the Bethlehem Central School District. For more than 20 years, "Books to People" has offered free, customized delivery service to people of any age who are either temporarily or permanently unable to visit the library.

A homebound patron is matched up with a librarian, who in a short interview gathers information about the patron's reading or listening interests. Every two weeks, the librarian selects materials according to the patron's preferences. The items are delivered to the patron's door via the library van, which also picks up materials ready for return. There are no overdue fees. It is also possible to put high-demand books on reserve.

Large-print books and books on tape are by far the most popular items delivered. Patrons can choose from a wide variety



of genres: classic and new fiction, best-sellers, historical romances, mysteries, sci-fi, biographies, and nonfiction works. Patrons may also borrow The New York Times Large Type Weekly, The Reader's Digest Large Print Edition, and general- and special-interest magazines.

Books-to-People patrons may also borrow music CDs — classical and jazz, rock and pop, world music, musicals, film soundtracks and more — and videocassettes on a variety of subjects from travel to health and wellness.

Audiobooks of all types are available in either cassette or CD format and portable CD players are available for loan.

At present, four librarians select books for patrons.

Meryl Norek, who has performed this service for many years, is proud of its customized, personalized nature.

"We form ongoing relationships with these patrons. Their interests are varied — from baseball to gardening. We talk to them often; they can revise their preferences at any time."

To qualify for the service, you must live in the Bethlehem Central School District and have a permanent or temporary physical disability or medical condition that prevents you from coming to the library. There is no age restriction. For information or to request our Books to People delivery service, call the library at 439-9314.

Louise Grieco

Book ends

Holiday hours

Bethlehem Public Library's Thanksgiving holiday hours will be as follows:

9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 23.

Closed. Thursday, Nov. 24

9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 25.

Patrons may access the catalog and other library services online at www.bethlehempubliclibrary.org.

Afternoon book discussion

Monday, Dec. 5, 1:30 p.m. *The Forest Lover* by Susan Vreeland is the topic of Bethlehem Public Library's next DayBooks meeting. Copies of the book are available at the information desk; large-print and audiobook editions are also available.

Parents, children and limits

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m. As children approach their teens they often push the envelope, testing the limits parents have set for them. Cornell Cooperative Extension educator Ellen Cooper presents, "Taking control when kids push beyond limits." Learn where to give and where to stand

firm with strategies that positively reinforce both your role and your child's growing need for independence.

• All library programming is free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public. The Bethlehem Public Library is located at 451 Delaware Ave., Delmar. For information, call 439-9314.

Letters/policy

Spotlight Newspaper welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing for fairness, style and length.

All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

Write to: Letters to the Editor, Spotlight Newspaper, P.O. Box 100, Delmar, DE 19741. Letters can be faxed to 439-0609.

Five Rivers schedules autumn walks

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center is hosting free autumn walks.

The first is Friday, Nov. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Five Rivers Center, 56 Game Farm Road, Delmar.

Join center naturalists for a visit to the Five Rivers grounds after normal business hours. This is the time when night creatures are becoming active. The bare trees of late autumn form strange shadows and sounds become more intensified under the light of the full moon.

Participants should dress for

a night outdoors.

The second walk is a plant identification walk scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 26, at 2 p.m. Center naturalists will focus on some wild plants that were used by Native Americans and early settlers.

For information on either walk, call Five Rivers at 475-0291.

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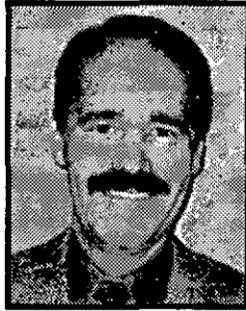
Milne 50-year reunion coming up

The 50-year reunion of Albany's Milne School Class of 1956 is scheduled for June 9, 10, and 11.

All members and friends of the class are asked to contact Carl Eppelmann at 489-6352 or Ron Killelea at 459-1832 for detailed information and reservations. Although the school is gone, the spirit continues.

Got news?
Call Spotlight at 439-4949.

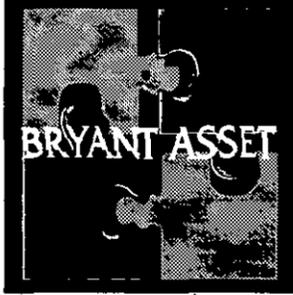
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'Arsenic and Old Lace' at high school this weekend

The Voorheesville Dionysians present the play "Arsenic and Old Lace" Friday and Saturday, Nov. 18 and 19, at 7:15 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 20, at 2:15 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at Voorheesville High School.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors and are available at the door.

Bazaar set for Nov. 19
The Voorheesville United Methodist women will hold their

NEWS NOTES

Voorheesville
Betsy Glath
765-4415



annual Mission Bazaar Saturday, Nov. 19, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville.

There will be handmade gifts, baked goods and more.
For information, call Karen

Indilicato at 861-0023.

PTA to meet Thursday

The next regular meeting for the Voorheesville PTA will be held in the library at the Voorheesville elementary school Thursday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. All are invited.

Holiday Gift Bazaar set for Thacher Park

Green Saturday "Country Holiday Gift Bazaar" is planned for Saturday, Nov. 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Local artisans and crafters will be selling original handcrafted items and vendors will be offering such items as homemade soaps, pottery, paintings, folk-art, basketry and much more. The nature center and gift shop also will be open.

For information, call 872-1237

or 872-0800.

Modified wrestling to begin

Attention seventh- and eighth-grade students and parents, modified wrestling is starting up. Practice is held in the high school cafeteria at 4 p.m. each weekday and all students interested in giving wrestling a try should come to practice and meet the coaches.

Parents who would like to learn more about the wrestling program, contact Coach Dennis Robinson at 765-4470 (evenings) or come to the next Booster Club meeting Thursday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Later in the year Voorheesville will be starting up youth wrestling for younger students.

Library plans trip to NYC

The Friends of the Library group is planning a trip to New York City Saturday, Dec. 3.

Space is limited so sign up now with your paid reservation at the library circulation desk. The price is \$25 for FOL members and \$30 for non-members.

Voorheesville preschool to conduct silent auction

The Voorheesville Community Preschool will be holding a silent auction Saturday, Nov. 19, at 10 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in Voorheesville.

Items to be auctioned include gift certificates to salons, picture studios and stores. Winners will be announced at 1 p.m.

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| 05 Focus | \$229 |

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Student studying abroad in Spain

Emma J. Furman of Delmar, a junior at Hamilton College, is studying abroad in Spain with Academic Programs International for the fall 2005 semester.

Furman is an English literature major and a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School.

Group to host Christmas gathering

The Bethlehem Historical Association is hosting "Origins of Christmas Celebrations and Ornaments" Thursday, Nov. 17, at 7:30 p.m. There will be a memorial recognition for Robert Halley, antique dealer and collector. The meeting will be held at 1003 River Road in Selkirk.

Got news?
Call Spotlight at 439-4949.

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LEARN TO PLAY HOCKEY

BYH is running a 12 week Learn to Play Hockey Program. The program is designed for children who have had some level of skating ability and want to learn the basics of playing hockey. All participants will be required to wear their own hockey equipment (skates, stick, hockey helmet, gloves, elbow pads and shin guards).

Instructor: Ken Lebel, Professional Hockey Instructor
Where: Bethlehem Area YMCA
When: Sundays (starting November 20th)
Time: 11:30 a.m. - 12:50pm
Cost: \$225

For registration forms and further information, go to: www.eteamz.active.com/byh or contact Clem Parente at (518) 478-0505. You may also sign up at the first session.

Meet author, eat pizza, feel like royalty at library

Book-loving pizza-eaters of any age are invited to come and meet local author, Nancy Castaldo and hear her read from her new picture book "Pizza for a Queen," Thursday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m.

Pizza with extra toppings will be served. Make your own specialized creations or share tried and true favorites. Delizioso!

Sign-up for this special event is recommended.

Lifeline returns

Our long-running prose writers group which has been on hiatus is resuming,



Thursday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. All prose writers who are looking for a support group to critique their writing are welcome. Bring a short writing sample to read. It can be an essay, personal memoir, anecdote, character sketch, descriptive narrative or whatever you are currently working on. No sign up is necessary. Call Cathy Anderson at 861-8067 for information.

The first meeting will be in

the director's office.

Grade 2, 3 book discussion

Horrible Harry and the Christmas Surprise is a very funny book by Suzy Kline which grade two and three students should enjoy, Friday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. Horrible Harry and the rest of Miss Mackle's class at South School start the hilarity when Miss Mackle's reading chair collapses while she is in it. The accident puts her in the hospital, the holiday play is jeopardized. What is Horrible Harry thinking of getting his teacher to make her feel better? Maybe something horrible. Parents are welcome to

participate or socialize with coffee and desserts while kids discuss the book and enjoy an activity. Sign up at the reference desk and pick up a copy of the book. (The library will be closed except for program.)

Paws for reading

Sammi, our favorite reading companion, has a lot of fun listening to children read to him. If your child is between grade one and grade four and feeling unsure about his or her reading progress, call the reference desk at 765-2791 to schedule a 15-minute appointment with Sammi the dog and his friend Gail Brown.

Don't forget the Mitten Tree

Bring your donations of cold-weather accessories (hats, gloves, mittens, scarves) to hang on the Tree before Dec. 16.

Closed Thanksgiving

For the Thanksgiving holiday, the library will close Wednesday, Nov. 23, at 1 p.m. and reopen at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 25. Eat well, say thank you.

• All library programming is free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public. Voorheesville Public Library is located at 51 School Road. For information, call 765-2971 or visit www.voorheesvillelibrary.org.

Barbara Vink



Felix and Pee Wee are two short-haired chihuahuas that must go home as a pair. They were brought to the shelter after their elderly owner passed away. They are both about 7 years old and are very sweet lap dogs. They love to be picked up and they love to snuggle. Pee Wee has a heart murmur and dental issues, which will require some extra attention and care. To learn more about these and other great pets, visit the Animal Protective Foundation at 53 Maple Ave. in Scotia or meet pets online at www.animalprotective.org. Call 374-3944 for information.

Got news?

Spotlight Newspapers welcomes announcements of programs or events occurring in our coverage areas.

All announcements should include the date, time, location and cost (if any) of the event, along with contact information. Announcements are published space and time permitting.

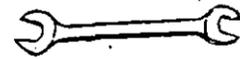
Submissions can be faxed to 439-0609, e-mailed to graves@spotlightnews.com, or mailed to P.O. Box 100, Delmar 12054.

The deadline for all editorial copy is noon on Friday.

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Mistaken identity, slapstick on Voorheesville stage

Dionysians present 'Arsenic and Old Lace'

By JIM CUOZZO

It's a classic comedy of misinterpretation and missing bodies. There are eccentric characters: a nephew who thinks he's Teddy Roosevelt and two sweet little old ladies who wouldn't harm a fly. The Voorheesville Dionysians present "Arsenic and Old Lace" Friday through Sunday, Nov. 18 to 20, at the Voorheesville Performing Arts Center at Clayton A. Bouton High School on New Salem Road.

Eric Shovah is directing this year's play. Shovah is a Guilderland resident working with Voorheesville students for the first time.

"This is a very enthusiastic bunch of kids who are very interested in theater," Shovah said. "They are doing a wonderful and amazing job and I'm enjoying it very much."

The story centers on a lovable but odd trio of characters — Abby and Martha Brewster and their nephew Teddy. The three are awaiting the arrival of another nephew named Mortimer, a drama critic who arrives with his fiancée Elaine who just happens to live across the street from the Brewster clan. The play is set in Brooklyn in the 1940s and is an unfolding of everything from comedy to

horror, to the slapstick that ensues as people rotate, charge and enter throughout the play.

"It's a show that's all about timing," Shovah said. "The students are really sharpening their skills. The chemistry between some of the kids is great." This year's producer and adviser to the Voorheesville Dionysians Club is Portia Hubert.

"People who come to the performance can expect to laugh and just have an enjoyable evening," she said.

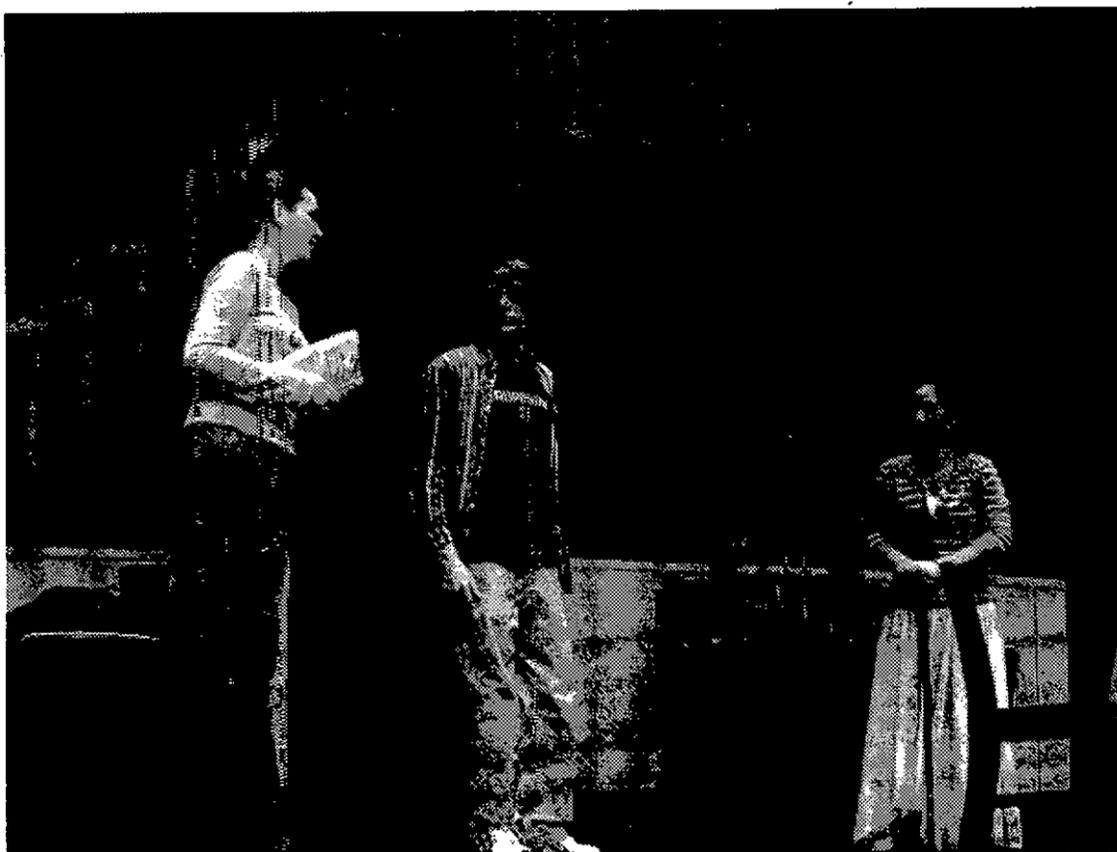
This is Hubert's first year as drama club adviser, after having been producer for the past three seasons. There are 13 actors and actresses in the play with 10 more students handling sound, lights, and props.

"The students are working very hard, and they're very tired with school, sports and other extracurricular activities in addition to the show, but this is loads of fun," Hubert said.

The student actors couldn't agree more with that assessment, including Alli McCardle who plays Aunt Martha. "It's absolutely hilarious," said Alli McCardle, who plays Aunt Martha. "It's one of the funniest shows I've been in."

As for slapstick, Erik Sowalski, who plays Mortimer Brewster has already had his share of bumps and bruises.

"I hit my head yesterday, skidded into the hall, and hit a few doors all in one rehearsal,"



Casey Sheridan, left, Erik Sowalski and Ally Parrot practice their lines for this weekend's presentation of "Arsenic and Old Lace" at the Voorheesville Performing Arts Center at Clayton A. Bouton High School on New Salem Road. Performance times are 7:15 p.m., Friday and Saturday, and 2:15 p.m. Sunday.

Sowalski said.

Senior Ally Parrot plays Mortimer's fiancée Elaine.

"I am having such a great time," Parrot said. "It's fun to play the nagging girlfriend — just ask my boyfriend."

Tickets for the show are available at the door. There is a \$10 admission for adults and \$8

charge for students and seniors. The theater holds up to 800 people. Everyone involved with the Dionysians has been working on the show since September.

"These kids have a really good work ethic," Shovah said. "They are respectful of each other, and they want each other

to perform well in their roles. We've had really good rehearsals the last few days, and the show is right where it should," said Shovah.

Performance times on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 18 and 19, are at 7:15 p.m. Sunday's Nov. 20 matinee performance will be at 2:15 p.m.

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Porco

(From Page 1)

trial will begin.

"There are an awful lot of procedural complications, and I expect there will be huge discovery issues," he said.

Both prosecutors and defense lawyers are required to share relevant information about a case before trial.

Although the law requires a case to be tried within six months of the defendant being

charged, Kindlon said it can often take much longer. The countdown stops when motions are filed, to allow the judge to rule on them, and Kindlon said many motions will be filed in this case.

"There is no statute of limitations for murder, and there is no chance that this case will be dismissed," he said.

Kindlon and Peter Porco were both assistant public defenders at one time, and Kindlon's prior relationship with Peter Porco has caused no

conflict of interest.

"It actually makes it easier for me, because I know he is innocent," Kindlon said of his client.

Elaine LaForte, Porco's employer at the Bethlehem Veterinary Hospital in Glenmont, has visited Porco in jail a few times and has received collect telephone calls from him.

"He's as all right as he can be," she said. "He said the guards are nice to him and he has books to read, but he is very much hoping he will be able to post bail. That's his main thought now."

If bail is granted, LaForte said Porco will be welcomed back to his job as an assistant at the hospital. Hospital manager Steve Watkins said the whole staff is 100 percent behind him.

"It's not just us, but most of the clientele wish him well every day," Watkins said. "It's nice to hear."

Additionally, Watkins said the hospital has received at least a half dozen calls from non-clients expressing support for Porco. He has heard nothing bad said about him in the community.

"I was a little worried at first about getting nasty phone calls and negative messages, but there hasn't been anything like that at all," Watkins said. "All the feedback has been positive, and there are many people that

feel there is just no evidence linking him to this crime."

Watkins has been hospital manager for eight years, and has known Porco for that long.

"He really is as mild-mannered as they come, and that is another reason why this whole thing is unrealistic to me," he said.

LaForte also said no one has

elementary school teachers reported to the Bethlehem Police after the attacks that the Porcos had received death threats in the past.

LaForte said Porco was taking courses at Hudson Valley Community College this fall, trying to get back on track after being expelled from the University of Rochester last year. He hopes to be able to post bail today, and that he will be allowed back in school.

"People do believe in his innocence, but I also understand that a lot of people only know what they see and hear on the

television and in the press," LaForte said. "It's skewed their perception."

LaForte has also denied vehemently that Porco was involved with drugs or gambling.

"I saw him all day, every day," she said. "There was never any behavior change, and he doesn't go out a lot. This is just what I see, but when would he have the opportunity to do these things without me seeing something?"

Sam Messina, who recently won a position on the town board and who is a neighbor of LaForte, said LaForte and her partner, John Kearney, have been great neighbors, and he trusts them. Kearney is also LaForte's partner in the veterinary practice.

"What I'm mostly sorry about is the Porco family," he said. "That is my main concern."

"I believe whoever did it was purposely targeting the Porcos. I think this would explain why people in this community are not afraid."

Elaine LaForte

been worried about the fact that Porco works for her and lives in her home.

"Most people are willing to respect me enough and trust me enough to realize that if I believe in him and am this close to him, then he is probably innocent," she said.

One of the main reasons she believes Porco is innocent is because of the murder weapon. LaForte admitted that using an ax makes it look like a crime of passion, but said that the person using the ax would likely have made mistakes if that was the case.

"I believe whoever did it was purposely targeting the Porcos," she said. "I think this would explain why people in this community are not afraid."

She said also that Porco had told her years ago that his parents have received death threats, and that one of Porco's

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Growing with Your Teen:

A High School Guide for Parents and Teens

This guide that has been mailed to all parents of BCHS freshman students provides useful information about topics that are pertinent to high school students and their parents.

The topics include but are not limited to substance abuse, eating disorders, curfews, driving, and employment. Parents can use this guide to start conversations with their children and to learn what resources are available to parents both through the school district and the community.

The *Growing With Your Teen* publication was written by parents for parents. Funding from Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited and Bethlehem Networks Project supported this project.

If you did not receive a booklet and would like one, please contact Bethlehem Networks Project at 439-7740.

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RCS library announces 'Pumpkin by the Book' winners

"Pumpkin by the Book" contest winners are:

Among children age 3 to 5, there is a tie for first place between *The Cat in the Hat* by Johnny Manning and *SpongeBob SquarePants* by Meghan Hurley. Both characters showed remarkable drawing skill. *Madeline* by Erin Manning won second place, and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* by Keenan Demmer won third place.

Among children age 6 to 8, first place went to the *Spirit of the Cimmaron* by Madeline Civill. She turned her pumpkin head onto its side to create a horse's head, then made him a thick yarn mane. *Harry Potter* by Austin Ellis took second place, and *Junie B. Jones* by Lucy Bonafide won third place.

Among children age 9 to 12, Geronimo Stilton by Danielle Barror was the first place choice. Geronimo has a long mousy nose, springy whiskers, and metal wire-rim glasses. Jena Nunziato's Sunny Baudelaire, sporting one lock of baby-fine hair and four sharp little teeth, won second place. Tying for third place were the *Cheshire Cat* by Victoria Smith and *Princess Buttercup* by Rebecca Buono.

Closed Thanksgiving

The Library will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 23, and remain closed Thanksgiving Day.

Project helps Gulf Coast areas

Join RCS Community Library continues to make simple, colorful, and washable cloth

books for young children as its contribution to rebuilding hurricane-ravaged communities along the Gulf Coast. We already have sent 170 books to Dallas Public Library Outreach Services, the Baton Rouge Shelter Library, and Embrace Mississippi's Children, which is helping to reopen early childhood centers.

Last week, Lisa Saltis's third grade class at A.W. Becker School put together 24 books. The themes they chose included Sugar and Spice (ballerinas, princesses and lots of pink fabric), Animal I Spy, and Fast and Furious (all racing vehicles).

Wal-Mart gift

The Library recently received a \$1,000 grant from Glenmont Wal-Mart for

activities promoting adult and family literacy. The library is planning some special activities next spring to use the grant.

• All library programming is free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public. The RCS Community Library is located at 15 Mountain Road, Ravena. For information, call 756-2053.

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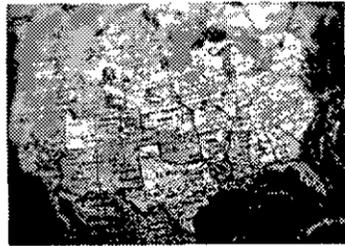
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Simple steps to help manage your heating bills.



Prices for natural gas and other fuels like oil and propane have increased dramatically. As a result, across the United States home heating costs are expected to be much higher this winter than last year. The United States Department of Energy anticipates that nationally, homes could see a 35-45% increase in their total winter heating bills compared with last winter's bills.



Understanding your natural gas bill

Your gas bill has two main parts: Supply (the cost of the gas itself) and Delivery (the cost of delivering the gas throughout your utility's system). On average, supply costs make up about 60-75% of your bill, depending on your utility.

The supply price of gas is set by national and international markets and is not controlled by utilities or the NYS Public Service Commission. The delivery price is set by the Commission.

About 98% of the natural gas we use in New York comes from the Gulf of Mexico and Canada. The Commission works hard to keep delivery prices as low as possible and help you deal with changes in the market.

Factors affecting the price of natural gas

The price for natural gas (not including delivery) is expected to be considerably higher than last winter. The price varies based on many factors including weather, demand, the amount and cost of natural gas in storage, and exploration and drilling.

• **Supply and Demand** — Natural gas suppliers serving New York State are entering the heating season with higher than average inventories. However, the gas going into storage has been more costly this year, and the higher price is passed on to consumers. Production losses due to Hurricane Katrina have also tightened the gas market.

Meanwhile, demand continues to grow as more people use natural gas for their energy needs, and more factories and power generation facilities use gas because it produces fewer emissions than other fossil fuels.



• **Weather** — Weather plays a significant role in determining the cost of natural gas. Colder weather means an increase in the amount of natural gas used by the average household. However, it is impossible to know what this winter's temperatures or natural gas prices will be over time.



Controlling your heating costs

Your heating costs are made up of the cost of your fuel and the amount you use. No matter where prices go or what the heating season is like, you can take basic steps to lower your costs.

What you should do

Have an energy smart winter

- Make sure the attic, walls and foundation in your house are well-insulated.
- Seal gaps around doors, windows and foundations.
- Have your furnace or boiler inspected and insulate your hot water heater and pipes.
- Set thermostats back — for every one degree you lower your thermostat, you could save 3% or more on your heating costs. Consider installing a programmable thermostat; it will make saving even easier.

Consider bill payment options and financial assistance programs

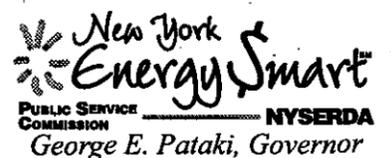
- Budget Plans provide equal monthly payments based on past energy usage.
 - Deferred Payment Agreements may be available if you have fallen behind on your bill and cannot pay in full. You may qualify to pay the past due amount over time.
- Financial assistance and energy efficiency programs can also help you with your heating costs**

- NYS Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
- NYSERDA's Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Program

- NYSERDA's EmPower New York Program
 - Utility-sponsored assistance programs
 - Community-based energy services programs
- Use your power to choose**
- You can buy electricity and natural gas from companies other than your utility. These Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) are competing to sell you your energy supply. This means new products and services, and better value for your dollar.
 - For a list of energy suppliers, and a comparison chart, visit www.AskPSC.com and click on the "Power To Choose" link or call 1-888-Ask-PSC1.
 - Your utility will still deliver your energy safely and reliably, and will respond to emergencies.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® program can save you money by making your home more energy efficient.

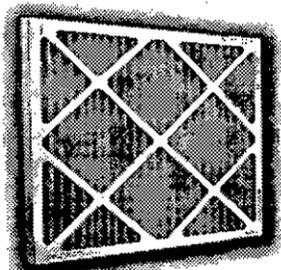
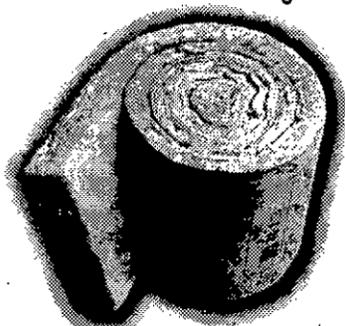
For more information, go to www.GetEnergySmart.org or call 1-877-NY-SMART.



The New York State Public Service Commission reminds you to

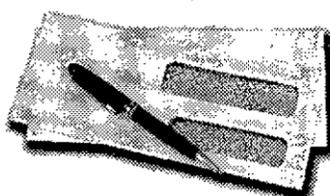
Have an energy smart winter.

Roll out the insulation and roll in the savings.



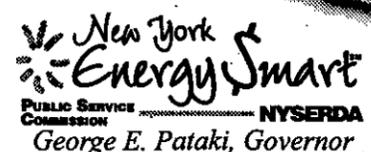
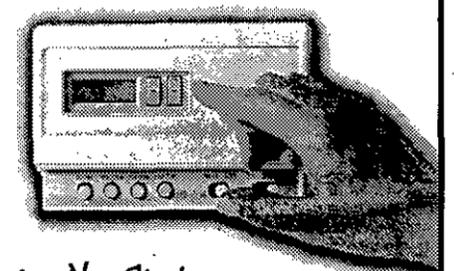
Clean up your act. Change your furnace filter.

Sign up for your utility's budget plan.



Shop for an alternative energy supplier. Use Your Power To Choose.

Warm up to using a programmable thermostat.



November 16, 2005

Holiday Gift Guide

- Make the holiday spirit focus of gift-giving — pg. 2
- Find toys, software to give your child a head start — pg. 3
- Happening holiday recipes — pgs. 4-5
- Video game ratings: What you should know — pg. 8

a supplement to spotlight newspapers

Buying gifts... for kids

Focus on spirit of season when buying children gifts

By Samm Erickson
 With the Christmas holiday season just around the corner, many parents are wondering what to buy and how much to spend on their children. You may feel the urge to spend lavishly,

but be careful. Buying a number of expensive gifts for your children can break the bank, create tremendous stress and corrupt the true spirit of the season. This holiday season, consider spending less money and more time with your family.

More is not always better, especially when it comes to gifts. Many children are so inundated with gifts from extended friends and family that individual gifts stop having any significance. To prevent this, experts recommend that each gift be presented to a child with some discussion of who sent it and why the gift is valuable. That way, children will learn to deepen their appreciation of each gift and can begin to understand the process of gift giving. This focus on the intentionality of gift giving can also encourage reciprocal behavior in children, making them more thoughtful when choosing gifts for others. Children naturally want to give the best of themselves, and Christmas offers the perfect

opportunity to encourage that.

Whether you know it or not, the gifts you choose affect your relationship with your child, so think of the values that you are imparting with each gift. Gadgets and doodads that are ephemeral and trendy may not say anything about your relationship with your child. Many children, in fact, will often pass over these new gifts and return to the favorites already in their toy box. Consider the kinds of long-term values that you want your children to have, and ask yourself how your gifts reinforce or neglect those values. Some gifts that can encourage positive values are books with a positive message, musical instruments, art supplies or charitable

donations.

Whether children unwrap one present or a hundred, the best gift that you can give them at Christmas is the gift of your time. Spend time baking cookies, decorating the house or tree, or selecting thoughtful, small gifts for other members of your family. Watch movies over popcorn or spend time reading books together.

With some time and effort, you can make the art of gift giving more meaningful in your household. In doing so, you will encourage children to think of others instead of themselves and learn that giving is far more rewarding than receiving during the holiday season.



Give the gift of reading this year

By Samm Erickson

Books are timeless. They make great gifts for children for birthdays, holidays or any special occasion. Not only can they help develop a child's reading skills, but they can help them explore their emotions, deal with a new situation and expand their understanding of the world. Although some children will be resistant to reading, most will welcome the opportunity to integrate a new book in their lives. With some forethought, you can provide a memorable book that will be valued by a child for years to come.

Of course, different children have different reading levels, and you will want to select a book that is at the appropriate level. Preschoolers and kindergartners will need books with a balance of pictures and images. The bright colors, exciting graphics and good rhythm used to convey the story is often more important than the story itself. Most children learn to read in the

first grade, so for this age group, look for books with a strong storyline and more emphasis on the text. For older children, your best ally in selecting an appropriate book is information about the child's interests.

You can garner valuable information about a child's reading level and interests from their parents. Don't forget to ask about what books they already have in their collection and what the child might be looking for.

Once you know the basic parameters, you might consider giving a book that was particularly meaningful to you as a child. If you spent hours worrying with Beezus and Ramona from the Beverly Cleary books or fanciful times on the prairie with Laura Ingalls Wilder, you can build a special bond with a child through the book while enjoying an enjoyable visit to your own childhood. Clearly expressing the importance of the book to you and sharing your experience in con-

versation or a thoughtful letter is particularly important.

When shopping for a book, pay attention to any honors and awards the book may have received. The two most prestigious awards in children's literature are the Caldecott Award, given to the best illustrated book, and the Newbery Award, given to the most distinguished contribution to American children's literature every year.

It is never too early to introduce children to reading and the wonders that it can impart. By giving a child a book, you will be empowering them to explore the world around them while entertaining and educating them. When looking for a book, it is much more important to know what happens inside the cover than outside. The best book is rarely the one that is the most expensive, so spend more than a few minutes picking out the perfect gift.

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Buying gifts... *for kids*

Find toys, software to give your child a head start

By Samm Erickson

All parents want their children do well, and many look for ways to give their children every advantage. They spend countless dollars on the right preschool, play classical music while their child is sleeping and watch their child's diet carefully. A new trend on the horizon is to provide children with educational software and toys to help strengthen formal schooling at home while providing a fun play environment.

The computer is revolutionizing education, both in the classroom and in the home. Many of the best educational programs are computer-based, allowing for

constant reinforcement and progress at a child's individual pace. Good educational software is designed to create a positive experience for children, helping them to see learning as something that is both rewarding and fun. Most software programs work like a game, matching exercises to a child's ability, which puts the child in control and allows them to move along at the pace they need.

Parents should select educational software according to the ability level of their child. Children will quickly become bored if they are asked to work through skills that they have already mastered. Software is rated according to either age or

grade level, but parents will want to check the skills involved and see if their child is ahead of or behind the current school curriculum. They may need to choose software that is ahead of current school projects.

There are many toys outside of the computer that can also aid in a child's development. Many companies specialize in educational toys. To get the best value, parents should select toys that can be played with in a variety of ways and encourage their child to use their imagination to augment the standardized methods of play. They should also make sure that the toy will hold the attention of their child over time. While some toys may

become a favorite for a short while, they won't be as valuable as toys that their child can return to over and over.

Educational software and toys can help boost a child's self-esteem while creating a positive learning environment that will encourage them to be active, engaged learners. To truly garner

these benefits, it's important that parents not push children into high achievement. If parents allow their child to enjoy and explore learning through educational software and toys, they will establish learning as a rewarding and fun experience, which is really the best gift they can give.



Dangerous toys for children

By Samm Erickson

It is every parent's worst nightmare: to turn away momentarily from a child who is happily playing, only to turn back and find the child is choking or in some other distress because of a dangerous toy. The U.S. government continues to recall many toys every year because they are deemed hazardous for children. There are some general guidelines to follow when choosing safe toys for your children. Pay attention when shopping for toys, always read the warning labels and choose age-appropriate toys.

Young children love to explore the world, and they often do so by putting everything into their mouth, including their toys. This can be extremely dangerous and choking is the most common cause of toy-related deaths and injuries. To avoid buying toys that might be a choking hazard, heed warning labels, follow age recommendations and look for toys that are sturdily constructed and won't come apart when banged or thrown around. If you have several children, make sure to keep toys intended for older children away from children younger than three.

As with many things, the Internet can be a great boon for buying children's toys. Because children move so quickly through them, toys are often available online used at substantial savings. However, many of these finds may not be necessarily safe for children. Although the government has

worked diligently to make sure that all U.S. toy manufacturers meet certain health and safety requirements, many of the toys you will find online are produced by manufacturers outside of the United States and therefore may not meet the specifications of the government. It is important to check that the toy you are buying hasn't been proven to be a danger to children.

Loud toys are another danger that has received increased attention in recent years. Extremely loud toys, like fire engines or guns, can damage a child's sensitive hearing. When buying toys, let your own ears be your guide; if a toy is too loud for you, then it is too loud for your child. Resist buying loud toys, and for any that you may have already purchased, consider mitigating the noise, like covering the

speakers or removing the batteries.

As children get older, many get interested in more active pursuits like rollerblading, skateboarding or biking. If your child would like to pursue one of these, make sure you buy them the appropriate safety gear, like helmets, knee pads and elbow pads. Your child may be resistant to the gear initially, thinking they are invincible and don't need it, but the gear can provide serious protection if and when they do fall.

When shopping for toys, the most important aspect is to pay attention to the needs and abilities of your child. Providing a safe and secure environment is the best gift that you can give a child, and you will benefit from the increased peace of mind you will have when buying harmless and reliable toys for your household.

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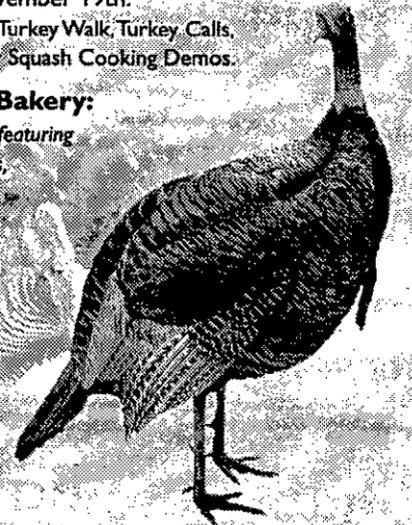
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Give the gift... of food



Christmas Fruitcake

Recipe yield: 1 - 6 inch round pan.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/8 cup chopped dried cherries
- 1/8 cup chopped dried mango
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup dried currants
- 2 tablespoons chopped candied citron
- 1/4 cup dark rum
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/8 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

- 1/4 cup unsulfured molasses
- 2 tablespoons milk
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans
- 1/4 cup dark rum, divided

DIRECTIONS:

1. Soak cherries, mango, cranberries, currants, and citron in 1/4 cup rum for at least 24 hours. Cover tightly, and store at room temperature.
2. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Butter a 6x3-inch round pan, and line with parchment paper.
3. In a large bowl, cream together butter and brown sugar until fluffy. Beat in egg. Whisk together flour, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon; mix into butter and sugar in three batches,

alternating with molasses and milk. Stir in soaked fruit and chopped nuts. Scrape batter into prepared pan.

4. Bake in preheated oven for 40 to 45 minutes. Cool in the pan for 10 minutes, then sprinkle with 2 tablespoons rum.

5. Cut out one piece parchment paper and one piece cheesecloth, each large enough to wrap around the cake. Moisten cheesecloth with 1 tablespoon rum. Arrange cheesecloth on top of parchment paper, and unmold cake onto it. Sprinkle top and sides of cake with remaining rum. Wrap the cheesecloth closely to the surface of the cake, then wrap with paper. Place in an airtight tin, and age for at least 10 weeks. If storing longer, douse with additional rum for every 10 weeks of storage.

Hot Spiced Cider

This recipe calls for an automatic coffee maker, but says a slow cooker or saucepan over medium heat will work as well. Recipe yield: 2 quarts.

- 1 pinch ground nutmeg
- 1 large orange, quartered with peel
- 2 quarts apple cider

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon whole allspice
- 1 teaspoon whole cloves
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

DIRECTIONS:

1. Place filter in coffee basket, and fill with brown sugar, allspice, cloves, cinnamon stick, salt, nutmeg, and orange wedges. Pour apple cider into coffee pot where the water usually goes. Brew, and serve hot.

Raspberry and Apricot Rugelach

A yummy and extra fruity version of this traditional cookie. Recipe yield: 4 dozen.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 8-ounce package cream cheese, softened
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup white sugar
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 3/4 cup dried apricots, chopped
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup seedless raspberry preserves
- 1 tablespoon milk

DIRECTIONS:

1. In large bowl, with mixer at low speed, beat margarine or butter with cream cheese until blended and smooth. Beat in vanilla extract, salt, 1 cup flour, and 1/4 cup sugar until blended.
2. With spoon, stir in remaining flour. Divide dough into 4 equal pieces. Wrap each with plastic wrap and refrigerate until firm, at least 2 hours or overnight.
3. To Prepare Filling: In

medium bowl, with spoon, stir walnuts, apricots, brown sugar,

1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons white sugar, and 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon until well mixed.

4. Line 2 large baking sheets with foil and grease foil.

5. On lightly floured surface, with floured rolling pin, roll 1 piece of chilled dough into a 9-inch round, keeping remaining dough refrigerated. Spread dough with 2 tablespoons raspberry preserves. Sprinkle with about 1/2 cup apricot filling; gently press filling onto dough. With pastry wheel or sharp knife, cut dough into 12 equal wedges. Starting at curved edge, roll up each wedge, jelly-roll fashion. Place cookies on foil-lined cookie sheet, point-side down, about 1/2 inch apart. Repeat with remaining dough, one-fourth at a time.

6. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).

7. In cup, mix remaining 2 tablespoons sugar with 1 teaspoon cinnamon.

With pastry brush, brush rugelach with milk. Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar.

8. Bake rugelach at 325 degrees F (165 degrees C) on 2 oven racks about 30 to 35 minutes, until golden, rotating cookie sheets between upper and lower racks halfway through baking time. Immediately remove rugelach to wire racks to cool. Store in tightly covered container.



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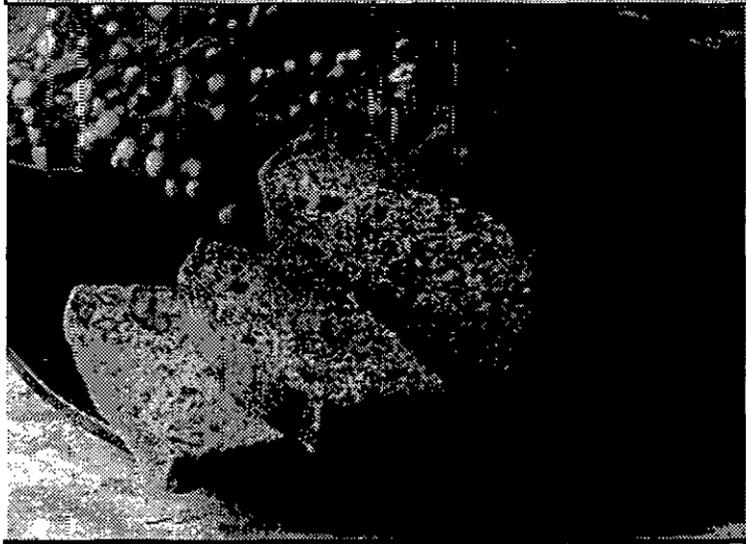
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Give the gift... of food



Pumpkin Bread

Recipe yield: 2 loaves.

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 3 cups white sugar

- 1 cup canola oil
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups solid pack pumpkin puree
- 2/3 cup water

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease two loaf pans.
2. In a medium mixing bowl, combine flour, baking soda, salt, baking powder, nutmeg, allspice,

- cinnamon and cloves.
- 3. In a large bowl with an electric mixer, blend sugar, oil and eggs. Stir in pumpkin. Slowly blend the flour mixture into pumpkin mixture. While blending the mixture add water incrementally. Pour the batter into two prepared loaf pans.
- 4. Bake in a preheated 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) oven for 90 minutes. Let cool for 10 minutes before removing from the pans.

Good Dog Cookies

Don't forget your dog this holiday season!
Recipe yield: 1 dozen.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 1/2 cups whole wheat flour
- 3/4 cup nonfat dry milk powder
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 2 cubes beef bouillon cube
- 3/4 cup boiling water
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F (150 degrees C). Lightly grease one cookie sheet.
2. Dissolve bouillon cubes in boiling water and allow to cool.
3. Combine the flour, dry milk, egg, oil, beef broth and brown sugar. Mix well and knead dough for 1 minute.
4. On a floured surface roll out dough to about 1/4 inch thickness. Cut into the shape of bones and place on cookie sheet.
5. Bake for 30 minutes and allow to cool.

Holiday Wreaths

A great gift idea and a fun project to do with the kids.
Recipe yield: 16 wreaths.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/3 cup butter
- 1 (10.5 ounce) package large marshmallows
- 6 cups cornflakes cereal
- 1 teaspoon green food coloring
- 1/4 cup cinnamon red hot candies

DIRECTIONS:

1. Melt margarine in a large pan over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir constantly until marshmallows melt and mixture is syrupy. Remove from heat. Stir in food coloring. Add corn flakes and stir until well coated.
2. Drop mixture, by 1/4 cupful, onto cookie sheet. Using buttered fingers, quickly shape into individual wreaths. Dot with cinnamon candies.



Peppermint Brittle

Peppermint. White chocolate. Could it be any simpler?
Recipe yield: 2 1/4 pounds.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 pounds white chocolate
- 30 small peppermint candy canes

DIRECTIONS:

1. Line a large jellyroll pan with heavy-duty foil.
2. Place white chocolate in a microwave-safe bowl. Heat in microwave on medium setting for 5 to 6 minutes. Stir occasionally, until chocolate is melted and smooth.
3. Place candy canes in a plastic bag, or between two pieces of waxed paper. Using a mallet or rolling pin, break the candy canes into chunks. Stir peppermint into melted white chocolate. Spread evenly in pan, and chill until set, about 1 hour. Break into pieces by slamming pan on counter.

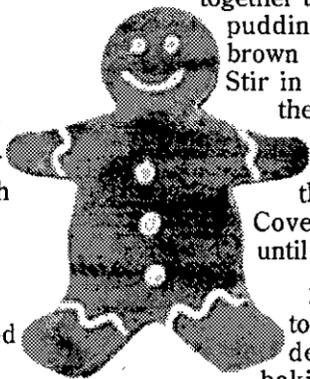
Gingerbread Men

A molasses-free recipe.
Recipe yield: 2 1/2 dozen.

DIRECTIONS:

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (3.5 ounce) package cook- and-serve butterscotch pudding mix
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon



1. In a medium bowl, cream together the dry butterscotch pudding mix, butter, and brown sugar until smooth. Stir in the egg. Combine the flour, baking soda, ginger, and cinnamon; stir into the pudding mixture. Cover, and chill dough until firm, about 1 hour.
2. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease baking sheets. On a floured board, roll dough out to about 1/8 inch thickness, and cut into man shapes using a cookie cutter. Place cookies 2 inches apart on the prepared baking sheets.
3. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes in the preheated oven, until cookies are golden at the edges. Cool on wire racks.

Scented Applesauce-Cinnamon Ornaments

Meant to be used to make ornaments, this recipe makes a fun project to work on with the kids. Drop a little cinnamon oil on ornament to restore its fragrance.
Recipe yield: 15 ornaments.

into cookie cutter shapes. Flatten the mixture on a flat surface and cut into cookie cutter shapes. depending on the size and thickness of the cookies. If using as a hanging ornament, make hole with toothpick before drying.

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 cups applesauce
- 3 cups ground cinnamon

DIRECTIONS:

1. Mix applesauce and cinnamon together until it is thick enough to hold a form when cut



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Buying gifts... online

Holiday shopping online: Internet cookies are good

Judging from the rising number of computer viruses, online phishing scams and incidents of Web-based identity theft, it is little wonder that consumers doing their holiday shopping are growing increasingly frightened of becoming a victim on the Internet. This widespread fear among consumers has caused many Web users to become wary of even the most trusted Web sites they visit, as well as some of the basic technologies that for years have served to enhance the Web experience.

In fact, one of the clear victims of this wave of fear has been the much-maligned Internet cookie.

Cookies are small elements of data that Web sites store on visitors' Web browsers in order to provide them with a more tailored user experience. Cookies recognize a user's Internet browsing behavior and can be used to display information in response to this behavior, as well as remember Web site passwords and preferences, and personalize specific pages, content, banner ads, and promotions that appear on the site. Perhaps most important to an Internet user, cookies are used by advertisers to limit the number of times that a particular user sees the same ad, and by Web

publishers to limit the number of pop-up or pop-under ads that a user receives per day.

For example, cookies can reduce the chance that a 25-year-old single male is served an ad for diapers when he goes to his

favorite sports site. Web sites also use cookies to better understand Internet traffic patterns so they can enhance the user experience and provide more relevant information about their products and the content available on their site. Cookies are not dangerous or malicious, but widespread

confusion has led many consumers to view them as just that. In fact, a survey conducted in early 2005 by JupiterResearch found as much as 39 percent of U.S. Web surfers delete cookies from their computers at least once

month, with 17 percent erasing cookies once a week and 10 percent cleaning them out daily.

Many in the online advertising industry believe the reason so many consumers are taking precious time to eradicate cookies from their system is simply misinformation or lack of understanding. In fact, marketers at a recent Network Advertising Initiative (NAI) conference in New York identified consumer education as central to proactively addressing the issue of cookie deletion.

"The popular misconceptions consumers have about cookies have led them to be unfairly associated with spyware and other malicious software," explained David J. Moore, chairman and CEO of 24/7 Real Media, an Internet marketing pioneer and a leading provider of global online

advertising services.

"The average consumer doesn't understand the purpose and benefits of cookies, nor do they grasp the basic limitations of the information they can provide, so they mistakenly label cookies as something that is bad," he added. The bottom line is that cookies play an important role in creating a positive Internet experience, and the online advertising industry must do a better job of educating consumers that cookies are good for you online.

According to Moore, here are some of the most prevalent myths about cookies, followed by the real facts:

• **Myth 1:** Cookies, like worms and viruses, are harmful to Web users and their computers.

Fact: Cookies are not harmful. Unlike worms and viruses, cookies cannot damage your computer or the data saved on your hard drive. They are simply tiny text files, placed on a computer by a Web server and are only readable by the same server that placed them.

• **Myth 2:** Cookies are another form of spyware bent on stealing sensitive personal information and invading a Web user's privacy.

Fact: Cookies only contain basic information such as a user's browser type and IP address, or information that the user has voluntarily supplied, such as a stored password or preferences to customize a favorite site. Unlike spyware or computer viruses, cookies cannot be configured to do anything more

than track anonymous Web user behavior.

• **Myth 3:** Disabling or deleting cookies results in a safer, more enjoyable Web experience.

Fact: This is not true — in fact, cookies are what make the Web a more enjoyable, personalized experience. Without cookies, Internet users would have to remember all the passwords to all the different sites they visit. They would not be able to receive customized content, such as news, stock prices, sports scores or weather, and online shopping would be very cumbersome — if not impossible. Instead, consumers would receive irrelevant information and content, such as advertising that fails to correspond with their personal interests and needs. In addition, disabling or deleting cookies does not make Web users safer from viruses or other similar online threats.

• **Myth 4:** Cookies only serve the interests of online advertisers.

Fact: Cookies are beneficial to all Internet users, advertisers, online content providers and consumers, but in different ways. Like TV and radio, much of the Internet is supported by advertising. To keep content on the Web free for consumers, online publishers need to generate advertising revenue, and advertisers need to reach the right audience. Cookies help to do this more effectively while making sure that consumers are not getting bombarded with irrelevant or duplicative ads, content or promotions that can diminish the quality and value of the Web surfing experience.

"Consumers need to understand that retaining cookies will provide them the optimum online experience and foster the continued improvement and positive evolution on the Web," adds Moore. As online publishers' revenues increase, so will the quality and quantity of the site content they make available to consumers. The increased retention of cookies will also help ensure that the sites people visit remain free of subscription charges — something most consumers will agree is good for everyone on the Web.



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Buying gifts... *online*

Put the Web to good use by comparison shopping

If you have a lot of people on your Christmas list this year, you're probably already dreading the thought of pushing your way through the crowds, dealing with long lines, and then handing over more of your hard-earned money than you thought you'd spend. The holidays are traditionally a time of year when deals are hard to find.

"But that's changing, thanks to the Internet," said Christian Del Monte, the director of operations for TMA E-Marketing, a large Minnesota-based Internet mar-

keting company. "Businesses have discovered that they can significantly boost their bottom line by simply extending their offerings online. Companies can now sell the same merchandise they carry in their stores, and in many cases, at lower prices because of the reduction in costly overhead. As a result, the savings are passed right back to the consumer."

According to Jupitermedia Corp., online shoppers spent \$23.2 billion during the 2004 holiday season, and that number

is expected to grow by 25 percent or more this year. Online merchants are already gearing up for this holiday season, so whether you're shopping for new cookware, the latest hot toys, or the newest digital gadget, you most likely will be able to find them online and without worrying about long lines or finding a parking space.

But where do you go to find the best deals on the Internet? Christian recommends popular online shopping comparison destinations such as Froogle,

Google's price comparison sister Web site; Yahoo! Shopping, which has a very large online store database; and Shopping.com one of largest retail destination sites on the Web.

All three offer multiple listings from stores selling the products people want. For example, if you're in the market for one of this year's hottest selling electronic gadgets, Apple's 2 GB iPod Nano, you can find it for as low as \$140 at a business with a listing on Froogle; \$169.99 on Yahoo! Shopping! And \$188 on Shop-

ping.com. Apple Computer's Web site lists the suggested retail price at \$199. Plus in most cases, shipping fees are waived.

Comparison shopping sites are a powerful tool not only for consumers, but companies, big and small, as well. "Advertising in shopping comparison Web sites is highly effective if your products are positioned relative to what people are searching for. People don't have the time to scroll through dozens of listings. They want to find the information they're looking for fast; and we work with businesses to get their listings at the top of shopping search engines."

Fortunately, when it comes to comparison shopping, consumers are the real winners. As more merchants and businesses find their way to the marketplace, online competition will likely leave consumers paying even lower prices. According to a study conducted by Nielsen/Net-Ratings in August 2003, 16 percent of the active U.S. Internet users shop using a shopping comparison Web site and traffic growth rates are expected to grow at a rate of between 55 and 81 percent annually.

Remembering the victims

What can you do this holiday season for children and families shaken by this unprecedented year of disasters? Send them a gift of love.

From hurricanes along the United States Gulf Coast to the recent crippling earthquake in Pakistan, this year has brought tragedy, sorrow and loss to millions of poor families around the world. As the year comes to a close, many of them are still homeless and suffering, having lost everything they own.

This year, instead of buying friends and relatives another sweater or coffee-table book, many thoughtful shoppers are making charitable donations that help people in need and honor loved ones at the same time.

One international humanitarian organization, Mercy Corps, has made it easy for holiday shoppers to find and purchase meaningful gifts this year. The organization offers more than 20 unique "Mercy Kits." These kits give shoppers an array of choices for making a contribution to the organization's lifesaving programs while also providing an unforgettable gift for that special someone on the holiday list.

Many people are attracted to the idea of charitable gifts because they add special meaning to the holiday season. While many people dread the frantic rush and commercialization of holiday shopping, options like Mercy Kits offer a way for concerned individuals to

give a gift that makes a difference and gives both the buyer and recipient something to feel good about long after the season's over.

Another reason that people like Mercy Kits is how easy it is to pick and purchase them. Shoppers can avoid long lines and crowded parking lots by finding and buying Mercy Kits online.

Each Mercy Kit recipient receives an attractive personalized card from the friend, family member or co-worker who made a donation to Mercy Corps in his/her name. This card offers insightful information about the program to which the contribution was made.

Some of the Mercy Kits that will be offered this year include:

A Hurricane Relief Kit that helps to ensure hurricane-affected families can reconstruct their homes and revitalize communities quickly and effectively.

A School Lunch Kit helps supply high-energy nutritional food to undernourished African children, helping them stay healthy and remain in school.

A Peace Kit, which helps poor families in Iraq to achieve peaceful communities and rebuild ruined infrastructure such as hospitals and schools.

In this year of disasters, more families than ever need our help. A Mercy Kit is a convenient, thoughtful way to send a gift of love this holiday season.

The agency is offering Mercy Kits through its Web site, www.mercycorps.org.

Give the gift of charity...

Can't find the right gift? How about a charitable donation? Here are some organizations that accept gift donations/memberships online:

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www.habitat.org

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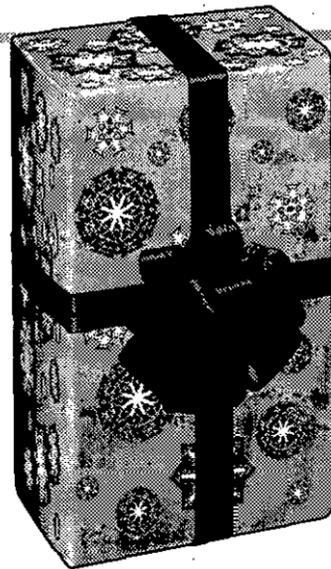
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Buying gifts... for kids

Clothes, magazines a sure bet with teens

By Samm Erickson

We all know that the teen years can be tough for the individual and for the family. Teens change rapidly. They are subject to changes in hormones and the changes brought about as they develop an identity. These changes are only compounded by intense peer pressure to conform and "be cool." Buying gifts for teens can be difficult, but successful gifts are not out of your reach. Teens are most concerned about being unique, so you will want to select gifts that will help them express themselves.

There are some things that you will probably want to avoid when buying for teens. Clothes might be the No. 1 item on that list. Teens are very particular about what they wear. They are often very concerned about how they look and what is in style. You may not get the style or even the size right. Even gift cards to clothing stores can be a hazard if you don't know where the teens on your list shop.

The simplest gift to give teens is money. It is something that they always need and can be used just about anywhere. You may be reluctant to give cold hard cash, but most teens won't be concerned about the propriety or impersonal nature of the gift; they will only be worried about the denomination. You don't need to give a lot of money either because

teens will appreciate the freedom that any amount of cash has to offer. Gift cards are also a great idea for teens. These will encourage the freedom that teens really long for by allowing them to make choices. Music, movie or gas cards will be appreciated.

The most important part of giving gifts is to know the

interests of the person you are giving to. Magazine subscriptions are a great way to encourage the interests of teens. If the recipient is interested in clothing and fashion or customizing low-rider trucks, there is a magazine available for them. Subscriptions often take time to get started, so you may want to buy

the current issue of the magazine as your initial gift. Look for other unique ways to encourage the interests of teens. You might plan a special event around their favorite musical group or watch their favorite sporting event with them.

The desires and interests of teens can change rapidly, so

spend some time talking to them on the phone and catching up before heading out to shop. You could also talk to their parents to coordinate appropriate gifts. Stay away from trendy gifts. Look for classic gifts that will stand up over time or distinct experiences that will last forever in the recipient's mind.

Mind ratings when buying video games for children

By Samm Erickson

There is no doubt about it: some video games contain violent content. Many people, in fact, have decried the increasing violence portrayed in video games made for children. They argue that children will act out the visions they see in video games and become increasingly hostile in their everyday lives. While that may occur, violence in general is not necessarily dangerous for children. For years now, children have been exposed to violence through books like the original Grimm's fairy tales and play like cops and robbers or cowboys and Indians. Violence, unfortunately, is a part of life, and many researchers have argued that some level of fantasy violence can actually help children cope with the violence they see in the real world.

Whatever view you take, it is important that you know your child and how they will react to the nature of the content of a

particular game in order to select the most appropriate video games for them. Some children do have a difficult time separating reality and fantasy and will be prone to act out the violent images they see in video games. If your child fits into this category, it is important that you be aware of the content of the video games you buy. Fortunately, the government has developed a ratings system to help parents make more informed choices when buying video games for their children.

Each year, the Entertainment Software Ratings Board (ESRB) assigns video games for platforms like Playstation and Xbox as well as home computers a rating. Ranging from "EC" for early childhood to "AO" for adults only, ESRB ratings provide parents with some idea as to the nature of a game's content.

Games rated for early childhood are suitable for children three years and older, games rated "T" are suitable for those 13 or older, and games rated "M" are suitable for those 17 and older. Games rated "T"

may have violence, minimal blood and infrequent use of profanity, while games rated "M" for mature may contain intense violence, sexual content and blood and gore.

for yourself how your child interacts with the game and answer any questions that might come up. In all likelihood, your child will play video games at other friends' homes, so it is



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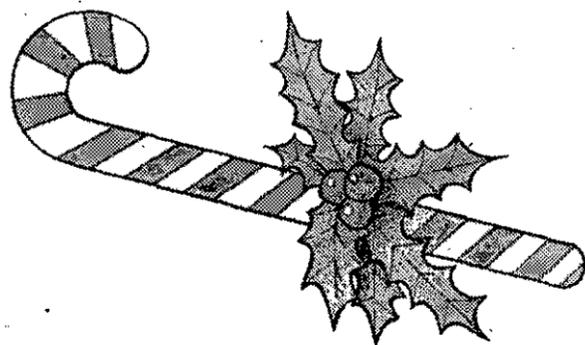
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The ESRB is responsible for assigning more than 1,000 of these ratings every year. According to the organization, parents agree with their ratings 83 percent of the time. By observing the ESRB ratings, you can ensure that your child receives the messages that you want them to.

Of course, the best way to make certain that the video games you buy your child are appropriate is to play the games with them. That way, you can see

important to engage them in some discussion of the content of any of the video games that they play.

Whatever the nature of their content, many children love video games and crave the opportunity to play them. They often don't care about the violence in video games. As a parent, you do and it is important that you know the content of any games you plan to purchase as well as how your child will react with them before giving them to your child.



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Class of 1955 jumpstarts Festival Fund holiday appeal

By KAREN HARMON

The Bethlehem Festival Fund's 2005 holiday appeal got a special start after the Bethlehem High School class of 1955 held its 50th year reunion this fall and decided to donate \$734 in memory of deceased classmates.

The Festival Fund, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization, has served Bethlehem residents since 1942 when it was known as the "White Christmas Festival." According to President Greg Jackson, "Requests for assistance are up 45 percent this year, reflecting greater need among community members."

Jackson was grateful to the class of '55.

"We appreciate the class of 1955's generosity and their donation is a great start toward our goal of \$25,000 this holiday season," he said.

Class representative Marilyn Peterson reminisced about the Bethlehem school and community celebrating the White Christmas Festival with music and pageants every year.

"Everyone participated, and we all have fond memories of that event," she wrote. "We still feel a very strong connection, whether we live in this area or now reside hundreds of miles away. Our donation reflects how we feel about this community where we grew up."

All of the monies donated to the Festival Fund are used to

meet temporary needs that are not met by traditional assistance programs. School personnel and the Bethlehem Senior Services Department make most of the referrals to the Festival Fund. Requests are considered on a case-by-case basis with the utmost confidentiality. Over 200 families and individuals

have received assistance so far this year and the Fund provided over 80 food baskets to needy families last holiday season. The fund covers items such as eyeglasses and hearing aids, medications, utility bills and

tutoring services for children. The Festival Fund also awarded \$1,500 college scholarships to three Bethlehem High School graduates this past spring.

Tax-deductible donations can be mailed to the Bethlehem

Festival Fund, P.O. Box 341, Delmar 12054. To learn more about the Festival Fund or to make food donations for the holiday season, call 439-7828 or e-mail BethFestFund@aol.com.

"Requests for assistance are up 45 percent this year, reflecting greater need among community members."

Greg Jackson

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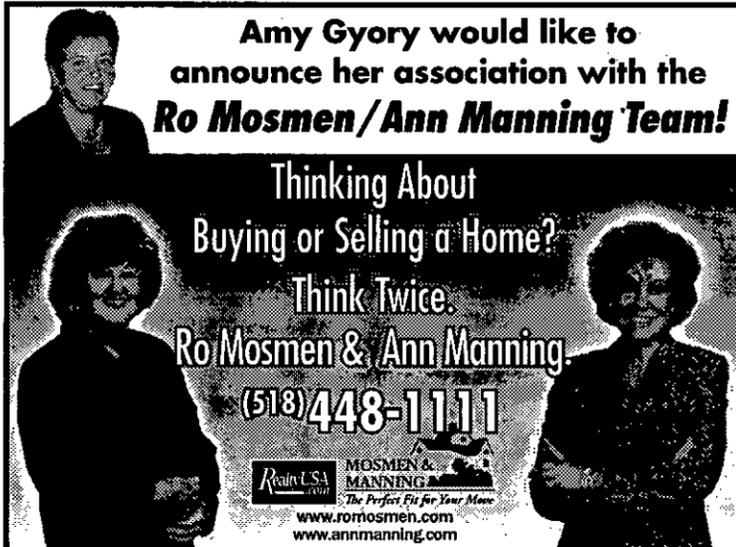
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Student wins 'Friendly's Fab 50'

Sydney Shaw is one of 50 winners of the "Friendly's Fab 50" 2005 contest sponsored by Friendly Ice Cream Corporation.

The contest was open to children age 8 to 12 in Albany, Hartford, Springfield, Boston and Pennsylvania. More than 1,800 contestants submitted a 50-word essay describing, "Why you are cool enough for the coolest job in the world."

Winners were selected to serve on a test panel in their area for new product recipes and flavors and shared their opinions, insights, and suggestions on everything from ice cream to menu design for Friendly Ice Cream Corporation. Prizes distributed to the winners included a \$100 U.S. Savings

Bond; a \$50 Friendly's gift card; 10 coupons for a half gallon of Friendly's ice cream; Friendly's Fab 50 gear package including T-shirts, hat, backpack, computer mouse pad, computer mouse, water bottle, 50 trading cards with the finalist's picture; and a Friendly's Ice Cream Party for 50 people at the finalist's school. Approximate retail value to each finalist is \$500.

Sydney extended her ice cream party to include all 70 of her fellow fourth grade students at Elsmere Elementary School on Oct. 31. Joe Bouck, the general manager of Friendly's in Delmar, supplied all of the ice cream, toppings and supplies, and several teachers and parents helped with the ice cream scooping.



Contest winner Sydney Shaw, left, with her classmates at an ice cream party at Elsmere Elementary School.

Retina Research Center opens



Bethlehem Town Supervisor Theresa Egan and Dr. Paul Beer attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony, Nov. 10, for the opening of the Retina Research Center at the New Lions Eye Institute, 1220 New Scotland Road, Suite 201, Bethlehem. The Retina Research Center engages in numerous clinical trials of new medications, implantable devices and surgical procedures for retina diseases such as macular degeneration, diabetes, etc. For information, visit www.RetinaResearchFoundation.org

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Obituaries *in the* Spotlight

Navee Pohlsander

Navee Newby Pohlsander of Delmar died Wednesday, Nov. 9, at St Peter's Hospital in Albany.

Born in Salt Lake City, Utah, she graduated from East High School in Salt Lake City, earned a bachelor's degree in nutrition from the University of Utah and a master's degree in public health from the University of California, Berkeley.

Mrs. Pohlsander worked as a dietitian in hospitals in Seattle, Boise, Idaho and Phoenix, Ariz.

and served for several years as the director of the WIC program in Albany. She and her husband raised their family in Delmar.

Mrs. Pohlsander was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and served in numerous callings. She was keenly interested in many subjects, read broadly, and enjoyed frequent and extended world travels with her husband. Her creative activities included family history work, quilting and playing the marimba.

Survivors include her husband, Hans A. Pohlsander; three daughters, Dianne M. Pohlsander, Eileen Lee Pohlsander and Margaret K. Lund (Mrs. Kevin Lund); and six grandchildren.

Services were from Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Interment was in Bethlehem Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to St. Peter's Hospital Foundation, 315 S. Manning Blvd., Albany 12208.

Burke of Lynnfield, Mass.; a sister, of Anna VandeWal of Castleton; and six grandchildren.

Services were from the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle in Delmar.

Arrangements were by Daniel Keenan Funeral Home in Albany.

Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in East Greenbush. Contributions may be made to Diocese of Albany, Office of Prayer and Worship (memo-Table of the Lord), 40 N. Main Ave., Albany 12203 or Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, 35 Adams Place, Delmar 12054.

his brother, building forts and making friends with trees. He enjoyed traveling with his family and camping in many national parks and particularly loved the ocean, trails and tide pools of Acadia National Park. He was a good chess player, an avid computer game player, and he loved to drive.

Services were from the Church of the Holy Spirit, 667 Columbia Turnpike, East Greenbush, 12061.

Contributions can be made to the Aloha Foundation, Inc. at 2968 Lake Morey Road, Fairlee, Vt. 05045.

Diana Dutton

Diana C. Testa Dutton, 81, of Selkirk died Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Born in Albany, she was the widow of William P. Dutton. Mrs. Dutton worked at Levi's Dress Factory and later as a dishwasher for Joseph's Restaurant in Selkirk, Lou's Diner in Ravena and LaCasa's Restaurant in Selkirk.

Survivors include two daughters, Dorothy Dutton of Selkirk and Phyllis Ingraham of New Baltimore; a son, William Dutton, of Selkirk, six sisters, Rose Crisafulli of Albany, Angie Meilak and Toni Robbins, both of Selkirk, Ruth and Catherine Testa, both of Glenmont, and Mary Poff of Florida; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Daughters of Sarah and Community Hospice of Albany.

Services were from St. Patrick's Church in Ravena.

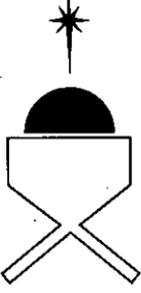
Burial was in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Coeymans.

Arrangements were by Babcock Funeral Home in Ravena.

Contributions may be made to the Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance Service or to Senior Projects of Ravena.

Letters policy

Spotlight Newspapers welcomes letters from readers on subjects of local and regional interest. Letters are subject to editing for fairness, style and length.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Nov. 23 • 7:00 p.m.

Followed by Fellowship Hour
at

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
85 Elm Ave., Delmar • 439-4328
Rev. Mark Mueller, Pastor

Gerald Burke

Gerald R. Burke, 73, of Slingerlands died Sunday, Nov. 6, at his home.

Born in Albany, Mr. Burke worked for the state for 32 years, retiring in 1988.

He was a communicant of the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle.

Survivors include his wife, Katherine Macri Burke; two daughters, Kelly Lynn of Chicago, Ill., and Karen Monroe of Halfmoon; a son, and Paul

Woody Clark

Woody Easterly Clark, 20, of Feura Bush died Saturday, Nov. 5, at his home.

Survivors include his parents, Larry Clark and Mary Anne Barry; a brother Moss Clark; his grandparents, Bruce and Norma Weegar of Malta and Richard and Martha Barry of Sandy Creek.

He was a graduate of LaSalle Institute in Troy and attended Holy Spirit School in East Greenbush. He grew up in Averill Park where he loved playing with



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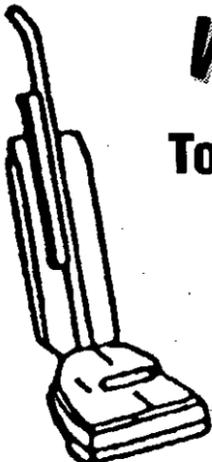
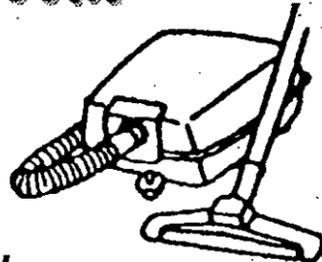
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Obituaries

Jeanne Morris

Jeanne Jenny Vincenzia Cioffi Morris, 93, of Palm Beach, Fla., died Wednesday, Nov. 16.

She lived in Delmar and Nassau, before moving to Florida.

In the early 40s, Jeanne opened a small lakeside restaurant on Nassau Lake where together with her family she became a local icon with visitors traveling for miles to enjoy her famous homemade ice-cream, specialty items and an offer of friendship to all.

She was the widow of John J. Morris.

Survivors include three sons, John Morris of Stephentown, William Morris of Nassau and Richard Morris of East Greenbush; a daughter, Patricia Scarlett of Palm Beach; two brothers, Michael Cioffi and William Cioffi; two sisters, Linda Miller and Genevieve Cioffi; 20 grandchildren; and 32 great-grandchildren. The family would like to thank the staff at Newgate Adult Day program and Bethlehem Senior Services.

Interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Nassau.

Contributions may be made to Newgate Adult Day Care, 301 Washington Ave., Albany 12206 or Bethlehem Senior Projects, Inc. 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar 12054.

Walter Smith

Walter J. Smith, 69, of Delmar died Tuesday, Nov. 8, at his home.

Born in Albany, he retired from the former USA Corporate Services, Inc. in 1998.

Survivors include a brother, George W. Smith of Albany; and three sisters, Ann Conklin of East Greenbush, Mary Lou Tuck of Delmar and Virginia Doherty of Nassau.

Services were from the Chapel of St. Thomas the Apostle in Delmar.

Burial was in Our Lady Help of Christians Cemetery in Glensmont.

Contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 440 New Karner Road, Colonie 12205-3890 or Delmar Fire Department Rescue Squad, Box 337, Delmar 12054.

Marie Vadney

Marie H. Vadney, 85, of Delmar, died Monday, Nov. 7, at Good Samaritan Lutheran Health Care Center in Delmar.

Born in Albany, she was a lifelong resident of the town of Bethlehem.

She was the widow of Earl D. Vadney.

She was a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and Albany Business College.

Mrs. Vadney was a devoted lifelong member of First Reformed Church of Bethlehem and a member of the Bethlehem Grange for many years. She was also a former member of the University Club of Albany.

Survivors include a nephew, Glenn Vadney of Delmar; and a cousin, Walter C. Hotaling of Delmar.

Services were from Applebee Funeral Home in Delmar.

Burial was in Elmwood (Bethlehem Rural) Cemetery, Route 9W in Selkirk.

Contributions may be made to First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Route 9W, Selkirk 12158 or the Alzheimer's Association of Northeastern New York, Chapter, 85 Watervliet Ave., Albany 12206.

Priscilla Van Woert

Priscilla H. "Polly" Van Woert, 71, of Delmar died Tuesday, Nov. 8, at her home.

Born in Cambridge, Mass., she was proud of her ancestry and being a direct descendant of Samuel Fuller and Perigrene White, who traveled to this country on the Mayflower.

She graduated from Walnut Hill School in Natick, Mass., in 1951 and Russell Sage College with a degree in nursing in 1955.

She worked at Albany Medical Center Hospital and later taught nursing at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston.

Mrs. Van Woert was a member

of Normanside Country Club and Delmar Reformed Church.

She loved antiques, traveling and spending time with her grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband Doctor Irving Van Woert, Jr.; three daughters, Joanne Van Woert, MD of Voorheesville, Janet Ratliff of Cooperstown and Judy Van Woert, MD of Delmar; and 10 grandchildren.

Services were from Applebee Funeral Home Delmar.

Burial was in Bethlehem Cemetery.

Contributions may be made to Russell Sage College Annual Fund, 92 1st St., Troy 12180.

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Milestones *in the* Spotlight

Class of '05

RPI

Mathieu Digeser of Delmar, bachelor's of science in mechanical engineering, cum laude.

Adele Godfrey-Certner, of Delmar, bachelor's of science in biomedical engineering.

Jose Colon of Delmar, bachelor's of science in electrical engineering.

Michael Banner of Delmar, bachelor's of science in civil engineering.

Jessica Menrath of Glenmont, bachelor's of science in electronic arts.

Derek McGough of Slingerlands, bachelor's of science in aeronautical engineering.

Dipti Bhoiwala of Slingerlands, bachelor's of science in biochemistry and biophysics,

magna cum laude.

Brendan Shields of Voorheesville, bachelor's of science in electronic media, arts and communication; summa cum laude.

Albany Law School

Michael Greg Jones of Glenmont, juris doctor.

Bucknell University

Christina L. Macmillan of Delmar, bachelor's of arts in English and philosophy, magna cum laude.

SUNY College at Oneonta

Amy Lynn Deitz of Delmar, bachelor's of science in early childhood education, cum laude.

Elizabeth Amy Downey of Delmar, bachelor's of science in business economics.

Ashley Rose Levine of Delmar, bachelor's of science in early childhood education.

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For information or an announcement form, call 439-4949.

Mail announcements to: The Spotlight, Attn: Bridal Dept., P.O. Box 100, Delmar 12054.

Got news?
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Joann Mababa and Kevin Gallagher

Mababa, Gallagher engaged

Joann Mababa, daughter of Beatriz Mababa of Ewa Beach, Hawaii, and the late Antonio Mababa, and Kevin Gallagher, son of Thomas Gallagher of Albany and Patricia Gallagher of Glenmont, are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of the University of Hawaii.

She is a senior auditor for the

Federal government in Washington, D.C.

The future groom is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and Pennsylvania State University.

He is a financial analyst for the Federal government in Washington, D.C.

The couple plans an April 23 wedding.

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Bridal Show Dates, Articles: 1st Planning Step, Bridal Experts, Pre-marital Stress, Past Relationships. www.PocketWeddingGuide.com

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Entertainment *in the* Spotlight

By KATHERINE MCCARTHY

Some musicians wait a lifetime to play at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Some Capital District students will play there before they graduate from high school. They're members of the Empire State Youth Orchestra, which will perform at the vaunted music venue next spring.



Helen Cha-Pyo, Conductor of The Empire State Youth Orchestra

Capital District residents don't need to buy an Amtrak ticket or think about driving and parking in Manhattan to hear them, though; ESYO plays some 30 concerts in the Capital District between the fall and spring.

A group of parents looking to enrich their students' musical experience started ESYO in 1979. When Barry Richman,

Lois Lyman and Eleanor Barnes started the youth orchestra, it was just one orchestra. Today, there are 300 students in nine ensembles.

"There are two full orchestras, a wind ensemble, a jazz ensemble, a string ensemble and three percussion ensembles," ESYO's Executive Director Susan Brome said. "We also have a city strings training program in three Schenectady schools and one in Albany. In that program, we provide a teacher who works with students in those schools."

ESYO members come from 90 different schools in the Capital District, Vermont and Massachusetts, and all share a passion for music. The youngest students are in third or fourth grade; the oldest are seniors in high school.

"The kids are wonderful," Brome said. "It's a joy to hear them perform."

Students are admitted to ESYO's ensembles by audition only, and must re-audition each year.

Emma Goldsmith-Rooney of Delmar willingly tries out again every year. Goldsmith-Rooney has played violin since she was 5; now 16, this is her seventh year with ESYO.

She started in the string ensemble, and has played in the youth orchestra for the past three years.

"I love it," Goldsmith-Rooney said. "It's cool to play advanced music with your peers. I've made a lot of friends with ESYO who really love music."

Brome said that contact with other students who are equally passionate about music is one of the things kids like best about ESYO.

"For most of the kids in ESYO, music is at the top of their commitment list," Goldsmith-Rooney said.

Goldsmith-Rooney also had high praise for the youth orchestra's conductor, Helen Cha-Pyo, who travels from New Jersey to work with the orchestra.

"She's very motivational and inspiring," Goldsmith-Rooney said.



Brad Eiser, bassoonist with Empire State Youth Orchestra

From Capital to Carnegie

Talented musicians delight audiences

In addition to motivation, inspiration, and talent, the musicians work hard.

There are weekly three-hour rehearsals, some of which include time with a sectional coach, and 30 concerts, which means dress rehearsal time in addition to the regular schedule.

"Sometimes I'm conflicted, and it can be hard to make concessions," Goldsmith-Rooney said of the time commitment "But it's definitely worth it. When we get good results from an audience after playing strongly for an hour, it's great."

And that gig at Carnegie Hall?

"It was pretty amazing," Goldsmith-Rooney said. She played there when she was 14 and will be returning in the spring. "When you get there, you're expecting something different. It's just a regular hall, but it's

great to play someplace so famous."

Closer to home, ESYO performs at venues throughout the Capital District. The string ensemble and wind

ensemble will perform at Albany's Cathedral of All Saints on Nov. 20 at 4 p.m. The wind orchestra and jazz ensemble will play at St. Joseph's Auditorium at The College of Saint Rose on Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. and all three percussion ensembles will play at The College of Saint Rose on Dec. 22. The youth orchestra will play at CBS 6's Melodies of Christmas concerts from Dec. 15 - 18 at Proctor's Theater in Schenectady.

Regular ESYO tickets range in price from \$3 to \$15, depending on the group performing. For information, call 382-7581 or visit the Web site, www.esyo.org.



Arts & Entertainment

Theater

BELL, BOOK AND CANDLE
Supernatural comedy presented by Albany Civic Theater, 235 Second Ave., Albany, Fridays through Sundays through Nov. 19, \$12. Information, 462-1297.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
Off-Broadway musical about alien plant presented by Ballston Spa High School, 220 Ballston Ave., Ballston Spa, through Nov. 19, \$7 adults, \$6 students. Information, 884-7150.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
Shakespearean comedy presented by the University at Albany, Performing Arts Center, Uptown Campus, through Nov. 21, \$12 adults, \$6 students, seniors and university staff. Information, 442-3997.

STEEL MAGNOLIAS
Comedy set in the south presented by Curtain Call Theatre, 210 Old Loudon

Road, Latham, through Nov. 26, \$18. Information, 877-7529.

Music

THE NIELDS
Sister folk act, Nov. 18, 8 p.m., WAMC Performing Arts Studio, Central Avenue, Albany, \$15. Information, 465-5233, ext. 4.

TREY ANASTASIO
Former Phish lead singer/songwriter now solo, Nov. 18, 7 p.m., Palace Theatre, Albany, \$38. Information, 465-3334.

CHRIS BOTTI
Young jazz trumpeter, Nov. 18, 8 p.m., Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Troy, \$27 and \$32. Information, 273-0038.

KING WILKIE
Bluegrass band with an edge, Nov. 18, 8 p.m., The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, \$18. Information, 473-1845.

ERIC ANDERSEN
Folk artist who has performed with the likes of Bob Dylan and Janis Joplin, Nov. 19, 8 p.m., WAMC Performing Arts Studio, Central Avenue, Albany, \$18. Information, 465-5233, ext. 4.

PETER YARROW
One-third of Peter, Paul & Mary, with daughter Belhany Yarrow, Nov. 19, 8 p.m., Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Troy, \$25 and \$28. Information, 273-0038.

"A WOMAN'S HEART"
Featuring Mary Black, Maura O'Connell, Sharon Shannon and Cara Dillon, Nov. 19, 8 p.m., The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, \$26. Information, 473-1845.

RIDERS IN THE SKY
For all the young cowpokes and their parents, Nov. 20, 3 p.m., The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, \$12 adults, \$8 children. Information, 473-1845.

311 AND ALIEN ANT FARM
Ska band teams up with pop-rock group, Nov. 22, 7:30 p.m., Washington Avenue

Army, Albany, \$30-35. Information, 694-7160.

GOV'T MULE
Southern jam-rock band, Nov. 26, 7:30 p.m., Palace Theatre, Albany, \$28. Information, 465-3334.

HOT TUNA
Classic rock band offers acoustic and electric versions of its songs, Dec. 4, 7 p.m., The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, \$26. Information, 473-1845.

Empire State Plaza, Madison Avenue. Information, 474-5877.

THE CLARK
"Pastels," featuring works by late 19th- and early 20th-century artists, through June 18; "The Clark: Celebrating 50 Years of Art in Nature" and "50 Favorites," through May 16, 2006; and other ongoing exhibitions. Information, 413-458-0524.

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF ART
"Alice Morgan Wright: Sculptor and Activist," through Dec. 31, plus exhibits on Hudson River School painting, American sculpture, Egypt and the history of Albany, 125 Washington Ave. Information, 463-4478.

SCHENECTADY MUSEUM
"Visions of China," a collection of photographs by Dr. Clinton Millett, through Jan. 8, "Metamorphosis: Then and Now," works by Stanwyck Cromwell, through Dec. 18, plus Spirit of Schenectady, collection highlights and planetarium, Nott Terrace Heights. Information, 382-7890.

ALBANY AIRPORT GALLERY
Site-specific installations by Anthony Garner, Baris Karayazgan, Paul Katz, Nancy Klepsch and Victoria Palermo. Information, 242-2243.

COLLEGE OF SAINT ROSE ART GALLERY
"As I Lay Dreaming," featuring Katarina Wong's drawings and sculptures, through Dec. 4, 324 State St., Albany. Information, 485-3902.

THE HYDE COLLECTION
"Adolph Gottlieb: 1956," through Dec. 11, plus ongoing exhibits, 161 Warren St., Glens Falls. Information, 792-1761.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF DANCE
"Dancing Rebels," an exhibit about the New Dance Group, plus ongoing exhibits, 99 South Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Information, 584-2225.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF RACING AND HALL OF FAME
"Peb: The Art of Humor," featuring horse racing-themed cartoons by Pierre "Peb" Bellocq, through Dec. 31, "Golden Memories: 50 Years of the Racing Hall of Fame," through Dec. 31, 191 Union Ave., Saratoga Springs. Information, 584-0400.

NEW YORK STATE MILITARY MUSEUM
"New York's Fighting Zouaves," through

October, "Battleground for Freedom: New York during the Revolutionary War," and "To the Standard: Civil War Cavalry Flags from the New York State Battle Flag Collection," ongoing, 61 Lake Ave., Saratoga Springs. Information, 581-5100.

SARATOGA AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM
Ongoing exhibits including "East of Detroit" and New York racing featuring race car driven by 1951 Indianapolis 500 champion Lee Wallard of Altamont, 110 Avenue of the Pines, Saratoga Springs. Information, 587-1935, ext. 20.

SKIDMORE COLLEGE
"DRAWN 2: Contemporary Drawings," Schick Art Gallery, through Dec. 18, 815 North Broadway, Saratoga Springs. Information, 580-5049.

Call for Artists

CIRCLE THEATRE PLAYERS
Auditions are being held for productions of Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Nile" and Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," Nov. 28 and 29, 7 p.m., Sand Lake Center for the Arts, 2880 Route 43, Averill Park. Information, 283-4769.

NEW YORK STATE THEATRE INSTITUTE
Theater company has internship opportunities for high school and college students for the spring 2006 season. Interns will get the chance to work with professionals in fields such as box office, costumes, education, lighting, performance, props, scenery, public relations, sound and stage management. Contact Arlene Leff at 274-3573 or 274-3200; or e-mail ailleff@nysti.org.

DELMAR COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA
Openings in the string, horn and percussion sections. Information, 439-7749.

COLONIE TOWN BAND
Several openings, rehearsals on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at town hall, Route 9, Newtonville. Information, 783-2760.

COLONIE CENTENNIAL BRASS CHOIR
Openings for brass players, rehearsals on first Thursday and third Tuesday of the month, at 7:15 p.m., town hall, Route 9, Newtonville. Information, 783-2760.

REMOVE THE 2 MIDDLE LETTERS TO MAKE A NEW WORD

MAGIC MAZE

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | I | M | F | W | C | S | Z | W | E | U | R | P | M | J | |
| G | T | A | H | E | O | A | C | Z | R | X | S | S | U | S | Q |
| N | N | N | B | L | J | D | O | N | U | T | S | G | E | C | |
| Z | X | I | A | V | T | D | A | R | N | P | N | L | J | H | |
| E | C | C | T | A | L | B | E | A | V | E | R | Y | W | | |
| V | T | U | W | A | L | E | D | R | M | P | F | G | N | D | |
| L | K | R | O | A | G | U | I | G | E | C | O | N | B | I | |
| Z | X | E | M | G | T | E | S | I | Q | A | R | I | W | R | |
| U | S | R | A | S | P | E | L | N | O | M | G | S | L | D | |
| J | I | R | N | G | E | D | R | E | O | B | O | O | A | A | |
| Y | X | W | U | T | S | Q | P | S | D | C | T | L | O | M | |

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

- | | | | |
|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| Batwoman | Delegating | Losing | Saddle |
| Beaver | Donuts | Manicure | Students |
| Beggar | Forgot | Manure | Waters |
| Consultant | Iraqis | Meadow | |

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.
Differences: 1. Rocks are missing. 2. Tassel is shorter. 3. Hair is different. 4. Pocket is moved. 5. Zipper is missing. 6. Leg is moved.

Super Crossword

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | | | | | |
| 17 | | | | 18 | | 19 | | | | 20 | | 21 | | 22 | | | | | | |
| 23 | | | | 24 | | | | | | 25 | | | 26 | | | | | | | |
| 27 | | | | 28 | | | | | 29 | | | 30 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | 31 | 32 | | | 33 | 34 | 35 | | | 36 | | | | | | | | |
| 37 | 38 | 39 | | | | | 40 | | | | 41 | 42 | | | | | | | | |
| 43 | | | | | | | 44 | | | 45 | 46 | | | 47 | 48 | 49 | | | | |
| 50 | | | | 51 | 52 | 53 | 54 | | | | 55 | | | 56 | | | | | | |
| 57 | | | 58 | | 59 | | | | | 60 | | | 61 | 62 | | | | | | |
| 63 | | | | | 64 | | | | | 65 | | | 66 | 67 | | | | | | |
| | | | 68 | 69 | | | 70 | 71 | 72 | | | 73 | 74 | | | | | | | |
| | | | 75 | 76 | | | 77 | 78 | | | | 79 | 80 | | 81 | 82 | 83 | 84 | | |
| 85 | | | | | | | 86 | 87 | | | | 88 | | | 89 | | | | | |
| 90 | | | | | | | 91 | | | | | 92 | | | 93 | | 94 | | | |
| 95 | | | 96 | 97 | | | | | | | 98 | | | | 99 | 100 | | | | |
| | | | | | 101 | | | | | | | 102 | | | 103 | 104 | | | | |
| 105 | 106 | 107 | | | | | 108 | 109 | 110 | | | | | | 111 | | | | | |
| 112 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 114 | | | 115 | 116 | 117 |
| 118 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 125 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 129 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Guru | 1 Runners carry it |
| 6 Outfielder Tony | 2 Breaker |
| 11 Bother | 3 Sherman |
| 14 Cen. segments | 4 "Mal de —" |
| 17 Regret | |
| 19 Bother | |
| 21 Lennon's widow | |
| 22 Velvet finish | |
| 23 Start of a remark | |
| 27 Cozy room | |
| 28 — Canals | |
| 29 "Heavens to Betsy!" | |
| 30 Cowboy star Lash | |
| 31 Spotted rodent | |
| 33 Deteriorate | |
| 36 More like a peacock | |
| 37 Lancelot's son | |
| 40 Fruity beverage | |
| 41 Newsstand | |
| 43 Castle or Dunne | |
| 44 Part 2 of remark | |
| 50 Rock band's stint | |
| 51 Composer Gustav | |
| 55 Russell of "A Beautiful Mind" | |
| 56 Cohen or Wallach | |
| 57 Balloon material? | |
| 59 "New Look" designer | |
| 60 — cog (blunder) | |
| 61 Swash-buckling novelist | |
| 63 Man, for one | |
| 64 GI's address | |
| 65 Exactly | |
| 66 Kevin of "SNL" | |
| 68 Service member? | |
| 70 Administered anesthesia | |
| 74 Pangolin's morsel | |
| 75 Cavern | |
| 78 White House spokesman | |
| 79 "— Doll" ("64 hit) | |
| 81 Harvest | |
| 85 Stiller's partner | |
| 86 Carl of "Cosmos" | |
| 88 Cruise | |
| 89 "The Egg" (47 film) | |
| 90 Symbol of sturdiness | |
| 91 Tiny insectivore | |
| 92 Cut and dried? | |
| 94 Deli delicacy | |
| 95 Part 3 of remark | |
| 99 Game name | |
| 101 Kidney-related | |
| 102 Corn portion | |
| 103 Ridiculous | |
| 105 Bloom or Danes | |
| 108 Hut | |
| 111 Oxidize | |
| 112 Boring tool | |
| 113 Zest | |
| 114 38 Down's symbol | |
| 115 Author Umberto | |
| 118 End of remark | |
| 125 Compass pt. | |
| 126 Subway unit | |
| 127 Disturbed the peace? | |
| 128 Singer Dion | |
| 129 Shorten a slat | |
| 130 Concell | |
| 131 African antelope | |
| 132 Improve | |
| 5 Caravan-sary | |
| 6 "70 Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young hit | |
| 7 Fond du —, WI | |
| 8 Fury | |
| 9 Large tub | |
| 10 McCourt's "Angela's —" | |
| 11 "Hopalong Cassidy" author | |
| 12 Important numero | |
| 13 Type of stew | |
| 14 Long for | |
| 15 Variety show | |
| 16 Villain's look | |
| 18 Puccini heroine | |
| 20 Aromatic plant | |
| 24 Warty one | |
| 25 Summer wear | |
| 26 Terse verse | |
| 31 Word form for "all" | |
| 32 "Excuse me" | |
| 33 Moisten the marigolds | |
| 34 Fragrance | |
| 35 Mil. unit | |
| 36 Viva — | |
| 37 Tenor Beniamino | |
| 38 Zodiac sign | |
| 39 Sanctioned | |
| 42 Dubuque denizen | |
| 45 Renown | |
| 46 Overused | |
| 47 San —, Italy | |
| 48 Tribe | |
| 49 — ribs | |
| 52 Roll with the punches | |
| 53 With it | |
| 54 "Gigi" author | |
| 58 Furnishings | |
| 60 "Don Giovanni" setting | |
| 61 Rowan or Rafter | |
| 62 Marine leader? | |
| 67 Bald bird | |
| 69 Actress Hagen | |
| 71 — beaver | |
| 72 Texas talk | |
| 73 Cart | |
| 75 Equipment | |
| 76 Autumn implement | |
| 77 Actor Milo | |
| 80 Distress | |
| 82 Zhou — | |
| 83 Doll up | |
| 84 Elf | |
| 85 Janitor's item | |
| 87 Salt-water lake | |
| 88 It may be tall | |
| 91 "Auld Lang —" | |
| 92 ER exclamation | |
| 93 Emcee's site | |
| 96 Took a shot at | |
| 97 O'Hara's "From the —" | |
| 98 Itch | |
| 100 Big bang letters | |
| 103 — League | |
| 104 Poisonous plant | |
| 105 Java joints | |
| 106 Verdi's "— Miller" | |
| 107 Ford's predecessor | |
| 109 "— Off to Larry" ("61 tune) | |
| 110 Skirt shape | |
| 113 Cipher | |
| 114 Funnyman | |
| 115 Perry's victory site | |
| 116 Neighbor of Mass. | |
| 117 Had bills | |
| 119 Droop | |
| 120 Cambodia's Lon — | |
| 121 La-la lead-in | |
| 122 Coop critter | |
| 123 Midding mark | |
| 124 Alphabet sequence | |

Calendar of Events *in the* Spotlight

Wednesday, Nov. 16

BETHLEHEM
DELMAR ROTARY
Normanside Country Club, 7:30 a.m. Information, 767-2930.

MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS)
Christian fellowship group for mothers of preschool children, at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., nursery care provided, 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., Information, call Jennifer at 439-9929 or e-mail, info@drchurch.org.

BETHLEHEM LIONS CLUB
Normanside Country Club, Delmar, 7 p.m. Information, 439-4857.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP
Northeast NY Alzheimer's Association meetings for families, caregivers, and friends; Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Ave., 7 p.m.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH
1 Kenwood Ave., evening prayer and Bible study, 7 p.m. Information, 439-4314.

CHENREZIG PRACTICE AND MEDITATION
Meditation on the Bodhisattva of Compassion, at the KTC Buddhist Center, Doane Stuart School, Route 9W, Albany, 7 p.m., Information, 374-1792.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

BINGO
Blanchard American Legion Post, 16 Poplar Drive, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9819.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 58
Elsmere Elementary School, 247 Delaware Ave., 7:30 to 9 p.m.

BC SCHOOL BOARD
district office, 90 Adams Place, 8 p.m. Information, 439-7098.

BETHLEHEM ELKS LODGE 2233
1016 River Road (Route 144), Cedar Hill, 8 p.m. Information, 767-2886.

TESTIMONY MEETING
First Church of Christ, Scientist, 555 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-2512.

NEW SCOTLAND

FAITH TEMPLE
Bible study, New Salem, 7:30 p.m. Information, 765-2870.

PRAYER MEETING
evening prayer meeting and Bible study, Mountainview Evangelical Free Church,

Route 155, 7:30 p.m. Information, 765-3390.

NEW SCOTLAND SENIORS
Wyman Osterhout Community Center, New Salem, call for time. Information, 765-2109.

AA MEETING
First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville, 68 Maple St., 8 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

Thursday, Nov. 17

BETHLEHEM
BETHLEHEM SENIOR CITIZENS
Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 12:30 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

BETHLEHEM ART ASSOCIATION
Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m., Information, 439-3948.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, 7 p.m., Route 9W, Selkirk. Information, 767-2243.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Parks and Recreation Office, Elm Avenue Park, 2-5:30 p.m. Information, 439-0503.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN
children's choir, 6:15 p.m., senior choir, 7 p.m., 85 Elm Ave. Information, 439-4328.

AA MEETINGS
Slingerlands Community Church, 1499 New Scotland Road, noon, and Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., 8:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

NEW SCOTLAND

THE CLOTHING CLOSET
A service supported by area Reformed churches to provide clothing to those in need; volunteers welcome. Clarksville Reformed Church, Route 443, Clarksville, 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 4-7 p.m. Information, 768-2916 or 439-5400.

NEW SCOTLAND KIWANIS CLUB
New Scotland Presbyterian Church, Route 85, 7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 18

BETHLEHEM
AA MEETING
First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Route 9W, 7:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

CHABAD CENTER
Friday services, discussion and kiddush at sunset, 109 Elsmere Ave. Information, 439-8280.

NEW SCOTLAND

PIONEER CLUBS
For children grades 1 through junior high; Mountainview Evangelical Free Church, Route 155, 3:45 - 5 p.m. Information, 765-3390.

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS
United Pentecostal Church, Route 85, New Salem, 7 p.m. Information, 765-4410.

Saturday, Nov. 19

BETHLEHEM
AA MEETING
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

Sunday, Nov. 20

BETHLEHEM
AA MEETING
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

BETHLEHEM
WORSHIP INFORMATION

Bethlehem Community Church, 201 Elm Ave., 439-3135.
Bethlehem Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, Elm Avenue and Feura Bush Road, 439-0358.
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 439-4328.
Delmar Full Gospel Church, 292 Elsmere Ave., 439-4407.
Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Ave., 439-9252.
Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., 439-9929.
Family of God Nazarene Church, Krumkill Road at Blessing Road, North Bethlehem, 453-9953.
First Church of Christ, Scientist, 555 Delaware Ave., 439-2512.
First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Route 9W, Selkirk, 767-2243.
First United Methodist Church of Delmar, 428 Kenwood Ave., 439-9976.
Glenmont Community Church, 1 Chapel Lane, Glenmont, 436-7710.
Gospel Fellowship, 10 Rockefeller Road, Delmar, 482-2132.
King's Chapel, 434 Route 9W, Glenmont, 426-9955.
KTC Buddhist Center, Doane Stuart School, Route 9W, Albany, 10 a.m. meditation, 11 a.m. tea, 11:30 a.m. study course, 374-1792.
Mount Moriah Ministries, Route 9W, Glenmont, 426-4510.
Slingerlands Community UMC, 1499 New Scotland Road, 439-1766.
Solid Rock Church, 1 Kenwood Ave., Glenmont, 439-4314.
South Bethlehem United Methodist Church, 65 Willowbrook Ave., 767-9953.
St. Michael's Shrine, Beacon Road at Route 9W, Glenmont, 462-2016.
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Poplar

Drive and Elsmere Avenue, Delmar, 439-3265;
St. Thomas The Apostle Church, 35 Adams Place, Delmar, 439-4951.
Unity of Faith Christian Fellowship, 436 Krumkill Road, North Bethlehem, 438-7740.

NEW SCOTLAND

WORSHIP INFORMATION
All Nation's Baptist Church, 2558 Western Ave., Guilderland, 475-9086, ESL and Bible classes, 9 a.m.; Worship Services, 10 a.m.
Clarksville Community Church, Route 443, 768-2916.
Family Worship Center, 92 Lower Copeland Hill Road, Feura Bush, 768-2021.
Faith Temple, New Salem, 765-2870.
First United Methodist Church, 68 Maple Ave., Voorheesville, 765-2895.
Jerusalem Reformed Church, Route 32, Feura Bush, 439-0548.
Mountainview Evangelical Free Church, Route 155, Voorheesville, 765-3390.
Onesquethaw Reformed Church, Tarrytown Road, Feura Bush, 768-2133.
New Scotland Presbyterian Church, Route 85, 439-6454.
St. Matthew's Church, Mountain View Road, Voorheesville, 765-2805.
Unionville Reformed Church, Delaware Turnpike, 439-5001.
United Pentecostal Church, Route 85, New Salem, 765-4410.

Monday, Nov. 21

BETHLEHEM
PEACE VIGIL
Bethlehem Neighbors For Peace, weekly peace vigil, Four Corners intersection, Delmar, 5-6 p.m., Information, 439-1968.

DELMAR KIWANIS
Tool's Family Restaurant, Delaware Avenue, 6:15 p.m. Information, 439-2437 or 439-6952.

CLASS IN JEWISH MYSTICISM
Delmar Chabad Center, 109 Elsmere Ave., 7 p.m. Information, 439-8280.

INDOOR PISTOL SHOOTING
Albany County Pistol Club, Winne Place, 7 to 9 p.m. Also Tuesday. Information, 439-0057.

EXPLORER POST 157
For boys and girls 14-21, focusing on environmental conservation, 310 Kenwood Ave., 7:30-9 p.m. Information, 439-4205.

DELMAR COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA
Rehearsal, Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-7749.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS
Temple Chapter No. 5; Masonic Temple, 421 Kenwood Ave.

AA MEETING

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 8:30 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

NEW SCOTLAND

LIBRARY BOARD
Every third Monday, Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 7 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

QUARTET REHEARSAL
United Pentecostal Church, Route 85, New Salem, 7:15 p.m. Information, 765-4410.

SELKIRK
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Monthly meeting, 7 p.m. Information, 465-3193.

TUESDAY, NOV. 22

BETHLEHEM
TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY
Weekly meeting at Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Information, 465-8732.

FARMERS MARKET
Market and Chicken Barbeque, 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. rain or shine, First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave.

TREASURE COVE THRIFT SHOP
First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

PRAYER MEETING
At Gospel Fellowship, 7 p.m., 10 Rockefeller Rd., Delmar, beneath Normans Kill bridge, Information 482-2132.

BINGO
at the Bethlehem Elks Lodge, Route 144, 7:30 p.m.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
Parks and Recreation Office, Elm Avenue Park, 2-5:30 p.m. Also Thurs. 2-5:30 p.m. Information, 439-0503.

NEW SCOTLAND

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME
Weekly at Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 10:15 a.m. Information, 765-2791.

NIMBLEFINGERS/QUILTERS
Voorheesville Public Library, 51 School Road, 1 to 3 p.m. Information, 765-2791.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
New Scotland Town Hall, Route 85, 7 p.m. Information, 765-3356.

V'VILLE VILLAGE BOARD
Village Hall, 29 Voorheesville Ave., 7 p.m. (6 p.m. workshop meeting). Information, 765-2692.

Wednesday, Nov. 23

BETHLEHEM
DELMAR ROTARY
Normanside Country Club, 7:30 a.m. Information, 767-2930.

MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS (MOPS)
Christian fellowship group for mothers of preschool children, at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., nursery care provided, 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., Information, call Jennifer at 439-9929 or e-mail, info@drchurch.org.

SOLID ROCK CHURCH
1 Kenwood Ave., evening prayer and Bible study; 7 p.m. Information, 439-4314.

CHENREZIG PRACTICE AND MEDITATION
Meditation on the Bodhisattva of Compassion, at the KTC Buddhist Center, Doane Stuart School, Route 9W, Albany, 7 p.m., Information, 374-1792.

TOWN BOARD
Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., 5:30 p.m. Information, 439-4955.

BETHLEHEM TOASTMASTERS
The Clubhouse, Adams Station Apts., 1 Juniper Drive, Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-0871.

BINGO
Blanchard American Legion Post, 16 Poplar Drive, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9819.

BOY SCOUT TROOP 58
Elsmere Elementary School, 247 Delaware Ave., 7:30 to 9 p.m.

TESTIMONY MEETING
First Church of Christ, Scientist, 555 Delaware Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-2512.

NEW SCOTLAND

FAITH TEMPLE
Bible study, New Salem, 7:30 p.m. Information, 765-2870.

PRAYER MEETING
evening prayer meeting and Bible study, Mountainview Evangelical Free Church, Route 155, 7:30 p.m. Information, 765-3390.

NEW SCOTLAND SENIORS
Wyman Osterhout Community Center, New Salem, call for time. Information, 765-2109.

AA MEETING
First United Methodist Church of Voorheesville, 68 Maple St., 8 p.m. Information, 489-6779.

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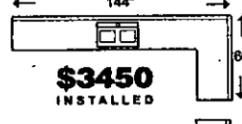
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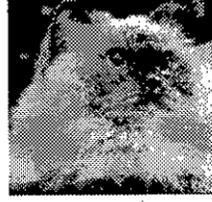
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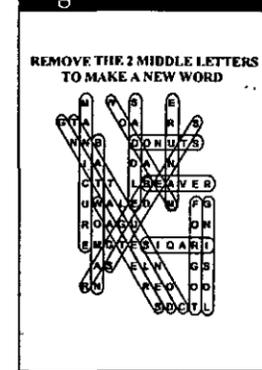
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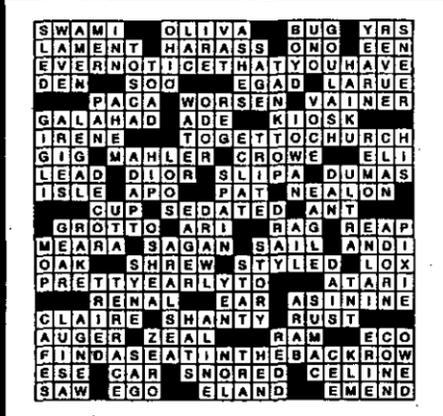
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Spotlight Classifieds

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AIDE: Certified, mature, excellent references, transportation, reasonable rates. Live-in/live-out. 209-4878.

CAREGIVERS: Professional mature women available for your home care needs. Bonded, Insured, Long-term care insurance accepted. No high agency fee. 768-2199 or 312-7404.

Housekeeper- Wanted: Energetic, self-motivated, responsible adult to care for a wonderful home. Non smoker. Own transportation. Part time, clean, shop, cook, errands, etc. Send resume. P.O. Box 82 Slingerlands, NY 12159.

SEEKING JANITORIAL CONTRACTOR to sub for national company. Need propane equipment, auto scrubber, and insurance. Daily and "wet" work. Call 800-838-5200 X1740. Ask for Buddy.

WORK WANTED

AIDES WILL DO 24/7 Home Care for elderly. Experienced & insured. 573-6399 or 861-7008.

LOVE TO RAKE your autumn color leaves. 439-2924

Real Estate Classifieds

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

\$400+ utilities. Glenmont Studio. No smoking/pets. 1 person. 436-8781.

\$485 FEURA BUSH 1BR, No pets, Security. 465-2239 or 765-3125.

\$550 + utilities, Delmar 1 bedroom, no smoking/pets. Busline. 436-8781. \$925+ 3BR DELMAR, Newly updated, Extra large LR, smaller BR's (no king beds), sunroom, yard, parking. D/W, W/D hookup. No smoking. Pets negotiable. 320-8286.

DELMAR: 2BR APT. FOR RENT. \$850+ utilities. 1 car garage, W/D hookup, No pets. 768-8298.

DELMAR, 4 CORNERS: Large 3BR, Central A/C, Off street

parking, No pets. \$975+ utilities. Available 12/1/05. 439-1011.

DELMAR- Small 1BR, available immediately, \$575. Heat/Hot water included. Offstreet parking, Hardwood floors. Good for one. 456-6644.

DELMAR- Cute Studio On Kenwood Near Four Corners. No Smoking/Pets. \$535 A Month. 439-8229.

DELMAR: \$750 plus utilities, 3BR, LR, Large kitchen, Deck. 518-429-5561.

LOUDONVILLE: 2BR, 2BA, A/C, Non-smoking, No pets, No children. 1 car garage. Fireplace. \$850, 785-5279.

RAVENA: 3BR DUPLEX, Security/References. \$750+ utilities. Available immedi-

ately. No pets. 731-9297 or 322-5821.

VOORHEESVILLE: 2 BR, 1.5 baths Apt., No smoking, Lots of parking. \$675 per month, 6 month lease required. 518-588-8247.

REAL ESTATE

Coastal Southeast Georgia Large wooded water access, marsh view, lake front, and golf oriented homesites from the mid \$70K's Live oaks, pool, tennis, golf. 1-877-2 6 6 - 7 3 7 6 www.cooperspoint.com

HOUSE FOR RENT

\$1100+ utilities. Glenmont 2BR, Nice neighborhood, yard. Clean, no smoking/pets. 436-8781.

OLD DELMAR: COZY CAPE \$1,300 3BR, 2BA, LR, DR,

Backyard, garage, near library, gas fireplace, HW floors. Nov. 15. 439-5955.

BUILDINGS FOR SALE

3-WEEK BUILDING SALE! "LAST Chance!" 20x26 Now \$3995. 25x30 \$5700. 30x40 \$8300. 40x60 \$12,900. Others. Meet high snow and wind. One end included. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422

COMMERCIAL FOR LEASE

DELAWARE PLAZA - DELMAR - Retail space available. For leasing information call Delaware Plaza Associates at 439-9030.

LAND FOR SALE

NY LAKEFRONT/LAKE VIEW/LAKE ACCESS AUTUMN INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE DUTCHESS & COLUMBIA COUNTIES 2 AC from

\$149,900 Properties from 2 to 13 Acres. Excellent financing available w/ low down payment. SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT- ONLY CALL TODAY! 1-800-811-3464 X.814

STORAGE SPACE

DELMAR GARAGE: Store your car/boat, etc. for the winter. \$200. 439-1817.

VACATION RENTALS

MADIERA BEACH FLORIDA WATERFRONT HOME. Sleeps Six with Pool and Dock Walk to Golf Beach. No Minimum Stay. \$2,800.00 Monthly. \$1,200.00 Weekly. 439-2341

NAPLES, FL.: Glen Eagle Country Club (private). Gated community, Bundled golf included. 2BR/Den. Available monthly. 369-8265.

Automotive Classifieds

AUTOMOTIVE FOR SALE

1992 RANGE ROVER CLASSIC, 96K, Great winter car, Runs good, Loaded. \$4,200. 434-0344 or 210-2345.

1993 Jeep Cherokee, 4WD, Towing hitch, Brand New Exhaust/Muffler system. New battery. Very clean inside, good outside. Just passed inspection. Great winter car/2nd family car. \$2495 or reasonable offer. 765-7236 or 441-1674.

1995 Grand AM, Auto, V6, AM/FM/Cassette, power windows/locks, cruise, good condition, blue, 92k, asking \$2,200. 785-8751.

1999 TOYOTA COROLLA SE 4DR Sedan, 89K miles, 35+

m.p.g., Fully loaded, Excellent condition. \$3,999. 768-2487.

81 MONTE CARLO, 21K Original. Excellent condition. Asking \$4995. 439-1446.

AUTOS WANTED

WANTED: JUNK AUTOMOBILES, Any Model, Condition. Towed for free. Quick removal. Cash paid for some. 470-4785.

AAA Rated Donation. DONATE YOUR CAR; Boat or Real Estate. IRS Tax Deductible Free Pick-Up/ Tow Any Model/ Condition. Help Underprivileged Children 1-800-939-4543 Outreach center.org

Advertise your business with Spotlight Newspapers - Call us today at 439-4949

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
 Notice of Qualification of Schrafts, a Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/26/05. Office location: Albany County, LLC formed in Illinois (IL) on 9/16/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. IL address of LLC: 104 Wilmot Rd., MS #1425, Deerfield, IL 60015. Arts. of Org. filed with IL Secy. of State, 501 S. 2nd St., Rm. 328, Springfield, IL 62756. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12398 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Pursuant to Section 206 of the New York Limited Liability Law
 1. The name of the limited liability company is Cloth Consulting, LLC.
 2. The Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State on October 6, 2005.
 3. The office of the limited liability company is to be located in Albany County.
 4. The Secretary of State is designated as agent of the limited liability company upon whom process against it may be served. The post office address within or without New York to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the limited liability company served upon him or her is:
 Cloth Consulting, LLC
 121 State Street
 Albany, New York 12207
 5. The limited liability company is formed to engage in any lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be formed under the laws of the State of New York.
 LD-12318 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2006 TOWN OF BETHLEHEM SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM.
 DECEMBER 14, 2005 - 5:45 P.M.
 The Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 14, 2005 at 5:45 p.m. at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York 12054 for the purpose of receiving comments from the public on the Town's proposed Agency Plan for 2006 for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.
 Copies of the Agency Plan and all supporting documentation are available for review by the public at either of the following locations:
 Town of Bethlehem
 445 Delaware Avenue
 Delmar, New York 12054 (518) 439-4955
 Joseph E. Mastrianni,
 242 Union Street
 Schenectady, NY 12305 (518) 372-4739 Ext. 26.
 All parties in interest and citizens will have an opportunity to be heard at the said hearing.
 The Town of Bethlehem provides reasonable accommodations for the disabled. Disabled individuals who need assistance in order to participate should contact the Town Clerk's office at 439-4955, Ext. 183. Advanced notice is requested
 BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
 TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
 Kathleen A. Newkirk, RMC,
 TOWN CLERK
 Dated: September 28, 2005
 LC-12359 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of Praetorian Intelligence Group, LLC, Art. of Org filed Secy. Of State (SSNY) 10/3/05. Office Location: Albany County. SSNY designated

LEGAL NOTICE

as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process: John K Zimmerman, 31 Riverwalk Way, Cohoes, NY 12047, the Reg. Agt. upon whom proc. may be served. Purpose: any lawful purpose. LCD-12297 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Steenburgh & Patrick LLC Notice of Organization: Steenburgh & Patrick LLC was filed with SSNY 02/04/05. Office: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. P.O. address against the LLC served upon him: c/o the LLC 16 Woodrige St. Albany, New York 12203 Purpose: To engage in any legal activity LCD-12352 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

6466 LLC Notice of Organization: 6466 LLC was filed with SSNY 07/06/05. Office: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. P.O. address which SSNY shall mail any process against the LLC served upon him: c/o Lauterbach Garfinkel Demast & Hollander LLP 22 W. 28th St., 12th Fl., NY, NY 10018 Attn: Jeffrey Hollander, Esq. Purpose: To engage in any legal activity LCD-12357 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

K & HOSODA ENTERPRISES LLC
 Notice of Organization: K & HOSODA ENTERPRISES LLC was filed with SSNY 08/29/05. Office: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. P.O. address which SSNY shall mail any process against the LLC served upon him: c/o the LLC 134 East 61st St., NY, NY 10021 Purpose: To engage in any legal activity LCD-12358 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of KAL Enterprises, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/5/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process: KAL Enterprises, LLC, 286 State St., Ste. 2, Albany, NY 12210. Purpose: any lawful purpose. LCD-12367 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

DRAGONHILL, LLC. Notice of formation. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 9/28/05. Office location: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at: 20 Louis Ave, Menands, NY 12204. LLC is member-managed. Purpose: to conduct any lawful business. LCD-12380 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

CASTLE BLOCK, LLC. Notice of formation. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/06/05. Office location: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at: 333 Bridge St., Selkirk, NY 12158. LLC is member-managed. Purpose: to conduct any lawful business. LCD-12381 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION

LEGAL NOTICE

OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). The name of the LLC is PATROON CREEK BLVD. II, LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on October 13, 2005. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 302 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12203. LCD-12381 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Gramercy Communications, LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 9/23/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process: 119 Winthrop Ave., Albany, NY 12203. Purpose: any lawful purpose. LCD-12389 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). The name of the LLC is VISTA DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC. The Articles of Organization of the LLC were filed with the NY Secretary of State on October 31, 2005. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LLC is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against the LLC may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC is 302 Washington Avenue Extension, Albany, New York 12203. LCD-12415 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

WASHINGTON STREET PARTNERS OF ALBANY, L.P. Notice of formation of a limited partnership (LP) Certificate of Limited Partnership filed with the New York Secretary of State on October 26, 2005. The purpose of the LP is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LP is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LP upon whom process against the LP may be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LP is 596 New Loudon Road, Latham, New York 12110. LCD-12419 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of COMMONWEALTH EQUITY SERVICES, LLP. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/22/05. Office location: Albany County, LLC formed in Massachusetts (MA) on 12/22/2004. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o National Registered Agents, Inc., 875 Avenue of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. Principal address of LLC: One University Office Park, 29 Sawyer Road, Waltham, MA 02453 Arts. of Org. filed with MA Secy. of State, One Ashburton Place, 17th Fl, Boston, MA 02108. Purpose: any lawful activities. LD-12294 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Maxwell Holdings LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 10/25/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 226 Jefferson St., Albany, NY 12210. Purpose: any lawful activities. LCD-12439 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

SENECA FALLS OF ALBANY, L.P. Notice of formation of a limited partnership (LP) Certificate of Limited Partnership filed with the New York Secretary of State on October 28, 2005. The purpose of the LP is to engage in any lawful act or activity. The office of the LP is to be located in Albany County. The Secretary of State is designated as the agent of the LP upon whom process against the LP may

be served. The address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LP is 596 New Loudon Road, Latham, New York 12110. LCD-12450 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of NSS SERVICES, LLC a NYS limited liability company (L.L.C.). Formation filed with SSNY on 08/22/2005. Off. Loc.: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agt. of LLC, upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: The LLC, 554 Greeley Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10306 Purpose: All Lawful purposes. LD-12118 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: CPJ OF VOORHEESVILLE LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/29/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 25 Voorhees Drive, Voorheesville, New York 12186. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. LD-12287 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Achieve Healthcare Information Technologies, L.P. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/20/05. Office location: Albany County. LP formed in Delaware (DE) on 7/26/05. SSNY designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o National Registered Agents, Inc., 875 Avenue of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001, registered agent upon whom process may be served. Address of LP: 7690 Golden Triangle Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55344. Name/address of genl. ptr. available from SSNY. Cert. of LP filed with DE Secy. of State, Federal & Duke of York Sts., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. LD-12289 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of COMMONWEALTH EQUITY SERVICES, LLP. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 3/22/05. Office location: Albany County, LLC formed in Massachusetts (MA) on 12/22/2004. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o National Registered Agents, Inc., 875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. Principal address of LLC: One University Office Park, 29 Sawyer Road, Waltham, MA 02453 Arts. of Org. filed with MA Secy. of State, One Ashburton Place, 17th Fl, Boston, MA 02108. Purpose: any lawful activities. LD-12294 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of CW Highridge Plaza LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/23/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 6/14/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Capitol Services, Inc., 40 Colvin Ave., Ste. 200, Albany, NY 12206. DE address of LLC: 615 South DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: ownership of real estate. LD-12294 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
 Notice of Qualification of CW Village Square LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/23/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 6/14/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Capitol Services, Inc., 40 Colvin Ave., Ste. 200, Albany, NY 12206. DE address of LLC: 615 South DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: ownership of real estate. LD-12295 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of CW Cross County LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/23/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 6/14/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Capitol Services, Inc., 40 Colvin Ave., Ste. 200, Albany, NY 12206. DE address of LLC: 615 South DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: ownership of real estate. LD-12296 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of CW North Ridge Plaza LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/23/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 6/14/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Capitol Services, Inc., 40 Colvin Ave., Ste. 200, Albany, NY 12206. DE address of LLC: 615 South DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: ownership of real estate. LD-12297 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MEDIAPRODUCTION SERVICE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/22/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12298 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of EAST END TOWER LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/27/05. Office location: Albany County, LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 9/16/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Company, 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. Principal office of LLC: c/o BlackRock Realty Advisors, Inc., 50 California St., Ste. 200, San Francisco, CA 94111. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12299 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of FASHIONAD LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/23/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom

LEGAL NOTICE

process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207, Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12304 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of an LLC: 2204 Broadway, LLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on August 2, 2005. Office location is in Schenectady County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC, upon whom process against it may be served, SSNY shall mail a copy of Process to the LLC, 1816 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12304. Purpose: for any lawful purpose. LD-12310 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Ashford Pool I GP LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/6/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 9/22/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. DE address of LLC: 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12315 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of BNH Associates, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/21/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Stuyvesant Oval #7G, NY, NY, 10009 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12333 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Apple And Honey, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 10/12/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 5014 16th Avenue, Ste 216, Brooklyn, NY, 11204 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12327 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 23 Manhattan Valley North LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 10/6/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 566 East 8th St., Brooklyn, NY, 11218 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12328 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Balaji Properties LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 10/7/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 2123 Williamsbridge Rd., Bronx, NY, 10461 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12329 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Regal Residential Developments LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State

LEGAL NOTICE

(SSNY) on 10/7/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 191-19 Jamaica Avenue, Hollis, NY, 11423 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12330 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Morreale Realty LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 10/6/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 792 Lanett Avenue, Far Rockaway, NY, 11691 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12331 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of KPLD, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 10/3/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 969 Central Park Avenue, Scarsdale, NY, 10583 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12332 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Family Matters Resource Group, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 10/3/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14 Stuyvesant Oval #7G, NY, NY, 10009 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12333 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 337 West 138 LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/27/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 566 East 8th St, Brooklyn, NY, 11218 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12334 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Ardsley Realty Associates LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/29/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1304 Avenue M, Brooklyn, NY, 11230 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12335 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Eighteen Homes LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/29/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 410 Broadway, Brooklyn, NY, 11211 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12386 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Penn & Marcy LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/29/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 410 Broadway, Brooklyn, NY, 11211 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12337 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Penn Condominium LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/29/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 410 Broadway, Brooklyn, NY, 11211 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12338 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Esplanade 8th Avenue LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/28/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 350 5th Avenue 59th Floor, NY, NY, 10118 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12340 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of 251255 LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/22/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 152 Madison Avenue, Ste 703, NY, NY, 10016 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12341 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Publication Notice of Organization of Ziegler Enterprises, LLC
FIRST: The name of the Limited Liability Company is Ziegler Enterprises, LLC (hereinafter referred to as the "Company").
SECOND: The Articles of Organization of the Company were filed with the Secretary of State on October 6, 2005.
THIRD: The county within New York in which the office of the Company is to be located is Albany.
FOURTH: The Secretary of State has been designated as agent upon whom process against the Company may be served. The post office address to which the Secretary of State shall mail process is 69 Zeigler Lane, Greenville, New York 12083.
FIFTH: The purpose of the business of the Company is to operate the business and manage the assets of the Company. LD-12351 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of an LLC: 498 Princetown Road, LLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on May 25, 2005. Office location is in Albany County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC, upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of Process to the LLC, c/o Donald Zee, P.C. at 1621 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: for any lawful purpose. LD-12368 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of an LLC: 500 Duanesburg Road, LLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on April 28, 2004. Office location is in Albany County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC, upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of Process to the LLC, c/o Donald Zee, P.C. at 1621 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: for any lawful purpose. LD-12369 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ORION INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/4/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12370 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of EURECO INTERNATIONAL LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/7/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12371 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of LUXORA HOLDINGS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/15/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12372 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ASPEN INTERNATIONAL SERVICES LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/6/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12373 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ASPECT COMMERCIAL HOLDINGS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/4/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12374 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of IMAGINE CORPORATE SERVICES LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/4/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12375 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

Lev L. Barats MD PLLC Notice of Formation of the above Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC). Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/01/05. Office location, County of Albany, SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any such process served to 20 Whitestone Way, Slingerlands, NY 12159. Purpose: medical practice. LD-12376 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of BESTCOM LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/20/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 46 State St., 3rd Fl., Albany, NY 12207. Attn: USA Corporate Services Inc., registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful activities. LD-12379 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Maniben, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/11/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful purposes. LD-12382 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of United Shockwave Therapies, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/7/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 5/28/02. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. DE address of LLC: 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12383 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of RCQ Hotel MT, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/20/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 10/4/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Nationwide Information Services, Inc., 3500 S. DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901. Principal office of LLC: Two Embarcadero Ctr., 23rd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94111. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, P.O. Box 898, Dover, DE 19903. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12391 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Ascent Marketing, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/19/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 10/4/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Co. (CSC), 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. DE address of LLC: c/o CSC,

LEGAL NOTICE

2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12392 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of SchoolWorks, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/19/2005. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 7/9/1998. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, registered agent upon whom process may be served. Principal office of LLC: 100 Cummings Center, Ste. 236C, Beverly, MA 01915. Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes. LD-12395 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Ruth H's Fitness, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/19/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 2 Belleauwood Circle, Watervliet, NY 12189. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12396 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of an LLC: Wellington Gardens, LLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 6, 2005. Office location is in Schenectady County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC, upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of Process to the LLC, c/o David Kazda, 428 Anthony Street, Schenectady, NY 12308. Purpose: for any lawful purpose. LD-12402 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION. CHEER WE ARE, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/19/05. Office location: Albany Co. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at: 20 Crestone Road, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: any lawful business. LD-12403 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of SPI 555 9TH STREET, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/12/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 8/18/2005. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: National Registered Agents, Inc., 875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. Principal address of LLC: National Corporate Research, Ltd., 615 South DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901 Arts. of Org. filed with DE Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. LD-12424 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of BJB Electric LP Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/13/05. Office location: Albany County.

LEGAL NOTICE

LP formed in Georgia (GA) on 12/17/98. SSNY designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o National Registered Agents, Inc., 875 Avenue of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. GA address of LP: 6375 Alabama Highway, Ringgold, GA 30736. Name/address of genl. ptr. available from SSNY. Cert. of LP filed with GA Secy. of State, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Atlanta, GA 30334. Purpose: any lawful activities. LD-12425 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Firststar Home Equity LLC Authority filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/07/05 Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Indiana (IN) on 11/12/2004. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o National Registered Agents, Inc., 875 Ave. of the Americas, Ste. 501, NY, NY 10001. Principal address of LLC: 8606 Allison Road, Ste. 270, Indianapolis, IN 46250. Arts. of Org. filed with IN Secy of State, 201 Statehouse, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Purpose: any lawful activities LD-12428 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Newton Advisors LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/31/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207, registered agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12437 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Dunhill Technologies New York, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/31/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o James F. McGovern, Dunhill Technologies LLC, 3583 Beverly Glen Terrace, Los Angeles, CA 91423. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12442 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

ANNUAL ELECTION OF SELKIRK FIRE DISTRICT DECEMBER 13, 2005
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Annual Election of the Selkirk Fire District will take place on December 13, 2005 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at the firehouse located at Selkirk Fire Co. 3, 480 Bridge Street, South Bethlehem, New York for the purpose of Electing one Commissioner for a 5-year term commencing on January 1, 2006 and ending on December 31, 2010. Candidates for District office of Commission must file a petition signed by at least 25 registered voters of the Fire District, which petition must be filed with the Secretary of the Fire District no later than November 3, 2005. All residents of the Fire District duly registered with the Albany County Board of Elections as of November 4, 2005 shall be eligible to vote.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF THE SELKIRK FIRE DISTRICT. Frank With, District Secretary LD-12443 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of NYK3, Ltd. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/9/05. Office location: Albany County. LP formed in Texas (TX) on 8/4/05. SSNY designated as agent of LP upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, registered agent upon whom process may be served. TX address of LP: 3600 Bee Cave Road, Ste. 202, Austin, TX 78746. Name/address of each genl. ptr. available from SSNY. Cert. of LP filed with TX Secy. of State, P.O. Box 13697, Austin, TX 78711. Purpose: all lawful purposes. LD-12449 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice of Hearing The Town of New Scotland Zoning Board Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Town of New Scotland, New York will hold a public hearing pursuant to Chapter 190, Article IX, Section, 190-73 of the Zoning Law on the following proposition:
 A Public Hearing for Area Variance # 342
 Variance application submitted Kenneth Miller for an area variance to allow for a dwelling unit to be erected on a pre-existing lot which has no road frontage on a public highway. The site is owned by Kenneth Miller, is identified as New Scotland tax parcel id # 84.-1-25, is located at 2108 New Scotland Road and is situated within the RA district. Article 190-30F of the zoning law provides that pre-existing, non-conforming lots may be used as conforming lot providing the lot has a minimum of fifteen feet of road frontage on a public highway. The parcel is a pre-existing non-conforming lot that has no road frontage on any public highway. This request is for relief from the lot requirement of fifteen feet of road frontage to allow for the replacement of a dwelling structure currently on the lot with a new dwelling unit. This request is for a variance to Article III, Section 190-30(F) of the Town of New Scotland Zoning Law. Said hearing will take place on November 22, 2005 at the New Scotland Town Hall beginning at 7:00 P.M.
 Ronald Von Ronne
 Zoning Board of Appeals
 The Town of New Scotland is an equal opportunity provider and employer LD-12452 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

www.townofnewsctotland.com
TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND
 Diane R. Deschenes
 Town Clerk
 ddeschenes@townofnewsctotland.com
 Carol A. Cootware
 Deputy Town Clerk
 ccootware@townofnewsctotland.com
TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND
SPECIAL MEETING
 Please take notice that the Town Board of the Town of New Scotland will hold a special meeting on November 16, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at New Scotland Town Hall, 2029 New Scotland, Road, Slingerlands, New York to adopt the 2006 Budget.
 Diane Deschenes
 New Scotland Town Clerk
 The Town of New Scotland is an equal opportunity provider, and employer. LD-12453 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

www.townofnewsctotland.com
TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND
 Diane R. Deschenes
 Town Clerk
 ddeschenes@townofnewsctotland.com
 Carol A. Cootware
 Deputy Town Clerk
 ccootware@townofnewsctotland.com
TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND
NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF

LEGAL NOTICE

RESOLUTION
 Take Notice that the Town Board of the Town of New Scotland on November 9, 2005 voted to consolidate the Clarksville Water District and the North Road Water District. The resolution, which is available for review by the public at New Scotland Town Hall determined that it was in the public interest to assess all expenses of the Clarksville Water District and North Road Water District as a charge against the entire area of the consolidated district and that all future costs of operation, maintenance and improvements to the consolidated district will be financed on an ad valorem basis, which is the same basis on which such costs are currently financed for each of the districts. Please take further notice that this resolution is subject to a permissive referendum. Dated: November 9, 2005
 Diane Deschenes
 New Scotland Town Clerk
 The Town of New Scotland is an equal opportunity provider and employer. LD-12456 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of a LLC: MLJ Properties, LLC Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on November 7, 2005. Office location is in Albany County. The SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC, upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of Process to the LLC, Pine Street, Green Island, NY 12183. Purpose: for any lawful purpose. LD-12457 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY.
NAME: MILLINGTON SCHLOSS, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State, New York (SSNY) on 08/30/05. Office location: Albany County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of Process to the LLC, 6 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12206. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. LD-12447 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Gifts LLC Arts. of Org. filed with NY Secy. Of State (SSNY) on 9/27/05 Office location: Albany County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 747 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY, 112 Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12339 (November 16, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of Ashford TRS Pool I LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/05. Office location: Albany County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 9/22/05. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Corporation Service Co. 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. DE address of LLC: 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19801. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activity. LD-12321 (November 16, 2005)



Sports *in the* Spotlight

Bethlehem bows to Shenendehowa in title game

By ROB JONAS

For one half, the Shenendehowa girls soccer team showed why it deserved its No. 1 national ranking.

Crisp passing led to two Ashleigh Barone goals in the first 14 minutes, and Ashley Moore tallied twice on free kicks to lead the Plainswomen to a 4-2 victory over Bethlehem in last Tuesday night's Section II, Class AA championship game at Colonie Central High School.

Top-seeded Shen (20-0-1) grabbed a 3-0 halftime lead and so thoroughly dominated the first half that when Bethlehem's Mackenzie Glannon scored 28 seconds into the second half, it came as a shock — even though the second-seeded Eagles (16-4-1) pushed the Plainswomen in their two regular season meetings.

"Bethlehem is a strong team. They're not a team that gives up easily," said Moore. "We knew it was coming, but I don't think we were prepared for it when it

happened."

"We talked about coming out at halftime with the score 0-0, but we definitely came out in the second half with that 3-0, settle back mode," said Shen coach Holli Mulholland. "So, that (goal) was a nice eye-opener for us."

The Plainswomen responded by going back to what worked in the first half — short- to medium-range passes that moved the ball quickly down the field. When the transition passing game worked, Bethlehem could barely keep up as Moore, Barone and the rest of Shen's offense streaked into the Eagles' zone.

"They're a very good team, and Ashley Moore is a handful," said Bethlehem coach Tom Rogan. "I remember when Ashley came up as an eighth-grader. They put her into the game, and she scored a goal on us. I remember saying to myself, we've got to deal with her for the next five years."

If Moore continues to shoot the ball as well on free kicks as she did Tuesday night, no team is going to want to deal with her. Her first attempt with 8:16 left in the first half was a study in power. From the top of the penalty box, Moore struck a rising line drive that hit the back of the goal before

Bethlehem's defense blinked.

Moore's second free kick midway through the second half was a combination of power and grace. This time, she had to strike the ball from outside the top right corner of the penalty box. Moore lofted the shot so that it tailed away slightly from Bethlehem's Nicole Volpi, but with enough force that it reached the back of

the goal just as quickly as her first goal.

Lindsay Rood gave Bethlehem a ray of hope when she lofted a shot past Sarah Novick 1:21 after Moore's second goal, but Shen held firm after that to earn its third consecutive Sectional title.

Earlier in the evening, the Bethlehem boys soccer team lost to Shen 1-0 in the class AA finals.

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State

(From Page 38)

"They've been working hard every week, and they've improved all year."

The girls class AA race also held intrigue — a change from the last five years, during which Saratoga has dominated the state meet. Section V champion Hilton placed its five runners before the Blue Streaks' fifth runner crossed the finish line, but thanks to strong performances up front by Hannah Davidson and Lindsey Ferguson and a 27th-place finish by Kaitlin O'Sullivan, Saratoga held on for a one-point win over the Cadets, 46-47.

"We knew it was going to be a close meet," said Kranick. "It's pretty nerve wracking when it's that close."

"We weren't sure if we won or not because everyone was upset that they didn't run as well as they would have liked," said Davidson, who led the Blue Streaks with a second-place performance in a time of 17:32.6.

Ferguson wasn't far behind Davidson. The senior placed third in a time of 17:39.7. Ashley Campbell (18th) and Cassie Goutos (20th) also finished in the top 20 for Saratoga.

Three other Section II teams won state titles Saturday. The Queensbury boys defended their

No. 1 state ranking and their home course by claiming the class A crown by 35 points over Somers, while Academy of Holy Names earned its first state title by easing past Sayville 51-95 for the girls class A championship. Fonda-Fultonville earned the boys class C title by 12 points over Section III champion Canastota, 55-67.

Holy Names' victory capped a Kranick sweep at the state meet. Chris Kranick, cousin of Saratoga coach Art Kranick, coached Holy Names to the top in his 11th season at the helm.

"They've been a great group — one of the few teams that looks forward to going up against tough competition," said Kranick.

Holy Names had to make do without Jillian King, who transferred back to Scotia-Glenville High School after starting the season at the Albany private school. But Holy Names didn't miss a beat. Loudonville resident Claire Hardwick led the way with an eighth-place finish in a time of 18:56.6, and Holy Names' next four runners — Johanna Ohm (19th), Rachel Ohm (21st), Laura Isabelle (34th) and Alex Falvey (45th) — all finished in the top 50.

"We weren't trying to focus (individually) on this race," said Hardwick, who is one-third of a

Loudonville trio that also includes Falvey and Grace Loughney. "We had a really big pack mentality today."

"All season long, we've been a deep team, and we pushed the team aspect of this sport since day one," said Kranick.

The Voorheesville girls team finished sixth in its first trip to the state meet. The Blackbirds had 167 points, 18 behind fifth-place Newark Valley.

"I'm very pleased," said first-year Voorheesville coach Kelly McHale. "We went in with the attitude that we were going there to have a good time."

Hilary Edmunds led Voorheesville with a 34th-place finish in a time of 20:29.2. Chantel Little (59th) and Alison Vogelien (60th) also placed in the top 60 for the Blackbirds.

Individuals shine

Several individual Section II runners also turned in strong performances at the state meet.

Besides Rhodes-Devey's win, three other area boys placed in the top 30 in the class AA race. Colonie's Kevin Treadway was eighth in a time of 15:39.3, while Guilderland's Seth DuBois was four-tenths of a second behind Treadway in ninth place. Bethlehem's Matt Shaffer was 28th overall in a time of 16:09.8.

"I was 11th coming out of the woods, and I didn't know how much I had left," said Treadway, who finished seventh on the same Queensbury course eight days earlier at the Section II meet. "I

just started passing people at the end."

"I figured I'd be running good. I didn't expect to feel this good," said DuBois. "This is probably the first race where I decided to run controlled. I didn't take it out too fast like last time (at Sectionals)."

Two more top-10 finishes were turned in by Scotia-Glenville's Caroline King and Queensbury's Cara Sprague in the girls class A race. King was part of a three-person rush for third place and wound up fourth in a time of 18:36.2, while Sprague placed 10th in a time of 18:57.3. Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake's Meaghan Gregory was 17th in a time of 19:15.3.

Niskayuna's Chelsea Trant (23rd), Shenendehowa's Cara Janeczko (29th), Bethlehem's Kristin Kenney (33rd) and Shaker's Seri Gordon (40th) all had top-40 finishes in the girls class AA race. Burnt Hills' Ryan Pezzulo (15th), Mohonassen's Nick Grasso (17th) and the Scotia-Glenville brother tandem of Ryan (31st) and Brandon Madigan (41st) finished in the top 50 in the boys class A race.

State meet results

Class AA

Boys team scores: Saratoga 39, Fayetteville-Manlius 43, Warwick Valley 70, Smithtown 143, Penfield 148, Arlington 162, Syosset 166, Ithaca 168, Williamsville North 200. Top 10 runners: Brian Rhodes-Devey (Guilderland) 15:25.7, Steve Murdock (Saratoga) 15:26.0, Greg Kelsey (Saratoga) 15:31.6, Owen

Kimple (F-M) 15:33.2, Mike Mark (Warwick Valley) 15:35.5, Danica Cartica (Arlington) 15:38.2, Tommy Gruenewald (F-M) 15:38.7, Kevin Treadway (Colonie) 15:39.3, Seth DuBois (Guilderland) 15:39.7, John Herron (F-M) 15:41.0.

Girls team scores: Saratoga 46, Hilton 47, Warwick Valley 87, Suffer 92, Ward Melville 117, Fayetteville Manlius 132, Clarence 187, East Meadow 203, Horseheads 239.

Top 10 runners: Aislinn Ryan (Warwick Valley) 17:23.9, Hannah Davidson (Saratoga) 17:32.6, Lindsey Ferguson (Saratoga) 17:39.7, Shelby Greany (Suffern) 17:47.8, Kara McKenna (Suffern) 17:56.0, Brittany Sheffey (Bellport) 18:03.4, Caroline Schultz (Hilton) 18:06.1, Allison Sawyer (Hilton) 18:06.4, Elizabeth McMahan (West Genesee) 18:14.9, Kristin Rees (Carmel) 18:18.8.

Class A

Boys team scores: Queensbury 34, Somers 69, Brighton 80, Starpoint 120, Cornwall 144, Lynbrook 158, Elmira Southside 159, Sayville 168, Whitesboro 197.

Girls team scores: Academy of Holy Names 51, Sayville 95, Cornwall 100, Pittsford Mendon 105, Mepham 106, Horace Greeley 114, Amherst 131, Elmira Southside 171, Mexico 206.

Top 10 runners: Kristy Longma (Sayville) 18:24.3, Meagan Krifchik (JFK-Bellmore) 18:35.1, Lynn Mundy (Cornwall) 18:35.9, Caroline King (Scotia-Glenville) 18:36.2, Jeannie Sauter (Canandaigua Academy) 18:37.3, Mary Alid Howard (Somers) 18:43.9, Sarah Graney (Tappan Zee) 18:52.4, Claire Hardwick (Holy Name) 18:56.6, Sarah Veith (Lake Shore) 18:56.9, Cara Sprague (Queensbury) 18:57.3.

Class C

Girls team standings: Bronxville 2, Sauquoit Valley 61, Sullivan West 99, Akron 125, Newark Valley 14, Voorheesville 167, Attica 19, Friends Academy 219, Hampton Bays 225, Potsdam 235, Ausab Valley 240.

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Titles

(From Page 38)

seconds over Shen's Brauer.

Scotia-Glenville's Holly Furman, as expected, had a solid meet for the Tartans in class B. Furman won the 200 freestyle in a time of 1:54.33 and took first place in the 500 freestyle in a time of 5:05.48.

Abby Olds added a victory in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:12.60 for Scotia-Glenville, which placed second in the class B team standings with 117 points. Glens Falls claimed the team title with 155 points.

Team standings

Class A: Shen 393, Niskayuna 304, Bethlehem 272, Saratoga 212, Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake 196, Mohonassen-Schalmont 170, Albany 140, Shaker 138, Queensbury 133.5, Guilderville 110, Ballston Spa 89,

Amsterdam 65, Schenectady 48.5, Gloversville-Mayfield 28, Troy 18, Fonda-Johnstown 6.

State qualifiers

Class A

200-yard medley relay — Bethlehem (Becca Stern, Elise Walsh, Molly Howland, Katie O'Donnell) 1:51.27; Shen (Kara Zebrowski, Kelsey Barbour, Rachel Wallace, Caitlin Brauer) 1:51.31; Mohonassen-Schalmont (Amanda Vitullo, Megan Navaretta, Lyndsay Martin, Julie Skowronek) 1:52.71; Albany (Michele Sano, Alison Gaffuri, Alicia Robinson, Mary Ann Gaffuri) 1:53.70; Saratoga (Bridget Rowland, Maggie Callesano, Lisa Jackson, Kelsey Cocozzo) 1:54.36.

200 freestyle — Kara Zebrowski (Shen) 1:56.16, Caitlin Brauer (Shen) 1:56.69, Shannon Archer (Nisky) 1:59.24, Courtney Schwarting (BH-BL) 1:59.34, Mary Ann

Gaffuri (Alb) 2:00.36. 200 individual medley — Molly Howland (BC) 2:12.20, Katie O'Donnell (BC) 2:12.57, Alisa Koopman (Shen) 2:12.82, Aimee Catroppa (BH-BL) 2:14.46, Elise Walsh (BC) 2:14.97, Maggie Callesano (Sara) 2:15.06.

50 freestyle — Becca Stern (BC) 24.06, Amanda Vitullo (Mohon-Schal) 24.47, Amy Miele (Q'bury) 24.81, Katie Linehan (G-V) 25.01, Kaleigh Ahern (BH-BL) 25.14, Allison Montanye (Nisky) 25.14, Joanna Ferreri (Nisky) 25.60, Maria Prendergast (Shen) 25.74, Kelly Williams (BSpa) 25.67.

Diving — Rachel Smith (Amst) 525.05, Elizabeth Rice (Sara) 478.75, Taber Walkowiak (BSpa) 469.25, Andrea Krok (Shen) 456.10, Devon Kelly (Shak) 444.95, Tressa Russell (Shak) 422.55, Roynan Krebs (Sara) 421.25, Kate Carpenter (Shen) 418.60, Justine Whalen

(Sara) 392.40, Ashley Van Patten (Mohon-Schal) 383.15, Tonu Marie Whitbeck (G-V) 380.70.

100 butterfly — Lyndsay Martin (Mohon-Schal) 59.06, Lisa Cucolo (Nisky) 59.83, Amy Miele (Q'bury) 1:00.52, Aimee Catroppa (BH-BL) 1:00.91, Andrea Marois (Q'bury) 1:01.26, Bridget Rowland (Sara) 1:01.58.

100 freestyle — Mary Ann Gaffuri (Alb) 54.56, Joanna Ferreri (Nisky) 54.94, Katie Linehan (G-V) 55.00, Allison Montanye (Nisky) 55.10. 500 freestyle — Molly Howland (BC) 5:07.15, Caitlin Brauer (Shen) 5:09.92, Shannon Archer (Nisky) 5:15.76, Alisa Koopman (Shen) 5:16.28, Courtney Schwarting (BH-BL) 5:18.34, Lynn Pucciarelli (Shen) 5:20.73, Maggie Callesano (Sara) 5:22.36, Heidi Judd (Nisky) 5:19.80, Amy Howell (Shen) 5:19.76.

200 freestyle relay — Niskayuna

(Maria Prendergast, Lisa Cucolo, Allison Montanye, Shannon Archer) 1:41.22.

100 backstroke — Becca Stern (BC) 58.34, Kara Zebrowski (Shen) 58.75, Amanda Vitullo (Mohon-Schal) 1:00.33, Bridget Rowland (Sara) 1:00.89, Michele Sano (Alb) 1:01.59, Katie O'Donnell (BC) 1:02.49.

100 breaststroke — Lisa Cucolo (Nisky) 1:09.44, Elise Walsh (BC) 1:09.53, Kaleigh Ahern (BH-BL) 1:09.59, Karoline Hart (Nisky) 1:10.06, Kelsey Barbour (Shen) 1:10.57, Rachel Wallace (Shen) 1:11.17.

400 freestyle relay — Shen (Lauren Mikula, Alisa Koopman, Kara Zebrowski, Caitlin Brauer) 3:39.84; Niskayuna (Joanna Ferreri, Allison Montanye, Lisa Cucolo, Shannon Archer) 3:41.47; Bethlehem (Molly Howland, Katie O'Donnell, Emma Walsh, Becca Stern) 3:42.00.

Travels

(From Page 38)

soccer game, but I need those pictures," I told myself.

12:45 p.m. Stopped at rest area on Northway to take care of some business. When I got back in my car, a woman tapped on my window. When I rolled it down, she started asking me a question in French. It turned out it was someone from Quebec wondering if I had a can or bottle opener. That was the most random moment of the whole day.

1:50 p.m. Arrived at Colonie Central High School after quickly downing lunch at a nearby Brueggers. As I got out of the car, I heard a loud cheer. I later found out that was in response to the second of Tyler Izykowski's three goals in Shenendehowa's 3-0 win over Fayetteville-Manlius.

2 p.m. Saw Izykowski's third goal. He beat two F-M defenders and then deftly touched the ball past the Hornets' goalkeeper, who charged out to try to knock the ball away.

3:15 p.m. Got back in the car, filled the gas tank and headed toward Broadalbin-Perth High School for the girls soccer regional.

3:50 p.m. Reached Broadalbin-Perth High School. Managed to catch the final seven minutes of Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake's 2-0 victory over Massena in the class A regional final. Only one more game to go.

5 p.m. The girls class AA regional final between nationally-ranked Shen and Cicero-North Syracuse starts. Told myself that

the first goal will probably happen within the first 15 minutes.

5:13 p.m. The first goal is scored. Unfortunately for Shen, it was Cicero-North Syracuse's Amanda Deck who recorded it when she headed a corner kick past Sarah Novick.

6:31 p.m. Shen's fate is sealed when Jillian Arnault scores with 10 seconds left to complete the upset of the day: Cicero-North Syracuse 2, Shen 0.

7 p.m. Returned to car for the long journey home.

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Sports *in the* Spotlight

Championship travels and trevails

By ROB JONAS

Three sporting events in three towns more than 100 miles apart from each other, and 10 hours to see it all happen.

Good thing I enjoy high school sports, or I would have been miserable Saturday.

Here's a synopsis of what I went through to cover everything:

From the sports desk...

6:45 a.m. Woke up just as dawn's early light was overspreading my neighborhood. Thought about bagging everything and going back to sleep, but decided against it.

7:45 a.m. Noticed the frost caking my car and thought to myself, "Those poor, miserable cross country runners who are going to have to compete in those early races today in Queensbury are going to catch cold from running in 30-degree weather wearing T-shirts and shorts."

8:40 a.m. Got caught in traffic jam of people trying to get to the state cross country meet at exit 19 of the Northway. Wondered if stationing police officers to direct traffic would have been a good idea.

8:55 a.m. Parked my car on the Queensbury school district campus and got to the state meet course two minutes before Saratoga's Steve Murdock and Guilderland's Brian Rhodes-Devey left the woods for the final 600 meters of the boys class AA race. Tried to sprint to finish line to see the ending, but all I could do was pick out Rhodes-Devey's head as he passed Murdock to win the state title.

9:01 a.m. Caught up with Rhodes-Devey and saw him leave his guts in area beyond finish line. Later, the Guilderland star told me, "I feel like I'm on cloud nine, except for the taste of vomit in my mouth." Best quote of the whole day.

Noon. Told myself it was time to get into the car and drive to Colonie for the boys regional soccer game.

12:40 p.m. Got in my car after taking pictures of what I hoped were Voorheesville's first two runners across the finish line in the girls class C race. "It'll cost me the first half of the

□ TRAVELS/page 37



Voorheesville's Hilary Edmunds, right, chases Irvington's Mairin Din during the girls class C race at Saturday's New York State Public High School Athletic Association Cross Country Championships in Queensbury. Edmunds was Voorheesville's lead runner with a 34th-place finish.

Rob Jonas

Section II shines at state meet

Five area teams win championships; V'Ville places sixth

By ROB JONAS

From the first race, it was apparent that Section II was going to dominate Saturday's New York State Public High School Athletic Association Cross Country Championships in Queensbury.

Saratoga edged defending champion Fayetteville-Manlius (Section III) by four points for the boys class AA team title, and five of the top 10 runners in that division — including the top three finishers — hailed from Section II schools.

When the meet ended more than four hours later, Section II teams had won five of the 10 divisions and four of the 10 inter-sectional championships.

The boys class AA race had the most exciting finish of the day. Saratoga's Steve Murdock led for most of the 5-kilometer event, but Guilderland's Brian Rhodes-Devey surged into first place several feet before the finish line and edged Murdock for the state title by three-tenths of a second.

"Coming out of the woods with 600 meters to go, I didn't know how much I had left," said Rhodes-Devey, who became Guilderland's first individual champion with a time of 15:25.7. "I started thinking negatively. I

started thinking second (place) is good, but then I turned the corner (before the finish line) and I said, 'No! No! No!' I got real (angry) and started pushing hard."

"It was just a phenomenal race," said Guilderland boys coach Bob Oates, who taped the finish for the state meet organizers. "He executed the way he wanted to."

Murdock said he was disappointed about not winning the race, but the fact that he and his Saratoga teammates toppled a Fayetteville-Manlius team that was ranked first in the nation was more than enough to make up for a personal second-place finish.

"I'm really happy about it. We all had a plan, and we all decided

to stick to it," said Murdock. "We all wanted to get a good start and get our PRs (personal record times)."

Greg Kelsey wasn't far behind Murdock and Rhodes-Devey. The Saratoga senior placed third in a time of 15:31.6 to help his team beat Fayetteville-Manlius 39-43.

"I saw Steven ahead of me, and I was happy to be up there with him," said Kelsey.

Greg Kiley (13th), Andy Bangert (22nd) and Chris Allen (30th) rounded out the top five for the Saratoga boys team, which swept the Suburban Council, Sectional and state titles.

"They did a fantastic job," said Saratoga coach Linda Kranick.

□ STATE/page 36

Stern, Howland swim to Sectional titles

By MIKE CIOFFI

The Shenedehowa girls swimming and diving team defended its Section II, Class A title Saturday at Robison Pool on the campus of RPI.

The Plainwomen beat out Niskayuna to claim first place with 393 points. Niskayuna finished with 304 points, while Bethlehem placed third with 272 points.

Shen took two of the meet's 12 races including the final event, the 400-yard freestyle relay. The quartet of Kara Zebrowski, Lauren Mikula, Alisa Koopman and Caitlin Brauer held off Niskayuna to win with a time of 3:39.84. Niskayuna settled for second place with a time of 3:41.47, and Bethlehem took third place with a time of 3:42. All three teams qualified for the state meet

Shen's other victory came in the 200 freestyle, the meet's second event. Zebrowski, a freshman, won the race in a time of 1:56.16, and eighth-grader Caitlin Brauer placed second in a time of 1:56.69.

Niskayuna was led by Lisa Cucolo, who had two first-place finishes in the meet and a hand in other events. Cucolo was part of her team's 200 freestyle relay win. The Warriors won the event in a manageable 1:41.22 thanks to the effort of Maria Prendergast, Cucolo, Allison Montanye and Shannon Archer.

Cucolo also took first place in the 100 breaststroke in a time of 1:09.44. She placed second in the 100 butterfly with a state-meet qualifying time of 59.83 seconds, less than one second behind Sectional champion Lyndsay Martin of Mohonasen-Schalmont.

Though Bethlehem placed third, it had the most individual champions at Sectionals. Becca Stern and Molly Howland each won two events, and the Eagles' 200 medley relay team — featuring Stern, Howland, Elise Walsh and Kate O'Donnell — edged Shen by four-hundredths of a second to grab first place.

"The 200 medley team set a new school record, which was really nice," said Bethlehem coach Doug Gross. "Elise (Walsh) helped out with a great split (in the second leg) and had a great meet overall."

Stern won the 50 freestyle sprint with a time of 24.06 seconds, four-tenths of a second ahead of Mohonasen-Schalmont's Amanda Vitullo. The junior then won the 100 backstroke with a time of 58.34 seconds.

"Becca had a great meet," said

Gross. "She set a new school record in the 100 backstroke and was a big part of our 200 medley team win."

Howland and O'Donnell took the top two places in the 200 individual medley. Howland won with a time of 2:12.20, and O'Donnell was a close second in a time of 2:12.57.

"Katie (O'Donnell) had an incredible race," Gross said. "She was in fourth place going into finals, and for her to catch up to Molly (Howland) was amazing. It's tough to go one and two in Sectionals in the individual medley."

Howland followed up that performance with a victory in the 500 freestyle, the longest event of the meet. Howland won with a time of 5:07.15, nearly three

□ TITLES/page 37

Business

(From Page 1)

additional support for one of the region's largest industrial parks. The Rotterdam Industrial Park is home to the Golub Corp., parent company of the Price Chopper supermarket chain. The town's IDA has a history of supporting the regional grocery powerhouse and town councilman and newly elected town Supervisor Steve Tommasone said he expects the close-knit relationship to continue.

"Our IDA has done a good job in helping to support economic development in Rotterdam," said Tommasone. "They are going to be an integral part of what we are doing

with the future of bringing jobs to our town.

"The IDA is one of the key components of the success we've had so far, and I'm very excited about where things go from here," he added.

In a highly competitive economic climate, agency proponents say the tax benefits given out by the authorities are essential for attracting new employers. Those tax benefits can be quite lucrative, saving businesses millions in local taxes.

Under the state's General Municipal Law, IDAs are tax-exempt organizations, which can transfer that exemption to companies that apply for their assistance. The agencies are not included in local municipal budgets and raise their own operating funds by charging

companies application and administrative fees. They have their own lawyers, but commonly rely on local governments to provide their staff as part of a local economic

but the focus is almost always on businesses that are creating or retaining jobs.

The decision about assistance is made on a case-by-case basis, and each project must

County Industrial Development Agency agreed to issue millions of dollars in bonding to help pay for the project. IDAs from a number of counties had courted Sysco.

Saratoga County IDA and Sysco also reached a PILOT agreement that assured the company that it would not pay its full amount in property taxes for more than a decade.

Sysco was originally slated to build the warehouse in East Greenbush but that location stalled when the federal Army Corps of Engineers intervened due to the existence of wetlands.

Albany County officials expressed concern at the time because Sysco's relocation coincided with the expiration of a PILOT agreement that had allowed the multi-billion dollar company to pay less than its full amount of property taxes.

Company officials said the move was necessary because the Fuller Road site was too small to accommodate an expanded warehouse. They strongly denied it had anything to do with minimizing property tax payments.

"Our IDA has done a good job in helping to support economic development in Rotterdam. They are going to be an integral part of what we are doing with the future of bringing jobs to our town."

Steve Tommasone

development team.

Seeking to lure new employers, the boards can approve issuing tax-exempt bonds that allow the companies to borrow at significantly lower interest rates than they would otherwise face.

The result can be dramatic, with companies seeing the total elimination of their real property, mortgage recording and sales taxes.

Lessening the financial impact on local governments, IDAs often reach agreements with companies requiring the businesses to make payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs). But those agreements frequently leave local coffers with less money than if employers had paid their full amount of taxes. PILOT agreements "are generally significantly less than the real property taxes which are abated," the comptroller's office explained.

Each IDA has its own method of evaluating whether businesses qualify for support

apply separately.

The number of IDAs has blossomed dramatically after starting out on a small scale. Currently, there are 117 such agencies statewide, with 21 of them in communities throughout the four-county Capital District.

The heavy concentration of agencies in the region has led to an intense competition for new businesses. Five years ago, Sysco Foods, one of the nation's largest food distributors, relocated its warehouse from Fuller Road in Colonie to Halfmoon after the Saratoga

Local

(From Page 1)

throughout the years.

Sysco moved from Colonie to Halfmoon in 2000, since it was seeking a larger facility that could be expanded even further as the need arose. Benton said that the addition had always been part of Sysco's plan, but was not assisted by the Saratoga County IDA.

Initial plans called for a 275,000 square-foot regional distribution center that would employ 500 people, with room to expand. Originally, Sysco planned to add 50 new jobs in its second year in Halfmoon. Since Sysco's official Halfmoon opening in June 2001, employment has increased to close to 580 people.

Five years later the company has expanded to a larger cooler for its food products.

"The operation has added on a cooler at an additional 30,000 square feet," said Dennis Brobston, vice president of Saratoga County Economic Development, SCED.

The SCED is a private, nonprofit corporation that Saratoga County funds in order to provide a broad range of assistance to existing businesses and new firms seeking to locate in Saratoga County.

The SCED is partnered with the Saratoga County IDA to financially help these businesses in order to stimulate capital investment and job creation.

The Saratoga County IDA provided Sysco with a tax relief package when it moved. This package allowed the company to only pay its town, county and school taxes based on the value of its land for the first five years.

Over a 10-year period, Sysco will have saved \$2.5 million in property taxes, said Benton.

The decision to relocate to Halfmoon came after the company was turned away from East Greenbush due to federally protected wetlands. The choice of Halfmoon came as a surprise because the original back-up site had been Coxsackie.

Sysco is a national company based in Texas with food distributors in the United States and Canada. Sysco markets and distributes food to restaurants, nursing homes, hospitals, hotels, motels, schools, colleges,

cruise ships, sports parks and summer camps.

As of right now, no other expansions are planned, said Gail Allen, president and executive director of Sysco in Halfmoon, who said the relocation to Halfmoon was a good decision.

"We're doing fine," said Allen. "Our expansion generated approximately \$100,000 in revenue for Shenedehowa schools."

Bethlehem IDA helps with tax base

Bethlehem's Industrial Development Authority, in place for 32 years, has helped to bring financial assistance to eligible projects in town to promote economic welfare and recreational opportunities of people in town.

Many of the projects the IDA has been involved in are a direct part of what the town visualizes economically for the future. The Vista Technology Center, to be located behind Price Chopper in Slingerlands, the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program for the Hudson River and other projects are directly related to promoting and attracting appropriate businesses to town.

The goal of the Bethlehem IDA is to increase the commercial tax base, lifting the burden off the residents.

Some of the higher profile projects in the last few years have been the construction of the Bethlehem Energy Center by PSEG, which is the rehabilitation of the Albany Steam Generating Station.

Albany County awarded the Vista Technology Center a \$1 million competitive grant. The park calls for over 1 million square feet of mixed-use office, research and development, assembly and restaurant space.

Though some people in town have voiced skepticism about the park, the project is expected to result in large financial impacts to the town and the school district while having little adverse impact.

The IDA was also active in helping the town create conceptual development plans for the southern part of town, connecting to Route 9W, and the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program designed for the Hudson river front, which will include a study to determine where businesses should go in the area.

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These are the leaders who are changing the way stroke is treated in our region. Using the most advanced diagnostic technology, the latest clot-dissolving medications and highly specialized neuroendovascular surgery they are effectively reversing the devastating effects of stroke. Among the best trained neurologists and neurosurgeons in America, this winning team of stroke specialists is saving lives right here at Albany Med. This team of physicians chooses to work at Albany Med because of its leadership role in biomedical research, medical education and patient care.



Dileep R. Yavagal, MD

Co-director Neuroendovascular Surgery
Assistant Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery

Specialty: Neuroendovascular treatment of acute stroke, aneurysms, carotid artery disease and arteriovenous malformations.

Training: MD, Seth Gordhandas Sunderdas Medical College; Neurology residency, Massachusetts General and Brigham and Women's Hospitals; Fellowships in Critical Care Neurology at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and Interventional Neuroradiology at UCLA Medical Center.

Publications: Dr. Yavagal has published several peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters.

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