

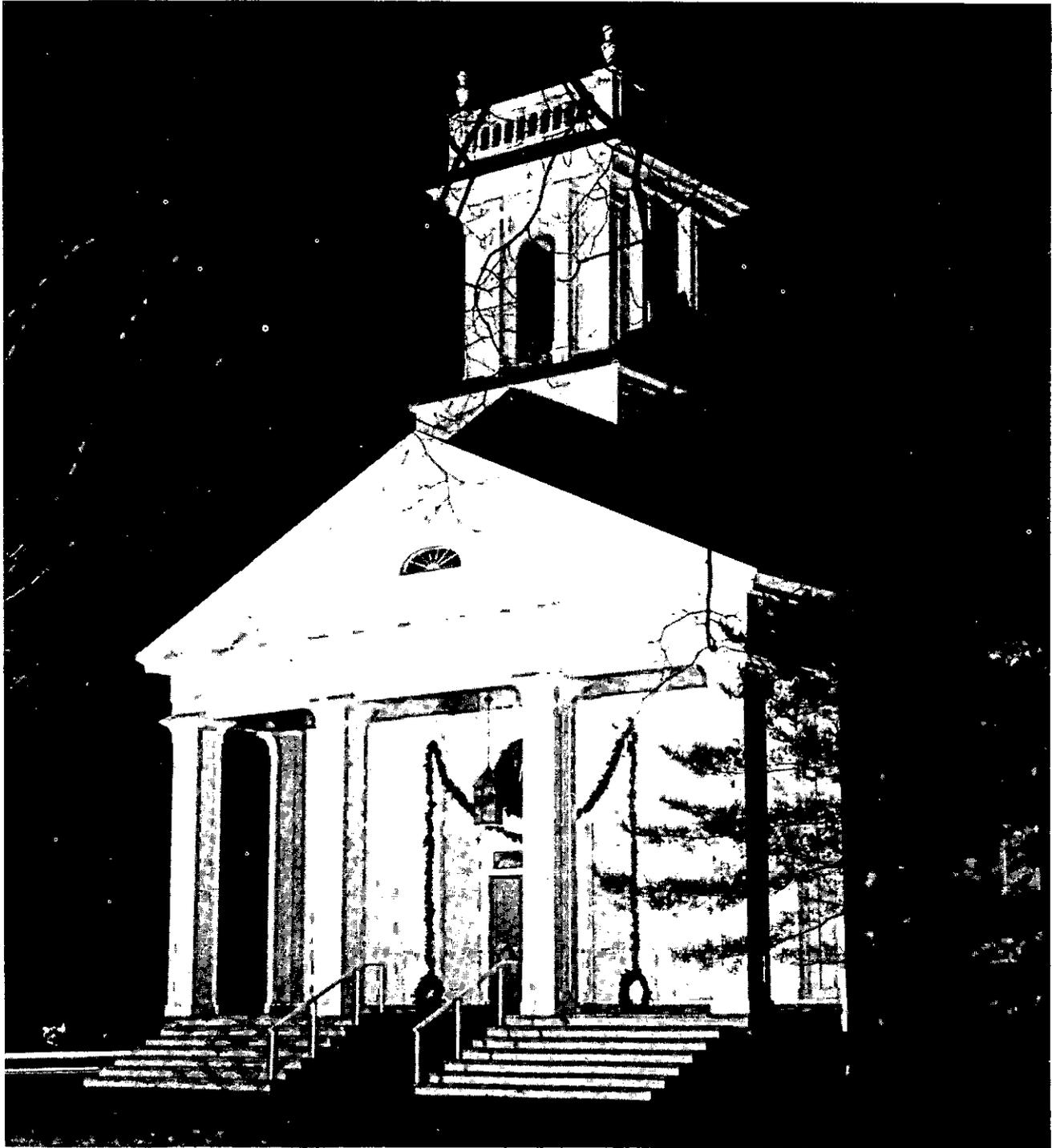
The **NEW Spotlight** Light

December 25, 1975
VOL. XX, NO. 52

20¢

Controlled Circulation Publication

Graphic newsweekly serving the towns of Bethlehem, New Scotland and nearby communities



Life-Art Photo

Peace and Joy Christmas 1975

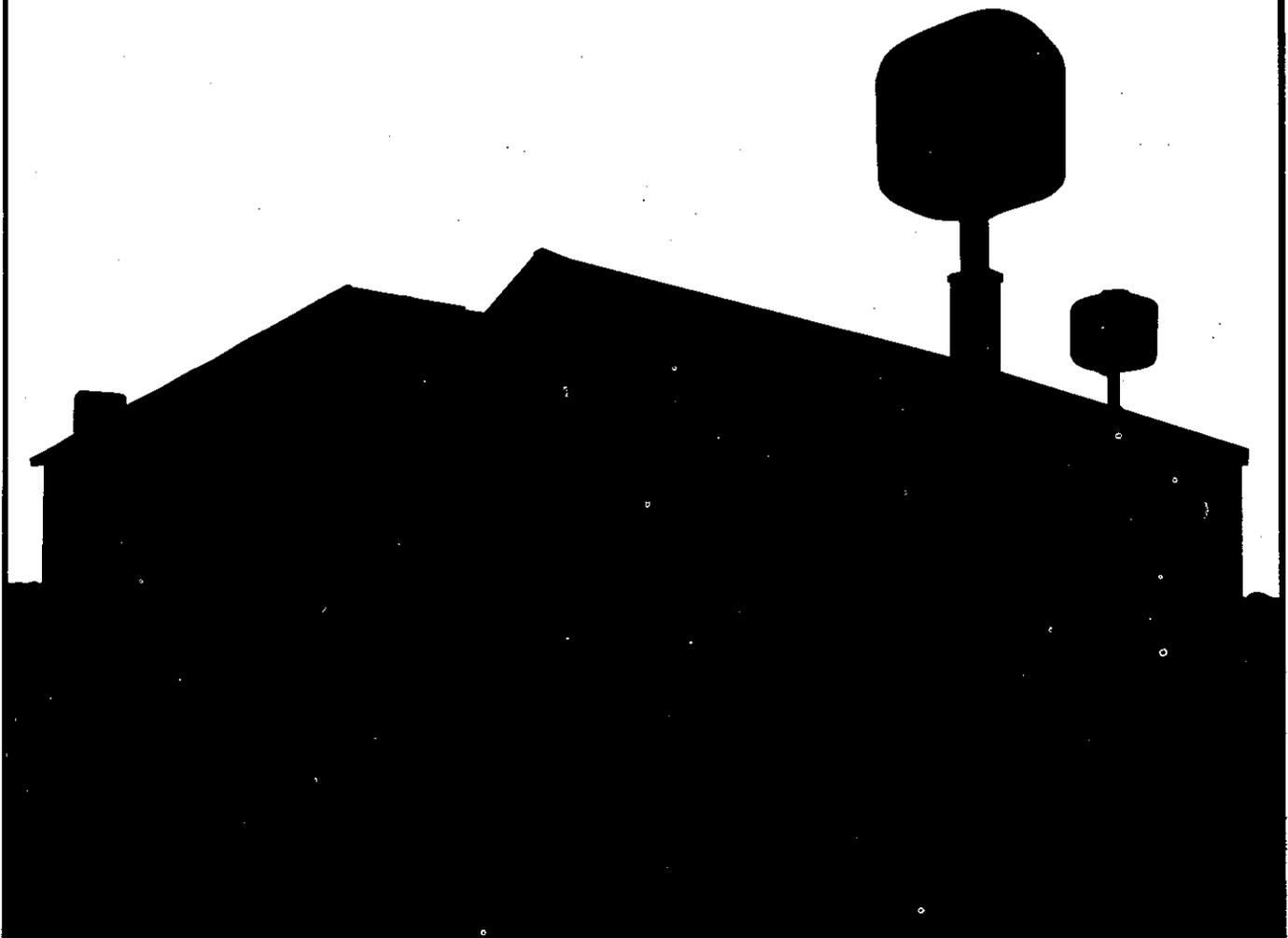
**On our first anniversary
in Delmar...
we wish you the very best
for this holiday season.**



Member F.D.I.C

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518-439-9988**

**Open Monday through Friday
9 A.M. to 3 P.M.;
Saturday, 9 A.M. to 12 Noon;
Thursday evenings 5 P.M. to 8 P.M.**



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Spotlight CALENDAR

Elsmere Fire Co., last Thursday of each month, 8 p.m.

Bethlehem Lodge meets on first and third Wednesday of every month, Ladies Auxiliary meets on second Wednesday of every month.

Citizen Band Radio Club first Thursday. Third Tuesday at the Center Inn, 8:00 p.m. Mrs. John Silivia, 463-7675.

Boy Scout Troop 159 for the handicapped meets Thursday 7 p.m., Delmar Reformed Church.

Bethlehem Lions Club meets first and third Wednesdays at LaCasa, Selkirk, 6:30 p.m.

AARP meets 12:30 p.m., third Tuesday of month, Delmar First United Methodist Church, Kenwood Avenue, Delmar.

Kiwanis Club of Delmar meets every Monday night at 6:15 at The Center Inn, Route 9W, Glenmont.

Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post #1040, American Legion, meets first and third Monday of month (when holiday occurs, move to Tuesday) except July and August. 8:30 p.m.

Onesquethaw O.E.S. meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month at the Masonic Temple in Delmar.

Glenmont Lions Club meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at Lacasa Restaurant, Selkirk, 6:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Info: Frank Muria, 767-2408.

Glenmont Homemakers meet third Wednesday of month; Glenmont Comm. Church, 8 p.m.

Gam-Anon, for wives of compulsive gamblers, meets Wednesdays 8:15 p.m., St. Pius Church, Loudonville, 462-6916 or P.O. Box 23, Albany.

Historical films, Community Room, Bethlehem Library, 12 noon, bring lunch, free coffee.

Paper Drive by Youth Groups of Methodist and Reformed Churches, second Saturday of each month. Bring papers to Town Parking Lot next to Applebee Funeral Home, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Papers will be picked up from the elderly or infirm if you call either church office.

Sports Car Club of America, first Wed. of each month 8:00 p.m. at the Center Inn, Glenmont, Marie Corrin, 869-6948.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

"Gift of Life" Sunday at Red Cross Blood Center, Hackett Blvd., Albany, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Bethlehem Planning Board, public hearing on the applications of Bronco Development, Ltd., for Building Project Approval of Skycrest, Section No. 2, located in a Planned Residence District on the west side of Elm Ave., between Feura Bush Rd., and Elm Ave. East. Developer proposes to construct 81 single-family dwellings and 17 two-family dwellings in Section No. 2.



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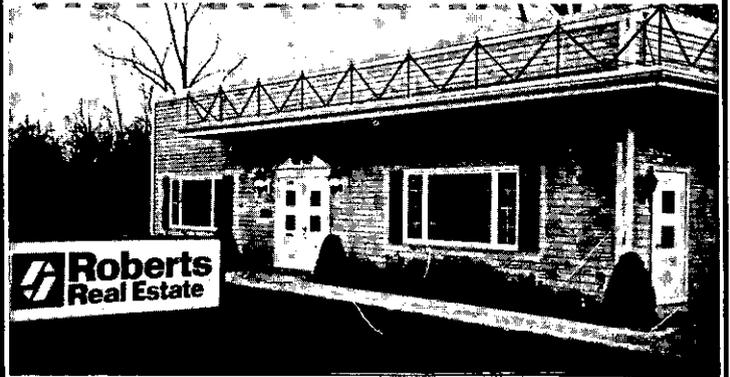
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from
Tom, Josephine and Brian

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Betty LeFevre
Bettie Lombard

Helen McLean
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Gail Sundling
Ann Warren



Jolly spirits, happy times and the best of New Year's cheer are what we're wishing you, with our appreciation for your kind patronage.

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AND RESTAURANT

367 Delaware Avenue, Delmar

—Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day

The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

December 25, 1975
VOL. XX, NO. 52

Graphic newsweekly serving the towns of Bethlehem, New Scotland and nearby communities

DELMAR SCHOOL

'Silent majority' the hidden minority

A united front of more than 200 parents, keeping steady pressure on the Bethlehem Board of Education, appears to be winning by default its much-publicized campaign to prevent the closing of the Delmar Elementary School. A key factor in the decision, which the school board says it will announce early in January, is the fact that the parents' campaign has gone unchallenged by district taxpayers.

In two crowded public hearings and a deserted budget hearing, proponents of the school had the floor without dissenting voices. When the suggestion was raised that some district taxpayers might object to what the board has referred to as "the luxury" of

keeping the school open in the face of accelerating costs, the embattled parents retorted: "Where are they tonight?"

Turnout slim

The so-called "silent-majority" of district taxpayers stayed away in droves from the two emotion-charged hearings on the Delmar issue on Dec. 3 and Dec. 10, and only six persons appeared at a preliminary budget hearing on Dec. 17.

At the budget preview the absentees would have heard Board Chairman Bernard Harvith paint a gloomy picture for household checkbooks. The dollar situation for next year looks grim: a major slash in state aid, possibly as much as half a million dollars, a quarter

million increase in teachers' salaries (up 20 percent in two years), and escalating costs "right down the line."

Cuts drastic

Harvith told the small audience that the board would make drastic cuts in the upcoming budget "before we'd go above a \$5 tax rate increase." But Bertold E. Weinberg, a board member, declared that statement was Dr. Harvith's and might not reflect the board's attitude.

Bethlehem's cost-per-pupil is currently the highest in the Albany-Schenectady-Troy area.

Even without the reappearance of the Delmar school parents, the board faces a can't-win decision next month. It has

to wield a sharp axe on any item that isn't a bare-bone necessity, and it faces many long hours of trying to whittle down definitions of what items are "musts" and what items are "frills and luxuries." It is obvious some items will have to go.

"We may have to cut the quality of our programs to avoid a huge tax increase," Harvith was quoted as saying.

In this environment the Delmar school issue becomes particularly painful. The well-organized campaign to keep the school open in spite of eroding enrollments across the district has made strong points, both on the balance sheet and on the human side of the issue — disrupting school patterns through a reapportionment, eliminating art and music rooms occupying unneeded classroom space, longer bus rides, etc.

Caught in a squeeze is the board itself: close the school and face a storm of protest, or bow to the pressure and risk an outcry from the rest of the district. As one grim-faced board member observed: "We never had art and music rooms until a few years ago. Are they — or are they not a luxury?"

Not a luxury, says Bonacker

By George F. Bonacker
Former principal,
Delmar School

After reading many news articles and reports, after listening carefully to the board and to concerned parents of the Delmar PTA, it is apparently clear that the board should accept the well-documented



Delmar school hearing: empty seats for dissenters.

case of the speakers and/or representatives of the PTA and allow the Delmar School to remain open.

Many of my friends have asked me to speak out, but I hesitate to do so until I felt adequately informed. It appears to me there have been many sound reasons expressed for continuing, at least for another year, the ongoing program of the school with the understanding by all that the board, the superintendent, the parents and all taxpayers will continue to scrutinize all aspects of the issue.

I am among the first to realize that boards of education, as the representatives of all the people and the taxpayers, have to make some very difficult decisions and this is one. Theirs is a volunteer community service at which they spend many hours, often under great pressure. Not many of us have the time, interest and ability required to render this service



George F. Bonacker

(and without compensation). The board also represents the teachers and the entire staff (although relations are slightly strained at present) and it represents the pupils who cannot speak for themselves and who are really the pawns in this controversy.

On the issue of "saving money for the taxpayers", this would be a complicated matter to assess accurately since there are so many unknowns. It is doubtful, despite good intentions and weighing all aspects of the issue, if any appreciable amount can be saved "for the benefit of the taxpayers". Furthermore, it is a matter of history that over the years the affirmative votes of the Delmar School area taxpayers have made possible many advantages that other elementary schools in our school district now enjoy. Thus, Delmar residents and/or voters have not been selfish in supporting all schools (including parents and pupils) in the total school district. It is not, therefore, a 'luxury' for the pupils and parents of the Delmar School to wish to continue the full ongoing program at their school.

It seems to me that at this stage of the issue the board should feel that the people (taxpayers) have spoken; that thus far there have been no opposing speeches or expressed opinions. The board, therefore, should announce that the Delmar School should not be closed or 'mothballed'; that the

For other opinions,
See Vox Pop, page 22

pupils' program should not be interrupted by scattering and busing them around to other district schools, thus crowding the receiving schools and creating other issues. The board has 'done its duty' in alerting the people of the impending problem; it has listened to and reported to the people. The people, those who have spoken, want the Delmar School to remain open, as do the pupils. Thus, I feel that the board should relieve the tensions of many parents, teachers (and pupils) by announcing as early as possible that the Delmar School will remain open for another school year and that the entire matter will continue to be reviewed and examined by all concerned as the new school year approaches.

Fiberglas plant sets start-up

Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp. plans to begin operations in Delmar by mid-1976 and expects to have 200 to 250 production workers on the job before the end of the summer. The Bethlehem plant, which was completed last summer, was put "on hold" when the residential construction market softened, and has been idle ever since. A small cadre of six employees has been assigned here, excluding a security crew on contract.

"We are now in the process of finalizing our timetable," said Richard O. Webb, plant manager. He said it would be several months until the firm would begin interviewing job applicants. "We have sent letters to all who have applied to date in order to update those applications; but we won't be equipped to interview until late spring."

The plant will produce Fiberglas insulation for residential, commercial, and industrial applications.



Variance granted

An application by Vincent Spinosa for a variance for a small building formerly used as a barber shop has been approved by the Bethlehem Board of Appeals. The building is in an area zoned "A" residential.

Mr. Spinosa did not reveal his plans for the building.

Driver course set

The three-hour safe driving course required of all applicants for a driver's license will be given at Bethlehem Central High School Jan. 5 and Jan. 7. The two 90-minute sessions will be held in Room 19-A at 7:30 p.m. each evening.

As people all over the world found
a good way of life when Christ was
born in Bethlehem many years ago,
we have found a good life in our
Bethlehem — where friendly people are
served by friendly merchants, where
service is a by-word.

Watch for a star on these holidays of 1975. You will see it shining over Bethlehem.



Holiday Greetings from the
Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce

An expert selects holiday wines

To Mortimer A. "Mortie" Schwartz, selecting the appropriate wine for a special occasion requires knowledge, taste and propriety. With the holidays here with their festive spirit of get-togethers for the family and friends and neighbors, the Spotlight asked the area's most respect authority on wines for his suggestions.

Mortie Schwartz, a former resident of Slingerlands now living in Albany, is the founder



Mortie Schwartz

and owner of The Wine Shop on New Scotland Ave., from whence these gems come:

Taste, not 'snobbery'

"There is no nicer way to add to the holiday spirit than to serve some wine. It does not have to be expensive and you needn't concern yourself about vintage years or any other wine snobbery.

"For casual drinking, a wine with a touch of sweetness is most pleasant. Some people like port or sherry, but these contain about 20% alcohol and are on the heavy side. A lighter type, such as Lambrusco, or a white German wine, or a Lake Niagara or even a jug of California Chenin Blanc run about 12% and are both pleasant drinking and easy on your pocketbook. These are all served chilled and can make for a festive holiday.

"When it comes to Christmas dinner, then I would suggest a Moselle. If you are having ham or turkey, they are both on the sweet side and especially if the ham is glazed or the turkey is accompanied by cranberry sauce or candied sweet-potatoes. A wine that is very dry does not contrast too well, whereas a good Moselle and particularly a Spatlese (late-picked grapes) has an aftertaste of sweetness that matches these foods. The result is that the food flatters the wine and the wine flatters the food. These wines run a bit higher in cost but they are well worth the difference.

"In any event, serve wine. It turns an ordinary event into an occasion and a meal into a feast."

For holiday punches and goodies, see pages 15-16

Song festival Sunday

Delmar's Church of St. Thomas the Apostle and Albany's Church of St. Vincent de Paul are co-sponsoring a Festival of Lessons and Carols at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday at the Madison Avenue Church in Albany.

Choirs, musicians, and clergy from both parishes will join with the choir from St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Troy for a family evening of Christmas carols and readings. Choirmaster and organist are Francis Desmarais from St. Thomas Church, Scott Cantrell from St. Paul's, Geoffrey Smith and Robert Brown from St. Vincent's.

The Rev. James Daley of St. Thomas's, Rev. Leo O'Brien and Rev. Richard Vosko from St. Vincent's will preside at the festival.

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The UNITED Way



Photos by Jonquieres

Earn typing awards

Five students in the Shorthand II and transcription class of Mrs. Margaret H. Westvelt at Bethlehem Central High School earned certificates from the Gregg Publishing Co. in November.

The awards were presented to Deborah Bangert, Marie Bohnet, Lori Lehner, Joanne Vitillo and Carole Wellbrock for taking three letters at 60 words per minutes and typing two mailable letters in 20 minutes.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

to our friends
and patrons



**DELMAR NEWS
and
CARD SHOP**
Four Corners

A public dis-service announcement



James H. Tully Jr.

In Bahamas course

Gifford Jamison, a freshman at Hartwick College in Oneonta, is one of nine students studying marine biology on the island of San Salvador in the Bahamas. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Benton Jamison of 7 Douglas Rd., Delmar.

Most of the continuous outpouring of news releases from government agencies at all levels able to afford or support public relations staffs can be said to serve some form of public service or departmental function. That is to say, most are legitimate, even if many are thin and rarely printed by editors.

Last week State Tax Commissioner James H. Tully Jr. provided a rare exception by issuing this release :

but I made the speech and I knew it was being released.

Spotlight: Do you think that issuing this release on department letterhead was in good taste?

Tully: Well, we have this problem, when you find something wrong, you speak out about it. You don't mean to be political."

The watchdog rests.
Nat Boynton

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE
STATE CAMPUS ALBANY, N. Y. 12227

TAXATION AND FINANCE
JAMES H. TULLY, JR., COMMISSIONER

WALTER J. BAKER
Director of Public Relations
151E 457-4242

For immediate use. . .

Release No. 92

ALBANY, N.Y., December 16, 1975--"The new State administration is performing the historic function of the Democratic Party in helping to save the free enterprise system while trying to put more intelligence into the fiscal operations of New York State and New York City," according to State Tax Commissioner James H. Tully Jr.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Tax Committee of Associated Industries of New York State at the Warwick Hotel in New York City today, Commissioner Tully said that after 15 years of greater spending, increased indebtedness and more gimmickry, "we could very easily have let the State and City agencies default, blamed former Governor Rockefeller and former Mayor Lindsay, and expressed our sorrow about the economic fallout."

"Instead," he said, "we have tried to act responsibly to keep these enterprises alive so they can pay their creditors, their suppliers, their contractors and their employees."

Such unfiltered political rhetoric on a state letterhead at public expense moved the Spotlight to depart from its role as a family community digest and become, momentarily, a watchdog publication. Two questions were directed to the commissioner, and here are his answers:

Spotlight: Commissioner Tully, did you approve this release before it went out?

Tully: I didn't see the release,

Essay anyone?

The Capital District chapter, American Society for Public Administration, is conducting an essay contest for area high school seniors on the theme: "The Role of Universal Education in a Democratic Society." The winner will receive \$100.

Entries should be from 1,000 to 1,500 words in length and must be sent before Jan. 10 to William T. Tyrrell, 39 Bayberry Ct., Voorheesville.

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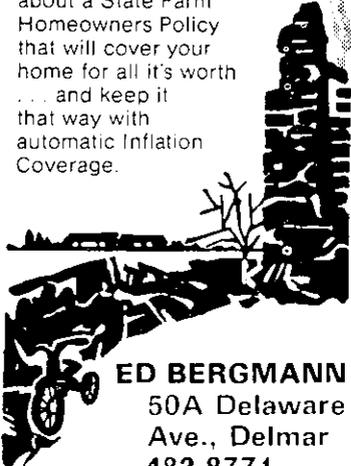


Spelich

These members of BCBS Distributive Education Club made the nativity scene sponsored by the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce in front of the Reformed Church. From left, front: Oakley Salisbury, Joe Garcia, Kevan Ghovanloo. Second row, Kathy Cook, Debbie Berkins, Debbie Prior, Lori Tynan, Zena Manilenko. Third row: Chris Hazen, Wayne Keezar, Chuck Scully, Jim Kerr, Joe Dottino, Bill Asprin, Bill Boughton and Paul Kneeland.

Inflation hasn't changed the price of ashes.

But it has changed the price of your home. For example, if you bought a \$20,000 home in 1968 - today it's worth about \$27,000. Don't be left with a costly pile of ashes. See me about a State Farm Homeowners Policy that will cover your home for all it's worth ... and keep it that way with automatic Inflation Coverage.



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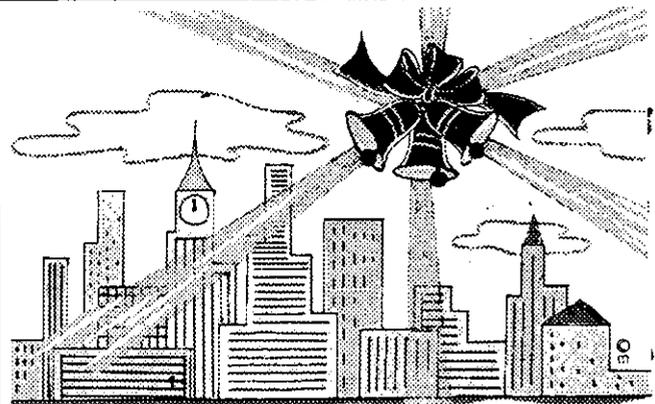


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Howard Anderson, Delmar branch manager of the National Savings Bank representing the chamber, receives keys to the lighting switch from Cliff VanDyke, electrical contractor. Rev. David L. Cooper, assistant pastor, is at left.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Toasts to a high-spirited New Year! We look forward to serving all our friends, and extend thanks for your loyalty.

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Josephine Leonardo, seated, receives congratulations from brother Dick, right, and mother Jessie at opening of new beauty salon. Standing at left are Tom Marino and Brian Eaton.

Leonardo family in new venture

When Jack and Jessie Leonardo came to Delmar 40 years ago to establish a shoemaking and shoe repair business, they set the foundation for several

other businesses without realizing it.

For the last 18 years son Dick has operated D & L movers, and last week daughter Josephine opened Leonardo Hair Designers in the shop in the rear of the L.J. Mullen Pharmacy.

With Josephine are two other well known hair stylists, Tom Marino of Albany and Brian Eaton of Delmar, both of whom have been practicing in the Delmar area for several years. Tom has recently returned from an advanced course in the Clairrol coloring school in New York, and Brian is a graduate of the Redken seminar. All three are graduates of the Austin Beauty School.

On hand at the opening were brother Dick and Jessie, Josephine's mother, who has carried on at the Delmar Bootery by learning the shoe trade herself after the death of her husband five years ago.

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Delivery by 5 . . . (Tues.-Sat.)



Campbell

Mrs. Dominic Melano, 90, center, was honored at the Senior Citizens luncheon last week at Normanside Country Club. With her are Mrs. Viola Knapp, left, and Mrs. Elmer Morway, co-chairmen.

Elks scholarship

Exalted Ruler James W. Hausma has named Donald S. Peck of Bethlehem Elks Lodge No. 2233 as scholarship chairman to administer this pro-

gram for the local students who wish to compete. Additional information about the Elks competition may be obtained by calling him at 756-2597. Ravena.

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Peace On Earth . . .
. . . Goodwill Toward Men
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John J. Healy

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The home my husband and I own is mortgaged. Is it true this mortgage will be paid automatically if either of us passes away?

Answer:

Mortgage redemption insurance is usually carried only upon the life of the husband although the wife may also be insured. Insurance for the purpose of paying off a mortgage is not automatically included in mortgage payments. Some lender, however, may require coverage upon the life of the husband as a condition for making the loan. Insurance to pay off a mortgage indebtedness may be any type of life insurance. Decreasing term insurance is the most popular form of mortgage insurance and, like all life insurance, is paid to the surviving spouse, not to the mortgage holder. In this aspect, mortgage redemption insurance differs from credit life insurance which is paid directly to the lender.

Insurance carried for the purpose of paying a mortgage is not expensive and is one of the basic things a young family buying a home should investigate. Information can readily be obtained from you life insurance agent.

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Letters to Santa: 1,000 plus

If Bethlehem youngsters got most of the presents they asked for in their letters to Santa, it's because they wrote good letters to the right place.

Sgt. Pat Dorsey of the Bethlehem Police Youth Bureau, who was the person Santa designated to sort out all the letters, said Santa himself was especially pleased with the tremendous response from Bethlehem children. The Delmar post office helped in getting the letters to the North Pole headquarters, with a zip code of 00000.

Santa said many of the children simply presented Santa a list of desired gifts, followed by assurances that they had indeed been good. Several of the children "told" on their brother and sisters though. Some of the letters were written by parents, who usually note that their children have been "pretty good" although they are promising to be better.

Many of the letters promised

Santa something to eat when he comes to leave his gifts. Most often, the offering consisted of milk and cookies, although one girl planned to leave him an orange and tea. Another letter writer left Santa a warning: "Don't get caught in the chimney."

While most of the children's gift lists sounded like a recitation of the latest advertisements, there were a few strange requests. A girl from Glenmont was effusive in her affection for Santa writing: "I love you. You are my best friend . . . I have been a good girl. I am your best admirer . . ." Santa liked that.

Santa said the most unusual letters were:

"My name is Marc and Stephen and we have made you Santa with the help of mommie a pillow to put your head on before your long ride home, but we have been both good so don't forget our toys — we love you.

"My name is David and I love you, Santa. My brothers put a string on the door and a camera on the other end, so when you open the door you will have a picture of you Santa, don't tell them that I told you — Oh I forgot to tell you I saw Rudolph on TV I hope you have a safe trip."

Fitness course opens

The Albany YMCA is currently taking applications for the Delmar area ladies' fitness and aerobic dance course. Classes will run on Thursday mornings beginning Jan. 8 from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. The session will run for seven weeks.

Classes will be conducted at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church 84 Elm Ave., Delmar. The course will be instructed by Mrs. Elaine Holbrook, the Albany YMCA's women's fitness instructor. The course stresses fun and fitness with rhythmic exercise to music and aerobic dance.

Classes are open to the public. For information, call 449-7196.

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Greetings

Santa's coming along spreading lots of holiday cheer. And, he's delivering special thanks to our nice friends.

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Campbell

From the smiles on their faces the three men heading the Red Cross "Gift of Life" Sunday blood program must have had good news from Santa (Dr. Albert H. Harris of Slingerlands). From left, William J. Murphy, Rensselaer County chapter; James C. Angus, Schenectady County, Santa and Thomas M. Whalen, Albany Area chapter.



Dr. Ted Eastlund checks out packages of blood to be delivered to area hospitals during the holidays. "Gift of Life" Sunday, Dec. 28 will replenish the supply for normal and emergency uses.

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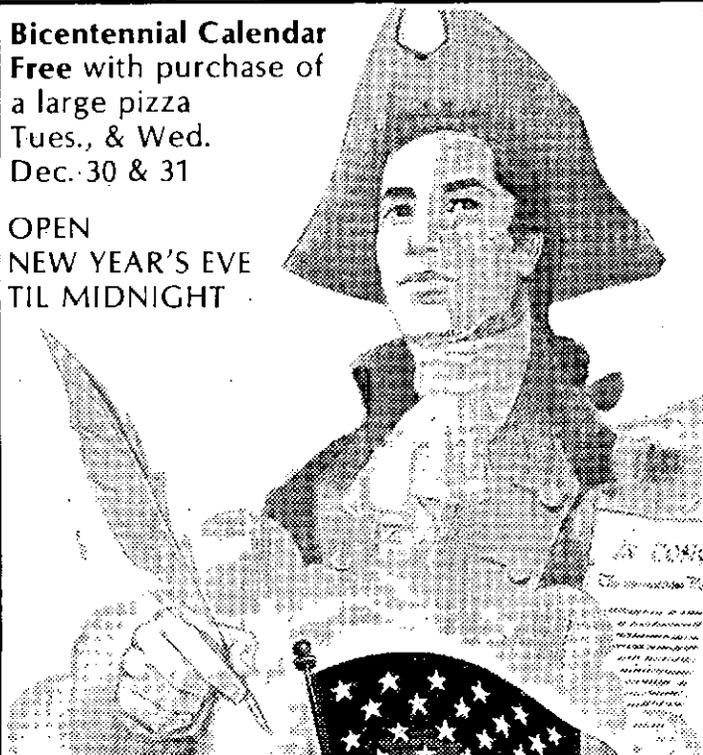
J. Schuyler

These happy faces were just a few of many that greeted Santa (Jack Paradise) on his visit to the Voorheesville Elementary School on the last day before the holiday recess.

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Tues., & Wed.
Dec. 30 & 31

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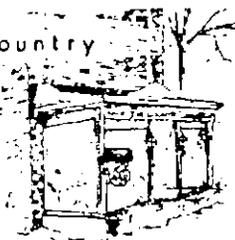
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brightest ever.

We are back to our regular
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The Country Corner

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(Next door to Delmar Public Library)

Gourmet goodies to give

When it comes to giving presents particularly suited to someone's tastes, there's nothing like food for thoughtfulness. Very seasonal for the holidays are these homemade goodies invented by epicures that are almost as much fun to create as to consume.

Sheldon Landwehr, columnist, critic and world traveler renowned for his candid restaurant reviews suggests two of his most popular gifts:

- Orange Cognac Fruit Treats**
 1 cup (8 ounces Leroux Cognac With Orange liqueur)
 1 pound mixed dried fruit (apples, pears, peaches, apricots)
 1 package (10 ounces) semi-sweet chocolate bits
 Assorted decorations (sprinkles, dragees, non-pareils)

In a double boiler heat Cognac With Orange 1 minute. Pour into a shallow dish; add dried fruit and marinate at room temperature, turning occasionally, about 24 hours. Drain and place on a dry platter. Melt chocolate in double boiler. With tongs dip each piece of fruit into melted chocolate coating evenly. Decorate as desired. Place on waxed paper or household foil and refrigerate until ready to package.

- Jamaica Rumcock**
 2 1/2 cups drained canned fruit (pitted dark sweet cherries, sliced cling peaches, pineapple chunks, mandarin oranges)
 2 cups dried fruit (pitted prunes, apricot halves, small figs, peaches, pitted dates)
 1/4 cup whole blanched almonds
 1 pound (2 1/4 cups) superfine sugar
 1 1/2 cups Myers's Jamaica Rum

In a 1 1/2 quart crock layer fruit, almonds and sugar. Add Myers's Jamaica Rum gradually, gently stirring to dissolve sugar. Rum should cover fruit. Cover crock and weight lid to keep fruit under rum, adding more rum if necessary to cover fruit, and let stand 4

to 7 days. Stir to distribute fruit evenly.

You might also like to try these perennial favorites.

- Seven Crown Brownies**
 1/4 pound butter
 2 ounces (2 squares) Bakers unsweetened chocolate
 2 eggs
 1 cup sugar
 1/2 cup sifted flour
 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
 1 to 1 1/2 jiggers
 7 Crown whiskey
 2/3 cup chopped walnuts

Over very low heat melt together butter and chocolate, stirring constantly. Cool. In a mixing bowl beat eggs until foamy, gradually adding sugar, beating well after each addition. Blend in cooled chocolate mixture. Stir in flour, in two or three additions and mixing well each time. Add vanilla, then whiskey and beat. Stir in nuts. Turn into greased 8 x 9 x 2-inch pan. Bake in preheated 325° F. oven about 25 minutes, or until baked and shrinks slightly from edge of pan. While warm, cut into squares. Cool in refrigerator about 30 minutes. Remove from pan and store. Makes 18 or 24 squares.

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Sunday, January 4 — 12 noon to 6 p.m.

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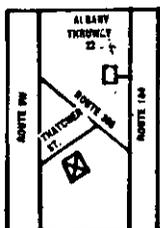
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Spirited holiday punches

You can put more punch in your parties if you get into the holiday spirit. One way is with punch lines like these.

EGG NOG

6 eggs, separated
1 cup sugar
1 pint heavy cream
1 pint milk
1 pint Four Roses whiskey
1 ounce Myers's Jamaica Rum

Beat separately yolks and whites. Add 1/2 cup sugar to beaten yolks. Beat whites very stiff; add 1/2 cup sugar. Combine whites and yolks. Stir in cream and milk. Add Four Roses and Myers's Jamaica Rum. Stir thoroughly. Serve cold with grated nutmeg. Makes 20 (4-ounce) servings.

HOLIDAY PUNCH
1 can frozen lemonade
3 cans cold water
1/4 cup Leroux Grenadine
6 orange and lemon slices
Cloves
1 fifth Benchmark Bourbon
1 qt. club soda, chilled
Mix water and lemonade. Add Grenadine, fruit slices studded with cloves, and Bourbon. Chill. Pour in club soda just before serving. Makes about 20 servings.

WASSAIL BOWL

1 qt. Seagram's 7 Crown
1 gal. sweet apple cider
2 tbsp. maple syrup (or granulated sugar)
Juice of 3 lemons
Cinnamon sticks, lemon twists or apple slices

Mix cider, syrup and lemon juice over medium heat. At boiling point, lower heat and add 7 Crown. When bubbles start to form, remove from heat and ladle into crockery mugs. Garnish with cinnamon sticks, lemon twists or apple slices. Serves about 15.

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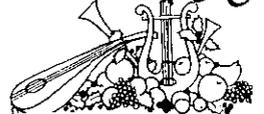
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success. Participants signed up in droves, indulged in spirited exercise whacking fuzzy balls on the carpetry, and then indulged in social volleying with spirits added. Thus was born a tradition.

As more indoor clubs went on-line and more of the population took up racquets for fun and exercise, the New Year's Eve party grew in popularity. Now we have them in almost all the clubs.

Latest to join the party parade is the new Colonie Tennis Club, which will have a band and culinary goodies along with the action on the courts.

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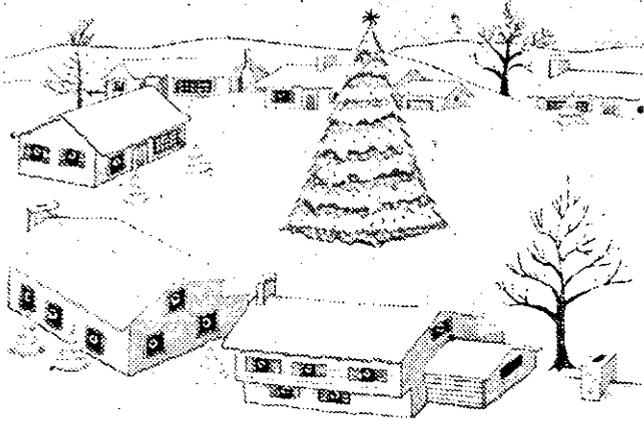
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all open to the public. There will be member parties at Schenectady Racquet Club and Saratoga Racquet Club.

The exceptions are at Southwood, where so far two courts have been reserved by a member couple for a private group, and Tri-City, which has come full cycle. The daddy of the indoor clubs will be closed New Year's Eve.

Colonie Tennis Club is putting on a full-fledged tournament for juniors during the holidays. The Capital District Junior Championships (indoor) got under way Monday



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with an entry list studded with familiar teenage names — Brad Roberts, Lance Tucker, Neil Vohr, Chris Ann Jones, Sue Romeo, Pam Abbruzzeze and others. There are four age groups, and it's singles only.

A major tournament with the highest prize boodle ever offered in this area is set for Jan. 9-11 at Colonie. Jack Lauroesch has persuaded the Americana Motor Inn and Desourmeau Vending to put up \$5,000 in cash prizes for men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles and mixed doubles. This kind of swag should attract some top players from a wide area.

A bit of seasonal corn to launch resumption of the tennis column suspended in another publication two months ago. This bit of doggerel, fun for all, was passed on by Jack Bennett who found it on a Christmas card, and we have made a few additions.

'Twas the night before Christmas
And Out on the courts
Was a jolly fat man
in red tennis shorts.

The sweat socks were hung
in the pro shop with care
and the racquets were strung
with a Christmasy flair.

The players were snuggled

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all safe in their beds
while visions of passing shots
danced in their heads.

They dreamed about tie-
breakers,
love sets and aces,
Wimbledon, Forest Hills,
all kinds of places.

There was Bobbie, and Anna
Pat Wall and Grace . . .
The Castles and Larry,
the area's ace.

There was David and Maj,
the Negris, Don Camp,
I could barely see
by the light of the lamp.

And making a list
of all the toys
Were Sandy and Lee
and the Schenectady boys
Tony D, the Goulds,
Doc Mason, Ed Trice,
Planning the tournaments
and everything nice.

When out through the night
there arose such a clatter
I put on my sneakers
to find out the matter.

And there on the court
was the source of troubles
'Twas Santa and Mrs. Claus
Playing mixed doubles.

I could tell just by looking
at Mrs. Claus' face
That old Santa was poaching
all over the place.

When they saw me they quickly
assembled their gear
and were off in a flash
with eight tiny reindeer.

As they flashed through the sky
disappearing from view
he had one thing to say
that I'll pass on to you.

Have a Happy Holiday
He shouted to me
And I hope your New Year
is double-fault free!

Display honors Local women

The Bethlehem Public Li-
brary is having a special exhibit
honoring influential women in
the Town of Bethlehem from
Friday Dec. 26 through Sun-
day, Jan. 4. The exhibit will
include photographs and brief
biographies of 55 women from
the town. Each woman sub-
mitted her biography, and the
photographs were taken by
Steven Cook, a student at Beth-
lehem Central High School.
The exhibit is offered in con-
junction with the end of Inter-
national Women's Year and
International Women's De-
cade.

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Editor, The Spotlight:

A few years ago I made a conscious choice to purchase a house in Delmar, and I was very aware that comparable houses in other school districts were less expensive and the school taxes much lower. I made that choice largely because of the character of the community and the schools. Two of my three children are in the Delmar Elementary School and from my own assessment, and that of other parents, the principal and every member of the staff of the school are very competent and dedicated individuals. Nonetheless, I'm quite certain that my children would learn to read, write, and acquire the other basic skills in almost any other school district in the area. But that is not why I am paying the higher taxes in Bethlehem.

Of course my children know the names of their teachers and the principal. They also know the names of the custodians and a bit about them because the custodians know my children's names and a bit about them. My children know the office staff as well because they're known to them in an obviously personal way. It's difficult to define, but when my children go to school, they go into a community of meaningful and manageable proportion to them; one which allows them to be known and in which they can relate to each individual, both child and adult, in that community. It is a place which enhances childrens' concept of themselves, encourages them to develop personal responsibility fosters self-discipline instead of regimentation and hopefully allows them to begin to develop the maturity that is as crucial as

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Vox Pop

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Roots vs. cost

Editor, The Spotlight:

I believe the closing of the Delmar school transcends the costs that may be saved. The contemplated decision, based on a survey by the school superintendent, is to be made on but one premise, the tax savings of approximately \$1 to \$1.60 per thousand per Bethlehem School District taxpayer.

Schools are instrumental in the giving to the student roots in his community. What better way is there than to have one neighborhood school, located at the focal point of the community. His attachment to that community and his loyalties to that neighborhood can be secured.

All too soon we are ready to abandon heritage for economic expediency. Maintain a downtown school and you perpetuate your feel for your community.

Jack H. Rothstein
 Delmar



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basic skills. Delmar school, and from what I'm told the other neighborhood elementary schools in the district, provides this setting. It seems to be an approach to elementary education that is becoming extinct, and as long as Bethlehem provides this virtually unique opportunity, I'll be happy to pay the cost.

It's probably now as cost-effective as other ways of doing it. I'm sure that it will never be able to be placed neatly on a chart and projected with all the other tables and graphs that assault us. However, when that implicit philosophy that holds that bigger is better, old is undesirable, and efficiency is the norm takes more of a hold than is already becoming apparent, we can expect our elementary children to be consolidated, prepackaged, modularized, homogenized, and plasticized along with all the other school districts enjoying the benefits of modern professional educational administration. At that point, the product won't be worth the extra price, if any price.

Paul J. Castellani
Delmar

Serve the majority

Editor, The Spotlight:

The Bethlehem School Board should vote to close the Delmar Elementary School. Such a vote would serve the best interests of the great majority of taxpayers in the Bethlehem district, but it will require great courage to resist the tremendous pressure being applied by the small minority of taxpayers who have special interests, are parents of children attending the school, and who largely comprise the people attending the open hearings on the matter. The obligation

his verse makes it all worthwhile!

Editor, The Spotlight:

HERRY CHRISTMAS... and a bright New Year with never the tiniest hint of anything that's not right
To all you hard-working folks on the splendidly informative, professional new Spotlight!

Delmar

David De Porte

of the school board is to the majority, not the minority.

No one can blame the parents for wanting the school to remain open, but they must understand that the time is long, long overdue for meeting the huge expenses of education in the district by cutting back on the expenses rather than increasing taxes. People in general just cannot afford to pay the higher taxes involved in keeping the Delmar school open.

James R. Adams
Slingerlands

7 subscriptions

Editor, The Spotlight:

Because your Spotlight is such an interesting paper today, with its fair but interesting coverage of Zinn, the Delmar school and other interesting articles, I would like to subscribe for each member of my family, at home and six other locations. Please also bill me next year for renewals.

Prentice J. Rodgers
Slingerlands

The joy of work

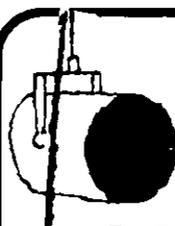
Editor, The Spotlight:

In performing my daily chores, I came across this poem which didn't "scan" so here is the combination of the author's efforts, and mine:

THE JOY OF WORK
by Charles G. Reigner
(and Virginia Sabin)

I would do my work today
However small it be.
I can't see the distant way
That lies ahead, for me
I ask that I may never shirk,
But rather, with good will
Perform what task becomes my work:
My destiny, fulfill.
I care not where that work is done —
In office, home or store.
I know an inner glow is won
By him who does his chore.
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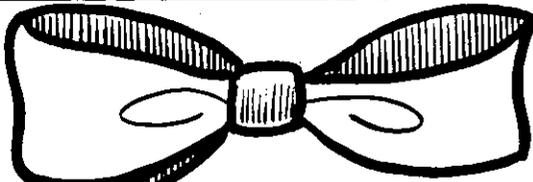
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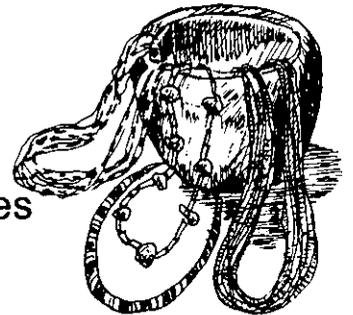
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