

The Spotlight

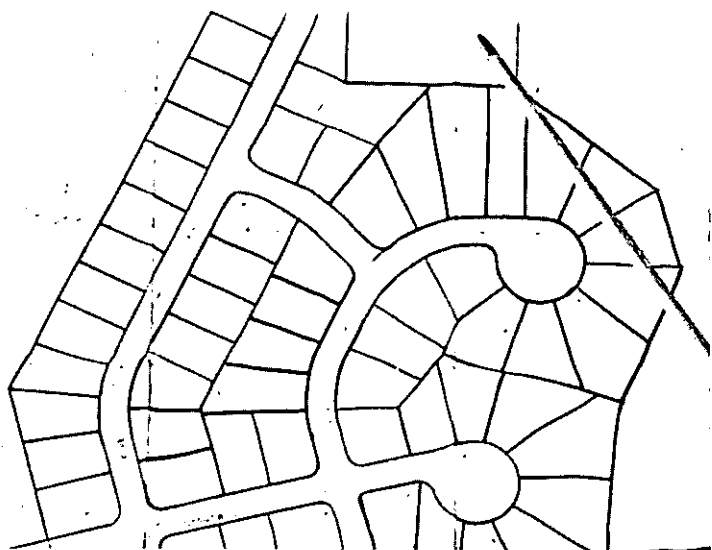
Controlled Circulation Publication

January 22, 1976
Vol. XXII No. 4

20¢

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

Dilemma in Slingerlands . . .



**Lyndhurst: showcase
of zoning frustration**

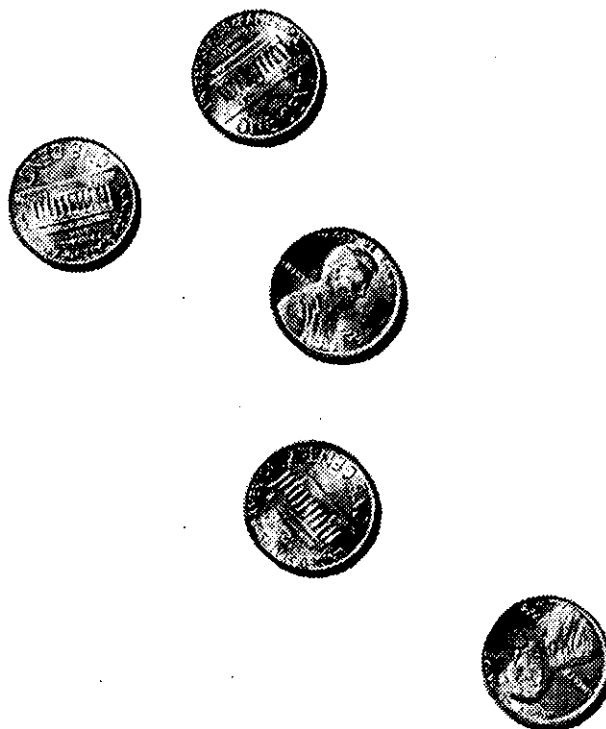
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. . . Dire plot in Unionville

**Macbeth: entertainment
and education on stage**

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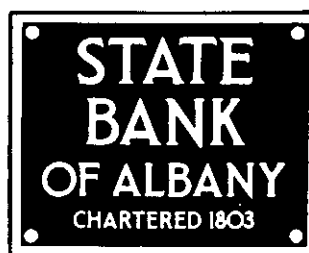
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Spotlight

is published every Thursday by Newsgraphics, Inc., 154 Delaware Ave., Delmar, N.Y. 12054. N.A. Boynton, editor-publisher. Controlled circulation, postage paid at Delmar, N.Y. News and ad copy deadline 4 p.m. Friday for following week's issue.

Spotlight CALENDAR

Tri-Village FISH — Call 439-3578 for voluntary service — 24 hours a day the year 'round — offered by residents of Delmar, Elsmere and Slingerlands to their neighbors in need of help in any emergency.

Bethlehem Jaycees meet first and third Wednesdays of the month, 8 P.m., Center Inn, 9W, Glenmont.

Welcome Wagon — Newcomers and mothers of new babies call 785-9640, Mon. thru Sat., 8:30 A.M., 6:00 p.m. so you may have a Welcome Wagon call.

Bethlehem Memorial Auxilliary to Post #3185, Veterans of Foreign Wars, meets the third Monday of every month, at the Post Rooms, 404 Delaware Ave., Delmar.

The Albany County Pistol Club, Winnie Place and Maewin Drive, Delmar, welcomes guests at its indoor pistol range every Tuesday at 8 p.m. Information: Dave Herbach, 439-4372 or Tom Corrigan, 439-3301.

Monarch Club of Albany meets every Tuesday night at the Center Inn, Glenmont.

Give and Take Shop, staffed and stocked by residents of Delmar, clothing for all occasions, all ages, all sizes, available to everyone. Basement St. Thomas Apostle Church & Rectory, Mon. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Tues. 1-3 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - 12 noon.

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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Great Dane Club of Greater Albany meets second Friday of the month, 8:00 p.m., Center Inn, Glenmont. Guests are welcome. Info: call 785-7253.

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.

Bethlehem Jaycees meet 4th Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m., Center inn. Contact Denise Linstruth 439-5312 or Nevanne Merrill at 439-6138.

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

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

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

Bethlehem Junior Woman's Club meets 2nd Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m., Bethlehem Public Library.

Bethlehem Recycling Program (paper, cans, glass), Town Garage, 114 Adams St., Delmar. Mon. thru Fri., 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Papers should be tied, cans flattened, bottles clean w/metal removed.

Rosary — St. Thomas Church, Adams Place, Delmar, every Thursday at 11:45 a.m.

Bethlehem Senior Citizens meet every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. at the Coffee House on Adams St., Delmar.

Rotary Club of Delmar meets every Tuesday night 6:15 at Schrafft's Motel.

The Delmar Community Orchestra rehearses every Monday evening from 7:30-9:30 at the First United Methodist Church of Delmar.

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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.

Bethlehem Youth Employment Service, 114 Adams St., Delmar. School year schedule, Monday-Friday, 1:00-4:30 p.m. Telephone 439-2238.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Albany County Audubon Society, talk by Dr. W. A. Ritchie on philosophy of hunting, Bethlehem Library, 8 p.m.

League of Women Voters, Bethlehem Library, 9:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

Young Adult Film Series, "Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," Bethlehem Library, 3:30 and 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Benefit chamber music concert, Bethlehem Teachers Association, BCHS Auditorium, 8 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

Allar Rosary Society, St. Matthew's Church, Voorheesville, demonstration of "Liquid Embroidery," 8 p.m.

Illustrated talk on Helderberg stone formations by Paul Giebitz, Berne Historical Society Center, Berne Town Hall, 8 p.m. Admission free.

Alan Brody, author of "Coming To," speaks at Bethlehem Library, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

"Macbeth," by Slingerlands Players opens nine-performance run Jan. 27-31, Feb. 1, Feb. 4-7, Playhouse, Unionville, curtain 8:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Planning Board, public hearing on proposed Brookfield subdivision west of Brockley Dr., Residence AA zone, Bethlehem town hall, 7:30 p.m.

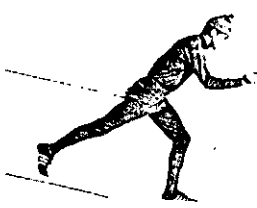
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

Early American Decoration, program by Doris Fry, Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30 p.m. Public welcome.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

"Listen In," public forum and discussion with Assemblyman C. D. "Larry" Lane, National Commercial Bank community room, 8 p.m.

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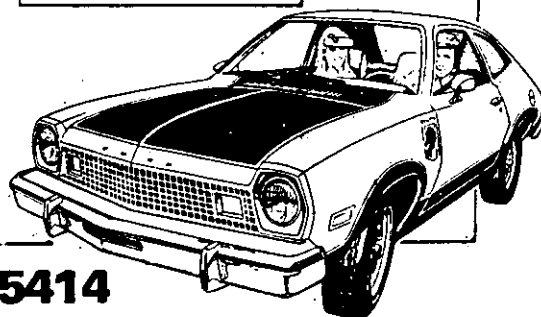
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The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

January 22, 1976
Vol. XXII No. 4

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

TOWN PLANNING

A fading blueprint for the future

Slingerlands, a Delmar merchant told a newcomer, is a world of its own. "I don't know how to explain it, or why it is," he mused. "Those people just seem to be a different part of town."

For a while last year "those people" were actively studying the procedures of secession from the town of Bethlehem, a contemplated spinoff born of acute frustration in efforts to have their voices heard by the town planning board. On three occasions last spring and summer Slingerlands residents packed the second-floor hearing room in the town hall to oppose a developer's plans for a large subdivision, and just last month stood by helplessly as preliminary plans for another subdivision — smaller in size but not in principle — were approved by the board.

Anatomy of a dilemma

The apparent futility of a mass public protest — nearly 400 residents signed a petition to the board during the celebrated Lyndhurst controversy — is compounded by frustration on the part of the planning board itself and by a recent State Supreme Court decision that, in effect, torpedoed the basic charter of town planning.

In this light the frustration of the developers trying to cut through zoning regulations and public outcry pales by comparison.

Frustration all around

But it is Slingerlands, that maverick hamlet stretching along New Scotland Rd. like a

... to preserve the attractiveness of our Town and to regulate its growth and development in an orderly fashion.

Purpose of planning board as stated on its formation Dec. 12, 1944

... A planning board is not a free agent with respect to the conditions it may impose ... the planning board may not deny final approval of the plan on the basis of density ...

Justice Harold J. Hughes, *Residential Concepts Inc. v. George A. Roberts et al* (Colonie Planning Board) Aug. 13, 1975

bubbly bratwurst, that is the showcase of this three-sided frustration. The citizens feel they are hopelessly steamrolled by town hall, town planners feel handcuffed by the legal requirements that is their crutch for warding off aroused constituents, and developers feel red tape and emotional property owners make it difficult for them to make a dollar.

When Wolf Krahmer and John V. Wheeler, next-door neighbors on McCormick Rd., Slingerlands, and associates in Wheeler Homes, Inc., filed a proposal for a 150-house subdivision on 62 acres of meadow and woodland, they touched off a classic confrontation. The vigorous, unabated and united opposition by Slingerlands residents made the Lyndhurst proposal a pivotal example of the "can of worms" known as town planning.

A 'wooden board'?

The planning board, taking a verbal battering, further antagonized the overflow audiences at the Lyndhurst hearings

by installing its counsel, Earl Jones Jr., as interlocutor. Jones fielded the barrage while board members remained mute, projecting the image of "Bethlehem's wooden board."

The neighbors, groping for a way to block a development of such dimension as to change the character of their community, repeatedly demanded an environmental impact study. The board, ignoring one of Eastern New York's most notorious traffic bottlenecks — Rt. 85 west of Blue Cross-Blue Shield — was not interested.

The public mood was not improved when Counsellor Jones pointed out that when a developer complies with legal requirements, "If 400 people oppose it and one was for it, they (the board) would approve it."

Impact of a ruling

Last month the full implications of this quote hit Slingerlands. In an unrelated case, the board approved the application of Residential Concepts, Inc., of Delmar for a 9-lot subdivision off Southwood

Dr., over the objections of Slingerlands property-owners. They felt the size of the proposed lots, considerably smaller than other lots in the area, would erode the value of their properties.

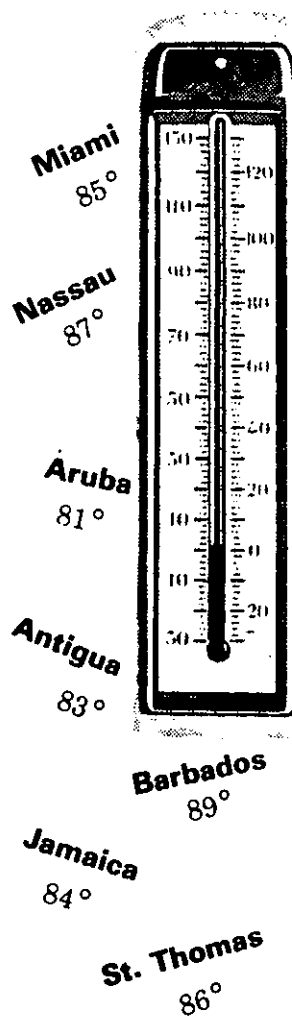
William Frye, a partner in the building firm, turned his back on citizen and board requests to reduce the number of lots, but finally conceded to cut the plots from nine to eight.

He was bolstered by and the town board frustrated by a ruling last August by State Supreme Court Justice Harold J. Hughes overturning a decision by the Colonie planning board denying an application by Barbas and Frye for a similar subdivision on a small tract in Loudonville. The board had upheld citizen complaints that the three-plot subdivision and smaller lot sizes would alter unfavorably the character and appearance of the neighborhood.

Decision stymies board

Hughes wrote: "In denying petitioner's applications, the board has imposed land uses more stringent than those specified in the plan, a planning board is not authorized to waive zoning restrictions, or to impose land-use restrictions which are properly within the scope of zoning power ... A planning board is not a free agent with respect to the conditions it may impose ... If an applicant satisfies the minimum square foot requirements of the zoning ordinance, the planning board may not

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deny final approval of the plot on the basis of density . . ."

This prose put severe restrictions on the Bethlehem board's basic mission as stated upon its founding in 1944. The board's purpose, the chartering document read, is "to preserve the attractiveness of our town and to regulate its growth and development in an orderly fashion."

Rally cry silenced

The Hughes verdict also put a muzzle on the Lyndhurst neighbors' rallying cry: "No Walley's Farm in Slingerlands!" The reference was to a familiar once-rural homestead on New Scotland Rd. at the Thruway overpass, a well-traveled route between Slingerlands and the city, which was sold to a developer who crowded a cluster of low-cost dwellings on small lots overlooking the Albany municipal golf course.

Krahmer and Wheeler have made some concessions in response to the citizen outcry, but Lyndhurst is alive and well on the drawing boards and continues to loom over the heads of local residents. With more than 150 houses in 62 acres, a number of them duplex, the development clearly will bring a major change to the Slingerlands environment, which now numbers fewer than 450 houses overall. The new sewer system will ease the sanitary pressure, but in full bloom Lyndhurst will severely compound the hamlet's already delicate traffic problem.

Some gains achieved

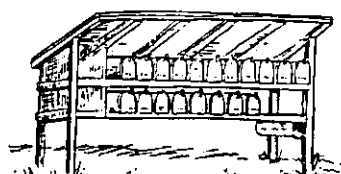
The citizens have not been totally shut out: their outcry has gained them some, if relatively minor, concessions by the developers, but they still are rankled by the board's refusal to take one action — perhaps the only one — that could have helped the residents — and that was to conduct an environmental impact study.

Adding to the frustration is the explanation of Wolf Krahmer, wealthy investor and



Wm. Longabaugh
William Frye

partner in the Lyndhurst development, as to what motivates a man in his 70s, financially comfortable, to design a subdivision so vehemently opposed by his neighbors. "It is a personal challenge to develop land that others have failed to do. The previous owner (William Geary) gave up. The adjacent tract was sold at public auction and I was the only bidder."



Brookfield planners gird for attack

Residents of the Brockley Dr. section of Bethlehem are expected to fill the town hall hearing room Tuesday night when the controversial Brookfield subdivision comes up for a public airing before the planning board.

Property owners in the vicinity have opposed the proposed 133-lot subdivision on the basis of creating a severe traffic and safety hazard and for creating problems in proper drainage.

The developers, Biatess Corp., plan five cul-de-sacs in the lot configuration for the 77-acre site, with access roads on Brockley Dr. and Delaware Ave.

There has been discussion of a possible "great belt" as an environment concession, but at

the December pre-preliminary proposal session, attended by a representative group of the Brockley Area Homeowners Association, neither the developer nor the planning board gave any indication such an area would be included in the preliminary plans.

Town plans park in Slingerlands

A long-sought park development for a long-vacant parcel of land fronting on New Scotland Rd. and Bridge St. in Slingerlands will become the town of Bethlehem's latest park area, according to present plans.

The town board approved an appropriation of \$20,500 for purchase of the 4.14-acre parcel from William Geary, who a decade ago was balked in his efforts to build a shopping center on the site. Slingerlands residents rallied strong opposition to the plan and also to Geary's plan to erect clusters of multi-family housing units on the land that is now the site for the proposed Lyndhurst subdivision. Geary later sold the land to Wolf Krahmer and Ralph V. Wheeler, who have been drawing plans for the Lyndhurst development.

When the town board rejected Geary's plans for both the shopping plaza and cluster housing, local residents suggested the town take over the property and make it into a park with a baseball field, tennis courts and a wading pool, but no formal petition was ever filed. It now appears that what was a dream a dozen years ago might now come true.

EnCon to evaluate Southwood tract

Dept. of Environmental Conservation ecologists will survey the controversial five-acre tract in Slingerlands for possible designation as a "wetlands" preserve. The tract is earmarked for a residential subdivision by Jay Barbas and William Frye as Southwood Extension No. 3.

EnCon's evaluation, however, will have to wait for



Robert McHenry, management analyst at the Albany VA Hospital, recently presented a commendation to James W. Hausmann, exalted ruler of Bethlehem Elks Lodge #2233 for their outstanding contribution to the VA programs for hospitalized veterans. From left, McHenry, John Quickenton, Robert Day, William Lauer and Hausmann.

spring weather conditions. The department's stand was stated in a letter from George Elliott, regional permit administrator for the department, to Mrs. Jacqueline Ouderkerk of Slingerlands, a co-chairman of the Association of Slingerlands Neighbors, who had requested the appraisal as part of a citizen move to block the development.

Preliminary plans for the subdivision have been approved by the town planning board.

A media center for BC library

For the past three weeks, with funds from the recently passed bond issue, the library at Bethlehem Central High School is being renovated. The mezzanine is being enclosed and rewired to correct a serious heating problem, and will be converted into an enclosed, functional, learning area, utilizing the high school media center.

According to head librarian Nancy Streiff, "We want to evolve from a print-oriented library to a media center that will provide students the opportunity for self-instruction, utilizing all kinds of media. A student should be able to listen to a cassette as readily as he can read a book." Presently, audio-visual materials are used mostly on a class-

room basis, but with the media center, students will be able to use this material individually.

In the next two years, the library hopes to upgrade and expand the services of the media center. Now, the media center uses black and white reel-to-reel video-tapes, but hopefully will convert to color equipment, probably video-cassettes.

Cable programming

When the town gets a cable franchise, the media center hopes to have the ability to originate programming from the high school to the community. Programming could also be extended to each individual classroom. At the present time, only the new wing of the high school has an internal cable, but soon the cable system will be installed throughout the school. Not only would the cable system benefit the senior high school, but it would provide an opportunity for all schools to work together.

As the media center evolves, Mrs. Streiff hopes to train a crew of high school students to provide television services and train teachers in making their own instructional tapes. Once the system is completed, students will be able to telecast staged productions such as plays and concerts.

Neal Shapiro

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J. W. Campbell

Shelly Lippman, left, and Alan Alpart, co-owners of new Fabric Care Center, help Claudia Kirby of the Spotlight start her clothes in modern equipment.

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A new business opens at Plaza

Delmar's newest business had its formal opening this week at Delaware Plaza — a major fabric cleaning center with the most modern laundry and dry cleaning equipment available on the American market.

The new establishment is Fabric Care Center Inc., a new corporation owned by Alan Alpart and Shelly Lippman of Albany, who have been associated with King and Queen Cleaners for a number of years.

In keeping with a recent national trend, the center combines modern equipment in a fresh decor in a shopping plaza that enables shoppers to set their fabrics spinning in the machines and visit nearby stores before returning for their cleaning.

The new center has 19 top-loading machines, 10 of the newest double-load machines, and four machines of extra-large capacity for rugs and other heavy loads. The steam dryers represent the first such installation in the area, and conserve natural gas. There is also a supply of soft water available.

Alpart, whose father was in the cleaning business in Albany for

35 years, took over the King and Queen chain 20 years ago, operating from a dry cleaning plant on New Scotland Ave. Lippman has been with King and Queen for 10 years.

An introductory coupon on the back page of this issue of The Spotlight makes it easier and more worthwhile to see the area's newest example of an ultramodern fabric care center.

2 Bethlehem women On Bayh delegate slate

LaVern Hamilton of Elsmere and Ann Brandon of Delmar will be on the slate of delegates from this congressional district committed to support Sen. Birch Bayh of Indiana for president. The slate will be on the Democratic primary ballot on April 6.

Other members of the slate include William Cleveland of Guilderland, a teacher at Bethlehem High School and president of the Bethlehem Central Teachers Association, and Linda Van Dyke of Schenectady, also a teacher at Bethlehem High School.

Mrs. Hamilton is a former leader of the local NAACP chapter, and was a delegate supporting McGovern at the 1972 Democratic National Convention. Mrs. Brandon is a former president of the Albany



Marshall S. Haddock of Loudonville, first vice president of Memorial Hospital, accepts the Auxiliary donation to help pay for the over \$10,000,000 construction program now in progress. Mrs. David Schwartz of Delmar, treasurer and past president of the Auxiliary, made the presentation. Mrs. James Puleo of Menands, right, Auxiliary president, and Freeman T. Putney, Jr. of Elsmere, left, treasurer of the hospital, look on.

County League of Women Voters and was a candidate for the Albany County Legislature this past fall. They are both Democratic Committee persons from the Town of Bethlehem.

Anyone interested in carrying or signing a petition for the Bayh slate of delegates, or working on the Bayh campaign should call Mrs. Brandon, 439-4332.

Learning Center expands

The Learning Center of Albany, a privately-owned tutorial service for school-age children, plans to open its fifth center in the Capital area and expand its franchises to central New York and western Massachusetts.

Dr. Francis J. White, Jr., founder and chief executive officer, said that his latest franchise will be based in East Greenbush and open to the public in February.

Founded in May 1973, the Learning Center has gained the confidence and enthusiasm of more than 1,000 Capitaland parents whose children, assisted by the Center, have raised their reading and mathematics'

levels by a year and a half to four years.

Steadily increasing enrollments brought on by parental acceptance encouraged the Learning Center to expand to Clifton Park in August, 1974. In May of the following year, The Learning Center bought out a tutorial company in Schenectady and two months later marketed its first franchise in Poughkeepsie.

Gospel singers here

The Swordsmen, gospel singers from Hampton, Va., will present a program of song and praise at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Sunday, Jan. 25, at 10:30 a.m. The public is invited to hear the special program.

For 'Formerly marrieds'

A week end for Formerly Marrieds has been scheduled for Jan. 23-25 by the Board of Discipleship of Troy Conference, United Methodist Church. The event, to be held at the Ogden Memorial Center at Skye Farm, conference camping center at Exit 24 of the Northway, will begin at 7:30 p.m., Friday.

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Winter holidays of yore: warm

By Allison P. Bennett

Somehow, in this modern time, the first days of the New Year seem to be anticlimactic after the hustle and bustle of the long Christmas season and the parties on New Year's Eve. To our ancestors however, New Years Day was every bit as important a holiday as Christmas, and was fraught with anticipation as one looked forward with great hopes to what the days of the new year would bring forth.

Parties and reunions

Winter life in the old city of Albany was lively, with parties and balls, sleigh riding down State Street hill, theater and traveling shows. Still with all this, life was very domesticated and home-centered. People depended in large part on each other for their amusement.

On New Year's Day everybody who was anybody held an "open house" or reception, and calls were most dutifully paid by nearly every one of the local citizens. The big double parlors of the stately houses on State St., Washington Ave., and Elk St. were the scenes of lively conversation and warm reunions.

There was plenty of punch and wine to slake a thirst, as well as coffee, and always a special delicacy, pickled oysters. The traditional New Year's cakes were on hand, the tops stamped in designs of birds and flowers. These same stamps had been brought from Holland by the first bakers many years before. Platters of caraway seed cookies and olykocks as well as many other

kinds of sweets graced the polished tables.

Sleighs and furs

The big sleighs, filled with happy people bundled up in fur robes, glided over the streets if there was snow enough on January first. The ladies were dressed in black velvet and ermine, with an occasional sable and mink, with small round muffs to keep the fingers warm. Their heads were gay with little bonnets of white, pink or pale-blue velvet. Even the black bonnets of the older ladies were gay, with their plumes and jet trimming. When the ladies alighted you saw that under the velvet coats they wore silk gowns, blue, green, wine-colored, black, all supported by the hoop skirts. Even the coachman was dressed in furs, which he needed in the snappy cold of an Albany winter.

Era of the calling card

When you were making your New Year's call and came to a house where no one was home (probably out making calls too), you left your card on a lovely silver tray placed on the hall table. People of lesser means had the same card trays, only made in china or glass, and these too are collectors' items today. It was not uncommon among the better-known citizens to have 300 cards left on your tray — incredible as it may seem to us!

If a family was in mourning, and this seemed to be the case more frequently in years past, there was hung on their door bell handle a small basket tied

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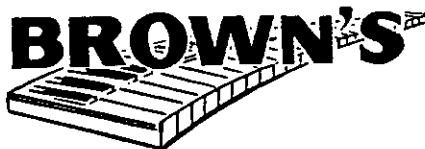
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with a black bow, and visitors left their cards in it. The gracious age of the calling card is long gone, but we can still wish our friends and neighbors a Happy New Year!

Compiled by Allison P. Bennett from manuscripts in the Albany Public Library.

Scout boutique success

Girl Scout Troop 205, Slingerlands, has presented the Hudson Valley Girl Scout Council with a check for \$500 for camperships for needy girls.

The scouts raised the money during 1975 by running a boutique. Items for the boutique were made from re-cyclable items — batiks from mother's old sheet and sister's crayons; felt pictures and stuffed toys from clothing scraps; decoupages from wood scraps and old greeting cards, paper flowers, leatherette vases from old wine bottles, and plants.

They also raised money through paper drives as part of their success, for the girls treated their fathers to a day in New York City as well.

The troop was led by Mrs. Lawrence Marwill and Mrs. John Szuglit of Slingerlands. Presentation of the check was made at a special 12th-nite party given for younger Brownie and junior girl scouts at the Slingerlands School.

Heads Sierra group

Dodie Seagle, 193 Westchester Dr., Delmar, has been named chairman of the outings committee of the Hudson-Mohawk group of the Sierra Club for 1976.



Rev. and Mrs. David Cooper

Rev. Mr. Cooper accepts new call

Rev. David L. Cooper, for six years co-pastor of the Delmar Reformed Church, has accepted a call to become pastor of the First Reformed Church of Wyantskill. He will begin his new duties on Feb. 1.

Mr. Cooper was active in both church and community affairs in Delmar. A leader in cub scouting and Little League, he was also one of the founders of the church softball league. His involvement in ecumenical affairs included the presidency of the Tri-Village Clergy Association and board membership on Christians United in Mission. He was chairman of synod's church development unit as well as serving on other boards and agencies.

The Reformed Church will honor Mr. Cooper and his wife Coral, and children David, Christopher and Melissa with a reception in the church parlors on Sunday at 4 p.m. The public is invited to share in this occasion. He will preach his farewell sermon at the 10 a.m. worship service on that Sunday.



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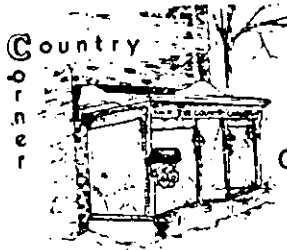
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Philip C. Rice

Macbeth tragedy in playhouse run

Slingerlands Community Players production of "Macbeth," directed by Phil Rice, will open with a pre-production benefit performance for the Empire State Youth Theatre Institute on Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. and will officially begin its nine-day run on Wednesday. Performances have been scheduled for 8:30 p.m., Jan. 28 — Feb. 1 and Feb. 4-7 at the Slingerlands Playhouse in Unionville.

Red Sutton is featured in the title role and Eileen Schuyler plays Lady Macbeth. Supporting roles in this second of Slingerlands' four annual productions are filled by Richard Walsh as Macduff, Barbara Knox as Lady Macduff, and Michael Lee Sharp as Banquo. Multiple roles are played by Sydney Turner (the porter, the doctor and the murder), Michael Steese (Duncan and Siward), Oblo (Donal-

COVER PHOTO

Lady Macbeth (Eileen Schuyler) attacks her husband's (Red Sutton) masculinity as her refuses to kill the king in "Macbeth".

bin and Young Siward) and Al Aumick (Old man and Murderer).

Because of the interest of various school groups in attending Macbeth as a complement to studying the play in school, special ticket arrangements may be made to accommodate student groups.

Tickets for student group rates, regular group rates, the pre-opening benefit, and regularly scheduled performances are available at Mullen's Pharmacy or by calling 434-1777.

Ditmers transferred

Maj. and Mrs. Stanley E. Ditmer of Delmar, Salvation Army leaders for the Eastern New York Division with headquarters in Albany, have received farewell orders and will report to their new appointment in the Salvation Army Feb. 4 in New York City. Maj. Ditmer has been appointed territorial secretary for Programs for the Salvation Army's Eastern Territory, which is comprised of 11 Eastern states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

He will direct all Salvation Army program services including social services with its Correctional Services, Bureau and Missing Persons Bureau, the evangelism and adult services department, which includes all music programs of the Salvation Army, Senior Citizens activity, volunteer services

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Maj. Stanley Ditmer



Mrs. Maj. Ditmer

activity, and the special Scandinavian activities of the Salvation Army.

Mrs. Maj. Ditmer will share in the program services supervision program with her husband in the new position.

Maj. Ditmer was born in Youngstown, Ohio of Salvation Army parents. He served 36 months in the Navy in 1943, attended Oberlin College and The Salvation Army School for

Officer's Training in New York from which he was commissioned as a Salvation Army Lieutenant in June 1949.

Mrs. Maj. Ditmer was born in Boston, attended Salvation Army School for Officer's Training in New York and was commissioned as a lieutenant in 1946. Maj. and Mrs. Ditmer were married in 1953 and have shared Salvation Army administrative responsibilities since that time.

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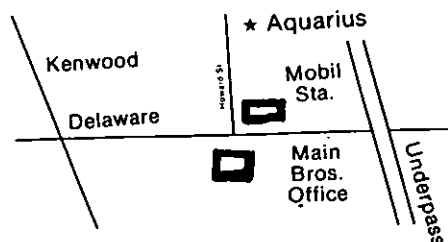
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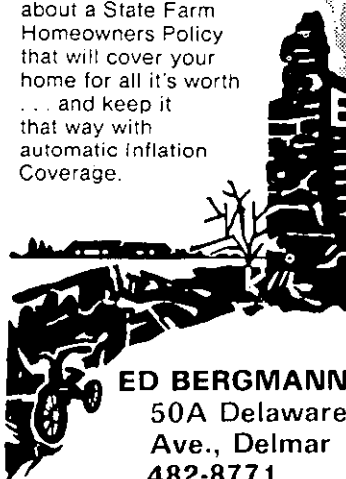
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Hackett at Spa

Bobby Hackett, trumpet player extraordinaire, will be the featured artist at the first annual multiple sclerosis benefit jazz concert, sponsored by the Saratoga Springs Jaycees, Sunday, at 8 p.m. at the Great Saratoga Music Hall.

Skip Parsons' Riverboat Jazz Band will appear with Bobby Hackett during the evening of traditional, Dixieland and New Orleans, blues and ragtime.

Proceeds will go to the Capital District Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Tickets cost \$5 and may be obtained from the Chapter Office in Albany (459-5118), area music stores and Don Averill's Lounge, Elmsmere.

Benefit concert Sunday

The second annual chamber music concert sponsored by the Bethlehem Central Teachers Association is scheduled for Bethlehem Central High School Sunday at 8 p.m. The concert will benefit the scholarship fund of BCTA, which awards

four scholarships annually to graduating seniors.

Andrew Joachim, faculty member, announced that the program will include works by Mozart, Eccles and others. Participants include Mrs. Santa Ganey, piano; Nathaniel Foessner, woodwinds; and Mr. Joachim, cello, all faculty members in Bethlehem schools, with community members Mrs. Deborah McKneally, viola; Mrs. Shu Mei Chien, piano; Michael Emery, violin, former concerto competition winner, and member of the Albany Symphony; and Mrs. Dorothy Elisha of Troy, violin, teacher of violin at Emma Willard School and at Lansingburgh High School.

Tickets will be available at the door.

Doane Stuart musical

The new Doane Stuart School is presenting its first theatrical production, Rogers and Hammerstein's "The King and I", Feb. 6-7 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 8 at 2:30 p.m. Joseph Balfior, chairman of the drama department, is the director

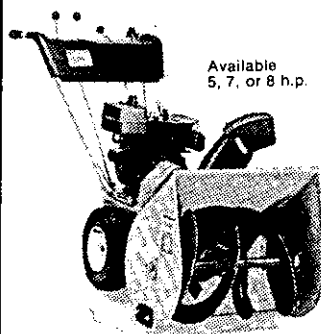
under the production of Rosanne Scott, a student. The cast is composed of the entire school body — grade I through 12, well as members of the faculty. The lead roles are being portrayed by Steve Walrath, Ellen Houle, Kimberly Nalen, Kathy McGinn and Steve Boaden. The public is invited.

Symphony preview

Vanguard's Albany Symphony "preview" at 1 p.m. Jan. 22 will be open to the public at the State University at Albany Performing Arts Center. Findlay Cockrell, pianist, will speak on the Copland "Jazz Concerto" that he will play with the Albany Symphony Jan. 24 at the Palace Theater. He will play excerpts from the concerto as he explains the "All American Program". Refreshments will be served following the prevue.

Another Vanguard service for symphony-goers is the Supper Club, which will be held at the Golden Fox, Albany, preceding the concert Jan. 24. Price of the dinner includes bus transportation to and from the Palace Theater. For reservations for the boeuf bourguignon dinner, phone Jessie Flax, 465-7411.

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Bethlehem Star: Bruce Blodgett

Coach Dale Walts, back to camera, left, encourages his squad. Coach John Rathjens listens at right.

Walts: a winning coach at 0-9

Since he came to Bethlehem Central High School in 1968, varsity basketball coach Dale Walts has enjoyed fine success. He knows basketball inside out, and this, combined with his ability to get the most of his players, has helped make him the excellent coach that he is. But this year has been a dismal one for the Bethlehem varsity, and the Eagles' coach has some ideas as to why his team has completed the first half of its season without a win.

"The two biggest factors are our lack of experience and height among our starters (all five Bethlehem starters are first-year regulars), and this has hurt us late in ball games," he said. "We've been consistently outrebounded, and we're not getting the second, third, and fourth shots off of missed field

goals. Our opponents are, and they're beating us with these shots. Defensively, we are doing a very adequate job . . . over the last five games, we've given less than 50 points per game."

Wanted: real leader

"Another thing we have lacked is an individual who, in a critical situation, has enough confidence in himself to want to make the big play for us. This absence of a real take-charge player has hurt us in that we have not been able to get the clutch hoop or rebound or whatever type of play we need late in ball games. Six of our nine ball games have been close down to the wire. We're showing some improvement.

"I think that after a team has played the first half of the

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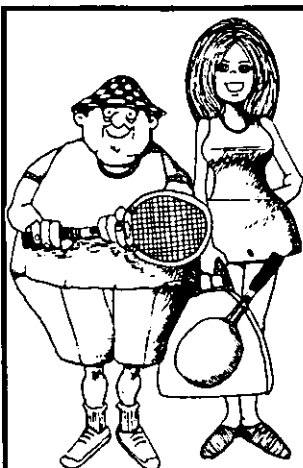
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season and is 0-9, I think the younger players should be given a chance to get valuable game experience, and these are my plans. I'm not giving up on our seniors, but I certainly feel that our two sophomores and five juniors should be given as much playing time as I can give them.

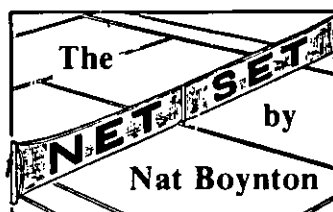
"Naturally, our primary goal is to win the game. The attitude among our players is good. They're down, but they're certainly not out." *Bob Tate*

Tomboys set registration

The Bethlehem Tomboys will hold registration for the softball season on Feb. 7 and 14. Registration will be held at the Bethlehem Public Library from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Girls between the ages of 9 and 19 as of Oct. 1 are eligible. Bring your birth certificate!

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Schenectady Racquet Club, a frequent disciple in the forefront of tennis promotion, is giving a major boost to junior tennis by hosting the Price Chopper Junior Open weekend after next, Jan. 30-31 and Feb. 1.

The tournament is expected to draw more than 100 entries in four age classifications for boy and girls, which makes eight events in all, and its mission is purely to contribute to the development of junior tennis in the Capital District and adjacent precincts.

Because it is unsanctioned — that is, none of the rigamarole connected with a formal Eastern Lawn Tennis Association event — the promoters can write some sensible rules of their own. This they have done, to wit, free admission, and disbarment of established junior champions hereabouts.

The latter criterion is in keeping with the stated objective of junior development. By disqualifying players who have achieved semifinals in last year's tournaments, the sponsors give heart to aspiring teenagers who are assured they won't have to come up against

the likes of Larry Linett, or possibly even a Brad Roberts or Lance Tucker. This sort of stipulation while certain to make the events more attractive to ambitious youngsters who have never experienced the lofty altitudes of finals and semifinals, is also certain to give the tourney directors a few headaches.

Problems of this nature, however, are routine to Tony DeOrio, upstate New York's most intrepid and most fearless director of tennis tournaments. Tony's sponsor in this enterprise is Price Chopper, as represented by Stew Sacklow. Entry forms can be obtained at any Price Chopper outlet and at the racquet club on Curry Rd., and the lists are open to everyone in the Northeast and beyond.

Always a creative administrator, Tony has added a 10-and-under bracket to the age groupings. The ranking establishment in the ELTA has discriminated against this segment of the population, possibly because of disbelief citizens who can meet the age qualification are capable of swatting a bouncing object with any degree of accuracy. The tendency here is to applaud Anthony's foresight, because there are 9-and-10-year-olds around who know what to do on a tennis court with a racquet in their hands.

For the record, the events will be 10-and-under, 12-and-

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under, 14-and-under and 16-and-under, for both boys and girls singles.

Tri-City Racquet Club will put on a junior tournament the week of Feb. 15-21, when many local schools have a mid-term break. There will be the usual 12, 14, 16 and 18 age classifications for both boys and girls, and it will be singles only. For information call the club at 785-4311.

Local tennis watchers enjoyed a rare treat as the \$5,200 Americana-Desourmeau tournament unfolded at the Colonie Tennis Club recently. The competition was on a higher level than is seen in these parts, and a good crowd turned out to witness the shooting. They were not disappointed.

Onlookers who had watched Brigitta Warbach, the relentless Finnish-born lefthander who won the world junior singles championship at Wimbledon in 1966, in her recent Schenectady appearances were

shocked at the ease with which Lindsey Beavan of England gathered her in. Lindsey, No. 7 in Great Britain and a 1975 Round of 16 loser to Chris Evert by a respectable 6-4, 6-2, dispatched Brigitta, 6-0, 6-1, in 45 minutes for \$500.

The success of the tournament, staged by Jack Lauroesche and Inderjit Singh, has inspired the promoters to try another shindig of this caliber, a decision applauded by tennis aficionados hereabouts who find this sort of thing the best show in town.

Judo sessions planned

Registration for a 10-lesson series of judo classes will be held Tuesdays and Friday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. through January at the Bethlehem Middle School. For information call Mrs. Jeanette Quinn, 489-1831.

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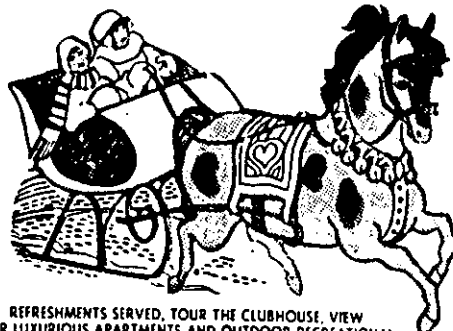
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Carl Walters, Guilderland town supervisor, third from left, cuts ribbon celebrating the opening of a second satellite office of the West End Federal Savings and Loan Association at Denby's Stuyvesant Plaza. Assisting him is George Holland, West End Federal president, left, Regis Gaggon, Denby store manager, and Mrs. Kay Vinciguerra, satellite office manager.

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Vox Pop

Vox Pop is open to all readers for letters in good taste on matters of public interest. Letters over 300 words are subject to abridging by the editor. All letters must be signed but names will be withheld on request.

Good deeds in action

Editor, The Spotlight:

On Saturday, Jan. 10, about 5:30 p.m., my family and I were traveling on Rt. 787 near Southern Blvd. when we came upon a serious accident scene. A police car had just arrived with flashing lights. Slowing down, we thought we recognized two boys near the scene as being members of Scout Troop 75 of Delmar, with which my son and I are also affiliated. Later, we learned that five members of Troop 75, returning from a ski trip with their adult leaders, had been instrumental in calming and reassuring two terrified victims of the accident, and in directing traffic until the police arrived. The five scouts were John Bryson, Peter Burdick, Brian Ellsworth, Eric Everson and Ben Riehl. These boys should be commended for their responsible actions.

Delmar

Norbert J. Kuk

In time of need

Editor, The Spotlight:

On Dec. 6, while my wife and I were in Florida, our barn on Vadney Lane burned. The very next day neighbors and friends from miles around came to help our son John arrange temporary shelter for all the horses, and to clean up and bury all the smoldering hay, straw and other debris.

While the barn is a great loss, it was a heart-warming experience to know that in time of

need so many pitched in to help us.

We want to say a sincere thank you to the firemen, police and all others who volunteered their services.

Frank & Mabel Vadney

Delmar

On a master plan

Editor, The Spotlight:

In response to your article on a master plan, I would like to explain that the League of Women Voters favors adoption of a master plan that would be comprehensive in nature, be regularly reviewed, and provide for architectural and aesthetic review of proposed plans. The league's report to the town does not use the word "binding."

Master plans are policy statements — guidelines, if you will — and not legal documents. Therefore they are not binding in the usual sense. However, zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations are legally binding; they can be strengthened and perhaps better understood when coordinated with a well-thought-out master plan. This is what the first of our three recommendations is all about. Bethlehem definitely needs to make a sensible, comprehensive policy statement about town development.

Andree G. Marr

Delmar

Praise for 'citizen band'

Editor, The Spotlight:

On Monday evening, Jan. 12, I was driving home from the airport with my daughter. As we began our turn off the arterial onto the Slingerlands by-pass, a bad skid landed us straddling the divider island, atop a pile of crusted snow. Fortunately, neither of us was injured but it was obvious the car would have to be hoisted or towed off, as the wheels on the left side were three feet off the pavement.

The next 1½ hours was an experience I shall never forget. Practically every car stopped to offer assistance, either to call AAA, attach a chain to try an pull us off, drive us home, etc. But the third car to stop belonged to a man who opera-

ted a citizen's band car radio. From then on our troubles were over. This kind gentleman not only contacted AAA but waited with us until the tow truck arrived, supervised the operation, cleaned the hard packed snow from under the hood, inspected and drove the car before he would let us proceed home, he followed us home in case of any emergency on the way.

There must be something extra special about these CBR radio operators, for he had been in the Helderbergs that same afternoon aiding in the search for a missing snowmobiler.

I felt I had to share with all your readers this experience of efficiency and kindness given late on a cold winter night.

My heartfelt thanks to Mr. Robert Stockton, CBR operator and those other CBR operators who helped that evening.

Nancy A. Patterson

Delmar

The unkindest cut

Editor, The Spotlight:

Your "newspaper" seems to be written at the Bethlehem Republican headquarters. They should pay for printing and mailing.

Unsigned

Slingerlands

This sentiment might come as a surprise to Bethlehem Republican leaders, who were not overjoyed with the Spotlight's coverage of the 1975 election, incidentally the first local election ever covered by a Delmar newspaper.

This letter is printed unsigned as an exception to Vox Pop policy because it gives an editor a chance to present his

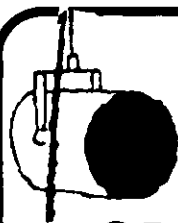
stand on coverage of local issues, particularly political. That stand is simple: report the events and implications objectively, report opposing positions but take neither.

The height of journalistic folly for an editor like this one, is to take sides in public controversies and endorse one candidate over another. It is foolish for several reasons: you can get beautifully stuck in subsequent developments, chances are you have good friends on both sides who are sincere in their commitment, and it is the surest way to make a dunce of yourself merely by pretending you know all about the situation. The Albany dailies, for example, had a low batting average on their 1975 political endorsements, but then many newspapers do.

We regret our "reader" (obviously an unwilling one if at all) missed, among other things, our feature "profile" on Democratic candidate Sue Coyle and the photo coverage of New Scotland's historic seating of two Democratic councilmen. Bethlehem's Democratic leadership knows it has full access to Spotlight news columns just as do bowlers, snowmobilers, guitar players, lefthanders, Kiwanians, red-heads, cat owners and Sunday golfers.

We're sorry you'll miss a whole raft of feature stories and news reports in upcoming Spotlights. People must like what we're trying to do in giving our community its own "newspaper" (quotes yours, italics mine) because new subscriptions are coming in every day. If you change your mind, we'd welcome you to the list.

NAB



SPOTLIGHT on community corner

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE

Girl Scouts from the Hudson Valley Girl Scout Council will take orders Jan. 23 through Feb. 1 for their annual sale of cookies. Mint cookies, peanut butter cookies, Samoas, assorted cremes and butter trefoils will be available. The Scouts will deliver the cookies between March 8 and March 21.

Community Corner, a public service column of important community events, is sponsored by

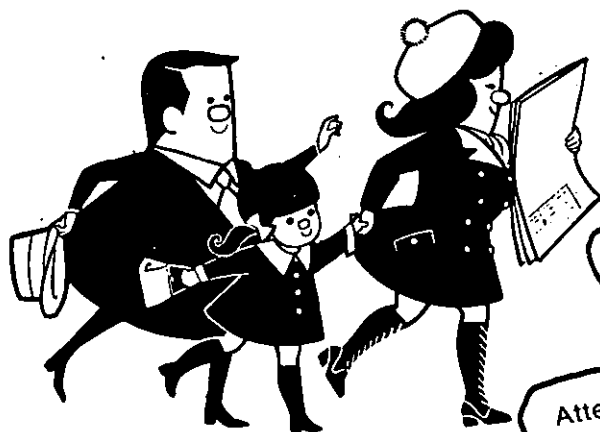


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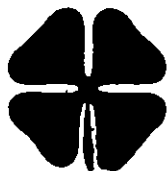
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