February 5, 1976 Vol. XXII, No. 6



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

# Controlling Bethlehem growth: ... half-acre zoning next?

Page 7



## History on stage . . . with music

Page 12

St. Thomas first graders
Paul Gratzel and Suzanne Dandeneau











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## 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 Auxiliary 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, 6:00 P.M.

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 Aveenue, Delmar.

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 firstThursday. Third Tuesday at the Center Inn, 8:00 p.m. Mrs. John Silivia, 463-7675.

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 Merril at 439-6138.



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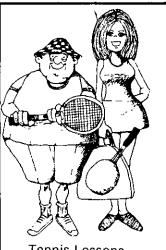
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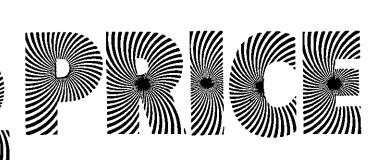


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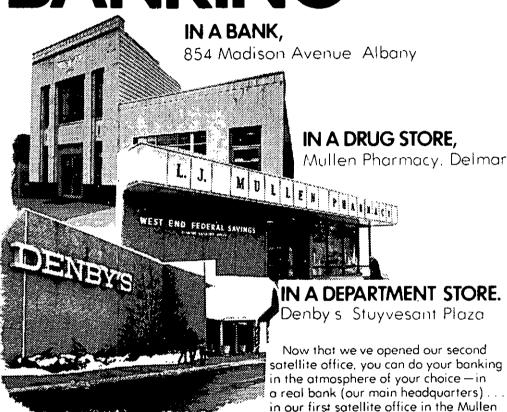
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Glenmont Homemakers meet third Wednesday of month; Glenmont Comm. Church, 8 p.m.

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.

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

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.

Empire Motor Sports Club, every Thursday at 8 at the Center Inn, Rt. 9W, Glenmont. Lee Beauregard — 456-0019.

Citizen Band Radio Club, first Thursday at 8 p.m. at the Center Inn, Rt. 9W, Glenmont. Danny Oathout, 463-0804.

Albany Ski Club, first & third Thursdays at 8 p.m. at the Center Inn, Rt. 9W, Glenmont, Joe Quillian, 274-1873.

Bethlehem B.P.O.E. 2233, first and third Wednesdays, 8 p.m. at the Lodge in Cedar Hill, Rt. 144. Ladies' Auxiliary second Wednesday.

Career Education Resource Center, Bethlehem Senior High School, every Wednesday, 7 to 9 p.m.

League of Women Voters, Thursdays, 9:30 a.m., once or twice a month, at Bethlehem Public Library. Information, 767-2094.

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.

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, FEBRUARY 5

United Methodist Church Women, slide show, dessert and coffee, First United Methodist Church, Delmar. 12:30 p.m.

Macbeth, Slingerlands Players, Unionville Playhouse, 8:30 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Young Adult film series, "The Hustler," Paul Newman, Jackie Gleason, Bethlehem Library, 3:30 p.m. for public, 7:30 p.m. for high school students only.

Coffee for Birch Bayh, home of Ann Brandon, 84 Parkwyn Dr., Delmar. 10 a.m.

Macbeth, Slingerlands Players, Unionville Playhouse, 8:30 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

Winter Carnival, Elm Ave. Park, Delmar, 12:30 p.m.

Paper drive, Boy Scout Troop 71. Bring newspapers, magazines to St. Thomas Church parking lot, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Spotlight Classifieds bring quick results

BCHS Wind Ensemble, Cubic Kum Quat Night Club, high school cafeteria, 8 p.m.

Bethlehem Tomboys softball, registration, girls 9-18, Bethlehem Library, 9 a.m.-12 noon. Bring birth certificate.

Macbeth, Slingerlands Players, Unionville Playhouse, 8:30 p.m.

#### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

Three films at Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

Winter walk, ski or snowshoe sponsored by Nature Conservancy, meet entrance of Whitbeck Grove, Rt. 85, New Scotland, 11 a.m.

#### **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

World War 2 Veterans luncheon, Schrafft's Motor Inn, 1 p.m.

#### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

Progress Club, creative arts class, Bethlehem Library, 10 a.m.

**Poetry reading** by Lyn Lifshin, Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

"America, a Tribute," pageant, St. Thomas School, 7:30 p.m.

Elsmere Fire Co. Auxiliary, fire hall, 8 p.m.

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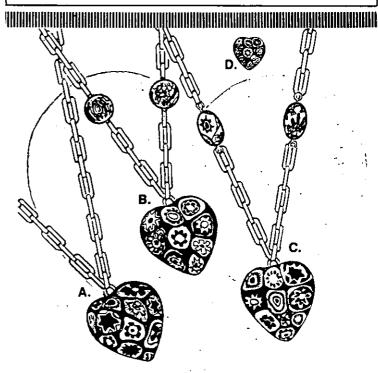
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# The Spotlight

February 5, 1976 Vol. XXII, No. 6

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

TOWN PLANNING

## Residential density solution: half-acre zoning

One of the prime reasons Bethlehem's planning board plays to a full audience at public sessions is citizen concern over residential density in new housing. If the town were to increase the minimum requirements on lot sizes in specified areas, chances are the board's hearings wouldn't be so popular.

When the town board meets next Tuesday, it is expected to approve a planning board recommendation to amend the zoning ordinance to include a new classification — Residen-

tial AAA with a minimum lot size of 20,000 square feet and minimum frontage of 125 feet. Presently the town's highest residential zone classification is Double-A with the minimum lot size 10,400 square feet.

#### Matter of density

Triple-A zoning has been recommended by the planning board, which has been under steady pressure by neighborhood groups aroused by what they consider a serious threat to the quality of life in their

areas posed by developers planning major subdivisions. Among them: Lyndhurst, 150 houses, some of them twofamily, on 62 acres in Slingerlands, and Brookfield, 131 houses on 52 acres west of Brockley Dr. in Delmar. The basic theme of property owners opposing these and other nearby subdivisions: builders try to crowd as many homesites as possible into a tract without overstepping the lot-size minimum, which, the residents complain, tends to lower the value of their existing properties which are generally larger. The key word is density.

#### Pinch in the market

Developers, feeling relatively safe from municipal interference by observing all legal requirements, counter by pointing out that the national trend is toward no-frill housing, smaller dwellings on smaller lots to keep costs down.

For its part the planning board has moved carefully and thoughtfully in recommending Triple-A zoning. "There are a lot of factors to consider," says Chairman William R. Weber.

"If there are some Triple-A zones we must make sure there is adequate Double-A zoning to accommodate home-builders of modest incomes. The effect of sewer taxes, which are based in part on frontage, also must be evaluated."

Town Counsel Harry Rezzemini and Supervisor Harry Sheaffer were scheduled to meet early this week to study the planning board suggestion and to prepare a formal definition of Triple-A for presentation to the town board at its regular meeting Feb. 11. If approved by the town board, there will be a public hearing, a necessary step in amending the zoning ordinance.

#### SPOTLIGHT PROFILE

#### Santola: accomplished spokesman

When the leadoff speaker for the Brockley Area Homeowners Assn. rose to take the "hand mike" at the planning board hearing on Brookfield, neighbors who didn't know him were struck by his youthful appearance. When he be-

Wm. Longabaugh
Daniel R. Santola

gan speaking, they were struck by his articulateness.

At 26, Daniel R. Santola has already earned a few niches of achievement and is certain to add more, even if the cause of the neighborhood alliance he leads is a futile one. He is an attorney in general practice in downtown Albany, he is an assistant professor at RPI, is director of an accelerated management-law program at RPI. and is the president and spokesman of the Brockley Dr. group. He comes from Syracuse, took his BA at the University of Buffalo and earned his law degree at Albany Law School.

He is too young and too new in the community — he came to 42 Brockley Dr. with his wife Kathleen a year and a half ago — to be scarred by previous citizen skirmishes with municipal authority, but he has built-in perspective. At the public hearing last Tuesday he delivered the keynote questions

to the board, set the tone for subsequent citizen speakers and held his peace until a lateinning rebuttal was in order.

Privately he knows what so many of his neighbors know: the seeming futility of trying to block a massive housing subdivision in the green field beyond Brockley's kitchen windows when the developers have complied with all legal requirements. But there have been gains for the beleaguered citizenry.

"It seems to me," he observed the other day, "that the board (Bethlehem's seven-member planning board) is more responsive than it was. I understand they are now opening all their meetings to the public instead of alternate ones. I hope they get to the point where they can tighten their regulations and give more consideration to such points as making the ravine area of Brookfield into a park."

## **Brookfield foes** are pessimistic

A professional approach by the developers of a proposed 131-lot single-family subdivision west of Brockley Dr. is heading for almost certain approval by the Bethlehem planning board despite strongly



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voiced and near-unanimous opposition by residents of the immediate vicinity. The board was scheduled to review the Brookfield and Bicentennial Woods projects at its Tuesday meeting this week.

More than 50 residents filled the second-floor hearing chamber in town hall to overflowing at the public hearing on Brookfield last week, but the mood was subdued in the face of the builders' methodical adherence to required steps in the approval procedure. The strongest criticism came from Daniel R. Santola, president of the Brockley Area Homeowners Assn., and from Charles Donnelly, a neighbor, during an exchange with Lindsay Boutelle, local land surveyor representing the developer.

Cost of developing

Santola charged that the board is "lax" when, he said, "a developer comes in, makes a profit and then leaves the area, burdening the residents of Brockley Dr."

Boutelle's reply gave the audience its only chuckle of the 80-minute hearing. "It is unfair for Mr. Santola to suggest there is a profit or margin," he said. "Our average cost of developing a lot is \$5,000 to \$6,000. Then you have to add the cost of purchasing the land." The statement brought the amused retort from the crowd: "then why develop?"

Donnelly added: "A planning board should plan. To insure profit for a land developer is not part of the planning board function. The utilization of the acreage is too dense."

Other objections centered on traffic and safety factors, the three proposed access roads to Brockley Dr. and Delaware Ave., pressure on the school population, impact of heavy trucks and equipment during the construction period, and utilization of a ravine area including a stream that has been suggested as a town park if the developer will cede it to the town.

#### Virtually unchanged

Only one minor change was included in the preliminary

plans submitted by the developer, Biatess Corp., for final approval - a reduction in the number of building sites from 133 to 131 on approximately 52 of the 77 acres in the tract. The remainder is the so-called "green belt" embracing the ravine on the western segment of the property. Boutelle said the plans call for 2.5 dwellings per acre, an average of 14,000-plus square feet per lot and an average of 92 feet frontage. The zone is Residential Double A, which requires a minimum lot size of 10.400 square feet.

Joseph Tessitore is president and Leo Biagiotti vice president of Biatess. The board has 45 days to act on the proposal, during which, according to Chairman William R. Weber, it will "review all comments."

## A tutorial time for planning board

Bethlehem's seven-member planning board is going back to college, and the public can sit in on the classroom sessions.

The board has opted to take a five-session course on local planning put out by the local government program of the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University.

First of the five sessions, dealing with the nature of planning and planning boards, will be held at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 17, at the Bethlehem town hall, Delmar. Schedules for the remaining sessions will be announced. Each session will be open to the public and will take the place of regularly scheduled open board meetings.

Discussion leader for the course will be George K. Hecht, community resources development agent for the Albany County Cooperative Extension. Also assisting will be representatives from the Albany County planning board.

The course has several objectives: to define powers and duties of those responsible for local planning to define zoning

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Ann Patton, left, and Mary Anne Stringham, members of the Bethlehem board of education, chat with Assemblyman C. D. "Larry" Lane at Lane's "Listen-in" public issues forum in Delmar last week. More than 30 persons braved sub-zero weather to attend the informal discussion. Photo by J. W. Campbell

and zoning ordinances and to clarify subdivision ordinances.

According to Board Chairman William R. Weber, the course will help members of the board and the public "to step back and look at the planning board's overall responsibilities objectively."

## Delmar school future clouded

Resolution of the longbubbling Delmar Elementary School issue by the Bethlehem board of education this week could represent only Phase One for the half-century-old structure at Delaware and Borthwick Aves. The board's action, scheduled to be taken at an unusual public session in Wednesday's regular board meeting, can only be for the intermediate term, not long range.

Chairman Bernard Harvith opened the discussion and voting on the resolution to the public, a move unprecedented in local annals inasmuch as members insisted there had been no public indications as to how the individual members felt on the issue. In December the Spotlight reported the board was split on the closure issue, and subsequent indications support the fact that at least two members of the board have changed their respective stands. (The Spotlight went to press before Wednesday's session.)

#### Problems linger

Since the series of public hearings, Gov. Hugh L. Carey has disclosed a recommended

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state budget calling for reduced state aid to localities, including aid to local school districts. Members of the Delmar school's PTA have kept the issue alive with letters to the. Spotlight and with press statements cautioning the board against "overcrowding" four elementary schools while one (Clarksville) is currently at 53 percent of capacity. Earlier the Delmar PTA asked the board to close the Clarksville school instead, contending this would cause less disruption in pupil transportation and be less costly overall.

Regardless of the outcome of this week's board action, the eventual utilization of the Delmar building remains uncertain. Projections of school enrollments show a decline for some years to come, and the problem of rising costs and reduced state aid will continue to plague school officials and district taxpayers for the foreseeable future.

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#### Winter carnival snow or shine

Bethlehem's 1976 Bicentennial Winter Carnival, postponed last week by a snowkilling rainstorm, is on this Saturday regardless of weather, says Lloyd R. "Bud" Wilson Jr., acting administrator of parks and recreation.

The events will run from 12:30 to 4 p.m. at Elm Ave. Park. Sponsors are the Blanchard Post, American Legion, Bethlehem Bicentennial Commission and the town's Parks and Recreation Dept. James Beck is carnival chairman.

Ice skating contests, under the direction of Warren Moessner and Sid Kaplan, will be run in six divisions with prizes awarded to 4-5 year olds, 6-8 vear olds, 9-11 year olds, 12-13 year olds, 14 and over. An old fashioned skate race is open to all ages using any skates except modern shoe skates. Participants for the skating events should sign up at 12:30. Races begin at 1 p.m.

A snow sculpture contest will award three prizes, open to individuals, family groups and organizations. The snow sculpture contest will start at 9 a.m. with judging at 3 p.m. Check with the sculpture chairman, Henry Eckhardt, for site assignments at the park when you arrive.

#### Hot chocolate and dogs

Hot chocolate and hot dogs will be given free to all participants and available at moderate cost to spectators, according to the refreshment committee headed by Harvey Hasen, Joe Mantaro and Ollie Palmer.

Wedding Photographs . .

by Campbell

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## New sales manager joins Spotlight staff

John C. Bennett, a lifelong resident of the Albany area, has joined the Spotlight advertising staff as sales manager.

Bennett has been in sales and sales promotion work since graduating from Western New England College, Springfield, Mass. He was formerly associated with Guider magazine and with Spectrum Products, Albany. He is married and lives in Latham.

He heads a Spotlight sales staff that includes Polly Mc-Intyre, Claudia Kirby, Charlotte Dale and Catherine Noakes. Mrs. Noakes, the paper's newest sales representative, is a former sales department manager for Sibley, Lindsay and Curr department store, Rochester, and assistant buver for Bonwit Teller and Mercantile Stores, New York City. She is a graduate of Becker Junior College, Worcester, Mass., and lives in Westmere with her husband and 4-year-old twin sons.

#### **Altar Rosary meets**

The next regular meeting of the Altar Rosary Society of St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Delmar, will be held Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. There will be entertainment by the Ballet Workshop. Refreshments will be served. All women of the parish are invited.

#### Scouts to 'tune in'

Scouts of Troop 72 and Pack 72 of St. Thomas the Apostle parish, Delmar, will observe the 66th anniversary of Scouting on the "Table of the Lord" program on Feb. 8. Rev. Gregory S. Weider, diocesan scout chaplain, will celebrate the liturgy at 9:30 a.m. over TV channel 10.

Immediately following, there will be a demonstration of new media approaches developed for scout units under Catholic auspices in the United States. All Scouts and Scouters are invited to tune in.

#### Coffee for Bayh

A coffee to discuss the candidacy of Sen. Birch Bayh of Indiana will be held Friday at 10 a.m. at the home of Ann Brandon, 84 Parkwyn Dr., Delmar. The public is invited.

Sen. Bayh is one of several Democratic presidential candidates who will have a slate of delegates in the April 6 primary. The slate, which includes Mrs. Brandon and La-Verne Hamilton of Elsmere, is headed by Jack Saurez of Albany. Those planning to attend are asked to call Mrs. Brandon at 439-4332.

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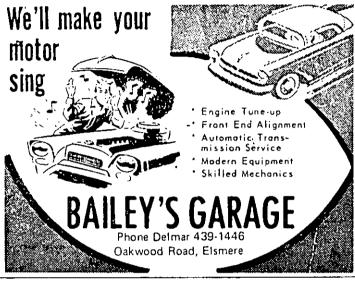
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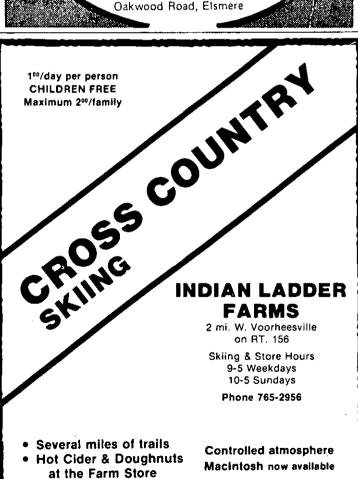
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Uncle Remus (Jacqueline Devost) and Brer Rabbit (Lisa Paigo).



Stephen Dandeneau and Dennis McKenna in fourth-grade skit.

#### SALUTE TO HISTORY

### An historic night at St. Thomas

Sioux Indians, Colonial dames, Olympic athletes and Disney characters will take their turns on stage next Thursday when students and teachers of St. Thomas the Apostle School, Delmar, put on a Bicentennial pageant.

The program, "America: a Tribute," will feature sketches, musical numbers and dances tracing the history of sport and dance from pre-Colonial times. Director is Mrs. Virginia Bailey, gym teacher at the school, assisted by Mrs. Margaret Dorgan, music instructor. The production and theme was suggested by the school's new principal, Sister Jean Smith O.P. as a project to celebrate Catholic Schools

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PAGE 12 — February 5, 1976



Eighth grade girls: from left, front, Mary Reagan, Debbie Jeram; rear, Susan McCormick, Pat Wensley, Eleanor Hanks, Sheila VanWoert, Mary Davitt, Jennie Cummings.



Eleanor Hanks and Sheila VanWoert model bygone gym suits.

Photos by Barbara Oliver

Week. The nationwide observance will be held Feb. 8-14.

The entire school population of 275 pupils and 10 teachers will participate. Grades 1-5 will demonstrate early American dances and games, including tableaux. Upperclass pupils will recreate sounds and symbols of today and tomorrow in dance and gymnastics, including a tableau on the development of sports. "It's a real school-family affair," comments Mrs. Bailey.

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Closed Monday

February 5, 1976 — PAGE 13

#### 'Klinger' coming

Jamie Farr, who plays the zany "Klinger" in the CBS hit series "M\*A\*S\*H," will be one of the headliners of the annual Cerebral Palsy telethon to be aired on WTEN-TV Feb. 14-15 from the Siena Alumni Recreation Center. In making the announcement, John M. Lang and Robert W. Freihofer commented that this year's telethon is shaping up to be one of the most star-filled shows in the 16year history of the 20-hour marathon event.

In addition to Jamie Farr

commitments have been received from Don Stewart of "The Guiding Light," TV star Meredith MacRae, Jon Walmsley of "The Waltons" and Mary Stuart of "Search for Tomorrow."

#### Conservancy walk Sunday

The Nature Conservancy will sponsor a "winter walk, ski or snowshoe" through Whitbeck Grove, New Scotland, on Sunday (Feb. 8). Persons interested should meet at II a.m. at the entrance to the grove, first left going west on Rt. 85 beyond the New Scotland Rd. railroad underpass. Shelter will be available at Five Rivers Environmental Center for those who want to bring their lunch. For information call the Nature Conservancy office, Altamont, 861-6860, or the Nature tape on Feb. 8 at 377-9600.

#### WW2 veterans meet

All veterans are invited to the monthly luncheon of the World War 2 veterans of Blanchard Post, American Legion, Delmar, at Schrafft's Motor Inn, Rt. 9W, Glenmont, Monday at 1 p.m.

#### Talk on finance

Guy A. Peterson of Bankers Trust Co. will speak on taxes pertaining to estates Monday, Feb. 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the third of a three-part series on "Money Management for Today's Women" sponsored by the Albany section of the National Council of Jewish Women. The seminar will be held at the Community room of Mayfair Home Furnishings, Wolf Rd., Colonie.



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## 1976 'Delmar Day' set for Sarasota

There will be another "Delmar Day" at Sarasota next month, this time without a gasoline shortage cutting attendance.

Laurence R. "Larry" Moses, the event's chief organizer, reports from Sarasota that the big day will be March 1 at the Sarasota Mobile Home Park recreation building, 2100 E. Laurel St. starting at noon. Lincoln Peterson will be master of ceremonies. All former and present Tri-Village area residents are invited to bring their own lunches. Coffee and soft drinks will be served, along with music and a slide show of the 1975 reunion, which drew 110 people.

Larry asks persons planning to attend to notify him at 3519 Village Green Dr., Sarasota, or a member of his committee. He writes: "Last year's committee is continuing to serve, including Petersons, Glicks, Phears, Williamses, Moses, Holmes, Don Dewire and the Harringtons. Volunteers to help next year will be welcomed."

The reunion will be Sarasota's 8th annual "Delmar Day."

#### Bicentennial meeting

The public is invited to attend the next general membership meeting of the Bethlehem Bicentennial Committee at the Delmar Office of The National Commercial Bank and Trust Company on February 9, 1976 at 8 P.M. Organizations and clubs throughout the Town are asked to submit their Bicentennial-related programs and projects.

#### Mary is back

Mary Eisenhauer of Mele's Beauty Salon, Delaware Plaza, has returned from France where she was awarded a diploma by Institut de Beauty, Paris.

The course was conducted by leading hair stylists of Paris and featured the latest trends for spring and summer of 1976.

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Mary Reich 439-2058

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#### Rev. Thomas retires

The Rev. Robert B. Thomas. senior minister of the Delmar United Methodist Church, Delmar, has announced his retirement effective in June.

The Rev. Thomas, his entire ministry served in the Troy Conference of the United Methodist Church, has been pastor of the Delmar church since 1963. He was called here after a year's term as district superintendent of the 80church Albany district of the conference.

He holds an AB degree from Ohio Wesleyan University and the M. Div. degree from Yale University Divinity School. He was ordained deacon in the Trov Conference in 1936 and received elder's orders in 1938.

He has served churches in Averill Park, Sand Lake, Glens Falls, the Albany Street church in Schenectady and Cobleskill. He served "Federated"

AMAS

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churches, United Methodist churches voked with other denominations, in Peru and Stillwater

He is married to the former Elizabeth Townley, Ballston Spa. They have three children. Roxana Griesmer of Oneonta. Linda Dahl of Cobleskill and Terry W., a captain in the US Army Intelligence, Fort Monmouth, N.J. They have five grandchildren.

#### Paper drive Saturday

Boy Scout Troop 71 of St. Thomas Church, Delmar, is having a paper drive on Saturday. Anyone wishing to donate old newspapers or magazines may bring them to St. Thomas Church parking lot on Delaware Ave. between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

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Bruce Blodgett

Friends and relatives of Jack Whipple, Bethlehem Central swimming coach, were surprised by last week's Spotlight identification of a purported photo of him. The impostor was Bob Keens, Jack's diving coach, and the mixup was the Spotlight's. Here is a much better likeness of Whipple, giving instruction to one of his swimmers.

#### Elks auxiliary to meet

Ladies' Auxiliary B.P.O.E. No. 2233 will hold its February meeting at the Lodge on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. A Chinese auction will be held for the benefit of major projects. Hostesses will be Mrs. Lorrain Rizzo and Mrs. Jerry Hausmann.

#### Sweetheart ball planned

Ladies Auxiliary of Bethlehem Lodge B.P.O.E. No. 2233 will sponsor a Sweetheart Ball Feb. 14 at the Lodge. Ways and means chairman is Mrs. George DeSormeau. Mrs. Theresa Kochan will have charge of the table decorations, assisted by Mrs. Peggy Donato. A King and Queen will be chosen and honored as in the past five years.

There will be a cheese table at 6:30 p.m. and cocktails will be dutch treat. Dance music will be by the High Towners

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HELDERBERG SCENARIO

## A snowy trail in the orchard

Second of 2 articles

It was mid-afternoon when Dick and I started out on the snowmobile along the snow-covered trail through the orchards at Indian Ladder Farm. Halfway along I decide this spot is good for people and snowshoeing too, so I take off on my new Christmas presents to finish the trail on foot. The sun, which has never traveled very near its spring zenith today, is about to set behind the Helderbergs and call it a day.

Every branch and twig seems to jump out at me as the shadows etch themselves more deeply. Each minute that passes brings new kinds of light and shadows. Now the sun is suddenly gone. Whereas only a few minutes before the snow and sky had contrasted brilliantly, the snow now takes on the sky's blueness. Trudging along the trail's surface I almost hate to blink because I might miss that magic moment in a winter dusk when the hue of sky and snow coincide.

#### Skiers on the trail

In the gathering blueness, thinking myself totally alone, I jump when I hear voices. A pair of cross-country skiers with their easy sliding motion gain on me rapidly. It's Peter and Mary Jane Ten Eyck. They stop, and I learn that Peter is out to check the condition of the trail and to see if any of the young trees are being damaged by deer and mice.

Peter tells me that in order for the farm to continue its an-

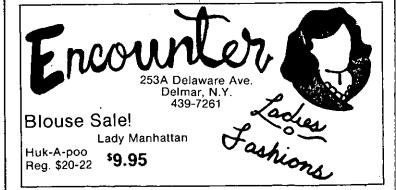


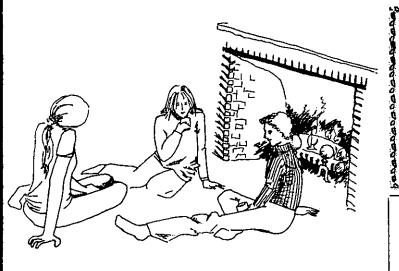
nual production of 50,000 bushels of fruit — pears, plums, and 25 varieties of apples, new trees must be constantly planted and nurtured. Mice and deer are especially fond of the tender growth on new trees, and it's a big job to get a tree to five years of age when it can begin to produce.

#### Orchard-tending a science

Peter, finding an enthusiastic listener, tells me that although all the trees look alike in the winter, several varieties may be found in a single row. Even as an orchard is much more than just Pound Sweets, Empires, Macouns, so is every

All apple trees on the farm are actually 2 trees of different





varieties grafted together one tree growing downward as the tree's roots, and one tree growing upward as the tree's branches. This enables farmers to have trees with strong rootsystems and strong branches producing the varieties they

#### A winter day ends

Darkness is really coming on. The atmosphere is Caribbean blue. Mary Jane muses that this time of day makes her pensive, and that as she glides through the rest of the Sketches by A. Laurie Palmer

trail she will think of the trees how their beauty, growth and complexity escape the unpracticed or jaded eye.

Because my snowshoes make for slower, yet more relaxed going than skis, I am the last to return to the big brownshingled barn. At home, later that evening sharing hot cider with my family, I try to explain about the shadows, the blue snow and the naked trees with their winter secrets. But only those who have seen these things can ever really know.

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APARTMENT, single room with eating area, bath, garage, utilities, \$100.00. 439-6880.

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OFFICE, professional, or small retail, in renovated residence, 4-Corners, block, Delmar, lay out your specifications, 700 plus square ft. Mr. Ray, 482-3307, leave message.

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Ed Dillon

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#### Library to exhibit rubbings and photos

During the month of February, the Bethlehem Public Library will have two interesting and different exhibits in its entrance corridors.

One is a collection of Early American Tombstone Rubbings by Dr. Bertha Wakin of Delmar. Dr. Wakin is chairman of the Department of Business Education at the State University of New York at Albany.

The other corridor exhibit is a collection of photographs by Steve Farina, a junior at Bethlehem Central High School. His interests in sports and cars are reflected in his photographs, but he plans to expand his hobby into a career in film and TV production.

#### Poetry reading Wednesday

Through a grant from Poets and Writers, the Bethlehem Public Library is able to sponsor a poetry reading by Lyn Lifshin at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 11. There is no admission charge.

Lyn Lifshin, the author of 20 published volumes, has also been published in literary magazines and in many poetry periodicals.

#### **Cubic Kum Quat**

Bethleheml Central High School Wind Ensemble will hold its annual Cubic Kum Quat Night Club on Saturday beginning at 8 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. The traditional and popular event will feature dancing. entertainment and a buffet. Tickets cost \$5 a couple and \$3, for a single and may be purchased at the door.

According to Sam Bozzella, supervisor of music for Bethlehem schools, proceeds will be used to pay expenses for an anticipated trip by the Wind Ensemble in May to Washington, D.C. and Prince George County, Virginia. The local music group will perform on the White House lawn and at Parkdale High School in Riverdale, Va.

## 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.

#### **Enjoying Spotlight**

Editor, The Spotlight:

I am returning the subscription card and my check. This letter is to express my very best wishes for your venture with The Spotlight and to say I am finding it very interesting and enjoying a number of the rearrangements and innovations. I am very happy to be a subscriber.

Slingerlands Ruth M. Miner

#### Needed: tax reform

Editor, The Spotlight:

Although the state constitution, for example, provides that a system of "common" schools be maintained, the principal burden of financing them has been carried by local governmental units, and this is true in many other states. The vehicle used has been mainly the regressive, onerous and visible local property tax.

In recent years continuing real cuts in percentage allocations from federal and state operating funds have only aggravated the situation, culminating this year in President Ford's and Governor Carey's proposals to withhold even more support for local services. I hope we would all agree the financing system



needs reform top to bottom, but not at the expense of the quality of the educational program nor access to it.

Delmar

Janet Butlin

#### Blood bank record

Editor, The Spotlight:

This is a belated "thank you" to the Spotlight for helping to make our December Gift of Life Month and our Gift of Life Sunday so successful. Your use of the articles and photos throughout the month, capped by the space in the Community Corner in the Dec. 26 issue, helped keep the public aware of the continued need for blood by the 31 hospitals in our region.

This year we were able to meet this need — a bit over 1,000 units of blood each week — and to set a new record of 4,998 units for the month of December. On Gift of Life Sunday (Dec. 28) in Albany, we achieved 94 percent of our goal of 240 units for the day, an increase of 26 percent over the previous year.

Albany Joseph A. Constantino Northeastern New York Red Cross Blood Program

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#### That mailbox sketch

Editor, The Spotlight:

Congratulations — the New Spotlight is already a big improvement.

We noted with amusement the New Yorker-like sketch of the Carstead Dr. mailboxes (Jan. 22). Though we read every page, we found no other reference to 'our' street and concluded it was simply a suburban sketch.

Best wishes for continued success at the Spotlight.

Slingerlands Ann A. Eberle

That's just what it was — a strictly local sketch. We will have more like it from time to time, and thanks to the Helderberg Sun's Slingerlands correspondent for her warm encouragement.

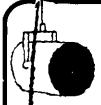
#### **Ballot boobytrap**

Editor, The Spotlight:

Voters are going to be boobytrapped at the April 6 primary unless the state election law is changed to allow the names of presidential candidates on the ballot. Present law provides for only the slates of delegates supporting the various candidates to appear on the ballot; the names of the actual candidates are not to be found! For example, if you want to vote for Birch Bayh, you won't know whom to vote for unless you happen to know that his slate is headed by Jack Saurez.

If you agree that this is a ridiculous situation, and certainly not in the tradition of democratic voting procedures, please contact Assemblyman Lane and Senator Nolan, urging them to work for passage of A. 9368, and the companion bill in the Senate. This bill would add the name of the candidate to the delegates committed to him on the ballot. If this is not passed now, voting on April 6 will be a nightmare of confusion. There is also a petition to sign at the Bethlehem Library, calling for this change in the law.

Delmar Ann Brandon



# SPOTLIGHT on community corner

#### WINTER CARNIVAL

Fun for everyone in the family at the EIm Ave. Park Saturday, starting at 12:30. Skating races, snow sculpture contest, cross country ski clinic, free snowmobile rides, costume contest, fife and drum corps, hot dogs and hot chocolate.

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



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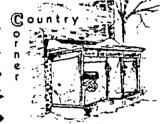
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\*\*\*\*\*\*

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