

The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

March 25, 1976
Vol. XXII, No. 13

20¢

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

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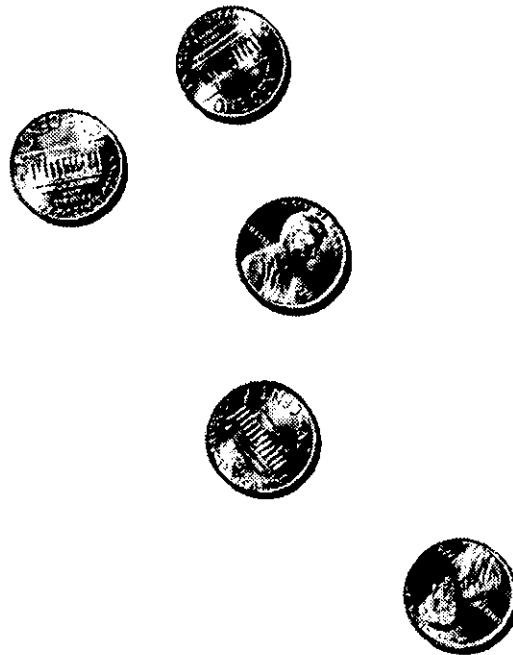


THE show is on!

**Bethlehem pageant
Voorheesville variety**

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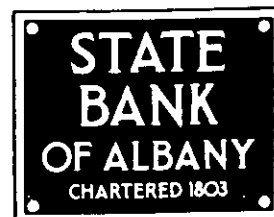
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Spotlight CALENDAR

Tri-Village FISH — Call 439-3578 for voluntary service — 24 hours a day the year 'round — offered by residents of Delmar, Elsmere and Stingerlands 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.

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.

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 Oat-hout, 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.

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.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25

Voorheesville PTA variety show, Voorheesville High School, 7:30 p.m. (also Friday).

Slingerlands Players melodrama, "Love Rides the Rails," Unionville Playhouse, 8 p.m. (Runs March 25-28, 31, April 1-4).

BCHS Charlatans, "Witness for the Prosecution," Room 46, 8 p.m. Also Friday and Saturday)

FRIDAY, MARCH 26

Red Cross Bloodmobile at NYS Thruway Authority cafeteria, Rt. 9W, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Benefit basketball, Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk men's faculty vs. WPTR, high school gym, 7:30 p.m.

Lecture, "Nigeria and the World," Dr. I. A. Gambari, First Unitarian Church, 405 Washington Ave., Albany, 8 p.m.

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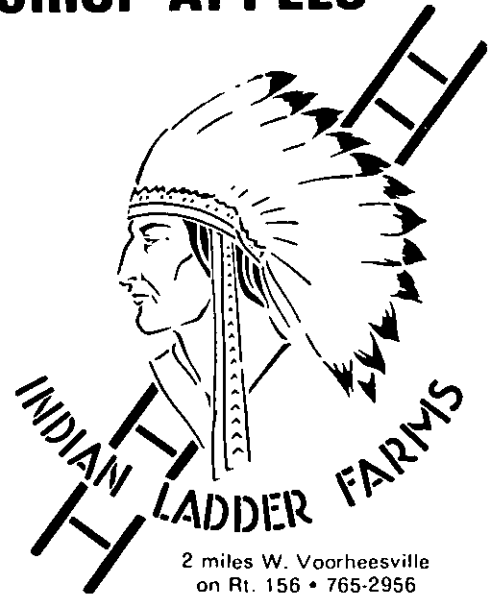
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Film, "Stagecoach," John Wayne, Bethlehem Library, 3:30 p.m. for public, 7:30 p.m. high school students only.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

Paper drive, Slingerlands Cub Scout Pack 272, Slingerlands School parking lot, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. For pickups call 439-6320 or 439-5503.

Pancake supper, South Bethlehem United Methodist Church, 5-7 p.m., public welcome.

Concert series, "Music by Women by Women," Arts Center, 1069 New Scotland Rd., Albany, 8 p.m. Tickets 438-7895.

Beta Gamma Rho sorority will do spring cleaning, wash windows, yard cleanup, babysitting, other jobs, all day. Call 465-8137.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Albany branch, AAUW, card party and white elephant sale, St. Joseph's Hall, College of St. Rose, 1:30 p.m.

Free concert by Suzuki violin students, works by Mozart, Bach, Vivaldi, Arts Center, 1069 New Scotland Rd., Albany, 2 p.m.

Film, "The Haunting," Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

Puppets, ventriloquism and "Gospel Magic," Bert and Norma Groten, Glenmont Community Church (Reformed) 3 p.m., public invited.

MONDAY, MARCH 29

St. Matthews Altar Rosary Society, officers nominations, St. Matthews Church, Voorheesville, 8 p.m.

Program for adults, "Travel Plans and Pictures," Bethlehem Library 10 and 11 a.m., during pre-school story hours. Coffee served.

Home vegetable gardening, Co-operative Extension offices, Voorheesville, 7:30 and 9 p.m. Fee \$1.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30

American Issues Forum, Bethlehem Library, 12 noon. Bring lunch, coffee served.

Parents workshop series, "Those Embarrassing Questions," panel discussion, Clarksville Community Church, Rt. 443, 7:30 p.m. Public invited.

Delmar Progress Club, legislative forum, "Media Perceptions," Peg Breen, Vic Ostrowdzki, Chancellor's Hall, 10 a.m.

Welcome Wagon vision screening for amblyopia in pre-schoolers, First United Methodist Church, Delmar, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Information, 439-7759.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

Welcome Wagon vision screening, 9:30-12:30.

Bethlehem Bicentennial Pageant opening night, BCHS auditorium, 8 p.m. Runs to April 11.

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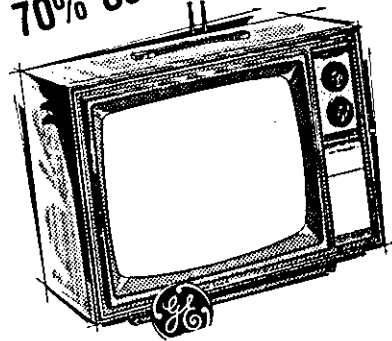
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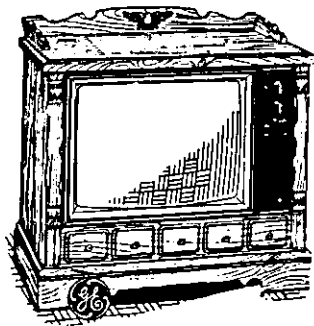
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Receive FREE a
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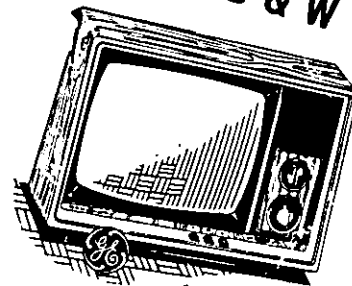
SAVE \$81.00
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TV**

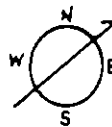
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THURSDAY, APRIL 1

Lenten Ecumenical Bible Study series, "Matthew and Thomas," Rev. Paul Gassmann of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, at Delmar Presbyterian Church, 10 a.m. Coffee 9:30 a.m.

Daffodil Days for Cancer throughout area. Information and ordering flowers, Mrs. James Blendell, 439-3609.

Public forum on New York presidential primary, sponsored by Bethlehem Democratic Committee, Bethlehem Library community room, 8 p.m.

Ladies Auxillary, Elsmere Fire Co., election, 8 p.m.

First Thursday Group of United Methodist Women, luncheon meeting, Delmar Methodist Church, 12:30 p.m.

Delmar Progress Club, literature group, home of Mrs. A. Hurst, 1:30 p.m.

Welcome Wagon vision screening, final day.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

Young Adult Films, "Picture of Dorian Gray," Bethlehem Library, 3:30 p.m. for public, 7:30 p.m. high school students only.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

Pancake brunch, Bethlehem Lutheran Church youth group, 7:30-11:30 a.m., adults \$2, children 75¢.

Dinty Moore dinner, Bethlehem Grange Hall, Beckers Corners, Selkirk, 5:30 p.m.

"Boston Tea Party" and fashion show from Dorothy Lynn of Delmar, by Ladies Golf Association of Tall Timber Country Club, 12:30 p.m. Members and guests. Reservations Marilyn Farrell (765-2514) or Ginny Hasselwander (439-3993) by March 31.

MONDAY, APRIL 5

"Small fruit for backyard gardeners," Cooperative Extension offices, Voorheesville, 7:30 p.m. Fee \$1.

Three-hour course required for driver's license applicants, Bethlehem Central High School, Room 19A, 7:15 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

Primary Day for registered voters only.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

Public hearing, Bethlehem Board of Appeals, to take action on application of Equinox Construction Corp., R.D. No. 1 Crow Ridge Rd., Voorheesville, for a special exception under Arts. V and XVIII to construct nine 4-unit apartment houses on the northeast corner of Kenwood and Cherry Aves., Bethlehem town hall, 8 p.m.

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3 76

SAT.
5-9:30
Spirit of '76
Smorgasbord
Enjoy Delicious served Beef, Ham,
Lobster, Shrimp, Smoked Meatballs,
Assorted Potatoes, Vegetables, etc.
with Dessert and Beverages.
* FREE Glass of Burgundy.
7 76

SUNDAY
BRUNCH
11 A.M.-2 P.M.
Enjoy a Delicious
BUFFET BRUNCH
And a Relaxing Sunday
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'76 GRAN TORINO 4-DR. \$4695

V8, automatic transmission, power steering, air conditioning, vinyl roof.

'71 PINTO 2-DOOR \$1495

Green. 4 Cyl., 4 speed, 43,000 miles.

'70 FORD FAIRLANE 500 \$1595

2-Door, V8, automatic transmission, 37,000 miles.

'75 MUSTANG 2-DOOR \$3495

White. 4 cyl., automatic transmission, white wall tires, wheel covers.

'71 MUSTANG HARDTOP \$1795

Blue. 6 cyl., standard trans., white wall tires, wheel covers.

'73 PONTIAC LEMANS 4-DR. \$2895

Green. V8, automatic transmission, power steering, vinyl roof, 32,000 miles.

'73 MAVERICK LDO 2-DR. \$2495

White with brown vinyl roof. 8 cyl., automatic trans., air conditioning.

'71 FORD SQUIRE WAGON \$2195

6 passenger, 8 cyl., automatic transmission, air conditioning, Red.

'72 PLYM. FURY WAGON \$2295

Green. V8, automatic trans., power steering & brakes, white walls, wheel covers.

'75 PINTO RUNABOUT \$2995

Red. 4 cyl., automatic trans., power steering, vinyl roof, 5,000 miles.

'74 TORINO ELITE \$4195

White with brown vinyl roof, AM/FM stereo, 18,000 miles.

'72 JEEP WAGONEER \$2995

Blue. 6 cyl., standard trans., power steering, 4-WHEEL DRIVE.

'70 FORD CUST. 500 WAG. \$1495

Green. 8 cyl., automatic transmission, power steering, white wall tires, wheel covers.

'72 PLYM. SEBRING H'TOP. \$2295

Yellow with brown vinyl roof, 6 cyl., automatic trans., power steering.

'75 GRAN TORINO 4-DR. \$3995

Blue with blue vinyl roof and matching interior. White wall tires.

'74 PINTO RUNABOUT \$2295

Blue. 4 cyl., 4-speed, white wall tires, 28,000 miles.

'73 DODGE CORONET 4-DR. \$2495

Blue. V8, automatic trans., power steering, white wall tires, vinyl roof.

'71 OPEL WAGON \$1595

Green. 4 cyl., automatic transmission, air conditioning.

'71 FORD LTD 2-DR. H'TOP. \$1795

Brown with white vinyl roof, V8, automatic transmission, power steering & brakes.

'70 MERCURY COUGAR \$1895

Blue with blue vinyl roof, V8, automatic transmission, power steering, Sharp!

'66 MUSTANG CONVERT. \$1495

6 cyl., standard trans. Green with white top.

'74 VEGA GT \$2295

Red. 4 speed, 23,000 miles.

'73 PINTO SQUIRE WAG. \$2595

Yellow. Automatic transmission, white wall tires, wheel covers.

'69 FORD LTD 4-DOOR \$1295

White. White. V8, automatic transmission, power steering & brakes, white wall tires.

AS TRADED SPECIALS

'70 CHEVY CAP. 2-D. H'TOP. \$695

V8, auto. trans., power steering, Yellow.

'73 MERCURY CAPRI \$1795

4 cyl., 4 speed, vinyl roof.

'73 OLDS "442" 2-DR. H'TOP \$2195

V8, auto. trans., power steering & brakes.

'72 CHEVY KINGSWD EST. WGN. \$1395

V8, auto. trans., power steering & brakes.

'70 FORD F'LANE 500 2-D. H'TOP \$695

V8, auto. trans., power steering, vinyl roof.

'74 CHEVY VEGA \$1495

4 cyl., 3 speed.

'68 FORD GALAXIE 500 4-DR. \$495

V8, automatic transmission.

'71 PLYMOUTH BARRACUDA \$895

V8, auto trans., power steering, Yellow with black vinyl roof.

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The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

March 25, 1976
Vol. XXII, No. 13

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION

State aid to schools: no cutback, but . .

Restoration of the conventional formula of state financial aid to localities in Gov. Hugh L. Carey's 1976-77 New York State budget doesn't get Bethlehem and New Scotland taxpayers out of the fiscal woods, but it helps.

Reductions withdrawn

After a long winter of published cutbacks in the Albany

dollar pool that subsidizes local schools, highway departments and other municipal operations on the town and village level, the Legislature went back to "Go" (it did not collect \$200 but did preserve its treasured but notorious "lulus") and called off its plan to reduce state aid.

In its annual budget-thrashing, a perennial circus on Al-

bany's Capitol Hill, the lawmakers found other items to trim while retaining the original ceiling of \$10.7 billion in Carey's budget, a figure hailed by politicians as bare-boned and proudly austere.

The true test of the lawmakers' (and the governor's) intent toward belt-tightening in a still-soft national economy will come later in the spring when

the supplemental budget is enacted. Last year the Legislature, in an infamous Saturday night marathon, passed a supplemental budget that boosted state spending to a substantially higher plane and also preserved the "lulu" for legislators and high state officials. That action still haunts them.

Budget-watchers are waiting for the supplemental budget to see how much, if any, fat the Legislature will put back on the alleged "bare bones" of the governor's budget.

Higher local taxes

On the local scene, the Bethlehem board of education has scheduled three extra-curricular work sessions — two Saturdays and one Wednesday evening — to mould the upcoming school district budget.

The assurance that the state subsidy in the school budget is safe for another year has given the board and school administrators more buoyancy than had been expected during the gloomy winter, but not enough to avoid a rise in the tax rate next year.

Supt. of Schools Lawrence A. Zinn's view: "For practical purposes state aid will be the same as this year. But our budget will be higher, so state aid will cover proportionately less of next year's budget."

Zinn also pointed out that in normal years the district carries a balance over into the new year. The settlement with the teachers' union on new salary scales, he said, presumably will wipe out any anticipated balance this year.

Currently the basic state aid formula provides \$2,612,450 to

BETHLEHEM

Pageant program printed on parchment

Showgoers at Bethlehem's bicentennial stage extravaganza will have the opportunity to obtain a special souvenir program printed on parchment paper.

Capturing the spirit

The 20-page program has been assembled by a committee headed by Mrs. Pat DeCecco. Art work is by Virginia Rem-

ington Rich with photography by Dr. Monica Bishop and William Longabaugh. The purpose is to capture the essence of the pageant as well as that of the town.

Highlight of the booklet is a reproduction of a montage of photographs of original documents pertaining to the town of Bethlehem. The documents were chosen by Thomas E.

Mulligan, town historian. The montage was photographed by Dr. Monica Bishop, pathologist of the VA Hospital, member of the Delmar Camera Club the Photographic Society of America and president of the Mohawk and Hudson Camera Club.

The original montage has been presented by Mrs. DeCecco and Dr. Bishop on behalf of the Bi-Centennial Pageant Committee to Mr. Mulligan, who has received it for the Bethlehem Museum where it will be permanently displayed as part of the bicentennial year memorabilia.

Tickets are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for senior citizens and students. Reserved seat tickets may be purchased at the National Commercial Bank Delmar office and Mullen's on March 20 and 27 or by writing Box 1776, Delmar 12054. General admission tickets may be purchased at Mullen's, the Paper Mill, Senior High School box office, the Garden Shoppe and McNab's Grocery.



Andrew Jones

Mrs. Pat DeCecco, left, Dr. Monica Bishop and Thomas Mulligan admire art work for the souvenir program to be sold at the Bethlehem bicentennial pageant.

the Bethlehem district, representing 24.8 percent of the district's \$10,510,518 total revenue. Despite a major effort to trim each category in the upcoming budget, the spending will be considerably higher because of rising costs and the quarter-of-a-million hike in teacher salaries under the new contract. Therefore, local taxpayers will have to come up with a larger share of the district's operating costs.

Board action due on zoning pleas

Bethlehem zoning board will act April 14 on two petitions from property owners for special use permits involving multi-family dwellings, one in Slingerlands, the other in Selkirk.

At a public hearing last week, the petition of Eugene and Jacqueline Ouderkirk to add a one-bedroom apartment in the basement of their large two-family Slingerlands house,

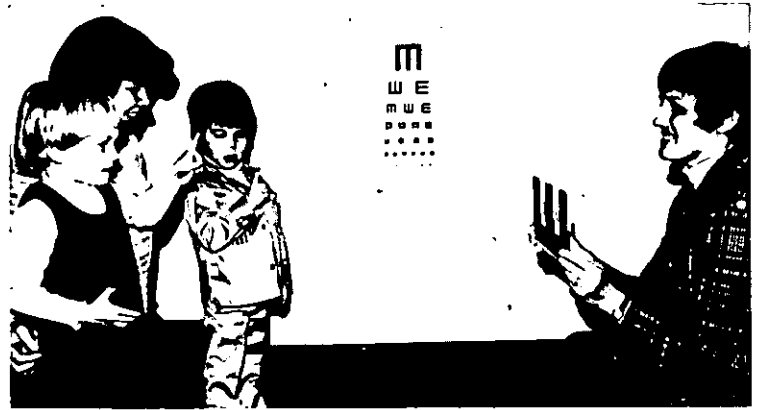
a former hotel, drew objections from three citizens. Mrs. Robert Bartlett, a Slingerlands neighbor, told the board, "We like our town the way it is and don't believe variances should be given to anyone." Roger DiNucci Jr., filed a statement on behalf of the Slingerlands Homeowners Assn. executive board opposing the change. John LaForte, a member of the town planning board, said the action would "be opening up a Pandora's box."

LaForte's statement took issue with the consensus of the planning board itself, which 24 hours earlier had gone on record as approving the change. Mrs. Ouderkirk, a co-chairman of the Slingerlands Neighbors citizens' group, has been a frequent critic of planning board actions.

Apartments in area

The Ouderkirks dwelling is in a single-A residential zone, which permits multi-family houses, and is less than 300 feet from existing apartments in a

Playing the "E game"



Patrick Scholes, 4, left, with Mrs. Rose Pocock and Matthew Pocock, practice the "E game" in preparation for the Welcome Wagon pre-school vision screening March 30-31 and April 1 at the Delmar Methodist Church. At right is Mrs. Nancy Scholes, chairman.

commercial zone in the Toll Gate section of Slingerlands.

Mrs. Ouderkirk told the board that "if this is approved we will have three families in an acre and a half, which is a density factor equal to Triple-A zoning."

For Juris Van Cans of Slingerlands the petition to build a four-unit apartment house on a two-acre tract he owns at the Jericho Rd.-Elm Ave. intersection was a second try. The board previously had denied a similar request, upholding neighbors' contentions that the structure would be the forerunner of further developments on the site.

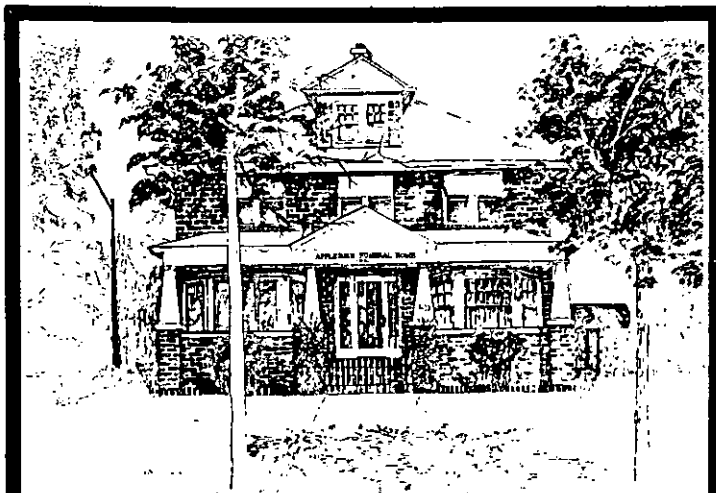
In a similar but unrelated action, a developer previously balked in his effort to build a

large apartment building in Delmar has come back to the board with a new plan.

Eric King, principal in the Equinox Corp., originally had proposed a 48-unit building on a five-acre site on the northeast corner of Kenwood Ave. and Cherry Ave. Extension. The board discouraged the plan, pointing out it was incompatible with the character of the immediate area, ranging from one-family to four-family units.

Now King is proposing to build nine four-unit apartment houses on the site. The board set April 7 for a public hearing.

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Cover photo

Rehearsals have stepped up for Bethlehem's bicentennial pageant opening night next Wednesday. In the George M. Cohan special, from left, are Gary Aldrich, Betsy Normile, Tom Wathews, Director Richard Feldman and chorine Laurie Holder.

Photos by William Longabaugh



Gary Aldrich



Betsy Normile

Musical tribute on BC stage

If one large community project can unite a town, a major Oscar should go to Bethlehem's bicentennial stage extravaganza that has kept more than 400 residents busy since Thanksgiving.

Wednesday is Opening Night for the town's musical pageant, which will be starting a 10-performance run at Bethlehem Central High School auditorium. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday for the next two weeks and 2 p.m. on two Sundays, April 4 and 11.

Community cross-section

What makes this production historic in its own right is the unique homogenization of a cast of 250 and several hundred backstage and on a dozen or more committees.

On stage, where the action is excitingly visible and audible, the show has seven sequences and a grand finale. There's enough singing and dancing to satisfy everyone, from a dramatization of Francis Scott Key to the fast-moving tribute to George M. Cohan. In between there is an

abundance of history, local and national.

Gary Aldrich, playing George M. himself, and Betsy Normile, appearing as Nellie Cohan, are the headliners in the huge cast. Both have had leading roles in a number of local productions, including "Oklahoma" and "Kiss Me Kate." Richard Feldman is director and coordinator, with Joseph Farrell as musical director.

Costumers active

More than 300 costumes have been made individually by a committee headed by Nancy Ristau as designer and Marie Zater in charge of production. The Glenmont Homemakers, a group from Delmar Reformed Church, high school students and other volunteers have assisted in the costume-making.

Henric Post has coordinated the sets and set design for 15 scenery changes. Sid Kaplan and Charles Underwood of the American Legion and Charles Underwood of the Bethlehem Jaycees headed a large setmaking crew including



Pageant setmaking: Sid Kaplan, Charlie Underwood

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adults and teenagers from every part of the town.

There are lots of others — posters, programs, tickets, promotion among a long list. The Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce has underwritten printing of the tickets. It all adds up to a united community effort unprecedented in recent memory:

Tickets are on sale at Mullens, The Paper Mill, the Garden Shoppe, McNab's Grocery and BCHS. Reserved seats can be ordered through Box 1776, Delmar 12054, or purchased at the Delmar office of the National Commercial Bank & Trust Co.

Sewer contract bids speeded

Bethlehem town board has approved specifications for three extensions of the Delmar-Elsmere Sewer District and has advertised for contractors' bids to be submitted by March 30.

The proposed extensions are for the Murray Ave.-Darling Green section, Tamarack Dr.-Village Park and the Wisconsin Ave.-McGuffey Lane segments.

Public hearings on the extensions, which have incurred an aggregate cost rise of \$110,000 since the original approval several years ago, were held March 10. The board set

the March 30 deadline for bids in an effort to speed the contract process so that construction can be completed this summer.

Learn to Swim

Albany YMCA will conduct a men's Learn to Swim class for all college age and adult males who wish to learn and those who desire to improve their swimming technique and learn new strokes.

The classes will begin on March 30, and will be held every Tuesday evening between 8 and 9 p.m. thru May 18.

Subdivision stages

Pre-preliminary — Developers' plan is discussed with board to expose any major objections and sensitive areas prior to filing a basic engineering plan.

Preliminary plan — basic engineering plan presented to board and the public at open meeting.

Final plan — board can waive public hearing if revisions in preliminary plan are deemed minor.

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Barbara Schultz

"Kick line" in the Voorheesville PTA variety show this weekend features, from right, Jeanne Brunk, Clare Cameron, Linda Jarvis, Anne Lennox (partially hidden), Christine Long, Kathy Christianson, Sandy McDermott, Christine Ard. In the line but not in camera range is Anne Andriano. Curtain is 7:30 tonight and Friday at VCHS.

Children's contest on

Bethlehem Library is celebrating the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen with an Emperor's New Clothes Contest for children. Contestants are invited to draw or paste

clothes to a picture of the Emperor. The contest closes Apr. 2.

A film festival of some of Andersen's best-loved fairy tales will be narrated by Ambrose the horse, the puppet character, at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 3.

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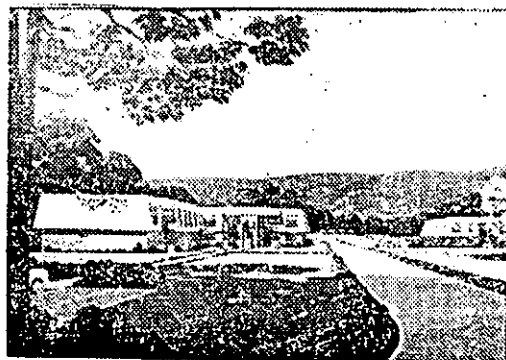
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Dear Aunt Martha

Another sporadic and often caustic Spotlight column
by Sam Tuttle

Dear Aunt Martha:

It was nice to visit you briefly in downtown Florida, but you have lived there so long you may not realize how different things are from upstate New York, where all of us Spotlight readers abide and abode.

I didn't want to hurt your feelings down there, but I guess my biggest shock was paying so much for oranges and grapefruit in your various supermarkets. On top of that, that Holiday Inn I stayed at one night on the West Coast of Florida charged 50 cents for a half grapefruit, and yet I could go about 300 yards from the motel and buy them at a grove stand for four bucks a bushel, or maybe help myself to a few delicious drops for free at a nearby grove. In all, I couldn't have been more surprised if Mayor Corning turned Republican.

I can remember when your Sunshine state was nice and small and uncrowded, and I hope you will tell most everybody to stay home next year. Driving up or down the West Coast, where you have no real turnpikes, is an environmental experience that can bring out

the hermit in most of us. Never have I seen so many MacDonald's, used car lots, traffic lights, tourists and overcrowding. Sarasota, Bradenton, Ft. Myers, St. Pete and all those other places may be nice, but many of us will never know the scene past the next car exhaust. No wonder the alligators and snakes are decreasing in numbers — they have no doubt been squashed trying to cross the highways.

I also notice you taxpayers pay more for your water supplies and water usage than we do up this way, and I can't quite get used to the miniature-size lots you use, even for fairly expensive homes.

In Daytona, I noticed that there's nothing like the car races to attract some of the bums who enjoy living by not working, except the motorcycle races, which seem to attract even more of the same. And to make sure I cleanse my conscience of the not-so-nice side of Florida living, most of the countryside seems to be about as beautiful as downtown Broadway, Albany, at midnight.

In order to be perfectly fair, Aunt Martha, I will try to remember to call those occasional brown beetles "palmetto bugs" instead of roaches, since this does sound much more romantic.

Mayhap you will misunderstand some of these comments above, but since you won't find

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them in your friendly AAA Travel Guides, I thought it might help keep the number of Florida visitors down a bit, simply by learning of a few details.

If this strategy works, I might enjoy my next visit to Florida even more. And please don't tell too many people about all the wonderful things there. I don't want them to know about the great gobs of sunshine, or the world's finest beaches, or the beautiful clean cities that are virtually unknown in the Northeast, or some of the finest, most economical restaurants you'll find anywhere, or fishing, golfing, playing outdoor tennis, and even swimming in the middle of winter, or helpful courteous gas station attendants and store clerks, or bargains in clothing and other household needs, or school and property taxes that are about half what we pay, or less than that, or losing the thrill of buying anti-freeze, snow tires and overcoats.

You know, there are times when a fella could put up with a palmetto bug now and then, when you consider some of those assets. Just please don't tell anybody about this.

Love, Sam

Planners weigh zone upgrading

With the Bethlehem town board expected to formally enact the new Triple-A category in town zoning this week, the town planning board is looking into the possibility of elevating a substantial section of Slingerlands from "A Residential" to "AA Residential."

The area involved is largely undeveloped. It lies between the Delaware & Hudson track, the New Scotland town line from Font Grove to the Normanskill in North Bethlehem and a line north of New Scotland Rd. and the proposed extension of the Slingerlands By-Pass to Cherry Ave. Extension.

The upzoning has been on the board's docket for some time, and represents a reactivation of a previous recommendation.

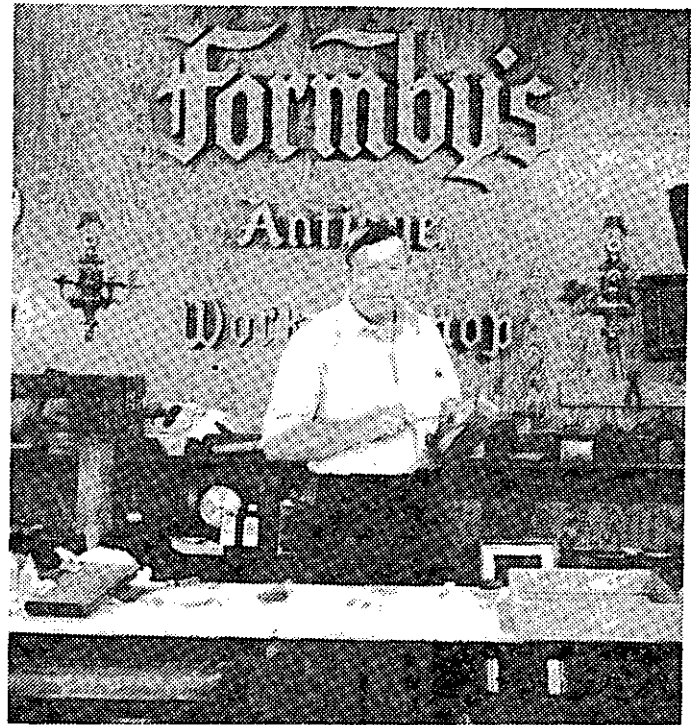
Delwood revision

In another action, land surveyor Lindsay Boutelle was expected to submit a revised plan for the Delwood Acres subdivision that increases the number of home lots from 32 to 41. The board had pre-

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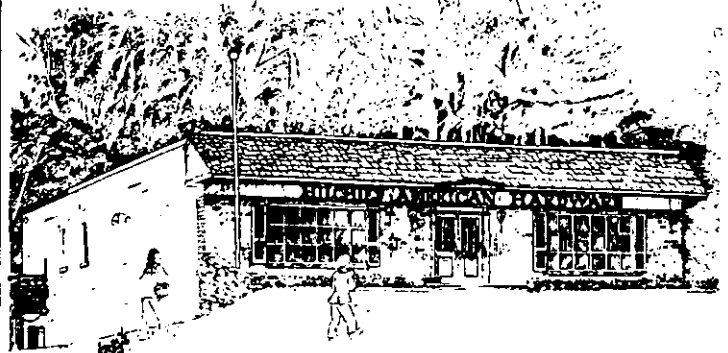
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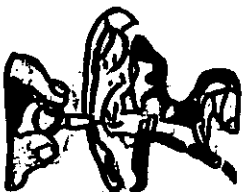
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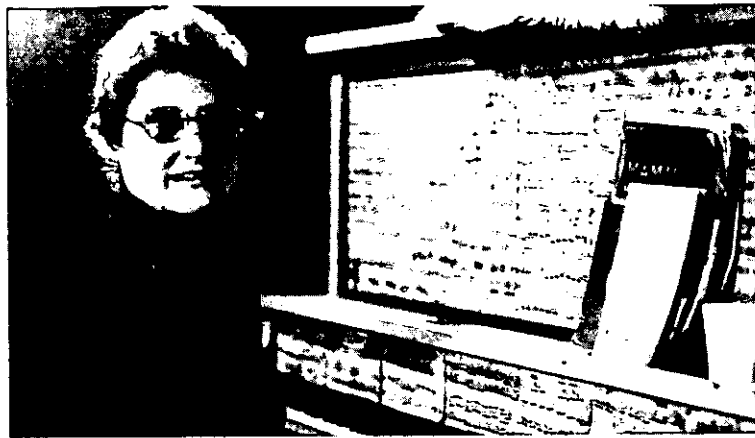
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Judy Lamprecht plays the musical accompaniment and entree-act entertainment at the Slingerlands Players "Love Rides the Rails" melodrama currently at the playhouse in Unionville.

viously approved a plan for duplex houses on the 15-acre tract on Rockefeller Rd., Elsmere, but the approval expired before the developer, Alpha Collateral Ltd., could implement the plan. The property is in a Residential-A zone.

Appledorn, a 35-lot single-family subdivision proposed for a 27-acre tract on Van Dyck Rd., Delmar, is moving one step closer to the construction stage. Wolf Kraemer, Slingerlands developer with Wheeler Homes, is expected to get a green light from the board this week on a preliminary plan for the project.

Board members also were expected to take action on the Bicentennial Woods preliminary plan at this week's regular meeting. The mandatory 45-

day deadline from the public hearing deadline for board action, 45 days from the date of the public hearing, expires April 13.

Oppose Gould Park

A public hearing last week on the proposed Gould Park industrial project brought out 20 residents of Glenmont to oppose the plan. The property owners' complaints centered on what they termed serious drainage problems in the vicinity, which is zoned for light industry.

The developers, Gould Erectors and Riggers Inc., are seek-

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ing approval of a pre-preliminary plan to divide their nine-acre tract into seven 40,000-square-foot sites for warehouse and other light industrial use. The site is on the east side of Rt. 9W south of Asprion Rd., Glenmont.

misringing as well as reordering.

The staff report says "food industry statistics indicate that UPC should lead to a net savings before taxes for retailers equal to one and one-half per cent of sales." The most controversial element in the UPC picture is price removal in conjunction with installation of computerized checkout.

Musical at Institute

Philip West, oboist, will present a concert at the Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave. Sunday at 2:30 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public.

Carnival is planned

Some seventh grade students at the Bethlehem Central Middle School are planning to hold a carnival on Saturday, April 3, from 1-4 p.m. at the Middle School cafeteria. The carnival is a fund-raising project for a student trip to Boston. Tickets are to be sold at 15 cents and can be purchased at the door. The carnival will be open to children of elementary and Middle School age. Middle School students are encouraged to bring younger brothers and sisters.

THE CAPITOL

Computer checkout: don't hold breath

It may be some time before computer checkout systems in retail food stores become widespread in New York State.

A state Senate staff report says there is a "lack of evidence to indicate" that the Universal Product Code computer checkout system will provide any lasting benefit to the consumer.

The Senate Standing Committee on Consumer Protection, chaired by Sen. Joseph R. Pisani, R-C New Rochelle, recommends that individual item pricing be made mandatory subject to certain modifications. Backers of the UPC system list savings benefits such as reduced costs in checkout labor, checker training, pricing/repricing, recapping and

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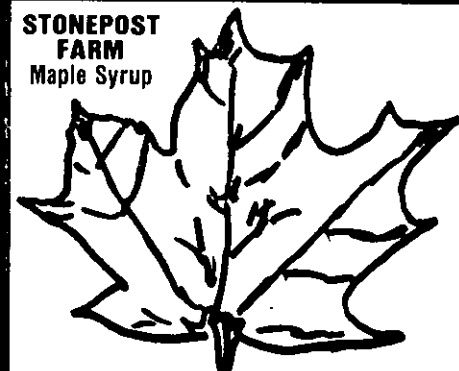
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Bethlehem students participating in Area 9 DECA contest at Hudson recently included, from left, first row: Debbie Prior, Elizabeth Hatt, Debbie Burkins; second row, Robert Pierson (advisor), Eileen Callanan, Joanne Fiato, Jill Cowles, Karen Jacobsen, Charles Scully; top row, Joseph Garcia, Elaine Miller, Cynthia Stoll, James Kerr.



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Pre-school open house

An Open House will be held on Tuesday, April 6 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Pineview Pre-School at the Pineview Community Church, Washington Ave. Extension, Albany. The Pre-School offers Day Care for the working community for children 16 months to 6 years.

Daffodils for cancer

Daffodil Days for Cancer will run three days next month, during which daffodils are sold for \$3 a bunch in an area-wide fund-raising drive.

Daffodil days are April 1-3. For information and for ordering flowers, call Mrs. James Blendell, 439-3609, or Maureen Roberts, 439-5991.

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Forum to explain primary balloting

A public forum on the New York State presidential primary will be held in the community room of the Bethlehem Library at 8 p.m. April 1. The forum is sponsored by the Bethlehem Democratic Committee and organized by Ken Thacher, committee chairman, and Mrs. Janet Butlin, forum chairman.

There will be discussion of how delegates to the Democratic and Republican conventions this summer are selected. Delegate candidates who are on the ballot in the April 6 Democratic primary in the 28th Congressional District will be on hand to speak and answer questions from the audience.

Scheduled to appear are representatives of the Reilly slate pledged to Jimmy Carter, the Fowler-Coyne slate pledged to Fred Harris, the Suarez slate formerly pledged to Birch Bayh and now to Morris Udall, and the Stratton slate, nominated by the Albany County Democratic Committee, which is running uncommitted.

The Cody slate pledged to George Wallace is being contested.

Tom Spargo, counsel to the Republican State Committee, will explain the Republican delegate selection process.

Only enrolled voters may vote in party primaries in New York State.

Flower show at Colonie

"Spring Reflections for Fun and Beauty" will be a major exhibit in the 1976 Grand Flower Show at Colonie Center, March 29 - April 3. Visitors to the exhibit may walk along red cobblestone paths edged with golden Moonshot marigolds, crimson Mountain Peak mums and snow white Count Blanc tulips. A stand of Canadian hemlocks, needle pines and clumped white and paper birch trees just bursting into spring bud will shade the patio and colonial woodshed. An old-fashioned split-rail and stockade fence will rim the display.

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Grangers honor Husted Myers

In recognition of his 60 years of active Grange membership, Husted L. Myers of Selkirk was presented an award pin and certificate by Mrs. Helen Raynor, state junior deputy, at the March 13 meeting of Bethlehem Grange. He has served in many offices of Bethlehem Grange and Albany County Pomona Grange. Currently he is Steward and Legislative Chairman of Bethlehem Grange.

Other members honored for 25 years of continuous membership were Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Sullivan of Peru, N.Y., Mrs. Elaine Christopher and Harold Williams, Jr. Their membership pins will be mailed as they were unable to be at the presentation ceremony which marked the anniversary of the founding of Bethlehem Grange. Visitors from Ravena and Foxenkill Granges attended the program.

Bethlehem Grange will have a corn beef and cabbage dinner at the Grange Hall April 3. The next meeting will be March 27 when Foxenkill Grange will formally visit Bethlehem-Colonie Granges at Bethlehem hall at Beckers Corners.

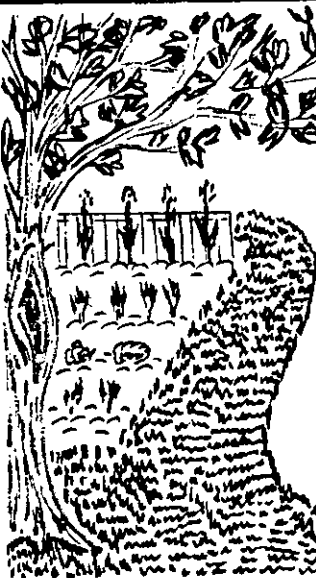
Methodist choirs join

A district-wide choir festival has been planned by the United Methodist Churches of the Albany District of the Troy Annual Conference for Sunday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Albany St. Church, Schenectady. Well over 100 singers from local church choirs across the District will be participating.

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Elsmere students Tracy Levine, Larry Markessinis, Jon Fisher, and Lucy Wall enjoy new ceramic kiln at school.

Ceramic kiln given to Elsmere School

A new ceramic kiln has been placed in service at the Elsmere Elementary School through a gift of \$600 by the Elsmere School Community Organization.

The new kiln has benefited the art curriculum in the school tremendously. It is very large

and permits firing of two or three classes' work at a time, which enables children to receive their finished clay pieces quickly and to do more ceramic projects during the year.

According to Nancy O'Hara, art teacher, many interesting and exciting projects have been undertaken as a result of the new kiln. One fifth grade class made heads for their marionette puppets. A third grade class got extensively involved in coil clay techniques and constructed bowls and vases of unusual shapes and sizes. A fourth grade class learned slab clay construction and made banks, boxes, vases and chimes.

Results are sharper

Since the new kiln is of very good quality, the even distribution of heat throughout the



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kiln produces sharper, more successful results in glazes. The liquid glazes painted on the clay pieces are true-to-life when the finished piece is taken out of the kiln.

The children are excited about ceramics, and they have experimented in many different glazing techniques. Dipping, painting, and dripping the liquid glazes has created some exciting effects.

PWP dance Friday

Parents Without Partners, Inc. Albany chapter will celebrate founder's day by sponsoring a dance Friday at the Sheraton Inn Towne Motel, 300 Broadway, Albany. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Each member may bring one guest. Persons attending may wear bicentennial costumes.

Textbook forms due

Children who live in the Bethlehem Central school district but who attend private and parochial schools must fill out applications for textbooks loans for next year by May 1. The application forms are available at the district office, 90 Adams Pl., Delmar.

Textbooks loaned for this school year should be returned to the district office within three days of a school's closing for the summer. The only exception to this policy applies to St. Thomas pupils, who can return their books to St. Thomas.

Only by observing these rules can private school pupils be assured of receiving the textbooks they need in time for the next school year. Everyone is urged to cooperate.

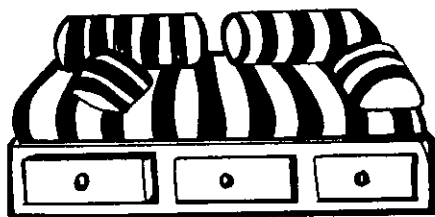
Board meeting changed

The Bethlehem Central Board of Education will not meet on its regular business meeting date of April 7, because board members will attend the annual BOCES meeting that night. The board will meet instead on the following Wednesday, April 14, at 8 p.m., at 90 Adams Pl., Delmar.

On Israel mission

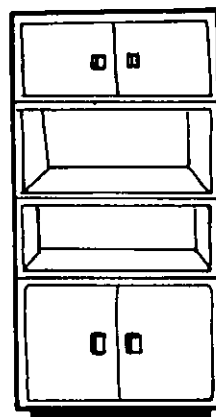
Carl Rosenbloom, 535 Dawson Rd., Delmar, is in Israel this week on a special fact-finding mission for the United Jewish Appeal (UJA). He is on an eight-day leave from his position as an assistant attorney general for New York State.

OH, WHAT VERSATILITY!

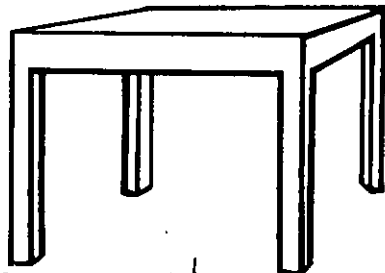


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Elsmere parents hold round-table

Three panelists will lead a round-table discussion at the Elsmere Elementary School Thursday, April 1, on topics determined by a questionnaire recently sent home to parents by each child in the school.

Topics will be: Wisconsin skills design, Dorothy Whitney, Wisconsin skills teacher; new math, Richard Herrmann, school principal; and "Reporting to Parents," Joseph Schaefer, Delmar School principal.

Purpose of the discussion is to give parents a greater understanding of their children's educational programs at Elsmere. Teachers from each grade level will be on hand to answer questions, and members of Elsmere School Community Organization (ESCO) will attend.

Chairperson is Mrs. Charles Mackey, co-chairperson Mrs. Steven Fletcher.

BCHS drama club presents 'Witness'

The Charlatans, Bethlehem Central High School's drama club, is presenting Agatha Christie's popular "Witness for the Prosecution," in three performances starting tonight. The production will go on tonight (Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the "Little Theater" at the high school (Room 46).

Lead roles are played by Andy Creighton, Steve Dembling, David Herman and Linda MacArthur. Stage manager is Kathy Slater, assisted by Sarah Howes and Julie Hernandez.

Offstage committees are headed by Nina Jarmolych, props; Tara Mackenzie, tickets and publicity; Ken Newman, scenery construction, and Lisa Zeitz, costumes. Tickets will be sold in the school cafeteria between 10:45 a.m. and 1 p.m., and are available at the door.

Fifers to play

The Delmar Fife and Drum Corps will be featured entertainment at the American Cancer Society's kick-off dinner Friday night at the Italian American Community Hall, Washington Ave. Extension.

Dr. Arthur Hengerer will be Master of Ceremony. Chairperson is Miss Ronnie E. Ceglais, and Mrs. Joseph J. Doran is co-chairperson. The dinner is open to the public. Cocktail hour begins at 6 p.m.

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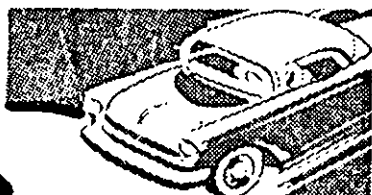
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**Spring cleanup
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The Town of Bethlehem will help town residents with Spring cleaning again this year. Highway Department crews will circulate through neighborhoods beginning Monday, April 5, according to Highway Superintendent Martin J. Cross. They will pick up trash and items for disposal that are left at the side of town streets.

Items for pickup should be lightweight enough for one man to handle. Appliances, water heaters or other heavy items will not be picked up. The Spring cleanup service will end April 30.

In May, the Highway Department's grass and hedge clipping pickup service will resume. Crews from the department will pick up bagged grass clippings and tied hedge and brush clippings.

For pickup schedules call Town Hall, 439-4955.

Next-to-New opens

The Junior League of Albany announces the opening of their Next-to-New Shop at 61 Central Ave., Albany, on April 7. Shop hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Swim program starts

A stroke improvement program for boys and girls, featuring instruction in all competitive strokes, starts and turns, will begin April 6 at the Bethlehem Central High School pool. Classes will meet from 6 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights and are open to residents of the town of Bethlehem and the Bethlehem Central school district.

Forward dives, back dives, reverse dives, inward dives and somersaults will be taught in a five-week diving clinic beginning April 5, at the high school pool. Clinics will run from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Registration fee for each program is \$5. Pre-registration is available from the town of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Dept. 439-4131.

Opera on WAMC

For the fourth year, National Public Radio will provide live coverage of the Metropolitan opera final auditions in New York City on Sunday. WAMC, 90.3 FM, will broadcast the final competition live, from 2 p.m. to conclusion.

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Gymnasts end best season

Coached by Carol Walts the gymnastics team won its first meet ever this year and went on to finish the season with a 7-7 record. Mrs. Walts attributes this marked improvement to the fact that many more girls went out for the team this year who were willing to supply continuous hard work to develop the necessary skills. The season, November to March, is the longest of any of the girls' sports seasons.

Top competitor in vaulting is Kitty Jones. Mrs. Walts feels Kitty has a good chance to earn one of the five vaulting spots in the inter-sectional meet. Chris Harder has improved 100 percent and is the second vaulter for the team.



Wm. Longabaugh
Margie Nevens

Best in area

The balance beam, which stands four feet off the ground and is four inches wide, is the team's weakest event, according to Mrs. Walts. Hope for this event lies in sophomore Sharon Handwerger who has managed to master some of the more advanced moves on the beam. Sharon's best event

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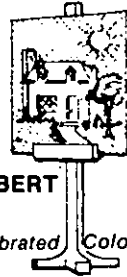


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however, is the floor exercise. Mrs. Walts feels that her dance background, lending her flexibility and style, has helped her tremendously. She is definitely the best in the area and has an excellent chance of a position in the inter-sectionals in this event.

Mrs. Walts says of the team's top competitor on the bars, Ellen Pert: "You can always count on Ellen to get the points you need. She's a good 'clutch' competitor." Ellen is also the team's second top competitor in the floor exercise. Juniors Meg Hickey and Margie Nevens have improved from elementary to intermediate moves on the bars.

Only three girls, Ellen Pert, Deb Longabaugh and Sharon Sutliff, are seniors so Mrs. Walts will have almost the same team next year with some new additions. Next year eighth grade girls will be eligible to compete on the varsity level.

Others on the team are Merrie Bragaw, Beth Burkhard, Liz Cassidy, Kathy Everingham, Lisa Guynup, Maria Kansas, Lisa Lambert, Sarah Lamite, Heather Leslie, Lisa Mantica, Elaine Miller, Cindy Reuswig, Betsy Ruslander, Lisa Thorn-dike, June Vandemark, Sue Browning and Edith Mac-Millen.

Karen Heaphey

For beginning birders

Two field trips for beginners in bird-watching will be sponsored by the Audubon Society and conducted by Bob Budliger at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar.

The sessions will be held Saturday, April 10 and Saturday, May 16, 8 a.m. to noon. Bring field guide and binoculars if you have them.

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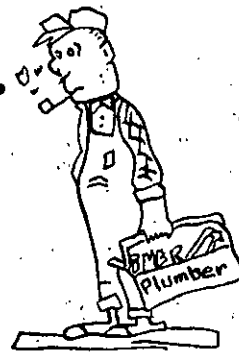
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Mayor reelected in Voorheesville

Mayor William J. Wenzel and two trustees have been re-elected to new two-year terms in the annual village election in Voorheesville.

Renamed to the village board on the Peoples' party slate were William Gray 3rd and Milton Bates. For Mayor Wenzel it will be his fourth term.

Voter turnout was lighter than usual, only 101 voters casting ballots. The incumbents were unopposed, and the surprise March snowfall on voting day further cut down the turnout.

Methodist luncheon

The First Thursday Group of the United Methodist Women of the Delmar Methodist Church will have a luncheon meeting Thursday, April 1 at 12:30 p.m. Mrs. Laura Lyons will display her collection of some 350 crosses from around the world.

Chairpersons are Mrs. Harold Kelp and Mrs. Roger Israel. The program is under the direction of Mrs. Richard Yacobian, Mrs. Charles Trendell and Mrs. John Kolonoski. If baby sitting service is needed call Mrs. John Stokoe, 439-5980.

MS dance Saturday

Volunteers and sponsors are getting into step for the second annual "Dance For Those Who Can't" Multiple Sclerosis 36-hour dance marathon sponsored by the youth committee of the Capital District chapter. The event will be held in the gymnasium of the Junior College of Albany at 140 New Scotland Ave., Albany, from 9 a.m. March 27 to 9 p.m. March 28.

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MOVING — contents of home to be sold. Sat., March 27, 10 A.M.-5 P.M. Sunday, March 28, 12-3 P.M. Many Maple Colonial pieces. Darkwood Magnavox stereo AM/FM radio. 41 Douglas Rd., Delmar.

MTD 8 HP TRACTOR, 2 yrs. old. Mower & blower — \$980.00. Fiber glass shower, bathroom sink, kitchen sink, cabinet type — \$90.00. 767-9997.

GARAGE SALE — March 27th, 10-4 — refrigerator, electric dryer, picnic table. 439-7340. 109 Mosher Rd.

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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.

Frogs and whistling ducks

Editor, The Spotlight:

Thought you might be interested in this letter from an Atlantic Cement Co. vice president to U.S. Sen. Buckley.

Ravena *Bob Van Slyke*

Dear Senator:

In 1974 this corporation and its employees paid some \$3,000,000 in federal taxes. That sum does not include additional payments made upon filing or sums to be returned due to overpayment.

The following government expenditures also amount to some \$3,000,000 and were reported by the Tax Foundation from records of the General Accounting Office.

\$475,000 spent by the Pentagon to study the frisbee, \$121,000 to find out why people say "aint," \$37,314 for a potato chip machine for the

Moroccans, \$68,000 to the Queen of England for not planting cotton on her plantation in Mississippi, \$2 million to Yugoslavia's Marshall Tito for purchase of a yacht.

\$80,000 for a zero gravity toilet for the space program, plus \$23,000 for environmental testing of the same; \$6,000 to study Polish bisexual frogs, \$85,000 to learn about the cultural, economic and social impact of rural road construction in Poland, \$20,000 to study the blood groups of Polish Zlotnika pigs, \$5,000 to learn about Yugoslavian intertidal hermit crabs, and \$5,000 to tabulate the difference between native American and Indian whistling ducks. Also:

\$20,000 to investigate the German cockroach, \$71,000 to compile the history of comic books, \$5,000 for an analysis of violin varnish, \$15,000 to find out how fishing boat crewmen cause conflicts in Yugoslavian towns, \$70,000 to study the smell of the perspiration given off by Australian aborigines and \$28,361 for an odor-measuring machine for the above project.

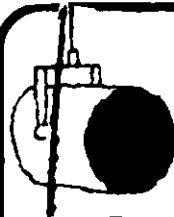
The above expenditures do absolutely nothing to benefit the American people. They do not improve the economic conditions of this country. They do not reduce inflation. They do not create jobs.

New York State taxpayers carry the heaviest per capita tax burden for support of state and local government spending.

Facing those facts, this company and its employees strongly protest the use of our tax dollars for items such as those noted above. Frankly, they are a source of embarrassment which hold our government up to ridicule. We take no pride in a government funding such activities while this state and nation are mired in economic inaction.

Our tax dollars must be invested in a manner which will provide the best return for the American people.

Ravena *Charles S. Burriss*
Vice President, Operations



SPOTLIGHT on community corner

"E" is for Eyes

A vision screening to detect eye defects in pre-schoolers 3-5 years of age will be held March 30, 31 and April 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar.

The screening is free, takes only five minutes and is conducted by trained volunteers. It is sponsored by the Tri-Village Welcome Wagon Club for Newcomers. For information, call Mrs. Charles Scholes, 439-7759, or Mrs. Rose Pocock, 439-3838.

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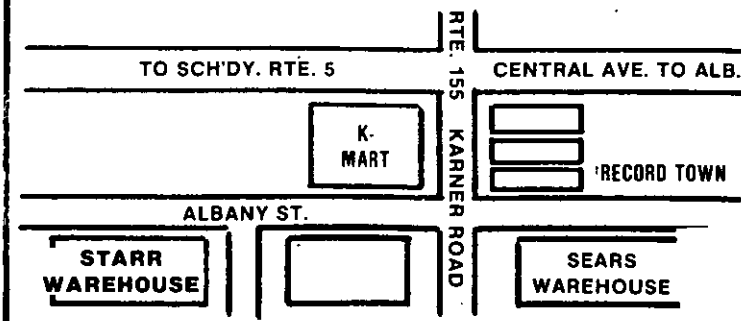
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