

The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

December 9, 1976
Vol. XXII, No. 50

20¢

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

A major housing development for Glenmont

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Santa's coming Saturday!

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A Dutch Christmas of yore

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Bethlehem art show awards

Page 15

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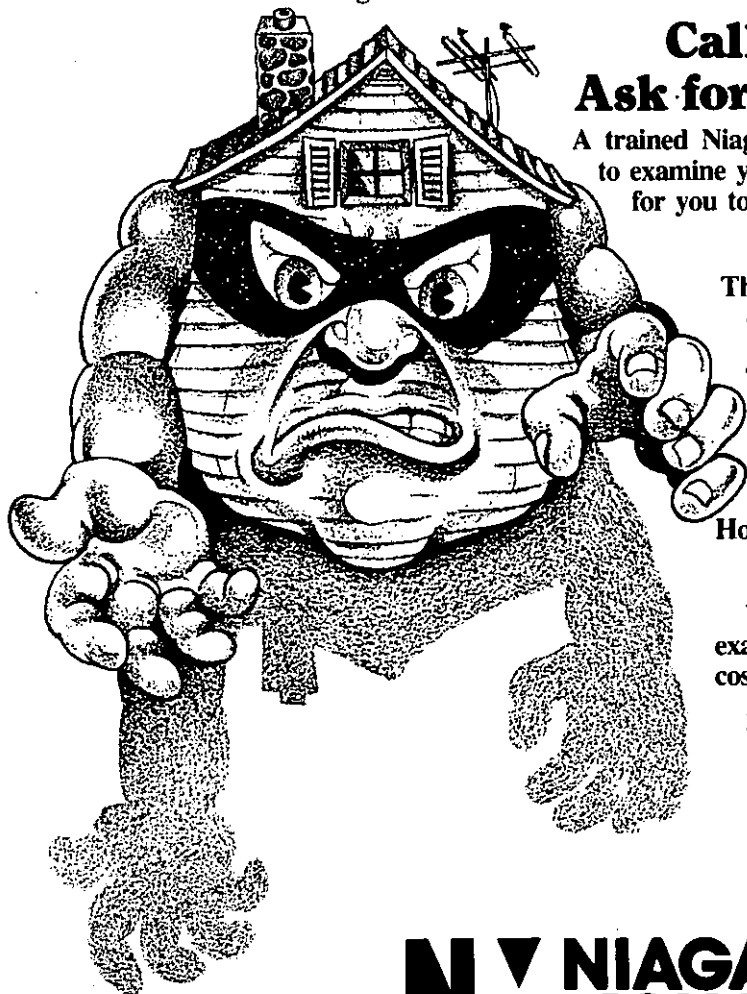
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Spotlight

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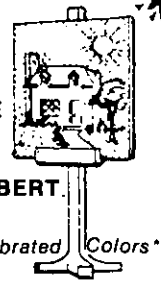
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Spotlight CALENDAR

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

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.

Bethlehem Youth Employment Service. School Year Schedule, Monday-Friday, 1:00-4:30 P.M. Summer schedule, 8:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M. Telephone 439-2238.

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Glenmont Lions Club meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at La Casa Restaurant, Selkirk, 6:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Info: Charles Sperbeck, 439-9165.

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.

League of Women Voters, Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. Bethlehem Library Information 439-5786.

Half Moon Button Club of Albany, third Wednesday noon of the month at Bethlehem Public Library. For information 872-0068.

Kiwanis Club of Delmar, Mondays at 6:15 at Center Inn, Glenmont.

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.

Auxiliary, Nathaniel Adams Blanchard, Post 1040, Poplar Dr., Elsmere, third Tuesday, Sept.-June.

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 and styrofoam 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. Jim Munger — 463-0275.

Albany chapter, Railroad Evangelistic Assn. meets third Saturday of each month, First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, 7:15 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.

Bethlehem Women's Republican Club, third Tuesday, Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

Give and Take Shop. Used clothing. Basement of St. Thomas Rectory. Monday 9:30-11 a.m.; Tuesday 1-3 p.m.; Saturday 10-12 a.m.

Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, open daily during daylight hours. Exhibit room open daily 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

Delmar Fire Dept. Ladies' Auxiliary Christmas dinner served by the firemen, Fire Hall, cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7.

Winter Music Festival Part I, Bethlehem Middle School Auditorium, 8 p.m.

Annual Christmas dinner, Ladies' Auxiliary of the Elsmere Fire Hall, 6:30 p.m. Each member is asked to bring a Christmas tree ornament for exchange.



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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

Horror Film: "Invasion of the Body Snatchers," Bethlehem Library, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Rummage Sale, Bethlehem Coffee House, 125 Adams St., Delmar, 10 a.m.

Round and Square Dance with The Tuneweavers, Bethlehem Grange Hall, Beckers Corners, 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

"Lunch With Santa," sponsored by Bethlehem Junior Women's Club, Slingerlands Community Church, 11:30 a.m. \$1 donation to the White Christmas Fund.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Musical: "Meet Me in St. Louis," Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Clarksville School Music Program, school auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

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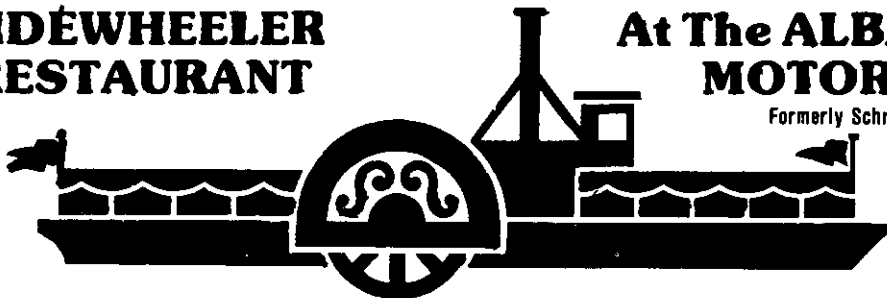
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Elsmere School Music Program, school auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
Hamagrael School Music Program, school auditorium, 8 p.m.
Delmar Camera Club Workshop: "Indoor Photography," 7:30 p.m. Photo Essay: Up to Twenty Slides Narrated Sale of Equipment, St. Stephen's Episcopal Parrish Hall, Elsmere, 8 p.m. Everyone welcome.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

Bethlehem Central Board of Education, regular business meeting, 90 Adams Pl., Delmar, 8 p.m.

Glenmont School Music Program, school auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Altar-Rosary Society of St. Thomas Church, Delmar, liturgy and Chinese auction, 7:30 p.m.

Half Moon Button Club of Albany, Christmas meeting at Bethlehem Library, 12 noon. Members are asked to bring antique buttons portraying "Children and Cherubs." Public is invited to bring a sandwich. Dessert and beverages provided by the club.

Business Meeting, Bethlehem board of education, 90 Adams Pl., 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

General Membership meeting, Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce, Albany Motor Inn, Rt. 9W, Glenmont, 12 noon.

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area arts

A capsule listing of cultural events easily accessible to Bethlehem-New Scotland residents, provided as a community service by the General Electric Co. plastics plant, Selkirk. Telephone numbers are for information and tickets.

THEATER

"Babes in Arms," revival of Rodgers-Hart 1937 musical, Cohoes Music Hall, Tuesdays through Sundays, 8:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 3 p.m. through Jan. 2. Box office 237-7700.

"The Nutcracker," ballet spectacular featuring two principal dancers from the New York City Ballet with members of Ballet North and the Albany Symphony Orchestra, Palace Theater, Dec. 19, 2:30 and 8 p.m. Tickets \$6, \$4.50, \$3.50 by mail from Palace Theater, 19 Clinton Ave., Albany 12207, or box office Monday through Saturday, 10-4. 465-4755.

"Women in (and out of) Love," one-woman show by Suzannah Scher, State University at Albany Performing Arts Center, Dec. 10-11, 8:30 p.m. Box office 457-8606. Tickets \$3, \$2.

"Willoughby Chase Murders," world premiere, local cast directed by Judy Swire, Jewish Community Center, Whitehall Rd., Albany, Dec. 4-5 and Dec. 11-12, 8:30 p.m. 474-2332.

MUSIC

Albany Symphony Orchestra, playing Mendelssohn Sinfonia for Strings, Walton's Viola Concerto, Tchaikowsky Symphony No. 4, Palace Theater, Dec. 11, 8 p.m. 465-4755.

"A Christmas Carol," Masterworks Chorale and Chamber Singers of College of St. Rose, at Cathedral of Immaculate Conception, Albany, Dec. 12, 8:15 p.m.

ART

Collective works of John Lancaster, College of St. Rose, Dec. 12-17, 2-5 p.m. Free.

FILM

Monday evening film series, "Bicycle Thief" (Italy, 1949) and "Forbidden Games" (France 1952), international award classics, Cohoes Music Hall, Dec. 13, 7:30 p.m. 237-1675.

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FOOTNOTE to HISTORY

Dutch settlers brought Christmas to the Hudson

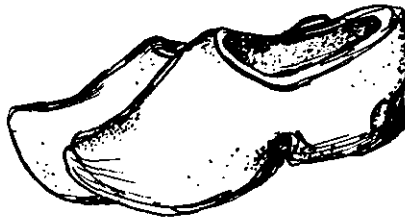
by Allison P. Bennett

Christmas came to the Hudson Valley and Old Fort Orange and Rensselaerwyck with the earliest settlers, who were from the Netherlands. They brought with them their own Dutch Christmas traditions.

In the Old World the date of December 25 was not the mirthful holiday that we celebrate today, but was observed strictly as a religious festival and was considered the chief Holy Day of the year. The churches held special services and everyone was expected to attend on this solemn day. Even the servants were given time off to attend the services. This custom was carried out for more than 200 years in the New World.

The Dutch held the good "Sint Nikolaas" in great esteem, and his day comes on Dec. 6. Legend has it that he was a church bishop, born in

the 4th century in Asia Minor and well known for his many generous deeds and acts of kindness. In Holland, Sint Nikolaas or "Sinterklaas" arrived from Spain aboard a boat laden with presents, and was accompanied by his helper, Black Pete, his little Moorish page. On the night of Dec. 5, the eve of his saint's day, he would come clattering down the streets of each town, astride a white horse, to pay a visit to all the children. They always left their wooden shoes on the hearth that night, filled with hay and food for his horse. He came clad in rich red Bishop's robe and wore a gold mitre on his head. Black Pete came along too, with a sack laden with sweetmeats in one hand and in the other a handful of willow switches. Sinterklaas' arrival at each house was accompanied by tossing the candies and sweetmeats



onto a white sheet spread on the floor, and at each house he would question the children about their behavior the past year. Later, when all were asleep in their beds, he would return, remove the hay from the wooden shoes and fill them with gifts. The children of New Netherland were visited by this same "Sinterklaas."

Miracles which St. Nicholas wrought at sea made him the patron saint of seafaring men. The oldest church in old Amsterdam, as well as that at New Amsterdam (New York City), were named for him, and he came to America as the figurehead of the prow of a ship

bearing the first settlers to New Amsterdam.

In old Holland and in New Netherland, the gathering of families to enjoy a festive meal came on St. Nicholas Eve. All sorts of dishes dear to Dutch hearts were placed on the groaning boards, but one that was always present was "olykoecken," small round cakes shaped like tennis balls, fried in oil. These cakes were very rich, and it is said that only a Dutch cook could put the raisins, soaked overnight in brandy, in the center. "Kruulijes" or our "crullers" were also on the list. These were the pride of a family and were cut with special cutters and folded with a deft hand.

It was the custom in old Albany to go out after sundown on St. Nicholas Eve and cut white lilac slips. Everyone knew that if you put them in water and placed them in a



J.W. Campbell photos

More than 100 Bethlehem residents filled the library community room last week as the town's bicentennial committee awarded certificates to local organizations for their part in the celebration. Among more than 60 awards were those for the Bethlehem Historical Assn., accepted by Mrs. Edward R. Dillon Jr., left, from Ed Mulligan, and Bethlehem Junior Women's Club, accepted by Diane Ritz from committee chairman Ruth Bickel.

warm spot, they would be in flower by Dec. 25. The Dutch also placed evergreen branches about the best parlor and tied them with orange-hued ribbons, which was the royal color of Holland.

After New Netherland became the English province of New York, outside influence crept in and English Christmas customs became accepted. In England, Christmas was first called Jule, or Yule, but was later changed to "Christes Masse," a mass to honor the Feast of the Nativity. Holiday festivities began on Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, and the season lasted through Twelfth Night, Jan. 6, making the "Twelve Days of Christmas," although the day of Dec. 25 itself was still solemnly kept as a religious observance.

From very early times the hanging of evergreens was the symbol of eternal life. The early Saxons of Briton hung ivy, holly and laurel in their churches. The Teutonic people

believed that the green leaves kept evil spirits away. One legend claims that Christ's crown of thorns was of holly. The ancient Romans made up their quarrels with enemies whenever they met under the mistletoe, and from this came the "kiss of pardon" which evolved into the English custom of kissing a maid under the mistletoe.

Dragging in the Yule Log was always a happy ceremony. It was believed that as the fire burned, old hurts and wrongs were burned up and away. Some of the ashes were preserved until the next year and a piece of the log was always saved to start the fire the following year. English children hung up their stockings to be filled by "Father Christmas."

The Germans, who settled in our area later, brought with them the idea of the Christmas tree, festooned with stars, lights and garlands. It stems from the ancient tradition that on the night of Christ's birth all the

trees of the forest suddenly bloomed and bore fruit.

Still later, the Irish brought with them to America the custom of placing lighted candles in the windows to signify the coming of the Light of the World. It was not until the German and Irish immigrants arrived that Christmas celebrations on Dec. 25 as we know them today became part of our heritage. The integration of religious, folk and family celebrations in the last century has seen Christmas surge forward as a great celebration of a kind unimagined by the colonial people of early America.

GLENMONT Job Corps picks staff assistants



Aladin S. Rodriguez Jr.

Winter programs registration starts

Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Dept. will start a full schedule of winter activities from yoga to badminton on Jan. 10. Pre-registration is necessary and will start Dec. 15 at the department's office at Elm Ave. Park weekdays from 8:30 to 4:30. For information call 439-4131.

The programs include tiny tot swimming (ages 4-7), stroke improvement for adults, adult aquatics, recreational swimming, handicapped swim program, scuba diving, Korean karate, judo, badminton, men's basketball, co-ed volleyball, indoor tennis, physical fitness, gymnastics, adult tennis instruction and yoga.



Charles F. Toney

A former All-American soccer star and a graduate sociologist have been named to two key administrative positions in the New York Job Corps Cen-



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Aladin S. Rodrigues Jr., 28, a member of the United States Pan-American soccer team in 1971 and a first-team NCAA selection from San Jose State University in 1970, will be program director at the Glenmont facility. Charles F. Toney, 34, who holds a BA degree in sociology from the University of California at Berkeley and is completing his master's degree work at San Jose State, will be director of the residential living program.

Both have been on the staff of the San Jose Job Corps center in California. The appointments were announced last week by John N. Aquilano, director of the Glenmont center and former director at San Jose. Both centers are administered by the Singer Company under contract to the U.S. Dept. of Labor.

Rodrigues will direct the education and vocational training programs. He will also coordinate the volunteer program at

the New York Center. He joined the center in San Jose in 1972 as a reading instructor. He served as a guidance counselor, senior resident advisor and as supervisor of both the education and counseling departments before his appointment to the new center in Glenmont.

Toney was employed at the Parks Job Corps Center at Pleasanton, Calif. from 1960 to 1969 as a job placement specialist, counseling specialist and senior counselor.

From 1969 to 1972 he was employed by Lucky Stores, Inc. of San Leandro, Calif., as director of hiring, training and counseling involving minority and disadvantaged personnel, with responsibilities in management training seminars and labor relations. He established training programs for employees of the firm in the San Francisco Bay area, in Sacramento and in Seattle, Wash.

In 1972-73 he worked for the Rand Corp. in Santa Monica, and from August 1973, to May of 1974 worked as registrar for Nairobi College, Inc., at East Palo Alto. He joined the San Jose Job Corps Center in May, 1974, as a senior residential advisor and was director of residential living there at the time of his appointment to the New York Job Corps Center.

Toney is married and has a son, 8. His wife teaches English and literature at San Jose Community College. The family will relocate in this area.

Slingerlands man cited

Reno S. Knouse, professor of distributive education, State University of New York at Albany, recently was given a certificate of appreciation award by the North Atlantic region of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA). The regional organization represents the high school, alumni, junior collegiate and collegiate divisions of DECA. Knouse and his wife reside at 40 Thornedale Rd., Slingerlands.

GLENMONT Peaceful hearing for subdivision

Whenever plans for a major housing development are announced, wary residents begin thinking of things like population density, impact on schools and property values, real estate taxes, traffic flow and the quality of life in the neighborhood. Their next step is to mount a protective defense against the builders.

This pattern has become so familiar to town officials that it was with near amazement that members of the Bethlehem planning board found not a single voice raised in opposition to preliminary plans for the largest residential development to be unveiled in the town in many years.

At a public hearing last week, only 21 persons turned out to see what Rosen-Michaels Inc. is proposing for the 230-family Chadwick Square townhouse development on 44 acres on the east

side of Wemple Rd. north of Beacon Rd. in Glenmont. Of the 21 in the audience, only one addressed the microphone, and that was to ask a question on drainage. When no one else accepted board chairman William R. Weber's invitation to speak, Weber appeared incredulous and said so. Then he adjourned the hearing.

In applying for approval of the first 61 units, developer James Michaels, a Slingerlands resident, coordinated presentations by his lawyer, his architect, his engineer, a drainage specialist, an environmental architect and himself. The six-man team had done exhaustive homework: the presentation package took one hour and 20 minutes and covered virtually every aspect of a development that Michaels hopes to start in 1978 and finish five years later.

The project will have various types of two- and three-bedroom dwellings built in clusters. There will be 96 two-car garages, the rest one-car; the density will be 4.5 units

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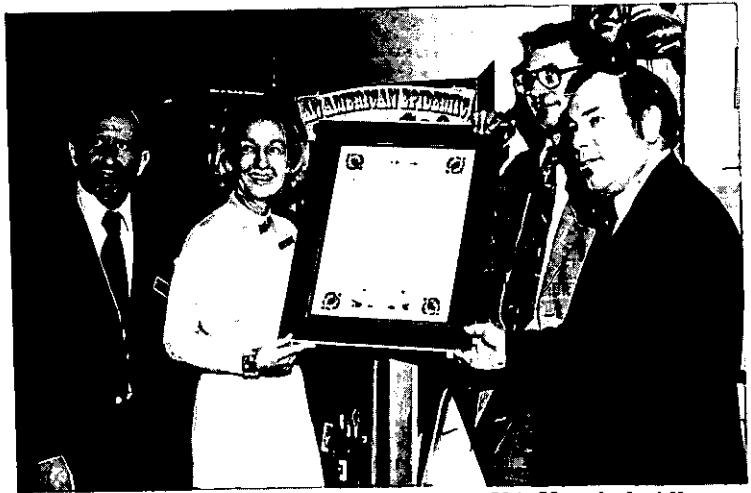
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LAY-AWAY



Delmar area residents on the staff of the VA Hospital, Albany, who participated in a recent seminar on alcoholism included, from left, Joseph Adelman, Ph.D. of Delmar, clinical psychologist; Mrs. Elizabeth Norton of Delmar, alcoholism treatment program coordinator; Dr. Robert Custer of Washington, D.C., chief of treatment services for the VA Hospital and Clinical System, and Dr. Hudson Bates of Altamont, coordinator of the substance abuse program.

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per acre, the facades will be "irregular" and "modulating," and the developer will construct a 12-inch water main on Wemple Rd. and 8-inch mains to serve the houses. The parcel is zoned "planned residential district" and is in the Glenmont elementary school district.

Business Women meet

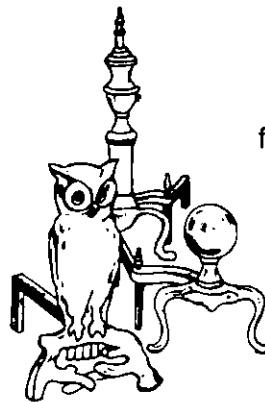
The Empire Charter chapter of the American Business Women's Assn. will hold its monthly dinner meeting Dec. 14 at the Silo Restaurant, Albany. Gloria McCabe of Troy will demonstrate floral arrangements.

4-H club formed

A new 4-H club has formed in Delmar. The club's first meeting was held at the home of Aryan Shayegani. Members voted to call themselves "The Lucky Clovers." Aryan Shayegani was elected president; Maura Keenehan vice president, Erin Donnelly secretary, Brenda Gravlee news reporter, and Lorinda Russo treasurer. The club's first project was to make an arrangement from natural materials for the "Winter Fair." The Fair was a county-wide event held at the Bethlehem Library.

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ELSMERE

Santa switching to a fire truck

Santa Claus himself will be ho-ho-ho-ing into Delaware Plaza at 11 a.m. Saturday in a fire engine instead of a New York Army National Guard M-60 tank, none of which should do anything to diminish the fun and excitement that's ahead.

Delaware Plaza Merchants Assn. plans for their annual Merry Christmas jollity for the youngest encountered unexpected opposition when it was announced that the jolly old fellow from the North Pole would be coming in a tank. Several merchants and the National Guard reported phone calls from residents who objected to a symbol of peace on earth associated with a war machine, or at least a machine designed to protect international peace.

The negative reaction caught the merchants by surprise, but they immediately switched Santa's vehicle to an Elsmere Fire Co. pumper. A spokesman for the association issued a public apology for what was a well-intentioned promotion. "We regret that there was any offense to anyone," he said. "We have changed the plan, and sincerely hope people will accept our apology. We hope they will turn out Saturday to welcome Santa and have a good time."

Meanwhile Santa is all set for his visit. He is due to come in with flashing red lights, possibly even a siren, at 11 on the 11th. He will walk around the stores and greet all his little friends personally, which is actually what it's all about anyway.

AARP Yule luncheon

The Bethlehem Tri-Village chapter of the American Assn. of Retired Persons (AARP) will hear Tommy Ippolito and his accordion at the annual Christmas luncheon Dec. 21 at Albany Country Club Dec. 21 at 12 noon. Mrs. William Reuter is planning the event. Car-poolers will meet at the town parking lot on Kenwood Ave. at 11:30 a.m.

Library event Saturday

All families are invited to an old-fashioned holiday celebration at the Bethlehem Library Saturday from 2 to 4. There will be stories of the Christian Christmas and Jewish Hanukkah celebrations and the library staff will act out the Mummers' play "St. George and the Dragon," in addition to carols, making tree decorations and treats to eat. Each parent is asked to bring a child and each child a parent.

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ELSMERE Board to study doctor's petition

Dr. Robert E. Pike, an osteopathic physician, lives in Elsmere and practices at an office in his home at 17 Morningside Dr. His father, Dr. John R. Pike, who also practices osteopathy, lives in Delmar and maintains an office at 90 State St. The Pikes want to close their downtown Albany office and have the elder Dr. Pike see his patients at the son's office in Elsmere.

A nearly-full house of more than 60 people attended the public hearing held by the Bethlehem board of appeals last week on Robert Pike's application for a variance from the town's zoning ordinance that would permit the senior Pike to share the facilities at his son's home. The board heard testimony from a number of friends and associates of the Pikes who lauded Dr. John Pike and urged approval of the petition, and from neighbors of Dr. Robert Pike who were opposed to the variance.

William A. Stewart, 15 Morningside Dr., a next-door neighbor, presented a petition signed by 55 persons he said were "affected by parking congestion, traffic flow, speeding and debris on lawns" in the vicinity. He told the board the

number of cars parked at or near the Pike residence had grown in 16 years from a few to as many as 12 or 13 at one time. He said he had installed "five concrete blocks to protect my lawn."

Several other neighbors objected to the traffic situation on Morningside Dr., which Dr. Harry Hamilton described as "a quiet, quasi-rural street with a ravine along the back." Stephen Einhorn, 1 Morningside, said "it's not good planning practice to introduce extra traffic into a neighborhood."

Robert Pike told Einhorn that he no longer saw patients at the downtown Albany office and that "the increase in traffic and parking is mine."

John Clyne, senior member of the Bethlehem board of education, said the elder Pike had helped found the local Kiwanis club and had been active in support of school, scouting and youth baseball programs. "We are fortunate in these days to have a man like Dr. Pike come out here and see patients." Added Alan Hilchie, 39 Alden Ct.: "This is a question of the validity of the ordinance itself, the moral aspects of practicing medicine in a residential area. We owe it to the man not to turn it (the request) down when he comes home."

The board deferred action pending further study of transcripts of the hearing.

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Awards given at art show

Gladys G. Siegel of Albany received the top award in the Bethlehem Art Assn.'s 10th annual juried art show for a wash and pencil entry. The show was a featured exhibit at the Bethlehem Library last month and early this month.

Virginia Remington Rich of Slingerlands was second with an airbrush and watercolor, Barbara Messina of Westerlo third with a watercolor, and Catherine Leather of Slingerlands fourth with a photograph.

Association members will be conducted on a tour of the art facilities at Bethlehem Central High School for their next meeting. Stan Reich of the school faculty will lead the tour on Jan. 5 starting at 8 p.m. Melissa Palmer of Slingerlands will exhibit and explain the national prize-winning miniature Dutch room she helped create at the Feb. 2 meeting.



Lillian Samuelson

Elected to board

Lillian Samuelson, manager of American Indian Treasures, 2558 Western Ave., Guilderland, has been elected to a three-year term on the national board of directors of the Indian Arts and Crafts Assn. headquartered in New Mexico. The IACA is a non-profit organization established to promote and protect the ethics, public image and security of the handmade Indian arts and crafts industry. It has about 700 members in 42 states. American Indian Treasures was started by Mrs. Samuelson in 1967 in Schenectady to sell authentic handmade Indian arts and crafts.

"Here Comes Santa Claus"
Dec. 11 at Delaware Plaza

On the cover:

Prize winners Catherine Leather, left, Virginia Rich and Gladys Siegel, right, receive art show awards from Tish Shipp.

Photo by Florence Becker

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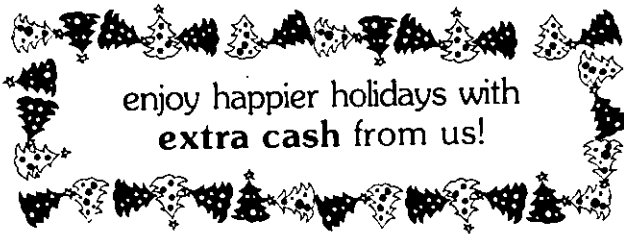
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SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

A fast start for BC five

It's a brand new basketball season at Bethlehem Central — no relation to last year's disaster. The newest edition of the BC varsity has more snap and pep in the daily drills this week than at any time last year and is looking for victory No. 2 Friday night at Scotia.

The Eagles got off on the winning foot last week by handling a good Guilderland team, 72-64, on the home floor. BC jumped to an early 8-2 lead and never was headed. The team had a 52 percent shooting performance from the floor, junior Dave Bursey pumping in 17 points and Bob Engleman and Mark Platel 24 between them.

"They were psyched up and emotionally prepared," observed Coach Dale Walts. "Our main weakness was inconsistent rebounding under the boards."

Scotia, which was in the Sectional playoffs last year, lost its Suburban Council opener at Burnt Hills last week, 61-52.

Blackbirds set for home debut

Voorheesville Central's basketball team will entertain Cocksackie-Athens (2-1) in the home court inaugural Friday

at 6:30. First-year coach Howard Smith regards Cocksackie as a "quick, all-around team" with an outstanding playmaking guard in John Porter.

"Cocksackie will be tough," Smith said, "but if we can contain Porter and improve our shooting we should do well."

The Blackbirds opened their season last Friday at Catskill. They looked good and were able to rebound with a big Catskill squad, but still came out on the short end of a 63-47 score. Mike Fredette and Mark Michele were the high scorers for Voorheesville with 15 and 12 respectively.

At national conference

Dr. Joseph F. Zimmerman, 82 Greenock Rd., Delmar, presented a paper on "Municipal Annexation: The Federal Dimension" at the National Conference on Government in Williamsburg, Va., last month.

Dr. Zimmerman is a professor of political science at the Graduate School of Public Affairs of the State University of New York at Albany.

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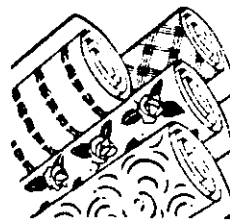
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Dr. Alice E. Fruehan

Named to medical post

Dr. Alice E. Fruehan of Slingerlands has been selected to head the Dept. of Family Practice at Albany Medical College, the first private medical college in New York State to establish such a facility. As professor and chairman of the department in both the college and Albany Medical Center Hospital, Dr. Fruehan will have responsibility for the management and direction of the new department including the educational, patient care and research programs at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels.

She has been association dean for academic affairs at the college. She was graduated from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and joined Albany Medical Center in 1957.

Lunch with Santa

The Bethlehem Junior Woman's Club will hold its third annual Lunch with Santa at the Community United Methodist Church in Slingerlands on Saturday. The event is open to the public from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The children can visit with Santa, have lunch with or without their parents for \$1. Proceeds will be donated to the White Christmas Fund.

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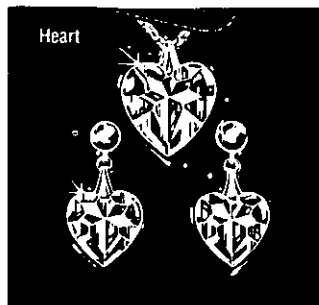
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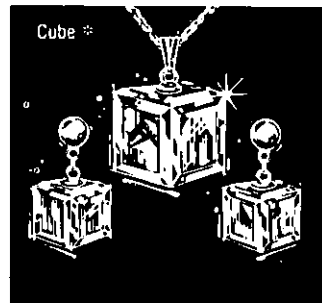
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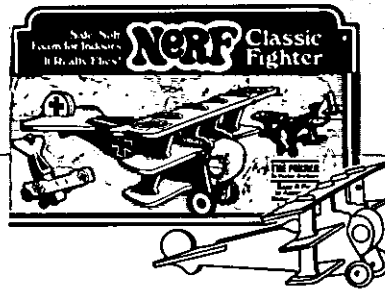
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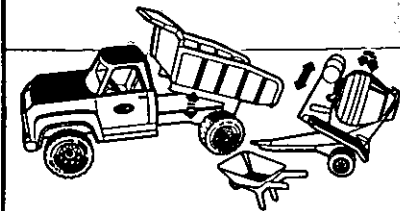
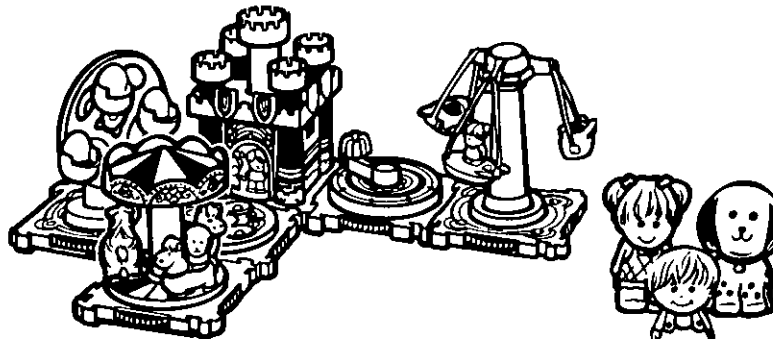
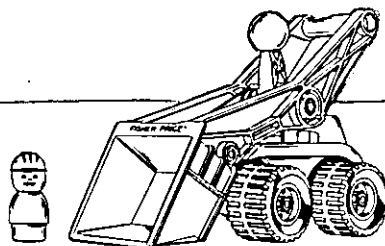
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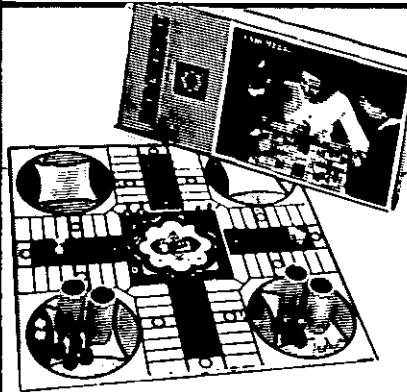


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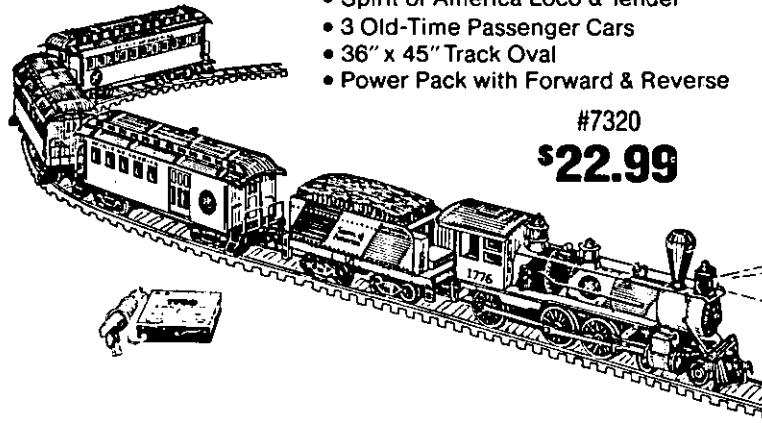


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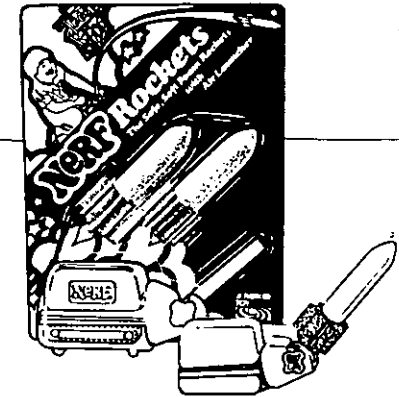
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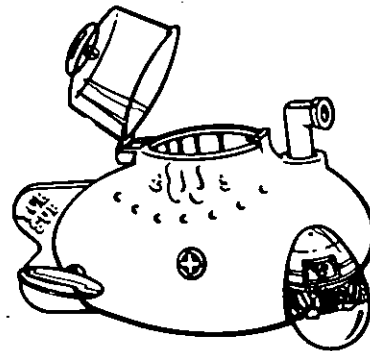
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Firemen start drive

Slingerlands Fire Dept. members have started their annual house-to-house fund-raising drive. Contributions from residents of the Slingerlands fire district are used to finance the firemen's annual after-Easter egg hunt and Halloween party for children and other community projects by the volunteer organization. John Flanigan, chief, has invited anyone interested in joining the volunteer group to come to the fire house on any Monday night from 7 to 9 for the regular drills.

FIRE CALLS

Nov. 28 — Elsmere — power pole on Delaware Ave.
Dec. 2 — Delmar — 4 Tamarrack Dr., furnace, slight smoke damage.

On naval exercise

Navy Engineman Third Class Dennis C. Biechman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Biechman of Route 1, Ravena, participated in the NATO exercise "Display Determination" in the Mediterranean Sea. A 1968 graduate of Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk High School, he joined the Navy in January, 1969.



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HIS
STORE**

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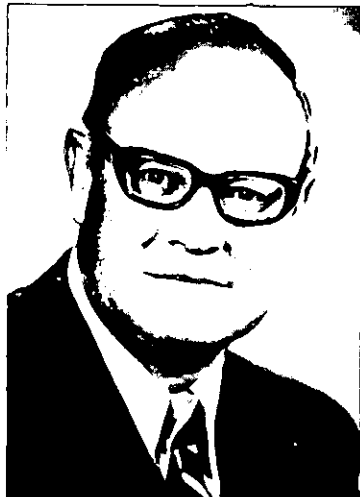
*125**

A timely Christmas surprise for every woman whose schedule doesn't give her extra time to worry about winding her watch. This automatic Seiko is one gift that will be remembered for years to come. The Lady Seiko automatic. It's like a piece of jewelry that tells time.

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Saturday 5 o'clock



Frank H. Odell

Heads AMC fund drive

Frank H. Odell of Delmar, president of the State Bank of Albany, has been appointed chairman of the Albany Medical Center Foundation's 1976-77 annual fund drive. The

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50A Delaware Ave.
Delmar
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State Farm Insurance Companies
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*Don't take a bath until you've seen
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We'll have: (In addition to towels)

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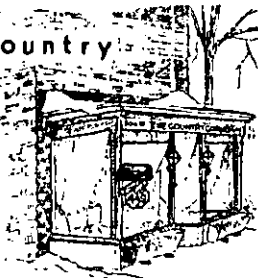
All the important materials . . . Terry . . . Lucite . . . Wicker's and everything is color-coordinated

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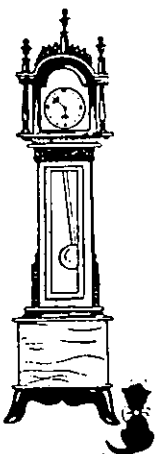
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LAYAWAYS

BOB PHILLIPS

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Open 10-9 439-3450



Dr. James E. Allen, center, new president of the New York State Division of the American Cancer Society, receives congratulations from Assemblyman Fred Field Jr. as Mrs. Dorothy Doran looks on. Both Field and Mrs. Doran, a past president of the Albany County unit, are on the society's representative assembly.

foundation has a goal of \$500,000 to be raised for health care and health education services. The drive will be conducted in seven counties locally and in adjacent sections of Vermont and Massachusetts.

If the grant comes through, school officials plan roofing work at the high school, elementary school and bus garage, improvements to the library in both schools, lighting, plumbing and hallway renovations in the elementary school, and making some changes to save more energy in the swimming pool.

VOORHEESVILLE District voters awaiting funds

Approximately \$800,000 in renovations and improvements to the Voorheesville Central School district's three buildings are awaiting word from the federal government that the necessary funds have been approved.

District voters overwhelmingly approved the expenditures contingent on the money becoming available through recent federal legislation. The vote was 350 yes and 12 no.

Gift shop moves

Lucy Verardi, Delmar resident who has been operating a gift shop at the Howard Johnson Motor Inn on Rt. 9W, has moved to larger quarters at 257 Delaware Ave. next to Fowler's. The shop, which retains the name of Forget Me Not Gifts, specializes in glassware, pewter linens, collectibles, some handcrafts and plants and dry arrangements.

CHRISTMAS FLUFF AND STUFF

Hours: Tues.-Sat. 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; EVENINGS BY APPOINTMENT

**JUST IN —
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Custom made Neck Ties,
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And Many Other Gift Items For All Ages! **COOKIES — PIES MADE TO ORDER**
2191 NEW SCOTLAND RD., RT. 85, SLINGERLANDS, N.Y. 12159 —
1 mi. West of Stonewell — 439-4340 **MARGARET and FRAN VUNCK**



Spotlight photo

New van: 8 degrees outside but warm between the covers

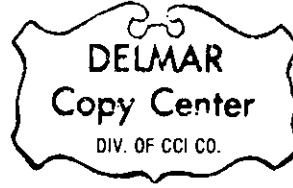
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OPEN NEW YEAR'S EVE
NEW YEAR'S DAY — 4-9 P.M.

Christmas parties, etc.

For reservations call 463-5130
 Rte. 9W, Glenmont, 3 miles south of Thruway Exit 23

**Library starting
 a new service**

The arrival of a spanking new canary yellow Plymouth Voyager Van has given the Bethlehem Public Library a mobile "fleet" for the first time since the road-wearied bookmobile was retired last spring.

Kay Cassell, director of the library, said the van will be put to work immediately to deliver books to shut-ins and to senior citizens who have no transportation to and from the library shelves. Persons wishing this service may request books by subject or by title. The library telephone number is 439-9314.

For drivers the library plans to use staff members and, where possible, volunteers.

**SELKIRK
 Chodack refutes
 union charges**


The superintendent of the Ravena - Coeymans - Selkirk Central School district is wondering whether three public meetings, a comprehensive article in the Ravena News Herald and a full informational letter to district voters is "being evasive" on the upcoming school district referendum.

District residents will vote Dec. 18 on a proposed new steel building at the district's garage. H. Eugene Tryon, president of the RCS unit of the Civil Service Employees Union (CSEA) says the 80 maintenance, transportation and clerical workers in his unit "want to clear the

MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
 Hours: 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

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and
Bring in the New
at the*

RHUM RUNNERS LOUNGE

*Choose from 2 extra special packages
for New Year's Eve*

1976 Special

Deluxe Hot Buffet 9-11 p.m.

Champagne, open bar, party favors, live entertainment
"The Sleek and Sassy" 10 p.m.-3 a.m.

All at a special price of \$49 per couple, including tax and gratuity. Free coffee & sweet rolls upon departure.

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The 1976 special and a Luxurious Sleeping Room, use of indoor pool, saunas at adjacent Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, plus a Continental Breakfast. Late check-out available for the sportsman — all at a special price of \$69 per couple, tax & gratuity included.

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Now Appearing at the Rhum Runners Lounge
"The Sleek and Sassy"
Rt. 9W — Southern Blvd., Albany

air, put these rumors to rest . . . or be told the truth if they are facts."

Tryon complained in a CSEA letter to school voters that "at least one" of the school buses operated by a private contractor on the runs at 4:45 p.m. has been equipped with a two-way radio, and that the district is using the Brennan Transportation firm to make the late afternoon bus runs for members of the school's athletic teams instead of the district's own buses and drivers.

Supt. of Schools Milton H. Chodack said that the contract with Brennan for the late runs "is a matter of overtime pay. The union drivers must be paid \$7 an hour, the contract drivers \$3. With four drivers over a school year it would be prohibitively expensive to use district drivers."

Two-way radios have been installed by all transportation contractors, not just Brennan, "because it was part of the contract when they bid it," Chodack said.

School officials plan to mail a letter on Monday giving full information to the voters, Chodack said, "even though this same information has been given to the voters at three public meetings and has been explained in the local newspaper."

*Santa is coming to Delaware
Plaza Saturday, December 11*

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SCOUT II, TRAVELER, TERRA

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BETHLEHEM School report not unanimous

A self-evaluation report on the Bethlehem Middle School has been submitted to the board of education — with reservations.

Some teachers felt uncomfortable with the survey, interpreting it as ammunition for further cuts in the school budget. Others feel more time could have produced a better report.

The 70-page document, which has been in the works for a year, includes a two-

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Veal Scallopini **\$4.99**
Veal & Peppers
includes salad bar, spaghetti or veg. & potato

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\$1.49/doz.

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mr charles
beautiful shoes
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Downtown Albany
434-2466

BETHLEHEM BASKETBALL 1976 - 1977

Dec. 3	Guilderland
Dec. 10	at Scotia
Dec. 14	Niskayuna
Dec. 17	at Columbia
Dec. 22	Burnt Hills
Dec. 28	at Colonie
Jan. 4	Mohonasen
Jan. 7	at Shenendehowa
Jan. 14	Shaker
Jan. 18	at Niskayuna
Jan. 21	at Guilderland
Jan. 28	Scotia
Feb. 1	Columbia
Feb. 5	at Burnt Hills
Feb. 11	Colonie
Feb. 15	at Mohonasen
Feb. 18	Shenendehowa
Feb. 22	at Shaker

Compliments of:
Mug & Brush Barber Shop
Four Corners

page "statement of concern" that questions the purpose of the study. There was a basic concern that the recommendations which came out of the survey would be used against the staff," the statement said in part. It added: "The staff felt an inherent reluctance to offer suggestions which could affect the present program and staffing status."

At last week's regular board meeting Mrs. Donna Varriale, Middle School social studies teacher, declared that "there is a general reluctance on the part of staff to be involved in something that will be used against them." Mrs. Varriale said the faculty "was skeptical and didn't do as good a job as possible." Board member Bernard Harvith replied that it was "quite unfortunate if there were emotional barriers to giving information."

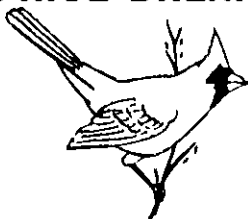
The Middle School concept and team teaching were cited as strengths of the school. It was felt that the Middle School

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DAILY 9-5:30, SAT. TO 5, SUNDAY 10-5

785-7701, Rt. 7, Latham (2 1/2 mi. West of Northway)

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Mixed Bird Seed	
25 Lb.	3.95
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A MESSAGE FOR DADDIES

Daddy, you're important. Really important.

So please have a checkup once a year even if you feel great. Don't be afraid, it's what you don't know that can hurt you. Do it for you. Do it for your family.

American Cancer Society

MEYERS FUNERAL HOME

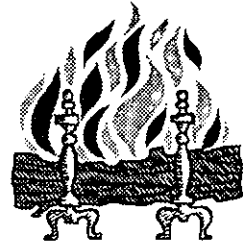
- Serving Bethlehem and Albany area families
- Serving All Faiths
- Distant City Services Arranged



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Delmar, N.Y.

THE COFFEE'S READY AND THERE'S A FIRE IN THE FIREPLACE
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Have fun doing your holiday shopping from our **INTERNATIONAL SELECTION!**

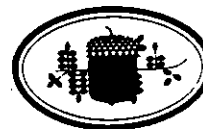


Open: Tues.-Fri. 11-5 and 7-9

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Coming from Voorheesville through Altamont up hill on Rt. 156, second left after Highland Farms Restaurant, second farm on right

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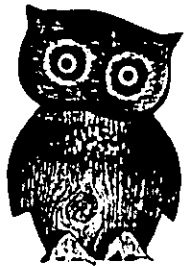
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Quilt — *Finished Pieces* — *Beads*



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NEED A GIFT FOR
LESS THAN \$5?

KNOT ONE IN MINUTES!
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FONT GROVE RD., SLINGERLANDS

Marsha-Lee Waldbillig
482-1181

Classes

Jewelry

Original Designs - Pots — *Baskets*



J. W. Campbell

Packing cookies for the VA: Katherine Klein, right, Florence Green.

PETTERSEN'S CARD & GIFT SHOP

PLAZA DEL SOL, RAVENA

Gibson's complete line of cards,
(including Helen Steiner Rice),
gift wrap & party supplies

Westmoreland Glass

Oneida Silver & Stainless Steel

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Glass Barware

American Bisque pottery
Ironware from John Wright



serves well in the transition from elementary to high school.

One of the weaknesses cited was the need for increased self-discipline and self-responsibility. Parents shared in the concern for treatment of others, care of facilities, etc. Parents also desire more information on report cards, including competitive rating and expectations of the child.

In other business, the board resolved to deny the exemption or reduction of school taxes for certain new businesses or business improvements and reactivated the citizens advisory committee. The purpose of the committee is to assist the board in improving the educational opportunities in the school district.

Cheryl Marks

Cookies for patients

Members of the Bethlehem Tri-Village chapter of the American Assn. of Retired Persons (AARP) have done something "sweet" for shut-ins. On a recent morning they hand-packed cookies and candies and decorated coffee cans and delivered them to the patients at the VA Hospital in Albany. The cookies were baked by many of the members, and over 700 cans were decorated. Members also delivered cans to residents of the Good Samaritan Home in Delmar.

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Jack Geary: big smiles go with Big Macs in Elsmere

PROFILE
BH degree at HU
starts a career

When 17-year-old Jack Geary got a part-time job at McDonald's in Menands, he had distant hopes of someday becoming a store manager. He didn't figure on reaching that goal before he was 21.

Today at 20 Geary is manager of McDonald's in Elsmere, and is one of the youngest managers in the company's chain of more than 4,000 stores. Since starting with McDonald's he has graduated from Catholic High, Hudson Valley CC and "Hamburg University". Geary has a "bachelor of hamburgerology" degree from HU, McDonald's training center where managers and other selected personnel learn the workings of the company.

As manager, it is Geary's responsibility to "lead the assistant managers and crew to produce top effort and to give the customers what they deserve."

Geary speaks highly of the Bethlehem community. "People have patience with us, they are very polite." He is happy with the store and expects operations to be at a peak soon. Busiest time are Fridays and Saturdays, and Geary and his crew have been striving to shorten the wait to the minimum for customers.

The young manager, a native of Green Island, estimates that 80 percent of the 51 Elsmere employees are high school students. When asked what he enjoys about his job, Geary replied, "definitely working with young people and meeting the customers, I always liked that."

Besides meeting the customers across the counter, the manager is able to welcome

MARTESSA

PLAZA DEL SOL, RAVENA — 756-9303

Holiday Dresses
from
KITTY HAWK

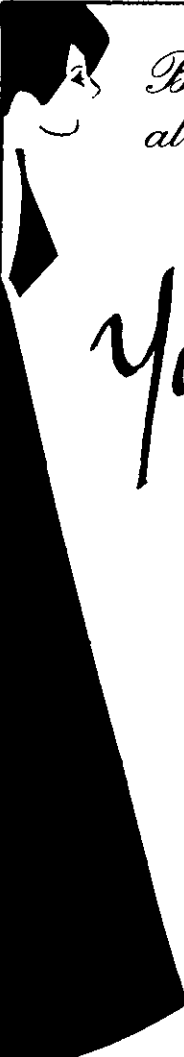
Indian Blouses
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Genuine Leather Handbags
from \$9⁹⁵ to \$36⁰⁰



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Indian Wampum —
handcrafted by
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Because we care
at

Your Place

We have brought south
Ursula of Switzerland
to make a woman feel like a woman

the tailored elegance of
Lord & Tann's


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Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Sun., Noon-5 p.m.

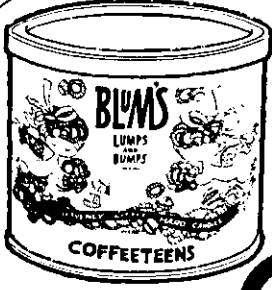


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 24 hours a day

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groups who tour behind the scenes and to wish a "happy birthday" to a youngster having a party at McDonalds. Geary estimates close to 50 such birthday parties are held every month. The parent buys the food and McDonalds supplies favors, hats, a cake and a hostess. One party recently included 50 children and one very happy parent who didn't have to clean up afterwards.

Cheryl Marks

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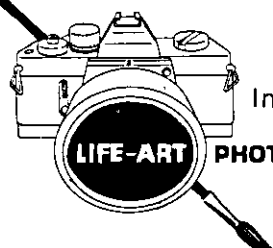


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George Vichot

New scoutmaster named

George Vichot has been named scoutmaster of Troop 75, Boy Scouts of America, sponsored by the men's association of the First United Methodist Church, Delmar. He succeeds Gerald DeMeur, who has resigned.

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mr. charles
beautiful shoes
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December 10-11

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 Pick and Tag Yours Now
 30,000 Trees
\$7.00 ANY SIZE
 Follow signs west on Rte. 32 from Faura Bush
 7 mi. from Delmar, 12 mi. from Albany
DRYDEN'S
 (WEEKENDS)
 Weekdays: call for appt. 768-2126 evs.



Kathryn Morton and charge

A teaching 'dream' for Delmar girl

The vacation resort of Martha's Vineyard off the Massachusetts coast gained national notoriety because of "Jaws," but for a Delmar student it is the site of a dream teaching assignment.

Kathryn Morton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morton, 116 Westchester Dr., is one of a small group of Wheelock College students selected to participate in a unique rural education program on the island.

She and the other Wheelock College students are learning firsthand about teaching in a rural environment through her job observing and working with young children in a local school. Teaching is just part of Kathryn's responsibilities as a participant in the rural education program. She also works closely with the parents of her pupils and attends town meetings.

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Delmar student cited

Catherine Whitney, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Eugene P. Whitney of Delmar has been awarded the IMASCO scholarship award for Canadian Studies. Miss Whitney is a first-year student at State University of New York at Plattsburgh and will begin studies next fall at McGill University in Montreal. She is a 1976 graduate of Bethlehem Central School where she was a member of the National Honor Society.

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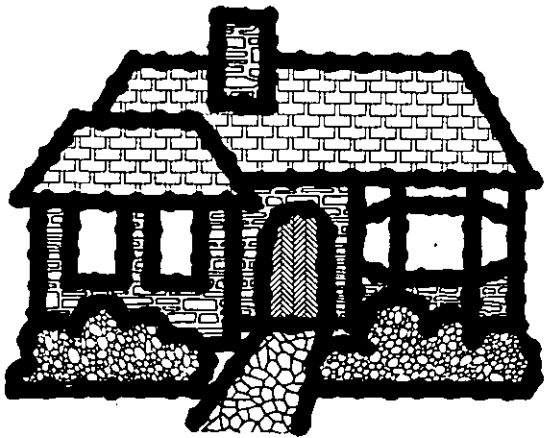
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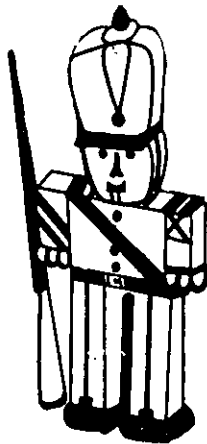
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Vox Pop

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.

Restructure school aid

Editor, The Spotlight:

Current discussion of state aid to education and proposals for action by the governor and legislature next year fail to recognize sufficiently the following:

- that actual, mandated, and contractual obligations of school districts in the state have increased irrespective of declining enrollments;

- that many school districts have made real and often painful economies by closing neighborhood schools, laying off teachers (ironically adding to state unemployment and welfare compensation caseloads), increasing class sizes, and cutting programs;

- that school districts with more efficient management programs and improved levels of pupil performance are being threatened with loss of even more state assistance; that the tax base of more than 750 school districts varies by a ratio of more than 40 to 1 between the richest and poorest districts;

- that over-burdened municipalities with more costly services and programs are restricted by fixed constitutional borrowing and taxing limits

- and that the state's true share of financing public elementary and secondary education has declined from an overall average of 48 percent in 1968 to 39 percent today.

Although the state government is constitutionally responsible for education of all children within its jurisdiction, state aid has *not* been adequate in recent years nor has it offset variations in district to district in taxable rate per pupil. Ris-

ing local residential property taxes are regressive (i.e. bear no direct relationship to true ability to pay) and are forcing senior citizens, those on fixed incomes and those who have suffered a loss in income to give up their homes. Young couples especially those with families cannot afford suitable homes in today's grossly inflated real estate market.

Some constructive proposals which have been suggested include:

- Establish some kind of statewide property tax, fairly and equitably administered, which would adjust for disparities between high wealth and low wealth areas, rather than continue to force local school districts to increase local property taxes each year.

- Consider other sources of state revenue. Ensure that revenues from the new lottery actually go toward educational expenses as intended by legislature.

- Provide extra compensation for higher cost of living differences.

- Set forth a plan on a long range basis rather than the customary "crisis" approach each year.

I would urge all citizens to write their opinions to Governor Hugh Carey, State Capitol, Albany, the Commissioner of Education, and their local legislators on this subject. Do it today!

Delmar Janet Butlin

Public be clammed

Editor, The Spotlight:

The majority of the Albany County legislators — 26 Democrats and Democrat-Republican Edward Sargent — do not appear interested in the views of the people. They have scheduled a public hearing on the county budget in the middle of the afternoon!

Do these legislators expect us to lose time from work to

KIDS: Santa Claus is coming to the Delaware Plaza Saturday, December 11

attend this forum? Don't they realize it would be more convenient to have the hearing at night? In these times of high taxes it is necessary to have various inputs in the budget process.

I urge the citizens of Albany County to contact their legislators and request them to reschedule the hearing of the budget to an early evening time and to attend this meeting.

Albany *Richard F. Cooklish*

BC '42, where are you?

Vox Pop has received a letter from Charles A. Gunner, principal of Bethlehem Central High School, asking the Spotlight to seek information on members of the school's class of 1942. The request comes from Calvin E. Conklin, a member of the class who is a motion picture production specialist at Penn State University, and who left Delmar after graduation and served four years in the Air Force in World War 2. "The only person of my class whose whereabouts I know is Eva Marie Saint," Conklin writes. "I would welcome any information as to this class." Anyone wishing to furnish information about classmates may write Calvin E. Conklin, Mitchell Instructional Services Bldg., University Park, Pa. 16802.

A student replies

Editor, The Spotlight:

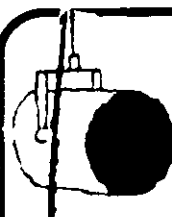
I have been reading about the dilemma of the nine youths. After reading Mrs. Robertson's reply I thought I should say something also. I sympathize with the nine youths because I ran into the same problem of boredom too. The problem I'm also facing now in writing this is, that in being a student at Alfred State College, I realize how spoiled we were, and how much we had it made. I also see the need for youths to burn off some steam after a week of school work. I think that teenagers who are as intel-

ligent as ours are like their parents, in that after a week of work they just don't want to think about it anymore. When Friday night comes, they (the teenagers) would rather just go out and enjoy themselves.

As far as Mrs. Robertson's ideas are concerned, I think they would be great if we were all boy scouts and girl scouts. The problem is we're not. We've been blitzed so badly by mass media that we spend a lot of time just trying to find ourselves. Trying to couple this together with Mrs. Robertson's suggestions is a real problem. I think it would be great to help the shut-ins, but after a week of school a lot of people just don't feel very loving, or calm, cool and collected. I hate to say it, but along with the work comes the pressure and an urge to just go. Now when one gets home, sure it would be nice to pitch in a hand to take care of the chores, but that could be the reason why the teenagers are out on the town, because the parents nagged them so much they couldn't stand it any longer.

Another suggestion was that these youths get involved with sports or music. The reason why a lot of people don't get involved with these activities is because they are turned off by the attitudes of the people involved. In other words, social acceptance becomes a problem. You begin to hear comments about the burn-outs, the jocks and of course the intellectuals. These youths simply want activities they can relate to. I think we're fortunate in this too, because there is a movement in Delmar which takes care of a percentage of the problems. It's called Campus Life. Campus Life is an organization dedicated to teenagers. I think Campus Life is one of the relevant solutions to the problem. One other solution I was given was to reopen The Pit, which I think is a good idea. Remember that place, folks? It's underneath the Middle School. Thought I'd mention it. Thank you.

Kenneth Daniel McIntyre
Alfred State College



SPOTLIGHT on community corner

The Gift of Life

December is Gift of Life Month in the Capital District, and on Tuesday it will be observed in the Tri-Village area.

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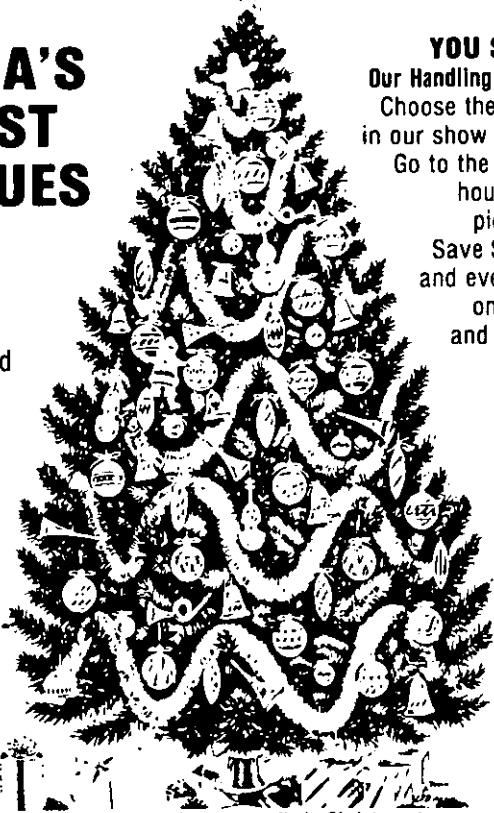
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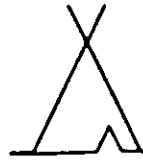


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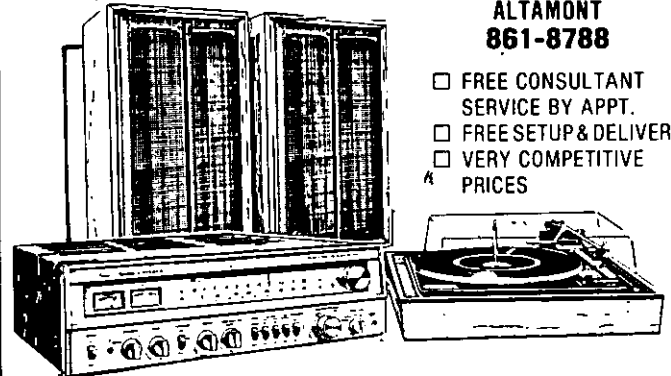
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