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# The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

Bethlehem Public Library

December 23, 1976  
Vol. XXII, No. 52

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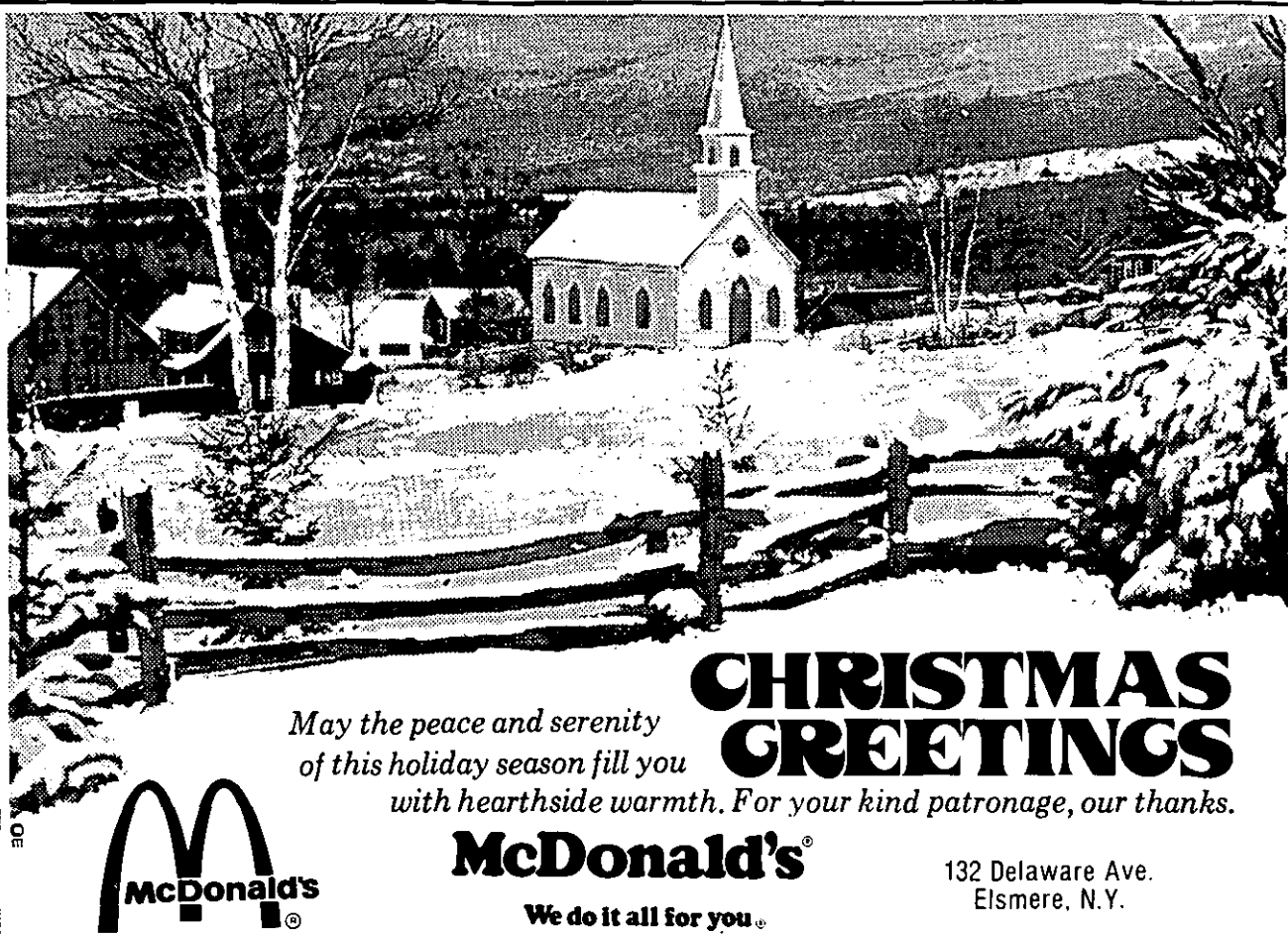
*Graphic newsweekly serving the towns of Bethlehem, New Scotland and nearby communities*

## Merry Christmas to All!



*New Scotland 1976*

*Life Art photo*



*May the peace and serenity  
of this holiday season fill you  
with hearthside warmth. For your kind patronage, our thanks.*

**CHRISTMAS  
GREETINGS**

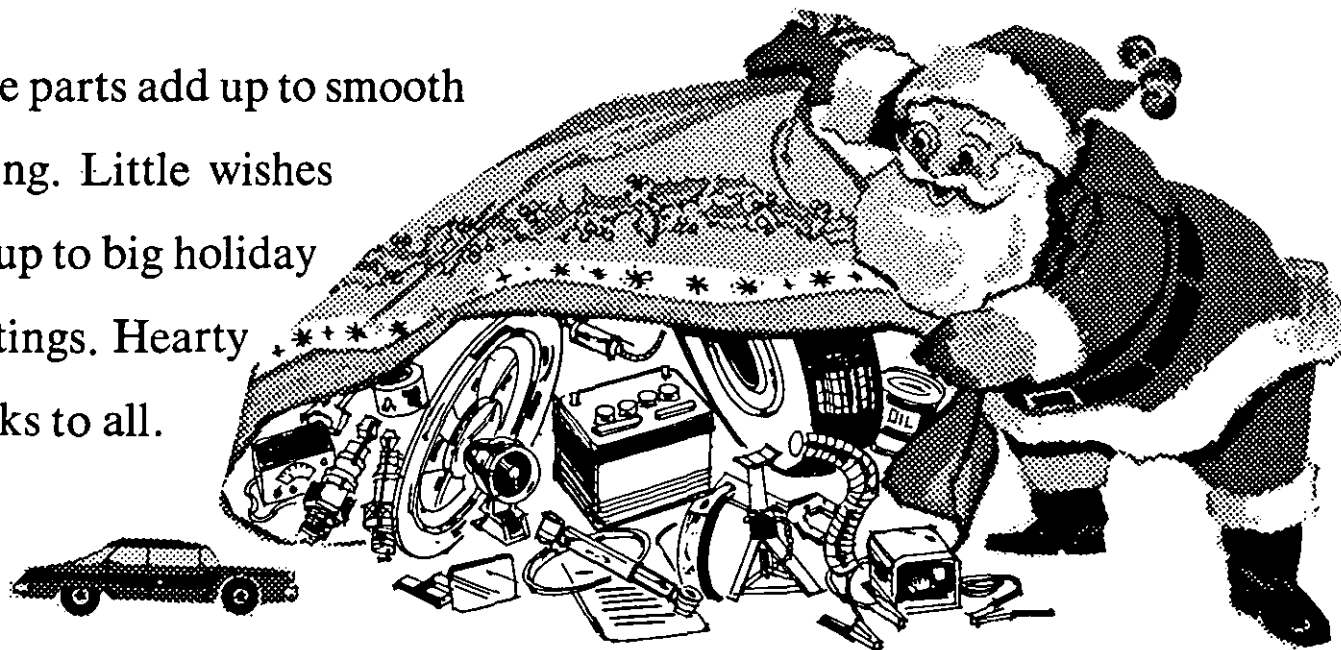
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add up to big holiday  
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thanks to all.



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Spotlight

is published every Thursday except the last week of February, first week of July and first week of Sept. by Newsgraphics, Inc., 414 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, N.Y. 12054. Controlled circulation, postage paid at Delmar, N.Y. News and ad deadline 4 p.m. Friday for following week's issue. Phone 439-4949.



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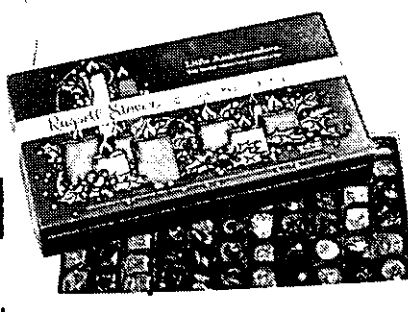
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# Christmas Blessings

*May the heavenly Christmas Star shine upon us and lead us all to blessed peace. Gratefully, we extend season's greetings.*

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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.

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

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**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., Elmsmere, 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.

**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.

# 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.

## ART

Exhibition, paintings and drawings by Albert Handell, Albany Institute of History and Art, through Feb. 6.

## FILM

"Nights of Cabiria," (Italy, 1957), Academy Award film directed by Federico Fellini, and "Wild Child," (France, 1970), directed by Francois Truffaut, Cohoes Music Hall, Dec. 27, 7:30 p.m. Tickets at door, \$2. Reservations call box office, 237-7700.

"City Lights," Charles Chaplin melancholy classic, Harmanus Bleeker Library, 19 Dove St., Albany, Jan. 4, 8 p.m. Free.

## SPECIAL PROGRAM

A special Christmas Eve program will be presented by Station WAMC, Albany, 90.3 on the FM dial: 7:30 Carl Orff's "The Christmas Story," for children, from Toronto; 8 — Original production of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," with Lionel Barrymore as Scrooge; 8:30 — Cleveland Orchestra's Christmas concert with chorus and a children's chorus; 11 — "Amahl and the Night Visitors," beloved Christmas opera, original cast.

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## MEDICAL PERSONNEL POOL



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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 Monday, 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.

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

Exhibit of watercolors and drawings by David Coughtry, Bethlehem Library, through Dec. 30.

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve services in churches throughout the community. Call the church of your choice for times of services.

The Bethlehem Library will be closed from 5 p.m. until Monday, Dec. 27.

Bethlehem Town Hall will be closed all day.

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Baseball Dinner, in honor of Blanchard Post 1040 American Legion baseball team, Post rooms, Poplar Dr., Elsmere. Call 439-3271 for information.

### MONDAY, JANUARY 3

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# The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

Nathaniel A. Boynton  
Editor-Publisher  
John C. Bennett  
Sales Manager  
Arline M. Holder  
Office Manager

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

439-4949

NATIVITY 1976

## Christmas in the churches

Churches have been busy planning choir programs, candlelight services and special activities for this festive holiday season. The nativity scene on the corner of the Delmar Reformed Church's lot is owned by the Chamber of Commerce and serves as a reminder of the other Bethlehem.

A live version of the nativity again will be presented in front of the First United Methodist Church in Delmar. Members of the senior high youth group will enact the manger scene every 15 minutes between 6:30 and 7:30 on Christmas Eve. The live nativity will lead up to the 7:30 family service. The church's two younger choirs, grades 3 through 8, will present a special cantata. At this service the children of the congregation are always delighted when they are allowed to gather around Mary, Joseph and a real baby Jesus.

The 11 p.m. service will be a candlelight service with music from the Youth and Chancel choirs. The three ministers will portray the inn keeper, a shepherd and one of the wise men, and their reaction to the birth of Jesus.

The Unionville Reformed Church enjoyed a potluck family supper and continued in the spirit of fellowship with a Wednesday night caroling party. The church's traditional Christmas Eve service will be at 8.

St. Matthew's Church in Voorheesville had a tree trimming ceremony. Christmas

Eve masses will be at 5, 7:30 and midnight. Services Christmas morning will be at 10 and 12:15.

Each year the Delmar Reformed Church takes several busloads of carolers to homes of shut-ins. After the caroling the singers return to the church for sandwiches and coke and a church school pageant. Gifts are put under the tree for area families whose Christmas might not be so cheerful otherwise.

The church school pageant will be repeated at the Christmas Eve service at 7. At 11 the service will be brightened by candlelight.

Christmas Sunday at the Delmar Presbyterian church features a White Manger Gift service. The congregation brings toys, food or clothing wrapped in white to place in the manger and then to be distributed to needy families in the area. At the 7 o'clock Christmas Eve service, 12 youthful "disciples" will start the candlelighting. The church's holiday activities will end on Jan. 5, Epiphany. The evening dessert meeting will include a last singing of carols.

The Community United Methodist Church, Slingerlands, presented their annual Christmas concert to an appreciative audience. The church will have a Christmas Eve candlelighting service at 7:30.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be aglow with candles as lights on the trees compliment the candles at the end of the



Andrew L. Jones

Christmas 1976: Mary Heathwaite, Rob McEwen, Shari Varney

aisles and highlight the congregation as they hold their own candles at 7:30 on Christmas Eve.

The congregation of the Clarksville Community Reformed Church enjoyed a Christmas play put on by the church school classes. On Wednesday night carolers from the church went singing throughout the area. At 8 on Christmas Eve the church will have a candlelight service.

Christmas masses will be held at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Delmar and special services at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Elsmere, the New Scotland Presbyterian Church, New Salem Reformed Church and Bethlehem Community Church. All residents and visitors are invited to join in these services and others throughout the area and to enjoy the beauty, peace and solemnity of candlelight at Christmas.

## BETHLEHEM Town debating tax cutbacks

Bethlehem town board is expected to take prompt action — perhaps as early as Jan. 5 — on the controversial issue of offering partial tax exemptions to new or expanding local businesses.

The question was scheduled for public discussion at a town hall hearing this week (Wednesday). Last week the Bethlehem board of education and the chairman of the town board of assessors came out in favor of repeal and the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce in favor of the exemptions. The school board vote was 6-1, the chamber vote 9-6, which indicated good arguments for and against the proposal.

Speaking for the town board, Supervisor Harry H. Sheaffer said earlier this week: "We have a wait-and-see attitude. We will examine the results of the public hearing very

carefully before making a determination."

The new law, passed by the Legislature last spring and signed into law by Gov. Hugh L. Carey two weeks ago, gives new businesses a 50 percent exemption on local property taxes the first year, 45 percent the second year, and declining in 5-percent graduations over a 10-year period. Existing businesses investing \$10,000 or more in expansions and improvements will qualify for the same exemptions on the expansions only. The law is designed to attract new businesses and industries to New York State and to encourage present businesses to expand their facilities.

If the town board votes to institute a local law to repeal or modify the state law, the local law would be subject to a permissive referendum by town voters. Residents would have 30 days to petition for such a plebescite, after which the town board would be required to set a date for the voting. If the

town board fails to act, the state law takes effect May 1.

The issue got an airing at last week's regular meeting of the board of education before the panel voted to reject the exemption proposal. The lone dissenting vote was cast by Robert R. Zick, the board's newest member, who argued that instead of eroding the tax base, "it actually increases the tax base." Zick also contended that if other communities reject the proposal and Bethlehem accepts it, the town would be in a favorable position to attract new businesses.

Bernard Harvith declared that the new law would permit a business "to come in and compete" with local businesses of long standing. He added that district property owners "who have paid taxes all these years don't want the school board to betray them."

Board President Ann Patton said this week that "essentially the idea that residents and existing businesses would have to bear the tax load that other-

wise would be spread evenly is not an appropriate thing to do."

At last week's monthly meeting of the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce local businessmen took the opposite stand. They ignored the argument that the exemptions discriminate against established local businesses, and felt the tax concessions were necessary to compete with other communities in attracting new businesses.

Sheaffer attended the session, and charged the Legislature with "putting the burden not on the state where it belongs, but on local school districts, towns and villages."

Colonie's town board will meet Monday night to take action on the issue, and the Guilderland town board will hold a public hearing before making a move. Several school districts in the Capital District have already rejected the exemption mandate.

county Legislature got into a hassle over certain budget items, the small cadre of Republicans found themselves split. At issue was a package of 18 items in the social services segment of the budget that had been vetoed by Coyne, who also submitted a budget of his own. Four of the 11 Republicans voted with the 28 Democrats who rule the body, including Mike Ricci of Voorhees-



Edward H. Sargent

## POLITICS

### Sargent squeezed in factional fight

As one of the two original Republicans in the Albany County Legislature when that body was formed Jan. 1, 1968, Delmar's Ed Sargent is accustomed to the futility of belonging to an overwhelmed minority. It was only slightly embarrassing to be a Republican endorsed by the Democrats in last fall's campaign, but it was more so to be assailed by newspaper letter-writers for criticising what he called the "hypocrisy" of both Democratic and Republican legislators on the county budget.

What got Sargent into trouble was voting to reject a change in the time for the county budget hearing from late afternoon to early evening. A flurry of letters to the Albany dailies and suburban weeklies roasted the lawmakers for holding their budget hearing at an hour when most active people were unable to attend because of their jobs.

When Albany County Executive James J. Coyne and the

ville, like Sargent one of the original Republicans on the panel, and Don Munn, who represents Slingerlands and parts of Guilderland. Sargent, a member of the finance committee, voted to sustain Coyne's veto.

In a companion move the legislature also voted to boost the salary of County Attorney Robert L. Lyman from \$16,700 to \$30,000. The action incensed Coyne, who vetoed it, and Ann Rose, a Guilderland nurse-housewife who is minority leader of the county legislature. In a press statement Mrs. Rose called the action "scandalous" and "the height of irresponsibility." In the statement, in which she was joined by County GOP Chairman George P. Scaringe, she said the nearly 80-percent raise for a part-time position "is a slap in the face to each and every person who voted for that county charter form of government." Ralph Pape, a member of the finance committee, was

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the only Republican to vote for the raise, and one Democrat deserted the majority ranks on the vote.

Meanwhile Sargent issued a statement that said, in part: "It is disturbing to me that I am caught in the middle of a battle between two factions of the Democratic party. It is more disturbing that the real losers in this battle are the citizens of Albany County." Sargent also reiterated his support of the county executive concept contained in the charter form of government adopted by the county a year ago. But neither his statement nor the Rose-Scaringe statement mentioned the defections in the GOP ranks.

## Mail volume up in holiday crunch

Christmas mail volume peaked earlier than usual, and parcel post and stamp sales ran ahead of last year. That's the consensus of U.S. Postal Service officials in a Spotlight survey of local postoffices.

Postmasters in Delmar, Glenmont, Selkirk, Voorheesville and Slingerlands agreed the government's appeal for earlier mailing deadlines for Christmas packages and cards had helped to ease the postal logjams that customarily clog mail flow at this time of year. "People responded very well," observed Nancy D'Arpino, Voorheesville postmaster. "They got their cards in the mail early, and the big rush in parcels peaked last week."

Henry Betke, Delmar postmaster, reported that "sales have been brisk," but that overall volume for the season was "about the same as last year." Edna Falkner, Glenmont postmaster, said stamp sales were down slightly, but the total outgoing mail was up 5 percent. In Slingerlands Maurie Flanigan, postmaster, said stamp sales were up somewhat compared to a year ago. Her batch of 50,000 Christmas stamps ran out last week. The volume was down in Selkirk, where

postal business fell off 10 percent last year and according to Postmaster Lou Picarazzi "probably will drop another 10 percent this year." He blamed the skid on the 13-cent stamp.

Parcel post mailings from Selkirk, Delmar and Voorheesville were at record levels because of the United Parcel Service strike, now settled, but were relatively unaffected in Slingerlands and Glenmont where the clientele is almost entirely residential. The heavier volume of incoming packages attributed to the strike was felt everywhere.

Several postmasters felt the steady rise in postal rates had caused many people to either cut down on their Christmas cards or cut them out altogether.

Mrs. Falkner said the sales of special philatelic gift packs of stamps for collectors in Glenmont "has been very good."

## J. Hendrick Terry

The New York Times has reported the death of J. Hendrick Terry, a former chief assistant United States attorney for the Southern District of New York and a member of the family who founded Font Grove in Slingerlands. Mr. Terry died Dec. 9 at his home in Tucson, Ariz. He was 77.

James Hendrick Terry was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thaddeus Terry. His mother, the former Katherine Hendrick, was the daughter of James Hendrick, founder of Font Grove. The Terry house, a colonial dwelling at the intersection of Font Grove Rd. and Upper Font Grove Rd., is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carnell. The house is barely 200 feet from the D&H crossing, where many years ago stood the Font Grove station used by commuters and summer residents of the area when local passenger trains were in regular service.



Delmar's Bernard Ashe, right, in Israel with Moshe Dayan, former Israeli defense minister, and Mrs. Dayan.

## On Israel mission

Bernard Ashe, Albany counsel for the New York State United Teachers, AFL-CIO was a member of a group of labor attorneys who recently toured Israel, meeting with

government officials, labor leaders and lawyers in that country. Ashe resides in Delmar with his wife, Grace, and their two children.



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**GLENMONT**  
**Staff growing  
at Job Corps**

Eight more staff positions have been filled by the Singer Company at the New York Job Corps center at the Our Lady of Angels seminary on Rt. 144 in Glenmont.

The hirings have taken place over the past several weeks despite a pending decision in U.S. District Court that could result in an injunction against the U.S. Labor Dept., which operates through contractors in administering some 60 Job Corps centers in the U.S. A ruling by Chief Judge James T. Foley of Troy on a show cause action brought by the town of Bethlehem has been expected momentarily.

Meanwhile, John Lauder of Loudonville has been named finance supervisor and Walter Kyte of Selkirk purchasing agent for the Glenmont facility. Both are former state employees.

Other recent appointments include Claire Beams of Schenectady, supervisor of maintenance and logistics; Irene Johnson, Albany, finance clerk; Joseph Koonces, Delmar, maintenance engineer; Mrs.

Betty Rosato, Selkirk, secretary; Janet Wilson, Selkirk, clerk-typist, and Richard Martone, custodial maintenance.

**GLENMONT**  
**Subdivision gets  
a green light**

Preliminary plans for the Glen Manor subdivision in Glenmont have been given conditional approval by the Bethlehem planning board. The action last week by the seven-member panel gives the developer, A. T. Zautner & Son, Inc., six months to submit a final plat for the project.

The Zautner firm plans to develop 35 lots for single-family dwellings on the south side of Feura Bush Rd. on the west side of the Bicentennial Woods subdivision now in preliminary construction stages. The area is in a Single-A residential zone, which requires a minimum of 8,500 square feet per building lot.

In giving the tentative go-ahead, the board stated its actions were conditional on the developer obtaining clearance from the state Dept. of Transportation for the curb cut for



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the proposed Manor Dr. access on Feura Bush Rd., and obtaining clearance from the DOT on certain drainage prob-

lems. State approval is necessary because the proposed Manor Dr. access road intersects with a state highway.



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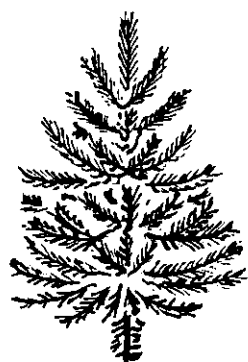
Santa's helper, Joseph E. Hoptay of the Albany Area Red Cross Blood Program, flanked by Alice Swanson, left, and James C. Angus of the Schenectady chapter, pose with the Gift of Life sign in Capitol Park, Albany. Anyone in good health between the ages of 17 and 66 with a minimum body weight of 110 pounds can be a blood donor.

#### League of Arts gift

Albany League of Arts has announced that subscriptions to the Performing Arts Sampler Series (PASS) are again being made available as gifts this year. League Executive Director Carol Bullard noted that the \$15 PASS subscription

includes free tickets to 10 events, two-for-one tickets for 15 others, a one year subscription to "Kite" and membership in the League.

Gift subscriptions at \$15 may be obtained from the Albany League of Arts, 135 Washington Avenue, Albany 12210.

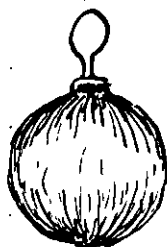


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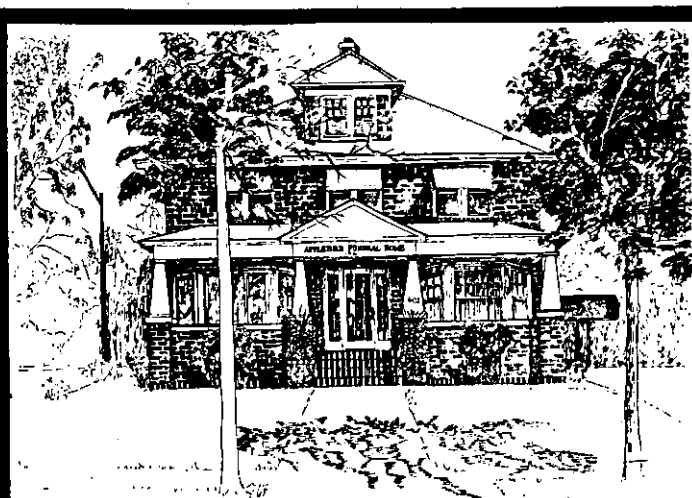
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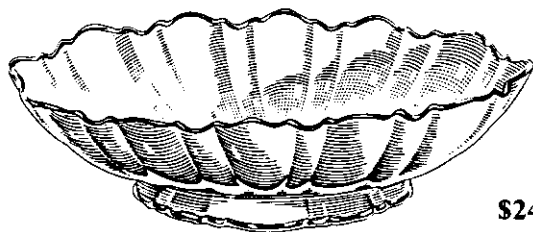
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## Date extended for snow queen

Bethlehem's most beautiful teenage girls apparently are as shy as they are fair. Sponsors of the town's annual Winter Carnival scheduled for next month report that fewer than half a dozen entries in the Snow Queen contest had been received up to last weekend.

To encourage more entries, the Parks and Recreation Dept. has extended the entry deadline to 4 p.m. Friday, Christmas Eve. Candidates may register at the department's office at Elm Ave. Park up to that time.

The queen and her court will be crowned at the colorful carnival at the park on Jan. 15. She will reign over a wide range of events including a snow sculpture contest, an old fashioned family skating party featuring free hot cider and doughnuts, skating races in five age categories, snowmobile rides and demonstrations, and a cross-country skiing clinic.

Carnival sponsors are the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce, Bethlehem Elks Lodge, Nathaniel Adams Blanchard American Legion Post, Helderberg Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club, Hanson's Trail North and the town's park department.

## Wins Kiwanis pin

Kiwanis Club of Delmar has presented Lawson Curtis with a 42-year perfect attendance pin.

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to our friends  
and patrons



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CARD SHOP**  
Four Corners

*Hope the  
holiday  
season  
lifts your  
spirit with  
happiness,  
laughter.  
Thanks  
to all the  
folks we  
have had  
the  
pleasure  
of serving.*



**GOCHEE'S GARAGE INC.**  
DELAWARE AVENUE, DELMAR

## Owens-Corning venture

Prince Abdallah Al Faisal Al Seoud, Amiantit Co. Ltd. of Dammam, Saudi Arabia, and Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp. U.S.A., have agreed to form a joint venture company to manufacture and market Fiberglas-reinforced plastic pipe in Saudi Arabia. The new company will establish pipe manufacturing facilities in Saudi Arabia using Owens-Corning's continuous production process.

## Speed limit set

Bethlehem town board has set a 30 m.p.h. speed limit on the full length of Willowbrook Ave., South Bethlehem, following a public hearing on the proposal to amend the traffic ordinance for that area. Fifteen residents appeared at the hearing. Previously no speed restrictions were in effect on the residential street.

## Realty hearing set

Bethlehem planning board has set Jan. 4 for a public hearing on a petition by Evelyn H. Essex of Glenmont to sell approximately an acre and a quarter of land adjacent to her house on Feura Bush Rd. The tract involved has 348 feet of frontage on Feura Bush Rd. approximately 400 feet east of the entrance to the Colonial Acres subdivision.



*We at Aquarius wish to all of you a very Merry Christmas and the best of all possible New Years. Also a big thanks to all of our customers, you're the greatest!*

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Thurs. 9:00-12:00; Sat. 8:30-1:00

Closed Xmas eve. & New Year's eve at 1:00 p.m.



## Program for retarded

Albany County Cooperative Extension Assn. is looking into ways to set up an employment program in Albany County to match employable mentally retarded adults with farmers and agricultural producers who are in need of manual labor. A similar innovative program in Georgia has been successful in helping handicapped people realize their employment potential and offering farmers and agricultural producers a manual labor pool.

The Extension is in the process of determining the manual labor needs in the county in terms of seasons, part and full-time, and the tasks involved. If you need manual help now or in the spring, please contact Kathy Wall or George Hecht at 765-2331(32). Both are Voorheesville residents. If there is sufficient need for and interest in the program, a meeting will be held with potential employers and representatives from social service agencies to discuss wages, transportation, screening and supervision of employees and the placement process.

## Reception at seminary

Approximately 50 residents of the Cedar Hill-Van Wies Pt. area attended an informal reception at the New York Job

Corps center at the invitation of the Singer Company last Wednesday evening. John N. Acquilano, director of the center, was host at the Our Lady of Angels seminary in Glenmont.

## Blackbirds face tourney action

Voorheesville Central's basketball team will be in Cobleskill Tuesday and Wednesday for the annual Christmas tournament. Coach Howard Smith's team, 3-1 in league play before the holiday break, got a taste of tournament action this week in a four-team event at Middleburgh.

The Blackbirds will face Canajoharie in the Cobleskill opener. The jayvees also will participate in the tourney.

In last week's action Voorheesville rolled past Ichabod Crane, 70-52, and edged out Averill Park in overtime, 71-70. Mark Michele had 19 points against IC and Billy Kinisky hit for 13 points and grabbed 11 rebounds. The Blackbirds had a 14-point lead at halftime and were never contested.

Against Averill Park Michele was again high with 24 points. The jayvees won both games, 60-43 over Ichabod Crane and 64-43 over Averill Park.

## New 'sub' shop in Voorheesville

Allan Hood, who has lived 21 of his 23 years in Voorheesville, is the village's newest and youngest businessman. Last week he opened Doc's Subs, a submarine sandwich shop at 3 South Main St.

Allan got his training from his landlord, Mike Giagi, who formerly ran a pizza shop at the Stonewell shopping center and now has a pizza and submarine sandwich shop in Ravena.

The new shop owner is a graduate of Voorheesville Central High School. He worked as an auto mechanic before starting his new business.

## UNIONVILLE

### Playhouse getting anniversary facelift

The Slingerlands Players are celebrating their 25th anniversary of serving the tri-village area with professional quality theater.

It started in the spring of 1952 as an offshoot of a theater group at the Community Church in Slingerlands. At first rehearsals were held at members' homes, later in the old Slingerlands fire hall and for a long time on the second floor of the building next to the new fire department, which has been a postoffice, grocery store and now houses the Golden Acorn Shop.

The first play was "The Male Animal" directed by Mrs. Ruth Wilbur of Slingerlands. Originally two plays were scheduled for each year, then three and now four. The Players also progressed from performing at the Slingerlands grade school to the junior high to the senior high. The senior high had a big stage to fill and was expensive to rent, so seven years ago the Players bought their own playhouse.

An old building was purchased in Unionville. The structure was an inn at the turn

of the century and for several decades was a country store. Most of the timbers of the ceiling have been exposed, and an effort, limited by needs, has been made to preserve the spirit of the old building. An old bronze cash register that formerly served the store now rings up ticket sales at the box office.

The Players are celebrating their silver anniversary with extensive renovations to the rambling old inn. Ongoing projects include parking lot improvements, a new heating system and a redesigned seating pattern.

### Earns Hobart letter

Richard V. Salembier 3rd, 4 Tamarack Dr., Delmar, has been awarded a varsity letter as a member of the cross country team at Hobart College, Geneva. He is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School.

### Retired Men's party

The Retired Men's Fraternity is honoring Gracie Bashford, the fraternity's "sweetheart," on her 104th birthday at the group's annual Christmas party at noon today (Dec. 23) at Mario's Restaurant, Troy.



We wish you a  
**HAPPY  
HOLIDAY SEASON!**

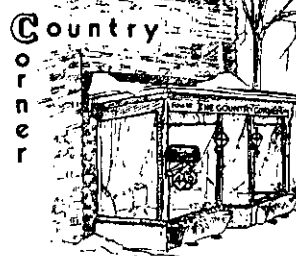


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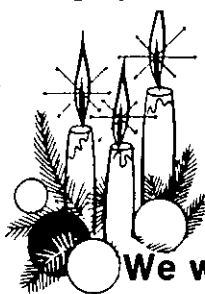
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Getting out the Gazette: Fourth graders Chrissy Breslin, Chip Manley, Tony Cardona, Tracey Asmus, Kathy Dempf, Karin McCoy, Elizabeth Russo, Jared King, Ken Myatt, Kathy Lana-



han, Andrew Kassius, Billy Webb and Mrs. Komisar. Above, Leslie Gould interviews Mrs. Patterson for the 5P News.

#### HAMAGRAEL NEWSPAPERS

## New competition for the Spotlight

As American as apple pie and baseball is freedom of the press. Two classes at Hamagrael Elementary grade school are learning some basic principles of the journalism business by publishing their own newspapers.

Mrs. Archer's fourth grade class has been fortunate to have the help of a volunteer mother, Mrs. Jerome Komisar, in publishing the "Class Room

Gazette." The paper, originally intended as a means of informing parents of school activities, has broadened its readership and in the process has doubled in size.

The class has five editors who make decisions regarding story ideas, and "staff" assignments as to who writes what story. The children are learning to involve and interest the reader in what they are writing.

*Story by Cheryl Marks*

*Photos by Lynne Jonquieres*

After the stories are written and proofread, the hard decision is made as to what articles can be used in the issue. The editors take into consid-

eration space limitations and reader preferences. Then, with the help of Mrs. Komisar, the paper is laid out, typed and printed.

Season's  
Greetings

FROM THE  
EMPLOYEES OF

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Family**

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MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY  
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Tracey Asmus, an art editor, with Mrs. Archer



The newspaper has been "evolving naturally" said Mrs. Archer. When the staff decided that the rest of the school might enjoy reading the paper, a Dear Gabby column and puzzles were added.

Hawkers were selling the paper for 2c, and from the results of their sales, the class should find out if they have succeeded in including news of interest to all students.

Mrs. Archer's class is working on their fourth issue, but fifth graders in Mrs. Patterson's class are relative newcomers to the field with only one issue of the "5 P News" printed thus far.

Other than general news and the advice column, the fifth grade reporters also conducted interviews. In an exclusive interview with Mr. Schaefer, Hamagrael principal, reporters asked him, "Do you have an interesting job?" "Yes, I do," he replied. When the investigative reporters asked, "What are your problems in school?" he answered, "Paper work."

Another probing interviewer asked Mrs. Falvey, "What

made you begin to teach?" She replied, "In high school all my teachers were mean, so I decided to be a nice teacher."

Mrs. Patterson said the feedback from personnel who had been interviewed was positive. The children were prepared with a list of questions and took notes at the interview. She also noted that the reporters were good spellers, which journalism schools should find encouraging.

On top of everything else the young reporters have apparently been studying the weather, because they also offer one of the more accurate forecasts "Expect snow."

### On college program

Monica Kraft, 40 Devon Rd., Delmar, is among University of Wisconsin-Madison students completing social work internships this semester. She is interning at Mendota Mental Health Institute in Madison and Rock County Health Care Center in Janesville, Wis.

## GLASS ROOM

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Archibald: Since the 5th grades are all tied up and Mr. Schaefer said that Mrs. Archer's class was not tied up so Mrs. Quintana went to our class and asked us to help the 1st and 2nd graders to open thermoses and show which tables to sit at, and we count up the and see if they have enough money to buy icecream sandwiches, and on October 18, 1976 Karin Kody went and our first person too. Then at next Billy Web.

by Jared King  
Oct. 19, 1976  
ATHLETIC ATTACKS

Hamagrael: Ted Harro is having a play. It is about Ethan Allen and the Green Mountain Boys. It has eight actors, most of them take it seriously. It is going as Ted thought it would.

by  
Kenny Hyatt

### BIONIC DUCK COMES TO HAMAGRAEL

HAMAGRAEL: Doug Welt is doing a play for the Assembly. It is called the Bionic Duck. There are four people. Their names are: Elyssa, Heidi, Liz, and Doug. Elyssa is the Nurse and the Nurse's Sister. Heidi is the Hunter and the Introducer. Liz is the Doctor. And Doug is the Bionic Duck, and Oscar the Duckman. The Assembly is on Monday.

by Kathy Lashan

Dear Gabby,  
Every morning my sister wakes me up by taking a shower which gets me to school on time. But now she takes a shower on Tuesdays and Wednesdays mornings. So now I don't get to school on time. What should I do?  
signed  
Sleepyhead

Dear Sleepyhead,  
Tell your father to get you an alarm clock.

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**\$2.49**

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## SPECIAL ICE CREAM FLAVORS

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### NEW SCOTLAND Town assessor calls it a day

When Mike Ulion was appointed to the three-man board of assessors — and immediately named chairman — the town of New Scotland had an assessed valuation of \$2.6 million. When Mike Ulion retires on Dec. 31, his successor will be able to count more than \$12 million in the town's real estate.

"That's a lot of growth," Mike mused in his office in the hearing room of the white colonial town hall on Rt. 85 the other day. "It has come primarily from new developments, but we have also updated assessments on older properties as best we could



*Spotlight photo*

**Michael A. Ulion**

without causing too much friction."

Ulion was working at the old Duffy-Mott plant in Voorheesville when he was named to

*We wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!*



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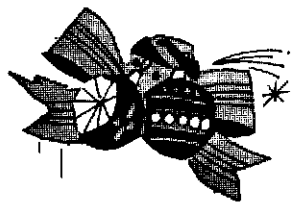
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Saturday 5 o'clock

the board of assessors to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Charles Ricci, father of the present town clerk, Corinne Cossac. That was on April 18, 1951. He was elected to one of the rotating terms that November, and reelected several times until a new state law permitted towns like New Scotland to appoint one full-time assessor instead of three part-time assessors. The town board gave him that job in October, 1971.

By that time the Duffy-Mott plant, a basic Voorheesville industry that processed cider and prune juice from local apples and from prunes brought in from California, had shut down, and Mike had put in 13 years as the fulltime custodian of the Voorheesville schools from 4 to midnight and as a part-time substitute school bus driver.

Michael Anthony Ulion was born and bred in Voorheesville in the household established by his parents shortly after they

*Merry  
Christmas*



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our many friends, we wish  
you a merry Christmas season  
topped with a rich frosting of happiness.

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Hats, Noisemakers, Buffet,  
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had come to the United States from Italy. He graduated from Bethlehem Central High School, where local boys and girls went before Voorheesville had its own high school. He went to work at Duffy-Mott, but later established his own business, a meat market in Altamont down the street from the Enterprise office. Three years later he took a job at Tobin Packing Co. in Albany.

Then came World War 2. He served in the military three years, two of them as an MP in Africa and Italy with the U.S. 5th Army. His unit arrived in Naples the day after American troops had taken the beachhead there in a bitter battle with German and Italian forces, leaving the harbor full of sunken or burned ships. After the war Mike went back to Duffy-Mott in his home town.

"The job has been very good to me," Mike reflected in a chat with a Spotlight reporter. "I've enjoyed working with the townspeople, and I'll always appreciate the fine cooperation they've always given me."

Mike will be 62 in March. He has no plans other than to take at least a year off, but he wants to stay active. That means his wife, Evelyn, will probably get him to do some painting and papering in the house on Voorheesville Ave. Their son, Dennis, and his wife, who are teaching American children at a copper mine in Cajone, Peru, want the Ullions to meet them for a vacation in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in June.

"We might just do that," Mike said.

#### On college tour

Gifford Jamison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benton Jamison, 7 Douglas Rd., Delmar, plays several characters in the Hartwick College production of "Spoon River Anthology." The production is being presented at 10 high schools during a three-week tour this month, the first tour ever undertaken by a Hartwick theater group.



## Good Wishes at Christmas

To all the friends we have had the pleasure of serving  
— wishes for a warm, old-fashioned, family-filled holiday.

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Bloomington, Illinois

## NEW SCOTLAND Garage petition denied by board

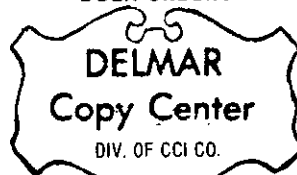
An application for a garage, service station and sales agency for auto-campers and motor vehicles on New Scotland Rd. in Slingerlands has been denied by the New Scotland zoning board of appeals in a split decision.

The board voted, 3-2, to reject the petition of Jack Bodnar, a New Scotland resident, on behalf of his daughter, Dr. Judith Bodnar. The Bodnars proposed to set up the business

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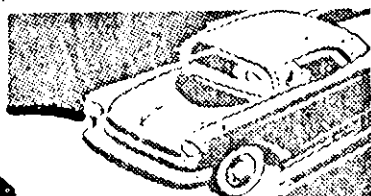
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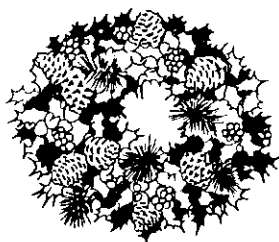
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on a lot with 234 feet of frontage on Rt. 85 and 100 feet deep. The site is owned by Wyman "Cookie" Osterhout of New Salem, and currently is occupied by a burned-out structure formerly known as the Checkered Flag bar and grill.

James Sanderson said the majority of the five-member board felt the Bodnar proposal



"was not compatible with the adjoining development of the area, particularly the Helder-vale residential area which is contiguous to the site." Sanderson pointed out that the Osterhout property is at the end of a commercially zoned area along the highway, and that the board felt the "virtually unlimited hours — 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m." would alter the character of the neighborhood.

Thomas Dolan and Richard Crannell joined Sanderson in the majority opinion. Robert Husband, chairman of the board, and Albert Dangert voted to approve the application. The petition was opposed by a number of local residents at two public hearings.



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## BC quint seeks win at Colonie

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Tuesday. Jimmy Carona's play has led Colonie to a 2-2 record.

BC ran its record to 3-1 Friday with an exciting 65-62 win over Columbia. Leading by 18 at one stage in the game, the Eagles went into the last minute of play trailing by two points. It was Mark Platel's slam dunk followed by a free throw that gave Dale Walts' squad the win. "We've been very inconsistent in all of our games," said the Eagle coach. "We'll have to settle down in the future."

Last year's leading scorer, Ed Rohrbacker, broke out of a three-game slump with a 15-point effort while Dave Bursey and Bob Engleman tallied 15 and 12 points respectively.



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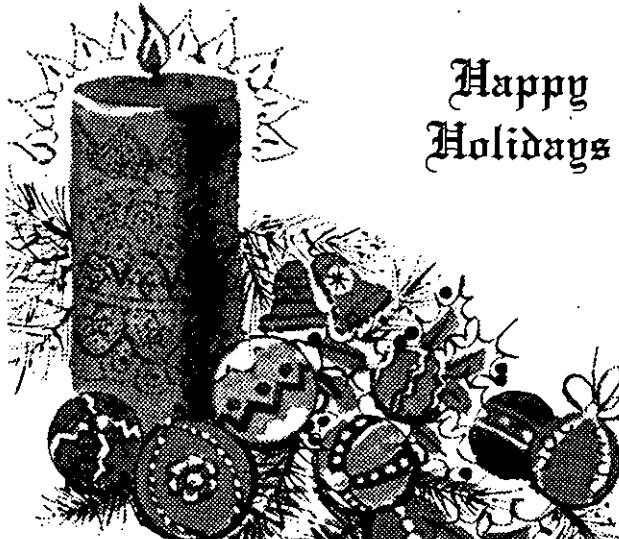
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PG

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# A tasteful restoration on the Dowerskill

By Allison P. Bennett



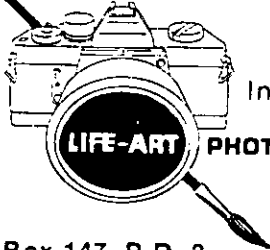
Waldbillig house: clay bricks and hand-hewn beams on Patroon land

Life-Art photo

A stone incised with the date of 1841 and the initials of James Schoonmaker and his wife is set into the entrance portico of a lovely old brick farmhouse on what is now Wemple Rd. in Glenmont.

Schoonmakers bought this land along the Dowerskill Creek from the Patroon Van Rensselaer in the 1700s, but the prosperity derived from Bethlehem's good farmland was responsible for the building of the stately home, now owned by the William Waldbilligs, who have lived here since 1945. The present Beacon Rd. was once a farm lane which led in to the property, and there was no Wemple Rd. when the house was built. Such is the path of progress!

The bricks for the house were made from the clay soil that abounds near the creek. The hand hewn beams of the house are put together with wooden pegs. The many barns



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and outbuildings needed for a working farm have vanished and the 120 acres have been given over to some new home building, but the charm of a rural atmosphere is still evident in the view of the mountains from the rear hall door. This door is surrounded by the old lilac bushes that were a part of the landscaping in every colonial homestead.

Stepping through the front entranceway, which is the classic-column, Greek Revival style of the period, one is introduced to the house by the wide front hall that runs from front to back. The open doorways provide a good circulation of air on warm summer days. A gigantic pier mirror, taken from a house in Watervliet, graces the hallway, as does the wide walnut staircase leading to the upper floors. An intriguing brass lantern with etched glass panels, imported from Germany with its candleholder inside, still hangs from the ceiling and is original to the house.

There is a heavy pine captain's chair in the hall which is said to have been in the Van Rensselaer Manor House on North Broadway in Albany.

To step into the parlor on the northwest side would warm the cockles of the heart of a lover of fine things. The wide pine floors are covered with Hamadan and Bokhara oriental rugs, and Victorian side chairs and tables and oil paint-

ings in wide gold frames grace the room. A commanding painting in a perfect setting is a life-size seated portrait of Mrs. Edward Buyck-Freund, a good friend, who gave the portrait to the Waldbilligs shortly before she died. It was painted by her husband, Edward Buyck, the Belgian-born artist who had a home and studio on McCormack Rd. in Bethlehem.

A drop-leaf table holds a fine brass student lamp with mother of pearl Tiffany shades and some lovely bronze Ormulu candlesticks. A little copper tea kettle sits by the fireplace, supported by a wrought iron stand which also is a holder for fire tools. The pine mantels of the four original fireplaces are simple and pure in line, as is the molding around the ceiling and windows. The panelled "Christian doors" with wrought iron box latches and brass knobs are in keeping with the elegant simplicity of this country home. Three rooms had to be broken up to make this one large living room and it was certainly a wise choice.

Across the hall is the dining room, large enough to take the heavy mahogany pieces which hold old silver and inter-



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esting bibelots. Behind the dining room the Waldbilligs again broke up two small room to make a very workable pine panelled kitchen, with an attractive built-in hutch that displays quantities of old china.

In years past, the room beyond the dining room to the east was the kitchen and pantry area, but the Waldbilligs made that room into an office, with the old pantry now serving as a laundry and lavatory room. However, they left the old soapstone corner sink in place as an interesting bit of memorabilia of the past. This is a dry sink — no water ever piped to it, and the drain hold would have had to have a container placed under it to catch the drippings — but it was the forerunner of the modern plumbing that we all appreciate today. Beyond this room was the outside kitchen building, but that too has disappeared over the years, although the heavy stone door sill is well worn down by the tread of many feet.

Upstairs are three large bedrooms and the bathroom, a concession to modern living, made from the old sewing room. There is a huge four-poster with tester that is said to have been made in Holland. Antique quilts are used as spreads. At the foot of a mahogany sleigh bed is a hooded cradle with Mrs. Waldbillig's mother's china head doll reposing in it. The little flax wheel is near the fireplace, complete in every detail, even to the gourd bowl that was filled with water to assist the spinner in the weaving and twisting of the linen thread! Old china toilet sets stand atop the antique dressers and the high four-poster looks very conducive to napping and dreaming of things long past.

A great deal of themselves has been put into this home by William and Grace Waldbillig, and their name for the property "Gra-Bil Acres" is truly significant. How fortunate that these tangible reminders of our past are cared for by loving hands.

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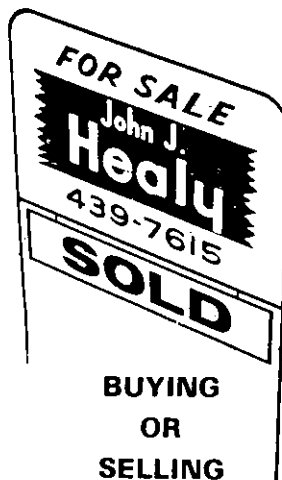
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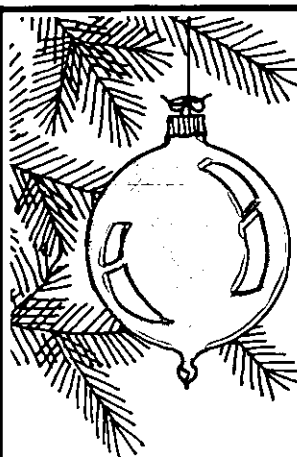
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## Community Corner

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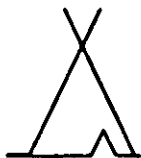
May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you and your family this season and throughout the new year.

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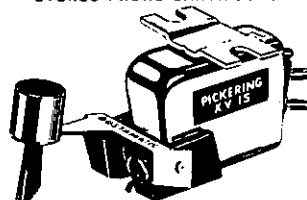
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