

# The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

January 13, 1977  
Vol. XXIII, No. 2

20¢

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

## Winter carnival Saturday

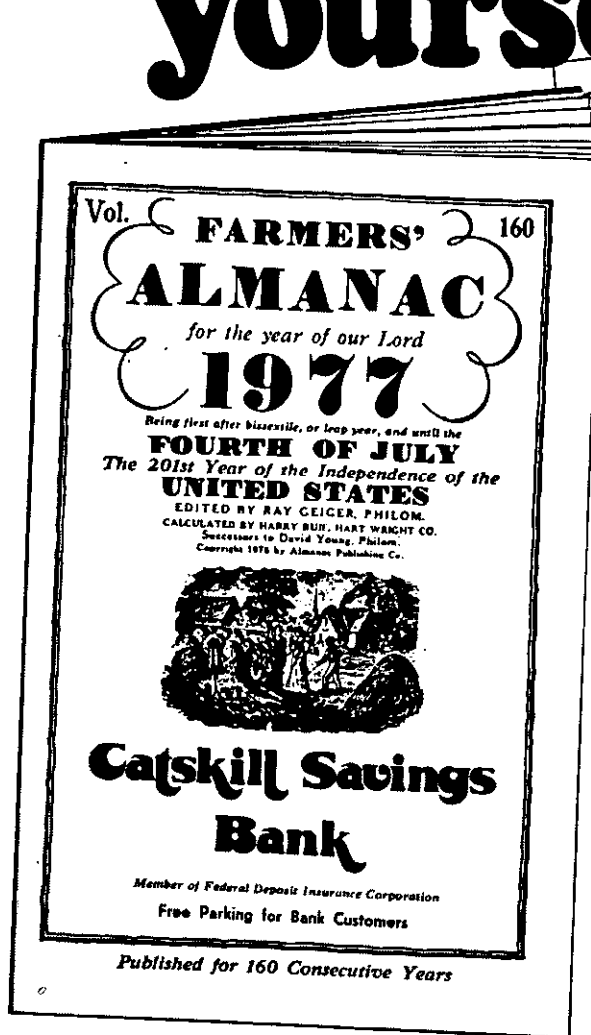
Page 7



*I love you, Timmy.*

Page 9

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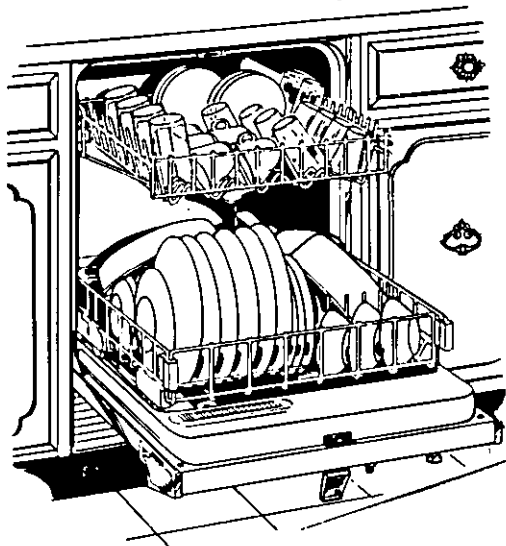
Spotlight

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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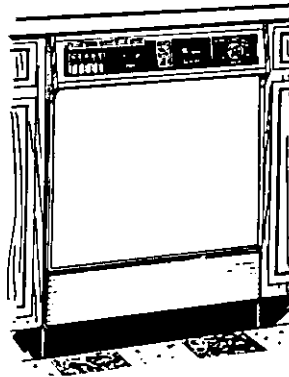
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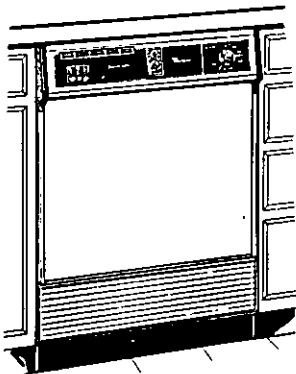
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## Spotlight CALENDAR

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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 Junlor 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.

**Bethlehem Pop Warner football**, directors and membership meet first Tuesday each month, National Commercial Bank, Delmar community room, 8 p.m.

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

**Monthly meeting**, Elsmere Fire Company Ladies' Auxiliary, firehall, 8 p.m.

**Diet Workshop**, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 7:30 p.m.

**Film: "Captain Sinbad,"** Voorheesville Public Library, 4 p.m. All ages welcomed.

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

**Games Night**, Bethlehem Library, 7 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

**Christmas Tree Recycling**, Garden Shoppe, Feura Bush Rd., Glenmont, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free.

**Cross Country Workshop** for novice and beginning skiers, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. Registration fee of \$1 must be received by the Center by Jan. 10. Refreshments.

**Plant Parenthood** class on bromeliads and begonias, plants suitable for home conditions and easy to grow, Garden Shoppe, Glenmont, 11 a.m. Free. 439-1835.

**Film: "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory,"** Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

**Bethlehem Winter Carnival**, Elm Ave. Park, all day.

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 17

**House plant course**, offered by Co-operative Extension, Martin Rd., Voorheesville 1:30-3:30 p.m. and 7:30-9:30 p.m. Pre-registration 765-2331.

# 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

"Blithe Spirit," Noel Coward classic, Cohoes Music Hall, Jan. 8-30, Wednesdays through Saturdays 8:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays matinees at 3 p.m. Box office 237-7700.

#### MUSIC

Julliard String Quartet, opening concert of second half of University Celebrity Series, Page Hall, Western Ave. at Robin St., Albany, Jan. 30, 3 p.m. \$3.50, students, senior citizens \$3. SUNYA box office 457-8606.

Albany Symphony Orchestra, Bartok violin concerto with Masako Yanagita, soloist, Beethoven 7th symphony, Palace Theater, Jan. 22, 8:30 p.m. 465-4755.

Gounod's "Faust," operalogue by Capital Artists Resident Opera Company, Cohoes Music Hall, Jan. 24-25, 8:30 a.m. Box office 237-7700.

#### ART

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

Exhibit of assemblages by Olof Haakon Jansson and linoleum prints by Melanie Roitman Snow, Rensselaer County Council for the Arts, 189 Second St., Troy, Jan. 9-28, weekdays 9-5, Sundays 2-5. Public welcome.

Mohawk-Hudson Regional exhibition, five selected artists, Albany Institute of History & Art, Jan. 15-Feb. 27, also McHugh Furniture exhibition.

Paintings of Joel Gaines, at Chapel and Cultural Center, 2125 Burdett Ave., Troy, Jan. 16-Feb. 15. 274-7793.

#### FILM

"And Now for Something Completely Different," Monty Python comedy, Schacht Fine Arts Center, Russell Sage College, Jan. 16, 7:30 p.m. 270-2332.

"The Fountainhead," with Gary Cooper, Harmanus Bleecker Library, Albany, Jan. 18, 8 p.m. Free.

"The Magnificent Ambersons," (1942), Orson Welles' recreation, Cohoes Music Hall, Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m.

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Information night on the coming of the Job Corps, sponsored by Bethlehem Women's Republican Club, Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 18**

Blanchard American Legion Post Auxiliary, Post rooms, 7:30 p.m.

Oberlin College choir concert, St. Thomas Church, Delmar, 8 p.m. Tickets available at 810 Madison Ave., Albany, and at door.

Free Blood Pressure Clinic, Bethlehem Coffee House, 9-11 a.m., 1-3 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

American Association of Retired Persons, First United Methodist Church, Delmar, 12:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19**

Informational meeting on town government conducted by the Bethlehem Town Board, Slingerlands Fire House, 7:30 p.m. Presentations and open discussion period.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 20**

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

Film: "Great Expectations," Voorheesville Public Library, 3:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 21**

Games Night, Bethlehem Library, 7 p.m.

Benefit Talent Show for children with impaired hearing, sponsored by Bethlehem Elks Club Ladies' Auxiliary, BCHS 8 p.m. Admission \$3, students \$1.50.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 22**

Program on Basic Preparation of Federal Income Tax Forms given by Jim Thomas, C.P.A., 1 p.m.

Benefit Talent Show for children with impaired hearing, sponsored by Bethlehem Elks Club Ladies' Auxiliary, BCHS 8 p.m. Admission \$3, students \$1.50.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 23**

Cross country ski day, sponsored by New Scotland Kiwanis Club in cooperation with Indian Ladder Farms and Meyers Ski Shop, at Indian Ladder Farms, Rt. 156, Voorheesville, noon-4 p.m. Amateur race, ski tour, instruction, \$1 person, \$3 family.

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# The Spotlight

Controlled Circulation Publication

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

439-4949



Bethlehem's fairest: one of these lovely teens will reign over the snow carnival Saturday. From left: Jean Fitzpatrick, Kathy Cooke, Elizabeth Kristine Thompson, Kelly Ann Keller, Laurie Lee Richter, Laurie Bosworth, Nancy Day.

## It's carnival time: an old-fashioned family day at the park

There'll be something for everyone from professional girl watchers to amateur ice skaters when Bethlehem's winter carnival gets under way Saturday morning at 10 at Elm Ave. Park.

In the spirit of old-fashioned winter carnivals, there will be a snow sculpturing contest, a family skating party and ice skating races. Cross country ski clinics are being offered to highlight some features of this popular winter pastime.

When legs start feeling "ice skating muscles," a good relaxation will be a snowmobile

ride. Supervised snowmobile rides will be a real treat for those who have never been on one of these machines.

Another delightful way to rest weary bones is by watching the half-hour figure skating demonstration. At noon the Swinburne Park figure skating team will perform "Scenes from the Land of Oz."

The big day will get underway in mid-morning with the crowning of the Snow Queen. A five-member judges panel had narrowed the field of 16 down to seven by last weekend, and was scheduled to

meet Monday to select the queen and her two attendants.

If there is a winter thaw, the identity of the Snow Queen will remain a mystery for another week, and activities will be postponed until Jan. 22.

Refreshments will be available, so dress warmly, take your camera and snow gear and plan to enjoy the winter wonderland.

The carnival is co-sponsored by the town of Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Dept., the Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post of the American Legion, Bethlehem Elks and the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce.

The Post cereal boxtops will be used for playground equipment such as bats and balls. Deadline for collecting the labels and boxtops is March 21.

To arrange to have your collection picked up, call 439-9579, or mail them to "Labels," Glenmont Elementary School, Rt. 9W, Glenmont, 12077.

## A family fund benefits a town

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Howd celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 6, and thanks to the thoughtfulness of their children and grandchildren, other town residents have something to celebrate.

A fund has been established at the Bethlehem Public Library to honor Albert and Helen Howd. The money will be used to purchase large print books and cassettes for the elderly.

Mr. and Mrs. Howd were married in Schenectady and have lived at 165 Adams St. for 55 years.

Howd is retired from the State Health Dept. where he was a sanitary engineer. He belongs to the Photographic Society of America. Mrs. Howd is a former president of the



Land of Oz skaters will perform at Carnival

## GLENMONT If you're able, save that label

After having a hot bowl of Campbell soup or a cold bowl of Post cereal, save the label and give it to the Glenmont grade school.

The Glenmont PTA is aiming for 56,000 Campbell labels to purchase a 16mm movie projector. Any type of Campbell product labels are acceptable, but soup labels are preferred.



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Progress Club and belongs to the Embroiderers' Guild and the Early American Decorators' Guild. The Howds are members of the Delmar First United Methodist Church.

The family who established the fund are their children, Miriam Halpin of Tom's River, N.J., and Frank Howd of Orono, Me., and their grandchildren, John Halpin of Vine-land, N.Y., David Halpin of Houston, Tex., Peter Howd of Williamstown, Mass. and Thomas and Christopher Howd of Orono, Me.

mental band, drill team and color guard. Rick is a member of the color guard.

A 1975 graduate of Bethlehem Central High, Rick is a sophomore at Norwich majoring in engineering. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard VanWoert Sr., 11 Betsy La.

**Symphony 'prevue' set**

Vanguard-Albany Symphony Prevue will be held next Thursday at 10 a.m. at The Arts Center, New Scotland Ave., Albany. Speakers will be Lilajane Frascarelli, violinist with the Symphony, and Angelo Frascarelli, member of the music faculty at RPI. The public is invited. Refreshments will be served.

The Frascarellis will discuss and play portions of Bartok's violin concerto, which will be played by Masako Yanagita at the Albany Palace concert Jan. 22. They will discuss Beethoven's 7th Symphony and the selections by Dvorak that also are on the program.

**Delmar cadet in D.C.**

Richard VanWoert of Delmar will march in the inaugural parade in Washington, D.C. next Thursday as a member of the 101-member Norwich University ceremonial company, selected by Governor-elect Richard Snelling to represent the State of Vermont. Norwich, the nation's oldest private military college, is sending its regimental staff, regi-



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## A talent show for handicapped

When Bethlehem gets excited about a project to help others, donations of time and money come from all sources.

The auxiliary of the Bethlehem Elks Club is sponsoring a benefit talent show to help children with impaired hearing. The show will be Jan. 21 and 22 at 8 p.m. in the Bethlehem Central High School. Admission is \$3 and \$1.50 for students. For this, the audience will enjoy a variety of local talent.

Coordinating the talent search is Joseph Schaefer, Hamagrael principal. Also assisting with preparations is the Bethlehem Police Dept. Youth Bureau.

Donations will be used to purchase Phonic Ear Auditory Training Systems to be used by

### On the cover

Timmy Hughes, 4, wears two hearing aids but cannot hear a sound, just vibrations that tell him sounds are in the air. Timmy sat in Supervisor Harry Sheaffer's chair at town hall last week while Theresa Kochan, left, president of the Bethlehem Elks Auxiliary, Marilyn Hughes, Timmy's mother, and Sheaffer spelled out "I love you" in sign language. Mrs. Hughes is president of the Parents Assn. for Hearing Impaired Children who will benefit from a talent show sponsored by the Elks auxiliary next week.

Photo by J. W. Campbell

deaf children through the Communication Disorders Center, 628 Madison Ave., Albany. The equipment to be purchased will be worn by the child to enable him to hear better and to learn speech patterns.

Town Supervisor Harry H. Schaeffer will proclaim Jan. 16-22 as Hearing Impaired Children's Week. In conjunction with that the observance, art students from Bethlehem Central High School will decorate the display window of Mullen's Pharmacy. Students under the direction of teacher Robert Pearson will do the art work for the window, and the DECA club will take care of all advertising and promotion.

Courtesy cards good for additional donations also will be handed out. The cards will be honored at Mullen's Pharmacy, which will contribute 10 percent of the revenue of all purchases made with the cards to the Hearing Impaired Children's Fund. The cards will be distributed in advance and at the door on Jan. 21 and 22.

Also on those days, McDonalds will donate the total proceeds from all pies sold at the Delmar store. McDonalds is also supplying orange drink to be sold for a small donation on the night of the talent show.

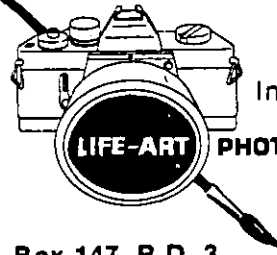
Tickets for this community event are being sold at Mullen's, the Paper Mill and the Elks Club on Rt. 144 in Cedar Hill. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

Anyone unable to attend the concert can place donations in collection containers in business establishments throughout the town. Checks can be

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**An opening step  
for school budget**

If the school budget is important in your household, you will have the first of many chances to suggest priorities to the school board next week. The Bethlehem board of education has invited the public to provide input on 1977-78 budget development at its regular business meeting next Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the Educational Services Center, 90 Adams Pl., Delmar.

Meanwhile the board is taking a critical look at programs in the Middle School and High School. The ink was barely dry on the Middle School evaluation report when the High School evaluation was completed.

The Middle School report was a self-evaluation of the school presented Dec. 1 by Dr.

Briggs McAndrews, assistant superintendent. The high school report was presented by Principal Charles Gunner, at the board's last meeting.

The high school's evaluation was done in conjunction with a three-day review by 25 educators from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

Lorren Elkins spoke of a concern that the seventh grade swimmers no longer are allowed to compete on the freshmen team, although they are allowed to practice with the team. Art Young of the Adirondack division of the A.A.U. backed up Elkins, expressing the needs and benefits for both the swimmer and the school. Elkins is an All-American swimmer and a member of Bethlehem Central's championship team.

The board replied that there was a question of the physical aspects of seventh graders competing with ninth graders, and the possibility that seventh grade students were taking places on the team that should belong to ninth grade students.

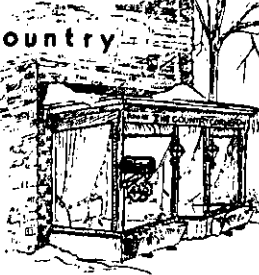
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**SLINGERLANDS**

**Subdivision plans pond for drainage**

A relatively new concept of water management for residential and commercial land development may get a test in Slingerlands.

David Dembling, a Delmar architect-developer, has proposed a retention pond as a means of controlling drainage for a 12-lot subdivision planned for a six-acre tract on McCormick Rd. west of Cherry Ave. Extension. The development will be known as Barnfield.

Dembling's plan found preliminary favor when he presented it to the Bethlehem planning board last week. Board members extended the deadline for a public hearing on the subdivision proposal to Feb. 17 to allow time for inquiries to the town board and the highway department.

"We're willing to give this theory (retention pond for drainage) a try," commented planning board chairman William R. Weber.

In a separate action, the board granted conditional final

approval on an application by Evelyn H. Essex to sell a parcel of her land for a one-lot subdivision on Feura Bush Rd., Glenmont. The board instructed the town engineer to define conditions involving drainage and easements. The action followed a brief public hearing at which no opposition was expressed.

Board members also discussed tentative plans with Gerald Klein for a residential development he proposes on the west side of Elsmere Ave. near the Bethlehem cemetery. Klein has an option to buy a tract of land with 307 feet of frontage and approximately 400 feet deep which he plans to subdivide into five building lots.

**Graphics at Library**


Examples of the creativity of New York State graphic artists will be on view at the Bethlehem Public Library from Jan. 17 through Feb. 7. The exhibition, "A Graphic Sampler," focuses on the work of 14 artists, past recipients of Graphic Arts fellowships from the Creative Artists Public Service program.



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<b>Colonie</b> The Northway Inn 1517 Central Avenue, (Rt. #5) Rt. #87, Northway exit #2W	Saturday Jan. 15 or 22 10 am	Saturday January 29 10 am


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## Doctor's variance denied by board

A request by an Elsmere osteopathic physician for a variance to permit his father to share his office in his residence has been turned down by the Bethlehem board of appeals.

Dr. Robert E. Pike had sought the variance so that his father, Dr. John R. Pike of Delmar, could close his office in downtown Albany and see patients in the son's office at the younger Pike's residence at 17 Morningside Dr. At a crowded public hearing in town hall on Dec. 1, neighbors and friends expressed divided opinions opposing and favoring the petition.

Last week the board rejected the application, citing a potential increase in traffic flow and on-street parking that the board felt would cause inconvenience and congestion in the vicinity of the doctor's office. The board also pointed out that the zoning ordinance permits a doctor to practice in his residence in a residential zone, but

prohibits the establishment of a practice by a doctor residing elsewhere. The senior Pike resides at 12 Douglas Rd., Delmar.

### That flag cover

The photo of the 1876 U.S. flag on the cover of last week's Spotlight was taken by J. Wallace Campbell of Delmar. The photo credit was inadvertently omitted from the article.

### Tyke tumbling at school

The Mothers' League of the Doane Stuart School is sponsoring a gymnastics and tumbling program for children, ages 3-6, called "tyke tumbling" on eight consecutive Friday afternoons beginning Jan. 21. The program aims to assist preschool children in developing confidence in the mastery of large motor skills related to safe and special use of gymnastic equipment. The class, open to all children in the area, will be held at the Doane Stuart School, Rt. 9W.

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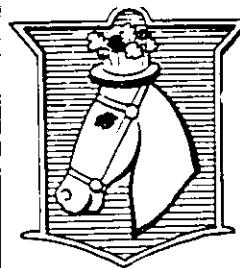
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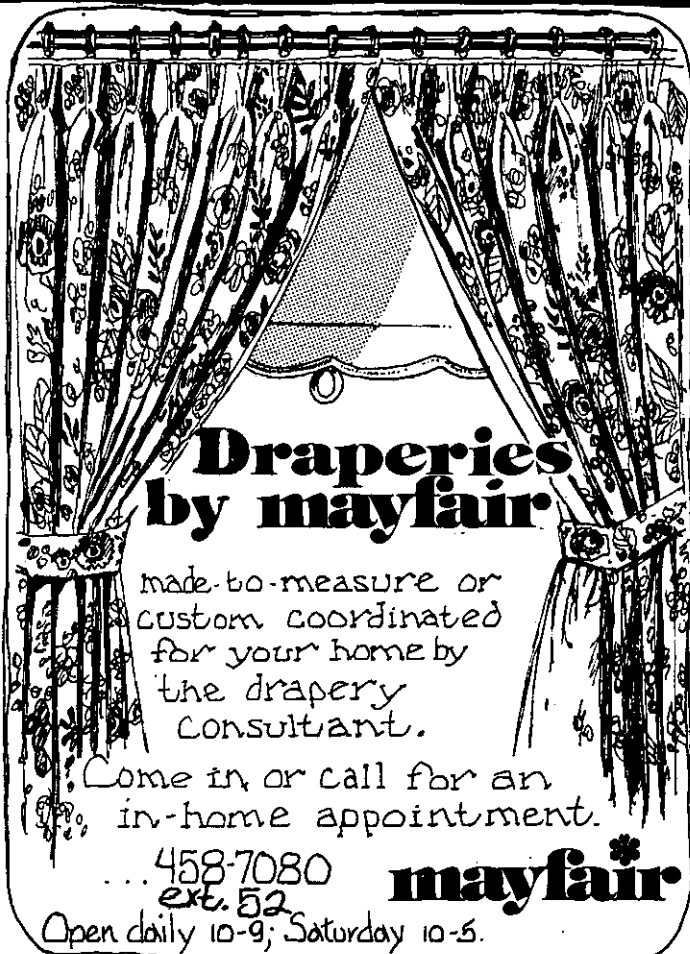

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## SPORTS

### BC hoops face biggest test

Barring an upset with Shenendehowa in a makeup game on Tuesday, the stage will be set for a showdown between Suburban Council league leaders Bethlehem Central and Shaker Friday night on the Delmar court. BC currently stands at 6-1 while Shaker has logged a 7-1 record. Coach Dale Waits will rely on the well-balanced scoring attack of his squad to overcome the advantage Shaker has in 6-10 center Dave Cole.

On Jan. 4, BC overcame a shaky start to defeat Mohonasen, 69-56. A 26-point outburst in the final stanza gave the team their sixth win in seven outings. Bob Engleman had 16 points and Mark Platel had 15 to pace the winners.

### Eagle mermen go for No. 6

The Eagle mermen host Glens Falls Friday in an attempt to log their sixth straight win this season. Glens Falls is the defending champion of the Adirondack Conference northern division while Bethlehem is the southern division title holder. Led by sectional champ Jeff Cassidy, Glens Falls should give BC all they can handle.

Against Burnt-Hills on Jan. 5, Jack Whipple's team rebounded from their second place finish in the Adirondack Relay Carnival with an impressive 105-67 win. A win tomorrow will give the Delmar powerhouse its 41 straight victory since Feb. 9, 1974.

### League to meet

Bethlehem unit of the League of Women Voters will discuss the workings of the state Legislature at its January meeting next Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at the Bethlehem Library. Babysitting will be available at the library by calling Sue McCuen, 439-0642. For information, call Doris Davis 439-5786. The public is invited.

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**Kodak to exhibit  
2 prize photos**

Two photo contest winners from Delmar and Voorheesville will be represented in a Kodak Gallery display in New York City showing the photos of more than 800 finalists in a national contest sponsored by Eastman Kodak Co.

Michael G. Fleming, 14 Joslin Ave., Voorheesville, made the finals with a picture of a man dressed as an old-time cop with a woman pointing at him. Steven Yarinsky, 53 Paxwood Rd., Delmar, snapped the Statue of Liberty by the light of bursting fireworks on the Fourth of July.

Fleming, owner of Tri-Towne Aluminum, and Yarinsky, a Dartmouth College student, were among winners in a contest conducted by the Helderberg Sun last summer. The New York exhibit will run from Jan. 18 through March 19.



Old-time cop by Fleming, left, and Miss Liberty by Yarinsky.

Albany Institute of History and Art. The annual invitational exhibition will open Saturday and will run through Feb. 27. The other artists selected from 83 exhibitors in the regional show are Jeff Elgin of Greenwich, Arnold Bittleman of Eagle Bridge, Victor Liguori of Saratoga Springs and William Wilson of Albany.

**Local artist cited**

Carol Turner, Slingerlands artist, is one of five painters whose work will be hung in the exhibition of artists of the Mohawk-Hudson region at the

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**Thomas Dolin**  
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**Tice steps down,**  
**Dolin successor**

A 37-year-old father of three is the new Democratic town chairman in New Scotland as the committee's longtime leader, Kenneth E. Tice, steps aside after 14 years in the post.

The party's new committee head is Thomas Dolin of Voorheesville, a resident of the town since 1968 and a seven-year member of the committee. Dolin, an Albany attorney, grew up in Utica, took his undergraduate degree at Wesleyan and earned his law degree from Albany Law School.

Tice, 28 years on the committee and the last 14 as chairman, told local Democrats last weekend he preferred to step down. "I don't feel it's proper to sit on the town board and be party chairman at the same time," he told the Spotlight.

Tice, a contractor who operates a trucking company in Voorheesville, was elected to the New Scotland town board in 1975 as one of two Democrats to sit on the traditionally Republican council.

**Elks resume dinners**

Bethlehem Elks have resumed serving Friday night dinners at the Elks lodge on Rt. 144 at Cedar Hill. The dinners are open to Elks and their guests.

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## Wetlands mapping project completed

Environmental Conservation Commissioner Peter Berle has announced the completion of tentative freshwater wetlands maps for Albany County, the first county in the state to have wetlands maps finished. Maps for the rest of the state are still in preparation.

Berle said informational meetings have been scheduled to give affected landowners and other interested persons an opportunity to informally review the maps and ask questions. A public hearing will also be held.

Notices are being mailed to all landowners of record of wetlands in Albany County explaining that lands they own may be affected by the Freshwater Wetlands Act. The informational meetings will be held at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. in the Rensselaerville Town Hall on Monday, Jan. 17, and at the department's offices, 50 Wolf Rd., Colonie, on Thursday, Jan. 20. The public hearing will be held at 50 Wolf Rd. on Jan. 27, at 2 and 7 p.m.

### AARP speaker

C. Theodore Carlson, an Albany attorney, will speak on wills and estate planning at the January meeting of the Bethlehem-Tri-Village chapter of the American Assn. of Retired Persons at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church, Delmar.

### ZONING

## Board pondering 9-inch variance

To make their family room more cozy, Donald and Rhonda Ballou decided to build a fireplace in the east wall of their two-story raised ranch at 3 Rita Ct. in Slingerlands. Last fall they started construction of a chimney and had the base built before an architect friend urged them to get a building permit from town hall.

That's when they discovered that the chimney, which extends 20 inches from the side wall of the house, violates the 10-foot minimum sideyard requirement of Bethlehem's Residential Double-A zoning ordinance by nine inches.

Until then the Ballous hadn't realized they needed municipal permission to build the chimney. When they applied for the permit at 393 Delaware Ave., they were told the town's board of appeals, which is the official monitor of zoning regulations, had to follow a standard procedure that included granting a variance, and that meant a public hearing. It also meant halting construction and covering the hole.

Last week Ballou presented his petition in person at the hearing while his wife, several neighbors and friends and two newspapermen sat in the audience. His architect friend, Charles A. Schade, who has lived in Slingerlands for 26



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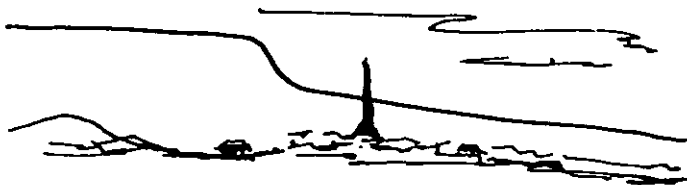
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Spotlight photos

This is the interrupted chimney that Donald Ballou, right above, and Charles Schade seek a permit to complete. Appeal's board chairman Charles Fritts is at left as Earl Robinson, Orrin J. Barr and Evelyn Freudenreich listen.

years, also testified, and a total of 22 persons filed statements in support of the variance. There was no opposition.

At the end of the 16-minute hearing the Ballous, who have lived in their Slingerlands house for the past five years, learned something else about the workings of local govern-

ment: the five-member board will have to wait for the transcripts of the hearing before making a decision. That, said chairman Charles Fritts of Glenmont, will probably take the board into the first week of February, which in turn means that those early March winds will be swirling across Rita Ct. before any logs start their cheery crackling in the Ballous fireplace — if the nine-inch variance is granted, that is.

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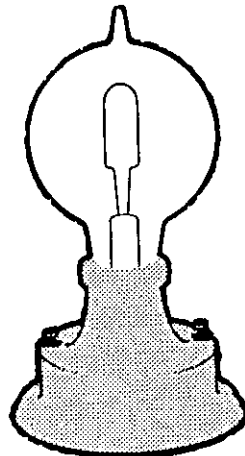
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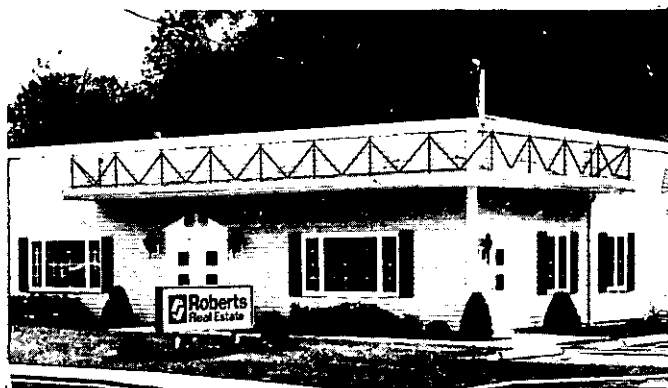
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# Vox Pop

*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.*

## Thoughts on Job Corps

Editor, The Spotlight:

Prior to recent judicial decision on the Glenmont-Job Corps move, there seemed to be a growing acceptance locally that further objections here would be useless. The judge, however, by his extra-legal reference to biblical lore, gave Albany papers a point from which they levelled a pious and self-serving blast at citizen opposition, town officials, and the local newspaper.

This spring, I expect to have 300 plus new next door neighbors at the Job Corps Center, but before they assemble, as our own Al Smith used to say, let's take a look at the record. Our town officers are doing their job well by responding to genuine local objection to an ill-planned move. Our local journal has been remarkably fair and accurate about this controversy, possibly to the chagrin of other nearby newspapers.

Local residents generally oppose the plan as being the right job in the wrong place. The Job Corps could be presently operating at a better suited plant in Oneonta (rent \$50,000 per year), and the site must be renovated to function. I conclude that this is a waste of tax money which should be examined. I do not conclude (Times Union) that the Job Corps is a hot bed of robbers and rapists. The training of unemployed youths merits high priority, but if it can be done more cheaply and more efficiently elsewhere, let's not convert the issue into racism via the parable of Old Bethlehem.

As I recall, Joseph had neither time nor money, but the Job Corps tied up half a million

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dollars with the Vincentian owners without even knocking at the town's door. There is a moral lesson here, but it hasn't the remotest connection with Old Bethlehem.

Glenmont *Richard Law*

### Rebuttal to Tuttle

Editor, The Spotlight:

In response to S. Tuttle's letter to you, yes, I, unlike him (or her) consider public education a priority item. However, as a taxpayer I do not think the present system of funding public education is adequate or equitable, and I think some re-structuring of the tax system is needed.

Most tax dollars in our household are paid to the federal government. Out of a total federal budget of \$413 billion, only \$8 billion goes for support for education. Of this, New York State receives only about \$368 million, or a little over 4% of its total budget for elementary and secondary schools from the federal government. That leaves the state and local governmental units to shoulder

the burden. The state's share has been declining, which means more and more local property tax dollars must be raised to pay for public schools. Local school district budgets are the only ones to be directly voted upon by the people each year and are thus subject to voters' expression of frustration.

With growth in public employee unionization, teachers' salaries and benefits have increased, especially relative to the low levels of the 1940's and 1950's, but have not kept up with the cost of living. I doubt if teachers are being paid more than middle and top level managers and engineers in private industry or plumbers, carpenters, mechanics and electricians. Recent graduates of business administration schools in the country are receiving higher salaries than the average salaries of all teachers in many school districts. As to other expenses, utilities charge higher rates, costs of books, equipment, fuel and supplies continue to rise, and local school boards and administra-

tors have few options in these areas.

Unlike industrial and agricultural commodities, people — the "products" of education — are not easily subject to objective evaluation and measurement. We do know that students in elementary and secondary schools in N.Y. State rate highly compared with those in other states on achievement tests such as the National Merit Scholarship exams, Scholastic Aptitude tests and other measures. Within N.Y. State, the Education Department reported last fall that reading and math scores were improving, particularly in larger upstate cities. School administrators and school board members are showing increased concern with and response to the problem of evaluating performance — for example, the Basic Competency Tests given for the first time in New York State this year.

People of all ages are the greatest resource of this state and nation, and public money invested in improving their skills and ability to solve prob-

lems in an increasingly complex and troubled world is money well spent.

Delmar *Janet Butlin*

*The point of Tuttle's letter in last week's Spotlight is that New York State's public education is far too expensive and that school boards should evaluate what they're getting for their dollars instead of, as you advocate, raising more tax money to pay for public schools.*

*Someone might want to ask the school board and superintendent (1) why Bethlehem ranks as the most expensive of the 10 Suburban Council school districts in cost-per-pupil, which is the most meaningful of all measurements, and (2) why Bethlehem has more staff — by a substantial margin — per pupil than the other nine districts.*

*We will allow Tuttle one rebuttal and then close this debate in Vox Pop.*

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## Community Corner

### A Forum on the Job Corps

An information meeting and forum on the New York Job Corps Center at Glenmont will be held Monday at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Bethlehem Library sponsored by the Bethlehem Women's Republican Club. Representatives of the U.S. Department of Labor, the Singer Company and Concerned Citizens of Glenmont will be on the panel and available for questions. A film on the Job Corps program will be shown.

This is an excellent opportunity for all residents to become informed on a matter of major community interest.

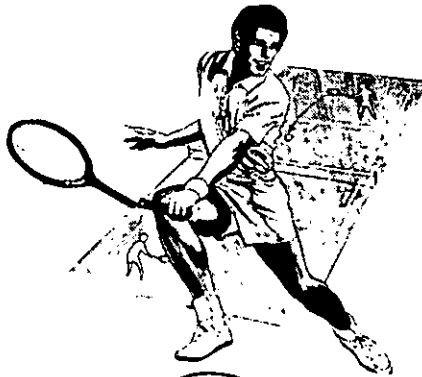
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