

The Spotlight

January 26, 1978
Vol. XXIV, No. 4

20¢

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

Drama in the Selkirk yards:

Firemen snuff chemical leak

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A happy story of joyful sound

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Spotlight CALENDAR

Town of Bethlehem--Town Board second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Planning Board every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., Board of Appeals first three Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., town hall, 393 Delaware Ave. Town offices are open 8:30 to 4:30 weekdays.

Town of New Scotland--Town Board meets first Wednesday at 8 p.m., Planning Board second and fourth Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Recreation Commission third Tuesday at 7 p.m., Board of Appeals meets when necessary, usually Fridays at 7 p.m., town hall, Rt. 85.

League of Women Voters, Thursdays, Bethlehem Library, 9:15 a.m. Babysitting available. Information 439-5786.

Bethlehem Jaycees, first and third Wednesdays, Center Inn, 9W, Glenmont, 8 p.m.

Bethlehem Memorial Auxillary to Post 3185, VFW, third Monday, Post Rooms, 404 Delaware Ave., Delmar.

Bethlehem Sportsman's Club, first Tuesday, 5 Rivers Environmental Center, Delmar, 7:30 p.m. Guests welcome.

Bethlehem Recycling, town garage, 114 Adams St., Papers should be tied, cans flattened, bottles cleaned with metal and styrofoam removed. Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

AARP, third Tuesday, Delmar First United Methodist Church, 12:30 p.m.

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

The Spotlight

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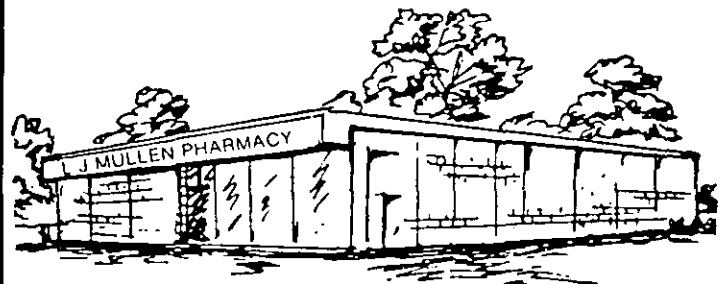
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

Albany County Audubon Society, Robert E. Stone, "Local, Interesting Wildflowers," Bethlehem Library, 8 p.m.

Solar Energy class, Robert Mitchell, Albany County Cooperative Extension, Martin Rd., Voorheesville, 7:30 p.m. Register 765-3635 by Jan. 23.

Story hour, Voorheesville Library, 10:30 a.m.

Film, "Blockheads," Laurel and Hardy, Voorheesville Library, 4 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27

Academy Award Movie, "Oliver," sponsored by the FBLA, Bethlehem Central Middle School, 7:30 p.m. \$1.50.

Chaplin Film Festival, "The Tramp" (1915) and "One A.M." (1916), Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

Recovery, Inc., for persons with nervous or emotional problems, First United Methodist Church, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

Chaplin Film Festival, "The Circus" (1928), Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

Audubon Winter Walk, Five Rivers Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, meet at 1 p.m., snow shoes available.

Winterland Adventure, ski touring or snowshoeing, sponsored by Heldeberg Workshop, Picard Rd., Voorheesville, 4 p.m. Instructions and equipment rentals available, refreshments.

Tax information program, Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

Christian Music Ministries, program and dessert social, Bethlehem Lutheran Church parish hall, Delmar, 6 p.m. All welcome.

MONDAY, JANUARY 30

Government Council, Delmar Progress Club, "Estate Planning," Gayle Matthews, State Bank of Albany, Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

Story hour, Voorheesville Library, 10:30 a.m.

Delmar Community Orchestra, Methodist Church Delmar, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31

Pre-School Winter Film Series, Bethlehem Library, 10:30 - 11 a.m. and 2 - 2:30 p.m.

Fund Day, sponsored by Voorheesville PTA for scholarships, Price Chopper 20-Mall store, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Get pink slips at door, present to cashier, PTA receives 5 percent of purchases.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Reopening of adjourned public hearing, Bethlehem Board of Appeals, on application of VSH Realty, Inc., for a special exception

to operate a convenient grocery store together with the existing gas station at Lincoln and Delaware Aves., Delmar. Bethlehem town hall, 8 p.m.

Garden Group, Delmar Progress Club, workshop on "Treasures of the Sea," Bethlehem Library, 10 a.m. Bring shells.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

League of Women Voters unit meeting, "Property Tax Consensus," Bethlehem Library, 9:15 a.m. For this meeting only, babysitting available at 7 Pineridge Pl., Delmar, call Doris Davis, 439-5786.

Coffee for new residents of the town of Bethlehem, at the home of Mrs. Kay Valentino, 119 Mosher Rd., Delmar, 10:30 a.m.

New Scotland Senior Citizens, guest speaker, Rabbi Bernard H. Bloom of Congregation Beth Emeth, New Salem Center, Rt. 85A, 1:30 p.m. Public invited.

First Thursday Group of United Methodist Women, "An Armchair Tour of the Town of Bethlehem" by Mrs. Alice Porter and Mrs. Catherine Van Volkenburgh, First United Methodist Church, Delmar, luncheon 12:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Paper Drive, Clarksville Community Church parking lot, 9 - 11 a.m.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Music Group, Delmar Progress Club, performance by Young Musicians Forum of the Monday Musical Club, Bethlehem Library 2 p.m.

Delmar Community Orchestra, First United Methodist Church, 7:30 p.m.

Amblyopia Workshop, Tri-Village Welcome Wagon, Bethlehem Library, 9:30 - noon.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Bethlehem Garden Club, "Share a Little Love," workshop for others, Delmar Reformed Church, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., bring lunch.

Public Hearing, Bethlehem town board on zoning ordinance amendment, two areas from Light Industrial Zoning to "C" General Commercial in the Cedar Hill-Glenmont area, Bethlehem Town Hall, 8 p.m.

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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. Phone numbers are for information and tickets.

MUSIC

Annual "Jazz Nite" benefit at the Arts Center, featuring jazz violinist Joe Venuti, Jan. 29. Reservations. 438-7885.

"A Night in Old Vienna," Albany Symphony Orchestra Pops Concert featuring soprano Anne Turner, Palace Theater, Albany, Jan. 21, 8:30 p.m. 465-4755.

Cathedral Noontime Concerts, "Three's a Company," piano trio, Cathedral of All Saints, Elk and Swan Sts., Albany, Feb. 14, 12 noon, free, bring lunch.

University Celebrity Series, Borodin piano trio, Page Hall, downtown campus, Feb. 12, 3 p.m. \$3.50, students \$3.

Albany Symphony Orchestra, Barber, Elgar and Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 6, Palace Theater, Albany, Feb. 18, 8:30 p.m.

FILM

Cohoes Music Hall Classic Film Series, new and old Melvin Douglas, "I Never Sang for My Father," and "Theodora Goes Wild," Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m. 237-7700.

Prize International Cinema, "The Marquise of O" (German), State University Performing Arts Center Recital Hall, Jan. 27-28, 8:30 p.m. \$2, students and senior citizens \$1.25. 457-8606.

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The Spotlight

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SELKIRK

Leaking chemical emergency averted

Fire and police officials, with a valuable assist from a General Electric Co. safety engineer, averted a potential emergency by isolating a toxic chemical leak in a 13-hour vigil at the ConRail yards in Selkirk during the height of Friday's crippling snowstorm.

State, local and railroad police, along with state and county agency representatives, stood by as a box car loaded with 88 drums of phosphorous tri-chloride, a corrosive chemical described as "having a violent reaction to water," was switched to a remote section of the yards and the leaking drum isolated.

The long and delicate task of neutralizing the chemical was coordinated by Robert J. Wiggand, of Glenmont, district chief of the three units of the Selkirk Fire Dept., who ordered a "radio silence" for police and firemen to avoid alarming nearby residents. Ravena - Coeymans - Selkirk Central School officials were alerted, however, for possible evacuation of the Selkirk-South Bethlehem area.

The episode was not without drama and a touch of heroics. The drums were shipped earlier in the week from the Stauffer Chemical Co. plant in Morrisville, Pa., near Philadelphia. Stauffer safety engineers were grounded by the storm and unable to direct salvage operations at the scene. A call to General Electric's Selkirk plant brought Dennis J. Lucia of Voorheesville, GE safety engineer, to the yards. Lucia's prescription: apply lawn and garden lime to the material. The car was unloaded

Hydrant, hydrant, whither art thou?



Before those Buffalo-style snowstorms blanketed Bethlehem last week, the town had 1,048 fire hydrants. There may be just as many this week, but not so's you'd notice them.

Paul Wagner, in charge of the town's water district, has issued a plea to residents to clear snow from hydrants nearest their homes. This kind of cooperation, he points out, could save precious minutes in a fire emergency. Normally the orange-colored metal "flags" that mark hydrants frequently buried by passing snowplows are enough to guide firemen on an alarm, but often those markers are twisted or broken off by passing schoolchildren. There was no way to estimate

the number of hydrants totally buried without markers.

Water district crews have spent most of the week clearing hydrants buried by plows, concentrating in the business districts. It takes 20 to 30 minutes to restore the visibility and access of a hydrant, which means it would take more than 500 costly hours to free them all.

"I can sympathize with a homeowner who complains that he's the one who always gets stuck with the job of clearing the hydrant in front of his house," Wagner observed last week. "Perhaps is he convinces his neighbors how important it is, they would help. After all, the hydrant serves their houses, too."

... sorry, no lifts today

With Bethlehem town plows on a round-the-clock basis trying to keep the streets clear during last week's two-foot snowfall, the busiest telephones in town were those of Supervisor Tom Corrigan and Highway Supt. Marty Cross. The recurrent theme of the callers: please have snowplow drivers lift their blades when they pass my driveway.

"Can't do it," said a sympathetic Tom Corrigan after shoveling the mouth of his own driveway for the second time after the snow had passed. "There are too many driveways and not enough plows to be that discriminating. The drivers do the best they can, but they have a lot of territory to cover in a short time."

to reach the ruptured drum. Al and Patricia Mertz opened their storm-closed Shrub-Rite garden store nearby, where officials purchased 1,000 pounds of lime and applied it to the floor of the box car. The lime neutralized the spilled chemical before its corrosive elements could damage other drums. Charles Wickham, chief of Selkirk Fire Co. No. 1, and ConRail men, wearing breathing apparatus and protective clothing, entered the contaminated car and turned the cracked drum upside down, halting the leak.

On hand with Wiggand for the sensitive operation were two fire chiefs, Albert Conrad of Selkirk No. 3, South Bethlehem, and Wickham; Ralph Tipple, Bethlehem

public safety commissioner, Capt. Robert Foster of Bethlehem police, ConRail Police Supt. Emmett Feeley, and representatives of the Albany County natural disaster and civil defense unit and Dept. of Health, and the state Division of Fire Prevention and Control.

"The problems," Wickham later explained, "were the fact that the liquid was extremely corrosive, which made it hazardous to the other drums, and the fact that it vaporizes into gas on contact with water. There was minimal danger of fire, but the liquid dripping through the snow on the

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Recognition night with Boy Scout Troop 260, Delmar, had Doug Seyler, left, advancing his plaque to first class and Matt Parenteau advancing to Star Scout.
R.H. Davis

bottom of the box car caused toxic vapors, and of course, it was snowing heavily throughout the day."

Selkirk firemen were summoned by ConRail shortly after 3 a.m., and it was late afternoon before the last fire chief left the scene.

Driver, 22, caught in police pursuit

A Troy man has found that passing a police car at high speed in Bethlehem is not a wise thing to do.

Officer Leonard A. Ryan Jr. was on patrol on Delaware Ave. at 2 a.m. Monday when a car sped past his police car. Ryan took off in pursuit. On the Normanskill viaduct his car hit a patch of ice and struck a snowbank, but Ryan pulled out and continued the chase. The motorist sped through several red lights and narrowly avoided several collisions before Ryan halted the vehicle at the corner of Delaware Ave. and Morton Ave. in Albany. He arrested Joseph P. Dowd, 22, of 845 Third St., Troy.

Dowd faces charges of driving while intoxicated, driving while his license is suspended, speeding and his failure to comply. His scheduled appearance in Bethlehem Justice Court last Thursday was postponed to Jan. 26.

BETHLEHEM Town denies Fish contract pay hike

Bethlehem town officials have rejected efforts by Police Chief Peter Fish to be included in the wage settlement currently being negotiated by the town and the Bethlehem Police Benevolent Assn. (BPBA).

Fish's first 1978 paycheck included the 7-percent pay increase given all town employees as provided by the budget adopted by the town board last November. The increase raises Fish's salary to \$21,500.

The BPBA reportedly is seeking a pay boost in the 8-percent range in the current negotiations, which now are in a stalemate. The town reportedly has offered 7 percent under the wage reopener clause in the two-year contract.

Supervisor Tom Corrigan said Fish had notified the town by letter that he expected to receive whatever increase is negotiated when an agreement is reached in the contract dispute, assuming that it will be somewhere between 7 and 8 percent. Corrigan said Fish is classified as a management employee on the town payroll, and as such is not covered by the BPBA contract. The town's position, the supervisor said, is that the police chief can be a

Parents, take heed!

A quick-thinking Voorheesville snowplow driver prevented the deaths or injury of two village children during last week's snowstorm when he noticed a boot sticking out of a roadside snowbank he was about to plow aside. The driver found two children playing in the snowbank, both of them unaware of the impending danger.

Parents are asked to keep their children away from possible danger by warning the youngsters to stay away from snow that will be plowed.

social member of the PBA but cannot be represented by it in contract negotiations.

A ruling by the state's Public Employee Relations Board (PERB) last October upheld the town's petition to declare Fish a managerial employee, thus making him ineligible for coverage under the contract. The ruling by Robert J. Miller, acting director of PERB's public employment practices and representation unit, was on the application filed by the town on May 27, 1976. Public hearings on the petition were held April 5 and June 27 of last year before a PERB trial examiner.

Artist featured

Saratoga Springs artist Peter Guest will be featured in a one-man exhibition of paintings and drawings at the Brookside Museum, Ballston Spa, Feb. 5 through March 2.

Originally from Slingerlands, Guest terms himself a realistic-Impressionistic artist. He studied with Henry Hensche at the Cape School of Art in Provincetown, and with Albany artist Betty Warren and Richard Goetz at the Malden Bridge School of Art.

Guest has exhibited in local and national competitions, and currently is an instructor at the Schenectady Museum.

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Peter C. Staniels, right, manager of the Delmar office of Roberts Real Estate, congratulates Robert F. Edwards who received the Salesman of The Year Award for 1977. Edwards, with the firm 11 years, sold 39 homes totaling over \$2 million last year. In the photo are Delmar's Million Dollar Sales Club members, Bettie Lombard and Jack Leuallen. The Delmar office recorded a 66% increase in sales over 1976 with a 1977 sales volume of \$6 million, which represents 130 homes sold within the town of Bethlehem.

Stratton names 10 for academies

Rep. Samuel S. Stratton has nominated 48 young men and six young women from the 28th Congressional district to compete for five vacancies at the nation's three service academies and for vacancies at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at King's Point. Of the 54 nominees, 10 are from the Bethlehem-New Scotland area. The list of nominees includes:

Air Force Academy, first vacancy — Robert E. Sippel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Sippel, Voorheesville.

Air Force Academy, second vacancy — Colleen J. McGinty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter McGinty, Glenmont.

U.S. Military Academy, one vacancy — Craig G. Langhauser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Langhauser, Clarksville; George D. Lecakes, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Lecakes, Delmar, and Joel D. Bodnar, son of Mr and Mrs. John Bodnar, Voorheesville.

U.S. Naval Academy, first vacancy — Glen C. Stagnitta, son of George Stagnitta, Selkirk; J. Alan Davitt, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Alan Davitt, Delmar, and Victoria Graf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Graf, Delmar.

U.S. Naval Academy, second vacancy — John N. Treadgold, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Treadgold, Glenmont.

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy — Michael J. Ryan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Ryan, Delmar.

Rev. Willard trains

Rev. Marvin Willard of South Bethlehem was one of the training-session conductors of an evangelism workshop sponsored by the Council on Ministries of the Albany District of Troy Conference, United Methodist Church in Cobleskill on Saturday. The workshop was one of four scheduled to assist the 80 churches in the council in their evangelism programs.

Animal compassion

A belated story of man's compassion for animals has come to the Spotlight's attention: a large brown dog of mixed breed (collie and German Shepherd) was struck by a hit-and run driver on Rt. 144 near Retreat House Rd. An unidentified caller notified authorities. When the dog's body was found, there was no tag, so there was no way to identify the owner or the driver. On the body, however, someone had laid a small cross and chain. Last week Arthur Taylor, dog warden for the town of Bethlehem, turned the cross and chain over to the Spotlight office, where it can be claimed by anyone who can identify it, no questions asked.

Riders successful

The All Season Riders had a successful year in 1977, one in which the club accomplished all its goals and raised enough money to hold horse shows, camp-outs, rodeo and other outdoor activities.

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BUSINESS

A bright future for Center Inn

The word isn't around yet, but when it is, chances are the familiar facade of Glenmont's Center Inn will be established as one of the area's most popular eating spots. A young bachelor who looks even younger than his 22 years has started to make changes in the former hostelry at Bethlehem Center, and by this time next year today's patrons might not recognize the place.

Only four years out of Albany High School, Rick Wilson already has had broad experience in food management. He was banquet captain at the Ramada Inn's Silo restaurant in McKownville for two years, leased the dining room at Pinehaven Country Club in Guilderland for a year, and had the food concession at The Fountains in Latham, once well known as the Jamaica Inn. His purchase of the Center Inn from Arthur Fleahman last August propelled him into Bethlehem's business scene, and he has lost no time making a splash.

His first move was transforming the Sportskeller downstairs into the Deli



Rick Wilson with chefs Brian Collins, left, and Kip Van Amerogen

Downs and Disco, featuring a horseracing motif as the backdrop for an adult discoteque and Kosher-style deli. Upstairs he has reinvigorated the menu, made a number of physical changes and is in the process of renovating the decor of the entire first floor dining and bar areas and the upstairs banquet rooms.

He is proudest of his food policy. "We now break down all our own beef and legs of veal, and use only fresh seafood and produce." His young chefs, Kip Van Amerogen of Castleton and Brian Collins of Schenectady, have served at

Newman's, Valle's and Cordial Greens Country Club.

Now Rick has his eye on bringing in live entertainment and dinner theaters later in the year, the latter a real innovation for Bethlehem. He is also planning to build a pavilion in the rear of the Inn for clambakes and steak roasts.

Meanwhile the energetic young proprietor is developing a catering service off-premises and on, and what he calls "personalized banquet packages with open pricing, that is, open menus with everything from Kosher to Chinese." Along these lines he is actively promoting free

meeting rooms for card parties, luncheon groups either upstairs or downstairs, accommodations for local service clubs and senior citizens, including the recent successful senior citizens' art show and sale.

Teaching the handicapped

"What's Happening to Public School Services for the Handicapped?" will be explored on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Wildwood School at Birchwood, Niskayuna. The open meeting, sponsored by the Capital District Chapters of the New York Assn. for the Learning Disabled and the National Society for Autistic Children, will feature three panels of school administrators, special education teachers and parents of handicapped children who are or have been members of their district's committee on the handicapped. Refreshments will be served.

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OPENING IN DELAWARE PLAZA BY FEB. 15



Mairead Casey, left, and Nora O'Brien

Spotlight Photo

DELMAR

A new pre-school ready to open

Two Midwestern educators who came to Latham seven years ago to run a parish school plan to open a new pre-school facility near Four Corners in Delmar.

Mairead Casey (her first name, Gaelic for Margaret, is pronounced Ma-raith) and Nora O'Brien have leased the former Manufacturers Hanover Bank building at 354 Delaware Ave. for their new enterprise, and hope to establish the Easton Child Nurturing Center about Feb. 1.

"It's more than just starting a pre-school," says Nora. "That's why we call it a child nurturing center. Our objective is to provide more than just custodial care for a child whose parents are working, we hope to give the child the best possible substitute for being at home with parents, and that means emotional support and a sense of security."

The partners have had remarkably parallel careers. Both come from large midland cities, Mairead from Detroit, Nora from Chicago. Both earned AB degrees from Siena Heights College at Adrian, Mich. Mairead went on to an MA in education at Mundelein College, Chicago, Nora's home town, while Nora got her MA in history from the University of Detroit in Mairead's home town. Both have 15 years teaching experience in primary grades and kindergarten, the last seven as co-directors of religious education at St. Ambrose parish, Latham.

For the present they are limiting their enrollment to children in the 3-5 age bracket, but have plans to take in younger children in the near future. They also plan to offer private tutoring to elementary school children at a later date. Hours for the new school will be 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.



William J. Lisosky

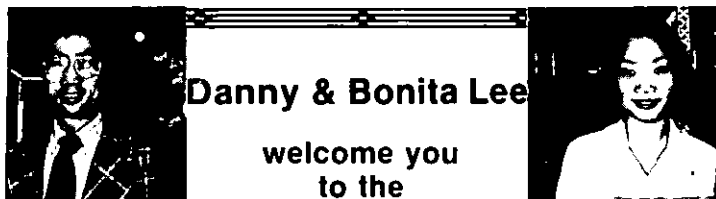
Advanced at bank

The board of trustees of City & County Savings Bank has elected William J. Lisosky of Slingerlands assistant vice president. The promotion was announced this week by Edward S. Berry, president of the bank.

Lisosky attended Hudson Valley Community College in addition to computer programming schools. He is a member of the American Institute of Banking and the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce. The bank is headquartered in Albany and has branch offices in Albany, Bethlehem, Rotterdam and Schenectady-Niskayuna.

In design contest

Delmar Realtor John Healy, chairman of the design contest sponsored by the Albany Board of Realtors, will accept entries at the Colonie Shopping Center Sunday between 6 - 8 p.m. Of the 46 high school students who will present floor plans, renderings or models of their "dream house," five are from Bethlehem Central and two are from Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk. Bethlehem entries are those of Bonnie Brandon, Thomas J. Dinnel, John Dorsey, Jim Hansen and Dale Walker, Brian Melick and Alan Welder represent Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central. The entries will be on display at the north end of the Colonie Shopping Center Mall for the rest of the week.



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Instructor Ruth Steinberg of Delmar presents a certificate of completion to Cheryl Mowatt, the first office skills graduate of the New York Job Corps Center.

County designates religious papers

The Albany County Legislature has rejected the Albany Times Union, Altamont Enterprise and Colonie Townsman as the county's official newspapers, and has designated the Evangelist and the Schenectady Jewish World for the placement of required legal notices for the year 1978.

The Jewish World replaces the Watervliet Tribune as the county's "second" official newspaper. Robert Prentiss, a member of the Legislature from Colonie, filed a suit last year challenging the validity of the Watervliet Tribune as an official newspaper, contending that it has inadequate circulation and prints mostly cartoons, thus is not a newspaper. When the Legislature voted to withdraw its official designation from the Tribune, Prentiss was quoted as saying, "I must have a winning case against this funny sheet."

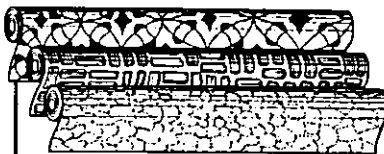
Prentiss said he was considering dropping the court action pending in State Supreme Court. No date has been set for a hearing.

The Evangelist is published weekly in Albany by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany. Jewish World is published at 413 Smith St., Schenectady. The Altamont

Enterprise, which has carried legal notices for a number of municipalities and school districts including Bethlehem, New Scotland, Voorheesville, Guilderland and Albany, is published in Altamont. The Townsman, a weekly newspaper, publishes Colonie and Cohoes editions and maintains an office at 5 Herbert Dr., Latham.

Tax meeting set

A property tax consensus meeting will be held by the Bethlehem unit of the League of Women Voters in the Bethlehem Library, Thursday, Feb. 2, at 9:15 a.m. Babysitting will be provided at 7 Pineridge Pl., Delmar; for babysitting information, call Doris Davies at 439-5786.



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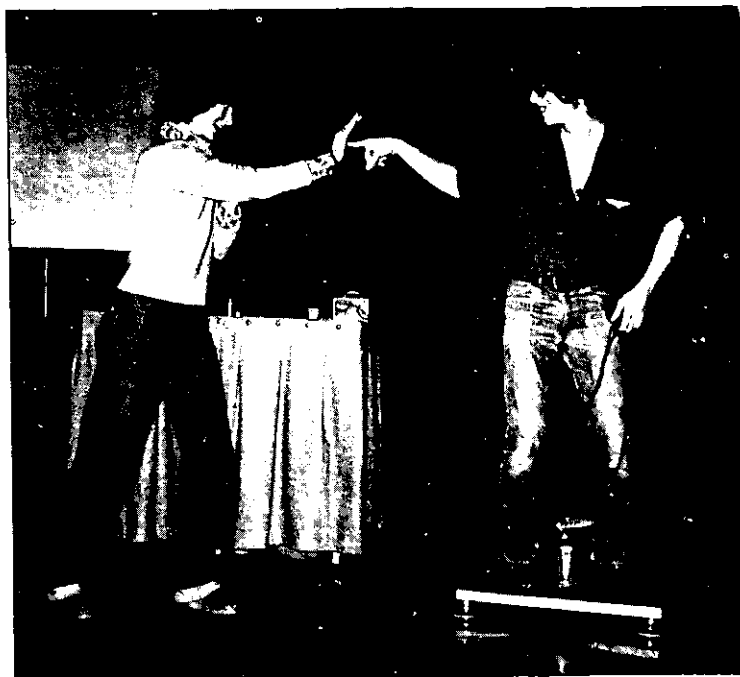
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Gliding on air, Bethlehem Central student Mike O'Connor gets a push from Caroline Stickley during a recent demonstration of modern technology presented at the school by General Motors Corp. Titled "Previews of Progress," the science show featured alternative power sources as well as recent developments aimed at solving air and water pollution problems.

Jim Carroll

GE renews arts calendar feature

The General Electric Co. plastics plant in Selkirk has notified the Spotlight that it will continue to sponsor the "Area Arts" calendar for another year.

"Area Arts" has been a popular feature of this newspaper for nearly two years, containing a listing of important cultural events outside the Bethlehem-New Scotland area but within easy distance of local residents. The listings, regularly found on the last page of the Spotlight's calendar section just before the main news section, feature important events in stage, music, art, film, lectures and historic tours. The schedule is provided by GE plastics as a community service.

Parking reminder

Bethlehem police are warning motorists that snow season parking rules are in effect, prohibiting parking on all town streets and highways between 1 and 7 a.m. until April 15.

Delmar resident honored by VNA

Mrs. Ralph Reynolds of Delmar is starting her second year as president of the board of the Visiting Nurse Assn. of Albany and her 14th year on the board. A native of Alexandria Bay and the wife of Dr. Ralph Reynolds, Mrs. Reynolds' interest in the field of health has encompassed work as a nurse and as a member of the Auxiliary of the Albany Medical Society. She is a graduate of the Russell Sage School of Nursing.

Last week Mrs. Reynolds presented a special gift and citation to the association's director, Mary Bremierski, who has been given primary credit for the growth of the agency. Since Mrs. Bromierski became director 10 years ago, the VNA has increased its services from the city proper to include Bethlehem, Guilderland, Voorheesville, Altamont, Glenmont, Colonie and Loudonville. The services include home care and housekeeping services. The agency now employs physical

and occupational therapists as well as social workers to fill the home health needs.

Jean Reynolds also points with pride to the community support given the agency last year when a fund-raising drive made possible the purchase of a new building at 35 Colvin Ave. last June.

Newly elected to the board is Mrs. Levon Bedrosian, a graduate of Hartwick College School of Nursing and a resident of Elsmere.

Recorder concert off

The Capital District chapter of the American Recorder Society has cancelled its winter concert. The next monthly meeting of the chapter will be on Feb. 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Helderberg Reformed Church, Guilderland Center. Mrs. W.E. Rowley of Altamont will lead the playing session.

Speaker on religion

New Scotland Senior Citizens will hear Rabbi Bernard H. Bloom of Congregation Beth Emeth, Albany, speaking on "The Challenge of Facing Religion in America Today," at an open meeting Thursday, Feb. 2, at 1:30 p.m. at the New Salem Center, Rt. 85A. The public is invited.



Maxine C. Knights

Promoted by bank

National Savings Bank has appointed Maxine C. Knights assistant branch manager of the bank's Delmar office at Four Corners, according to an announcement last week by George O. Pfaff, president. A graduate of Wiscasset, Me., High School and the Dale Carnegie Institute, she attended the School of Special Studies in Amherst, Mass., and joined National Savings Bank in 1970. Her most recent position was as mortgage interviewer at the bank's headquarters office at 90 State St., Albany.

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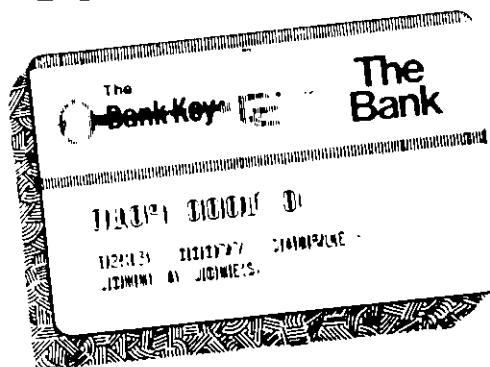
Take out or sit-in service.

Postal assignment

George Fontaine of Clifton Park has been named officer in charge of the Voorheesville postoffice on a temporary assignment. He succeeds Edward Gagner of Delmar, who served the maximum 120 days in the temporary assignment pending the

appointment of a permanent postmaster. Fontaine, married and the father of six children, has spent 19 years in the U.S. Postal Service, 17 of them in Waterford and the past two years in Clifton Park. He is a past president of the Waterford Lions Club.

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The weather, the sleigh and the old-fashioned setting made a perfect subject for this award-winning photograph by Delmar's Eric E. Streiff, a finalist in the 1977 Kodak International Newspaper Snapshots Awards competition. The photograph is now on display at the Kodak Photo Gallery, 1133 Avenue of the Americas, New York City.

Property tax deadline near

Tuesday is the last day to pay property taxes without a penalty.

Property owners in Bethlehem are reminded by Kenneth P. Hahn, receiver of taxes and assessments, that 4:30 p.m. Tuesday is the deadline for payments in person at the town hall. Tax payments received by mail on Wednesday, Feb. 1, will be honored without the late fee being imposed.

The charge for late payment is 1 percent during February and 1.5 percent during March. Tax bills unpaid as of April 2 will be turned over to the Albany County treasurer for late collection that also involves additional fees.

The same schedule applies to the town of New Scotland. The deadline at the New Scotland town hall is 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Fair scheduled

The Fifth Annual Regional Career Fair is set for the Mohawk Mall, Schenectady Feb. 1-3. Fair hours are from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Feb. 1 and 2, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Feb. 3.

NORTH BETHLEHEM 30 years service by poll watcher

At a time when voters are showing a lack of interest in the American birthright of free elections, a longtime North Bethlehem resident has been rendering a service to the voters of North Bethlehem that will stand for many years. In the recent town elections, Caroline B. Mahoney completed her 30th year as a Democratic election inspector by serving on the four-member board of elections for Bethlehem's 10th election district.

She began her tour of duty in 1947 in Hurstville when that portion of New Scotland Rd. was then a part of the town of Bethlehem. The single voting machine of those days was squeezed in alongside the pumper in Slingerlands Fire House No. 2 located in Klarsfeld, and voters would wait in a line circling the fire truck until their turn to vote arrived on the hand-drawn curtained voting machine.

After the annexation of Hurstville in the city of Albany in 1967, the 10th election district of Bethlehem shrank to just the North Bethlehem area, but soon thereafter made up its



Caroline B. Maloney

Corning, Corrigan huddle on water

Albany Mayor Erastus Corning 2nd has consented to permit Bethlehem Water District No. 1 to make an interconnection with the city's 48-inch main traversing the town.

Bethlehem Supervisor Tom Corrigan said the interconnection will be for emergency use until the new standpipe to be erected by the town is available for service sometime next year.

Corrigan met with Corning in Albany last Tuesday. The town will submit a formal proposal for engineers of both municipalities to design the interconnection.

The Albany aqueduct, maintaining a pressure of 80 pounds per square inch, bisects the town of Bethlehem from southwest to northeast, connecting the city's water treatment plant south of Feura Bush in the town of New Scotland with the city line.

loss of electorate with the onset of construction of Meadowbrook and Bethlehem Terrace apartment complexes. Meanwhile, the polling place was shifted to the North Bethlehem Fire House where it remains today.

Although Caroline has steadfastly served her own Democratic party, she was always ready and willing to help and assist any voter of any political following as the need arose.

PTA fund event

Tuesday is "Fund Day" for the Voorheesville PTA at the Price Chopper store at Twenty Mall, Guiderland, to raise money for scholarships. Shoppers are asked to pick up and fill out pink slips at the door to present to the cashiers between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Price Chopper will donate 5 percent of the total purchases recorded on the pink slips to the PTA fund. Slips also can be obtained from Lucia Dede, 765-4654, or Barbara Maryott, 765-4554.

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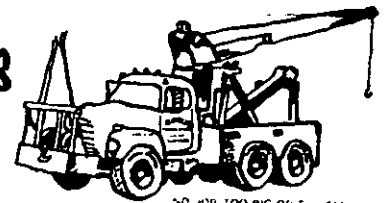
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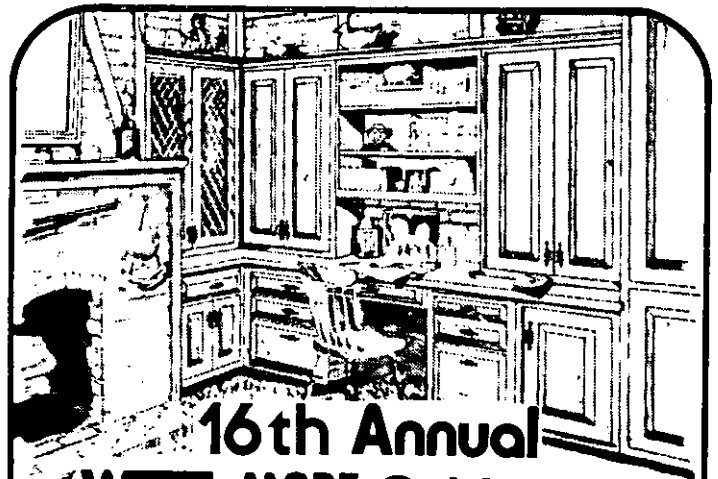
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- Jan. 27 - Frosh Basketball, Shaker, home 3:45
- Jan. 27 - Wrestling, Scotia, home 7
- Jan. 28 - Girls Basketball, Colonie, away 7
- Jan. 31 - Girls Basketball, Niskayuna, away 7
- Jan. 31 - Basketball, Columbia, away 8
- Jan. 31 - Frosh Basketball, Mohonasen, home 3:45
- Jan. 31 - Bowling, Colonie at Guilderland 3:45.
- Jan. 31 - Volleyball, Shenendehowa, home 3:45
- Feb. 1 - Volleyball, Shaker, away 3:45
- Feb. 1 - Wrestling, Columbia, home 6
- Feb. 2 - Bowling, Shaker at Colonie 3:45

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SPOTLIGHT PROFILE

Sound 'g' for gospel — in joyful chorus

It started back in 1971 with a group of two dozen teenagers in a church in Colonie, trying something new by singing gospel music in unique, lively style. Today the Joyful Noise, headquartered in Feura Bush, is respected in a wide area of the East and Midwest and has spawned two additional exponents of modern Christian music.

People who have heard the 50 teenage voices filling the hall with joyous choruses find themselves coming back for more. That's why the three LP albums put out by the Joyful Noise are now collector's items, and their first cassette tape, entitled "Simple Song," sold out almost overnight. Now there's a new treat in store for their fans: the Joyful Noise will keynote an extravagant Christian music concert at Empire State Plaza the night of Feb. 3. Their sound can also be



William E. Womer, right, with Fred Schnur. On the cover, Linda Womer with a contingent of the King's Kids, from left, Scott Womer, Debbie Pangburn, Tracey Womer, and Bobbie Blessing.

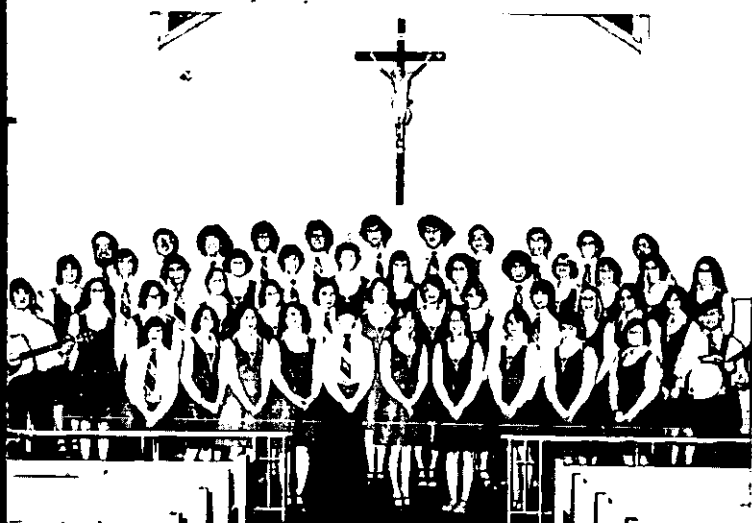
picked from the airwaves Saturday afternoons between 2 and 4 over WHAZ, Troy, 1330 on the AM dial, a contemporary Christian music program called "Jubilee" and hosted by the creator of the Joyful Noise, William E. Womer of Feura Bush.

Bill Womer was a 26-year-old choir director at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on Mountain View Ave. in Colonie in 1971 when he became interested in a new phenomenon, folk music infiltrating the church. He organized a group of about 25 teenagers, christened them the Joyful Noise, and started to put on concerts at nearby churches.

This unique approach to presenting the gospel in fast-moving contemporary fashion was just beginning to catch on when Womer took a new job in 1974 as minister of music for the New Scotland "Cluster" of churches — the Reformed churches in New Salem, Unionville, Onequethaw and Feura Bush (Jerusalem) and the Clarksville Community Church. The energetic Womer lost no time putting together a new group with the same format and the same name. The only changes were enlarging it to 50 voices and expanding the repertoire. The make-up continued as before, primarily high school boys and girls, a



Naphtali, a spinoff of Joyful Noise.



The Joyful Noise plans for Plaza concert.

smattering of junior high school voices, and some college-age members.

Even with his regular job as a music teacher at the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Junior-Senior High School and the gathering momentum of his Christian music ministry, Bill Womer found time to establish the Joyful Noise as a traveling chorus. They have sung extensively throughout New York State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, and have made two trips to Michigan, Illinois and Indiana.

Early in 1977, Womer used the tremendous success of the Joyful Noise as an umbrella to "expand this ministry beyond what we could do with one group." With his wife, Linda, and four others as a board of directors, he helped found Christian Music Ministries, which was incorporated March 4 as a non-profit corporation. Besides the two Womers, the co-founders were Frederick Schnur of Coeymans, Margaret Cook of Westerlow, Richard Mincher of Clifton Park and Thomas Roemke of Colonie.

"What we had in mind to do here needed more adults and more financial stability," explained Womer. "This led to

the organization of two more groups, Naphtali and the King's Kids." The former is a group of eight college singers directed by Fred Schnur of Coeymans, a Saint Rose graduate who teaches at Doane-Stuart School and St. Thomas School in Delmar, the latter a 22-voice choir composed of youngsters 6-12 who lately have been busy singing at nursing homes and churches in the area. Linda Womer directs the King's Kids.

Naphtali got a major boost this summer when they participated in the Christian Artists' seminar at Estes Park, Colo., where they mingled with many of the top artists of the Christian music world. Naphtali has just released its first 45-rpm record under the Jubilee label, the Christian Music Ministry's own label, now available at local Christian bookstores. The group also will make its Empire State Plaza debut at the Feb. 3 concert, which in addition to the Joyful Noise will feature Jamie Owens, a California vocalist and composer.

In addition to the three groups, Womer, now 32, has energized a solid series of concerts at the South Mall. Hardly had the new corporation received its charter when it was sponsoring the Empire State Plaza's first Christian music concert last March. For that occasion Womer imported

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the nation's top female Christian vocalist, called Honeytree, from Fort Wayne, and a high-rated Los Angeles group called the Jeremiah People, and 1,800 came to listen. Since then the crowds have flocked to two other Mall concerts. Doug Oldham, a gospel singer from Lynchburg, Va. of international renown, who anchored the July 6 concert, and an October offering that featured John Fischer and Children of the Day, a California attraction. Coming up are the Feb. 3 lineup, to be followed by a return appearance by Honeytree on April 22, along with a 12-member Texas group called Candle.

DELMAR

17 UM churches convening here

Bishop W. Ralph Ward, Jr., resident bishop of the New York Area of the United Methodist Church, was the principal speaker at the annual meeting of the Albany United Methodist Society at the First United Methodist Church, Delmar, Friday.

The program included installation services for officers elected at the meeting and society's new director, Rev. Dr. Walter E. Taylor, Dr. Taylor, former pastor in Voorheesville and East Greenbush, began his duties as executive director Jan. 1.

The Albany United Methodist Society is comprised of the seventeen UM churches in Albany, Rensselaer, Nassau, East Greenbush, Castleton, Newtonville, Delmar, Voorheesville, Ravena, South Bethlehem and Slingerlands.

To keep up with all this, Womer has cut down slightly on his schedule at R-C-S, where he has been teaching since graduating from the Crane School at SUNY-Potsdam in 1966. He also is minister of music for the Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Elm Ave., Delmar, just a short drive from his home on Copeland Hill Rd., near Mead's Corners, where he lives with his wife, Linda, and children, Scott, 8, and Tracey, 6.

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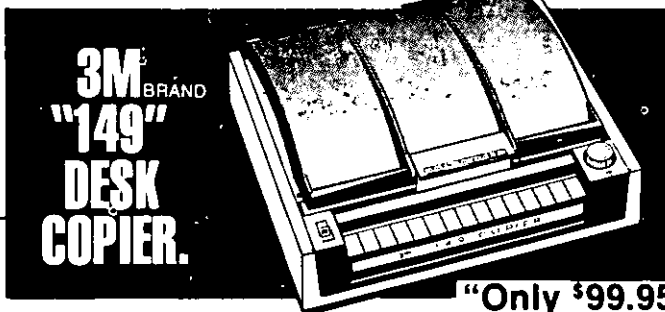
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Danny and Bonita Lee with new menu.

BUSINESS
Hong Kong couple buys restaurant

Two of the broadest smiles in Bethlehem these days belong to Danny and Bonita Lee, Hong Kong natives who met and married in Albany and who now have a Chinese restaurant of their own at Delaware Plaza in Elsmere. They are planning a grand opening Thursday with a ribbon-cutting by Bernard Kaplowitz, town attorney, representing Supervisor Tom Corrigan, who will be unable to attend.

The Lees purchased the Peking Gardens restaurant from Charles Chow in December, have spent the past month renovating it and waiting for a state liquor license, and now they are ready to welcome the public under a new name, Lee's Restaurant.

Presiding in the kitchen is chef Freddy Lau, also a Hong Kong native who came to Elsmere via New York City. Freddy, says Danny, is a professional in all four basic styles of Chinese cooking — Cantonese, Mandarin, Hunan and Polynesian.

Danny Lee came to the United States when he was 19 to study at City College of New York. Through a cousin, Jon Low, he met Paul Lai, Low's partner in the ownership and operation of Jack's in Colonie, perhaps the area's best known Chinese restaurant. At the

time, the partners operated three restaurants in New York City, where young Danny learned the cooking end as well as the management end. He came to Albany in 1969 and was assistant manager at Jack's.

Danny married Bonita, then a student at the State University at Albany, in 1974. They are living in Guilderland.

The major physical changes under the new ownership are an attractive room divider that makes for more intimacy in the dining area, and booths along the west wall.

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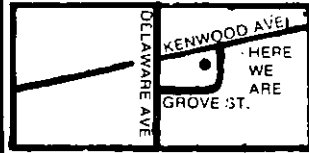
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Childbirth classes

Voorheesville has been added to the list of locations for classes in the Lamaze method of prepared childbirth, according to an announcement by Ethel Cooper, Voorheesville representative, and Suzanne Hudaes, Delmar area coordinator. Women planning to attend the six-week series classes should begin them at the end of the seventh month of pregnancy. Classes are led by registered nurses who are trained in the Lamaze method.

Carrier boy bitten

Michael Schmitt, 14, or 337 Delaware Ave., Delmar, an Albany Times Union carrier, was attacked by a dog and bitten on the right hand while delivering a paper at 88 Hudson Ave., at 8:10 a.m. last Sunday, according to a Bethlehem police report. The boy was treated at Albany Medical Center Hospital and released. Police said the dog was not leashed at the time.

Wallet returned

Bethlehem police said last week the wallet reported stolen from the pocketbook of a Delmar woman while she was bowling on Jan. 12 was returned intact the following night. The owner, Ruth Marie Schmitt, said the wallet contained two \$50 bills, credit cards and a personal checkbook.

Shed burglarized

Twenty gallons of antifreeze in a 55-gallon drum were stolen at the site of a storage shed at Dowerskill Village, Glenmont, the night of Jan. 16. Bethlehem police said efforts to break a padlock on the shed were unsuccessful. The material was owned by the Eastham Construction Co.

Mendelssohn benefit

The Mendelssohn Club of Albany will be the main attraction at the "Believe It Or Not Benefit" to be staged Saturday evening, Jan. 28, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 375 Ontario St., Albany.

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BC five poised for stretch run

A drama-packed double-overtime win over front-running Niskayuna and a surprising assist from lowly Colonie's upset of Shaker gave Bethlehem Central's basketball team a strong springboard for a stretch drive for the Suburban Council championship.

The Eagles, standing 6-3 at the halfway mark after Friday's home game with Guilderland was postponed to Tuesday by the snowstorm, face five games with the also-rans, starting Friday at Scotia, as preparation for the heavy three-game windup against the contenders. The schedule has the Eagles closing with three games in eight days against Shenendehowa, Shaker and Niskayuna, with only the Shaker game at Delmar.



Dave Burse, BC's jumping jack, battles under the boards against Niskayuna, with help from Jeff Sliter. Right, Coach Dale Walls shows jubilation at final buzzer in team's biggest win.

Bethlehem, an inconsistent team that blows hot and cold, played its best game of the season against powerful Niskayuna, twice making up 8-point deficits in the first half. The Eagles put on a brilliant display of teamwork, refused to panic under pressure, and forced the Niskys to play catch-up ball in the overtimes.

Colonie's unexpected win over defending champion Shaker threw the race into a shambles by the weekend, with Shaker and Niskayuna sharing the lead and Bethlehem and Shenendehowa a game behind.

Selkirk barn entered

Roger C. Ryan, Rt. 144, Selkirk, reported to Bethlehem police that the barn behind his residence had been entered on several occasions in the last several weeks, and that a six-volt wet battery had been stolen and \$300 damage done to the barn. Entry was gained by breaking windows and a door, police said.



Probation unit locating here

Supervisor Tom Corrigan says he is receptive to a proposal by Albany County officials to assign a probation officer to conduct routine probation interviews in the town of Bethlehem.

Corrigan said the county had requested space in a town building in order to maintain closer personal contact with local probationers on a once-a-week schedule. He said the town is currently seeking a suitable location for the interviews.

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Blackbirds face a crowded slate

Last week's heavy weather has created a heavy backup for Voorheesville Central's eager basketball team. Two of last week's three scheduled games were snowed under, both of them Central Hudson Valley league meetings. With six games already on the card in the next three weeks, Coach Howie Smith has to sandwich two more critical league games into the agenda.

Even with the crowded slate, the Blackbirds, at 8-2 and 2-1 in the league, are in a strong position to make a run for the roses. Starting with a home game Friday against Averill Park and a non-league scrap with Ichabod Crane at Valatie Tuesday, the hungry Blackbirds have the opportunity to cut a swath through the league's strongboys. In the final two weeks of the campaign Voorheesville will have two shots against Waterford, two shots against Catskill and a revenge game with league-leading Maple Hill on the home floor.

In last week's only action, the Blackbirds ran into a grinder at Watervliet, dropping a 78-73 decision to a strong team they had beaten in Voorheesville the week before. Junior Steve Smith pumped in 19 points and Jack Carmody 16, but the Birds caused too many whistles, gave up 30 points on the penalty

stripe and let the home team off a 13-point hook in the second quarter.

Jazz benefit set

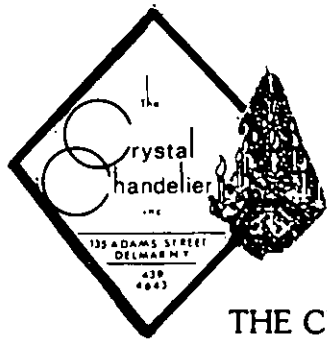
The Arts Center, 1069 New Scotland Rd., will hold its annual "Jazz Nite" on the evening of Jan. 29. This year, in addition to the several noted jazz artists who will play, Joe Venuti, the world-famous jazz violinist, will be featured. The benefit affair is being sponsored by the Friends of The Arts Center. Mr. and Mrs. James A. Clark, Jr. are general chairmen of the event. Tickets are on sale at The Center and The Community Box Office.

Studying in Ireland

Deirdre A. Zimmerman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Zimmerman of Delmar, is one of 35 State University of New York at Oneonta students participating in a three-week intersession program in Ireland. The group will study Irish history and Irish drama. Their first two weeks will be spent in the Dublin area. During the third week, the group will tour the Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking) areas in the West of the Republic and visit other areas of historical interest.

Bethlehem program

Mrs. Alice Porter and Mrs. Catherine Van Volkenburg will present a program on "An Armchair Tour of the Town of Bethlehem" at a luncheon meeting of the First Thursday Group of the United Methodist Women Thursday, Feb. 2 at 12:30 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, Delmar. Mrs. Roger Israel and Mrs. Harold Kelp are co-chairmen of the luncheon.



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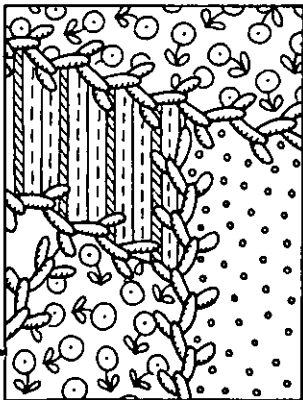
QUILTING TODAY

Quilting is deeply rooted in American history, a rich and colorful part of our cultural heritage. In early colonial days when every scrap of cloth was precious, the crazy quilt was the perfect way to use up oddly shaped morsels of fabric. Tiny stitches anchored the bits of sprigged cottons and calicos and the occasional silk and velvet snips. Feather stitching was often used to outline the patches.

In mosaic patchwork, identically shaped pieces were fitted together with the precision of a jigsaw puzzle. Securely fastened, these were quilted or simply tied at the points of each piece.

Later, as quilting developed into an art, patterns became more varied and intricate. Stars, lozenges, triangles and hexagons were stitched into designs that ranged from pineapples to compass roses.

Today these antique quilts are eagerly sought by museums and private collectors and cherished for their historical associations as well as their beauty.



Contemporary quilting has roamed far from the bedstead. Nowadays small quilted pictures make pillow tops, quilted floral borders circle hems of long skirts, animated animals are appliqued and quilted on accessories for children. Quilted applique combined with embroidery makes nostalgic versions of primitive art, records the busy counterpoint

of nature and man on the farm and even brings to life the fantastic monsters that people fairy tales.

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In these new picture-quiltings, the background is often left unadorned with the applied motifs embroidered and quilted. Quilting techniques are combined with applique for large distinctive initials on bags, or may be done in miniature for pin cushions. Portraits of a family home or a favorite garden are simplified in design so that they can be "patched" and stitched.

Next week I'll tell you about the current revival of padded stitchery.

Dear Elsa,

I've found some borders of vines and leaves in silhouette which would be lovely embroidered on natural linen curtains. The vines won't take too long to embroider, but if I do the silhouetted leaves in either Long and Short or Satin stitch, it will be years before I can enjoy the finished curtains. What can I do that will take less time?

I.L.J.

Dear I.L.J.,

There are so many ways you can treat those leaves. You can simply embroider outline and veins in Chain stitch or double lines of Stem stitch. This would look striking as Black Work. Any book on the subject will show you many filling stitches that don't take long to do.

If you outline the leaves in Buttonhole stitch, you can decorate them with a deeper shade of the same color used as whipping or lacing. Try one leaf in any of these techniques. This may suggest additional ideas.

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Garden Club speaker

Beth Bergeron, horticulture technician, will speak on new varieties of flowers, vegetables and pesticides at a meeting of the Men's Garden Club Thursday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. at Veeder's Restaurant, Rt. 5, Colonic. Guests are welcome. For information call 459-2412.

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Betty Bryan

Cohn Yaguda Cronin Realty is proud to have Betty Bryan as an associate residential sales representative.

Betty joined our firm just two years ago and has diligently pursued her real estate career. Her increasing knowledge of the residential market place enabled Betty to obtain the award from Cohn Yaguda Cronin recently as the most improved sales agent in our residential department for her activities during 1977.

Betty resides in Delmar at 189 Westchester Drive and would welcome the opportunity to serve your residential needs. For a satisfying real estate experience, we invite you to call her at 439-7657.



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Connie Baker

Cohn Yaguda Cronin Realty is proud to have Connie Baker as an associate residential sales representative.

Connie has just recently received recognition for having completed a banner year by being one of the 1977 members of the Cohn Yaguda Cronin Million Dollar Club for sales and listings and also was awarded the sales associate of the year designation by our firm.

Connie has resided in Delmar for many years and is active in many community organizations. Her real estate experience spans twelve years.

If you have a real estate problem, we invite you to call Connie for fast, courteous and expert service at 439-7657.



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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.

Budget meetings

Editor, The Spotlight:

The Spotlight is to be commended for its extensive coverage of school affairs. Obviously, the Albany newspapers cannot cover each school district in detail.

Now that teacher negotiations are behind us, I would like to make two personal observations. First, every board member has major responsibilities toward our students, our staff and our community. At times these responsibilities are in conflict. How to resolve these conflicts makes for differences of opinion. On the teachers' contract every board member

spent many hours in discussion and consideration. No matter which way any board member voted, I felt that every board member had taken his or her responsibilities most seriously, and had cast his or her vote according to what that member felt was the best interest of all elements which make up our school community, including the taxpayers.

But more important, in my opinion, is that this issue is now behind us. This will permit us all — community, teachers, board — to focus our time and attention on our main responsibility, the education of our children. While we can and should learn from the past, to engage in protracted recrimination can only serve to divert our attention and efforts from our main responsibility. So I hope we will all now concentrate in our own ways on how we can best serve our children.

In that respect, I would like to remind our community that at the next two board meetings, Feb. 1 and Feb. 15, the board is asking for community input, as we are starting the budget-

making process. We welcome community input at any time, but obviously such input is of more help to the board at the start of budget preparations than at its completion.

Bertold E. Weinberg
Vice president

Bethlehem Board of Education
Elsmere

On cats and dogs

Editor, The Spotlight:

After reading Mrs. Bosse's letter in the Dec. 29 issue of the Spotlight, I felt compelled to add my "two cents worth." I can well sympathize with her, as a fellow citizen of Delmar. We also have cats and dogs and we worry about them constantly.

Before the leash law, we used to let our dog run in our woods that surrounds our house. That is, until the dog returned dragging a steel leghold trap, chain, stake, identification and all, on her front paw. We could hardly pry it off. The veterinarian said that if it had snapped shut just a little higher on her paw, she would have bled to death.

Since the trap had identification, we called the parents of the trapper who had obviously trapped on our property. They were not overly concerned.

We cannot even let our cats roam freely. We have to walk them like dogs because the "hunters" are prone to shooting them on sight. One day my sister and I were walking our dogs when we came upon three teenage boys and a dog standing in the clearing next to our woods. They would not leave when they were asked to. It was a very unnerving argument since each of them had a gun.

Why is it that if you live in a "Triple A" residential zone, you cannot have this and that (for example, no more than two dogs), but someone with a gun can prowl around your property, threatening the lives of your pets? I must request that my name be withheld because I certainly do not want someone with opposing views gunning down my pets.

Name Submitted

Delmar

Community Corner

Tax Help for Citizens

The Bethlehem Tri-Village chapter of AARP again will provide free tax assistance for retired residents of Bethlehem. Volunteers have been trained by the IRS to counsel retired persons, but not to prepare forms; however, their instructions and advice can be helpful. For information or an appointment, call George Street, coordinator, 439-1237, or Mrs. David Ott, 439-1251.

The Bethlehem Public Library will sponsor a special tax information program for all residents on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 2 p.m. A CPA presentation will be followed by questions and answers. Everyone is welcome.

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



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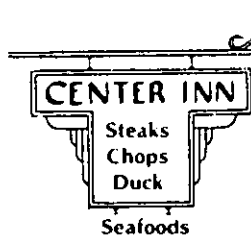
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