

The Spotlight

BETHLEHEM
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May 18, 1978
Vol. XXIV, No. 19

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

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Salem Hills fights sewer bite

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A SPOTLIGHT FEATURE:

Forum for school board candidates

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Creative arts in Voorheesville

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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 3 p.m., town hall, 393 Delaware Ave. Town offices are open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 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 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.

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

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

Welcome Wagon. Newcomers and mothers of new babies call 785-9640, Mon.-Sat., 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. so you may have a Welcome Wagon call.

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

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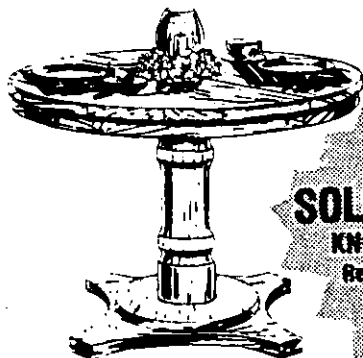


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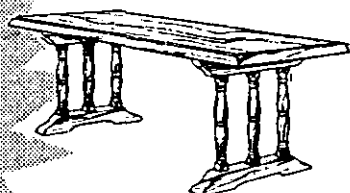
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THURSDAY, MAY 18

Bethlehem Historical Assn. meeting and election of officers, Cedar Hill schoolhouse, 8 p.m. Program on Pine Bush.

Bird identification course for adults, Five Rivers Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 9:30-11:30 a.m., first of five sessions, \$10 fee.

"Butley," Slingerlands Players, Unionville Playhouse, 8:30 p.m., 439-4732.

Spring music concert, Bethlehem Middle School, 8 p.m.

Films, "Cricket in Times Square" and "Rikki Tikki Tavi," Voorheesville Library, 4 p.m.

Story hour, Voorheesville Library, 10:30-11 a.m.

WW II luncheon, Blanchard post rooms, 12 noon.

Slingerlands Homeowners Assn. meeting, Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Middle School Spring Concert, 8 p.m.

Public Hearing, Bethlehem town board, to consider a Local Law No. 1, 1978 to create the Town of Bethlehem Department of Public Safety, town hall, 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 19

Sidewalk Plant Sale, Bethlehem Garden Club, Delaware Plaza, from 9 a.m.

Recovery Inc. meeting for persons with nervous symptoms, First United Methodist Church, Delmar, 12:30-1:30 p.m., free will offering.

"Butley," Slingerlands Players, Unionville Playhouse, 8:30 p.m., 439-4732.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

Educational and career counseling, Bethlehem Library, 2-5 p.m.

"Butley," Slingerlands Players, Unionville Playhouse, 8:30 p.m., 439-4732.

Strawberry supper, Jerusalem Reformed Church, Feura Bush, Servings, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30 p.m., adults \$4, under 12 \$1.50. Reservations, 439-2046.

Flea market, Onesquethaw firehouse, Rt. 443, Unionville, 9-5. Rain date May 21.

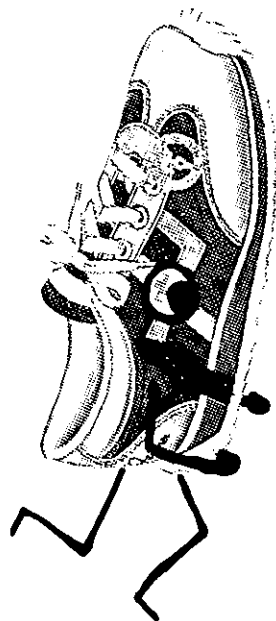
New Scotland Town Parks dedication ceremonies, Cass Hill Rd., Clarksville, 10 a.m., Swift Rd., Voorheesville, 11 a.m.

Garage sale, Circle of Faith, Faith Lutheran Church, 42 The Crossway, Delmar, 9-3, rain or shine.

Spring Carnival, Glenmont School, Rt. 9W, Glenmont, 11-3. Booths, games, rides, drawings, hayrides, refreshments.

Spring Carnival, Clarksville School, 11-5. Games, prizes, food.

Bicycle Safety Day, Elm Ave. Park, Delmar, 2-4 p.m.



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Flea market, Unit 4 Women's Division, Onesquethaw Volunteer Fire Co., Unit 3 Firehouse, Unionville, 9-5. Refreshments, drawing.

MONDAY, MAY 22

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

Story hour. Voorheesville Library, 10:30-11 a.m.

Counseling, educational and career, Sister Catherine Daly, Bethlehem Library, 1-3 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 23

Preschool films. Bethlehem Library, 10:30-11 a.m., 2-2:30 p.m.

Guided walk, "In Search of Spring Birds." Five Rivers Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 7 p.m. Wear sturdy shoes. 457-6092.

Voorheesville village board, 8 p.m.

Bethlehem School District annual meeting, BCHS auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Presentation and discussion of school and library budgets for 1978-79, school and library board candidates will speak.

Delmar Camera Club, workshop on color processing, lecture on composition, St. Stephen's Church parish house, Elsmere, 7:30 p.m.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

Bethlehem School District annual election, polls open at the Middle School from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Public Hearing. Bethlehem town board, to consider proposed improvements and additional facilities for Bethlehem Water District No. 1, town hall, 8 p.m.

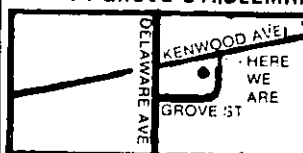
Marriage Encounter, Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m. All interested couples invited. No age limit.

Assemblyman Lane will be at his Delmar office for questions and discussions with constituents, 1 Becker Terr., Delmar, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

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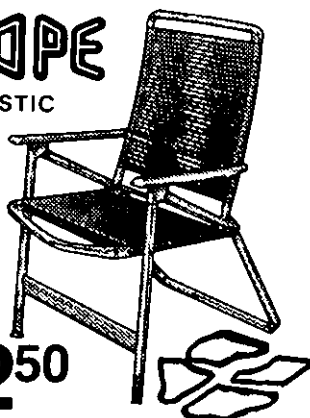
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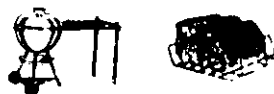
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THURSDAY, MAY 25

League of Women Voters, unit meeting, national convention report, Bethlehem Library, 9:15 a.m. Babysitting available at library. Information, transportation, Doris Davis, 439-5786.

Red Cross Bloobmobile, New York Job Corps Center, Glenmont, 9-3.

Story Hour, Voorheesville Library, 10:30-11 a.m.

Film, "White Seal," and three Dr. Seuss shorts, Voorheesville Library, 4-5 p.m.

Lecture and film, Rights of the Pregnant Parent, Bethlehem Library, 8 p.m. Free.

FRIDAY, MAY 26

Genealogical Workshop, Bethlehem Library, 2-4 p.m.

Recovery, Inc. meeting for persons with nervous symptoms, First

United Methodist Church, Delmar, 12:30-1:30 p.m., free will offering.

MONDAY, MAY 29

Memorial Day (federal holiday). Postal Service closed, industrial plants, agencies, offices closed. State offices open, public schools open, most banks open.

Career and educational counseling, Bethlehem Library, 1-3.

Documentary underground film from Russia, "Beyond the Cross," Camp Pinnacle, Voorheesville, 3 p.m. Free.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

Memorial Day (state holiday), state offices closed, public schools closed, most banks closed, mail deliveries as usual, postoffices and federal offices open, industrial plants, business offices and agencies open.

American Legion Memorial Day Parade, Delmar.

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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.

THEATER

"Barefoot in the Park," dinner theatre by Riverview Productions, Valhalla Country Club, Rexford, **June 5-6, 12-13, 19, 26**. Reservations 399-2345.

MUSIC

Mendelssohn Club of Albany, Spring concert featuring Findlay Cockrell, pianist, 70-voice male chorus, Chancellor's Hall, Albany, **May 19**, 8:30 p.m. Tickets 436-9849.

Monday Musical Club, concert featuring Randall Ellis, oboist with Albany Symphony, women's chorus, Albany Institute of History and Art, **May 22**, 8 p.m. \$2.50 at door or Community Box Office, students, senior citizens \$1.25.

"Requiem," Maurice Durufle, combined choirs of First Presbyterian Church, Albany, and Trinity United Methodist Church, Albany, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Hackett Blvd., Albany, **May 21**, 3:30 p.m.

Ray Rettig jazz concert, benefit Albany Assn. of the Blind, Albany High School auditorium, **May 24**, 8 p.m. \$2.

Jazz concert, First Unitarian Society, 405 Washington Ave., Albany, **May 21**, 8 p.m. Tickets 439-7924.

Jean Redpath, traditional songs of the British Isles, St. Mark's Community Center, Rt. 146, Guilderland Center, **May 22**, 8 p.m.

ART

Exhibition, "The People of Nina LeClerc," paintings of urban scenes, The Center Gallery, 75 New Scotland Ave., Albany, **through June 24**, 1-4 daily.

Works of Joan Rhine, Center Square Gallery, 226 Lark St., Albany, **through June 13**, Sat.-Sun. 1-5. Opening reception May 14, 1-5.

"Strictly for the Birds," local artists' interpretations and 50 mounted specimens, Rensselaer County Junior Museum, 282 Fifth Ave., Troy, **through May**, hours 3-5 Tues.-Fri., 1-4 weekends.

FILM

"Wild Strawberries," Ingmar Bergman classic, CDPC Auditorium One, 75 New Scotland Ave., Albany, **May 19**, 8:30 and 10 p.m., **May 20**, 8 p.m. \$1.75, students, seniors \$1.25.

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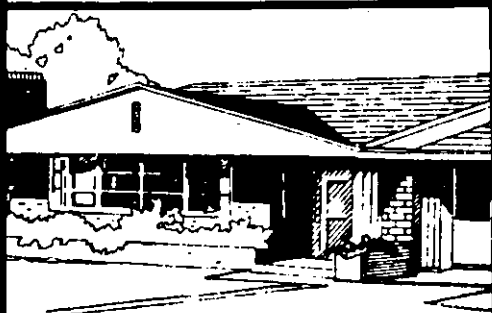
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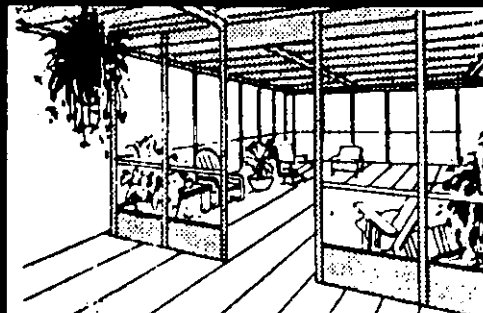


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The Spotlight

Graphic newsweekly serving the towns of Bethlehem, New Scotland, Albany County, N.Y. 439-4949

GLENMONT

Seminary sale to U.S. shifts tax load back to citizens

For the town of Bethlehem and the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Central School district, the revenue windfall turned out to be a one-year teaser. When the Bethlehem town board put the 250-acre Our Lady of Angels seminary campus in Glenmont on the tax rolls for the first time a year ago, the landlords had to put up \$75,869.47 in town taxes and pay the RCS district \$127,000 in school taxes.

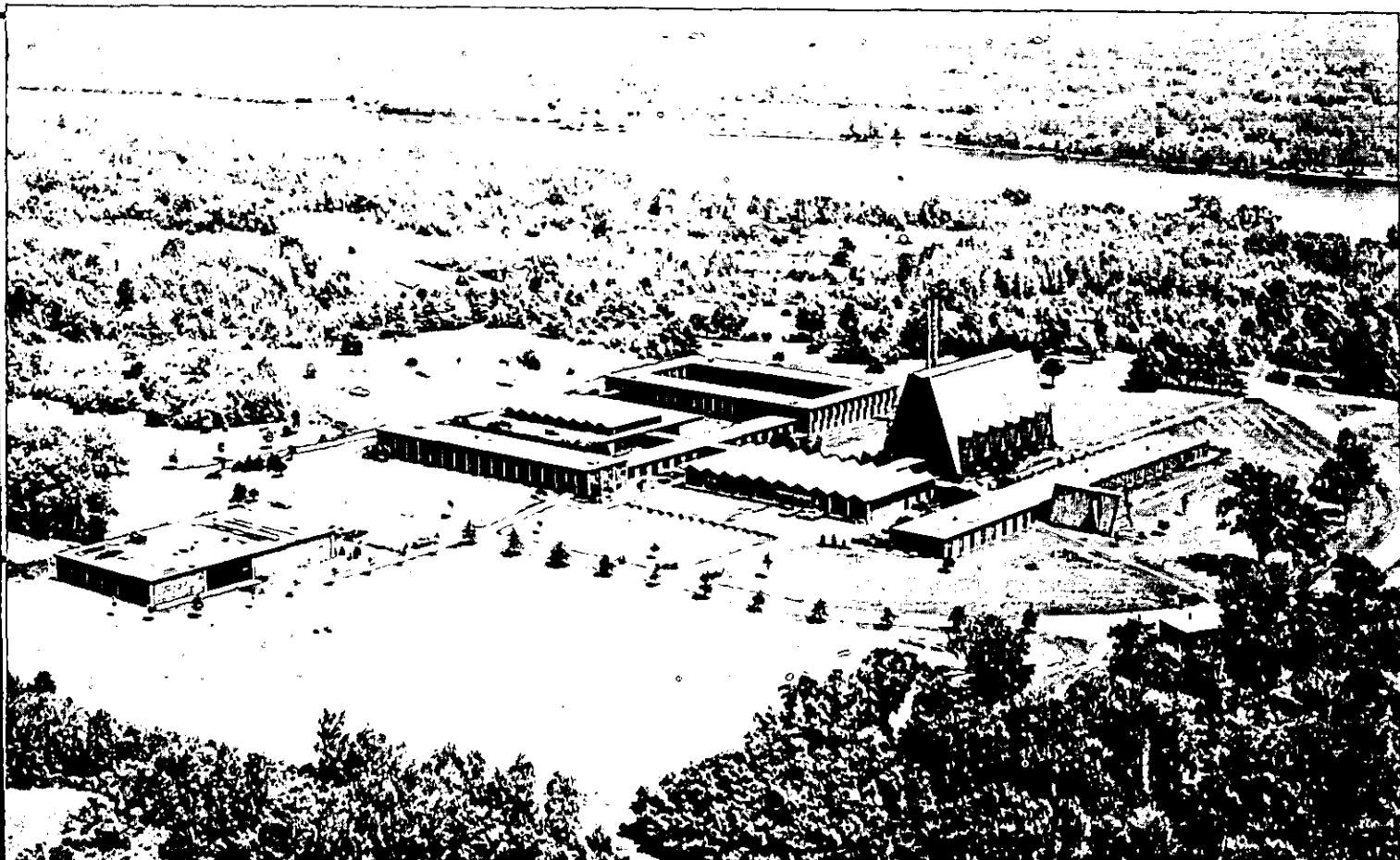
The Vincentian Fathers, a Pennsylvania-based Roman Catholic order, challenged the action by taking the town to court last September. The case is still pending, so when Bethlehem's tentative 1978 tax roll was drawn up on May 1, the "date of record" for listing assessments for the town's 7,000-odd parcels of real estate, the former seminary stayed on the roll. Five days later, on May 5, it was off again. The

reason: transfer of the deed from the Congregation of the Mission of St. Vincent de Paul in Germantown, Pa. to the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment Training Administration, was quietly filed with the Albany County clerk on April 28 without attracting the attention of newspaper reporters. Bethlehem town assessor Gilbert Houk was notified a week later. The sale price was not disclosed, but was believed to be

approximately \$2.7 million.

"We're very disappointed to lose that revenue," said Bethlehem Supervisor Tom Corrigan last week, reflecting the frustration of local taxpayers powerless to question the tax-exempt status of government property. But the impact is even greater on the school district.

The seminary's brief appearance on the tax rolls was due to the Vincentian Fathers leasing the vacant complex to the



Former Our Lady of Angels seminary campus, now a Job Corps center, sprawls on 250 acres along Hudson River in Glenmont.

Singer Company, which operates the New York Job Corps Center under contract to the Labor Dept. The educational training and rehabilitation center houses 270 youths 16-21 and is in its second year on the site.

Houk said he was mandated by the town board a year ago to put the seminary property, previously 100-percent tax exempt, on the tax roll. The action was based on the town's interpretation of a law that states, in effect, that a wholly exempt property transferred to a property where a profit can be realized must go on the tax rolls to protect the public. The town's position: the Vincentian order was realizing a commercial profit by leasing the property to a private corporation administering the training center under a contract that presumably nets Singer a profit. Houk said the Vincentian Fathers filed papers in Albany County Supreme Court last September claiming the property was tax exempt, and later

sought a court order reducing the assessment. Houk said both the town board and the Vincentian Fathers have had appraisals of the property made during the past year. Asked if a court ruling could result in possible refunds of tax money already paid, Houk declined to comment.

The vast acreage, lying between Rt. 144 and the Hudson River, has two chapels, a central administration building with dormitory wings, a complete kitchen facility, classrooms and auditorium, a separate athletic facility housing an Olympic swimming pool, and a separate automotive training facility.

Car window smashed

A Delaware Ave. woman told Bethlehem police that three youths with bicycles threw a heavy object at her car as she was driving on Longwood Dr. about 5:30 p.m. May 8, shattering the rear window of the car. Police were checking out descriptions of the youths.



Traffic control box at Kenwood and Cherry Aves. is the center of a growing dialogue between town and state officials. See page 47.

BETHLEHEM

New legal flurry in Spinosa case

Bethlehem town attorneys were back in court in Albany this week in a new effort to block the reinstatement of suspended police officer Richard A. Spinosa, who is under indictment on a charge of improperly disposing of a traffic ticket last year.

An order by State Supreme Court Justice Harold J. Hughes on Friday that Spinosa be given his job back had special assistant town attorney David A. Goldstein and town attorney Bernard Kaplowitz working late Friday night and most of the weekend preparing a new set of legal papers for Hughes' court. Meanwhile, there was a possibility the Albany County grand jury and a federal grand jury would act this week in their investigations of alleged misconduct by Spinosa's superior, suspended

Chief Peter Fish. The Albany county district attorney's office and the U.S. Attorney for the Northern New York District have been conducting separate investigations stemming from the town of Bethlehem's civil disciplinary action charging Fish with perjury, misappropriation of funds, improper disposition of traffic tickets, attempted extortion and other counts.

Hughes' ruling on Friday was based on a legal technicality. The sequence went like this: Spinosa was suspended March 16 by Supervisor Thomas V. Corrigan. Spinosa brought a show cause order on April 26, signed by Hughes and returnable to Hughes on May 12, contending that Corrigan lacked the authority to suspend him, and that Acting Police Chief Robert Foster did not have the authority to hold or preside over a disciplinary hearing in the case. Corrigan signed the letter of suspension

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and Foster the notification of departmental hearing. Spinosa's attorney, Thomas A. Conway, argued that only the town board could take disciplinary action against Spinosa.

The town board belatedly ratified the suspension on May 10 by resolution, taking the position that a Civil Service employee, if convicted of a crime, automatically vacates his position under public law. Hughes denied Goldstein's contention that the show cause pleadings could be argued orally and declared that the pleadings should have been served three days before the order was returnable.

The ruling and subsequent legal maneuvers were expected to result in a "washout" of Spinosa's pay status; if the court arguments eventually restore his pay during the 30-day period starting March 16, the latest town move would reinstate his suspension starting May 14. A check at Bethlehem police headquarters over the weekend disclosed that

Spinosa had not returned to work nor had been given an assignment.

Spinosa has been charged by the county grand jury with tampering with physical evidence and obstructing governmental justice in connection with a traffic ticket issued to Howard J. O'Connell of Albany on March 23, 1977. The charges against Spinosa stemmed from the town's investigation into alleged misconduct by Fish, conducted by Goldstein, a onetime member of the rackets bureau in the office of former Manhattan District Attorney Frank Hogan retained by the town board as special counsel.

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SALEM HILLS

Villagers battle sewer tax hike

Homeowners in Voorheesville's Salem Hills subdivision are girding for a showdown fight against a proposed boost in the development's sewerage fees.

The Salem Hills Sewage Disposal Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Rosen-Michaels land development firm, has applied to the Voorheesville village board for an increase in the present rate, currently \$10 per month per house. The amount of the increase was not specified, but a village board spokesman indicated the sewage firm "is asking more than double." Commented Mayor William J. Wenzel: "What they've asked for, on the face of it and without studying all the facts, the increase seems to be exorbitant."

The five-member village board, which also serves in the function of a municipal public service commission, last week scheduled a public hearing on the proposed rate increase for 7:30 p.m. June 5 at the Voorheesville Elementary School. The board has regulatory jurisdiction over any rate change inasmuch as the sewerage firm is a public utility operating entirely within the village.

A private sanitary sewer network has been operating since the inception of the subdivision in 1964. Salem Hills, one of the largest residential developments in the Bethlehem-New Scotland area, now has more than 270 single-family dwellings.

Named to panel

Dominick J. DeCecco of Slingerlands and Benjamin L. Meyers of Delmar have been named to the Bethlehem tree committee, a volunteer citizens' group headed by Gertrude M. McCaffrey. They replaced Russell Miller and Gladys Hosey.

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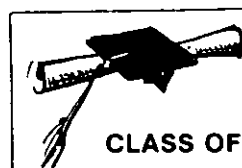
VOORHEESVILLE

Board to fight assessment suit

A two-year battle between a realty development firm and the village of Voorheesville has moved into a new legal phase.

The village board was notified last week that the Berkridge Corp. of Albany, which owns the building occupied by Rothbard's on Voorheesville Ave., had filed an action in Albany County court for a review of its assessment on the property. The board authorized Donald Meacham, village attorney, to reply to the court.

Berkridge contends the assessed valuation on the building is too high, and carried its protest through the village's Grievance Day procedures in April, 1977. The request for a lower evaluation was denied by the village board, which also sits as the board of assessors. "We feel that based on other industrial and commercial properties throughout the village, the assessment is correct," said Mayor William J. Wenzel. Wenzel added that the board intends to stand firm, and will defend its position in court when necessary.



CLASS OF 1978

Indiana University — Elaine Marie LaForte, Delmar. (Phi Beta Kappa); John Frederick Cowling, Delmar (MBA).

University of Rochester (Eastman School of Music) — Mark Harman Foster, Delmar (cum laude).

Colorado State University — Paul D. Thompson, Delmar.

Westchester School for Paraprofessional Training, Albany — Verna Norman and Jennell Wheeler, Delmar.

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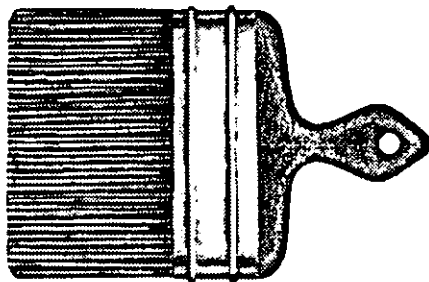
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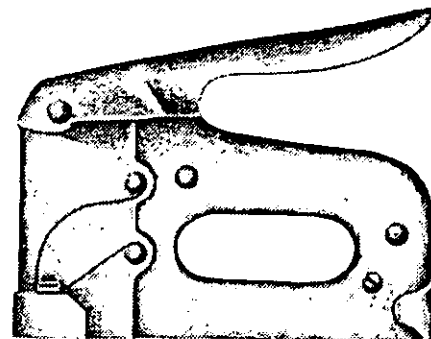
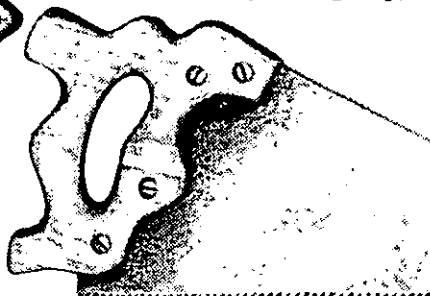
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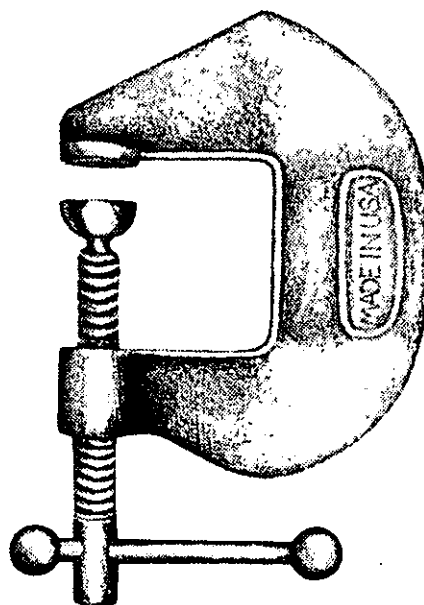


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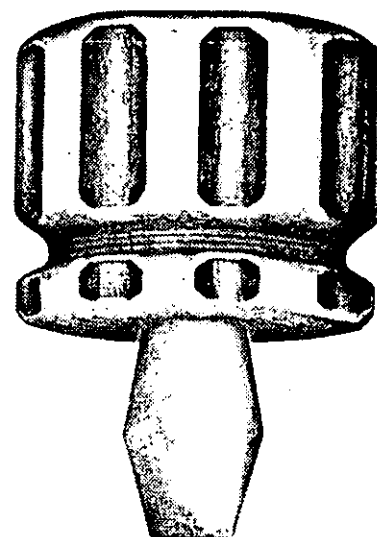


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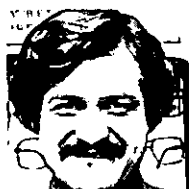
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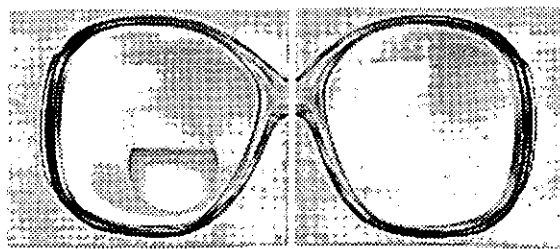
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SLINGERLANDS

Rt. 85: how wide the lanes?

Slingerlands residents, oversensitive to state highway engineers after recent confrontations over the resurfacing of Rt. 85 through the hamlet, were keeping a wary eye on the highway this week. At the root of the latest nervousness is the width of the traffic lanes on the newly repaved road, one of the busiest in the Capital District.

When the state Dept. of Transportation completed the repaving project on 2.3 miles of New Scotland Rd. through the heart of Slingerlands last week, the contractor regraded the existing shoulders of the road and applied the new pavement to the full 27-foot width of the right-of-way. In the absence of sideline stripes, the extended width gave Slingerlands patriots reason to wonder if the DOT was putting a new squeeze on the community: last fall DOT Commissioner William Hennessy publicly assured the residents that the repaving project would retain the highway's 20-foot width with two paved six-foot shoulders that meet requirements for federal funding.

What worried Slingerlands' highway watchdog committee was the state's action in extending the new pavement almost to the base of utility poles and guard posts along the road. At least one pole now stands less than 12 inches from the new asphalt paving, and others hug the asphalt. If the poles have to be moved back, local residents mused, that could mean the loss of some of the shade trees the community fought so hard to save last fall.

A Niagara Mohawk spokesman said the company "had no intent" to move the poles back, but later amended the statement after an engineering crew had surveyed the situation. The poles, he said, would "undoubtedly have to be moved back, but that project is at least six months away." He also pointed out that the poles are shared with the



Public opinion pole

New York Telephone Co. A telephone company spokesman said there were no plans to move the poles.

Donald N. Geoffroy, regional director for the state DOT, said Monday that the state would mark off the shoulder with a white sidestripe approximately two and a half feet from the edge of the blacktop, and retain a traffic lane width 10 to 10½ feet.

Meanwhile, a regular meeting of the Slingerlands Homeowners Assn. Wednesday night of this week was certain to add Rt. 85 to its agenda.

Film at Pinnacle

"Beyond the Cross," a smuggled documentary filmed inside Russia by the Persecuted Church, will be shown at Camp Pinnacle, Voorheesville, May 29 at 3 p.m. Also appearing will be Marvin Frey, composer of "His Name is Wonderful" and "Kum-ba-Yah," currently director of the Children's Camp Fund of New York. Admission is free.

School board candidates state their stands: cost vs. quality

When Bethlehem Central school district voters go to the polls next Wednesday, their attention will be focused on the district's \$11.6-million budget for next year and on an election contest, the first in two years, for a seat on the board of education. Theodore Wenzl of Delmar, present chairman of the library board, is unopposed for reelection. Mrs. Joyce Strand of Glenmont is unopposed for an interim term to succeed Mrs. Carol Spangler, who is leaving the area.

The budget is up 4.8 percent, the highest jump in three years, but increases in the tax base have kept the rate hike to 1.7 to 2.1 percent for Bethlehem residents, according to school board estimates. The rate for New Scotland residents of the district will drop an estimated 3.6 to 3.9 percent, the second straight year total property

assessments in that town have nullified a rise in the school tax.

Most of Wednesday's attention will center on the contest between incumbent Robert Ruckterstuhl of Slingerlands and challenger Sheila Fuller of Delmar. Ruckterstuhl, seeking his second three-year term, is basing his candidacy on his experience, particularly in facilities management, and on the fact that Mrs. Fuller, if elected, will give the Hamagrael School area four of the seven seats on the board. Mrs. Fuller believes that quality of the school system "can be improved without spending more money."

Both have children in the school system. Ruckterstuhl headed a citizens' study committee on energy conservation in the school system designed to reduce utility costs. Mrs. Fuller heads the

Hamagrael parents' organization, which has voiced opposition to proposed modifications in classroom programs designed as economy measures.

In answers to six questions submitted by the Spotlight, both candidates indicated they favored modification of teacher tenure, but were cautious on union job actions, contract tactics that embittered many parents and townspeople during the recent negotiations. The questions, asked in the absence of a meet-the-candidates forum, concentrated on the broadest segment of the budget, staff ratios and cost of payrolls, benefits and union relations, which comprise more than 77 percent of the total budget and represent the areas most susceptible to budget cuts in the long process of budget development. In her summary,

Mrs. Fuller pointed out "there is far more involved" than labor relations with teachers, and stated that priorities should begin with a curriculum that will enable students to "appreciate and enjoy the wide variety of enriching options we presently offer."

The forum questions and answers follow:

Bethlehem's school enrollment has been dropping steadily for several years, and is now approximately 20 percent below the peak year, yet the budget is higher today than it was when we had roughly 1,000 more students than are projected for 1978-79. Do you have any plans for limiting the increasing burden on taxpayers?

Ruckterstuhl

The most significant single way school costs can be limited would be to get inflation under

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control. However, since that appears unlikely I believe other steps must be taken to keep tax increases significantly below the inflation rate as it is this year, approximately 2 percent.

More than 75 percent of the total budget is directly tied to providing educational services to students. Reductions in this part of the budget means less service, either through larger

classes or program elimination. What can and must be done is to manage the delivery of these services with the highest efficiency. Good management is even more vital in the business-type expenditures of the remaining 25 percent of the budget. We must not practice false economy in maintenance programs and force another repair bond issue in a few years.

We must not defer required replacements and get into the position faced by a neighboring district, which must ask its voters for approval of the purchase of 17 new buses this year. We must move ahead forcefully with energy conservation and implement the report of the Citizens Advisory Energy Committee, which I served as chairman.

Fuller

It is facetious to suggest that the absolute dollar cost of our schools will decline in line with our reduced enrollment. Increased living costs are something we have all experienced in recent years. The prices which we pay for our utilities and the gasoline for our automobiles are a fair indication of costs over which the school district has little direct control. What the school board must do is work creatively with parents, administrators and teachers to see that our tax dollars are spent wisely and that our residents get the very best return on their investment.

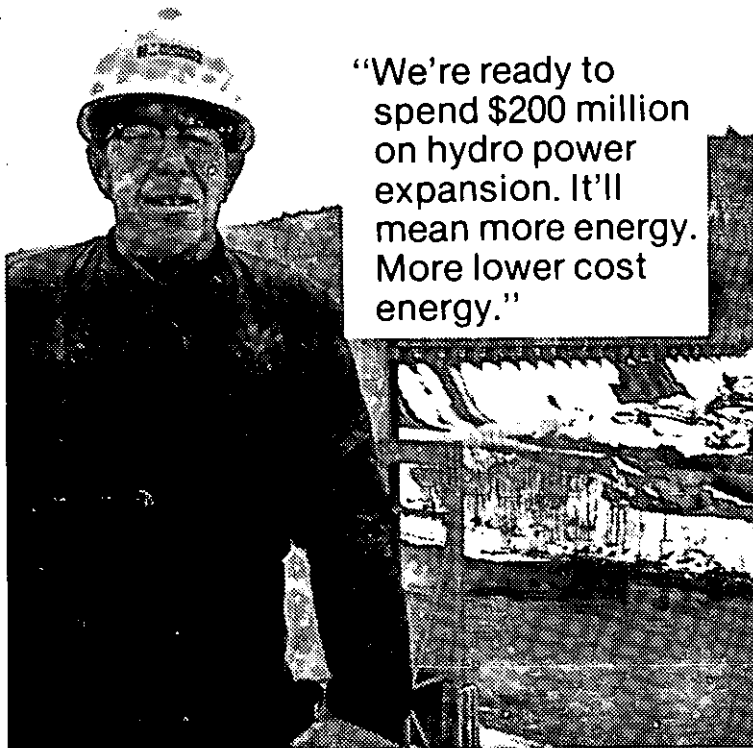
With payroll and benefits comprising more than 75 percent of the total budget, size of staff and size of classes become major items. Other school districts have increased their class size to 27-30 to reduce costs. With due respect to the system's "quality," do you think class sizes should be more realistic in view of today's costs?

Ruckterstuhl

Class size, or more precisely student/staff ratio, is a major factor in the cost of education and also a major factor affecting its success. There are many subjects which can be taught effectively with 27-30 students but others cannot. The size of primary grade classes is critical to allow the teacher to work with small groups of equal ability. Laboratory and shop classes must be limited for safety. Classes in which written assignments are given must be sized to recognize the time required for grading and corrections.

I do not favor any basic change in the student/staff ratio. However, I do feel it is essential that we respond to declining enrollment by painstakingly carrying staff reduction proportionally through the entire system from top to bottom. The staffing at each elementary school and on each Middle School team, and the decisions on which courses

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will be offered at the High School, which fixes its staffing requirements, must be scrutinized each year. We should provide the quality program which I feel the citizens of the district desire without allowing staffing ratios to escalate.

Fuller

The board should carefully examine the class sizes required for particular levels and types of instruction. Increasing class sizes at the early grades may not be cost-effective if we only increase the necessity of remedial reading and math later on. We have to be as concerned with what comes out of our school system as what goes in. As we review the results of such an examination, we may well be able to increase selected class sizes without impairing the real ability of our children to learn.

The tactics and demands of the teachers' union in

Bethlehem appears to dictate the cost and curriculum in the district. Do you feel that board members, as elected representatives of the people, should take a stronger stand against the union and thus regain control of the school system?

Ruckterstuhl

Control of the school system has not been lost. Curriculum, staffing problems and all other basic decisions such as supply and equipment expenditure levels are made by the board of education. However, the laws of the State of New York require that school districts negotiate with their employees for salary and conditions of employment. In recent times, these negotiations have been particularly difficult and distasteful to both parties since employees cannot expect to obtain salary increases which will keep up with the cost of living increase, and the board cannot expect to keep the

contract settlement low enough to prevent an increase in the already high tax rate.

As elected representatives of the people, I feel the board must be firm during salary negotiations with teachers. However, we are not adversaries. We share the very important goal of promoting conditions that encourage excellence in education and a cooperative spirit is essential on both sides to achieve this goal.

Fuller

The business of the school board is much broader than battling the teachers' union. Obviously collective bargaining is one of the board's most important responsibilities. The board and its negotiators must bargain fairly and competently. We should use every available resource to compensate for the statewide organization of the employee groups. But we should never let the board

abandon its most fundamental responsibility for educational policy leadership.

"Work-to-rule" is practised by union teachers as a job action to bring pressure on school boards during negotiations by shortchanging pupils and giving less than full measure to teaching. Do you feel the board should put counter-pressures on activist teachers, and what would you do about it?

Ruckterstuhl

"Work-to-rule" is a particularly unpleasant result of recent teacher-board salary negotiations. The board must be firm in insisting on complete fulfillment of the provisions of the contract during a "work-to-rule" action, but I do not believe that you can force a teacher to put in the extra time and effort required to meet the needs of our children. The only real solution is to avoid the conditions that result in

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impasse and leads the teachers union to take such action. Both sides must recognize the aspirations of the other as well as their determination to stand fast.

Fuller

"Work-to-rule" is a regrettable situation in which innocent third parties, the students, suffer the most. Negotiations should be pursued with dedication, perseverance and straight talking. Tough bargaining means just that, and tough bargaining is what produces contracts—not work stoppages. The suggestion that the school board put "counterpressures" on "activist teachers" demonstrates a fundamental lack of knowledge of both the Taylor Law and the realities of collective bargaining in both private industry and the public sector. Such a policy would be both illegal and impractical.

There is no state law that requires school boards to grant pay increments to teachers each year, although many liberal boards do so. Do you feel that when teachers are given salary increases under union contracts that increments also should be added?

Ruckterstuhl

A salary schedule of increments based on years of service is included in our current contract and also in every area school which reported in the current CASDA financial and statisticaation. The question which should be asked during

salary negotiations is if normal increments are granted what general salary increase, if any, is appropriate. It is the total cost of the contract which must be considered by the board regardless of whether it consists of increments, general salary increase or fringe benefits. In these difficult times I believe the board must keep the total of a contract settlement below the rate of inflation. Our employees must absorb some of the cost of inflation just as employees have in other sectors of the economy which are under pressure. However, reasonable salary increases are fully justified for employees who have the major role in our children's education.

Fuller

Paying a 10-year teacher the same as a teacher coming straight out of college is a quick way to disaster. The provision of increments is designed to reward increased experience. Unless we create several major categories of teachers, we will have to use some way of rewarding experience other than forcing good teachers into administrative positions for which they are not best qualified. Increments are a part of the total compensation package and have to be considered as a part of any agreement.

Do you support the growing move toward doing away with teacher tenure in favor of five-year renewable contracts?

Ruckterstuhl

I would support some changes to the present system of unlimited tenure, since I

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believe it provides more protection to the employee's rights than is really needed under today's conditions. The contract negotiated between the union and the district already protects the employee's rights to disciplinary hearings and or arbitration of grievances. It could also be extended to provide fair and reasonable limits to the board's authority to terminate an employee for unsatisfactory performance.

Fuller

Teacher tenure has provided much needed protection for many deserving teachers in the past, but it should never be a protection for incompetency. The mechanism for bringing disciplinary proceedings against tenured teachers would appear to have broken down completely or become too cumbersome to be practical. Renewable long-term contracts may provide a useful alternative to tenure, and

should be an option available to local negotiators. Our board should press for legislation at the state level to provide long-term renewable contracts as an option to tenure.

Summary by Ruckterstuhl

Candidates must let the voters know their beliefs by answering questions like these clearly. But also they must declare just as clearly what specific contribution they can make if elected.

First, I feel my experience and training in long-range planning, facility management and energy conservation has been, and will be, of great value to the district. Secondly, I believe my election will maintain reasonable representative balance. If my opponent is elected she would be the fourth board member from the Hamagrael School area. This would mean a majority of the board would be from just one of the five areas, and no board member would reside in two of the areas. All board members

are properly concerned about the whole district, but there is a sensitivity and awareness of the activities of the neighborhood elementary school which is unique to a representative who lives in the area.

Summary by Fuller

The questions listed above all relate to one portion of the work of the school board. While labor relations with the teachers are important, there is far more involved. The school system is an integral part of our community and its quality affects us all. The quality of that system can be improved without spending more money than we presently are spending.

The key to this improvement will have to be the establishment of well-ordered priorities. The school board should act in response to a pre-established plan rather than react to a crisis. These priorities should begin with a curriculum designed to provide each and every child with a solid foundation in the basic subjects

essential to both future learning and everyday living. With such a foundation, our students are able to progress and understand, appreciate and enjoy the wide variety of enriching options we presently offer. Without this foundation, a child can learn little, and we cannot afford these optional subjects.

A program incorporating both the solid foundation in the essential basic subjects and the enriching options can be ours within our present budget. It will require industry, imagination and just plain hard work. I don't promise any more than that. I don't think that we can settle for less.

New medical assistant

H. Jennell Wheeler, 59 Parkway Dr., and Verna Ethel Norman, 10 Partridge Rd., both of Delmar, were among 23 students graduating May 23 from the Westchester School for Paraprofessional Training, Albany, after completing the course for medical assistant.

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ENTERTAINMENT & DINING GUIDE

Childbirth film coming

Mrs. Valmai Elkins, author of "The Rights of the Pregnant Parent," will speak and show her newly released film Thursday, May 25, at 8 p.m. at Bethlehem Library. Mrs. Elkins, a registered physical therapist, teaches Lamaze classes in Montreal. The program Thursday is sponsored by the Childbirth Assn. of Albany as part of its 10th anniversary observance. Admission is free.

**Support Spotlight
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CHURCH SOFTBALL Standings May 12

	W.	L.
Methodist	2	0
Presbyterian	2	0
St. Thomas	2	0
Wynantskill	2	0
Bethany	1	1
Beth. Comm.	1	1
Cluster	1	1
Glenmont	1	1
Knox	1	1
Voorheesville	1	1
Albany	0	2
Colonic	0	2
Del. Reformed	0	2
St. Stephens	0	2

CHURCH SOFTBALL RESULTS

Wynants 11 Knox 6
Presby. 5 Albany 4
Bethany 23 St. Stephens 7
Glenmont 11 De. Ref. 4
St. Thomas 13 Beth. Comm. 5
Cluster 24 Voorhees. 3
Methodist 7 Colonic 5

Pancake breakfast

The Ladies Auxiliary of the North Bethlehem Fire Dept. will hold a pancake breakfast at the firehouse on Schoolhouse Rd. Sunday, May 21, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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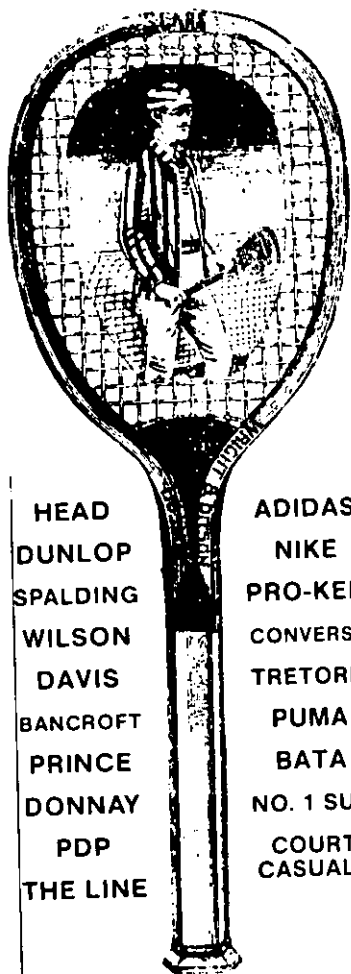
BC Softballers hit for distance

Despite a low bio-dex reading on her birthday last week, junior Alison Wrynn

managed to knock in five runs on a grand slam and a single in Bethlehem's varsity softball game against Shenendehowa, but when the final score was tallied the Plainsmen came out with an 11-8 victory. The junior varsity team also bowed to the powerful Shenendehowa team, making its current record 6-1. The varsity stands at 6-2.

Earlier in the week, Bethlehem slaughtered Scotia and beat previously undefeated Shaker by a score of 17-9. Senior Linda Allaway belted two homers in the game against Shaker, with sophomore Molly Nevins contributing one home run and an effective defense behind the plate. Other key players on the varsity team

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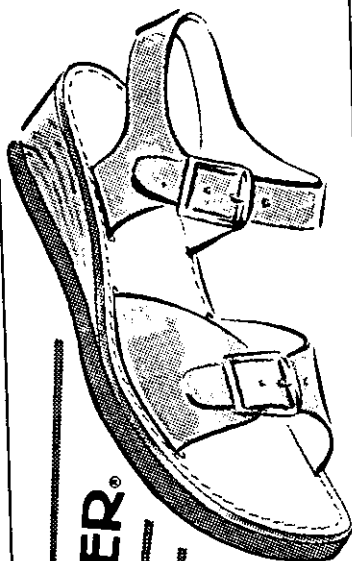
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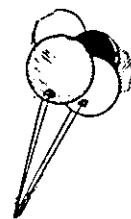
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include pitchers Joanne VanWoert and Anne Dalton, both juniors. Shelley Richter, sophomore, at second base, and Edie Eyres, junior, shortstop.

Shaker and Guilderland are the current first-place holders in the Suburban Council, but the Eagles are strong contenders for the championship. They faced a strong Burnt Hills team on Monday and Mohonasen Wednesday, and spectators are welcome at all home games.

Jessica Treadway

VOORHEESVILLE

Blackbird teams have busy slate

After two weeks of spring sports, Voorheesville Central's teams are improving. The varsity track team's record is 4-5 in dual meets so far. In a

recent Middleburgh Invitational, Voorheesville again placed fifth. In field events, Jim Abelseth, a senior, is undefeated in the high and intermediate hurdles and high jump. Junior Tom George is one of the best pole vaulters in the area.

Varsity tennis, coached by Dick Taylor and Tom Kurkjian, has a league record of 1-1. Junior Tim Lewis, one of the Capital District's top tennis players, is 7-0 in single matches. In doubles, Lewis and senior Jody Gallagher have an outstanding record.

After losing the first few games this season, the baseball team, coached by John Peichnik, is now 3-7. Senior Shawn Burns has a pitching record of 2-4, while Chuck Dollard, the only sophomore on the team, is 1-3. Outstanding batters are seniors

Vic Genovesi and Burns, while juniors Jim Cillis and Raply Kelly are also doing an excellent job. Burns pitched a one-hitter against Heatly last week, striking out 14, walking none and permitting only one man to reach base.

Girls' varsity softball is 2-2 in league play. Sophomore Melanie Sembrat has both

wins. Coach Budd Tetrault feels the hitting is good, but fielding needs considerable work to come up to last year's team.

Kelli Flynn

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Voorheesville village board organizes for the fiscal year: from left, Trustee Richard Huber, Mayor William J. Wenzel, Trustees Milton Bates and William Gray. Absent was Trustee Al Wilcon.

VOORHEESVILLE

**Renovation slated
for village office**

When the village of Voorheesville moves its road equipment and maintenance shop from the village hall to the new town garage, the stage will be set for a major renovation of the village hall.

Trustee William Gray has been named head of the village board's committee to draw up plans for the renovation, which have already been discussed in preliminary stages. Gray said the board favors a design that

includes a "bow window" in the proposed village offices.

Mayor William J. Wenzel said the plans call for moving the present village offices and hearing room into the first floor space now occupied by the public works department. Also in the plans are improvements in lighting and a more accessible stairway.

Benefit concert

Ray Rettig, Delmar pianist and composer, will present a benefit concert for the Albany Association of the Blind in the Albany High School Auditorium on May 24 at 8 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by the Albany City Arts Office. Performing with Rettig will be George Mastrangelo, on flute and saxophone, Sam Farkas, guitar, Otto Gardner, on bass, Steve Sitz, drums, and Brubbi Taylor, on percussion. Admission is \$2.

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Dorothy Percival of South Bethlehem presents a petition to Bethlehem's town board for the extension of street lighting another mile and a half west on Bridge St. toward Callahan's Corners in the extreme southwestern corner of the town. The petition was signed by members of 17 families. *Spotlight Photo*

Attending performance

Members of the Delmar Progress Club have reserved a bloc of tickets for the opening performance of "Peter Pan" at Empire State Plaza on June 2 at 8 p.m. May Blackmore is accepting reservations at \$6 per ticket.

Named by Audubon

Aaron and Glenna Shaloum of Delmar have been named to the board of directors of the Albany County Audubon Society.

At health conference

Mrs. Anne M. Anzola, 10 Laurel Dr., attended a health policy and management conference at the Harvard School of Public Health. Mrs.



Anne M. Anzola

Anzola is the associate director of operations for the Health Systems Agency of North-eastern New York. She holds a masters degree in public health from Yale University. She and her husband, Eduardo, have four children.



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A close-up look at the arts

If one or more of a group of Voorheesville third graders some day becomes a famous author or illustrator, part of the inspiration may have originated in an unusual workshop program coordinated by Patricia Thomas, who conducts a departmentalized reading program for the elementary school.

Some 30 pupils representing Voorheesville Elementary School's six third grade classes have been treated to classroom visits by two professionals in the field of children's books. Author Elinor Brownstein and illustrator Sherry Krugel, known professionally as the Ladybug Author-Illustrator of Schenectady, have published two children's books, "The Lost Bellybutton" and "Birdorf and Farfel." They are currently writing and illustrating two more books to serve as tools in promoting the creative process.



Voorheesville third graders get first-hand guidance from children's book experts Elinor Brownstein, center, and Sherry Krugel. Staci Sala is at the left; seated are Chrystie McCormick, Donna Menching and Danny McKenna. Just off camera is Kenny Rafferty. On the cover: the visitors work with Amy Matteo, left, Stephanie Colburn, Beth McMartin and teacher Patricia Thomas.

J.W. Campbell

This month they have made four visits to Voorheesville, showing the third graders how

to write and illustrate stories to be bound into books. Each child is writing and illustrating

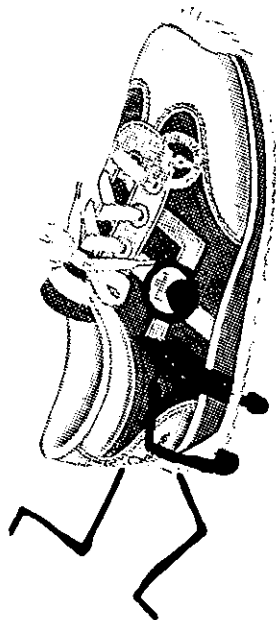
a story that will be put in book form. Their prospective best-sellers will be on display at Voorheesville Library later this month or early in June.

Mrs. Thomas is as enthusiastic as the members of her reading classes. "The workshops are a real enrichment to language arts," she says. "They stimulate and encourage listening skills, articulation and creative processes necessary in making a book. I'm sure the project will have a lasting impression on the children."

Assisting Mrs. Thomas are Frances Smoller and Margaret Fennell of the elementary school's art department. The workshop is an arts awareness project sponsored by the Schenectady Arts Council.

Equipment vandalized

Police are seeking vandals who smashed the upper and lower windshields of a back hoe owned by the Klersy Building Corp. at a Delmar building site last weekend and pulled out wires from the vehicle.



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6 miles } for various
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MONDAY—FRIDAY TII 9, SATURDAY TII 6

SLINGERLANDS

Community losing a family doctor

To Andrew Sullivan, living in Delmar was quite different from New York City, where he grew up, and from Cleveland's urban lakeshore, where he went to college. He and his wife, Kathleen, and their young children lived for a time on Wellington Rd. and later on Rowland Ave. while Andrew was completing his studies at Albany Medical College. When he graduated in 1974, he took a residency in family practice at St. Joseph's Hospital, Syracuse, and completed it in 1977.

Ready to begin practicing, Dr. Sullivan came back to Bethlehem, the community he had liked so much during medical school. He bought a house at 28 Forest Dr., Delmar, and last July opened an office as a "GP" at 1525 New Scotland Rd., Slingerlands. He moved into the space formerly occupied by Dr. John Grogan of Slingerlands, who earlier had given up his general practice to work at St. Peter's Hospital and for the New York Telephone Co. A fellow tenant in the building owned by Dr. Grogan was Dr. Virginia Lazaro, also a practicing physician.

Last week Dr. Sullivan mailed notices to his patients that he was giving up his practice, and suggested they make arrangements to have

their medical records transferred to other doctors. The decision, he says, was "a personal decision," based on a number of factors. There is no disappointment with his practice, he points out. "I appreciate the support I've had from the community. It's a difficult decision, not because of any one or two reasons. I feel I would derive more satisfaction, professionally and personally, working for an institution. My plans aren't yet firm, but you can say I am seeking full-time salaried employment."

Dr. Sullivan will see his patients through till the end of

July, which presumably gives them time to find another family doctor and gives himself time to find the niche in medicine he is seeking. He is qualified to teach: he earned an MA degree in teaching from John Carroll University in Cleveland, where he also received his BS degree. Meanwhile his loss will be felt by the young families he has been caring for in a steadily growing suburban community that so far, unlike some areas, has not experienced a paucity of doctors. With a substantial medical population attached to the Albany Medical Center and

a cluster of major metropolitan hospitals only a few miles away, it is unlikely Bethlehem and New Scotland residents ever will feel that kind of pinch.

Chem lab raided

Bethlehem police are tracing leads following a weekend break-in at a Bethlehem Central High School chemistry laboratory. School officials reported that intruders broke into Room 21 and stole four chemical balances, 12-inch-high measuring devices with silver trays, the weekend of May 6-7. Police said the devices were suitable for measuring quantities of marijuana.

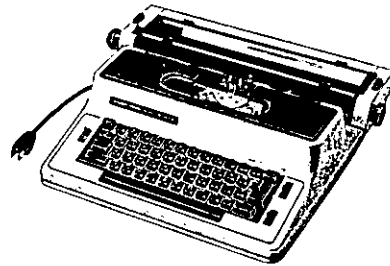
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McNAB'S



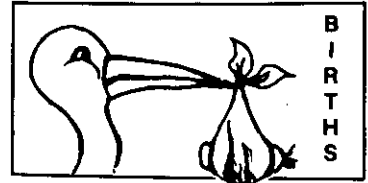
Net tournament set next month

The Bethlehem Tennis Assn. is receiving entries for its annual "closed" tournament, restricted to residents of the town of Bethlehem, Bethlehem school district and BTA members, to be held in Delmar the first two weekends in June.

Entry deadline is May 30 for men's and women's singles and doubles and mixed doubles. "B" flights will be scheduled in most events. Entries may be mailed or delivered to the Courtside Tennis Shop, 253 Delaware Ave., Elsmere.

Barbara Woodruff and Ellie Prakken are co-chairmen of the spring tournament, assisted by Claire Sellitti, Ed Taylor, Tony Fusco, Craig Jones, Merri Meislahn, Eve Sarfeh, Aussie Shayegani, Maureen Riegle and Peter Tenbeau. Finals will be held at the town park courts on June 11.

Barbara Woodruff, left, and Ellie Prakken are co-chairmen of the Bethlehem Tennis Assn. spring tournament scheduled for June 3-4, 10-11.



B
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Albany Medical Center

Girl, Lisa, to Mr. and Mrs. William Barkovic, Glenmont, April 28.

Girl, Laura, to Mr. and Mrs. Genadij Sienkiewicz, Delmar, May 1.

St. Peter's Hospital

Girl, Kelly Anne, to Mr. and Mrs. James Ringler, Delmar, April 29.

Girl, Jacqueline Elizabeth, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Carmody, Voorheesville, April 27.

Girl, Kelly Ann, to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gerber, Glenmont, April 27.

Boy, Devin James, to Mr. and Mrs. David VanDerburg, Delmar, April 14.

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BC's Jeff Poggi earned fourth place in both hurdles events at the Suburban Council track and field championships held in Delmar Saturday. Burnt Hills won the team title by a point over Niskayuna, 54-53. Bethlehem was eighth with 15 in the 10-team meet.

Mark Collien

Scouts hear bishop

Bishop Howard Hubbard of the Albany Roman Catholic Diocese will be the speaker at the annual meeting and dinner of the Hudson Valley Girl Scout Council May 24 at the Turf Inn, Colonie. Mrs. Arthur Cramer of Albany, former council president, is chairman. The meeting marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Hudson Valley Council.

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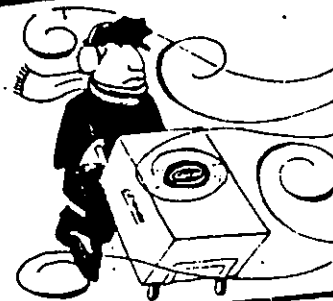
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Students given a legal insight

Eleven area attorneys spent one morning last week at the Bethlehem Middle School, participating in a Law Day program for 8th graders. There were separate sessions on an individual's rights under arrest, punishment and sentencing, and family and personal law.

Speakers were Joseph M. Brennan, assistant Albany County public defender; Neil D. Breslin, practicing attorney and television moderator on Channel 17; Philip S. Caponera, a Colonie town justice; Donald DeAngelis, a former Bethlehem town justice; Roger M. Fritts, justice of Bethlehem town court; William Gray, Albany County public defender; Sol Greenberg, Albany

County district attorney; Bernard J. Malone, Brian Murphy and Samuel R. Whiting, all former Albany County assistant district attorneys and practicing attorneys, and Polly N. Rutnick, law guardian for Albany County Family Court.

Bethlehem justices Roger Fritts (present) and Donald DeAngelis (former) obtained the speakers and organized the program, assisted by a Law Day committee of Jacqueline Shane, Middle School guidance counselor; Gloria Kanter, 8th grade social studies teacher; Barbara Reifler, parent representative, and Dominick DeCecco, social studies supervisor. Frederick Burdick, Middle School principal, and Richard Nestlen and Donna Varriale, 8th grade social studies teachers, also assisted in

planning the program, which has become an annual spring event at the Middle School.

DEATHS

Alice M. Porter

Mrs. Alice M. Porter, a widely known amateur photographer, speaker and world traveler, died May 12 at Albany Medical Center after a brief illness. She was 83 and lived at 1 Furman Pl., Delmar.

Mrs. Porter was an active member of the Delmar Camera Club and was a regular participant in photography competitions and exhibits throughout the area. She was in demand as a speaker who illustrated her travelogues with slides for local organizations. Among her last photos were several taken to publicize the

Presbyterian Church Fair, one of which appeared on the cover of last week's Spotlight. She was also a member of the Delmar Progress Club, the Bethlehem Historical Assn. and the Federated Women's Club. Last summer she was honored by the Bethlehem Lions Club at a surprise family reunion of four generations.

She leaves a daughter, Mrs. Alice P. Boutelle of Ravena, two grandsons and one great-grandson. A memorial service was to be held May 24 at the Delmar Presbyterian Church.

Wins swim letter

Leonard Steele of Delmar has been awarded his second varsity letter in swimming at Norwich University, where he is a junior majoring in mechanical engineering. He captained the Cadets to a 7-3 season and swam on two 400-yard relay teams that set school records. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Steele, 100 Adams Pl.



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National	W	L	T
Roberts Realty	3	0	0
Spotlight	3	0	0
Mullen's	1	2	0
Main Care	0	2	0
Meyers Funeral	0	2	0
American	W	L	T
Cohn Yaguda	2	0	0
General Electric	1	1	0
Kiwanis	1	1	0
Price Greenleaf	0	1	0
Farm Family	0	2	0

INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE

National	W	L	T
Mullen's	3	0	0
Roberts Realty	3	0	0
Spotlight	3	0	0
Main Care	1	1	0
Meyers Bicycle	0	2	0
American	W	L	T
Price Greenleaf	1	0	0
Pat & Bob's	0	2	0
Cohn Yaguda	0	2	0
Farm Family	0	2	0
General Electric	0	2	0

WHEELER LEAGUE

Mets 3-0-0, Giants 2-0-0,
Indians 1-0-0, Orioles 1-0-0,
Cubs 1-0-0, Red Sox 1-1-0,
Cardinals 1-1-0, Yankees 1-2-0,
Dodgers 0-1-0, Tigers 0-2-0,
Braves 0-2-0, Pirates 0-0-0.

Town physicals set

The Bethlehem town board has reached an agreement with Dr. Roger T. Drew of Delmar for pre-employment and periodic physical examinations for town employees. This is the first time the town has required such examinations.

Rummage sale set

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, St. Patrick's Auxiliary will have a rummage sale June 4 at Hibernian Hall, 91 Quail St., Albany, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bicycle safety program slated

The Town of Bethlehem will hold its second annual Bicycle Safety Day on Saturday, May 20, at the Elm Ave. Park, Delmar, between 2 and 4 p.m. Bike Safety Day is sponsored by Owens-Corning Fiberglas, McDonald's, Bethlehem Auxiliary Police and the town's bicycle safety committee. Members of the auxiliary police will be on hand at major crossing points to help participants cross streets safely, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Purpose of the event is to publicize the safe bike routes to the town's Elm Ave. Park, to stress the importance of bicycle safety and to get bike riders to obtain licenses for their bikes.

At the park, Bethlehem detective Marvin Koonz will give safety lectures at 2 and 3 p.m., followed by safety inspections by members of the auxiliary police. Minor bike repairs will be made by Wilson E. Hermance of the Parks and Recreation Dept. Town Clerk Marion T. Camp will be on hand to issue licenses.

From 2:15 to 3 and 3:15 to 4, participants may ride an obstacle course set up at the park by members of the town's bicycle safety committee. Riders who obtain the highest scores will receive certificates for McDonald's. There will be a drawing among those winners for a free bicycle, donated by Owens-Corning. Riders will compete in the following categories: pre-school to grade 2, grades 3-5; grades 6-8, and high school age.

Tavern burglarized

Burglars who kicked in the rear door of Private Benny's, a restaurant-bar at 1360 New Scotland Rd., Slingerlands, last Sunday night got away with \$162 in cash and undetermined sums from a cigarette machine, jukebox and pinball machine. Bethlehem police said the owner, Robert P. DeBenedetti, arrived Monday morning to find the lights on and a section of the door shattered.

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Peter Vaeth-Photography

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BETHLEHEM

Problems plague school newspaper

In the long-established roster of high school student organizations, one of the most prestigious and most sought-after extra-curricular activities has traditionally been the school newspaper. Not so at Bethlehem Central.

This month a small cadre of students who comprise the staff of the Bethlehem Star, once a flourishing newspaper that appeared five or six times each school year, is struggling to come out with only its third issue since school began last September.

"We put out one in the Fall, and one in the Spring," says Mark Netter, a senior who is the editor and chief administrator. "Right now we're waiting for the galleys to come back, but it's difficult because they (the printers) had the copy two weeks ago."

Netter, highly regarded as president of the school's Model Congress and prominent in the statewide Model Congress' structure, feels the sagging fortunes of the Bethlehem Star can only get better next year and in the future. His optimism, he says, is based on the prospects of a new advisor and "some really promising talent in the junior class and the younger classes."

The Star's advisor for the past several years has been Margaret DiNova, a high school English teacher who has been pressed into service to teach a one-semester journalism course in recent years. According to student editors, Miss DiNova has been a reluctant counselor who has been promised by school officials to be relieved of the chore next year. Although she is regarded as an active unionist during the recent work-to-rule job action by the Bethlehem teachers' union that barred outside-classroom activities not specified by the contract, student editors do not attribute the diminished stature of the Star to Miss DiNova's union



Mark Netter

participation. In Netter's analysis the problems stem from student apathy and a shortage of budget dollars.

"Back in the '60s the school board decided that we couldn't solicit advertising from local merchants. There's never been enough money to put out a good newspaper. The school board seems to put the emphasis on athletics rather than other kinds of activities, and the coaches don't like to give anyone time for other activities."

School officials, also disappointed by the sporadic publishing schedule of the Star, took a somewhat different view. "There's no financial problem," says Principal Charles Gunner. "For the past three years the administration has allocated \$1,800 to \$2,000 to the school newspaper." Normally, he says, that would cover the cost of four or five eight-page issues run at the Schenectady printing plant where the Star has gone to press in recent years. School officials hinted that Netter was "spreading himself perhaps a little too thin" in his enthusiastic involvement with Model Congress and other activities as

one of the school's student leaders.

Although he's graduating next month, Mark Netter feels the Star is heading for better times. There will be a new advisor next year, there should be a solid budget surplus because of this year's intermittent publication performance, but most significant, in Netter's view, is the talent of Dave Ouderkirk, a promising writer and editor; Nancy Landau, who contributes cartoons; Jim Carroll, an accomplished photographer, and Steve Pitt, a sportswriter. This quartet, says Netter, coming up from the junior class could bring about a rebirth of student journalism at Bethlehem Central.

Essay contest on

The Delmar Rotary Club is again sponsoring an essay contest for Bethlehem Middle School pupils. This year's topic is "Ways to Solve Our Energy Problem." A winner will be selected from each team in grades 6, 7 and 8, and all nine winners will receive \$10 prizes.

Essays should be between 250 and 300 words, and must be submitted to Eugene Duffy, Bethlehem School District English supervisor, by June 5. Authors of the winning entries will also be invited to attend the Rotary Club's dinner meeting on June 13.

Motorist jailed

A Massachusetts driver who refused to take routine tests after being stopped by police in Delmar was given a prompt trip to Albany County jail. Police said Victor Kulina of Methuen, Mass., was halted by officer Robert Samsel in a Bethlehem police cruiser after his car had crossed the center line on Delaware Ave. in Elsmere shortly before 9 p.m. last Sunday and jumped the curb into the Union National Bank parking lot. When the driver refused to submit to an alert test and a breathalyzer test, he was remanded to jail pending a hearing in Bethlehem justice court.

BETHLEHEM

Tempo steps up on assessments

Some 1,000 Bethlehem property owners are receiving notices of changes in their assessed valuations and an appeal to register any complaints well in advance of the annual Grievance Day session.

Assessor Gilbert Houk said he plans to open his office on three consecutive Saturdays, June 3, 10 and 17, from 9 a.m. to noon to be available to residents who want to discuss any changes in their valuations, most of them on the "up" side. Houk said he will keep his office in town hall open till 6 p.m. by appointment.

Bethlehem properties are taxed on their valuations as of May 1. The tentative tax roll will be open for public inspection as of June 1. Grievance Day is June 20.

Houk hopes residents wishing to discuss their assessment situations will respond to his Saturday and evening hours in June in order to lighten the Grievance Day crush. "I hope people will take advantage of the opportunity to come in early," he said.

The town has approximately 9,000 parcels on the rolls. Local officials are proceeding toward the statewide 100-percent assessment status, which has a tentative target date of 1980, but are waiting for Gov. Carey's tax exemption committee to work out a formula that grants partial exemptions for senior citizens. The statewide full-value assessment program will eliminate the current equalization formulas that compensate for varying assessment practices in municipalities.

Smoke bomb ignited

Bethlehem police are investigating a report that a smoke bomb was hurled into the hallway of an apartment house at 16 Magdalen Rd., Delmar, about 9:20 p.m. last Sunday.



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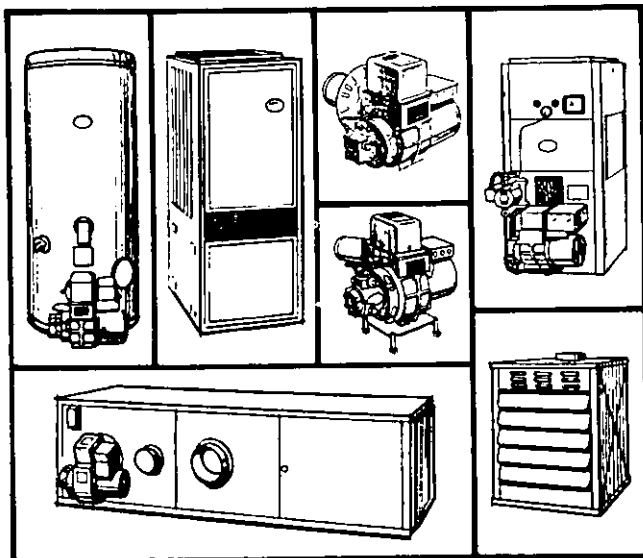
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Delmar youth from Faith Lutheran Church at a retreat at Lake Luzerne included from left, seated, Jeff Bennett, Neil Holmberg, Eric Lonstrom and David Richards; standing, Norm Collins, Steve Meyers, Mrs. Paula Ouderkirk (retreat leader), Kay Hayes, Kim Tucker, Beth Bennett and Phil Durant. Above, part of the 50-foot banana split shared by 55 delegates from area churches. Not a drop of ice cream survived.

League to met

The Bethlehem unit of the League of Women Voters will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, May 25, at 9:15 a.m. in the Bethlehem Library. The meeting will be conducted by the new officers, Doris Davis, unit leader; Gail Moon, membership chairman; Nancy Sprissler, publications; Joyce Laiosa, voter's service; and Susan McCuen, finance. Anyone interested in joining or learning more about League activities is invited to attend.

Babysitting will be provided at the library. For information or transportation, call Doris Davis, 439-5786.

Wins varsity letter

Lorren R. Elkins, a Bethlehem Central High School graduate and former Delmar resident, has been awarded a varsity letter for swimming at Harvard University, where he is completing his freshman year. He also has been elected to the Crimson, the university's daily newspaper. His parents now reside in Potomac, Md.



Nancy Applebee, second from left, accepts \$300 second prize for her son, Brian, at St. Thomas card party and fashion show April 21. With her are Rev. James Daley, and co-chairman Margaret Dandeneau, left, and Jeanine McCormick.

Drawing announced

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith, 61 Paxwood Dr., Delmar, were winners of the \$500 first prize at the April 21 card party and fashion show at St. Thomas Church, Delmar. Brian Applebee, 401 Kenwood Ave., won second prize of \$300, while \$100 winners were LeShoppe, Kenwood Ave., Delmar, and Mrs. William Burkhard, 65 Brookview Ave., Delmar.

Local artist honored

Slingerlands native Peter Guest has had an oil painting, "Sunlight Portrait of Kris," accepted to hang in the

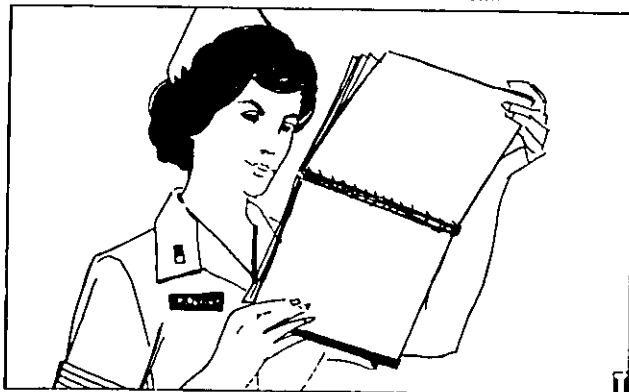
Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Ave., New York City. America's oldest art club. This is the first time in 107 years the Salmagundi Club has opened a juried exhibition to non-members.

Works of art were submitted from across the country, including 200 paintings, 40 graphics and 30 pieces of sculpture. It will now become an annual event.

Peter Guest, son of Dr. and Mrs. C.M. Guest, 1661 New Scotland Rd., recently held a one-man exhibition at the Brookside Museum, Ballston Spa.

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May 19 Girls Softball vs. Colonie
May 19 Girls Track, Suburban Council Championship
May 19-20 Tennis, Suburban Council Tournament
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May 22 Girls Softball at Burnt Hills
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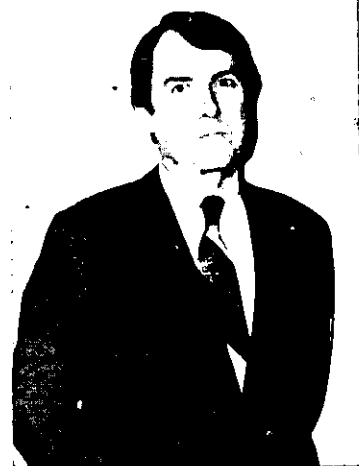
Marine Staff Sgt. Raymond P. Corkrey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond F. Corkrey Jr. of Castle Rd., Voorheesville, recently participated in "Fortress Lighting" in the Republic of the Philippines. He is one of more than 14,000 sailors and Marines who took part in the two-week exercise, which included 30 ships and seventh fleet aircraft and the Philippine Navy and Marine Corps. Corkrey joined the Marine Corps in 1966.

Navy Fireman Richard B. Hand, son of June S. Hand, 130 Fernbank Ave., Delmar, has completed the five-week basic aviation machinist's mate jet engine course at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Millington, Tenn., with honors. A 1975 graduate of Bethlehem Central High School, Fireman Hand joined the Navy in October, 1977.

VFW Auxiliary installs

Marie E. Wright of Delmar has been installed as the new president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Bethlehem Memorial Post 3185. Veterans of Foreign Wars. Other officers installed at a covered dish supper at the post rooms, 404 Delaware Ave., Delmar, on May 15 were: Josephine Pratt of New Salem, senior vice president; Colleen Bassett of Albany, junior vice president; Valerie Mosley of Delmar, treasurer; Frances Gathen of Delmar, secretary. Lillian Sanefsky of Delmar, chaplain; Lorraine Hotaling of Delmar, conductress, and Dorothy Way of Delmar, guard. Installing officer was Isabelle Rarick and conductress Betty Becker, both of Clarksville.

Mrs. Wright is the outgoing president of the Albany County Council. VFW Ladies Auxiliary. Bethlehem post members will participate in the Third District parade in Menands on Saturday and the Bethlehem Memorial Day parade on May 30.



Robert W. Page

Named to board

Robert W. Page of Delmar, a sales manager for the New York Telephone Co., has been appointed to the board of directors of Saint Anne Institute, 25 West Lawrence St., Albany. The institute provides residential and day treatment for adolescent girls 12-18.

Casting footsteps

Klersy Building Corp. residential construction crews were dismayed to find that youths had thrown large clumps of dirt into newly poured cement footings and even had walked in the fresh cement at a dwelling site at 10 Axbridge Lane, Delmar. Police investigation led quickly to the culprits, two neighborhood 4-year-olds. Potential charges of malicious mischief were promptly forgotten. Officers Richard L. Vanderbilt and Marvin Koonz talked with the pre-school boys in words of one-syllable and with their embarrassed parents, and the incident was written off with an agreement for restitution of damage that never will appear on the police blotter.

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Mrs. Stephen R. Wright

Local couple wed

Lois Elaine Bidwell, daughter of Mrs. Verna Bidwell and the late George Bidwell, 86 Maple Ave., Voorheesville, and Stephen Russell Wright, son of Mrs. Rosemary Blodgett of Elsmere and William E. Wright of Delmar, were married at noon May 6 at the First United Methodist Church, Delmar. Rev. Leon Adkins, minister of the church, performed the ceremony.

Dorothy Bartholomew of Schenectady was matron of honor. Bridesmaids were Bette Reagan of Delmar and Donna Berczes of Voorheesville. David Wright of Delmar was his brother's best man. Ushers were James Reagan of Delmar and Peter Berczes of Voorheesville. The bride was given in marriage by her father.

Mrs. Wright was graduated from Clayton A. Bouton High School Voorheesville and is employed at Curtis Lumber Co., Delmar. Her husband also graduated from Clayton A. Bouton High School and is an appliance technician for

Domestic Appliance, Albany. A reception was held at the American Legion Post 1493, Voorheesville. On their return from a trip to the Pocono Mountains, the couple is residing in Delmar.

Siding damaged

Harley P. Strauss of North Bethlehem told police that damage estimated at \$200 had been done by a person or persons who put dents in the aluminum siding of his residence at 301 Reineman St.

A hit-and-run loser

An unidentified motorist crashed into a tree on the front lawn of the Valentine Dittmer residence at 309 Schoolhouse Rd., North Bethlehem, the night of May 5 and drove off. Bethlehem police investigators said the damage to the front of the car "should be extensive."

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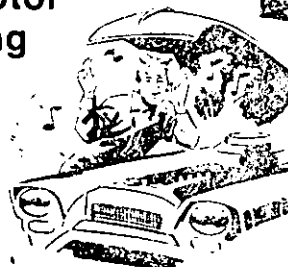
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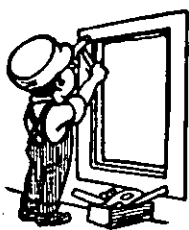
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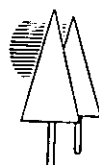
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11 HERBER AVE., May 20, 9-4. Antiques, collectibles, pool table.

49 THE CROSSWAY, May 20, 9-3. Circle of Faith, Faith Lutheran Church. Something for everyone.

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Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Hoffman *J.W. Campbell*

Note golden wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Hoffman of 69 McCormack Rd., Slingerlands, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 30. They were honored by their family and close friends at a party hosted by their son and daughter-in-law, Mrs. and Mrs. Alan C.

Hoffman, and their daughter and son-in-law, Mrs. and Mrs. Francis E. Manning. The party was held at the Alan Hoffman home, 49 Winne Rd., Delmar.

The couple also has six grandchildren. Mr. Hoffman is retired from the New York Telephone.

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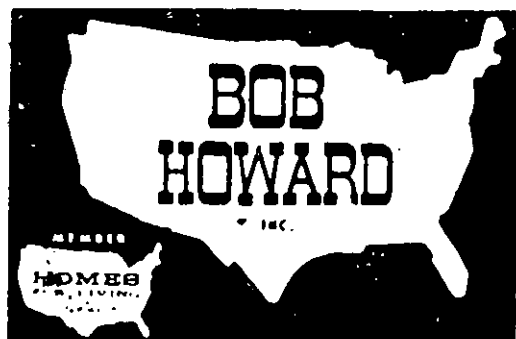
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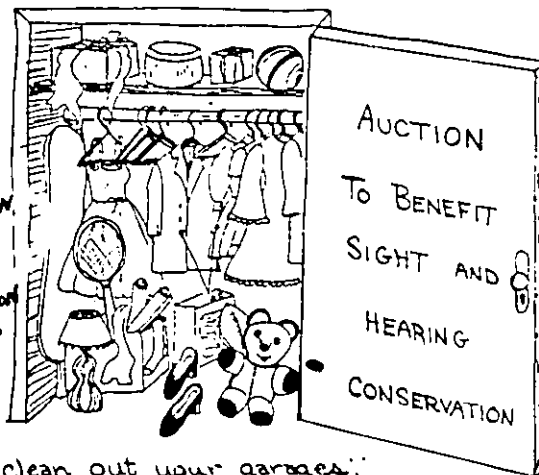
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Wed in Delmar

Miss Catherine M. Haines of Harmony Hill Rd., Albany, and Deane P. Fish of 6-11 Farnsworth Dr., Slingerlands, were married in a 7 p.m. ceremony April 22 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Delmar. Rev. Kenneth W. Gregory officiated.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mrs. Gail Dawson of Albany as matron of honor. Mitchell W. Miller of Albany was best man. Ushers were James R. Fish of Tampa, Fla., brother of the groom, and David P. LaPlante of Slingerlands.

Mrs. Fish is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dayton B. Haines, 22 Leaf Rd., Delmar. She is a graduate of Guilderland Central High School and Erie County Community College, and is employed as an optician. Her husband is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fish, Jr., of Slingerlands. He was graduated from Bethlehem Central High School and the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, and is employed by the State Division of the Budget.

The couple was honored at a reception at Wolfert's Roost



Mrs. Deane P. Fish

County Club, Albany, before leaving for a wedding trip to Bermuda. They are residing at 2 Stonington Hill Rd., Voorheesville.

Awarded scholarship

Stephen E. Lott of Glen Rock, N.J., son of Mrs. Roy E. Lott II and a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford F. Smith of Delmar has been awarded a three-year Eastman Kodak scholarship in chemical engineering at Syracuse University, where he is completing his freshman year.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF BETHLEHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE TOWNS OF BETHLEHEM AND NEW SCOTLAND COUNTY OF ALBANY, NEW YORK
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of the inhabitants of the above named school district will be held in the auditorium of Bethlehem Central High School, 700 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York on Tuesday, May 23, 1978, at 7:30 P.M., Eastern Daylight Savings time

The Board of Education will present at said meeting a detailed statement in writing of the amount of money that will be required for the ensuing year for school purposes. Copies of said statement may be obtained by any inhabitant of the district during the seven days immediately preceding the annual meeting, except Saturdays and Sundays, between the hours of 9:30 A.M. and 2:30 P.M., Eastern Daylight Savings time, at the Educational Services Center, 90 Adams Place, Delmar, New York and at the offices of the elementary schools, the High School and the Middle School of the district.

The trustees of the Bethlehem Public Library will present at said meeting a detailed statement in writing of money which will be required for the operation of the public library for the period of July 1, 1978, to June 30, 1979.

Petitions nominating candidates for the Board of Education for a full term of three (3) years commencing July 1, 1978, to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Robert Ruckterstahl, incumbent, and petitions nominating candidates for the office of Trustee for the Bethlehem Public Library for a full term of five (5) years commencing July 1, 1978, to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Theodore Wenzl,

LEGAL NOTICE

incumbent, and petitions nominating candidates to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Carol Spangler, for an unexpired term commencing July 1, 1978, and expiring June 30, 1980, must be filed with the Clerk of the School District, 90 Adams Place, Delmar, New York, not later than 5:00 P.M., Eastern Daylight Savings time, April 24, 1978.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that on Wednesday, May 24, 1978, between the hours of 7:00 A.M., Eastern Daylight Savings Time, and 9:00 P.M., Eastern Daylight Savings time, at the Bethlehem Central Middle School, 332 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar, New York, votes will be taken upon the following:

1. Upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures of said Bethlehem Central School District and authorizing the levy of taxes therefor;

2. Upon the appropriation of the necessary funds to meet the estimated expenditures of said Bethlehem Public Library and authorizing the levy of taxes therefor;

3. For the election of one member of the Board of Education of said Bethlehem Central School District, for a full term of three (3) years commencing July 1, 1978, to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Robert Ruckterstahl;

4. For the election of two trustees to the Board of Trustees of said Bethlehem Public Library, one for a full term of five (5) years commencing July 1, 1978, to fill the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Theodore Wenzl, and one for an unexpired term commencing July 1, 1978, and expiring June 30, 1980, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Carol Spangler.

Dated: April 6, 1978

Ann Treadway
District Clerk

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Vox Pop

Vox Pop is open to all readers for letters in good taste on matters of public interest. Letters longer than 300 words are subject to abridgement by the editor, and must be signed. Names will be withheld on request.

Kenwood and Cherry

Editor, The Spotlight:

I am writing to inform your readers (those who are not already aware) of the extremely dangerous traffic situation at the intersection of Kenwood and Cherry Aves. (where I reside) in the town of Bethlehem, to urge motorists to exercise extreme caution when approaching the intersection, and to ask what action town officials are taking to correct this matter.

In the past 12 months numerous accidents have occurred at this intersection, many of which have resulted in serious injuries, the most recent on May 3. Generally being first on the scene, I can say there have been two major causes of

accidents: the malfunctioning signal and excessive speed.

I should note that virtually everyone routinely traveling through the intersection is aware of the signal problem. In fact, as I write this letter (May 8) the signal has been "on the blink" for over eight hours.

Surely town officials are aware of the dangerous Cherry-Kenwood intersection. Yet nothing has been done to rectify the situation. If these officials profess to be unaware of the problem I might point out that the town's public safety commissioner is not adequately performing his duties. If these officials contend this is a state responsibility since these are state roads, I might point out that last year's successful thwarting of the widening of New Scotland (by local officials and residents) involved a state road.

Protection of people and property should be the two most important functions of a town government. Are they?

Delmar

Peter F. Luczak

A check with Supervisor Tom Corrigan late last week

disclosed this information: that the town of Bethlehem has made several requests to the State Dept. of Transportation to rectify the traffic signal at this intersection, that Bethlehem police have been asked by Corrigan to research the accident history of the intersection, and that Corrigan last week talked with the DOT's regional traffic and safety officer, Joseph Kelly, regarding repairs to the system.

When the signal again malfunctioned during an extended period on May 4-5, following the serious accident of May 3, Bethlehem police directed traffic under the blinking lights at the intersection during peak traffic periods. Corrigan told the Spotlight Friday that he has ordered police to "keep a close watch for malfunctions in the equipment" and to station an officer to direct traffic during peak periods should the signal again go "on the blink."

Children come first

Editor, The Spotlight:

On May 24, we will elect a member of the Bethlehem

school board. Sheila Fuller, a candidate for that seat, presents voters with a real choice. Discussions of education, both locally and nationally, generally involve buildings, taxes, energy, unions and a variety of other subjects, but rarely that most important ingredient, our children.

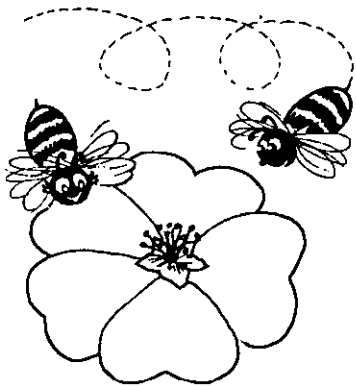
Sheila Fuller's interest IS children, hers and ours. She has demonstrated this interest through many, many hours of service as a classroom volunteer over a period of five years. She has served as the chairman of the Hamagrael Home School Assn. for the last five years. She is familiar with our school system and wants to make it better.

Sheila Fuller is aware of those subjects mentioned above, including taxes, which are certainly high enough, but most importantly she is concerned with our children's education. After all, isn't that what it's all about?

Holley Conway

Delmar

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Community Corner

Carnival Time

For family fun and entertainment, few events can top the annual carnivals put on by local schools. Coming up Saturday are the Spring carnivals at the Glenmont and Clarksville elementary schools. Watch for the dates of the school carnival in your neighborhood and mark it on your calendar.

There are booths, rides, prize drawings and all kinds of goodies to eat and drink. At Glenmont, this year's specialties include a pony ride, hayride, balloon man and a booth where kids can get clown faces painted on. At Clarksville, there are pony rides, a moonwalk, a rabbit judging contest and lots more.

See you there. Have fun!

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