

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



104 Elsmere Ave.
Dec. 19

BETHLEHEM

Town pitches in for fire victim . . .

Page 9

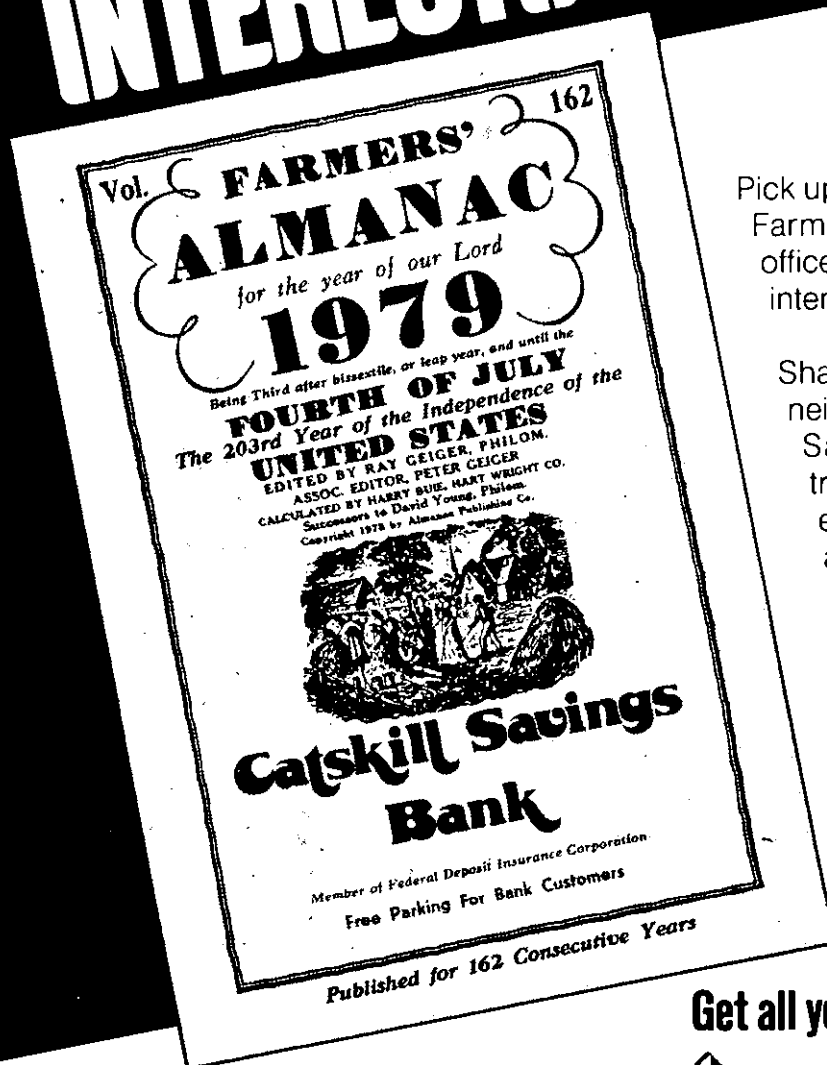
*. . . and 5,000 hay bales
go up in flames*

Page 12



Feura Bush Rd.
Dec. 21

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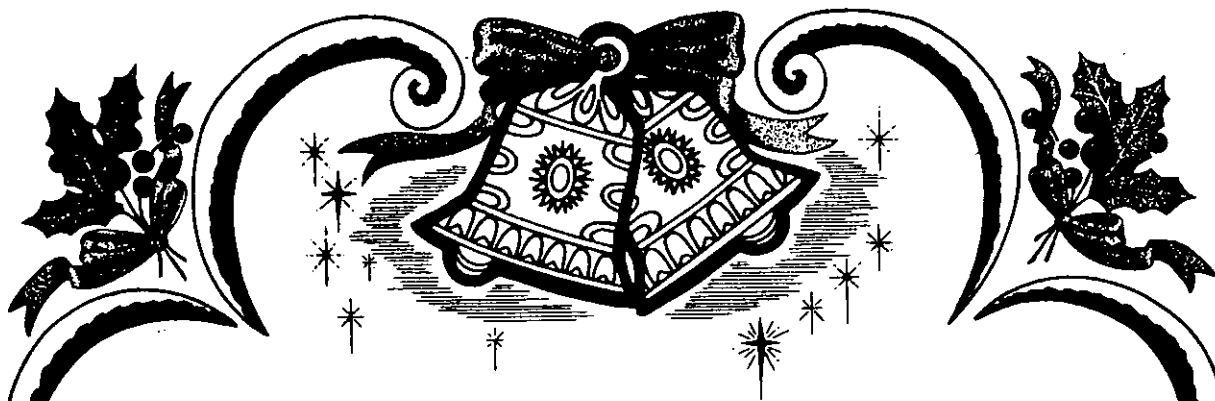
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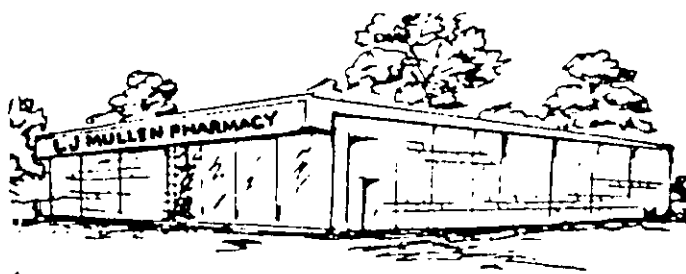
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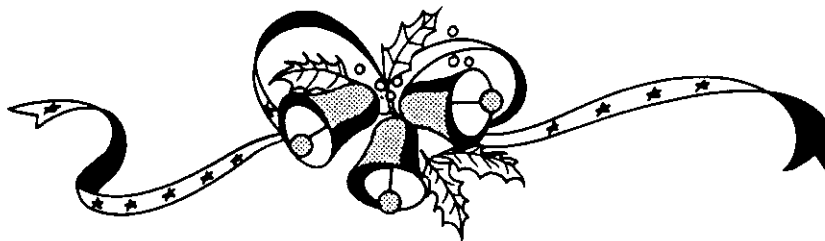


**L.J. MULLEN
PHARMACY**

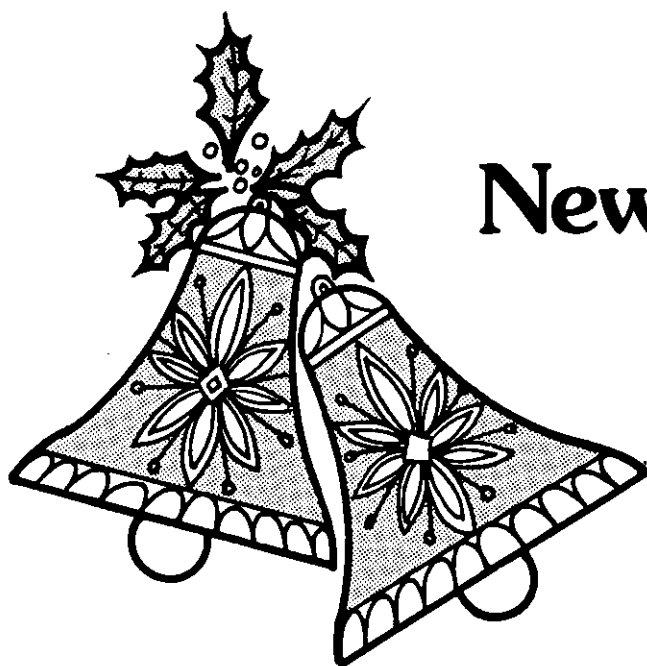
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Spotlight CALENDAR

Welcome Wagon, newcomers or mothers of infants call 785-9640 for a Welcome Wagon visit, Mon.-Sat. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

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

Onesquethaw O.E.S., first and third Wednesdays, Masconic Temple, Delmar

New Scotland Kiwanis Club, Thursdays, New Scotland Presbyterian Church, Rt. 85, 7 p.m.

Delmar Community Orchestra, rehearsals every Monday, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Delmar Methodist Church.

The Spotlight

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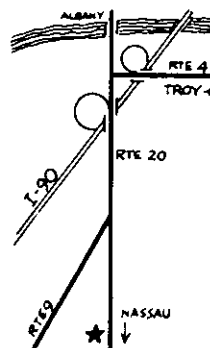
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

Film, "The Phantom Tollbooth,"
Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

Film, "Hans Christian Anderson,"
Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

Career and educational planning,
Bethlehem Library, 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve dinner dance,
American Legion, Blanchard Post,
8 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

Organization meeting, New Scot-
land town board, New Scotland
town hall, 1 p.m.

Organization meeting, Bethlehem
town board, Bethlehem town hall,
4 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

Rotary Club of Delmar, La Casa
Restaurant, 6:15 p.m.

Preschool films, "Scruffy" and
"People Soup," Bethlehem Library,
10-10:30 a.m. and 2-2:30 p.m.

Spotlight Classifieds

Work!

Classes resume, in all Bethlehem
schools.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

Bethlehem Central board of ed-
ucation, public meeting, 8 p.m.,
Educational Services Center, 90
Adams Pl., Delmar.

New Scotland town board, town
hall 8 p.m.

Exer-dance Class, presented by
Mary Reich, Bethlehem Library,
7:30 p.m. Dress appropriately to
join the fun or feel free to watch.

Bethlehem Business Women's Club
dinner meeting, Albany Motor Inn,
Rt. 9W, Glenmont, cocktails 6 p.m.
Speaker, Marijane Goyer, slides of
Greece.

FRIDAY JANUARY 5

Delmar Progress Club, garden
group to remove Bethlehem Library
decorations, 9 a.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

Christmas Tree Recycling, free
mulch, at Garden Shoppe, Feura
Bush Rd., Glenmont, 10-3. Free
coffee.

Selkirk Fire District Commissioners,
Selkirk Fire House No. 1, Selkirk,
7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Film, "Spellbound," with Ingrid
Bergman and Gregory Peck, Beth-
lehem Library, 2 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

Delmar Progress Club, business
meeting, Bethlehem Library board
room, 10 a.m.

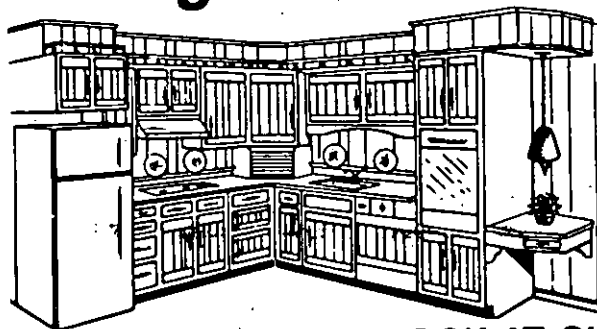
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

Delmar Progress Club, literature
group, Bethlehem Library Commit-
tee Room, 1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

Public hearing, Bethlehem board of
appeals, on application of Dr.
Carolyn Wright, Selkirk, for permis-
sion to create two additional apart-
ments in existing structure at pre-
mises, Rt. 144, Selkirk. Bethlehem
town hall, 8 p.m.

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Public hearing. Bethlehem board of appeals, on application of Emily Barnes, Selkirk, to permit the use of a parcel of land located on Rt. 9W, Selkirk, for a commercial enterprise by Robert H. Finke for the operation of a Home-Lite Saws distributorship, including sales and service of small equipment in existing structure and proposed addition. Bethlehem town hall, 8:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Junior Women's Club. Bethlehem Library. Information, 439-7049 or 439-9555.

Second Milers. Delmar Methodist Church, 12:30 p.m. For luncheon reservations, call 439-3569.

Home economics program. "Short Cut Sewing on Today's Fabrics." Albany County Resources Development Center, Martin Rd., Voorheesville, 10 a.m. Free.

Film. "Love It Like a Fool: Film About Matvina Reynolds," as part of the Educational Film Library Assn. American Film Festival, Bethlehem Library, noon and 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Women Emerging Support Group. women who have completed the library's Career/Life Planning Workshop for Women are eligible to join, Bethlehem Library, 1-3 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

Book discussion group. "Thousand Cranes." 1968 Nobel Prize winner by Yasumari Kawabata, Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

Preschool films. "Time of Wonder," and the "Dragon Stew," Bethlehem Library, 10-10:30 a.m. and 2-2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

Delmar Progress Club. antiques study group, Bethlehem Library Committee Room, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

Town of Bethlehem Historical Assn. "Farming in Bethlehem—Past and Present," Richard Thayer to moderate a panel discussion, Old Cedar Hill School House, Selkirk, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

Recycling drive. United Methodist Church at Voorheesville, back parking lot. Continuing throughout the weekend. For heavy or bulky items to be picked up, call 765-2895.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

Winter Carnival. Town Park, 11:30 a.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

Delmar Progress Club. drama group, Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

Preschool films. "Caps for Sale," and Little Blue and Little Yellow," Bethlehem Library, 10-10:30 a.m. and 2-2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

Home economics program. "Selecting a Ski Parka and Sleeping Bag." Albany County Resources Development Center, Martin Rd., Voorheesville, 7-9 p.m.

area arts

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

THEATER

"Romeo and Juliet." Ballet Repertory Company, special performance with the Albany Symphony Orchestra, Palace Theatre, Albany, Dec. 29, 8:30 p.m. 465-4755.

"An Evening of Dance and Theater," first production of Classic and Contemporary Arts, Inc., at 440 State St., Schenectady, Jan. 5-6, 8 p.m. (matinee at 2 p.m. Sat. also). \$2.50, children, SCs \$1. 374-3835.

"Child's Christmas," dance fantasy, EBA Contemporary Dance Theater, 351 Hudson Ave., Albany, Dec. 28-29, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., Dec. 30, 3 p.m. \$2, children \$1. 465-9916.

ART

Exhibition, American Decorative Arts, 18-19th century furniture, glass, china, silver, textiles, Albany Institute of History and Art, through March 25.

FILM

Fact and Fantasy Film Festival, free children's films at New York State Museum, 2 movies daily at 1:30 p.m., repeated at 3:30, Dec. 26-31. Parking free.

Audubon Wildlife Film Series, "Galapagos," Niskayuna High School auditorium, Balltown Rd., Schenectady, Jan. 9, 8 p.m. \$3, students \$1 at door.

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- Arts Sampler Fair (WMHT production) Saturday 5:30 p.m.
- Championship Skating 1978 Sunday 8 p.m.
- New Year's at Pops, live (simulcast, live) Sunday 11 p.m.
- 'Woman of the Year' (1942, Tracy, Hepburn) Monday 8 p.m.

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The Spotlight

Graphic newsweekly serving the towns of Bethlehem and New Scotland, Albany County, N.Y. • (518) 439-4949

ELSMERE

Fund is launched for victim of fire

Anna Mae White, whose friends comprise a large segment of the community, was bowling in her regular Tuesday night league when fire swept her bungalow at 104 Elsmere Ave. Moments later flames had gutted the interior.

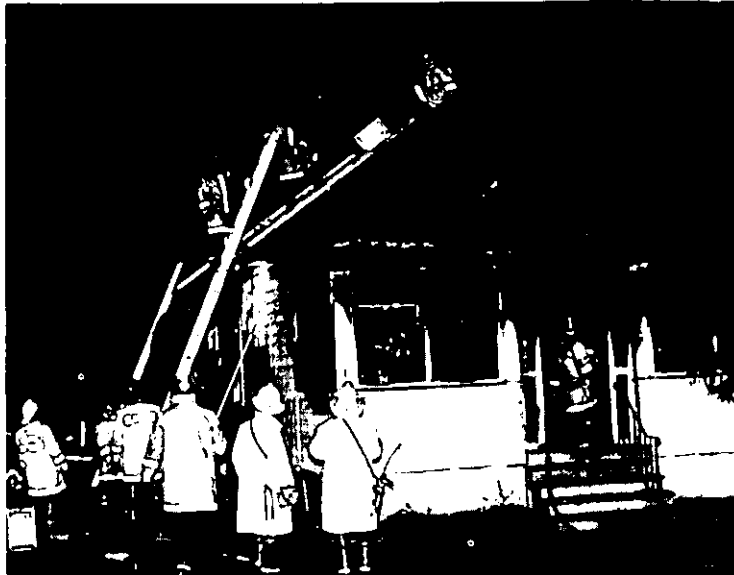
Within hours, friends and neighbors were rallying to the aid of a 58-year-old widow who was widely known for helping anyone or any group who needed help.

The word spread quickly through Elsmere and Delmar that Anna Mae White had lost her house, her possessions and all the clothes she had except those she wore to the bowling lanes. Her closest friends also believed she also lost her cash savings. There was no insurance on the house.

The tragedy came five days before Christmas.

Officers of the Elsmere Fire Co., Bethlehem Lions Club and the American Legion, besieged by calls from people who wanted to help, immediately set up the Anna Mae White Fund to receive contributions of cash, checks and other items. Said one member of the committee: "If this had happened to someone else, Anna Mae would have been the first to offer help."

These were the organizations Anna Mae has given so much of her time, talent and energy to, each one committed to community service. The emergency committee set up its own officers: Gordon Morris, long-time officer of the Elsmere Fire Co., as chairman; Frank Futia, a Legionnaire, vice chairman; Maynard "Red" Goyer, Lions' president, treasurer, and Kevin



Elsmere firemen cut into the roof of the White residence. This photo was taken by Kurt Uhl, the cover photo by R.H. Davis.

M. Shea of the fire company, secretary. On the "board" are Carol Cummings, president of the Blanchard Post Legion Auxiliary; Anne Kleinke, president of the Elsmere Fire Co. Auxiliary; Sid Kaplan, an active Lion and Legionnaire; Roland Whitney of the Legion post, and Sharon White Martinez, Anna Mae's daughter.

Their first act was to set up a bank account at the local office of Bankers Trust Co. at 1 Elsmere Ave. The first check to be deposited was \$1,000 from the Nathaniel Adams Blanchard American Legion Post, followed by a score of personal checks. (Persons wishing to contribute may mail checks to the bank or to any of the organizations mentioned above.)

As the checks came in, a community grateful for having Anna Mae White in its midst responded in other ways: John Germann, proprietor of Delmar's two bowling enterprises, Del Lanes and Sporthaven, donated the use of an apartment in his Sporthaven building, where Anna Mae will be

able to live "as long as she needs to."

- The committee announced it is "working on a plan to undertake the rebuilding of the house on its present site."

- Local contractors lost little time assigning men and equipment to clean up the debris on the site, where Anna Mae has lived for more than 50 years. Everything that could be salvaged — not very much — was removed from the burned-out shell within 24 hours, and the openings boarded up.

- A committee spokesman said most of the furniture needed for the apartment at Sporthaven "has been secured," but added that "when the house is rebuilt in the spring, there will be a need for furniture." Anyone wishing to donate used furniture in good condition now instead of waiting for spring may contact the committee to arrange for pick-up, and L.C. Smith, prominent Elsmere businessman, is donating storage space until Anna Mae can move back to the Elsmere Ave. dwelling.

Investigators have not yet determined how or why the tragic blaze started. Anna Mae was bowling, and her two sons who live with her, Bobby and Michael, were out for the evening when neighbors heard an explosion and looked out to see the frame house engulfed by flames. It was 9:20 p.m. Bobby White, at the firehouse, was on the first pumper to reach the scene, covering the three blocks from headquarters in barely a minute and a half.

Later, fireman theorized the blast was the result of a buildup of heat and gases inside the house.

Anna Mae's roots are deep in the community that is now opening its heart to her. She was born here: her father, Frank L. Morrison, a longtime member of the Elsmere Fire Co., originally lived in the house that burned. Her husband, Herb Sr., worked for the New York Central Railroad until he suffered a crippling back injury. He underwent several operations and was disabled for many years under the care of Anna Mae. He died six years ago, leaving a widow and five children.

Anna Mae worked for Frank Mayo at the Normanside Luncheonette in Elsmere for 13 years and did private catering for many organizations — all the fire companies in the Bethlehem area, the Legion, the Lions Club, parties and receptions for many occasions over the years.

She often contributed her catering expertise: more times than not, she refused payment from the clubs and civic organizations she served.

With a heart that big, an anonymous member of the committee explained, Anna Mae will need one added item

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PARTIES — BANQUETS — BUSINESS MEETINGS

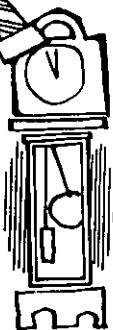
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Members of the Men's Garden Club of Albany helped bring Christmas to the Good Samaritan Home on Rockefeller Rd. At the get-together before the holiday were Al Leonard, of the garden club, left, Isabelle Whaley, Emma Murtagh and Donna Cook, director of the home.

J.W. Campbell

besides the financial, material and functional donations that are coming in. That ingredient, he said, is a form of trusteeship: the first time Anna Mae encounters someone who needs help, she might just give away the rest of the fund.

Police cars sold

The town of Bethlehem sold five police cars at auction last week. The cars were sold for \$2,200 each.

Organization meeting

The New Scotland town board will hold its annual organization meeting on New Year's Day, probably at 1 p.m., at the town hall, Rt. 85. The time of the meeting was expected to be set at a year-end bill-paying session scheduled for Wednesday morning of this week. The Jan. 1 ceremony has taken place at 1 p.m. for a number of years in the past.

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BETHLEHEM

Board may shift tax collection

A New Scotland resident who has filed a written objection to the Bethlehem board of education's method of collecting school taxes has been told the board may change its procedure next year.

In a letter to board member Mrs. Sheila Fuller of Delmar, Mrs. Marilyn Holmberg of Spore Rd., New Scotland, complained that New Scotland residents in the Bethlehem school district must pay a one-percent collection fee tacked onto their school taxes each year. Bethlehem residents, she pointed out, have no such surcharge.

Mrs. Holmberg also registered her complaint with the New Scotland town board. That board, however, has no jurisdiction over the collection of school taxes, by virtue of New Scotland's status as a Class B town in the New York State hierarchy.

Bethlehem's population classifies it as a Class A town. As such, it has a salaried position entitled Receiver of Taxes, an elective office carrying a term of four years. The incumbent's official duties include collecting school taxes as well as local property taxes, water bills and sewer district assessments. His salary is covered by the town's general purpose budget, which is fi-

nanced largely by taxing property owners in the town.

But the receiver of taxes, currently Kenneth Hahn of North Bethlehem, has no authority to collect school taxes outside the geographic boundaries of the town. As a result, the school district must hire a tax collector of its own to receive the levies from residents of the school district who live in the town of New Scotland.

The one-percent surcharge on Bethlehem school taxes levied on New Scotland residents represents the compensation paid to Robert A. Carl of Clarksville, the incumbent collector of school taxes. Carl receives the fee on taxes paid through September, plus a 5-percent surcharge on taxes paid during October.

Franz Zwicklbauer, business administrator for the Bethlehem school district, stated in a letter replying to Mrs. Holmberg that the school board would consider a possible switch in collection procedure when the annual school budget comes up this Spring. He also stated that the current method of operation "has been in effect for many years" and although it differs from that of most school districts in the Capital District, it is an accepted procedure under the Education Law.

Zwicklbauer told the Spotlight that the other alternative open to the school board would be to hire a tax collector on salary to handle the billing for



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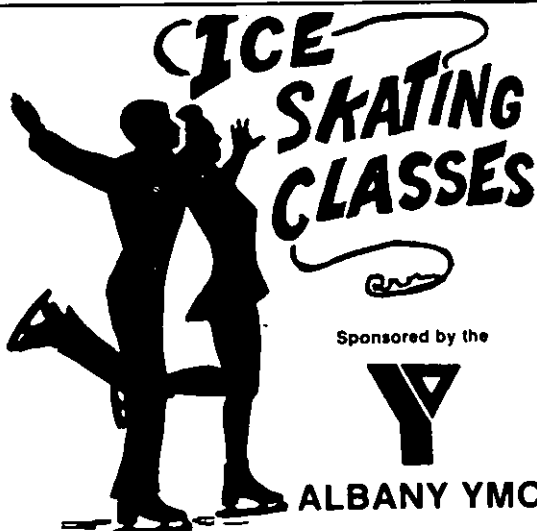
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New Scotland residents of the district. The salary would be written into the annual school budget, hence would be funded by the entire district instead of by New Scotland taxpayers.

The salaried tax collector, a part-time position, is the most common method among area districts. It is used in the Voorheesville Central district, which has taxpayers in the towns of Berne, Knox and Guilderland as well as in New Scotland, and by the Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk district, which covers a large section of the southern part of the town of Bethlehem.

Unpaid taxes regularly are turned over to Albany County as of Nov. 1 each year. The county adds 7 percent to the base bill, and if the tax is still uncollected by Dec. 1, the county turns it back to the town to be added to the property tax billed in January.

In Slingerlands, the Spotlight is sold at Convenient Food Mart and New Scotland Pharmacy.

DELMAR

Hay bales lost in barn blaze

Nearly 5,000 bales of hay went up in flames as fire swept a large barn on the George Waldenmaier farm on Rt. 32, Feura Bush Rd., Delmar, Thursday night.

Volunteers from the Delmar Fire Dept. saved an adjacent milk house and a nearby barn, dousing sparks that landed on the roof of the second barn. The milk shed was on the windward side of the blazing structure.

The loss of the hay in storage was estimated at approximately \$120,000. The barn was levelled in the spectacular conflagration, which illuminated the night sky for miles around. The cause was not immediately determined.

It was a week of misfortune for Waldenmaier, who operates an expanding wholesale and retail meat and slaughtering business on the premises. High winds the previous Sun-

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| Ravioli | 2.95 | Veal & Peppers | 3.95 |
| Homemade Lasagne | 3.25 | Scallopini with peppers | 4.75 |
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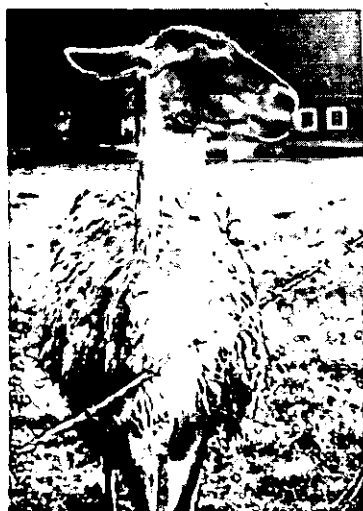


Delmar firemen are silhouetted by blazing barn. This photo by Kurt Uhl was taken less than three minutes after he snapped the cover photo.

day, gusting to nearly 60 miles an hour, took the life of his pet llama, Lenny. The 4-year-old animal, a rarity in this country, was standing by his "house" when a gust picked up the 1,000-pound structure and toppled it on top of Lenny.

Waldenmaier bought the llama at a cattle auction in New Holland, Pa., in the heart of Amish country, in 1974.

To climax the week of hard luck for Waldenmaier, his mobile-dozer blew a rod while the machine was being used to clear the charred bales of hay from the site the day after the fire. The small bulldozer probably will need a new engine, the owner said.



Lenny the llama

Michelle Bradt

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David Inkpen, left, James and Jennifer Coon, right, and Jennifer Tucker, above, were among the people who came to help decorate the Bethlehem Library on Family Day the week before Christmas.

photos by Cheryl Marks

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| Anchovies | 3.55 | Onions | 3.55 |
| Sausage | 3.55 | Meatballs | 3.55 |
| 2-way combo | 4.00 | Garlic | 3.55 |
| 3-way combo | 4.55 | Slices 37¢ | |
| Sicilian | 4.15 | plus tax | |

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|-------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| Mixed | \$1.50 | Meatball | \$1.50 |
| Italian salami .. | 1.50 | Sausage | 1.40 |
| Boiled ham | 1.55 | w/cheese | 1.75 |
| Luncheon meat .. | 1.30 | Onions & peppers | |
| Cooked salami .. | 1.30 | | 1.90 |
| Tunafish | 1.50 | Capicola | 1.75 |
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| Antipasto | \$1.95 |
| Spaghetti | 1.95 |
| w/meatballs | 2.75 |
| w/sausage | 2.85 |
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| | pt. | qt. |
|----------------|-------|-------|
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| Macaroni | .49 | .89 |
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Travel talk slated

Bethlehem Business Women's Club will hold a dinner meeting Jan. 3 at the Albany Motor Inn, starting with cocktails at 6 p.m. Marijane Goyer will show slides of her recent trip to Greece.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all our
friends

and customers

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VOORHEESVILLE

Vandals, wind doom village tree

Voorheesville's community Christmas tree, standing tall and brilliantly lighted at the pivotal corner of Main St. and Voorheesville Ave., had a short life this holiday season.

Two devastating blows were struck at the stately tree shortly after it was hoisted into place. The first was Friday, Dec. 15, when young vandals ripped off more than 100 lights from the tree during a full December moon. On Sunday night the second blow, this one from the west, blew the tree down, ripping loose the four electrical guy wires that held it to its concrete base.

The wind rolled the felled tree across the street and lodged it against the garage doors beneath the village offices. Supt. of Public Works William Hotaling used boughs from the tree for Santa's ride through the village Friday.

The tree grew to maturity on the Joslin-Ave. property of Paul Hennahan, who donated it to the village.

students in a recital at the Women's Club, 725 Madison Ave., Albany, on Sunday, Jan. 7, at 3 p.m. The pupils, all residents of the Voorheesville-New Scotland area ranging from 4 to 13 in age, are Christine LaBelle, Kristen Foster, Tracy Angerinos, Michele Gainor, Kelly Angerinos, Gardner Foster, Craig Lapinski, Craig Shufelt, Kenneth Andriano, Laura Munyon, Colin Breeze, Sonya Pinney, Laura Caimano, Patty Martin, Lisa Sommer, Daniel McKenna, Christine Fernandez, Richard Lennox, Eric Phinney, Heather Dolin, Kristen Haaf, Adam Clark and Sharon McKenna.

Window shattered

An iceball thrown at a residence at 12 Rockerfeller Rd., Delmar in the early hours last Friday broke a side storm window. Bethlehem police reported.

Piano recital set

Shirley M. Greene of Voorheesville will present her piano

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Happy New Year**



Dog's best friend: the warm warden

The dog warden of Bethlehem hardly leads a dog's life, as Arthur Taylor has found out.

In his three years as warden, 68-year-old Taylor, a soft-spoken man with a slight build, has often been on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. And like the mailman, who has dog troubles of his own, Taylor must keep to his appointed rounds no matter what.

"I get calls all hours of the day and night by people bitten by dogs, because of dogs keeping people awake, or a dog messes up a person's lawn," he says of the estimated 3,000 complaints per year.

But if dogs, even as nuisances, are man's best friend, then the job does hold its own reward. "I've been interested in dogs and have had dogs since I've been able to walk," says Taylor. "I'm a person who can't sit still. I need something to do, only I could do with a little less. I'm a clean living guy, I don't smoke or drink, and I'm too old to run with the women, so I've gone to the dogs," he says with

a smile. He's a retired bus driver.

Taylor's job is made easier, he feels, because of the support of the most of the people in the town. But he also realizes that the better he does his job, the less favorably some dog owners look upon him.

"People think of a dog warden as a mean guy," he says of his public relations problem. "Kids, and adults too, think that the minute a dog goes in the pound that it's doomed. It's just not so. Very few dogs are put to sleep. We hold all dogs 12 days (if no collar), at which time the owner loses all rights to his pet."

Taylor emphasizes that most of the dogs he picks up are returned to their owners, and the rest are sold or given away. His wife checks the newspapers for lost dogs, and he keeps the number of every dog licensed in the past two years in his patrol car for easy reference. "We do all we can to get the dogs back to their owners," he says.

Protecting livestock from killer dogs, finding homes for strays, and rounding up leashless dogs is sometimes more of a job than one man can handle. "People think we've a fleet of cars. They tell you a pack of dogs are running all over. You get there, and its one dog."

Happy Holidays from those who bring you The SPOTLIGHT each week

Nat, Lee, Susan, Janet,
Jeanette, Ann, Shelly, Pat,
Jerry, Jim and Doug

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Arthur Taylor

— Advertisement —

Local boy wrings out the old

The late night crowd had gathered to watch the big ball drop over Delaware Plaza, heralding the beginning of another new year. Out of nowhere appeared an old man with a beard, dressed in a sheet and carrying an hourglass and scythe. "Why, it's Ima Dreamer, 17½ of Delmar! Tell us, Ima, why are you dressed like old man '78 and not baby '79?"

"Like '78, son, I'm on the way out. I've been showing up weakly to tell you about the fantastic selections and savings at Rogers Sport and Ski Shop, and now I think they can make it on their own. Pete and Gina have put together quite a store; when you walk in, you'll be Lombardo'd with bargains. It's a syne of their concern that you won't grow auld standing in lang lines to be waited on. I must be leaving now, so I'll bid you all a fond adieu. At least Whacko won't have me to kick around anymore."

Town timekeeper U.R. Whacko chimed, "That's much adieu about nothing. Should auld acquaintance be forgot, he'd be the first, but I must admit, that I'll really miss the little guy, too."

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He will be getting some help soon when the town hires an assistant. But for now he tries to keep one step ahead of the game, asking people to keep their dogs on a leash and respect others' property.

And for those few who don't help to make his job easier, he's figured out a secret system to curb those that strive to make dogs less than Arthur Taylor's best friends. *Doug Payne*

Bach at Christmas

Eleven area musicians will present a program, "Bach at Christmas" at the First Reformed Church, Union and Church Sts., Schenectady, on Saturday, Dec. 30, at 8 p.m. The program will include "Concerto for Two Violins" and the "Brandenburg Concerto No. V."

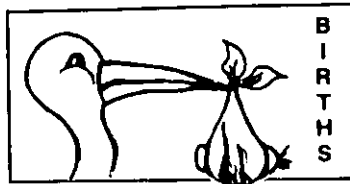
BETHLEHEM Board launches budget process

Following recent custom, the Bethlehem Central board of education is inviting residents of the school district to come to its meetings from January through March to tell the board of their budgetary desires and concerns for the 1979-80 school year.

Next month's two board meetings will be held on Jan. 3, and Jan. 17, beginning at 8 p.m., at the Educational Services center, 90 Adams Pl., Delmar. The budget listening sessions will take place after the conclusion of regular business.

It is during the winter months that the board of education must prepare a proposed school budget to present to the voters in the spring. A tentative

schedule calls for adoption of a budget by the board in mid-April and the annual election in late May.



St. Peter's Hospital

Girl, Raegan, to Mr. and Mrs. James Boyle, Delmar, Dec. 15.

Girl, Cindy, to Mr. and Mrs. James Tate, Voorheesville, Dec. 15.

Boy, Lucas Howard, to Mr. and Mrs. David Willey, Kinderhook Lake, Dec. 20. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Burt, Elsmere, and Mrs. Carol Willey, Slingerlands.

BC seniors help in pilot program

Three Bethlehem Central High School seniors are assisting Ray Sliter in the teaching of CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) to a pilot class of 20 BCHS pupils. They are Scott Anson, Pam DosPassos and Joanne Mulkerne, all of whom have previously qualified as CPR instructors through the Red Cross training program.

Sliter, supervisor of health, physical education and recreation for the school district, organized the class of volunteer pupils as a preliminary to the offering of CPR in junior and senior health and physical education classes next semester.

It is expected that hundreds of BCHS pupils will soon be learning the CPR lifesaving technique.

FIRE CALLS

Dec. 19 — Elsmere — 104 Elsmere Ave., house fire, extensive damage.

Dec. 21 — Delmar, Elsmere — barn, Feura Bush Rd., destroyed.

Dec. 21 — Slingerlands — 92 Font Grove Rd., chimney fire, no damage.

Dec. 22 — Delmar — Four Corners, van fire.

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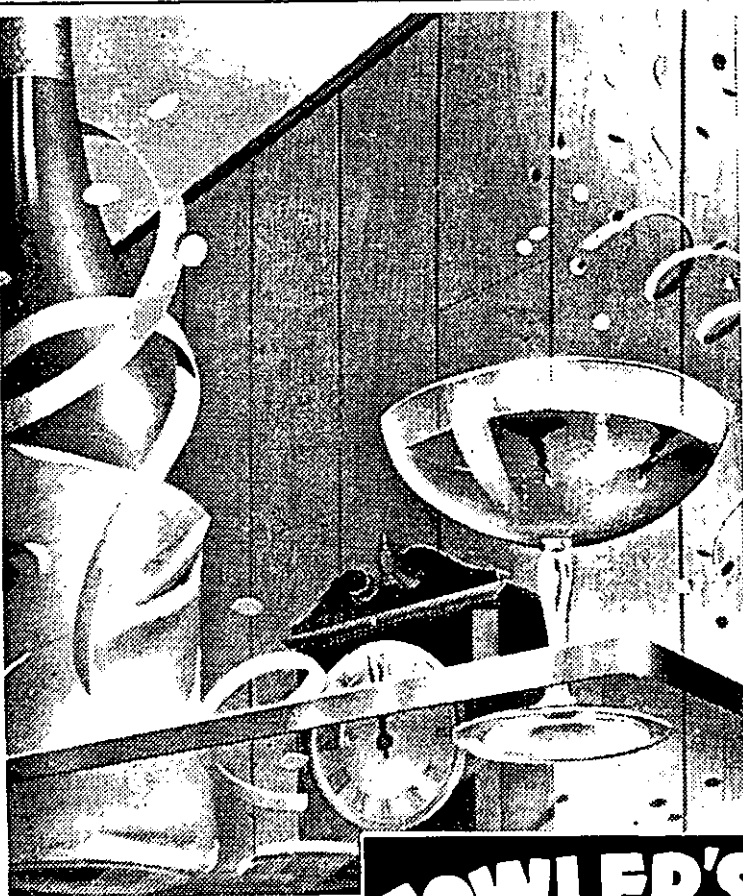
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SNOWSTORM A long battle to clear roads

Children who go to bed Christmas Eve pray for snow to make it easier for Santa's reindeer. The men who work on highway snowplowing crews pray for the direct opposite.

This year's Christmas-Eve snowfall gave the plows their first and roughest workout of the season. For the local area, the higher elevations in the town of New Scotland proved the toughest: the snowfall in the rural areas reached 20 inches.

The Albany County Highway Dept., which is responsible for clearing state highways as well as county roads, had trouble rounding up crews on short notice on Christmas Eve. As a result, several main roads, notably Delaware Tpk. were still unplowed by Christmas morning, but by nightfall the county was declared clear.

Amos Hallenbeck, county highway commissioner, said the late start allowed the snow to "get packed in" with the result that Delaware Tpk. looked like a rural road as late as mid-morning Tuesday. "We didn't get to it quick enough," he conceded. "This was the worst we've seen."

County plows became stuck in two remote New Scotland locations, one on Pinnacle Rd. in the Helderbergs, the other on New Salem South Rd., and were out of service for three or four hours, Hallenbeck said.

In Delmar, Cherry Ave. and Elm Ave., both part of the state highway system, were still slippery, but Delaware Ave. in Delmar was down to bare pavement early.

New Scotland's town plows put in a long day and night over Christmas. The town's snow

removal pattern was disrupted early Monday when a plow went off Swift Rd. and tipped over, which took two other crews off the road to pull the stuck plow free.

Bethlehem's highway superintendent Martin C. Cross, Jr. had all 18 town plows on the job shortly after midnight Christmas morning. The crews worked 14 straight hours without a breakdown, and had the town's 130 miles of streets and roads cleared by 2 p.m.

Voorheesville plows were out early plowing 19 miles of village streets.

Lamaze classes start

Classes in the Lamaze method of prepared childbirth will begin in Albany starting the weeks of Jan. 8 and Jan. 22. Women planning to begin them at the end of the seventh month of pregnancy. For information and registration contact Melody Brennan, 439-6353, or Ethel Cooper, 765-4572.

Cubs hold party

Santa Claus and ventriloquist Rev. Harold Page, along with his friend, "Danny," were guests at the Christmas party of Cub Scout Pack 81 of Selkirk at the Becker Elementary School Dec. 18.

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BASKETBALL

Tourney a test for Blackbirds

A change of venue dictated by construction renovations has switched the second annual Voorheesville holiday basketball tournament to Junior College of Albany, but the caliber of the opposition is unchanged.

The Blackbirds, locked in a four-way tie for first in their own league in the two-day invitational starting at 7 p.m. tonight (Dec. 28). Taconic Hills of the Patroon Conference meets Ballston Spa of the Colonial Council in the opener, with Voorheesville of the Central Hudson Valley League taking on Berne-Knox Central, undefeated at 6-0, in the night-cap.

The winners will play for the trophy Friday in the second game, with the consolation contest starting at 7.

The Blackbirds, now 3-2 overall, have lost one game by two points and the other by three. They are 2-1 in the league with Waterford, Catskill and Maple Hill, but that snarl will be untangled in a hurry next week when Catskill comes to Rt. 85A Jan. 5. Meanwhile the tournament will give the Birds two rugged tests against winning teams.

Two unheralded benchwarmers have drawn praise from Coach Mike O'Brien. Jimmy Riviello, a junior, and Jimmy Finnegan, a senior,

have come along fast, and will see duty in the transplanted tournament this week. With John Harding sidelined, the starting five of Craig Gleason, Steve Smith, Joe Probst, Tim Lewis and Doug Gallagher will carry most of the load.

The Christmas invitational will be back in Voorheesville next year. The change of scenery is necessitated by renovations to the locker rooms and shower facilities at the school.



Kirk Junco

On soccer team

Kirk Junco, son of Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Junco, 136 Elm Ave., Delmar, recently completed a fine season of soccer at Clarkson College, Potsdam. He is a senior majoring in civil and environmental engineering.

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BETHLEHEM

40 families share in holiday giving

Forty local families, including a total of 207 people, had a happier Christmas this year than would have been possible without the combined efforts of many of their neighbors.

Delivered to each of the 40 homes last week were three or four cardboard boxes containing a frozen turkey, fresh fruit, canned food, homemade cookies and gifts for children.

This holiday custom started years ago as a part of the White Christmas programs put on every year by Bethlehem school and town groups, and still is sponsored by the re-named Bethlehem Festival organization. Among the local groups that contributed money, talent or time to the project this year were Delmar Rotary, Tri-Village Welcome Wagon, Boy Scouts, the American Association of Retired People, the Delmar Presbyterian and Reformed Churches, and Bethlehem schools.

Many individuals in the community also volunteered their time or gave donations. The meeting room of the Educational Services Center at 90 Adams Pl. in Delmar was a flurry of activity on Dec. 18, as the boxes were packed from the roomful of donated items and then carried out to cars for delivery.

B.J. Lornell, social worker for the school district, and the school nurses helped identify the recipient families and coordinated the collection of canned goods. As in past years, pupils in all district elementary schools and the Middle School brought cans of food to school to donate, and those at the Clarksville and Slingerlands schools also held bake sales to raise money.

More than 100 cans of cookies were baked and wrapped by AARP members, to be included in the gift boxes, and donations of fresh bananas came straight from the Port of



Heather Walden, left, not only enjoyed the annual Lunch With Santa program at the Slingerlands Community Methodist Church, but sealed her request with a kiss. With her were Cindy Asmus, center, and Lynda Acquilano.

Cheryl Marks

Albany to be packed with oranges from local supermarkets.

Though the reactions of those who received these gift boxes can only be imagined by most who contributed, they did

so — from the youngest to the oldest — with happy hearts. The spirit of Christmas is obviously alive and well in our "Little Town of Bethlehem" — and in our neighboring town of New Scotland as well.

**Happy New Year
to all our friends**



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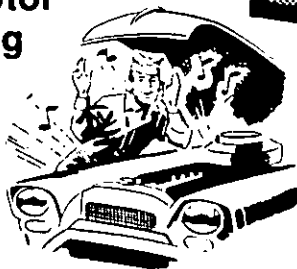
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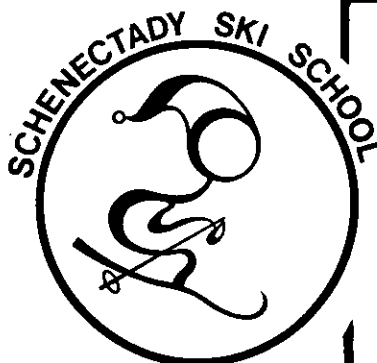


Thurs., Dec. 28 Swimming, Adirondack Invitational, home 7:00
Thurs. & Fri.,
Dec. 28 & 29 Basketball, Holiday Festival at CBA,
Bethlehem, Guilderalnd, CBA & Maginn,
Varsity 7:00 & 8:30, JV 10:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sat., Dec. 30 Wrestling, Tri-Valley Tournament
at Camden, NY
Indoor Track, Dutchman Games at Union,
9:00 a.m.
Wed., Jan. 3 Indoor Track, Washington Ave. Armory, 4:00

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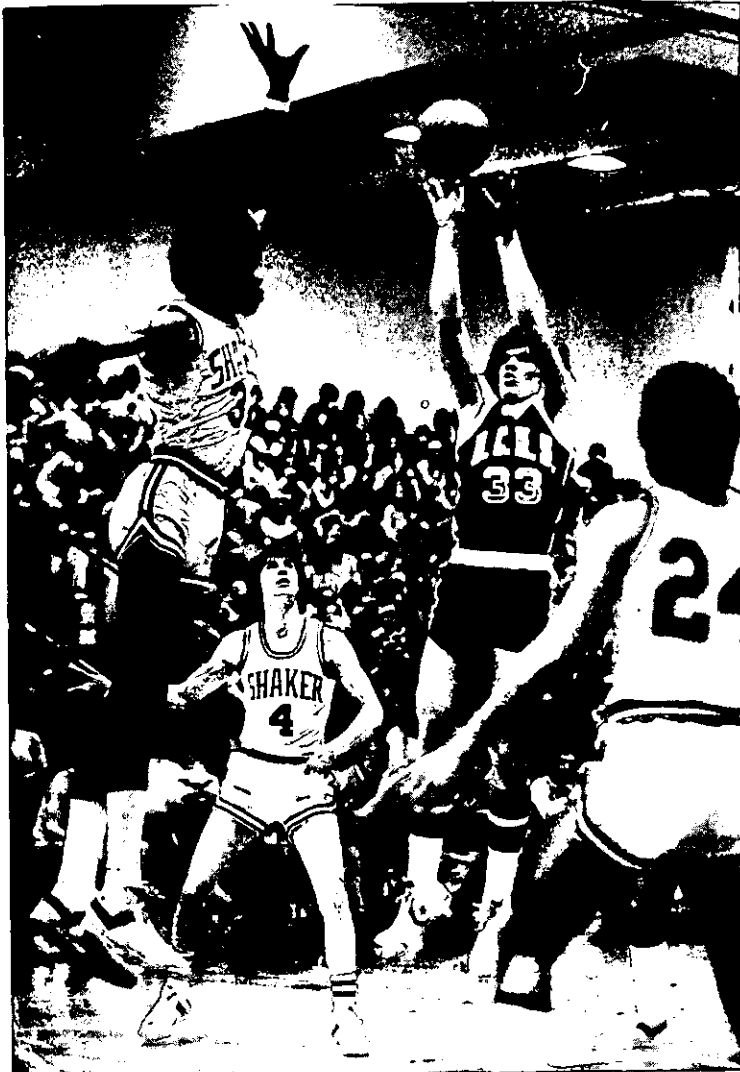
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Shaker's 6-9 Sam Perkins, left, didn't intimidate Bethlehem's Joe Rutnik on this shot, but Sam and the Bison were too much for the Eagles in a 64-38 loss.

R.H. Davis

BASKETBALL

Eagles girding for new drive

Bethlehem's varsity basketball team takes a breather from Suburban Council action this week, playing two games in the CBA holiday tourney for the pure joy of it.

Next week, however, it's back to the wars, carrying a 3-2 league mark into the new year. The Eagles split two contests in their final week before the recess, absorbing a 64-38 blitz from undefeated Shaker in Latham, and edging a good Mononasen team, 72-69 at home.

"We did a better job of staying out of foul trouble," commented Coach Jim Tedisco after the Mohonasen game. "We still have a way to go defensively."

The only defense against Shaker's Sam Perkins, the 6-9 beanpole transfer from New York City, would be a net across the whole backboard. The Eagles had no way to stop his bucket production, and he forced Bethlehem to change the



Ithaca College football star John Furey of Delmar receives the "Attitude Award" for 1978 from head coach Jim Butterfield.

style of their attack. BC had to do most of its shooting from outside because the Bison zone, dominated by Perkins, was too effective.

Against Mohonasen, playing more conventional basketball, Joe Rutnik poured in 29 points. Tom Fiato had 20 assists and John Sica 14 rebounds.

In Albany tonight (Dec. 28), BC goes against Bishop Maginn in the 7 p.m. opener at CBA, with Guilderland playing the host quintet in the nightcap. The winners meet Friday night, with the consolation game starting at 7.

BC graduate cited

John Furey, an Ithaca College senior from Delmar earned the "Attitude Award" for his play during the football season. A 5-10, 185-pound cornerback.

Furey was second on the club with four interceptions. The Ithaca team finished with a 9-2 overall mark, including a 9-6 loss to Albany State and a 6-3 loss to Wittenberg in the NCAA Division III playoffs. The Bombers received the Lambert Bowl as the top small college team in the East for the third time in five years.

Furey is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel J. Furey, 24 Montrose Dr. He is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School.

New graduate

Bryan Lee Gilleland, 197 Westchester Dr., Delmar, received a BS degree in business from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, at commencement exercises Dec. 22.

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BETHLEHEM

'Dear Santa: Please bring me...'

Santa's mail at the North Pole is heaviest at Christmas-time, which is the way it should be. This year the jolliest of fellows had help from the Bethlehem Police Youth Bureau in answering a deluge of letters from little friends.

A tiny sample of the letters went like this:

From Paddock Pl., Delmar — "I just want a couple of things like I had last year. I won't be home on Christmas Eve. Would you please bring my toys to Aunt Peggy's. I have been a very good girl."

From Lavery Dr. — "I hope you have a nice Christmas. Will you say Hi to your elfs for me. This Christmas I will leave you some cookies."

From Selkirk — "I would like all of the Star wars dolls. Also I would like Dance-a-rella. I hope the weather is not bad when you go down chimneys, but you can't go down ours because you will fall down in the furnace. We will leave the door open for you, and we'll set cookies out for you and milk."

From Winne Rd. — "I have been good for a couple of days. Please could I have a western set, a doctor kit, a tool box, a big fire truck and some fire engine matchbox cars. Will you bring my Mommy some pots to cook in and something for my daddy's trains? I love you."

From Kenwood Ave. — "Will you bring my mom a new robe? Please bring me Star Bird. Bring my Dad a stereo. Please bring me the Bandit bike."

From Delaware Ave. — "I hope you have a nice flight on Christmas. I will leave you a present. Tell your elves I said Hi."

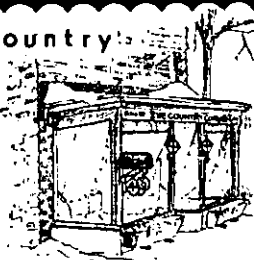
Santa found plenty of information on Dumbarton Dr. One friend wrote: "We are having a play. Jenny is Santa. Do you have a elf named Alfe? Will you come to our school? It is Elsmere. I am reading a book called The Christmas Doll. For Christmas can I have Books and a Doll and a new dress for Colin? I love you. I will give you lots of cookies. Will you come to our play? Tell Mrs. Claus happy Christmas. Send a letter back to me. I have been good. This is my best Holiday."

Guidance meetings

Parents of eighth graders at Bethlehem Central Middle School are invited to attend High school curriculum informational meetings on Wednesday, Jan. 3. The sessions will be held at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. in the Middle School auditorium. A BCHS guidance counselor will be present to discuss and answer questions about ninth grade course offerings.

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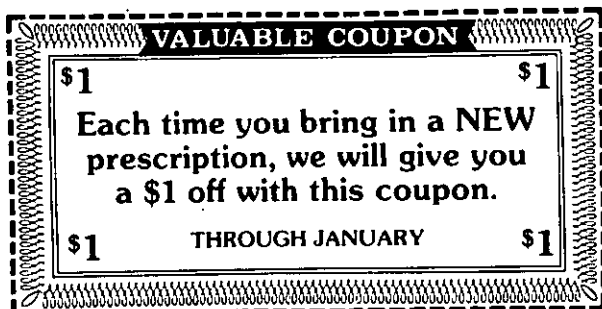
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BETHLEHEM

Youth basketball on tap at BC

Bethlehem's Parks and Recreation Dept. is sponsoring a basketball program for grades 5-8, beginning Saturday, Jan. 6. The program is open to residents of the town of Bethlehem and Bethlehem Central School District, and will run through Feb. 17.

Students in grades 5-6 will meet from 9 to 10:30 a.m., in the Bethlehem Central High School boys' gym. Students in grades 7-8 will meet in the same facility from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

There is a \$9 fee per player. Registration for the series can be made at the first two sessions. For information, call 439-4131, weekdays.

Delmar athlete stars

Delmar's Julie Besteman, a junior at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich., was the individual field hockey scoring leader in the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Assn. (MIAA) conference. Besteman's seven goals and two assists totaled 16 points to place her atop the league while leading the Calvin team to third place in the MIAA with a 3-1-2 league record.

In a game against Adrian College, Besteman poured in six goals to guide Calvin to a 8-0 shutout and establish the



Julie Besteman

MIAA record for goals by an individual in a single game. From her left inner position, Besteman provided the winning tally in Calvin's 2-1 victory over Alma College. She scored the clinching goal with only 11 seconds left in the second overtime period. Besteman, a third-year performer for the field hockey squad, was also the high scorer on the 1977 team.

At Bethlehem Central, she played on the soccer and tennis teams. She was the scoring leader of the soccer team in her senior year. A versatile athlete, she has been a member of Calvin's women's tennis team for two years.

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abridgement by the editor,
and must be signed. Names
will be withheld on request.*

New traffic light

Editor, The Spotlight:

Many people in this area are
very much disappointed in the
new lights at the intersection of
Delaware Ave., Elsmere Ave.
and Groesbeck Pl. in Delmar.
Not only does it not improve
the situation at that corner — it
is actually worse than the old
light.

When it was announced
several months ago that the
light would be replaced, I called
Mr. Joseph W. Kelly, director
of traffic engineering and safety
for the State Dept. of Trans-
portation in Albany. At that
time I asked him to seriously
consider putting a green arrow

from Delaware Ave. left into
Groesbeck Pl.

Because of the heavy and
almost continuous traffic com-
ing from Albany and going
towards the Four Corners
(Delmar), it was almost impos-
sible for people coming from
the Four Corners to turn left
into Groesbeck Pl. during the
busy hours of the day. A left
turn arrow into Elsmere Ave.
from the city eased the flow of
traffic turning in that direction,
but there was always another
lane of traffic going straight
towards the Four Corners that
made it hazardous to turn
except when traffic slowed as
the light turned yellow then red.

This is an extremely busy
corner. On the left, as you enter
Groesbeck Pl., is Fowler's
Liquor Store and a gift shop.
On the right is Stewart's Bread
and Butter Store and the
Tennis and Ski Shop. Directly
behind Stewart's is a doctor's
office. All these places attract a
great many cars. Sometimes
cars are parked too close to the
intersection by Stewart's and

they may tend to block the way
of a car coming in from Dela-
ware Ave. if another car is also
waiting to go out onto Dela-
ware from Groesbeck. This
causes a hazardous situation if
cars are still whizzing by on
Delaware.

Formerly the light was green
for heavy city traffic first and
then it turned green for the
people coming from the Four
Corners. In the "not so busy"
hours the traffic would let up
enough so you could turn. But
the new setup shows green for
both directions first and then,
very shortly it turns red for the
people who are going toward
the city and those who want to
turn left on Groesbeck. The
other day I sat through three
light changes before the traffic
thinned enough so that I could
turn left.

Crossing Delaware Ave. on
foot from Mullen's Pharmacy



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corner or the Banker's Trust corner is equally hazardous and frustrating. On the Mullen side, there is a turn right on red arrow which makes crossing on foot just about impossible, whereas coming across from the Banker's Trust corner you run into the problem of traffic being stopped on your left while traffic on your right is still coming at you.

It seems to me that for all the expense the state went to to install those new lights, it could have done a more effective job.

Mrs. F.X. Cedilotte

Elsmere

Clarifying the record

Editor, The Spotlight:

In response to the letter in your Dec. 14 publication, authored by Miss Joanne Van Woert, I wish to reply as follows:

Firstly, the Bethlehem Central Athletic Assn. did *not* sponsor the recent dinner held for the Suburban Council Varsity Football Team Champions. This event was sponsored

and paid for by various town merchants, industries and individual supporters. The parents of the football team participants paid for their own dinners.

Secondly, there are various varsity athletic teams that have an annual dinner (i.e., wrestling, soccer, swimming, cross country, etc.) that are held without the support of the BCAA.

Thirdly, the BCAA has sponsored an awards dinner for the past several years which is held in the Spring. This function is held to recognize *all* varsity athletic participants, male and female, including cheerleaders, managers, etc. Also *all* championship team members are recognized and receive awards purchased by BCAA.

Since I have been president of BCAA, this being my third and final year, an invitation was extended to the Girls Athletic Assn. members to attend our annual banquet. However, because the GAA

preferred to have their own awards function, the female attendance at our awards dinner was minimal. I do not condemn their choice, but I trust their membership and supporters are aware of the invitations offered.

Finally, the BCAA is an organization established to promote total athletics in our school district. *We are not a one sport booster club.* We agree that female athletic teams at BCHS deserve the same recognition that the male teams receive. However, the publicity and banquets for individual teams must be developed by parents and supporters of those specific sports with the cooperation and direction from BCAA.

Michael Hodom, President
Bethlehem Central
Athletic Assn.

Delmar

Miss Van Woert's letter pointed out that BCHS girls' teams in recent years have had undefeated seasons and have won Sectional championships

without being tendered a testimonial banquet by the community. She was apparently guided by the advance publicity new release given to the Spotlight for the Nov. 30 issue. It stated that the dinner was sponsored by the BCAA, and that checks for dinner reservations should be made payable to BCAA. For another opinion on this general subject, see the following letter. Ed.

Equal treatment

Editor, The Spotlight:

The letter in the Dec. 14 Spotlight from Joanne Van Woert was of particular interest to me, since I am the mother of a girl athlete here in Voorheesville.

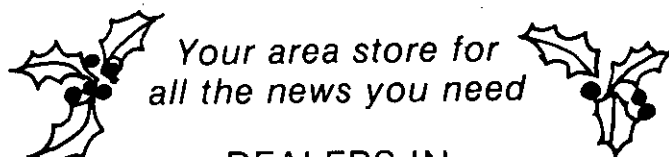
Last year, at the annual sports banquet, when the girls sports were announced, there was a smattering of "boos"

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from the boys. No one was reprimanded for it, and when I mentioned this recently, our supervising principal admitted hearing it, but felt it was "all in fun."

When our football team won the Southern Conference title and then the Section 2, Class C title this fall, the sidelines were packed with parents, students (including the girl athletes), Voorheesville school board members, the administration and faculty and members of the community. We cheered them on to the end, and when they arrived home, the fire engines escorted them through the village to the school, sirens wailing, followed by scores of cars, blowing their horns. The next day a dinner at the Legion Hall was held to honor them. Pictures and articles appeared in the sports sections of the newspapers praising their efforts. It was a marvelous, exhilarating experience.

This past week the girls' volleyball team won the Central Hudson Valley League, ending with a league record of 10-0 for the season. Saturday they went on to win Section 2, Class C Championship.

As we sat watching the games, the only non-parents or

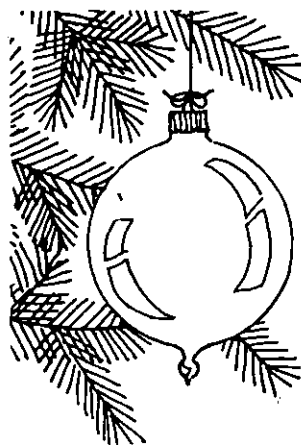
brothers and sisters I saw, other than the J.V. and freshman volleyball girls, were coach Budd Tetrault and the bus driver. The contrast was overwhelmingly obvious.

It seems incredible that no one else could find the time to see this championship team. It certainly was the public's loss. They missed seeing a magnificent team and a super coach in action.

The players arrived back in Voorheesville to find a deserted school with the doors locked. Their coach, Robyn Lock, had to drive around to find someone home with a key so the girls could bring their equipment in. The next morning, the Sunday Times Union carried nothing except the score.

There can be no logical reason for showering so much attention on one group of athletes while completely ignoring another group. This kind of discrimination should not be tolerated by anyone. The girls work just as hard as the boys, and deserve their time of glory too. I can only hope that bringing this type of treatment to public attention will prompt some action to improve this deplorable situation.

Mrs. Lewis Kohler
New Salem



Community Corner

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You can recycle your Christmas tree and get free mulch for next year's garden, both at the same time, by taking advantage of a community service offered by the Garden Shoppe in Glenmont.

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Some Voorheesville and New Scotland residents may find it closer to go to the Garden Shoppe on Carman Rd., Guilderland, where the same service and same hours apply.

Happy New Year!

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