

The Spotlight

May 10, 1979
Vol. XXV, No. 18

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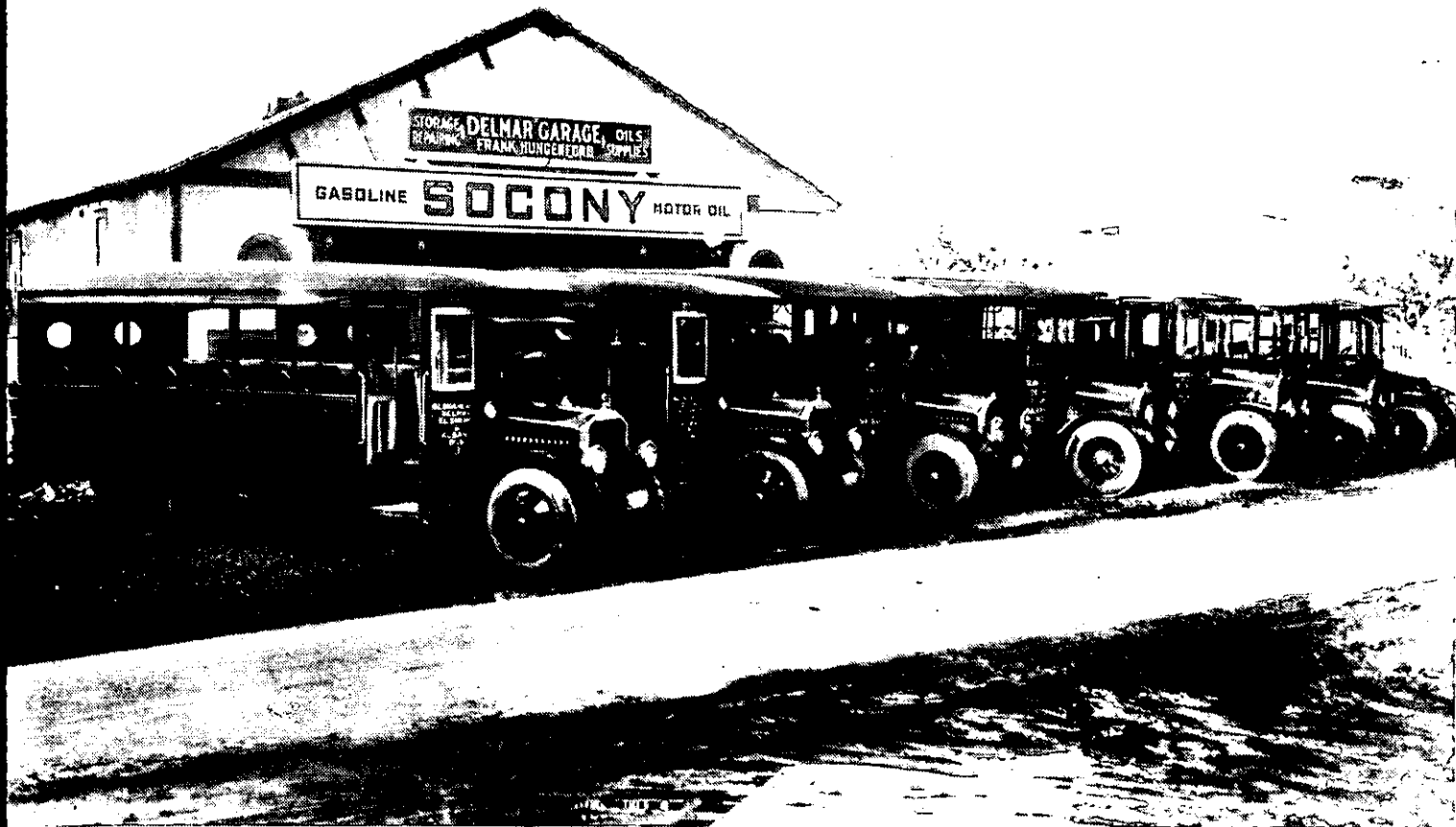
Graphic newsweekly serving the towns of Bethlehem, New Scotland and nearby communities

Bethlehem GOP to pick slate

Page 23

School board races heat up

Page 29



When Delmar was a transit hub

Page 13

Dollars for scholars.

If the increased costs of college or vocational school are stopping you from getting the education you want, we can help. With a City & County Savings Bank Student Loan. We're working with the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation to provide students with the money needed to meet the higher costs of higher education. Visit any office of City & County Savings Bank and let us help you get the education you want.

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Spotlight CALENDAR

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.

Delmar Kiwanis Club, Mondays, LaCasa Restaurant, 6:15 p.m.

Albany County Pistol Club, Winne Pl. and Maewin Dr., Delmar. Guests welcome at indoor pistol range Tuesdays at 8 p.m. Information: Dave Herbach, 439-4372 or Tom Corrigan, 439-3301.

Bethlehem Lodge 1096 F&AM, first and third Tuesdays, Delmar Masonic Temple.

Bethlehem B.P.O.E. 2233, first and third Wednesday, Lodge in Cedar Hill, Rt. 144. Ladies Auxiliary second Wednesday, 8 p.m.

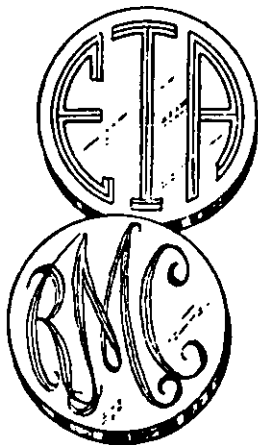
Tri-Village FISH, 24-hour-a-day voluntary service year 'round, offered by residents of Delmar, Elsmere and Slingerlands to help their neighbors in any emergency, 439-3578.

Bethlehem Women's Republican Club, third Mondays at Bethlehem Library, Jan. through March, 7:30 p.m.

Temple Chapter 5 RAM, second and fourth Mondays Delmar Masonic Temple.

World War I Veterans luncheon, second Tuesday, La Casa Restaurant, Selkirk, noon. All WWI veterans welcome.

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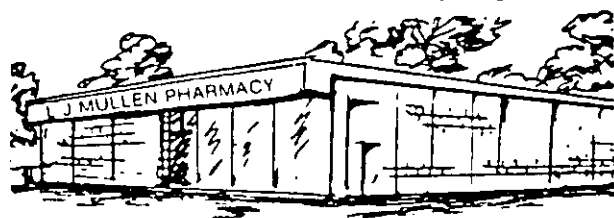
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The Spotlight

(USPS 396-630)

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Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Sunday 10:30 a.m., Sunday school and Bible class 9:15 a.m. Mid-week Bible class meets Wednesdays 1 a.m., senior choir meets Thursday 7:30 p.m.

Glenmont Lions Club, second and fourth Tuesdays, La Casa Restaurant, Selkirk, 7 p.m. Visitors welcome. Information, Ed Hayes 439-7935.

Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post American Legion, Poplar Dr., Elsmere, general meeting, first Monday, 8 p.m.

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

Bethlehem Lions Club, first and third Wednesday, La Casa Restaurant, Selkirk, 6:30 p.m.

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

Bethlehem Central Board of Education, first and third Wednesdays at
8 p.m., Educational Services Center
90 Adams Pl., Delmar.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

Monthly meeting, Ladies Auxiliary
of the Elsmere Fire Co. A, fire hall
8 p.m.

Immunization clinic, Albany County
Dept. of Health, registration and
clinic, Clarksville Community
Church, 1-2 p.m.

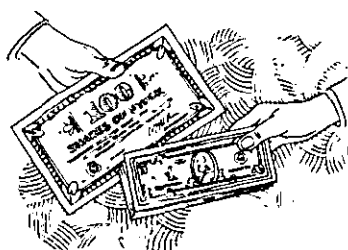
Annual spring luncheon, Tri-Village
Welcome Wagon, Albany Country
Club, 11:30 a.m., information
439-1690.

Demonstration, "Craft Ideas with
Ribbon," Forget-Me-Not, 135
Adams St., Delmar, 10 a.m. to
12 noon.

School Board Candidates Night,
open discussion sponsored by
Clarksville School PTA, Clarksville
School, 7:30 p.m. All welcome.

Did You Know?

IN AMERICA PEOPLE PUT UP MONEY IN EXCHANGE FOR STOCK SO THAT
BUSINESSES WILL HAVE THE CAPITAL NEEDED TO OPERATE.



IT'S THE SAME WITH AN INVESTOR-
OWNED PUBLIC UTILITY. NIAGARA
MOHAWK, FOR EXAMPLE, IS OWNED BY
216,000 DIFFERENT SHAREHOLDERS,
MANY OF THEM NEIGHBORS OF YOURS:
MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN; YOUNG, OLD.
IN FACT, FUNDS FOR MANY RETIREMENT
PLANS AND CREDIT UNIONS ARE
INVESTED IN UTILITY STOCKS.

90% OF NM STOCK-
HOLDERS ARE
'SMALL INVESTORS'



74% OF ALL ELIGIBLE
NM EMPLOYEES
OWN STOCK



37% OF NM
INVESTORS
ARE WOMEN

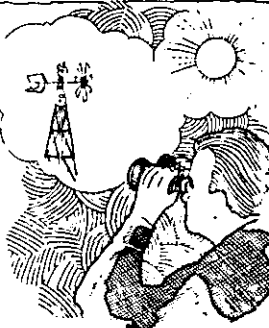


OF ALL HOLDERS OF NIAGARA MOHAWK COMMON STOCK, 90% (183,400) ARE
SMALL INVESTORS OWNING FEWER THAN 500 SHARES EACH. THEY HOLD ABOUT
40% OF ALL OUTSTANDING STOCK.

**74% OF ALL ELIGIBLE NIAGARA MOHAWK EMPLOYEES OWN STOCK IN
THEIR COMPANY, TOO, WITH 5,060,000 SHARES.**

WOMEN OWN 37% OF ALL NIAGARA MOHAWK STOCK (76,500 INVESTORS)
WHILE 53,000 OWNERS ARE EITHER COUPLES OR "SURVIVOR" OWNERS.

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THE CHANCE TO MAKE A FAIR PROFIT.**
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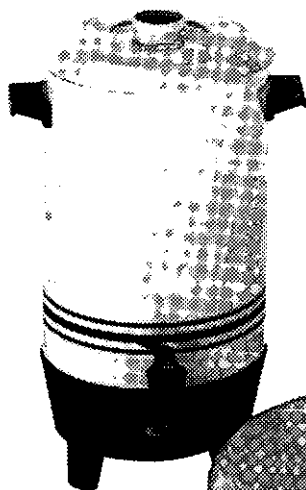


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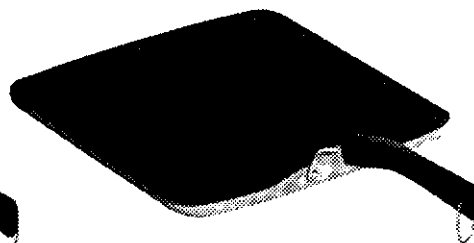
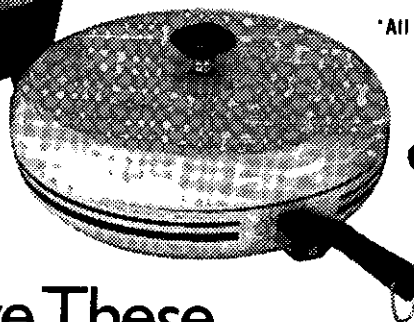
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A CORNUCOPIA OF GIFTS

The potential for Chef Savers as gifts is unlimited! Think about it—birthdays, anniversaries, showers, weddings, Mother's Day, Father's Day (so Mom can cook his favorite dish better), graduations—the list is endless. But consider, if you will, one more thing—how about making life easier for old number one. Maybe it's time you did a little splurging on yourself—why not—you'll be saving money, and rewarded with a Chef Saver at the same time.

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The Good Samaritan Home

125 Rockefeller Road, Delmar



invites the community to join its residents in celebrating

"Homes for the Aging Week" **May 13-20**

Good Samaritan Home joins with non-profit long term care facilities throughout New York State in this observance to honor residents, and to acquaint the public with the various services they receive.

The residents of the Good Samaritan Home plan many activities together with community groups and volunteers. We invite you to join us for these activities of particular interest:

MONDAY, MAY 13

Delmar Community Orchestra, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Slingerlands Elementary "Foster Great Grandparents Program" Visit, 10 a.m.

Senior Citizens Melody Makers Dance Band, 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Bocce Tournament, 4 p.m.

Hal Geurtze at the piano for a sing-along and dancing, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Hobby Show by residents and staff members, 2-4 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Q.U.I.L.T. ("Quilters United in Learning Together")
Quilting Bee, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

OPEN HOUSE to all members of the community,* 2-4 p.m.

*Visitors will have the opportunity to chat with residents, staff, board members and town officials. Tours will be conducted throughout the facility.

Of special interest, Mr. William Stober, a resident of the Good Samaritan Home will exhibit acrylic paintings at the Bethlehem Library during "Homes for the Aging" week. His exhibit will highlight the theme "Age is crowned with the Laurels of Experience."

We're all looking forward to your participation!

Monthly meeting, Ladies Auxiliary of Delmar Fire Dept., firehouse, 8 p.m.

Spring music festival, Bethlehem Middle School auditorium, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Career and educational counseling with Sister Catherine Daly, Bethlehem Library, 10 a.m.

QUILT quilters meeting, Bethlehem Library, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., bring lunch, everyone welcome.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Country Fair, Delmar Presbyterian Church, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Spring bird walk, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 2 p.m. Information, 457-6092.

Plant sale, Helderview Garden Club, Voorheesville Grand Union, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Heldeberg Workshop registration, workshop land, Picard Rd., Voorheesville, 10 a.m.-noon.

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"Lengths for Lives," swimming benefit for cancer, Bethlehem Central High School pool, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., sponsored by Key Club.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Picnic, sponsored by Beth Abraham Jacob at Five Rivers Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar. 4-12 years invited, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Doris Clark recognition, in honor of director of music, Slingerlands Methodist Church, 10 a.m. service, followed by reception.

MONDAY, MAY 14

Meet the Candidates, open forum, Bethlehem board of education, sponsored by the Bethlehem unit, Albany County League of Women Voters, Bethlehem Central High School auditorium, 8 p.m.

Monthly meeting, library board of trustees, Bethlehem Library, 7:45 p.m.

Concert, Delmar Community Orchestra, Good Samaritan Home, Rockefeller Rd., 7:30 p.m., everyone invited.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

School Board Candidates Night, Hamagrael Elementary School, 8 p.m. Public invited.

Annual meeting, Voorheesville Central board of education, Voorheesville High School auditorium 7:30 p.m.

Slingerlands Homeowners Association discussion on Slingerlands and Slingerlands Bypass p' speaker, Paul Patecki of New DOT, also election of director Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Tri-Village Chapter American Association of Retired Persons, First United Methodist Church, Delmar, Social Hour 12:30, meeting at 1:30 p.m. Special Gail Bromely on "Metric Education."

✓ **Book discussion group,** Bethlehem Library, 7-9 p.m. 7:30

Open House, Good Samaritan Home, 10 a.m. visit by "lost grandparents," students from Slingerlands school, 2 p.m. senior citizens dance band.

American Legion Auxiliary, business meeting and a memorial service, Post Rooms, Elsmere 8 p.m.

Free blood pressure clinic, Bethlehem Community Center, 125 Adams St., Delmar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

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Orientation meeting, eighth grade students and parents, Bethlehem Central High School auditorium, 8 p.m.

Open house, Good Samaritan Home, Rockefeller Rd., 2-4 p.m. hobby show.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Career and educational counseling with Sister Catherine Daly, Bethlehem Library, 10 a.m.-noon, 1-2 p.m.

Open house, Good Samaritan Home, Rockefeller Rd., 10 a.m.-2 p.m., quilting bee.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Used book fair, First Unitarian Church of Albany, 20th Annual Used Book Fair, Delaware Plaza, Elmsere.

Open house, Good Samaritan Home, Rockefeller Rd., 2-4 p.m., tours.

✓ **Israeli dance troupe**, Bethlehem Library, 2 p.m.

Mother and daughter dinner, United Methodist Church, Delmar, 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 21

Commissioners meeting of Selkirk fire district, fire house no. 1, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

Student achievement fair, Bethlehem Central High School cafeteria, 7-10 p.m.

Career and educational counseling with Sister Catherine Daly, Bethlehem Library, 6-8 p.m.

Annual meeting, Bethlehem Central school district, High School auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Slingerlands Players, "The World of Carl Sandberg," Playhouse, Unionville, 8 p.m.

Pappy Day, American Legion Auxiliary.

Parent Education Program, Bethlehem Library, Marjie Wood, "Parent Effectiveness Training," Bethlehem Library, 7:30 p.m.

School Budget Vote and Election, Voorheesville Central school district, Voorheesville High School, noon to 9 p.m.

Business meeting, Bethlehem Central board of education, Educational Services Center, 90 Adams Pl., 8 p.m., residents invited for budget information.

Open house, Good Samaritan Home, Rockefeller Rd., 2 p.m. special worship service, 4 p.m. bocce ball tournament, 7 p.m. sing-along with Hal Geurtze.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

School lunch program, Albany County Cooperative Extension sponsoring program by the Volunteer Science Group of Elmsere Elementary School entitled "Nutritious School Lunches and Parties for Children," Elmsere Elementary School, 9:30 a.m.

Special On Wmht CHANNEL 17

- **Nova: 'Whisper from Space'** Thursday 8 p.m.
- **Alexander's Ragtime Band (special)** Friday 9 p.m.
- **Einstein's Universe** Saturday 8 p.m.
- **Moyers' Journal: Jerry Brown** Monday 8 p.m.
- **Ten Who Dared: Columbus** Tuesday 8 p.m.
- **Dance: 'Feld Ballet'** Wednesday 9 p.m.

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area arts

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

THEATER

"Twelfth Night," Empire State Youth Theatre Institute, Empire State Plaza Performing Arts Theatre ("The Egg"), May 20-26, Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m., Fri.-Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sun. 2 p.m. \$3.50 adults, students, SCs, children \$2.50. Box office, Meeting Center "A" Level, Empire State Plaza.

MUSIC

"Coronation Mass" and "Vesperae Solemnnes" (Mozart), Capitol Hill Choral Society, Judson Rand conducting, Philip Schuyler Auditorium (former Albany HS), North Lake Ave. between Western and Washington, Albany, May 11, 8 p.m. Tickets at door and Community Box Office, Colonie.

University Chorale, with Carla Ross, mezzo soprano, Main Theatre, State University Performing Arts Center, May 12, 8:30 p.m. \$1 at door.

ART

Exhibition of Oriental rugs, weavings, tent trappings, Albany Institute of History and Art, through June.

Exhibition, Graphic Artists of New York, Center Galleries, 75 New Scotland Rd., Albany, through May 12.

Frederick Lynch exhibition, Hamilton Street Gallery, Robinson Square, Albany, May 7-26, opening reception May 5, 7 p.m. Gallery hours Mon.-Sat. 10:30-5:30.

Faculty Show, Rathbone Gallery, Junior College of Albany, through May 22, 1-6 p.m.

Exhibit, "Black America on Stage," Terrace Gallery, New York State Museum, Empire State Plaza, through May. Gallery hours 10-5 daily.

FILM

"Once a Hero," University Cinematography Assn., Recital Hall, State University Performing Arts Center, May 12, 14, 9 p.m. Free.

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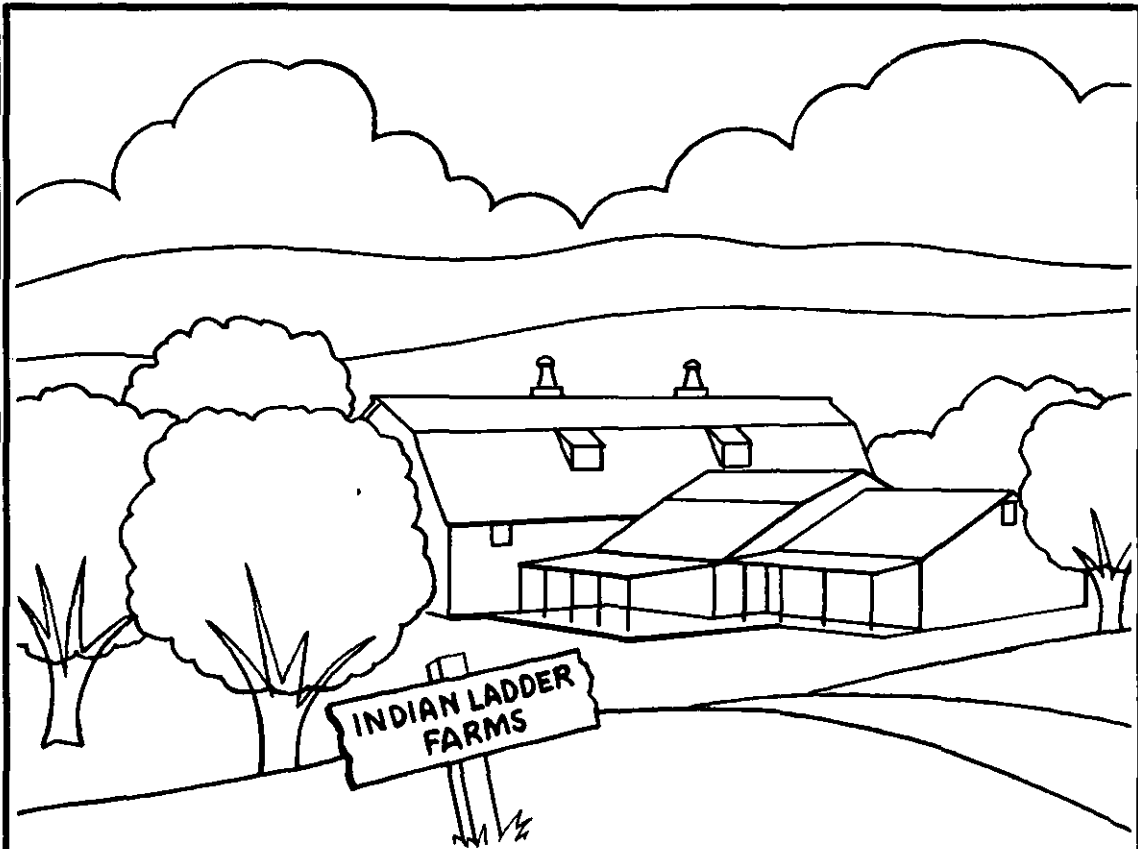
THE INDIAN LADDER FARMS

APPLE BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

is Saturday, May 12th!

Horse driven wagon rides through the blossoming orchards; tractor rides; farm equipment display.

Kids! Enter the Coloring Contest.

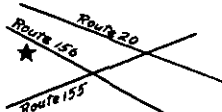


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The Spotlight

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

FOOTNOTE TO HISTORY

50 years ago: bus line made Delmar a transit hub

The war was over "over there" in 1918 when a strange contraption with a combustion engine and no muffler snorted and rattled down Kenwood Ave. on solid rubber tires toward the D&H station in Slingerlands. The enterprising driver-owner of the top-heavy, black, foreboding new entry into Capital District transportation was a farm boy from Selkirk named Frank Hungerford. His trip to meet the D&H from Albany marked the beginning of a new era in travel that changed rural Bethlehem into the fastest growing town in the state in the decade to follow.

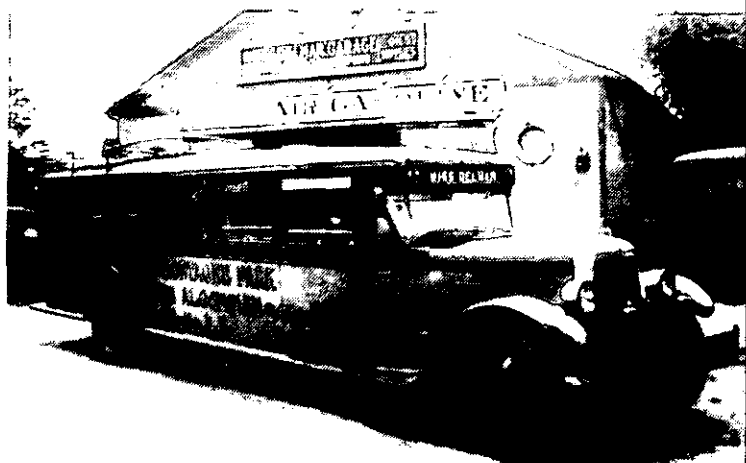
And what a decade — the Roaring Twenties — considering the uncertainties of a postwar era, hell-bent to U.S. history's most spectacular economic collapse. It was a decade sprinkled with a shifting political complex that proved every bit as unpredictable as the first bus that lumbered and crisscrossed all the passable byways of Slingerlands, Delmar and Elsmere looking for five-cent fares for an unforgettable tooth-jarring jaunt to Drislane's on Pearl St., Albany. For five cents more and a little nerve you made the round trip, but survivors of those pioneer bus excursions swear it is true that the less adventuresome souls often as not returned by horse rig.

Frank Hungerford lived in the era of bold men who tinkered with flying and politics. It was the decade of Gov. Al Smith, President Cal Coolidge and Supervisor Alton Rowe, who also put out fires in



1925 MV license plates date this picture of Frank Hungerford's expanding bus fleet. The two Mack buses with chrome bumpers straddle Gardner Terr. off Kenwood alongside the home of owner-operator Frank Hungerford at 505 Kenwood.

Delmar as fire chief. As for shifting political forces, the Twenties seemed just right for anything different, new. In Albany the Barnes machine gave way to the O'Connell machine, and on the River Road in 1918 all the enrolled faithful of the Corning clan looked with puzzlement at Edwin Corning, who enrolled in Bethlehem's Fifth District as a Republican. Edwin's son, Erastus II, was 10 then; Edwin's brother, Parker, also of Bethlehem, stayed with the political posture of his father, who founded the New York Central Railroad and Erastus I, who in his heyday supported the Copperheads to fight the election of that political upstart, Abraham Lincoln. Edwin eventually saw the light and dumped the Beth-



Flagship of Hungerford's fleet of tour buses in the early 30s was Miss Delmar, which operated between Delmar and Wells, N.Y. These were the last word in luxury and comfort in charter service, providing hourly runs among the Tri-Villages, Albany and Voorheesville, Altamont and the hill towns. The United Traction Co. of Albany, a trolley car transit system motorized in the mid-thirties, initiated competitive service to the suburbs. The Hungerford system was absorbed by United Traction, which in turn was melded into today's Capital District Transportation Authority.

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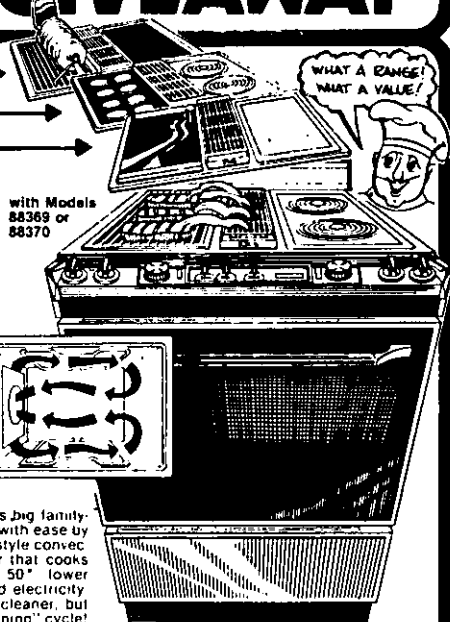
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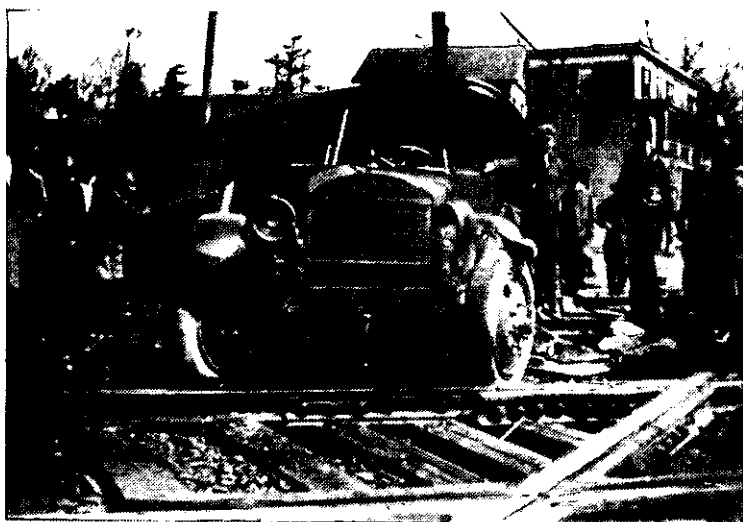
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F. Hungerford's fleet reached 14, according to this 1924 photo showing uniformed driver Harman Chichester. This bus figured in the 1927 train-bus collision at the crossing in Voorheesville which demonstrated the fragile construction. No one was injured in the crash, according to witnesses.

lehem GOP to embrace Al Smith and Tammany Hall, and therein another Bethlehem "farmer" made good. He got the nod for one term in 1926 as Smith's lieutenant governor, and made room in 1928 for Tammany candidate, Herbert H. Lehman, to move up to the Governor's Mansion.

Frank Hungerford, as an enterprising businessman, left his mark on Bethlehem and his place forever in its history. Alton Rowe left his name on Roweland Ave. as his reminder of a colorful, political career. The Hungerford-Rowe chapter is punctuated by the often-told tale of the total fire at 500 Kenwood, Hungerford's Garage (now Main Brothers Garage), opposite Gardner Terr., that wiped out in 1929 most of

the bus business. Slingerlands firemen beat Delmar to the call, the story goes, and "Pop" Rowe got hotter than the fire. To prove he had more clout than anyone else around, he shut down the Slingerlands pumper already on the line and put the Delmar pumper in charge. One of Hungerford's drivers, Bill "The Whistle" Selch, was sleeping in the back room, according to witnesses, and barely escaped with his life.

If the Hungerford chapter in Tri-Village transportation is the prologue, another Bethlehem farm boy, whose roots go back to the founding fathers in this area, is already making history with the epilogue. As a youth, he rode on Hungerford's buses, and as an attorney today, he serves as the first



This World War I vintage "Denby" chassis on solid rubber, wood spoke wheels was the first bus bought by Frank Hungerford of 505 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, to launch his Tri-Village Bus Service in the early days of the Roaring Twenties.

general counsel of the Capital District Transportation Authority, the people who put together as a public facility all of the privately-owned lines started a half century ago by Hungerford and his peers. His name, for the record, is William J. Schoonmaker, of Delmar, too.

Back on the farms in Bethlehem, in the "hill towns" and elsewhere, the word was spreading that the original 1918, solid-rubber-wheeled Denby (body not by Fisher) had grown into a mighty fleet of 10, 12 or more, depending on how many of them were running that particular day. Hungerford was enterprising in his approach to problems involving the local politicians — up to the county level. Keeping

a schedule was the headache of his trade. Roads had to be kept passable, and in winter a heavy snow, particularly in the hill towns, brought his whole operation to a screeching halt. With his usual boldness, he tackled Old Man Winter. To this day, old timers who were there swear that Hungerford made the first snow plow to rumble over town roads.

In the fabric of any major event there must be a little romance. Well worth recording is the story of what happened the day the first plow left Delmar and headed for Knox with two teenage youths riding outrigger style out in the open on each end of the plow blade. The plow had to be raised and lowered by chain by hand. It was 1923, cold and snowing.

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The hardy school children of Knox made it to school this particular day, and the startled teacher heard the Mack truck grinding its gears behind the parting snow drifts. It was a miracle, she thought, and the children should witness firsthand this historic event. She rang her school bell as Hungerford and his men fought the elements and the school children scrambled onto a snow bank, a safe distance from this man and his machine.

Ten-year-old Mabel Smith, of Knox "with red, wet nose," she said, was part of the enthralled audience that marvelled indeed at the prowess of these husky young men holding on for dear life as the path was cleared for the S-D-E & A bus that inched along behind the plow, linking Knox with downtown Delmar and civilization.

That 10-year-old girl took a shine to the husky 18-year-old riding on the blade, waving like a gladiator of old. Teacher and scholars alike all hooted and cheered as their young hero disappeared over the next ridge.

The hero was Matt Hendrickson, a nephew of Frank Hungerford, who was born in Delmar in 1905 and at 18 was taught to drive a bus by Conrad Saulsbury of Salisbury Rd., Elsmere. Matt spent his whole life in Tri-Village transportation up to Jan. 19, 1976, when he died. He started with pioneer Frank Hungerford, then moved along with other drivers to the United Traction Co., which took over Hungerford's market area in 1934 when he sold out. In 1952, L.C. "Buck" Smith picked up the charter bus trade and Matt was back working at his old stand.

As the nephew of our transportation genius, Matt Hendrickson held in safe keeping the priceless photo record of the very first motor buses of the Capital District, which formed the nucleus of a vast network of interconnected lines and systems that in recent years under our mass transit scheme became the Capital District Transportation Authority. It was his widow, that same 10-year-old with "red, wet nose," who carried out Matt's wish that the town of Bethlehem Office of History receive and keep for posterity the priceless pictures of the S-D-E & A Bus Co. in the Roaring Twenties.

Transportation key to town's growth

Frank Hungerford's bustling bus garage at 500 Kenwood Ave. in the 1920s triggered a population surge that transformed rural Delmar into the fastest growing suburb in the Albany area. The pioneer bus terminal gave people mobility they hadn't had before.

The railroads were the prime people-mover in the Twenties. Bethlehem businessmen and office workers commuted to their jobs in Albany by Delaware & Hudson trains that

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stopped at Elsmere, Delmar, Slingerlands and Font Grove on the Voorheesville and Altamont runs. The West Shore Railroad had passenger stops at Glenmont, Selkirk, South Bethlehem and Wemple. But the railroads were pushing freight, not passengers, and the people who rode the trains were eager for anything competitive with the rails. Residents who lived beyond walking distance from the tracks used the horse and buggy, while the more affluent professionals, lawyers, doctors and the more prosperous merchants used their own wheels, run by gasoline engines.

Bethlehem's explosive growth is reflected in the census figures. The town's population was 4,430 in 1920, five years later it was 5,821, and by 1930 it was 7,160, a gain of 2,730 in the decade. During the same period, Coeymans gained 239, Berne dropped 161, Guiderland gained 1,277, Knox dropped 112, New Scotland gained 371, Rensselaerville dropped 142 and Westerlo lost 20. The city of Albany meanwhile showed a modest growth from 113,000 to 127,000. Ironically, the 1970 census pegs Albany's population at 115,000, only 2,000 above the figure 50 years earlier.

Today rail rapid transit is making a comeback in many major U.S. metropolitan areas. Will Albany be one of them? A diesel-electric rail car can make the run from Voorheesville to the Plaza in Albany in less than 20 minutes with 90-second stops in Slingerlands and Delmar. Should a transit master plan include beelines coming in from Chatham, Clifton Park and the old Schenectady mainline? Could a rail spur be extended to the South Mall complex and the State Campus? With gasoline heading toward \$1 a gallon, is rail transit the commute of the future?

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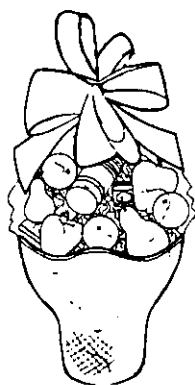
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BETHLEHEM

Night school draws a crowd

They look like no other students you've ever seen. Some are young and some are old but all are smiling.

Instead of sweating it out behind desks, they line up in rows across the empty cafeteria floor and strut and dance back and forth in unison to a pulsating disco beat.

The teacher moves with the class through the limbering up exercises, extolling the students to move with the music. Soon all the students are gyrating and sweating to the strains of a funky Wizard of Oz tune.

They're learning and having fun at the same time, and that's the point of the two disco classes headed by teacher Joe Mara that have been enrolled to the brim with 40 students each. The disco classes are only part of the reason for the popularity of the Bethlehem Central continuing education program that has swelled to an unheard of 580 students for this spring semester, almost twice what it was three years ago.

Besides disco dancing there are classes to fit even the most unusual of interests and hobbies, from those teaching the ancient and delicate art of Chinese calligraphy to classes in law, computer programming and even quilting. There is a class where unruly dogs can learn obedience. For that class, the dogs and not the masters are presented with diplomas.

Director Richard Bassotti took over the reins of the program and turned it around in September, 1978, reviving old programs and offering many new courses to widen the scope of the program's appeal.

Students and teachers alike recognize the effect of Bassotti's hard work and imagination, which brought in people who never before would have considered the benefits of taking a course in continuing education.

Bassotti, a likeable and energetic teacher at Bethlehem Central High School, is the program's most enthusiastic supporter, where "enthusiastic" is a word used with everyone concerned with the program.

"I try to fill every course I can," says Bassotti, noting that the average class has 17 students, with 12 as the smallest allowable class.

Bassotti is quick to stress that teamwork and high quality teachers are the primary reasons for the program's unique appeal and success.

"We have great teachers," he says. "Their enthusiasm is amazingly high. My motto is, if they're not interested, then I don't want them. They better love what they're doing and they all do."

One of those highly recommended teachers is disco instructor Joe Mara, who never stops moving, even between classes. "We've had a very enthusiastic response," says Mara, who points out that 60 students had to be turned away at the classes beginning in

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March. "So far we've had almost perfect attendance every week," he says, proud of his packed class that came in full strength despite the unseasonable April snowstorm one night.

Bassotti says most of the 40 teachers fit his high standards of excellence and enthusiasm.

"These teachers are working for more than the cash," he says, noting that the registration fee of \$16 makes the program a break-even, non-profit venture. "Who do I mention?" he says, gesturing with his hands. "Do I mention the town lawyer who teaches law, the Chinese brush painting teacher who greets all her students with a kiss, the dog-training teacher who is a junior at Saint Rose or the bridge teachers who are masters? I could go on and on."

Another reason for the program's success came from an unexpected source in the form of a scheduling change.

"Dr. Zinn (superintendent of schools) suggested we move the spring semester out of the winter and into March to save money on heating. This brought more people out of the woodwork who wouldn't have come in the cold winter months."

Mrs. Eleanor McIntyre, who has taken three courses and is presently enrolled in computer programming, sees the success of the continuing education program as part of a growing nationwide trend emphasizing the need for education for all people regardless of their age.

"There is a growing idea that you should be learning all your life. And these courses are handy for me in the evenings because I work. They do a good job and they're good quality courses," she says.

She hopes the basic understanding she will receive of computers may help her in her work where a general knowledge of computers could ease her work load. "It's just fascinating to know how a computer works," she says.

Doug Payne

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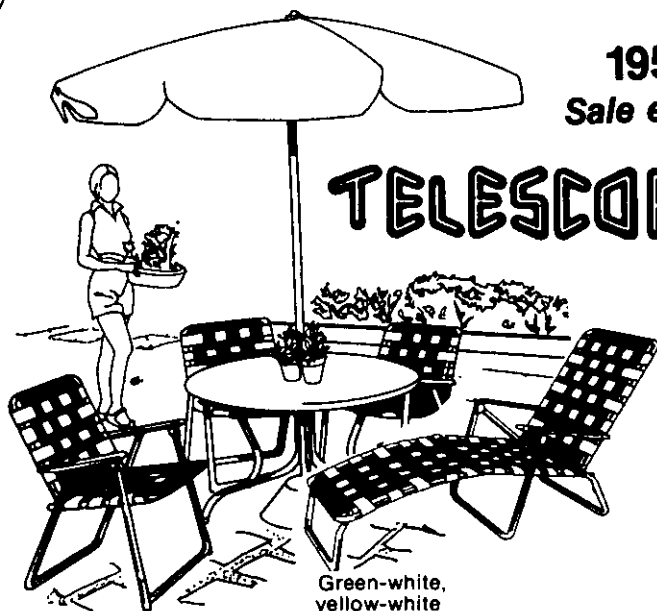
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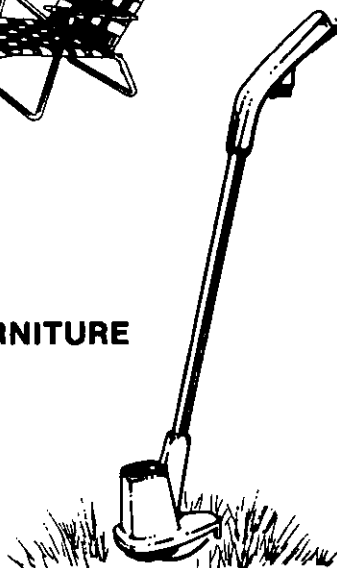
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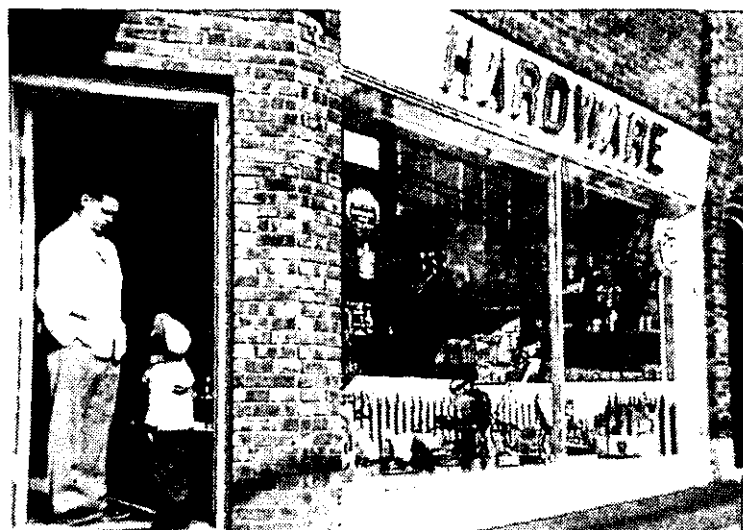
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After 25 years of growth in the hardware business, Alan and Kim Hilchie still operate a family business with an emphasis

BUSINESS

Hilchie's to note 25th anniversary

One of Bethlehem's cornerstone business enterprises, Hilchie's Hardware, is observing its 25th anniversary this week a quarter of a mile down the street from its original location.

When Alan and Ann Hilchie opened their new business in the corner store at Delaware Ave. and Elsmere Ave. now occupied by Stewart's Bread 'n' Butter, there were, Alan recalls, 12 or 13 other stores in town that sold hardware or related items.

That was in the spring of 1954. Alan Hilchie had already had a varied business experience, having worked for U.S. Gypsum, the New York Telephone Co., the City Lumber Co. and a bank. He credits his desire to have his own business to his father, a blacksmith. "He was a private entrepreneur," Alan recalled, "and he had the satisfaction that comes with hard work and long hours, and the realization that it's up to you whether you're successful."

In the quarter century since those early days in the first store, Hilchie's has become a Delmar landmark. The business, based on individual attention to customers' needs, experienced a steady growth. The first major expansion was the addition of a lawnmower shop, which was established in the old Dempf Bakery building next to the Delaware Ave. underpass, now occupied by the Peddler's Post. This became the forerunner of today's Caretaker Shop.

In August, 1967, Hilchie's moved to its present structure, which was designed to provide nearly five times the floor space and accommodate the Caretakers' Shop on the lower level. The store added many new lines, including gift items that gave Hilchie's a special dimension beyond the core business, hardware. More recently the store has been carrying television sets along with other electronics lines.

The store has strong family ties. Ann Hilchie's father, W. Melbourne Miller, joined the store in the second year, and served as office and financial manager until he retired in 1970 at the age of 75. He is now 83 and lives in Delmar with his wife, Edna.

A new generation is represented by the Hilchie's son, Garth, known to his friends as Kim. He has been in the business full-time since graduating from the State University College at Morrisville, and oversees operations on the main floor with particular expertise in paints and electronics. Daughter Dale also is an employee of the firm.

The Hilchie's attribute much of their success to a spiritual renewal they experienced during the early years of their struggle to establish the business on a firm footing. A friend introduced them to the serious study of the Bible, and they say their "lives were



on personal service. Father and son, left, in front of the old building, and in front of the new store, right.

turned around" as a result. They are active in the Bethlehem Community Church.

The Hilchie's are also firm believers in the concept of "do it yourself." They have done wood finishing, landscaping, wallpapering, furniture refinishing and many home maintenance chores themselves, and Alan is an experienced plumber as well as home handyman.

Both are active in professional organizations. Alan is president of the New York State Retail Hardware Assn. and is treasurer of the New York State Council of Retail Merchants. Ann has served on the policy committee of the American Hardware Supply Co. with respect to paints.

Recently the store introduced a new identification to its local patrons, "ServiStar." This is the new private-label name. American Hardware has offered to its preferred stores. "The ServiStar sign may be new," says Ann Hilchie, "but it's really the same Hilchie's people have known for 25 years."

Adds her husband: "We're very happy we're doing business in a community such as Delmar, with its many fine people and community strengths. It's an outstanding place to live and do business."

La Casa

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GIFTS FOR MOM at DELAWARE PLAZA

Youth car wash

The youth group of Bethlehem Lutheran Church will hold its annual car wash on Saturday, May 19, from 9 to 3 at the church, 85 Elm Ave., Delmar. For \$1.50, your car will receive a real spring cleaning (special rates for special vehicles!) Refreshments will be served.

Rummage sale set

The Ladies Auxiliary of the North Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Dept. will hold a rummage sale and bake sale Saturday, May 19, from 9 to 6 at the firehouse on Schoolhouse Rd. Clothing donations may be left at the firehouse Monday through Friday after 6 p.m.

BETHLEHEM

Parents alerted on pill incident

Principals of all five Bethlehem elementary schools talked to all their pupils last week to remind them they should never accept candy from strangers. Middle School pupils were also advised of this age-old precaution.

Cause for the school district's concern was an incident that occurred on a recent evening adjacent to the High School tennis courts. A Hama-grael third-grader and his pre-school-age brother had accompanied their mother to the site, and while she played tennis, the children watched a ball game nearby.

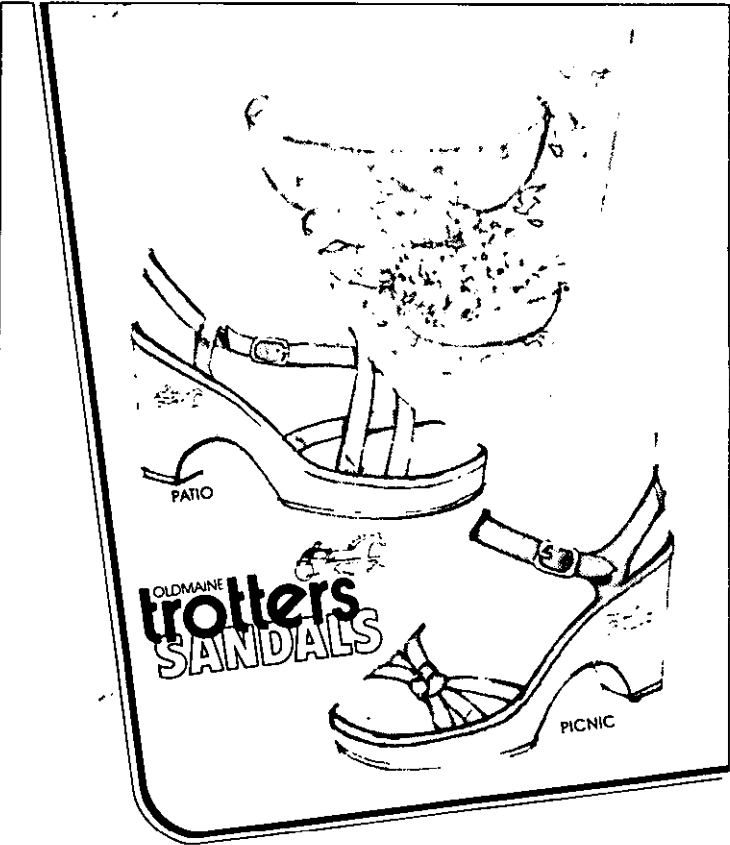
When the mother was driving home with her sons, she noticed the younger one seemed unusually lethargic. The third-grader then informed her his little brother had been given a "tic-tac" by a boy who said he was 11 years old and

had approached them and offered the "candy."

The mother drove her young son straight to the hospital, where he spent the night after having his stomach pumped. She was informed by doctors that the "tic-tac" was a depressant, and its effects could have been fatal in the absence of prompt action.

Bethlehem school officials have submitted this article to The Spotlight to alert all parents directly and quickly of the need to be especially vigilant of their youngsters' whereabouts and awareness of this potential danger. Since the "candy-giver" was apparently a young child himself, there is this additional warning: parents should be sure their children do not have access to pills or medications in their homes.

Don't forget Mother's Day
Sunday, May 13



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BETHLEHEM

GOP to fill 10 lines on ballot

Bethlehem Republicans, facing a stern challenge at the polls in November, expect to draw up a full slate of candidates by the end of next week.

There will be 10 local offices on the "off-year" ballot, when voter attention is concentrated on municipal elections rather than state and national contests. In Bethlehem where Republicans have had several narrow squeaks in local races in recent years, the 1979 campaign is expected to be the most spirited in more than a decade.

Bernard Kaplowitz, GOP town chairman, said the town committee would meet tonight (May 10) "to listen to prospective candidates" who have expressed an interest in running for town offices. Kaplowitz declined to say whether he expected any serious challenges to incumbents, but indicated that the committee would listen to any political newcomers interested in seeking an office.

Of the 10 spots on the ballot, at least two will have new names. Councilman William Johnston, Jr. and County Legislator Earl Robinson have notified the committee they will not seek reelection. Kaplowitz and his committeemen have kept mum on any prospective new candidates, and there has been virtually no political speculation on who might be in line for the nominations to replace Johnston and Robinson.

Outside sources hinted there may be a challenger for the town justice spot now held by Harry B. Rezzimini, but Kaplowitz declined to comment. Rezzimini, who has been serving an interim term, will be seeking a four-year term on the local bench.

The rest of the slate is expected to be filled by incumbents. They are: Supervisor Tom Corrigan, Councilman Ruth Bickel, Town Clerk Marian T. Camp, Supt. of Highways Martin C. Cross, Jr., and Receiver of Taxes Kenneth

Hahn. Mrs. Bickel, the town board candidate to be named and Hahn will be running for four-year terms, the others for two years.

Also on the ballot are Bethlehem's three seats in the heavily Democratic Albany County Legislature. Two incumbents, Edward H. Sargent, Jr. and W. Gordon Morris, both of Elsmere, are certain to be renominated.

Kaplowitz said he has called the 42 committeemen—two from each of the town's election districts—to a meeting on Friday, May 18, to complete the nominations.

Bethlehem Democrats have not yet scheduled their bi-annual party caucus, which probably won't be held until July or August.

Truck loan okayed

The New Scotland town board has responded favorably to a request by the Voorheesville village board to borrow two refuse trucks from the town highway department to be used in the annual spring cleanup drive in the village. The roadside collections started last Saturday and will conclude this Saturday, May 12. Under the resolution approved at last Wednesday's town board meeting, the village will pay overtime rates to the town's regular drivers for the Saturday work, and the town will contribute the trucks and gas.

Knouse honored

Reno S. Knouse of 40 Thorn-dale Rd., Slingerlands, was honored at a recent meeting of the New York State Distributive Education Assn. Knouse taught for 32 years in SUNYA's department of teacher education and retired last year.

New store manager

Dennis Bean of Schenectady has been appointed manager of the Grand Union Co.'s Voorheesville store. Bean, a full-time employee of the Grand Union chain since 1972, previously was manager of the store on Whitehall Rd., Albany. He joined the company as a part-time employee in 1968. He is married and has one child.

Speed limit sought

The town of New Scotland has filed a request with the State Dept. of Transportation (DOT) to post a 30-mile speed limit on Swift Rd. between the Voorheesville village line and Rt. 85, New Scotland Rd. Swift Rd. is posted for 30 mph at the village end, the town board noted.

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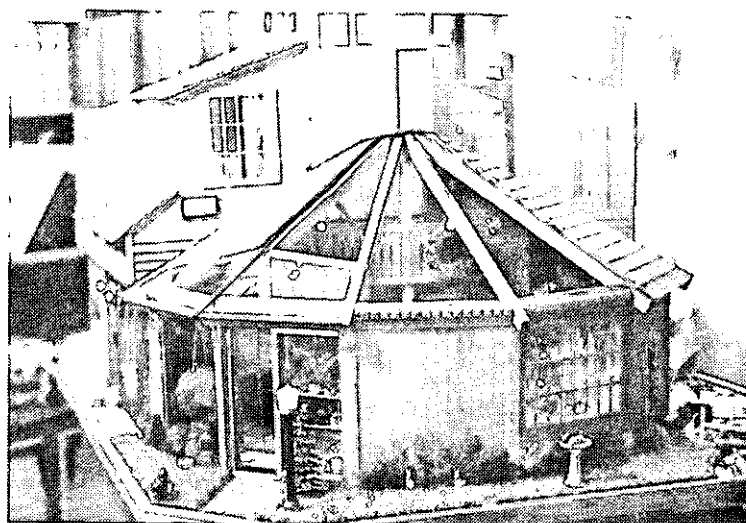
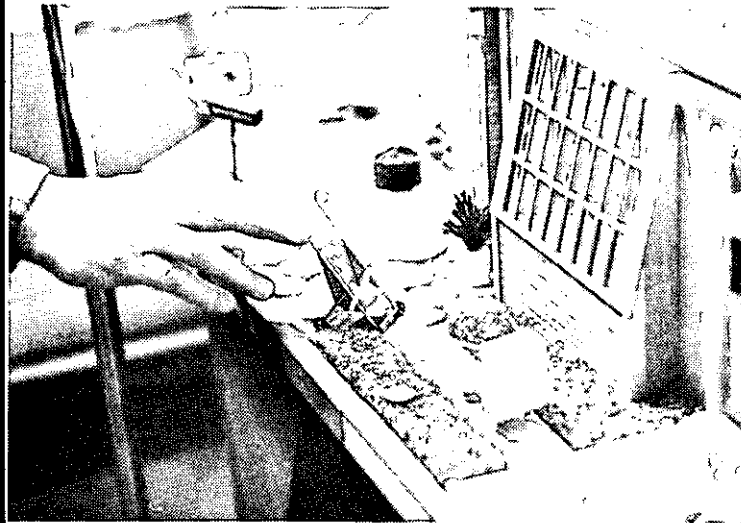
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Saturday till 8 p.m.

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439-4511

Slingerlands supercraftsman recreates a micro-dream house



"It's a small, small world" to borrow a phrase from Disney and Jack Van Dusen has skillfully constructed a mini-home accurate

The house is a contemporary redwood surrounded by manicured shrubs and bounded by the gentle bend of a small stream. Overhead the flag flies majestically on a tall, slender pole, while a mongrel does an injustice to a nearby fire hydrant. A curious sign adorns

the two-story dwelling telling the world, "Under Construction Since 1976."

The mat at the front door says welcome, and as the visitor passes through the doorway and turns right, a large chandelier catches the eye. It hangs from the cathedral-like ceiling

to the smallest details. Note the birds enjoying a bath, the newspaper in the box and the hydrant on the lawn.

and compliments the graceful spiral stairway to the second floor.

Down the hallway is a spacious living room with a vaulted ceiling. Immediately one is struck by the built-in greenhouse accessible from inside and out. Its luscious

green plants with tender foliage and delicate flowers deny the existence of the frigid weather outside.

Turning, the visitor is struck by the raised fireplace complete with folding glass doors. Its warm light falls upon the living room and the adjoining dining room alike. A festively decorated Christmas tree surrounded by brightly wrapped gifts beckoning to be opened dominates the scene. A buffet table nearby is laden with luncheon meats, blueberry pie and dieters delights of carrot and celery sticks. A punch bowl and cups rest on a tea cart ready to quench the thirst of holiday guests.

But why pause here when the real feast is in the next room? The dining room table is set and the brass candlesticks reflect the glowing fire and chandelier overhead. The turkey rests on the table as do all the familiar accompaniments.

A typical holiday scene, one we all enjoyed a few months ago? No, not quite. Atypical is more accurate when you know that the cup of punch is no larger than a child's fingernail, and that the stately Christmas tree rises a towering seven inches. The contemporary house just described measures but a mere 3½ by 2½ feet and 28 inches high, its second floor pulls out like a drawer to reveal the first floor below, and it



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swings around on a rolling table.

The creator of this mini-marvel is multi-skilled Jack VanDusen, the inspiration is his attractive wife, Ellen. The VanDusens' home reflects Jack's handiwork. Every room bears his mark, from a completely refinished kitchen with clever closets to hide all those time-saver appliances to a doorbell programmed to chime the first few bars of suitable seasonal or favorite music.

The story of this oft-displayed miniature house (most recently at the Schenectady Museum) dates back to 1976. Ellen, it seems, had received from her parents as a Christmas present in 1934 a Tudor-styled doll house, which she cherished. She later loaned it to her sister's family with the understanding that it would be returned. Years passed and Ellen, inquiring about its whereabouts, was stunned to

hear that her sister had, as she succinctly put it, "gotten rid of it." This was a great disappointment to Ellen. Jack, sensitive to this, marshalled his many talents and set about to create a replacement.

The living room was Ellen's Christmas present in 1976 and the house and the creative joys have continued. Almost every item has a story to tell. For example, the dining room is decorated with a full wall mural of sailing ships at rest in a harbour. Complimenting this scene is a smaller framed detailed painting entitled "1890 Night Boats on the Hudson."

"Do you recognize this?" asked Jack with a mischievous twinkle in his eye. Puzzled, I stooped again and peered through the small dining room window. It was vaguely familiar, but resisted positive identification. Jack with a gentle grin laughed softly, "This is how I separate the



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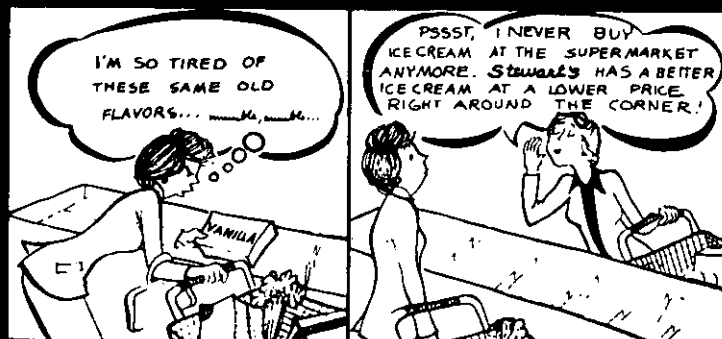
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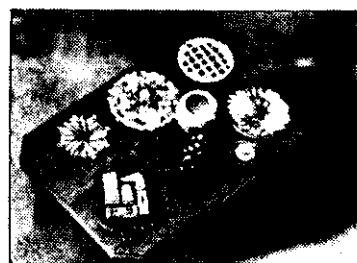


Van Dusen's house is complete with landscaping and indoor plants.

gamblers from the non-gamblers. It was part of an old lottery ticket!"

On another wall there hangs a colorful painting of Minelot Falls in Thacher Park. This painting is a greatly reduced reproduction of an original that hangs in the couple's dining room. The original was painted by Jack's sister from a small black and white photograph taken by (you guessed it) Jack. Another gilt portrait turns out to be a brooch once belonging to a friend of Ellen's and, after being admired, was consequently donated to the cause.

The VanDusens are now, three years later, thoroughly hooked on this growing hobby. Miniatures are now the third most popular pastime, surpassed only by coin and stamp collecting. This interest has led



The house is furnished with mini-furniture and micro-mini-food awaiting the guests.

them to subscribe to numerous journals on miniatures, travel to countless craft shows, make the acquaintance of a number of delightful fellow hobbyists, and join a local club devoted to the craft of miniatures—aptly named La Mini Scala.

This club, of which Jack is vice president, achieved a measure of acclaim last October. The membership of La Mini Scala was invited to provide the entertainment at the 1978 Saratoga Festival of Miniatures Show and Sale, a benefit for the Saratoga Center for the Performing Arts. La Mini Scala's Dollhouse City display was a unique feature and a popular one. So great was its success that the club has been requested to recreate Dollhouse City for the next two years.

What else does the future

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hold for this amiable couple? Ellen is anxiously anticipating retirement so she can become more involved in the craft and apprentice herself to Jack to learn his "crafty" ways. Jack plans to add a kitchen and a breakfast nook to the contemporary house, but now finds that his time will be divided between this house and Ellen's often mourned original doll-house.

Due to a miracle of semantics and to Ellen's delight, "gotten rid of" was found to mean the attic and not the junk heap, as originally thought. Now the Tudor house presents its own separate continuing series of challenges and rewards. And the VanDusens are cheerfully responding to the

call with talent, skill and enthusiasm. *Joan D'Ambrosi*

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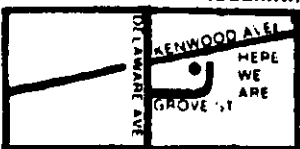


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REFRESHMENTS

BETHLEHEM

Town tightening road requirement

Bethlehem's town board is planning to shift more of the burden of building new roads and streets to the developers of residential and commercial subdivisions.

The board has drafted a proposed ordinance that would require building firms to apply the finished coat on new streets before the streets are accepted by the town.

Under present law, developers must put in the sub-surface gravel base. When the street is accepted, the town highway department applies the oil and crushed stone topping.

The proposed ordinance represents enabling legislation that will permit the town

superintendent of highways to set the specifications for accepting new streets. The town board is expected to decide on the date the new requirements would take effect, and then set a date for a public hearing.

Elks install slate

An unprecedented presentation of long-stemmed pink roses by Exalted Ruler James Carroll to his wife, Lorraine, as the new president of the Ladies Auxiliary highlighted the annual Meet Your Officers Night and auxiliary installation at Bethlehem Elks Lodge 2233 on April 28. Other officers are Barbara Haight, vice president; Marie Cooklish, advisor; Marion Peck, secretary, and Lillian Countryman, treasurer. Trustees are Theresa Quickenton, Doris Bidley and Alvina White. Guest speaker at the dinner was Albert A. Danckert, past district deputy grand exalted ruler. Visiting officials included Robert M. Bender, Sr., past president of the New York State Elks Assn., and John Nichols, past district deputy grand exalted ruler.

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School board races heating up

With few exceptions, the eight candidates for three seats on the Bethlehem Central school district's seven-member board of education stepped up their individual campaigns this week with the May 23 election two weeks away.

A series of coffees and neighborhood receptions gave several of the candidates a chance to talk to voters on sensitive subjects that included the school system's steadily rising budget, the prospects of a bitter hassle with the teachers' union next year and the continuing problem of keeping costs and the quality of education in perspective.

Although property owners who live in the district are the only taxpayers contributing directly to the district's \$12.3-million proposed budget for the 1979-80 school year, any resident 18 years of age or older who has lived in the district 30 days or more can vote in the annual elections.

With three seats on this year's ballot, interest is higher than usual, particularly with a controversial budget that several groups of district residents are vigorously opposing. One group has paid for a half-page advertisement in the Spotlight this week urging defeat of the budget.

Four members of the school board have drafted lengthy personal letters to the Vox Pop section of the Spotlight, individually defending the proposed budget or segments of it.

The Bethlehem unit of the League of Women Voters will hold a district-wide Candidates Night program at the Bethlehem Central High School auditorium at 8 p.m. Monday night, May 14. The public forum featuring the candidates is expected to attract a number of residents curious as to how the candidates stand on such matters as teacher staffing, union demands, bus purchases, administration costs, classroom size and program enhancement.

The candidates also will appear at a PTA program at

Hamagrael Elementary School, Delmar, Tuesday night, and at the annual meeting at the High School on May 22, the night before the balloting.

This year's election contests feature four candidates running for one three-year term, a young parent challenging the board's senior member for another three-year term, and two candidates running for a one-year interim term.



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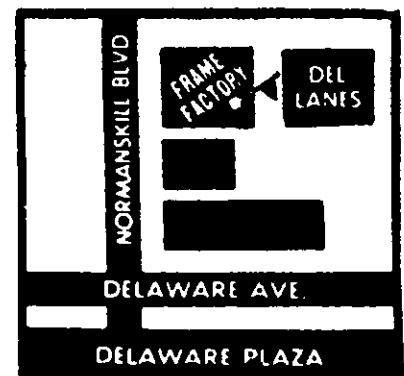
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Bethlehem Supervisor Tom Corrigan bought the first poppy in town moments after signing a proclamation declaring May 16 Poppy Day. His contribution was received by Carol Cummings, left, president of the Blanchard Post, American Legion Auxiliary, and Noreen Giaccone, poppy chairman, as Maj. Biddle of Revolutionary War fame looks on from his framed portrait by Thomas Scully.

Spotlight

Introduction to BCHS

An orientation program for eighth grade pupils entering high school and their parents will be held on Tuesday, May 15, at 8 p.m., in the BCHS auditorium. Information will be

available on the High School's organization, curriculum, rules and regulations, and activities. Speakers will include Principal Charles Gunner and assistant principals Francis Rodgers and Max Karp. The program will conclude with a tour of the High School building.

Selkirk slide show set

Mrs. John Wheatley will present a slide presentation on the Far East Broadcasting Assn. at the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, Rt. 9W, Selkirk, on May 25 at 7 p.m. A free will offering will be taken for the F.E.B.A. and refreshments will be served.

MAY Salesperson of the Month



Frank Downs

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Boards lighten meeting agendas

Two of Bethlehem's appointive boards have reduced their schedules to streamline their agendas.

The town's seven-member planning board, which has been meeting each Tuesday, has adopted a schedule of meeting the first, second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m.

The board of appeals, which has been meeting on the first three Wednesdays of each month, will now meet on the first and third Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

Radio theater starting

"Masterpiece Radio Theatre" makes its long-awaited debut on WAMC, FM 90.3, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 10. The 52-week dramatic series, consisting of original American productions and BBC acquisitions, will begin its season with a three-part presentation of Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." It will also include such classics as "Moby Dick," "Far From the Madding Crowd," "Sons and Lovers" and Edith Wharton's famous novel, "House of Mirth." Julie Harris will be host of this new series of vivid dramatizations for radio.

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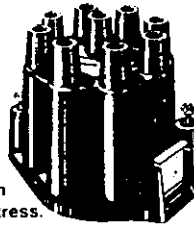


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Workshop registration set

The Heldeberg Workshop's summer schedule is in the mail with course descriptions for classes in science, crafts, cultures, arts, theater and high adventure. The two two-week sessions are July 23-Aug. 3 and Aug. 6-17.

Registration will take place Saturday, May 12, at the workshop land, Picard Rd., Voorheesville, from 10 a.m.-noon. This is a change from the date announced last week. All other registration will be by mail only with classes being filled in order of receipt of applications.

Some scholarships are available. For information and applications, call Marcia Rosenfield, 439-6225.

Garden giveaway set for Saturday

Garden Day returns to the town of Bethlehem on Saturday with free compost, wood chips, soil sampling and advice for gardeners. The event will take place at the town's highway garage on Elm Ave. East, Selkirk, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 12, rain or shine.

Garden Day is sponsored by the town's council for the conservation of the environment. In addition, representatives from the Albany County Cooperative Extension will be on hand to offer free soil tests.

Another Garden Day giveaway is made possible by the J.P. Jonas Landscape Designer-Contractors, Inc. of Feura Bush: free seedling evergreen trees will be given to children who attend.

Free compost and wood chips are available to those who attend, and Donald Gillespie, chairman, advises that sturdy containers are needed for carting the compost and wood chips home.

For soil tests, gardeners are advised to dig soil from several locations in their yards, allow the soil to air-dry, then remove any bits of foreign matter. About one Dixie cup of soil is needed for an accurate test.

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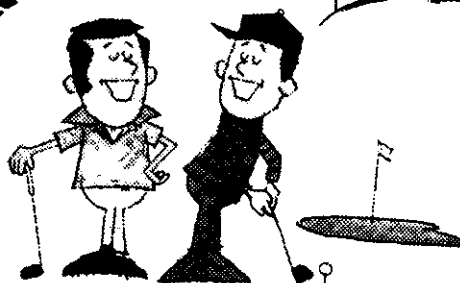
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BETHLEHEM

Town to enforce fence restrictions

Bethlehem building inspectors say they have found a number of six-foot fences in residential areas in violation of the town's zoning law.

John Flanigan, head of the building department at town hall, said many property owners "apparently are unaware" of the zoning ordinance.

Under the law, solid fences cannot be more than four feet high. The ordinance states that any fence higher than four feet must be 75 percent "open," thus permitting chain-link and other "see-through" fences.

Flanigan also cautioned that property owners must have permits to install storage sheds and swimming pools in Bethlehem, including above-ground pools.

Planist performs

Rhonda Ballou, Delmar pianist and teacher, will perform in a chamber music concert at the Schenectady Public Library on Friday, May 18, at 8 p.m. Also performing are Linda Hanley, violin, and Ingrid Porter, cello. Both are members of the Albany Symphony.

Summer 'driver ed'

Instruction in driver education will be offered this summer to youth who live in the Bethlehem Central school district from July 2 through Aug. 17. The course is open to resident students who are at least 16 years of age by July 1. Registration forms will be available in the main office of Bethlehem Central High School from May 7 through May 18, and must be returned to the office by 3 p.m. on May 18 with a \$3 registration fee.

If there are more applicants than places available, seniors will be given first priority, then juniors, then sophomores. Classes will meet daily from 8 to 9 a.m., and students will be assigned driving times by random drawing.

Budget meeting planned

Voters are invited to hear Dr. Lawrence Zinn, Bethlehem superintendent of schools, and several members of the board of education on May 17 at 8 p.m. in the Hamagrael School cafeteria. The meeting is sponsored by the Bethlehem Central High School Parent-Faculty Organization to give voters an opportunity to ask questions about the budget.

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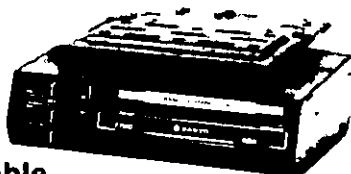
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Lynn Apicelli, right, tries the keyboard of the Spotlight's phototypesetter with Lara Nichols under the watchful eye of Ann Brink, during the Hamagrael "town study" project.

DELMAR

Fifth graders in a 'town study'

If experience is the best teacher, 27 Hamagrael School fifth graders are getting just that.

They are now in the third week of a comprehensive "town study" project that has taken them from their sun-lit classroom on McGuffey La. into businesses, town offices, institutions and other facilities throughout the town of Bethlehem, where they are learning first-hand what kind of a world they live in.


In the course of the project, these eager pupils have learned map skills, how to use a compass, how to make a graph, how to conduct an interview and take notes, how to write a report, how to follow and find directions, how to conduct a survey, and how a lot of things go together.

This week they are organizing debates on pertinent topics

and planning the displays that will climax their four-week study. In between they've seen a lot of places in Delmar and other parts of Bethlehem, absorbed some town history and had a close-up view of more than a dozen local businesses and institutions.

The project is the brainchild of Arthur Copeland, their 34-year-old teacher who is a disciple of the age-old concept of learning-by-doing. Copeland, a Long Island native who earned a master's degree in outdoor education from Northern Illinois University after his undergraduate work at New Paltz, started this enterprise with a classroom study that had his young charges making graphs and taking surveys such as how many children bought hot lunches.

"They've learned what a constant is and what a variable is,



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and how the relationship produces a result," he said.

From their classroom survey, Copeland's students embarked on a "school study" that took in other classrooms, the principal's office, the nurse's office, the custodian and others. The bright-eyed participants thought up interview questions for their subjects, wrote reports, compiled a graph and prepared a display that answered their questions.

Then came the town study, a four-week venture. "By this time they knew what they were responsible for," said Copeland, "and they knew how to draft questions and the mechanics of the project."

In the classroom study, they drew a map of their room to scale. In the school study, they added to their mapping skills, and in the town study they walked various routes to the business section and put together freehand maps of the area. They also visited town hall and selected a number of local businesses, churches and agencies they wanted to study.

This week they are visiting a cemetery to study life spans from gravestones. They will use compasses to prepare a "hazard route" with alternate routes between Points A and B, will map several blocks and the houses on them, and they'll be working up a survey question that will lead to their making recommendations. Next week they'll be busy with bulletin boards and their displays before holding an open house and their final debate session.

For five days last week classmates split up into pairs and singles to study assigned businesses. Their list included Vogel Wall Coverings, Applebee's Funeral Home, the Bethlehem recycling center, Flowers by Thomas, the Spotlight, the Bethlehem Library, Parks and Recreation Dept., Bethlehem Central business administration office at 90 Adams Pl., Delmar Printers, Delmar Department Store, Ehrlich Auto Parts, Delmar Bootery, C.B. Clarke Insurance, Mug and Brush barber shop, Brownell Agency, First United Method-

ist Church, Faith Lutheran Church and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.

They've also been to police headquarters, the Delmar fire house, National Commercial Bank, the town's water and sewer departments, and had a sketching lesson. They stopped by Elsmere School for a lesson in nutrition by Mrs. Charlotte Maeder, then went to the A&P

store where they split into teams that were given 15 minutes to buy ingredients in six categories for a meal for four at the most economical cost.

"The group that would have won had their math incorrect," said Copeland later, "so the second-place team won with correct math."

Meanwhile 27 pupils in that

busy-beaver class know more about services provided by many local businesses and government agencies than a lot of their elders.

In Copeland's eyes, outdoor education doesn't mean fresh-air studies: it means outside-the-classroom studies, where the experiences come firsthand, and the learning is by doing.

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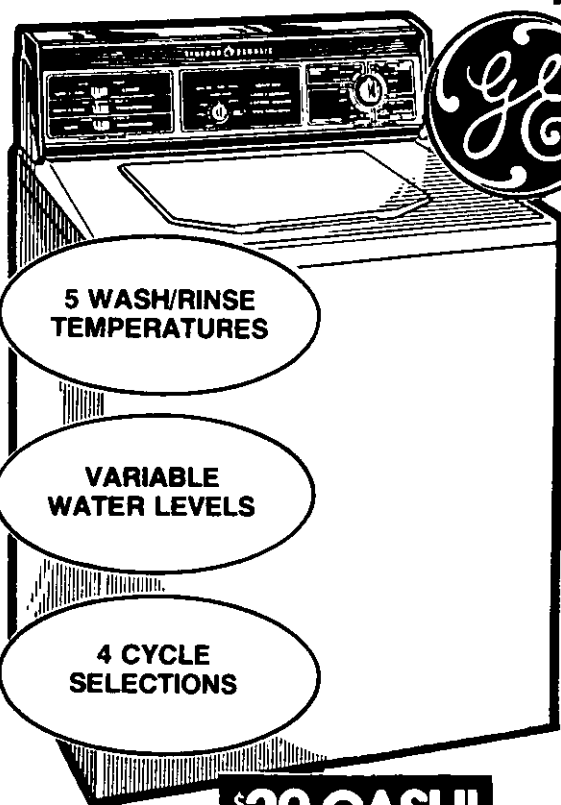
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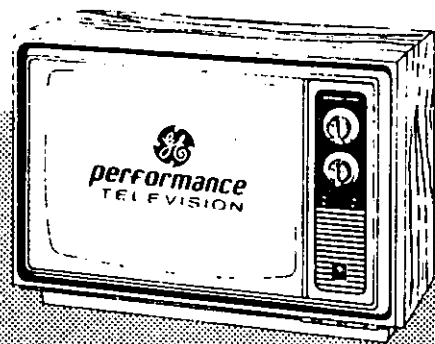
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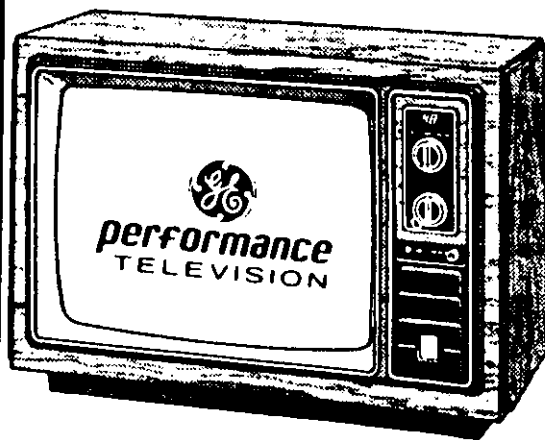


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"Love and Marriage" is the theme for the next meeting of QUILT (Quilters United in Learning Together). Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Bethlehem Library.

Quilt patterns such as "Double Wedding Ring," "Lover's Knot," and "Steps to the Altar" as well as ideas for quilted wedding gifts will be featured. Jane Gabriels will be meeting leader. Everyone is welcome—bring your own lunch, beverages are available.

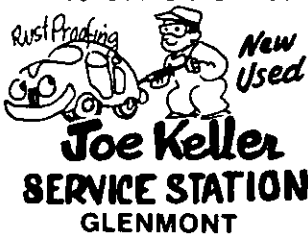
Clark to be feted

"Doris Clark Recognition Day" will be held at the Slingerlands Methodist Church, 1497 New Scotland Road, May 13. Mrs. Clark has been the soprano soloist at the church for 28 years and director of music for 25 years. She is relinquishing the latter responsibility this June. Mrs. Clark will be honored with special music during the church service at 10 a.m. and with a reception following the service.

New Auxiliary head

Marcia Turner is the new president of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Elsmere Fire Co. "A". Other officers are: Ann Marie Costigan, vice president; Linda Kleinke, treasurer; Caroline Kaufman, corresponding secretary, and Alice A. Cirillo, recording secretary. Auxiliary members will hold their annual dinner on Thursday, May 17, at the Northway Inn, Colonie.

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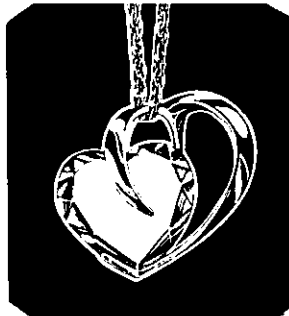
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Open House at Good Samaritan

De Whipple, executive director of the Good Samaritan Home, Rockefeller Rd., Delmar is calling next week a time of "community friendship" and is inviting members of the community to attend any or all of the open houses planned.

The health related facility for elderly residents was opened in Feb. 1975 under the auspices of the Lutheran church. The open house runs from May 14-19 and includes the following events.

On Monday at 7:30 p.m. a concert will be given by the Delmar orchestra. Tuesday at 10 a.m. the "foster grandparent" children from the Slingerlands grade school will visit and at 2 p.m. there will be a senior dance band. At 2 p.m. on Wednesday tri-village clergy will lead a special worship service. at 4 p.m. there will be a bocce ball tournament and at 7 p.m. Hal Geurtze will lead a sing-along. On Thursday from 2-4 p.m. staff and residents will present a hobby show. on Friday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Q.U.I.L.T. will sponsor a quilting bee and on Saturday on 2-4 p.m. there will be an unstructured open house.

Meet the candidates

Bethlehem school board candidates will speak at Hama-grael School on Tuesday, May 15 at 8 p.m., sponsored by the Home School Assn. Candidates will make three-minute presentations followed by a question and answer session. Afterwards there will be an opportunity to talk informally with the candidates over refreshments. Henrik Dullea, co-chairperson for the HSA, will moderate the program.

Admissions testing set

Testing for admission to grades 1-8 of Loudonville Christian School will be held on Saturday, May 12, at 10 a.m. in the school library. Founded in 1960 by a group of parents concerned about the Christian education of children, the school currently registers 220 boys and girls in classes from pre-school to the eighth grade.

Guitar benefit concert

Carolyn Odell and Michael Jerling will perform at a benefit concert Sunday, May 13, at 3 p.m. at the Campus Arts Center on New Scotland Rd., Albany. A \$2 donation is asked and will benefit students of the guitar department.

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BETHLEHEM

Ritchko says 'no' to 1979 football

In Art Ritchko's view, "there's no way" he'll be coaching Bethlehem Central football this fall.

The dean of Capital District football mentors has asked the Bethlehem board of education to be relieved of his football coaching duties in 1979 after 21 years, capped by last season's 9-0 record and a Suburban Council championship.

But the school district can use a technicality in the teachers' union contract to require Ritchko to coach the '79 Eagles. A clause in the union contract states that a physical education teacher may be required to coach two sports, and in emergency situations can be assigned to three.

Ritchko also coaches varsity baseball at BC. He also is outspoken against the contract requirement. "None of us like it, but that's the way it is," he said the other day.

A spokesman for the school administration said that the district has put out the word it is seeking a varsity football coach. "If we can find a satisfactory replacement for Art, we would consider his request favorably," he said.

The term "satisfactory replacement" is the hooker in the union contract, according to Ritchko. The implication: who is to evaluate a successor is a "satisfactory replacement?"

Several applications for the varsity football coaching job have been received, the administration spokesman said, but he declined to identify any of the applicants other than to say they came from "within and outside the district."

That presumably included John Sodergren, one of Ritchko's most trusted football lieutenants, who BC sources say should have an inside track in getting the job.

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Busy month for Legion

The American Legion Auxiliary has a calendar full of activities for the month of May. On Saturday the auxiliary is planning another party for veterans from the Veteran Hospital including a luncheon, entertainment and bingo.

Tuesday, May 15 is the regular business meeting at 8 p.m. in the post rooms. Scheduled for that night is a memorial service and the election of new officers. On Wednesday, May 16, auxiliary members will be selling poppies as part of the annual Poppy Day observance.

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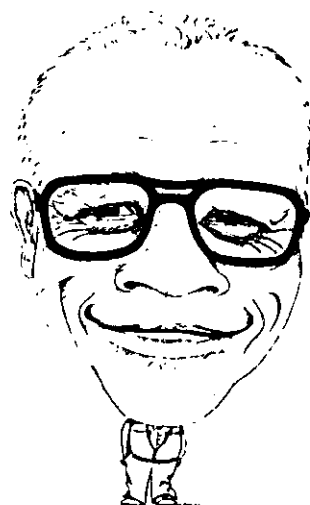
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PAGE 1

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BASEBALL

A new league for youth 13-16

Little League "graduates" who are not participating in Bethlehem Babe Ruth baseball will have a chance to play on organized teams this season, thanks to an eleventh-hour effort by directors of the Tri-Village Little League.

Richard Everleth, vice president in charge of player activities for the Little League, said the local organization has received a temporary charter from national Little League headquarters in Williamsport, Pa., to set up a Senior League in Bethlehem for boys and girls 13-16.

Registration will be held on the next two Saturdays, May 12 and May 19, from 10:15 to 2 at Bethlehem Library. Birth certificates for children born between Aug. 1, 1962, and July 31, 1966, must be shown at the sign-up. Fees are \$15 for the first child in a family, \$20 for the entire family.

Tom Dobert, president of the Tri-Village Little League, said his organization would administer the new league, but would appoint a separate player agent.

"We are not competing with

the Babe Ruth league," Dobert emphasized. "This is for boys and girls who are not enrolled in Babe Ruth baseball. The new league also includes 16-year-olds, at least for this year, with special permission of national headquarters in the tentative charter."

Normally, Little League "graduates" (over 12) move up to Babe Ruth teams, and have three years of eligibility (ages 13-15) on the regulation-size diamond at the Bethlehem Middle School. The move means shifting from 60-foot basepaths to regulation 90-foot baselines.

Senior league teams will have 90-foot baselines and will play on the Bethlehem Central High School fields.

Everleth said the number of teams in the new league will be determined by the registration. He also issued an urgent appeal for managers, coaches and sponsors. Anyone interested is asked to call him at 439-1450.

BC grad on team

Michael McNary, son of Mr. and Mrs. McNary of Delmar, is a member of the varsity baseball team at St. Michael's College, Winooski, Vt. for the second year. Michael graduated from BC in 1976 and was on the school baseball team.



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Swimming for cancer

The Bethlehem Central High School Key Club is sponsoring a swim-a-thon to benefit the American Cancer Society on Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For information about swimming or sponsoring a swimmer, call Sherri McCann, 439-0003 or Haley Kaplowitz, 439-2807.

Scouts borrow truck

When Voorheesville Girl Scouts make the trip to Washington County for a campout at Camp Little Notch this weekend, May 11-13, a New Scotland town highway truck will carry their equipment and some 60 to 70 sleeping bags. The New Scotland town board voted last week to make the truck available to the scouts.

Water tester named

William Hotaling of Voorheesville has been appointed water tester for the Heldervale Water District, which draws its

supply from the Bethlehem Water District No. 1 trunk lines beneath New Scotland Rd. in Slingerlands. Hotaling, who will serve without salary, is also superintendent of the public works for the village of Voorheesville. His reports will be turned in to the Albany County Dept. of Health.

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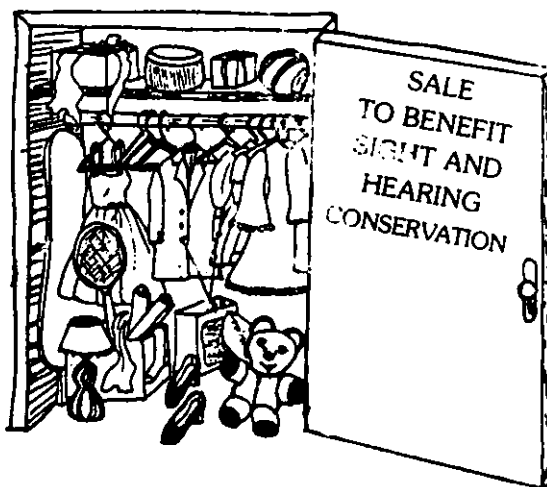
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TENNIS

BC netters cling to Sectional hope

Bethlehem Central's varsity tennis team started this week in a fourth place tie with Burnt Hills in the Suburban Council standings, and a match scheduled with Burnt Hills Monday could decide which of the two teams go to the Section 2 tournament. Both are 4-2 in league play.

Bethlehem pulverized three second-division teams last week, but lost the "big one" to Shenendehowa, 6-3, on Wednesday. The Eagles dusted off Colonie, 8-1; Scotia, 7-2, and Columbia, 8-1.

Against Shenendehowa, young Brian Segel, playing in the No. 5 singles spot, pulled off a happy surprise by taking Shenendehowa's highly pub-

licized seventh grade phenom David Marra, in straight sets 6-4, 7-5. "Brian's topspin game was too much for David," observed BC's first-year coach Phil Ackerman, "and he had too much on the serve."

The other BC wins were by freshman Jeff Goodman in the No. 3 singles, and by the No. 3 doubles tandem, Debbie DeCelmene and Scott Rukwid who are now 5-0 for the season.

Also on the schedule this week are Niskayuna Tuesday and Gunderland Wednesday. Niskayuna, says Ackerman, is "awesome." The only other team in the league with a chance to give them some competition is Shaker, and Niskayuna destroyed the Bison, 9-0.

P.E.T. at library

Parents of pre-schoolers are encouraged to attend a parent-effectiveness training (P.E.T.) program at the Bethlehem Library on Wednesday, May 16 at 7:30 p.m. Marjie Wood, a licensed instructor in P.E.T., will speak about P.E.T. and other topics of interest to parents of young children. A question and answer period will follow. The program is co-sponsored by the Slingerlands Cooperative Nursery School, Creative Playschool of Selkirk and Hamagrael Preschool.

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NEW SCOTLAND

Town to enforce curfew at park

The New Scotland town board has voted to impose a 9 p.m. curfew at the new town park on Swift Rd. in the wake of continued abuses of the property by youthful users.

In taking the action at the board's regular meeting last Wednesday, councilmen passed a resolution asking the town's recreation commission to draft a comprehensive set of rules and regulations for the facility.

One councilman noted that as he drove up Swift Rd. from Voorheesville heading for the board meeting at town hall, "a swarm of motorcycles pulled into the park."

Supervisor Steve Wallace said the action was taken reluctantly, but added that groups using the park after dark were guilty of throwing bottles and trash on the grounds.

"It's a shame," he said.

Wallace indicated that special exceptions might be made for tennis players using the park's four courts at night. "We don't want to restrict their playing time," he said.

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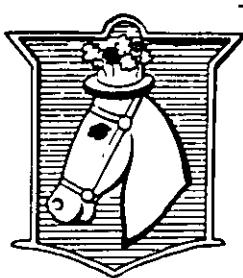
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Boys Tennis, Columbia, away 3:45
Softball, Mohonasen, away 3:45
Girls Track, Ravena, away 3:45
Saturday, May 12 Boys Track, SC Championships at Columbia
Monday, May 14 Baseball, Mohonasen, away 3:45
Boys track, SC JV Championship at BC
Softball, Niskayuna, home 3:45
Tuesday, May 15 Baseball, Scotia, home 3:45
Boys Track, Albany County Championship
at Blecker Stadium 3:45
Boys Tennis, Colonie, away 3:45
Wed., May 16 Softball, Scotia, home 3:45
Girls Track, Class A Meet

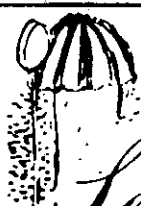
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Shop Talk

by Judi James

We stopped in to welcome a new neighbor on Adams St. in Delmar recently. Jerry and Janice Glanzrack moved their Forget-Me-Not Shop from Delaware Avenue to 135 Adams St. the first of April. Like a family move usually is, they had outgrown the first home they established for their small business at the time of their marriage.

Janice is a native of this area, Jerry had come up from New York. They "tied the knot" and began the Forget-Me-Not. (Please forgive the redundancy!)

Essentially, this is a craft center that is open each day of the week from 10 to 5 and on Tuesdays and Thursdays (to accommodate classes) until 9 in the evening. They have books, kits, glue, paints, finishes, beads, fur, felt ribbon, straw brooms, silk and dried flowers, and using all of these, they

conduct classes to show you how to use them. On Saturdays they have children's classes at 1 and 3 in the afternoon. Children pay \$2 for each project, and this covers the teaching as well as the materials.

It's a drop-in sort of thing, so a child can go on a rainy day, learn a craft, and if interested in pursuing it further, get extra help whenever needed.

We were interested in their enterprise. They now have a little craft news sheet, put out monthly, making appropriate craft suggestions. Noting that spring is here, their first one suggests that you make a hanging to brighten your front door. "In addition to the ever popular straw wreaths, we have straw brooms from six inches to 36 inches. Or, why not try a bamboo rake or a straw mat? Or how about something totally different, like a buri fan or bamboo scoop?"

Mini brooms, gaily decorated, make welcome hospitality gifts and add a bit of interest to kitchen and bathroom walls. There will be two workshops

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on door decorations, one just past, and the second on May 15. "The making of lifelike silk flowers is the most rapidly growing craft in today's market," Janice commented. They carry beginner packs as well as bulk packs for the experienced flower maker.

We've been told that the most popular hobby today is miniatures. In keeping with the trend, the Forget-Me-Not has books and materials to aid you. They note that quilling is easy to learn and that you can start with flowers and work your way right up into making white wicker furniture. We were fascinated to see the tiny mice and mousetraps for dollhouses, too, and—appropriate to the season—they even have a miniature fly swatter!

Here is their schedule for adult classes: Thursday, May 17 and May 31, at 7 p.m., macrame. On alternate Thursdays (22nd and 29th) they plan to show you how to make a calico cat. Quilling is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, May 24. For further schedules and copies of their news sheet, telephone 439-1244.

In keeping with the name of their shop, the owners carry some very inexpensive little items which help people to

forget-you-not. For instance, for the mother of a new baby, we liked the tiny porcelain cherubs designed for each month. (June's cherub carries little porcelain roses, September's a bunch of astors, etc.)

If you're looking for a "thank you" gift for Johnny's teacher . . . we liked the little plaques entitled "The Teachers Prayer: I want to teach my children how to live on this earth. . ."

Living on this earth, in this special time and in these sometimes trying days, is a little bit more pleasant if creativity is called into play. Some little gift, made by one's own hands, takes on extra meaning. Thus, if you want to learn a new craft, or find materials for your favorite one, do pay a call on the Forget-Me-Not shop. P.S., if the baby is sleeping in the shop, just tiptoe past. He is Scott, the 10-month-old son of the owners, a happy tyke, a happy family. We wish them good luck in their new abode!

Dance troupe at library

A local Israeli dance troupe, under the direction of Lorraine Arcus, will present a special performance at the Bethlehem Library on Sunday, May 20 at 2 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

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Picnic planned

Picnic will be held on Sunday, May 13, for children ages 4-12 at the Five Rivers Environmental Center, Delmar. The outing will feature games, refreshments, songs and stories, celebrating 'Lag Boomer' a Jewish children's holiday.

Children can join at Beth Abraham Jacob 12 S. Main Ave., Albany at 10 a.m. or at Five Rivers at 10:30 on Sunday. The Picnic will last until 1:00 and is sponsored by Kosher Pizza and Beth Abraham Jacob. For information call 482-5781.

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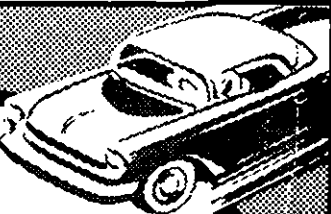
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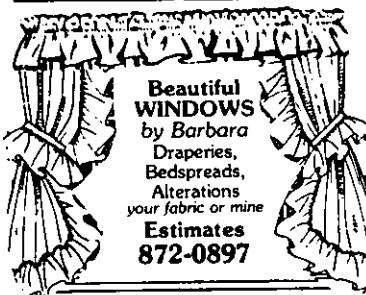
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SPORE RD., Unionville (4 mi. past
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Several families. Antiques, etc.

2 PLACES, 2 FAMILIES, reorgan-
ize and moving sales. Wemple
Road, Glenmont, May 11-12, 9-5.

NEIGHBORHOOD garage sale, 111
Jordan Blvd., May 12, 9-3.

CORNER DUMBARTON & CROSS-
WAY, Delmar, May 11-12, 9:30-4. 3
families. Furn., household, misc.

106 ELSMERE AVE., May 12, 9:30-
4. Household items, girls clothes 3-
6X, sofa bed, misc.

24 FAIRWAY, May 12, 9-4. Multi-
family. Records, plants, books,
furn., children's clothes, stereos.

174 WINNIE RD., antiques, some
civil war items, misc. household,
May 12-13, 9-4.

49 BENDER LA., May 11-12 only, 9-
2. Three families, many baby items
and clothes, bedding, dishes,
books, camera, crafts, antiques,
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THE SLINGERLANDS NURSERY
SCHOOL'S BAKE & RUMMAGE
SALE, May 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 1497
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5 FURMAN PL., Delmar (off Ken-
wood), May 12, 9-3. Girls clothing,
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BEACON RD., GLENMONT, May
11-12, 9 a.m. Wood stove, china
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Classified advertisements in the Spotlight must be paid for when submitted. We must enforce this strictly. Our rates are too small to permit invoicing and bookkeeping for classifieds. Please do not ask us to make exceptions. Copy and remittance must reach us before 4:30 p.m. Friday for publication in the following Thursday issue.

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SERVICEMEN In The NEWS

A daughter, Shannon Rene, has been born to Staff Sgt. and Mrs. Edward Zobel in Italy, where Sgt. Zobel is stationed with the U.S. Air Force. Mrs. Zobel is the former Patricia Ann Tracey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tracey of Delmar. Sgt. Zobel's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Zobel, live in Feura Bush.

Navy Lt. (jg) Joseph W. Kenney, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dean P. Kenney, Voorheesville, has reported for duty at the Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, D.C. A 1971 graduate of Voorheesville Central High School, and a 1975 graduate of Union College, he joined the Navy in May, 1975.

Airman Kevin K. Hammond, son of Donald A. Hammond of Selkirk and Mrs. Diane H. Hammond of Ramona, has been assigned to Sheppard AFB, Tex., after completing Air Force basic training at Lackland AFB, Tex. The airman, a 1978 graduate of RCS High School, will now receive specialized training in air crew operations.

Coast Guard Chief Boatman's Mate Arthur K. Grist, son of Lillian A. Grist, 140 Maple Ave., Selkirk, has reported for duty aboard the Coast Guard cutter Cleat, reported in Gloucester City, N.J. He joined the Coast Guard in November, 1963.

WANTED TO RENT

Now with 12 yr. old daughter wants to rent reasonable apt. or all house in Bethlehem School District. 439-7906. 2t517

BR HOUSE OR DUPLEX in Delmar by July 1st. Preferably on 1/2 acre. Middle-aged lady 439-9082.

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2t517

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RURAL APT. on busline, 5 rooms, heat & utilities inc., \$165 plus security. 767-3430 after 6.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

4 BR COLONIAL, by owner. Fireplace, den, full cellar. Lovely yard, 2-car garage. Eat-in kitchen, DR. 10 years old. 6 Carolanne Dr. \$68,300, 439-7132.

FOR SALE by owner. 3 BR ranch, approx. 3/4 acre. Liv. rm. w/FP, DR, huge fam. rm., large private deck. \$45,000. 439-4341.

DELMAR, spacious split level. 10 room, 4 BR, 2 1/2 baths, 3-car gar., lge yard. High 60's. After 5 p.m., 439-1920.

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423 Kenwood Ave.
- John J. Healy 439-7615
5 Grove St.
- Ktersy Realty Inc. 439-7601
282 Delaware Ave.
- Picotte Realty, Inc. 439-4943
205 Delaware Ave.

Area

- Albright-Kresge, Inc. 434-2211
456 Washington Ave., Albany

HOME OF THE WEEK



Spacious split level home in prime residential area of Delmar—cheery, efficient eat-in kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room with fireplace, deck off dining room overlooking lovely fenced in backyard, 2 car attached garage, central air conditioning. Move in condition with many extras. \$62,900.

Call Helen McLean at 439-9921.

PAGANO

WEBER

439-9921

DELMAR

Sliding glass doors open to spacious lawns and a beautiful view of the Helderbergs. Inside you'll enjoy the comfort of central air conditioning, family room with fireplace, fully equipped kitchen, 5 bedrooms, 2-car garage. This 3 year young colonial is the last house on a quiet dead-end street. \$64,900.

ELSMERE

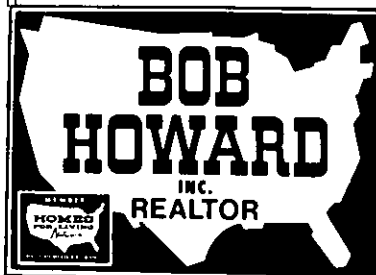
Brand new aluminum sided raised ranch. Three bedrooms, family room, 2 baths, dining area, attached garage. W/W carpeting. \$45,900.

DELMAR

Convenient village setting—four bedroom colonial has formal dining room, living room with fireplace, screened porch, den, full basement with gameroom, 2-car garage. Large fence corner lot. \$49,900.

VOORHEESVILLE

Brick and aluminum Split level has three bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, family room, dining room, rec room in basement, attached garage. Central air. Lovely wooded lot. \$52,000.



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COMING SOON

Our New

Delmar Office

Vote "No" on Bethlehem School Budget

According to the School Board, next year there will be 3874 pupils in the Bethlehem School District. This will be 115 fewer than this year, and down more than 1000 from the high point a few years ago.

The cost of educating a pupil in Bethlehem schools is already the highest in the Suburban Council. The budget for the year now ending projected this cost at \$2910 per pupil, \$731 higher than the \$2179 per-pupil budget of the Voorheesville district for the same year. Yet the Bethlehem School Board is asking you to approve an expenditure of \$3172 per Bethlehem pupil for the coming year.

The Bethlehem District is winding up the current school year with \$354,000 of its budget for the year unspent. Yet it is proposing to increase the budget for the next school year by \$683,000—up from \$11.6 million to almost \$12.3 million.

Not all school district revenues come from property taxes, and revenues from other sources will be greater in the coming year than in the past. Yet the School Board is asking you to pay \$402,000 more in property taxes this Fall to support an all-time high budget of \$12.3 million.

Let the Bethlehem School Board know it is time to draw the line on tax increases. On May 23, go to the Middle School, Kenwood Avenue, and vote NO on the proposed budget. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Let your voice be heard.

CITIZENS FOR FAIR TAXES

Paid for by concerned Bethlehem taxpayers

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.

Labels for candidates

Editor, The Spotlight:

It is long past the time when property owners within the town of Bethlehem should take a long hard look at the new batch of candidates seeking to become members of our school board. There are several questions which we would like answered by each candidate:

1. Under what label are they running, Liberal, Moderate or Conservative?
2. How long have they been residents of the town?
3. Are any members of their immediate families employed by the school district?

These questions should be asked and answered at the forthcoming open meetings. Do not let the careless mistakes of our past continue.

W.G. Kunz

Delmar

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Scouts praised

Editor, The Spotlight:

As leader and co-leader Girl Scout Troop 523, Delmar we feel proper recognition should be given to our girls for their outstanding community service on Bike Rodeo Day April 21.

The girls made up some of the posters pertaining to bicycle drawing, the banners that were displayed on the engine, aided the judges as town clerk Marian Camp, and handed out applications, stickers and brochures about bicycle safety.

It was a rewarding experience for these girls. They not only worked hard, but found enjoyment in being a part of community-sponsored activities.

Susan Rasmussen

Trudy Pratt

Delmar

Prize was right

Editor, The Spotlight:

We have just returned from the weekend in New York which was won as a Spotlight contest prize, and we would like to say "Thank You" for your contribution to a memorable excursion. The accommodations provided at the Sheraton Centre through the Myers Travel Center were superb, providing the basis for an immensely pleasant experience.

We are not fully aware of the range of your capabilities, but if you or the travel agency had anything to do with the beautiful early spring weather that prevailed, you certainly must have the right connections!

Again, our sincere thanks for the prize you donated.

Bette and Bob Shafer

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A vote for Read

Editor, The Spotlight:

I would like to urge Bethlehem school district voters to consider Paula Read as the best candidate for the library board seat in the upcoming election. Paula is deeply concerned about her community and what it offers her family. In this day of "liberation" she has chosen to leave behind her teaching career to become a full-time mother and make Delmar a better place for herself and her children.

I know that if elected, she could devote a great deal of her time to the job and fairly represent the interests of all citizens and parents who care about and have pride in what is one of the finest libraries anywhere. I sincerely hope that voter apathy won't stop us from "getting the best man for the job."

Marty Cornelius

Delmar

For candidate

Editor, The Spotlight:

As an active member of this community and a concerned parent, I would like to encourage all residents to vote in the Bethlehem Central school board elections on May 23. I feel Susan Lieberman who is running for the Bethlehem Central school board would fully represent the people of this district.

Susan knows that a good education is not free, but that we cannot and should not measure the quality of education by spending more money. She feels that a school board member must be responsive to children's educational needs, and that we should continue to help the gifted and

the underachiever, but not neglect the average child.

Barbara Jadick

Slingerlands

Pride in schools

Editor, The Spotlight:

What does the Bethlehem community receive for its educational dollar? This is a frequent and fair question.

By all the criteria we can measure, the Bethlehem schools provide an excellent education. A few specific examples are listed below, but it is also important to look at the intangibles. I think anyone who has visited the schools will be impressed with the enthusiasm and happiness of the children. Some of the many pieces of good news are the following:

- No member of the Class of 1979 will fail to graduate due to failure to pass the state's basic competency tests. At a time of widespread public concern for the quality of education, this is a major achievement.

- A careful review of how time is spent during the school day shows that our instructional time for basic subjects (reading and math) in the elementary grades is much higher than the state's recommendations.

- Programs at every grade level are individualized, so that all children are challenged at their present level of achievement—and can progress to the next level in each subject area.

- Bethlehem students are offered opportunities to develop special talents and interests and learn lifetime values through participation in a large number of extracurricular activities and clubs. This year's High School interscholastic

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athletics program, for example, attracted 423 students for fall sports, 335 for winter sports, and 253 for spring sports. About 600 students in all district schools are participating in intramural sports during this school year. Our vocal and instrumental music groups, district-wide, have about 1,350 members—about 35 percent of our pupil enrollment.

• The class of 1979 has six students who qualified as national merit scholarship finalists, and 96 students—about one-fourth of the class—who are eligible to receive Regents scholarships (70 winners and 26 alternates). These figures are much higher than those achieved at other area high schools, which has been a consistent pattern over the years.

*Bernard Evans Harvith
Member Bethlehem Central
Board of Education*

Delmar

News from abroad

Editor, The Spotlight:

Dennis Nyamuswa, formerly of 11 Rural Pl., Delmar, was recently elected to serve as senator in Rhodesia. While living here, he taught at Hudson Valley Community College and was very active in all community affairs.

His wife, Rudo, remains in Norristown, Pa., where she has

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two daughters and one son college.

After leaving Delmar a few years ago, Mr. Nyamuswa was appointed an under-secretary to serve in the United Nations. His many friends in the Capital District fully expected that his dynamic personality would wind up in a responsible position such as this.

In a few months, Mr. Nyamuswa will take his family back to Rhodesia, leaving his son, Gilbert, to complete his final semesters.

B.E. Mullen

Delmar

Mr. Mullen, a former next-door neighbor, wrote the lines after receiving a letter from Mrs. Nyamuswa. Ed.

Biggest Bike Day

Editor, The Spotlight:

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the people and organizations who helped in organizing, participating, and enjoying the most successful Bike Day that the town of Bethlehem has ever presented.

Phil Maher and Dave Austin of the Bethlehem Parks and Recreation Dept.; Cissy Stasiuk, Bethlehem community relations; Micki Nevett, head children's librarian, Bethlehem Public Library; Sue Rasmussen, Trudy Prater and the members of Girl Scouts Troop 523; Lou Hauf and the members of the Bethlehem Auxiliary Police; Joyce McCann and Mr.

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Donald's of Delmar, for the two bicycles they donated to the rodeo as prizes, and the drinks they served at the rodeo. Also, Marian Camp, Bethlehem town clerk, for her time in registering bicycles at the rodeo; the schools within the town of Bethlehem who passed out applications for registration to the youths; officers of the Bethlehem Police Dept.; Officer Fred Holligan of the Bethlehem Police crime prevention unit, who established the Operation-ID program; William Wright, chief, and members of the Delmar Fire Dept.; Bill Pauley, who filled in on the bicycle talk so amicably on such short notice; Doug McEneaney, who helped the police in inspecting the bicycles; The spotlight for the ample announcements of the Bike Day; Bill Vivian and the General Electric Co. Plastics Division for donating one of the bicycles as a prize; Ed Danner and Owens Corning Fiberglas for donating one of the bicycles as a prize; the Delaware Plaza Merchants Assn. for donating

one of the bicycles that was given away as a prize, and the Bethlehem Police Benevolent Assn. for donating all of the secondary prizes for the rodeo.

Also, Ken Schenkle of Paul Mitchell's men's wear for displaying one of the bicycles prior to the rodeo; Mr. & Mrs. Bob VanAernam and the Delmar News and Card Shop for displaying one of the bicycles prior to the rodeo; the Brownell Agency for the use of the advertising marquee in front of their business to advertise the rodeo, and the town highway department.

I hope that I have not missed thanking anyone for the time and help that they may have given to me in preparing and presenting the bicycle rodeo. If I have missed anyone, I apologize to you and thank you for your help. Everyone was great, and I really appreciate the help and time that all of you gave to make this rodeo so successful.

*Conrad C. Martin
Bethlehem Police Dept.
Youth Bureau*

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Community Corner

Know Your Candidates

School board members play a vital role in the community. They have stewardship over several million dollars of public funds, and are responsible for making decisions on the administration of the school system as well as allocation of tax dollars, and they serve long hours without pay.

We urge everyone to go to "Meet the Candidates Night" sponsored by the League of Women Voters on Monday, May 14, at 8 at BCHS auditorium. The May 23 election is an important one. To vote wisely, you should know who your candidates are and how they stand on key issues. The meeting will be broadcast live on Educational Access Channel 9.

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