

THE SPOTLIGHT

July 21, 1982
Vol. XXVII, No. 29

The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of

Carey signs rescue bill

Gov. Carey has signed the legislation giving the struggling Bethlehem Volunteer Ambulance Service status as a district able to raise funds through taxation. And that, says President William Harding, means the work has just begun.

Ahead lies a rush to get organized and legally qualified to go on next year's tax rolls, an even more important push to raise enough funds to keep going and purchase a new ambulance this year, and then the painstaking business of finding new quarters the service can call its own.

First on Harding's priority list is fund raising. "We will need money very badly this year," he said last week after learning that his bill had finally received the governor's signature.

The service is seeking \$30,000 to \$35,000 to purchase an ambulance to replace its present five-year-old vehicle. And, Harding said, expenses must still be met through the first part of 1983, when the service can expect to see some tax revenue.

That will happen only if the service can meet all the legal requirements to become a tax district — its boundaries will be the same as the Selkirk Fire Department — by Sept. 1. At an organizational meeting several weeks ago, the present board of directors agreed to hire Delmar attorney Samuel R. Whiting "to jell the whole thing," Harding said.

The ambulance service now houses its vehicle in the three Selkirk fire houses, in Glenmont, Selkirk and South Bethlehem, on a rotating basis. But with district status the service will be looking for its own sites, although it still intends to maintain the system of rotating locations and on-duty crews.

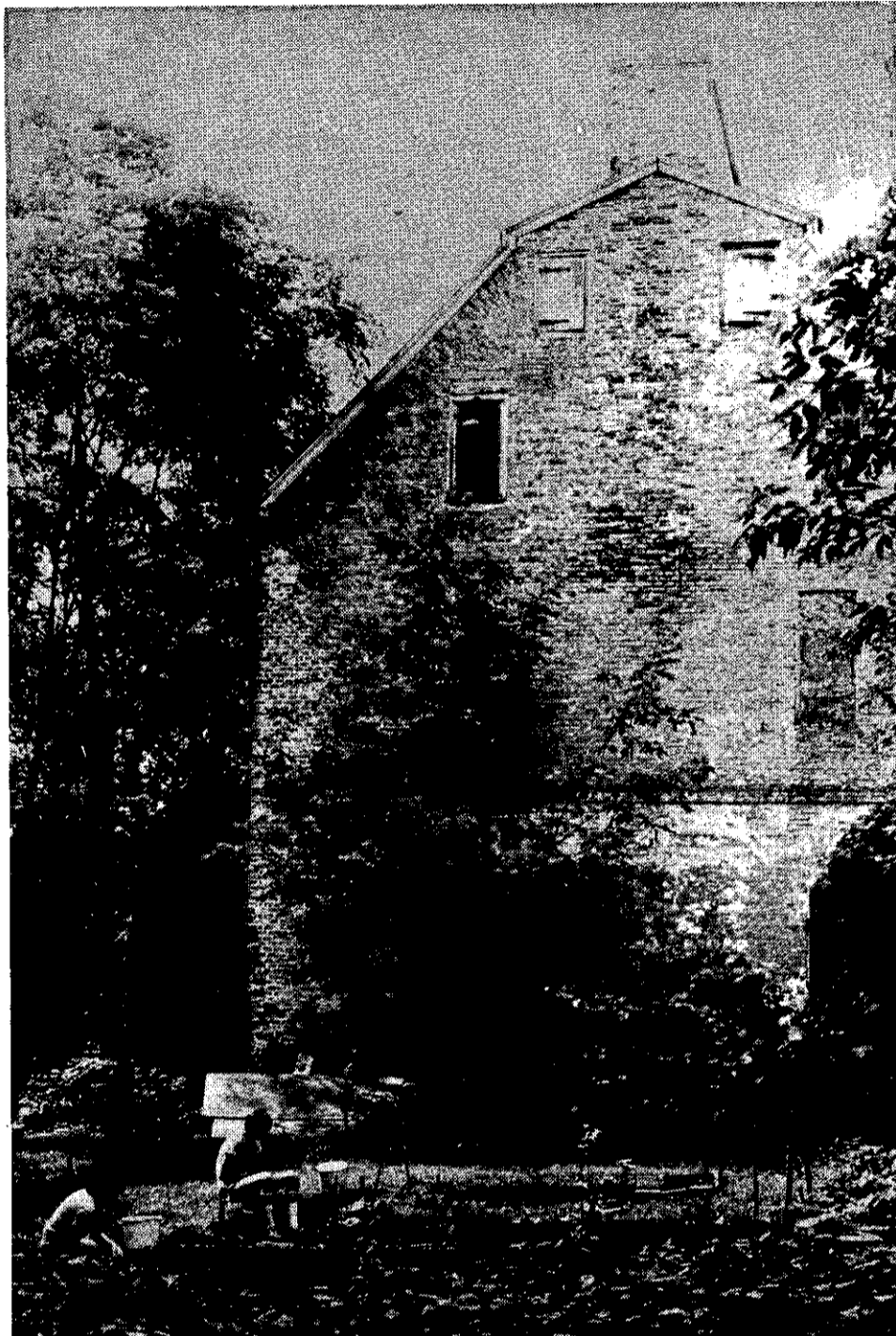
Harding has already discussed state-owned land on Rt. 9W near Jericho Rd. with Town Supervisor Tom Corrigan as the site for the new garage. He said last week he is interested in any ideas on sites in Selkirk and South Bethlehem.

DA gets fatal car crash data

Evidence in the case of George F. Donnelly, 30, of Cohoes, driver of a car involved in a head-on collision that killed a Glenmont woman July 9, has been turned over to the Albany County District Attorney's Office, according to Bethlehem police.

Police had said the Donnelly car was traveling in the wrong lane of Rt. 85, a divided highway, when the crash occurred. Michele E. Martin, 20, of 45 W. Bayberry Rd., Glenmont, died the following Sunday from injuries received in the crash.

Donnelly, a state Division for Youth employee, was driving a state car, but police said he was wearing a baseball uniform when the crash occurred. Det. John Cox also checked reports that Donnelly had been in Pvt. Benny's, a Slingerlands tavern, prior to the accident.



With the oldest house in Bethlehem as a backdrop, students dig carefully in measured squares for archeological "treasures."

Tom Howes

Bethlehem House dig yields summer treasures

By Allison Bennett

Troweling away a few inches of dirt and sifting it through a strainer in 90 degree heat is not exactly most people's idea of the finest way to spend a hot summer day. But for the 12 Hudson Valley Community College summer school students working the pits on the grounds of Bethlehem House it is not a chore, but an exciting adventure, with each day revealing some new find.

Dr. Floyd Brewer of Delmar, part-time professor of archeology at HVCC, who also occupies a full time job at the State University at Albany counseling on a graduate level, is conducting the course for this group of summer students who range from high school age to housewives with grown children.

Being a resident of Bethlehem for the past 16 years, Dr. Brewer has become familiar with the older sites in the town and had done a surface search of the grounds at Bethlehem House, located off Rt. 144 South of the Bethlehem Sewage treatment plant, before seeking per-

mission from the town officials to conduct a course in Ethno-Archeology at the site this summer.

This term may be new to some of our readers. Ethno-Archeology is a combination of archeology, ethnography and historiography, the latter term being the writing phase of history. It is a study in which the student attempts to find out everything he can possibly determine about the people who lived at the site throughout the years — by studying their wills, deeds, speeches, genealogy, anything ever written by or about these people. Then you conduct a dig at the site to attempt to locate artifacts that would have been used by these same people, to show the quality of life they enjoyed, and put all of the findings into a written treatise that may or may not be published, but which will be available for study for clues to a vanished way of life.

The students did research at local libraries and the Albany County Court House before beginning the dig, which is

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POLITICS

New lines irk GOP

By Tom McPheeters

Sue Ann Ritchko, who finds herself outside the corral looking in, calls it a "horse with the blind staggers." John McEneny, the keeper of the beast, says he thinks Mrs. Ritchko should "come in with her oats" to get a closer look.

Like it or loathe it, McEneny's latest reapportionment scheme for the Albany County Legislature is likely to become a reality, so local legislators can be forgiven their keen interest. But despite the cries from Republicans and "dissident" Democrats that they are being squeezed, the major long-term effect of the plan is to open up some city-suburban and rural contests that could be crucial to future control of the legislature.

McEneny's plan retains the present size of the legislature, 39 seats, but does so at the expense of the solid block of 16 Albany districts that now form the backbone of the Democratic Party's control. Under the proposal, four of the city's 15 districts will also extend into the Republican towns, Colonie, Guilderland and Bethlehem.

In theory, all four of those districts should have enough Democrats to outweigh their new suburban Republican voters. But up to now, that's a chance the Democrats haven't had to take.

And in a little-noticed change, an entirely new district has been created (the 38th) in the southern part of New Scotland and Westerlo. Westerlo is a Democratic town, but New Scotland generally votes Republican; "it could go either way," says New Scotland Supervisor Steve Wallace.

The issue in Bethlehem is not which party will gain the advantage — if anything, the realignment appears to be a tacit acknowledgement of the invulnerability of the Republicans here. It's the sheer cussedness of the plan that appears to get to the Republicans.

McEneny's blind horse managed to stagger around Mrs. Ritchko's house on Carson Dr. in Delmar, leaving her in the same district as Gordon Morris, the Elsmere legislator who just happens to be minority leader.

"I believe the plan was devised to get rid of me as a member of the legislature because I have been so successful in a number of battles on behalf of my constituents' interests," said Mrs. Ritchko. And, she added in a press release issued last week, she plans to run again for a seat in the legislature even if the plan is adopted.

Morris didn't discuss his own plans at last week's Bethlehem town board meeting, but he urged town officials to attend the July 27 public hearing and suggested that if the plan does pass a legal challenge would be in order.

"It's absolutely ludicrous," he said. "The way it sits now most of the people are going to get new representatives."

Another possible basis for a legal challenge is the fact that the lines do not follow local election districts. In Bethlehem alone, according to Supervisor Tom Corrigan, 11 or 12 districts are violated, which means that either voters in the same district will have to use different voting machines (a large expense for

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Prof. Floyd Brewer, leader of the dig, displays some of the team's findings.

Tom Howes



The Bethlehem House shown occupied in this 1935 photo.

□ Bethlehem House

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the place where they are at the present time. Test pits, to determine where significant remains might be, were dug in the garden area of Bethlehem House. The location of the pits were set up with stakes laid out in 10-foot squares. The entire site is composed of two large grid systems, one adjacent to the house and one in the garden area. The students are each working in their own individual grid, looking for foundations of an earlier house that is believed to have been located here, before Bethlehem House was built.

In the program each student will play two roles in acquiring some specific skills in the field of archeology. Their "Bible" is *The Comprehensive Manual of Field Archeology*, authored by Martha Joukowsky, and a publication to which they often refer.

All of the students are "square supervisors" and they will supervise the work of volunteers who may come in for a day of digging. The student will also

serve in some other capacity as a conservator, cataloger, artifact analyst or photographer. Some of the students are taking this six-credit field work course in archeology because they are planning a career in that field. Other students are merely interested in acquiring some skills so that they can pursue the subject as an intriguing part-time hobby.

What do they find in the test pits? Findings included pieces of clay pipes, some two inches in length; creamware pottery shards dating from 1750-1800; stoneware, both English 1790 and American 19th century; Castle-Ford porcelain, of English derivation, 1790-1820. The group has made a bulletin-type board with a sample of each shard and its pertinent information contained on 3 x 5 cards mounted to the board. If some of our readers are interested in visiting this dig they will be made most welcome by Dr. Brewer and his 12 neophyte archeologists. Their investigations will add some important information to the annals of Bethlehem history.

History of Bethlehem House

Bethlehem House at Cedar Hill on the Hudson River was built between 1730-36 by Rensselaer Nicoll, a nephew of the Fourth Patroon, Killian Van Rensselaer. Settlement in this locality dates from 100 years before, as early Van Rensselaer records show that a saw mill was erected here at the falls of the Vlaumanskill shortly after the one built at the Normanskill in 1632.

Francis Nicoll, son of Rensselaer Nicoll, served as a deputy to the Provincial Congress in 1775-76 and was later made a member of the state Assembly. His only child to live to maturity, Elizabeth Nicoll, married Capt. Richard Richard Sill and the house was eventually willed to her son, William Nicoll Sill. The house remained in the family until 1883 and thereafter changed ownership several times until it was acquired by the Town of Bethlehem in 1970. The first school house in Bethlehem was located on Nicoll-Sill property.

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□ Lines

(From Page 1)

extra machines) or the town will have to change its districts.

"This is going to pose some real problems finding polling places," Corrigan said.

"We're sorry, but this is what happens every 10 years," replies McEneny, who is a former area census director and now consultant to the legislature on reapportionment.

The Bethlehem districts, he believes, are defensible as clearly defined geographic areas, particularly the new 34th district, which is in the heart of the Delmar-Elsmere area. The 35th District gives Edward Sargent back parts of Delmar and Slingerlands he lost in the last reapportionment, exchanging territory for parts of South Bethlehem. Sargent said last week he has no complaints on his district, although "I'm not at all sure they couldn't have accomplished the same thing by moving lines a few streets. But that's how you play the game."

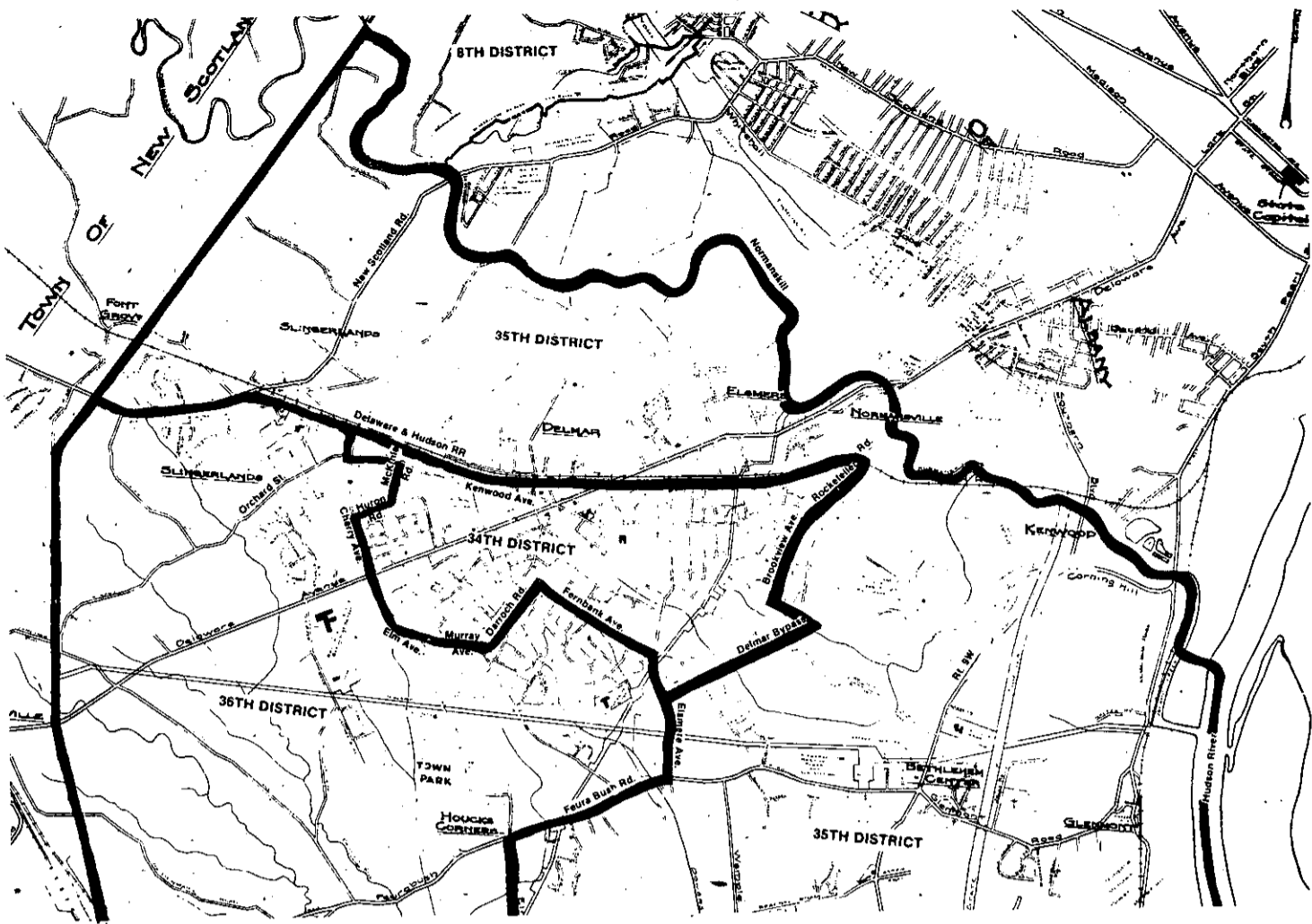
Both the 35th and 36th, Mrs. Ritchko's district, remain entirely inside town boundaries. Bethlehem does lose part of North Bethlehem to the new 8th District, which is dominated by the New Scotland Ave. section of Albany but also includes a patch of Guilderland. And in Voorheesville, Michael Ricci's district, the new 33rd, extends all the way to Altamont. In New Scotland, the district extends as far south as Rt. 85. South of Rt. 85 is the new 38th District, which includes all of Westerlo.

In all, says McEneny, the realignment pits five Republicans against other incumbents, and three Democrats. In the Ritchko-Morris situation, he argued, the 34th District simply got too big, and the jog at Huron Rd. was the most logical solution.

"It (the 34th) is a good district, geographically," said McEneny. "The problem it has is a personality problem."

As for crossing local election districts, McEneny confirmed that is a problem, but noted that it is happening elsewhere in the county, including the City of Albany, and elsewhere in the state. The State Legislature refused to expend extra money this year to translate census information into figures that could be used for election districts; thus when the two conflict census blocks prevail, he said.

There is, apparently, plenty of time to settle the reapportionment plan, since county legislature elections are not until next year. The public hearing on the plan is set for July 27 at 2 p.m. in the County Courthouse. Because the number of districts is not being changed, the plan is not subject to a referendum.



The proposed new Albany County Legislature districts for Bethlehem will mean some major adjustments for voters. The new compact 34th District is surrounded by the larger 35th "water" District, which follows the course of the Normanskill on

the north and then the Hudson River on the east, and the 36th District, which covers the western part of the town. The two districts are divided south of Delmar by Elm Ave., Rt. 55, Rt. 9W, Beaver Dam Rd. and Rt. 144. *Spotlight Map*

40 reasons for the fair

A 40th season of the Punkintown Fair, presented by New Salem Volunteer Fire Department, will be held two consecutive weekends, Friday and Saturday evenings, July 30 and 31 and August 6 and 7. Fridays the fair starts 7 p.m. and Saturdays 6:30 p.m. Punkintown fair-ground is adjacent to the firehall, Route 85A, one quarter mile north of New Salem four corners, Route 85, Albany County.

Admittance and supervised parking are free.

The volunteers intend to make Punkintown Fair 40 an affair from which everyone will go away with 40 sweet memories. They will present something for everyone from the 40-weeks-old baby buggy set to those twice 40 years old who remember the horse and buggy set.

Punkintown Fair attractions include a good-old-fashioned hayride, other rides, an amusement games arcade, a mix of skill games for prizes, savory snacks, sweetmeat treats for at the fair and to take home, and much more.

The proceeds from Punkintown Fair 40 will be used towards the fire department's 40 or more annual expenses.

Fred Carl, fair chairman, the firemen and all the other volunteer fair workers extend an invitation to all to visit with them during the four Punkintown Fair nights for 40 ways of fun. They'll greet you with 40 smiles.

Theater and dinner party

The Bethlehem Senior Citizens organization is sponsoring a dinner-theater party on Wednesday, July 28.

The group will see the "Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" at the Colonie Coliseum and have dinner at the Century House. Additional information on this trip is available from Maguerite Kinsley, 439-3459, or Anne Reardon, 439-2454.

The Senior Citizens meet every Thursday from 12:30 to 4 p.m. at the Bethlehem Town Hall.

To lead campaign

A group of Bethlehem residents have volunteered to serve as chairmen of various committees for the Leukemia Society of America, Inc., to conduct the society's 1982-83 campaign.

The volunteers recently held their first meeting at the Bethlehem Town Hall. They are:

May Blackmore, advanced special gifts

chairman, is a former guidance counselor for the Bethlehem Central High School. She is currently president of the Delmar Progress Club.

Candice Burnell, residential chairman, is a long-time Bethlehem resident and is employed at the Capital District Psychiatric Center.

Cliff Montgomery, commerce and industry chairman, is manager of the General Electric Company plant in Selkirk.

Cissy Stasiuk, public relations chairman, is a long-time town resident and is public information specialist for the Town of Bethlehem.

William Weber, professional committee chairman, is a builder and realtor.

Library puppets

On Wednesday, July 28, at 1 p.m., there will be a special puppet show for all ages at the Bethlehem Public Library. Elizabeth Conley will visit with the Portable Puppets' Playhouse's rendition of "Little Red Riding Hood." Vocal participation is encouraged and after the show children will be introduced to a six-foot tall puppet. No registration is necessary for this 45 minute program.

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Albany County Legislature



Sue Ann Ritchko reports:

A hearing on the redistricting of Albany County will be held July 27 at 2 p.m. in the Legislative Chamber at the County Court House.

All voters in Bethlehem have a stake in this redistricting plan — one I regard as a gerrymandering crazy quilt. But whether you agree with me or not, you owe it to yourself to know what this redistricting involves and speak your own mind on the issue.

The question of a contract for the telephone service to the County Buildings at 112 State Street and 40 Howard Street has dramatically proved that the presence of spectators who informed themselves could and did reverse a determined plan of the legislative majority.

So, plan to be at the hearing on July 27 at 2 p.m. at the County Court House and voice your will about an issue that will affect all our futures. Our county expen-

ditures, county taxes and the creeping efforts of the City of Albany's political machine to spread into our suburbs are all involved.

Paul Cardamon of Colonie, deputy minority leader, pointed out that out of 13 Republicans in the Legislature, six would face primaries against other Republicans. Cardamon is one of the six, and so am I. The new map places Gordon Morris and me in the same district. I have already declared I would like to run. I representing my constituents and place high value on the privilege of representing them in the Albany County Legislature.

There was no discussion on the floor of the redistricting plan, because it requires a public hearing. It is known as Local Law No. 1 for 1982.

Neither was there any discussion of the telephone contract for 112 State Street and 40 Howard Street, about which

readers of the *Spotlight* were fully advised through my column and the lengthy letter of County Executive James Coyne. The legislature approved without further discussion a \$2 million contract with the New York Telephone Company for the county buildings at 112 State Street and 40 Howard Street. The legislature's approval guarantees the rate for seven years, pending the Public Service Commission's approval of the rate or notification to the legislature of any proposed changes. New York Telephone is expected to file the proposed contract with the PSC by July 30.

A proposed bond issue for improvement of county roads, referred back to committee at the June legislative session, was not brought up. Despite the need for improvement of county roads, it is still in committee.

A resolution appointing members of the Albany County Tricentennial Commission was approved. Edward A. Sargent Jr. of Elsmere, was included among the legislators appointed.

The legislature approved payment to the Hospital Association of New York and Joseph Graham for professional services in regard to Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, a highly complex subject, especially at this time.

Sargent repeated again his conviction that matters should be referred to the proper committee of the legislature, so that full information can be provided. This resolution, for example, was sponsored by the Finance Committee instead of by the Health Committee, which really should have handled the matter.

Don't forget to mark your calendar — Public Hearing, July 27, 2 p.m. at the County Court House. We all have the right and the duty to involve ourselves in our own government. The future of our community is at stake!

Freeze frozen

A resolution sponsored by Edward Sargent of Bethlehem putting the Albany County Legislature on record in support of a mutual, verifiable freeze of nuclear weapons by the United States and the Soviet Union failed to make it out of committee for this month's legislature meeting, Sargent said last week.

Sargent, a Republican, said his discussions with Democratic legislative leaders had led him to believe the resolution would be reported out of the Law Committee.

Bridge repairs set

The repair and resurfacing of two bridges involving minor arteries in the Town of Bethlehem has been given a preliminary go-ahead from the state Department of Transportation.

Pending state verification of a low bid of \$456,510 from a joint venture of Albany firms, H.D. Reichert Construction Corp. and Belltrone Construction Company, work will begin on the overpasses carrying Rt. 85 over the Thruway and Rt. 140 over the Delaware & Hudson railroad tracks.

According to a news release last week from the transportation department, the resurfacing will be done with a concrete especially resistant to penetration by moisture and salts. Completion of the project is scheduled for June 30, 1983.

A dance in Altamont

The Village of Altamont is gearing up for its fifth annual Apple Festival. As a "kick-off" activity, the Apple Festival Committee is sponsoring an "Old Fashioned Street Dance" this Saturday in the parking lot of St. Lucy's Roman Catholic Church (or in the Parish Center in case of rain) on Grand Street.

Music for the dance will be provided by the "Country Cousins" band, and dancing will be from 8 p.m. to midnight.

Puppets at the park

Elizabeth Conley's Portable Puppets' Playhouse will return to Bethlehem's Elm Ave. Park in Delmar Monday, July 26, with a puppet show at 6:30 p.m. There is no admission fee and in case of rain the show will be postponed to 6:30 Tuesday, July 27.

Mrs. Conley is a former Delmar resident who was a favorite with young audiences in Bethlehem and a regular performer at the park in previous years. A vacation this year will bring her and her puppet friends back to Bethlehem. The show will be held in the grassy amphitheater area at the park.


Missile from passing bus?

An Albany man told Bethlehem police his pickup truck was damaged last Monday when he passed a Bethlehem Central school bus on Feura Bush Rd. and an object struck his windshield. Damage was estimated at \$365.

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Norman's Gate road opposition strong

By Vincent Potenza

Despite the heat, lack of space and length of the proceedings, more than 100 people packed the meeting room of the Bethlehem Planning Board last Tuesday night at a public hearing for the proposed Norman's Gate subdivision off Euclid Ave. in Elsmere. Some of the audience stood in the hall or sat on the meeting room's floor to listen to a two-hour presentation from the Van Euclid Co., developers of the proposal, at a hearing that lasted some four hours — easily the longest and best-attended the planning board has seen in over a year.

Van Euclid proposes to build a 36-lot development of \$150,000 to \$180,000 homes, according to Steven Strong, partner in the firm. But it's not the quality of the subdivision that got area residents' dander up, it was the proposed access route — through two lots on Euclid Ave. purchased by the company and with houses currently standing on the sites.

Van Euclid marched a troop of four professional consultants before the board and the public in an effort to convince both that the Euclid Ave. route is the only reasonable ingress to the site. Jeff Anthony, of architectural landscape consultants LA Associates, said the only two viable accesses would be an extension of Normanside Dr. over the Normanskill — at an estimated cost of some \$455,000 — or the Euclid Ave. passage, at an estimated cost of some \$20,000. Anthony said the latter figure did not include the cost of razing the houses.

Traffic engineer Thomas Perry told the board and those in attendance that according to his studies the development "will not create undue hardship to roadway safety."

Robert Yaguda, a partner in an area real estate firm, stated that "the adjacent homes along Euclid will have an increase

BETHLEHEM

in value due to the quality of the product" planned for the subdivision.

But it was surveyor Paul Hite who had the longest presentation and what seemed to be the developer's chief argument for granting the subdivision. Previous arguments against the plan at earlier informational meetings held that the proposed roadway through the lots on Euclid would violate a subdivision map filed in the Albany County Clerk's office in the late 1930s.

Hite sought to demonstrate that no such subdivision actually existed, since numerous houses in the development had been built over lot lines.

Ralph Mancini, attorney for the developer, maintained that "there is no subdivision that exists today that is similar to that map filed in 1937," and that to use a map filed before Bethlehem had a planning board as a frame of reference for the subdivision was to "fly in the face of what exists."

But Martin Barr, an attorney whose home is adjacent to one of the lots proposed for access, held a diametrically opposed legal position.

Stating that he had been authorized as spokesman for many residents of the area, Barr claimed that despite "minor modifications in lot lines, the streets and houses are where they were intended to be." He said that Hite's argument was "completely irrelevant," because according to section 276 of the town law, the planning board does not have the power to modify a subdivision of which 80 percent of the lots are developed.

Barr also argued that Anthony's ap-



The Village Volunteers will open the Bethlehem Public Library's Evening on the Green series today (Wednesday) at 7 p.m.

praisal of the cost differential between extending Normanside Dr. and paving the two lots on Euclid was misleading because it did not take into account the cost of the lots themselves or the houses, besides the cost of razing the sites. The actual cost of using the Euclid Ave. entry, Barr said, was "easily \$100,000."

Area residents questioned Perry's traffic analysis and Barr compared Perry's results with residents' own surveys. A guffaw went up from the audience when Perry stated that traffic data had been "supplied by the developer," as well as the state Department of Transportation, although he said he found the figures to be in agreement.

The audience howled again when Perry said the traffic counts were not taken on a Saturday. Developer Strong finally took the microphone to say that he had commissioned Hite's employees to take the counts, and had not "told them what to count."

It appears, however, that both sides have focused upon the legal argument — would the road through the lots on Euclid Ave. violate a previously filed subdivision?

Board Attorney Earl Jones, quiet during most of the ongoing debate, told Mancini during a recess in the hearing that, though Hite's presentation had been impressive, the fact that deed restriction violations constituted altering a subdivision was "news to me."

But whatever those for or against the proposal may think is the central issue in the case, board members may have other ideas. Even if the principal question about the road off Euclid Ave. turns out to be a legal one, the current planning board has, in the past, given more weight to other considerations.

Volunteers in concert

The Village Volunteers will open the Evening On The Green series '82 at the Bethlehem Public Library at 7 p.m. Wednesday. This non-profit group donates the performance to the library and the community free of charge.

The Village Volunteer Fife and Drum Corps made their first public appearance at the 1957 Tulip Festival in Albany. Their uniforms, guns, haversacks, canteens and flags are all designed to present an accurate historic picture from the Revolutionary war period. The members range in age from 10 years to adult.

The Village Volunteers play typical 18th Century music, with some medleys and competition pieces using up to five part harmonies. They have performed with the Albany Symphony Orchestra.

The volunteers participate in many parades and competitions in and around the Capital District, and have also performed in Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Williamsburg, Virginia. They are founding members of the National Company of Fifers and Drummers.

Motorcycle accident

A Delmar man was seriously injured last Tuesday when his motorcycle collided with a car that was making a left turn on Delaware Ave.

James Cullen, 28, of 408 Delaware Ave., was listed in serious condition at Albany Medical Center Monday.

According to Bethlehem police, Cullen was traveling west on Delaware Ave. near the Delaware Plaza when a car driven by Roger A. Reynolds, 67, of 428 Delaware Ave., also traveling west, made a left turn. Cullen's motorcycle then struck the Reynolds car.

Police said Reynolds said he didn't see the motorcycle. He was cited for making an unsafe turn.

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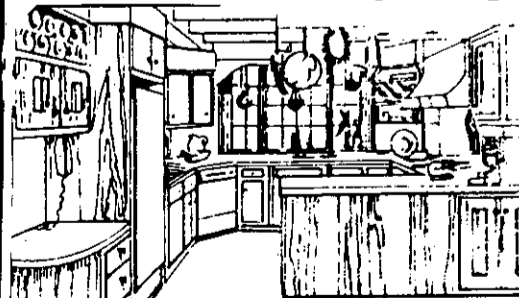
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Decisions on waste face board

Residents of Dowerskill Village and the Elm Ave. East area gave the Bethlehem Town Board a preview of their numbers and feelings last Wednesday, but the discussion on a nearby site for a solid waste transfer station — a "dump" to some of the residents — was put off for another day.

After filling the hearing room and presenting their 200-signature petition, the residents left the board to deal at its leisure with less controversial matters, which included new laws governing the present town landfill and flood plain control, a new roof for the police station and plans for a new shopping center on Rt. 9W.

Town officials have few details of the shopping center plan yet, but at the meeting attorney Thomas Jeram, representing Big V Properties, said the 13-acre site would contain a Shop Rite supermarket and several smaller stores totaling 50,000 to 60,000 square feet of space.

Under town law, the requested change from Residential B zoning to Planned Commercial District must be approved by the town board, but the board sent the proposal to the planning board for its recommendation. The land is situated on the east side of Rt. 9W opposite the Delmar Bypass, and town officials have said that the developer will have to come up with a new traffic plan for the busy intersection.

Jeram said the developers have already started working with state Department of Transportation officials on a plan. "We think this is a good use of the land," he

New dumping permits

Residents of the Town of Bethlehem who wish to haul their own refuse to the town's sanitary landfill will be required to obtain a permit by Aug. 9. The landfill is on Rupert Rd. in South Bethlehem and is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

The permits will be issued at the Bethlehem Town Hall, the Town Highway Garage, Elm Ave., East, Selkirk, and the Elm Ave. Park, Elm Ave., Delmar.

Permits will be issued to residents of the town for private automobiles or pickup trucks only. Proof of current residence will be required in the form of the registration for the vehicle for which the permit is to be issued. There will be no charge for the resident permits, which will be available on or about Aug. 2, and may be used for other town facilities, such as the Elm Ave. Park.

Commercial haulers who operate in the Town of Bethlehem and who use the landfill will be required to obtain special permits for use of the landfill by Sept. 1. Additional information on these permits will be issued later by Bethlehem Highway Superintendent Martin Cross Jr.

BETHLEHEM

said.

Of the two public hearings on the new local laws, only the landfill regulations drew any audience reaction. That law establishes a free permit system for town residents to use the South Bethlehem landfill (see story this page), and gives Highway Superintendent Martin Cross authority to set fees for commercial users.

"I don't think it's fair," said Bruce Wood, who has a commercial hauling business in town. "If you're going to charge people, you're going to charge everybody or nobody."

The law passed, but Supervisor Tom Corrigan said later that Cross probably won't set commercial rates until the fall, by which time the town hopes also to be permitted to use the Albany ANSWERS project.

A separate town-administered fee system will be set up for ANSWERS-bound trucks, Corrigan said.

The local law is primarily aimed at cutting down on use of the landfill. "We have too many people coming in from other towns," said Councilman John Geurtze.

The transfer station is supposed to be part of Bethlehem's participation in ANSWERS, and the site for that has suddenly become a hot subject. The Dowerskill residents are upset because published reports have indicated that the town board favors a site at the nearby Highway Department garage. Although Corrigan invited the residents back for a full discussion July 28, it is unlikely the board will make that decision either before fall — in fact, Corrigan said Friday, the longer the town can delay the more likely that Albany may decide a transfer station isn't needed.

In other action, the board:

- Authorized plans for a new roof for the police-court wing of the Town Hall. That section of the building received only an interim patching job when the building was rehabilitated for town use in 1980, and has been plagued by continual leaks. Corrigan said the job will probably cost around \$50,000.

- Approved a new flood plain law for the town. The law tightens building restrictions in the areas near the Normanskill and on the Hudson River, although no new structures have been erected in those areas since 1974, and also makes residents eligible for higher insurance benefits, according to Building Inspector John Flanigan.

- Approved the awarding of a \$14,916 contract to Agway Corp., the low bidder,



Thomas Jeram

to supply materials for the new pavilion at the Elm Ave. Park. The pavilion is made possible by a \$25,000 grant from the General Electric Foundation, and town personnel are going to do as much of the labor as possible.

- Learned that Corrigan and Council-

woman Ruth Bickle have opened negotiations with the Police Benevolent Association on a new contract. Corrigan said that he plans to release no information on the progress of negotiations.

Andy Rooney to speak

Andrew Rooney of CBS News and nationally syndicated columnist will speak Saturday, July 31, at 8 p.m., at the Institute on Man and Science in Rensselaerville.

Tickets are now available at \$5 each, and the number is limited due to the size of the IMS auditorium. The Weathervan Restaurant, of the IMS will be open for dinner before Rooney's program. The combined price of dinner and the Rooney speech is \$17.95 (Children under 12 \$13).

For tickets and dinner reservations, contact the IMS, 797-3783.

Vandals strike twice

Vandals hit a Kenwood Ave., Delmar, home twice in three days last week, first throwing plants and a liner into the pool, then returning two days later to toss eggs at the house, car, pool and deck. Bethlehem police are investigating.

Clarkson scholar

Gerald M. Wright, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Wright of Slingerlands, has been named a Presidential Scholar at Clarkson College, Potsdam. He is a junior majoring in mechanical and industrial engineering.

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New R-C-S budget: choices for voters?

By Vinny Reda

Voters who turned down a proposed \$9.4 million Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk school budget a month ago will vote July 29 on a new figure that is less than one-half of one per cent smaller than the original. But that does not tell half the story.

For although the R-C-S school board trimmed but \$45,037 off its original proposal — with most of that cut not due to its own initiative — an unexpected increase in state aid has turned an estimated tax hike into a now-sizeable estimated decrease for 1982-83 in three of four affected towns.

According to the figures released last week by R-C-S district clerk Charles Emery, the 1982-83 proposal, if accepted by the voters with six separate propositions attached to a new basic budget figure, will mean a \$6.71 per \$1,000 assessed property value drop from 1981-82 for residents of Coeymans. A cut of \$7.33 would occur in Bethlehem and a decrease of \$4.71 in New Baltimore.

Only New Scotland, plagued by equalization rate problems, is left with a tax jump, but now only an estimated \$6.34 if all six propositions are accepted by the voters. In the original budget defeated June 23, New Scotland's tax rise was projected at \$25.77, Coeymans' \$7.22, New Baltimores' \$6.98 and Bethlehems' \$4.27.

New Scotland's tax rate could go down, by 52 cents per \$1,000 assessed value, if all six propositions were defeated by the voters, but that would seem highly unlikely if the new "basic budget figure," as Emery termed it, of \$9,303,519 is passed.

The six propositions, totalling an additional \$142,464, were among the more popular items received by residents at a July 8 informational board meeting held at the R-C-S high school auditorium. They are:

- Restoration of bus service (removed, as were other items, by state mandate after the original budget was voted down) for children in grades K-8 living within two miles of their schools and for children in grades 9-12 living within three miles of school, at a district cost of \$15,000 (representing a 72 cent tax hike

for New Scotland and 43 cents for Bethlehem).

- Restoration of the 20-mile limit (now 15) for transporting students out of the district, also costing \$15,000 (a 72 and 43-cent tax rise again for New Scotland and Bethlehem, respectively).

- \$73,656 for interscholastic sports (\$3.55 per \$1,000 for New Scotland, \$2.12 for Bethlehem).

- \$20,000 for the school lunch program (96 cents for New Scotland, 58 cents for Bethlehem).

- \$10,808 for library books (52 cents for New Scotland, 31 for Bethlehem).

- \$8,000 for driver education (39 cents for New Scotland, 23 for Bethlehem).

On the other hand, two of the more controversial items, as indicated at that meeting — the purchases of equipment, totaling \$143,000, including two 60-seat buses and two wagons (for \$90,000), and a student stationery, art and other supplies totaling \$60,000 — have been reinstated in the basic budget, meaning voters will not have the opportunity to vote on them separately.

The driver education program was actually not taken out by the state, but by the board. Its restoration, for \$8,000, is at a smaller cost than originally proposed. "It's been modified and definitely reduced," said Emery. "We'll be starting it up the day after the budget is passed — if it's passed — but by then a lot of students will have gone elsewhere."

The biggest chunk of the \$45,037 savings offered by the board came from the recent resignation of two teachers of longevity — "long longevity," said Emery, meaning their salaries had matured with their years. Replacing them saved the district \$26,000. The swim program, also dropped by the board after the budget defeat, could not be resumed this summer, and so the district saved another \$1,510.

The board moved on its own to end contracts to private transporters, a savings of \$10,000, said Emery, and it also eliminated a treasurer's position, giving that workload to a present employee of the district at no extra salary.



The Albany Medical Center Foundation recently honored (left to right) Drs. Frank C. Maxon, Jr., and Ira LeFevre, Mrs. John Mosher and Dr. Alphonse Marcelle. Maxon and LeFevre were associated with the late Dr. John Mosher in practice in Coeymans. Marcelle, president of Callanan Industries, Inc., was honored for his role in directing a gift from Callanan to the Albany Medical Center Emergency Department in honor of the three physicians. Dr. Maxon, a professor of medicine, is health officer for the Town of Bethlehem. Dr. LeFevre is a member of the Department of Family Practice at the medical center.

The tax savings just released are even slightly greater than those reported by the board at the July 8 meeting, due to the additional cuts and a closer evaluation of the impact of the state funding, which amounted to \$358,000.

Polls will open at about 1 p.m. on July 29, immediately following a 12:45 p.m. public board meeting. They will close at 9 p.m.

Last call for classes

Richard Bassotti, director of continuing education for the Bethlehem Central School District has issued a "last call" for registration for the second session of the summer program. The second session runs July 26 through August 13, with most classes held weekday mornings, and meeting in the high school or middle school. Fees are \$18 for the general courses and \$30 for the improvement classes.

Courses include basic computers, calligraphy, creative writing, guitar,

exercise, photography, typing, art, ceramics and wood crafting. Regents review classes will be given in American history, English, chemistry and math. Improvement programs are available in math, reading and writing.

For a complete schedule, check the June issue of the school district's newsletter, 'Central Highlights.' To register, call Bassotti between 9 and 11 a.m. at 439-4921, ext. 305.

Hosts for performers

The International Center in Albany is urgently seeking individuals or families interested in housing members of a group of musical performers from Germany July 27 through July 30.

The performers will be appearing at the Empire State Plaza on the evening of July 28 as part of an American tour.

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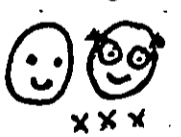
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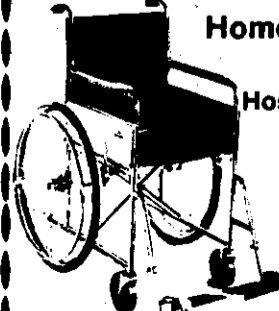
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School board silent on leadership change

By Elizabeth Bloom

The Voorheesville Board of Education, keeping its internal disputes to itself, has elected new leadership.

Jack McKenna of New Salem was elected president of the board as its meeting last week in a secret ballot, replacing long-term president J. August Berger. During and after the meeting both factions in the elections were silent about the issues that prompted the change.

McKenna, who was elected to the board in 1979 as the result of a citizens movement, said after the meeting that he believes that Voorheesville has an excellent school system, with a top-notch staff. One aspect McKenna said he is concerned about — and this was reflected in the business portion of the meeting — is the casual and disinterested attitudes of both parents and students at graduation exercises last month.

McKenna said he believes that increased parental involvement in student activities will improve the attitude problem, and said he will encourage the board members to look at the problem.

At the meeting, McKenna was nominated by David Teuten, who was elected to the board last year, while Peter Ten Eyck, re-elected last month, nominated Berger. Also present at the meeting were board members Joseph Fernandez and John Zongrone, but the exact vote was not announced after the secret ballot.

Teuten, elected clerk of the board, said he looks forward to the continued interplay of ideas among board members.

The board also voted on the following appointments: treasurer, Sarita Winchell; school attorney, Donald Meacham; medical inspector, Clifford Casey, M.D.; and Michael Keiserman, M.D.; treasurer of extra curricular funds, Ethel Smith; comptroller of extra curricular funds, O.

VOORHEESVILLE

Peter Griffin; auditors, Jennings, Birch-enough and Thomas; purchasing agent, superintendent Werner W. Berglas; and tax collector, Wanda Krause.

The board approved Key Bank N.A. and First Federal Savings as repositories for various school accounts, voted authority to the administration for activities such as applying for grants, solicitations and receipt of bids for services and supplies and transferring of funds from account to account to cover school expenses.

In his monthly report, Superintendent Berglas informed the board that \$9,720 had been awarded to the district to help pay for weatherization projects in the elementary school, such as insulating the ceilings, installing weather stripping, insulating piping and replacing some burners.

The board is considering a number of heating programs for the elementary school, from replacing the oil system with a gas system and an oil backup, to replacing all of the burners and converting the entire building to circulating hot water, eliminating the steam heating system. The administrative staff is in the process of compiling data, and the board plans to take this issue to the public sometime in August or September.

The board voted to maintain Blue Cross/Blue Shield as its carrier for students accident insurance. Although increased premiums will cost the district an additional \$3,000, board members said they feel that it is preferable to have

a better insurance package than to go with the less expensive pupils benefit plan. It was agreed that Dr. Berglas should work with Blue Cross/Blue Shield to try to eliminate some of the expense of the program.

Parade plans are announced

The order of march for New Scotland's Sesquicentennial Heritage Day Parade have been announced.

The parade will form in two sections, with Section I consisting of the American Legion Color Guard, cars for guests and dignitaries, Spirit of 76 Fifes and Drums, the New Scotland Historical Association Float, the Village Volunteer Militiamen, the New Salem Fire Department and marching units, the Helderview Garden Club, the Voorheesville Vikings 4-H marching unit and the Clarksville Community Church Youth Group Float.

Also in Section I will be the Onesquethaw Fire Department and ambulance marching units, the New Scotland Postal Service van, antique cars, the Elks float and marching units, the Voorheesville Fire Department, the Colonie Fire Department band and the New Scotland Opportunity Club Float.

Section II will consist of the Voorheesville Area Ambulance marching unit, the Unionville Reformed Church float, the VFW Auxiliary marching unit, the Voorheesville Methodist Church float, the Kiwanis float, a horses float, the Boy Scout troop and the Aerobic dancers.

Those parade members in Section I are requested to enter New Salem via Rt. 85 and turn right on Rt. 85A, parking their vehicles in the lot of the fire house.

Participants in Section II are requested to follow Rt. 85 toward New Salem and turn left on New Salem So. Rd., following it to the intersection of Rts. 85 and 85A where the parade will begin forming at 9 a.m.

Stepoff time is 10 a.m.

Voorheesville News Notes

Maryann Malark
765-4392



Sunday evening, July 25, at 7 p.m. in George Hotaling Evergreen Park, Tom Fisch, Voorheesville resident, will perform a variety of musical selections from country western to original compositions. Tom, the son of Jim and Janet Fisch, Maple Ave., has had recent engagements at the Ground Round and the Mad Hatter.

Beginning July 29, Thursday can also be added to the list of musical evenings in Voorheesville. At 7 p.m., Pilar, a local rock group, will entertain in the park behind the American Legion. Fresh from a recent engagement at the Voorheesville High School Arts Festival, the group is made up of students and a recent graduate. Dickie Mazzaferro is on lead guitar with Doug Bernhart on drums and Todd Morse on bass.

The Voorheesville Library is the summer collection center for the Campbell's Soup labels. According to PTSA Chairman Diane Relyea, 21,400 labels collected during the 1981-1982 campaign were redeemed for four cassette player/recorders, seventeen overhead headsets and four jackboxes. Relyea asks that residents drop off Campbell's beans, soups, tomato, V-8 juice, Swanson canned foods, Franco-American product labels and the blue and red Swanson triangles on frozen food cartons at the library.

Bicycle thefts

July 15 — Pine St., Delmar, registered.

July 18 — Kenwood Ave., Delmar, registered.

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Whole Chicken

Breasts 1.28 lb.
Whole N.Y.
Strips (Custom Cut) 2.99 lb.
Sirloin Tip
Roasts 2.08 lb.
Sirloin Tip
Steaks 2.38 lb.
Ground Chuck 1.33 lb.
Ground Round 1.68 lb.
Chuck 1.58 lb.
Round 1.88 lb.
Turkey Breasts (Frozen)
"Pride of the Farm" 1.28 lb.

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FEATURING "NANCY'S" FAMOUS PARTY PLATTERS

Cooked Ham (Extra Lean) 2.18 lb.
American Cheese 1.98 lb.
Norwestern Turkey Breast 2.58 lb.

Shop Wallace's Your Freezer Buy Headquarters

Forequarters of Beef... USDA Choice... 1.29 lb.
Sides of Beef Cut Wrapped... 1.45 lb.
Hinds of Beef & Labeled. Add... 1.69 lb.
Sirloin Tips 1c per lb. for... 2.09 lb.
Prime

A musical bridge for VanCurler

Douglas A. Moore of Delmar, whose business is making music makers happy, has sold VanCurler Music co., an Albany institution for 60 years.

But the Delaware Ave. music store should continue in the unique niche it carved for itself in the Capital District music world decades ago, supplying the needs of professional musicians and music teachers. The new owner, Tom Hyde, is quite familiar with that end of the business, having taught music at Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk for 16 years.

Hyde, also a Delmar resident, has also played professionally (trombone) with a number of area bands and has given private lessons for many years. "So now it's time to do something else," he says of his retirement from R-C-S. "This seems to be a pleasant way to stay in the field and still get into a different type of work."

Moore will continue working at VanCurler on a part-time basis as a sales representative, which means he will have more time to devote to his "retirement," which will include golf, camping and grandchildren.

Moore started at Van Curler in downtown Albany 30 years ago, and bought the business from his father-in-law, Otto Janda, five years later. At that time, the business was a full-line music store, carrying records, high-fi equipment, pianos and tapes. When the last of the three downtown locations was condemned, Moore moved the business to Delaware Ave. and decided to concentrate on sheet music.

In addition to the retail store, where musicians can buy music for anything from the latest chart hits to Beethoven's sonatas, Van Curler concentrated on the institutional business, supplying colleges, schools and churches with their music requirements. It's been a successful formula.



Tom Hyde and Douglas Moore talk over the music business at the Delaware Ave. store. *Spotlight*

BUSINESS

Summer tax breaks

The Internal Revenue Service has good news for summer workers: no income tax withholding for some and a bigger child care credit for working parents.

Students, seasonal workers and part-timers are among those who qualify for an exemption from income tax withholding, according to IRS District Director John B. Langer. If you had no tax liability last year and expect none for 1982, you can avoid having income taxes taken from your pay. Generally, you will have no income tax if you are: unmarried with income under \$3,300; a surviving spouse with income under \$4,400; or married filing jointly with combined income under \$5,400.

To claim this exemption from withholding, check the boxes and enter "EXEMPT" on line 6 of the Form W-4 filed with your employer. The exemption doesn't apply to Social Security (FICA) taxes. The exemption will boost your take-home pay now and relieve you of the need to file a return to get a refund next year.

With schoolchildren on vacation, many parents have to pay for babysitting services during the summer so they can work. The Child Care Tax Credit, which helps to offset this cost, has been increased for 1982.

Fern and stream programs

A fern identification workshop and a stream life walk will be offered Saturday, July 24, at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Game Farm Road, Delmar.

The outdoor fern program open to adults and free of charge, begins at 10 a.m. and will focus on identification tips and the natural history of some common

ferns of Albany County. Participants must pre-register by calling the center at 457-6092.

A walk to explore stream life will be offered at 2 p.m. Besides being the home of fish and amphibians, the stream is the nursery of many insect species. This "in-depth" study is open to the public free of charge. Participants should come prepared to wade in shallow water.



Tri-Village Fruit Market in Elsmere celebrates 30 years of existence this week. Opened July 21, 1952 at the present location of Color Your World near the Delaware Plaza, the business was begun by Charlie Shafer (left), who ran it until 1979 when he handed over the reins to his son, Bob (right). Tri-Village moved to its present location near Albany Public Market in May of 1957.



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\$2.48 LB.	\$1.98 LB.	80¢ LB.
OUR OWN TUB BUTTER	OUR OWN COTTAGE CHEESE	HOMOGENIZED MILK
\$1.55 LB.	76¢ LB.	\$1.75 GAL.
		HORMEL LOAF CHEESE & PEPPERONI
		\$3.56 LB.
		FARM FRESH CHURNED BUTTERMILK
		57¢ QT.

Have talent? Will promote

American Talent Promotions of South Bethlehem is looking for performers for its talent pool. The company founded by Jim Staats "seeks to bridge the gap between developing a talent and becoming a successful performer."

To do this, ATP keeps biographical material and photos of each artist on file; puts out press releases on members; and publishes the monthly "Standing Ovation," which contains information on events, auditions, and contests, as well as advice from professionals. Flyers also go out weekly listing audition and employment opportunities.

ATP sponsors its own auditions to help members polish their acts. At a recent one at the Quality Inn in Albany, 10 ATP members sang, danced and even performed ventriloquism.

An ATP spokesperson noted that the company is not an agency. Membership is open to all ages, and to students as well as professionals.

Fresh Air families needed

Margaret Beyer, 4 North St., Delmar, is the local chairman for the Fresh Air Fund, which finds host families for inner-city children who want to spend two weeks away from the city. The Fresh Air Fund provides transportation for the children and pays any medical costs that may be incurred. In addition, the host family is covered by a liability policy.

Each year more than 14,000 children vacation at camps or in homes in 13 states. In the Albany area, more than 50 families have signed up to be hosts.

The 'gentle art'

Taking another look at the Far East this season, The Institute on Man and Science in Rensselaerville will feature a demonstration of the Japanese arts of sumi (ink brush painting) and bonsai, July 25 at 3 p.m. on the terrace of the Guggenheim Pavilion. The program will move inside in case of rain. Admission is \$3.

Called Gentle Art of Japan, this program will feature Earle Pudney, who has become a nationally known writer and lecturer on bonsai after a career in local broadcasting, and Lila Smith, who has brought the simple beauty of sumi ink brush painting to children and adults of the area since she moved here a couple of years ago.

The preferred subjects of sumi painters are taken from nature — flowers, bamboo, fish and animals. Mrs. Smith will demonstrate the progression of brush strokes which create the essence of these forms.

Bonsai (pronounced bone-sigh) reflects the need to bring nature into human scale and control. Mr. Pudney assisted by Mrs. Helen Breeze will use living trees to illustrate the techniques which miniaturize the plants and shape them to the bonsai artist's will.

Burglary on Bower Ct.

A thief entered a house on Bower Ct., Elsmere, last Wednesday through a basement window. Bethlehem police reported that the burglar took \$52 in coins, plus a radio, watch and calculator.

Focus On Faith

Rev. James G.K. McClure

New Scotland Presbyterian Church (1874-1879)



The following is an excerpt from a discourse on the history of the Presbyterian Church at New Scotland by the Rev. James G.K. McClure, pastor at the new Scotland Church from 1874 to 1879. The discourse was given at a centennial celebration of the Nation's independence on July 2, 1876.

In two days a magnificent Nation will celebrate its Centennial existence. The theme naturally suggested by the hour is freedom. It would be eminently appropriate on this Lord's day to trace the hand of God in our birth, continuance and prosperity as a free people. But another circumstance has designated the Scripture text, so suitable for our Nation's thought.

One hundred years ago two massive oak trees were standing on the side hill where the blacksmith shop now is. A minister in his journeyings as a Presbyterian Missionary reached this vicinity. Word was sent abroad through the thinly populated neighborhood that on the coming Sabbath a preaching service would be conducted by the stranger. As the people began to assemble, he gathered them beneath the shade of those two trees; and standing there he preached the first sermon heard by this Church — the sermon which secured its organization — and his text was: "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

Now we come for the first time upon

the names of the original settlers, as near as we can judge. By far the greater part were of Scotch descent. But the first name connected with the settlement of this neighborhood, of which we have definite knowledge, is de La Grange. It was a Huguenot family driven from France into Holland by religious persecution. In 1656 they immigrated to New Amsterdam (New York City) and in 1665 Omie de La Grange came to Albany as a trader, afterwards buying the land about us. Next we come upon the Allens, Brices, Bruces, Hutners, Kirklands, Ramseys, Swans, Wands and Watts, who were all Scotch; the Van Valkenburghs (Follocks) Smiths and Sagers who were Dutch; the Hudsons and Turncliffs, who were English; the Jacksons who came from the North of Ireland, and the Moaks who were Swiss. Of the names still among us we find mention made before the War of the Revolution, of the Booms, Congers, McCoughtrys, McCullochs, Olivers, Reads, Rusos and Taylors.

Of the families named I have been able to learn the exact circumstances of their advent here in but few cases. In 1760, North of Ireland and Scotch people, who were engaged in mercantile trade, came to Albany in goodly numbers. This fact secured the attention of Scottish people generally toward the section of country adjacent to Albany. George Swan, Ebenezer Wands and John Wands were Highlanders, who enlisted in the English

Army and came to Canada to take part in the French and English War, 1754-1762. Having enlisted as Volunteers for three months, they served their time, and upon their discharge started as pioneers through the woods of New York State toward Albany. From these two Wands brothers, who were Weavers by trade, and whose settlement dates about 1762, came the numerous progeny of that name.

As a whole the first settlers were exceedingly poor. For seven years they could occupy the land, which they had chosen and then marked out for themselves by blazing, free of all rent. But at the expiration of seven years rent began; and it was oftentimes with the greatest difficulty that a farmer holding one hundred and sixty (160) acres could raise sufficient to pay his (thirteen bushels of good, merchantable wheat, four fat fowls and a load of wood." Their poverty is apparent from the fact that these rents seemed exorbitantly high. Their manners and their tastes were necessarily in accordance with the straitness of their circumstances. Spawn and milk filled a more important place upon the tables than today. Pewter plates were able to stand uninjured from one generation to another. The houses made of logs, found their most useful ornaments in the flint and the spinning wheel. The little tilling that could be done was among the half burned stumps. Made up of representatives of the best nationalities, Dutch, French, Scotch Irish, Irish, Scotch and English, the preponderating element gave the name, New Scotland, to the neighborhood and marked the character of the Village.

The Scotch since the days of Wickliffe have been eminently a religious people. With a strong attachment to the doctrines and polity of their ancestors they have set

up the faith of their persecuted fathers wherever the providence of God has placed them. In 1763 the First Presbyterian Church was organized in Albany, and thither we know from the records of that Church our people first went for the ordinances of worship, for the sacraments and for marriage. But in 1787 the Presbytery of Suffolk, afterwards called the Presbytery of Long Island, organized a mission Church on the frontier at New Scotland.

Vacation school opens

Songs, art work, crafts, nature study and other subjects are scheduled at the Vacation Church School, which runs Monday through July 26 at the First United Methodist Church on Kenwood Ave. in Delmar.

The school, whose class days run from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m., is a joint project of the First United Methodist, Delmar Reformed, Delmar Presbyterian and Slingerlands Methodist Churches, and offers classes for children aged three years through the fifth grade, and special group activities for sixth and seventh graders.

Pre-registration can be arranged by calling the First United Methodist Church at 439-9976.

Church hosts children

On Tuesday, July 13, the Slingerlands Community United Methodist Church hosted the Summer Educational and Enrichment Program for 27 children from the inner city. The program in the city is sponsored by the Albany United Methodist Society. Based on the Biblical story of Zacchaeus the children learned various methods of telling a story, through acting, puppetry and singing.

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Young sluggers garnered awards recently at a presentation of the Tri-Village Little League. Honored were, front row, Dave Pierce (Del Lanes); middle row, left to right, Paul Malone (Spotlight), Mike Ronay (Four Corners Luncheonette), Jeff D'Arcy (Pat and Bob's), Steven Hammes (Klersy Realty), Kyle Snyder (Keystone Builders), Pat Doody (Paper Mill); back row, left to right, Dick Everleth, executive vice president of the league, John Waddingham (K-Mart) and Jim Dillon, league president.

Hot contests end Little League

The final week of the Tri-Village little league this year was a great week for baseball. The weather was the hottest so far this summer and permitted games to be played all week.

The last games of the season yielded the four first-place teams in the major and senior leagues. For the 14 to 15-year-old division Manny Hanny was the champion, as was K-Mart in the 13-year-old division. The Spotlight shone as the star of the National division of the Majors and Farm Family harvested enough wins to take the first place rating of the American division. Kevin Ryan and Paul Evangelista were tied as the home run kings of the league.

The closing ceremonies of the league proved to be a good way to spend the afternoon. While Fred Carr did most of the announcing Jim Dillon, president of the league, and Dick Everleth, the head of the concession stand, handed out trophies, certificates and pins to the little leaguers. All three delivered speeches about the league and awarded prizes to players who had raised money for the league by selling goods provided by the league.

All the bases have been covered except for the All-Star games. All of the games will be played on June 24. The 14 to 15-year-old league is scheduled to play at home at 5 p.m. The 13-year-old league will play in Granville. And, the Majors will compete against St. Francis at 3 p.m.

Adrian Cohen

Clinics for hunt riders

Shadowfax Farm in Acra will host three one-day clinics in hunt seat riding for intermediate and advanced riders. Instructor will be Kristine Stephenson, who has won championships at Madison Square Garden and the Washington International shows.

The clinics will be Monday and Aug. 23 and 30. Horses will be available from

Shadowfax Farm on a limited basis. Interested persons should contact Linda H. Davis at (518) 622-3789 or (518) 239-4513.

Flatwork, gymnastics and jumping will be taught. Interested persons unsure of their riding levels may take a qualifying lesson at Shadowfax Farm by appointment. The farm also has week-long day camps and individual instruction.

Spotlight SPORTS

Tri-Village Little League

Final standings for 1982

Senior League

14-15	W L	13 Div	W L
Man. Han.	8		

14-15 Div	W L	13 Div	W L
*Man. Han.	8 3	*K-Mart	12 3
CPM	7 5	H'ting Mkt	9 7
Starwood	6 5	O. Corning	8 7
Handy Andy	6 6	Cen Datsun	5 10
Big 'M'	2 10	Applebee	4 11
Ties — Man. Han., Starwood, K-Mart, Owens Corning			

Major League

*Spotlight	14 4	Farm Fam.	15 3
Meyer's Bike	7 11	Gen. Elec.	14 4
Col Imports	6 12	Convenient	10 8
Main Care	5 13	Pr. Green.	9 9
Roberts Rlty	5 13	Andriano's	5 13

Intermediate League

American	W L	National	W L
*Keystone	16 2	*Paper Mill	14 4
Stewart's	10 7	Buenau's	12 6
Del Ans Ser	10 8	Gen. Elec.	9 9
Main Care	3 14	Del Honda	7 11
20/20 Opt	1 16	Del Int Des	6 11
Ties — Stewart's, Delmar Interior Design			

Senior League

American	W L	National	W L
*Del Lanes	11 3	Klersy Rlty	9 3
Pat & Bob's	9 4	Windflower	8 5
4 Cor Lunch	5 7	Sutter's Mill	5 9
Danz Heat	4 8	Prof Auto	1 13
Ties — Pat & Bob's, 4 Corners Luncheonette 2, Danz 2, Klersy 2, Windflower.			
*Divisional Champions: Seniors 14-15 Division — Manufacturer's Hanover, 13 Division — K-Mart; Majors American Division — Spotlight; National Division — Farm Family; Intermediates American Division — Keystone; National Division — Paper Mill; Juniors American Division — Del Lanes; National Division — Klersy Realty.			

Bethlehem Babe Ruth

Standings July 18

	W L		W L
BC/BS	11 3	Skippy's	6 8
*Nat Savings	6 5	Gen Elec	2 9
Main Care	6 6		

Bethlehem Soccer Club

Results, July 19

Under 10(A) — Bethlehem 1, Clifton Park B 1; Bethlehem 4, Bethlehem B 2; Bethlehem 8, Village 0.

Under 10(B) — Niskayuna 2, Bethlehem 0.

Under 12(A) — Bethlehem 7, Waterford 1; Clifton Park A 5, Bethlehem 1; Bethlehem 2, Clifton Park B 1.

Under 12(B) — Bethlehem 2, Rotterdam 0; Niskayuna B 5, Bethlehem 3.

Under 14 — Bethlehem 2, Clifton Park A 1; Bethlehem 4, Niskayuna 1.

Under 16 Boys — Fulton United 3, Bethlehem 0.

Under 16 Girls — Bethlehem 4, Niskayuna 4; Clifton Park 3, Bethlehem 1.

Under 19 Boys — Guilderland A 6, Bethlehem 2; Bethlehem 5, Guilderland B 0.

Voorheesville Babe Ruth

Standings, July 18

	W L		W L
Spotlight	10 3	Rod & Gun	4 8
St. Matthew	10 3	Kiwanis	1 11

Church Softball

Results, July 15

Glenmont, 10, Albany 4
 Presbyterian 7, Clarksville 6
 St. Thomas 20, Knox 6
 Wynantskill 11, New Scotland 9
 Bethany 12, Delmar Reformed 6
 Voorheesville 8, Methodist 7

Standings

	W L		W L
St. Thomas	10 1	New Scot	4 7
Glenmont	10 1	Del Reform	4 7
Presbyterian	9 2	Beth Comm	4 7
Clarksville	9 2	Albany	4 7
Knox	8 3	Bethany	2 10
Wynan'kill	4 7	Methodist	0 11
Voor'ville	4 7		

Softball standouts

Judy Mooris hit a home run and a double July 6 as Blue Cross defeated Uncle Albert's in women's softball by a score of 21-10.

Tammy Seaburg had a grand slam home run the next night as Blue Cross defeated the Squire Inn, 22-21.

Dance for hearts

A special fund raising event in collaboration with the American Heart Association and Gloria Stevens' Salons will take place on Saturday, July 31.

The Gloria Stevens' Salon at 155 Delaware Ave. in Elsmere will be participating in a "Mid-Summer Aerobics for Heart" event to benefit the Northeastern New York Chapter of the American Heart Association.

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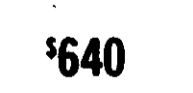
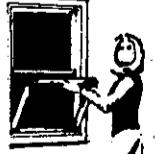
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Pete Winkler of Skippy's Music runs out a hit while Kevin Rochan, catcher for Blue Cross/Blue Shield, prepares to make a play in a recent Bethlehem Babe Ruth baseball game.

St. Matthew's ties Spotlight

The streaking St. Matthew's Giants cast a more ominous shadow than ever upon the Spotlight Red Sox last week, riding pitcher Brett Hotaling's 10 strikeouts and Clint Wagner's two-run double to an 8-6 trimming over Spotlight on Thursday, and then crushing Kiwanis 10-0 on Saturday to move into a first-place tie with the Sox in Voorheesville Babe Ruth League action.

Only an 11-5 drubbing of the Rod & Gun Twins on July 13, kept Spotlight in a first place tie with the rampaging Giants, who have now won six straight.

Brian Culnan supplied the big stick in the Sox win, blasting a three-run homer plus a single, while Wes Knapp chipped in a long triple. Joe Rissberger led Rod & Gun with a triple and two singles.

Spotlight's valiant but futile effort against the surging Giants was led by Kevin Rafferty's two singles and a double. It was not enough, as the Giants more than avenged a June 22 toppling by the Sox to a 13-1 score.

Kiwanis, now 1-11 on the year to St. Matthew's 10-3, could not put up nearly as much of a battle on Saturday, boasting only Lewis Bernstein's double and Jeff Caimano's 10 strikeouts. Unfortunately, for every strikeout there was also a run, the Giant parade led by Ed Mitzen with a ringing double and pitcher Mike Larabee's triple and single. Larabee struck out 12 himself, but only yielded one small single besides Bernstein's hit.

Team eliminated

The Bethlehem Babe Ruth League All-Stars were eliminated from the District 6 tournament in South Troy last week, losing to the Latham All-Stars 5-2.

The Bethlehem team had lost the first of the maximum two games that spell the week before, bowing to the Nassau-Castleton team, also by 5-2. The team had come back to beat Pine Hills Westland 15-3 to stave off their ouster before finally losing out to Latham.

BC coaches announced

Fall coaching assignments announced recently for Bethlehem Central are:

John Sodergren, varsity football; Kenneth Hodge, assistant; John Furey, JV football; John DeMeo, freshman football; Robert Salamone, assistant; and Charles Jung, football assistant.

Also, Eugene Lewis, boys' varsity soccer; Zachary Assael, boys' JV soccer; Connie Tilroe, girls' varsity soccer; Jesse Braverman, girls' JV soccer; and Denise Minnear, girls' freshman soccer.

John Nyilis will coach cross country; Donald Farrell, golf; Grace Franze, girls' varsity tennis; Julie Werdt, varsity field hockey; Nancy Smith, JV field hockey; and Joanne Smith and Ann Rose, cheerleading.

Athletic director Ray Sliter will coach girls' varsity swimming.

At the middle school, intramurals will be directed by Nelson Harrington and Mary Lussier.

Young swimmers pace Dolphins at Lake Placid

A victory by Empire State Games qualifier Janet Shaffer and a two-boy sweep of the swim events in the youngest division led the Delmar Dolphins to a solid showing in the Lake Placid Annual Long Course Invitational Swim Meet, held July 16 to 18.

Shaffer backed up her first place in the 100-meter freestyle with a second in the 200-meter individual medley. The showing was impressive in that the Lake Placid meet drew several teams from outside the Adirondack region, such as one team each from Rochester and Canada.

The 10 years of age and under boys division was a showcase for young Dolphin talent, as Mike Miller took firsts in the 50 and 100-meter freestyles and 50-meter butterfly, as well as seconds in the 50-meter breaststroke and 50-meter backstroke.

When Miller didn't win, Drew Patrick

did, taking the 50-meter breaststroke and backstrokes in personal best times. He also grabbed second in the 100-meter freestyle and fifth in the 50-meter freestyle.

The two boys' work was not done, however, as they also spearheaded two relays, teaming with Dave Cleary and Jon Scholes for a second place in the medley event and a third in the freestyle.

Knut Hralmsmarken shone in the open boys division freestyles, getting second in the 100-meter and fifth in the 200-meter. Pierre LaBarge touched in with a fourth in the 200-meter freestyle and a fifth in the 100-meter backstroke in the 13-14 age division; on the girls' side of 13-14, Lynn Apicelli led the way with a fifth in the 100-meter breaststroke. Jenny Mosley finished a strong third in the 50-meter breaststroke for the 10 and under girls.

And four Bethlehem Central varsity players qualified for the women's volleyball team. Lori Weinert will be playing on her third Empire State Games team, while Ann Howell, Alunda Smith and Kathy McNamara will be going to Syracuse for the first time. All four will play on the BC varsity, sectional champions the last two years, next winter.

Fitness course in fall

"Take Fitness to Heart," a physical fitness program being co-sponsored by Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Bethlehem Central School District, is a comprehensive course that will promote good health and reduce risk factors associated with cardiovascular disease.

The class will not begin until fall, but registration will be held during June so students can have the needed medical examinations done in the summer and use the results of the exams as a prescription for the course.

The class will begin on Sept. 21, and will meet bi-weekly for 10 weeks. Registration is \$98, of which \$80 is payable to Blue Cross/Blue Shield and \$18 to the school district. Blue Cross/Blue Shield employees may attend free. For information contact Richard Bassotti, director of continuing education, 439-4921.

Going to the Games

Two Voorheesville swimmers and several local volleyball players will be going to the Empire State Games in Syracuse thanks to success at their qualification meet.

From Voorheesville High School, Dirk Applegate and Chris Martin qualified for the swim team.

Also from Voorheesville, Adam Clark qualified for the boys volleyball team.

Sentence modified

The four-year prison term for James Whiting of Albany, convicted in 1979 of killing his uncle and cousin with a car while intoxicated, has been modified by the Appellate Division of State Supreme Court.

The court said Whiting, who was 19 at the time of the Glenmont accident, should serve 60 days in the Albany County Jail and then a term of probation to be fixed by County Court Judge Joseph Harris.

Reunion for BC '72

The Bethlehem Central High School class of 1972 plans a reunion dinner-dance Aug. 21 at the Albany Hilton Hotel. Reservation deadline is Aug. 1. For information, call Sheillagh Egan Dare, 439-5594, or Kathy McCarroll Moore, 439-7329.

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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, and all letters should be double-spaced and typed if possible. Letters must be signed and include phone numbers; names will be withheld on request. Deadline is the Friday before publication.

Transfer station or dump?

Editor, The Spotlight:

The following letter was sent to Town Supervisor Tom Corrigan and other town officials:

As an elected official sworn to serve the people, I am sorely disappointed in your proposal to locate the "Transfer Station," hereafter known as the "dump" in the Elm Avenue garage area. If this is your idea of serving the people, we the people have made a grievous mistake at the polls.

I have in my possession the Standard Engineering Corporation's final report to the Town of Bethlehem, which was addressed and given to you. On page 19 of the report, paragraph 1, a statement appears as follows: "Additionally, it must be located and built in such a way that public objection to its construction is minimized."

I am sure you have received a number of letters from residents in and about the area objecting to the construction of the dump. On page 28 of the same report, Site 2, Feura Bush Road near Waldenmaier Road, is indicated as being the

selected site "because of its closeness to the center of generation in or adjacent to an industrial zone (G.E. Plastics and Owens Corning) on a high quality State highway. Visual and noise impact would be minimal."

It would appear that the amount of monies expended on the report were for naught, if you do in fact choose the Elm Avenue garage site. As stated on page 30 "The Highway and Maintenance Building on Elm Avenue becomes attractive from an operational and supervisory consideration because of its proximity to the existing Town highway facilities. It is in a residential zone as is the Town highway garage.

"The major deficiency of this site is a condition of Elm Avenue East, more particularly west of the site. Not only is the alignment substandard but the drainage, road width, and condition of the base of the pavement is poor for the anticipated traffic as a result of the transfer station and future development."

In order to meet the needs of the increased traffic, the Town would have to spend considerable monies to upgrade the road facilities. While it is true there is new residential development in that area and at some point in the future road conditions will definitely have to be upgraded, I am sure you are aware that construction of new housing in that particular development (Dowerskill Village) has been halted.

No new construction has occurred for the past year nor is any new construction foreseen in the near future. Therefore, the Town is not under any great pressure to upgrade the road facilities at this time. It would appear that the Standard Engineering Corporation is more aware and

sympathetic to the needs of the people than the Town is.

The residents of Dowerskill Village have overcome many disadvantages since our community was established. I am sure you are aware of the various problems we have faced. We have had no one to depend upon in our establishment except ourselves and it would appear that once again we are faced with the same. We have banded together in an effort to upgrade our houses as far as landscaping and other improvements. To put a dump in the general vicinity, and in some cases, directly in back of residential houses, would seem a rather callous act.

Your proposal of a dump will not only emanate foul odors, attract rodents, create noise pollution, and increase traffic flow, but will also, in my opinion, cause property devaluation.

I recently appeared before the Board of Appeals in an effort to get a permit to construct a second garage on my property. While my neighbors had no objections, the Board of Appeals rejected me, citing as one of their reasons that a second garage would probably devalue my neighbors' property. If a simple garage will do this, what will a dump do?

I strongly urge you to review your own report, come to a logical conclusion, and choose the site recommended in the report, that is Feura Bush Road near Waldenmaier Road, in order to establish your transfer station.

Robert L. DeSarbo

Glenmont

(See story on page 7)

Urges R-C-S yes vote

Editor, The Spotlight:

The R-C-S Teachers' Association encourages all parents and taxpayers in

our school district to vote on the revised budget July 29 from an informed basis.

A "yes" vote will mean continuation of services and programs to help our children grow.

A "no" vote will cut or eliminate programs and even endanger the children in our community.

Consider some of the following points:

1. For the first time in the history of the Ravena Elementary School, a library has been established with the aid of federal funds. If this proposition is defeated, we will be unable to continue support of that program, and according to federal guidelines, funding for next year will be lost. Our young and new readers will be the losers.

2. Loss of driver education directly affects our teen-agers. Proper driving instruction is essential for safe driving. Parents will also pay higher insurance premiums since students would be ineligible for discounts.

3. New transportation limits resulting from a defeat of the transportation proposition would mean young people walking along Routes 9W and 144 in all weather conditions. Again, our children bear the brunt of defeat.

4. Consider the many values of a sports program. Grades, attendance and behavior are influences on students involved in interscholastic sports. It provides a healthy outlet for energy and a safe social outlet for spectators. Our athletes rarely "hang out" on the streets. Defeat of this proposition again will directly harm our teenagers.

5. The school lunch subsidization amounts to approximately the cost of one lunch per year per \$1,000 of assessment. This is a very small price to insure that

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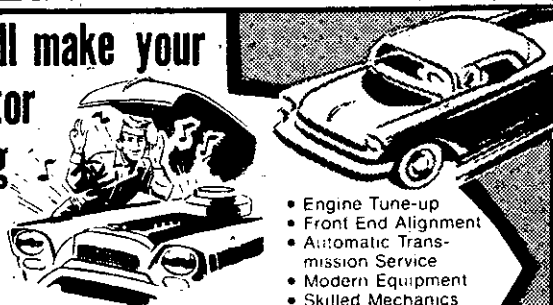
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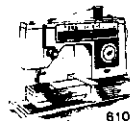
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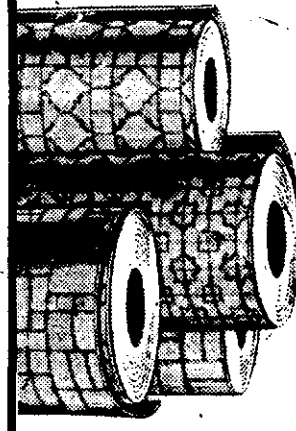
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6. In the base levy, the bulk of money is predetermined by state and contractual determinants. Those items that would be lost by a no vote on this item would be those directly used by and benefitting students — supplies (paper, pencils, workbooks, computer software to continue programs for both the remedial and gifted).

Aside from the direct effect on students, defeat of a budget also affects a community. R-C-S is one of the largest employers in the area with approximately 400 staff members.

Elimination of programs and services as a result of budget defeats will mean elimination of jobs. Elimination of jobs decreases the consumer abilities locally, thereby affecting a wider circle of people than just school personnel.

Therefore we urge you to vote "yes" on all parts of the revised budget. The young people will suffer the most directly by "no" votes, but ultimately the entire community is affected.

*Ken Ralston, President
R-C-S Teachers' Association*

Luncheon enjoyed by all

Editor, The SPotlight:

The Bethlehem Senior Citizens wish to publicly thank the Albany Co. Council of Senior Citizens and clubs for the luncheon served them at the Elm Ave. Park July 8. They served about 128 people and it was pleasantly enjoyed by all.

Marge Morlock

Elsmere

Sunday mornings

Editor, The Spotlight:

My family and I thoroughly appreciate all of the many recreational opportunities and programs available to both children and adults in the Town of Bethlehem. However, I am becoming increasingly aware that a number of organizations are scheduling events for Sunday mornings (a few of the Town's activities this past Fourth of July weekend, for example). Most of the churches in the area schedule their worship services and Bible class programs then.

I hope that individuals responsible for planning community supported programs will take this factor into consideration so that their activity will not conflict with worship and Bible study... another rather important "family activity" to many of the folks in the Town of Bethlehem.

Warren Winterhoff

Delmar



Zemra Cazzato and Douglas Deforge

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Cazzato of Albany have announced the engagement of their daughter, Zemra Maria, to Douglas James Deforge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Deforge of Plattsburgh.

Spotlight IN RETROSPECT

RETROSPECT FOR 7/21

July 18, 1957

Bob Martin of Delmar will drive a Swedish Saab-93 in the Punkintown Fair Rally at New Salem on Sunday. Over 100 cars are expected to compete for more than \$125 in prizes donated by merchants.

July 19, 1962

Beltsville Midget turkeys are advertised at the Grand Union in Elsmere at 37 cents a pound. The A&P is offering plaid stamps for top and bottom round roasts of Western beef at 79 cents a pound, top sirloin roasts at 89 cents, and chicken breast quarters at 39 cents a pound.

July 20, 1967

Among this week's specials at the A&P in Elsmere are rib roasts at 89 cents a pound (first four ribs only), and iceberg lettuce at 25 cents a head.

July 21, 1977

Bethlehem police have added two portable electronic radar units to the stationary device that has been in use for some time.

When two witnesses saw a 10-speed boys bicycle being loaded into the trunk of a 1973 car in the A&P parking lot in Elsmere, they were able to provide Bethlehem police with a partial license plate number and a description of the car. The following morning police picked up a 19-year-old Coeymans man who was later arrested by Ravena and state police on burglary and grand larceny in other incidents.

Miss Cazzato is an administrative secretary at Albany Medical College, Department of Pathology. Her fiance is a political science major at Siena College.

A June 25, 1983 wedding is planned.

Magic show today

The Bethlehem Public Library's Children's Department will present a magic show with James Gosch today, (Wednesday) at 1 p.m. Gosch is a previous winner at the National Convention of Magic and is the past president of the local chapter of the Society of American Magicians.

Anne Marie Cochran wed

Anne Marie Cochran, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George David Cochran of 28 Carriage Road, Delmar, and Anthony Arthur Grey, son of late Arthur A. Grey and Mrs. Bernadette L. Grey of Hicksville in Nassau County, were married July 10 at The Kenwood Chapel, Convent of the Sacred Heart, Albany. Rev. James D. Daley officiated. A reception followed at The University Club in Albany.

Patricia McAllister of Albany, cousin of the bride, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Ellen McGarrahan of Delmar and Janice Grey of Hicksville, L.I., sister of the groom. Flower girls were Elizabeth and Emily Ricciardi. George Thiergartner of Hicksville served as best man. Ushers were Michael Szollosi of Mineola, L.I., cousin of the



Mrs. Anthony A. Grey


groom, and David Cochran of Delmar, brother of the bride.

The bride, a former teacher at the Doane Stuart School, Albany, is a graduate of Nazareth College of Rochester, N.Y., and of Russell Sage College, Troy. The groom, a graduate of St. John Fisher College in Rochester, is an investment broker with Paine, Webber, Jackson & Curtis of Orlando, Fla.

The couple will reside in Longwood, Fla.

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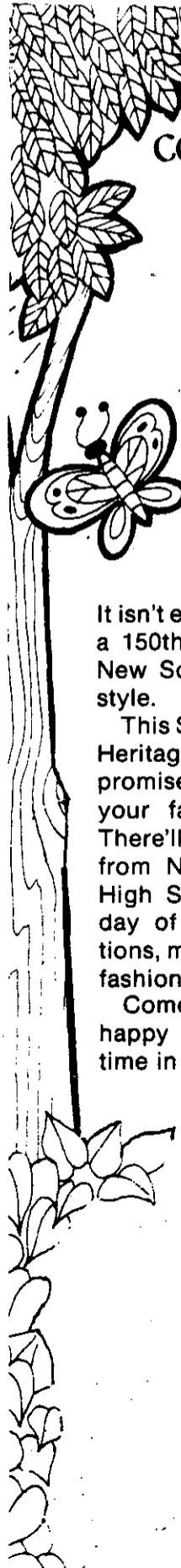
If you are working for yourself — what happens when your income stops due to accident or sickness. This coverage can be quite inexpensive depending on your occupation.

Call us for a quote!
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208 Delaware Ave.
Delmar

COMMUNITY CORNER




Sesquicentennial

It isn't every day you get to celebrate a 150th birthday and the Town of New Scotland is doing hers up in style.

This Saturday is Sesquicentennial Heritage Day in the town and it promises to be an event you and your family won't want to miss. There'll be a parade in the morning from New Salem to Voorheesville High School followed by a whole day of contests, craft demonstrations, music and just plain good-old-fashioned fun.

Come and wish New Scotland a happy birthday and have a great time in the bargain.

PRESENTED AS A
COMMUNITY SERVICE
BY



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Blue Shield**
of Northeastern New York

TOO HOT TO MOW?

Let your lawn go — to the pros.

**Lawn Care Specialties
and Maintenance Co.**

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BROTHERS

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Route 9W Glenmont, NY • Across from Albany Motor Inn

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STORE LIMIT
**PEANUT BUTTER
OOMBUS**

\$2.49 lb.

COUPON VALID
7/21/82 to 7/28/82

Hand-Dipped Chocolate
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BREAKFAST SPECIAL

Monday thru Friday
5 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Includes

- 2 Eggs (Any Style)
- 2 Slices Bacon
- Toast and a cup of Coffee

\$1.99

**With \$10.00 cash purchase of gas, FREE
coffee or soda to go.**

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TRIVILLAGE FRUIT MARKET
CELEBRATES IT'S
30th
ANNIVERSARY

SPECIALS

PRICES EFFECTIVE
7/21 THRU 7/25

USDA NEW POTATOES 10 Lb. Bag \$1.30	BONNIE BRAND BACON 1 Lb. \$1.30
BANANAS 1 Lb. 30¢	HOME GROWN GREEN & YELLOW SQUASH 30¢
HOME GROWN CABBAGE 2 Lbs. 30¢	CALIFORNIA CARROTS 1 Lb. Bag 30¢
EASTMAN'S CHEESE CROWLEY DAIRY PRODUCTS	HOME GROWN CORN

SHAFERS
TRI-VILLAGE FRUIT MARKET
 Delaware Avenue
 (Next to Albany Public)



150th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

Town of New Scotland Sesquicentennial Celebration — July 24, 1982

BETHLEHEM
PUBLIC LIBRARY

July 21, 1982

25¢

THE
Spotlight

The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland



The beauties of New Scotland

See special section

**Politicians react
to reapportionment**

Page 1

VOORHEESVILLE

**A new order
on school board**

Page 9



A town well worth celebrating

By Nat Boynton

Life in New Scotland for the most part is uncomplicated. New Scotland people like living here because of the low-key character of the town, and they are content to let their more sophisticated neighbors in suburban Bethlehem and Guilderland take on a larger burden in solving the problems of the nation and the world.

Of the 10 townships in Albany County, not counting the three cities, New Scotland is geographically the most central. It provides the transitional bridge between the mercantile commerce and tree-lined suburban streets of Delmar, Westmere and McKownville and the rugged bucolics of Berne, Knox and Westerlo in the rural sweeps of the Helderberg countryside.

Heading west from Bethlehem or south from Guilderland you are going to climb hills one way or the other, and when you get to the other side of New Scotland you're 600 to 800 feet higher than when you started.

New Scotland is a lot less suburban than rural. It has no police force of its own, no water system as such, and the only people with sewers are those who live in the Salem Hills subdivision. It has three separate fire departments and parts of two others. It straddles five school districts and chunks of three Assembly districts.

It has six zip codes, but only one traffic light. It has two telephone exchanges of its own and parts of several others.

New Scotland people keep a fairly low profile politically, socially and economically.

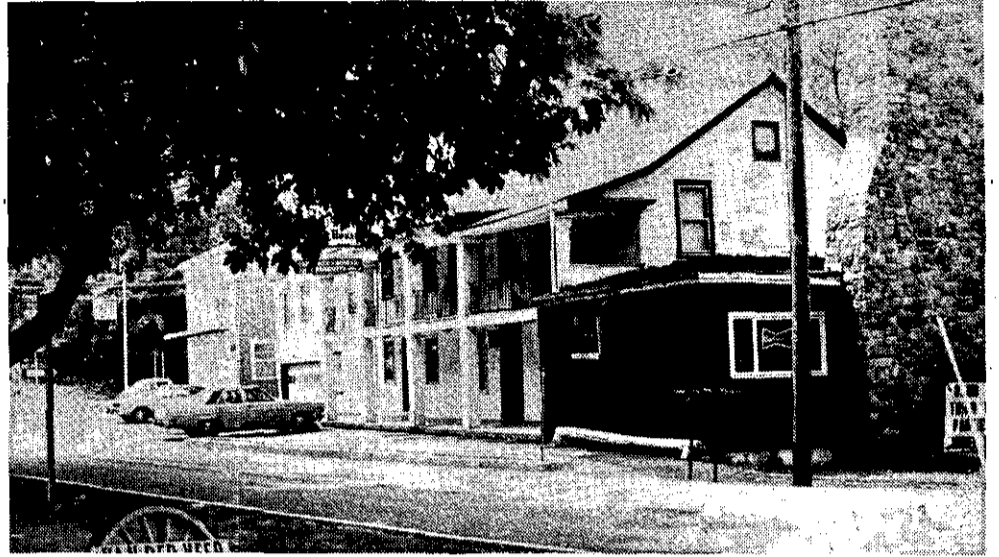
Politically they have been Republican, but the GOP grip is tenuous. New Scotland voters have elected two Democrats to their five-member town board in the last three elections, all by nervous margins, thus retaining their position as the only rural town in Albany County in the Republican column. Four of the county's 10 towns are Republican, but the other three GOP strongholds are the three largest towns, populous Colonie, Bethlehem and Guilderland.

New Scotland's old-party complexion doesn't make it any more of a poor

(Turn to Page 2)



Views of New Scotland: The Onesquethaw Reformed Church at Tarrytown, and the hamlets of New Salem (top) and Feura Bush. (Photos by Tom Howes) On the cover: a view of the rolling hills of New Scotland near Indian Ladder Farm, with the Helderbergs in the background. (Courtesy of Allison Bennett)



The past seen through young eyes

By Vinny Reda

It was a time when children rode the train to get to high school in Delmar, an era of farmer's picnics at the Grove Hotel in Voorheesville and Saturday night movies at the Odd Fellows Hall, where Effie Van Wormer played piano to lend support to the silent screen, a time when kids cut the ice at Whitbeck's Pond when it was not marshy but clear and beautiful.

It was a time of innocent joys amid periodic economic depressions. It was New Scotland so long ago — but not so long ago that there are not those who still remember. Now, through the brainchild

of one elementary school teacher and the interrogating talents of some of his students, the voices of these evocators of days gone by have been captured in printed form.

The resulting illustrated booklet, says Don Otterness, gifted-and-talented coordinator as well as science instructor at Voorheesville Elementary School, will be

available to the public at New Scotland's Sesquicentennial Day, July 24, on the Voorheesville High School grounds.

"I got the idea from reading James Michener's *U.S.A.*," said Otterness, holding a stack of 44 four-page transcripts before him as he sat in the living room of his Guilderland home. "That's

(Turn to Page 3)

Heritage Day schedule

Saturday is Heritage Day in the Town of New Scotland as it observes its sesquicentennial. Here is the schedule of events:

- A parade at 10 a.m. beginning in New Salem and following Rt. 85A to Martin Rd. Suggested viewing areas are the Albany County Highway Department grounds on Rt. 85A, the lawn of the Voorheesville High School and the slope facing Martin Rd. No parking will be allowed along 85A, but cars may be parked at the highway department grounds, in the field opposite Martin Rd., in front of the baseball diamond at the Village Pub, or at the high school.

- Post-parade activities at the high school will include a sack race for children under 10, sprints, hoop rolling contests, three-legged races, a horseshoe pitching contest, a rolling pin throwing contest for women and a nail driving contest for men, as well as cow calling and husband calling. All participants will receive a wooden nickel commemorating the sesquicentennial.

- Demonstrations of basket weaving, candle making, chair caning, rug hooking and stained glass making.

- Historical exhibits and booths sponsored by civic groups. Also, exhibits of old toys, old farm and carpentry tools, and a farmhouse kitchen. Antique cars that participated in the parade may be examined.

- Demonstrations by Village Volunteer Militiamen.

- Flag ceremony sponsored by New Scotland Lodge of Elks.

- Recognition of oldest native citizen of the town.

1832



1982

The Town of New Scotland

invites you to attend

Heritage Day

celebrating the sesquicentennial

of the founding of the Town

Saturday, July 24, 1982

10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Clayton A. Bouton Junior-Senior

High School

Route 85-A, Voorheesville, New York

□ Worth celebrating

(From Page 1)

country cousin in Democratic Albany County than its Helderberg neighbors Berne, Knox, Westerlo and the others. New Scotland gets its share of county tax revenues, sales tax and federal revenue sharing; it has the same problems getting the state to change speed limits on local roads as the Democratic towns, and it keeps its town budget low by providing only the basic municipal services.

New Scotland used to resurface about 78 miles of town roads each year. Now, with the cost of oil, gravel and the rental of the Moto-Paver in orbit, it feels fortunate in repaving four and a half miles. Many town roads — like Rock Hill, Cass Hill, Indian Ledge, Derbyshire and Dunbar Hollow to name a few — are precipitous and rugged, but the big rotary plows keep the steep, twisting roads open in the winter.

Whenever the town board draws more than three spectators to its monthly first-Wednesday meeting, the audience is called a crowd. Occasionally people get worked up over emotional issues, like the Elks permit, Feura Bush water or zoning changes, but mostly the town board, planning board and appeals board go about their business peacefully.

But few people bother to vote on the school budget, a phenomenon for which the Voorheesville board, which covers the largest section of the town and which

is carefully orchestrated by an experienced and efficient school superintendent, is perennially grateful.

Socially, the town is a healthy mixture of older residents, many of whom have lived their lifetime in New Scotland and trace their ancestry back to the early Dutch and English settlers, and vibrant young families whose energy and enthusiasm give the town and village of Voorheesville a spirit of friendly neighborliness and community service.

Tucked into the northwestern corner of the town, the village is alive with young families in Salem Hills, Scotch Pine and other settled areas. Old and young go to the high school football and basketball games regardless of whether they have any kids on the team, even in the years when the teams aren't very good (which is rare).

Apart from the village population, New Scotland's social and demographic profile encompasses half a dozen hamlets that provide graceful living in quiet communities. There's New Salem, tucked under the lee of the Helderberg escarpment. There's New Scotland itself, strung along Rt. 85 and south to the hills above the reservoir. There's Unionville, one of the earliest settlements, proud of its history linked to the Delaware Turnpike and the Schoharie country beyond in the 1700s and 1800s.

There's Clarksville, where the Albany-Schoharie stage used to stop at Clark's Tavern, a day's journey from Albany. There's Feura Bush, with its beautiful church and friendly people, and there's Tarrytown, with its historic Onesquethaw church in a quiet setting among rolling farmland.

There's very little industry in New Scotland, and commercial activity apart from big farms is scattered. The closest approach to a shopping mall is the Grand Union plaza in Voorheesville, which has only three stores and a bank beside the supermarket, and New Scotland may be the only town in Albany County that doesn't have a motel.

And there isn't a fast-food franchise anywhere in the town, mainly because it doesn't need any. Apart from two stations in the village, there are only three places in the rest of the town where you can gas up your car.

Among the factors that make for slow growth, and hence quiet living, in New Scotland is the paucity of water and sewer facilities. The village has its own water system, which it protects with strict geographical limits, but the only other people who have water are those who live along the main trunk line of the Bethlehem system between the treatment plant in New Salem on Rt. 85 and the town line in Slingerlands.

Feura Bush will have its own system late this year or early next, via a tap into the Bethlehem trunk on Rt. 32 at the town line near the Conrail overpass, and

the long-suffering residents of Swift Rd. have been assured of a connection with the Rt. 85 trunk in the near future.

The rest of the town depends on individual wells and septic systems, and the wells in several parts of town are fragile at best: either the supply is temperamental or the content of the water is sulphuric — or both.

The same kind of geographic quirks have cut most of New Scotland off from cable television. The village has a franchise, but the only outsiders with hookups are those who live along Rt. 85A, where the feed cable runs from Slingerlands to the village and out the other side to the high school.

There simply isn't enough residential density elsewhere to support stringing the cable, even on Delaware Tpk. But, typical of the New Scotland character, there are few complaints. "Probably only a few would subscribe anyway," said one longtime homeowner.

The living is too good in New Scotland to clutter up with all that stuff. We could use more and better well water, a bit more restraint on school taxes, and a few more bucks in the highway budget, but that's about all.

You can keep Burger King and Col. Sanders out of here, we don't need a bunch of factories or shopping malls, and we have no need for a second traffic light.

We like New Scotland the way it is.
Nat Boynton, contributing editor of The Spotlight, lives on Clipp Rd. in New Scotland.

"A SESQUICENTENNIAL LOOK BACK...LOOK AHEAD"

In 1926, Matthew Bullock of Bulloch Road, became the seventh Supervisor of the Town of Bethlehem. A short six years later in April 1832, Bullock, with the stroke of a pen by Governor DeWitt Clinton, found himself in a new political subdivision. The Town of New Scotland.

In 1982 we toot our horns and roll the drums to mark Governor Clinton's historic signature and 150 years of Township history for the "hub" of Albany County.

New Scotland township history is but one chapter of a vibrant and tumultuous era covering some 373 years of Capital District evolution which mirrors the Town's total history.

Matthew Bullock was one of the several hundred slavemaster freeholders who agonized over the decision to break away from Bethlehem and hack it alone. As we see this phase of our Town history, Bethlehem was simply too big in a horse and buggy era to properly do the job. Consider the distance in 1793 when the Town's first Supervisor Philip Van Rensselaer of Cherry Hill on South Pearl Street in Albany wished to discuss Town business or politics with Bullock on Bullock Road.

Bullock and his peers were right in their resolve to govern themselves. Obviously, the friends and neighbors of Bullock who found themselves on the Bethlehem side of the new Town line had a strong feeling of kinship for the new Township. In fact, the church activities and its membership seemed unchanged, as did the strongest bond of any society, the socializing and courting of lads and lassies between the two townships.

If a line does exist between the two towns, it's not been too visible over the past 150 years — and it is this point we wish to underscore.

As New Scotland pauses to look back, we join with her to look ahead to a mutual bond of friendship and cooperation between our respective Town officials and their constituents on both sides of the line.

A Happy Sesquicentennial, New Scotland.

Thomas V. Corrigan
Supervisor
Town of Bethlehem

King Krest Restaurant
Thacher Park Road
Voorheesville, N.Y.
765-4404
Happy Anniversary

BEST WISHES ON YOUR
150th ANNIVERSARY
from
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THE SPOTLIGHT

Salutes

New

Scotland

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND
ON YOUR
150TH ANNIVERSARY
FROM

**J.W. BARTLEY
& SONS**

CLARKSVILLE

768-2230

"Looking forward to continuing our
19 years of service to the
New Scotland Community"

□ Past

(From Page 1)

what that guy did all around the country, so I got together with Marion Parmenter and Jane Blessing, who are long-time residents, and then gave the ideas for questions to the kids.

"First, we gave some lessons on how to interview, how to run the tape recorder, things like that. Then we just sent them out there to talk to the town's elderly people. It turned out to be a tremendous experience for the kids, I think, as much as for the adults. The kids would come to me in school and scream, 'Oh, you've gotta listen to my interview, Mr. Otterness' or 'Wow, I had the most fantastic evening — she took me through her house!'"

Though Otterness' agents were young — third to sixth graders — their enthusiasm was irrefutably justified. The transcripts reveal voices which not only reach back at times through a full half of the town's life — 75 years — but which do so with perception and color, an historian's dream. The memories and heritage many have in common are as fascinating as individuals' outstanding recollections.

"A tremendous amount of these people had families that came from England, Scotland and Holland," said Otterness, and the transcripts showed not one respondent without one of these three in his or her lineage. The Dutch ancestors, in fact, could have had a sesquicentennial before the town even started.

One Dutch descendant mentioned her people originally settling in New York State, but quickly added, "Of course, that was before it was New York State."

In the interviewees' lifetimes, a constant

was the railroad, bringing not only children to school but a farmer's efforts to market. "Bender's Melon Farm shipped melons down to the Waldorf Astoria," said one woman. "They were always cut and packed and he (Bender) got the seeds — nobody else got the seeds."

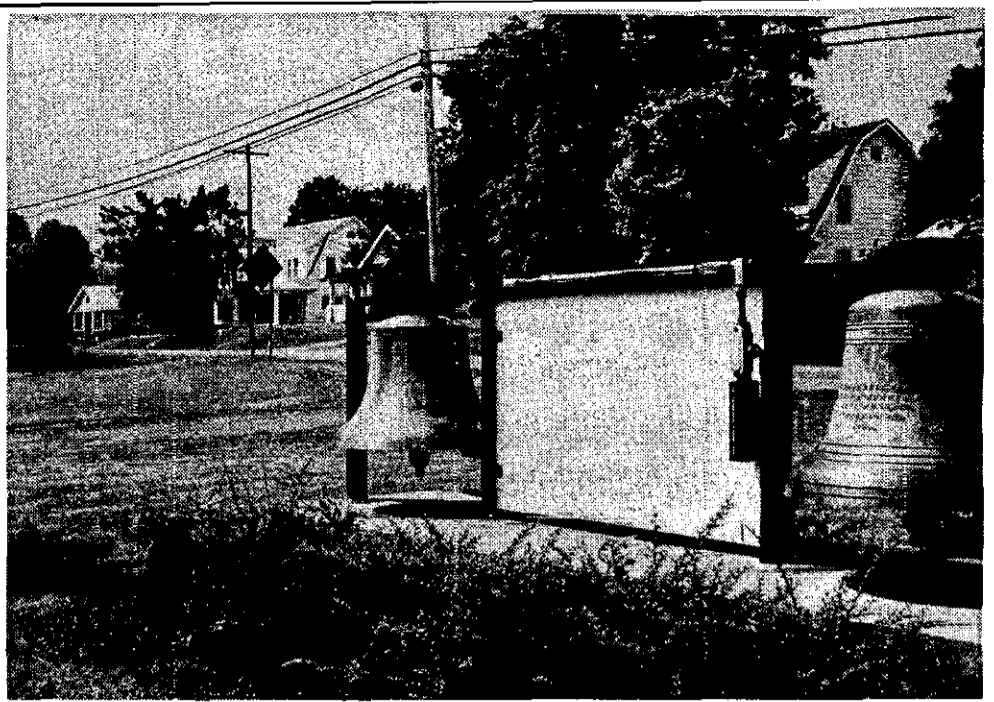
Many of these people got their first jobs on farms when still youngsters, but they did not hesitate to call them their first real jobs. One senses times were tough, and picking berries or selling apples or delivering papers may have been just as important to the livelihood of a family as the income of the main wage earner. Children were not coddled.

"And no snack food," said one woman, and others agreed. You had apples, pears and maybe some bread and butter to munch on, thank you, but chocolate candy was for the wealthy.

"I was attacked by a rooster at four," replied one man when asked his most unforgettable moments.

For entertainment there were those movies, the first remembered Tom Mix westerns, or *The Big Parade* (1925), or Laurel and Hardy ("they were comedians," instructed one lady responder), and on the radio, when folks finally got them, there was always Hope, and Rudy and Bing, too, and George and Gracie, and those white fellows playing Amos and Andy. Few could recall the first president in their lifetimes.

"I was attacked by a rooster at four," replied one man when asked his most



A set of bells look out over Clarksville.

Tom Howes

unforgettable moments. "Then on my second day of school I was chased all the way to school by my father."

Another man, 93-year-old Arthur Gregg, had the slightly more glorious recollection of being taken to the Schoharie Courthouse steps by his mother to hear Susan B. Anthony. But he also remembered hobos begging for food at the local parsonage door, of his depression-struck family bringing all their belongings via New York Central to Voorheesville in 1897, and also of the soldiers throwing buttons from their jackets to girls standing behind the departing troop train at the beginning of the Spanish-American War.

There was the small girl taken by her mother out of the one-room schoolhouse,

which is now the town hall, because the building had no heat. The mother vowed to teach the girl herself, and did, very well.

Another woman had a more intangible fear than the cold. "I often think about when gypsies came around . . . I was always told they would steal the children, and my friend and I would run and run. They had fancy dresses, bright colors, and they always had their furniture piled up and their animals with them, and when I think of my childhood I always think of them and I was afraid of them."

How does she now view this town, 70 years later, with its dearth of gypsiness and mystery? "Typical suburbia," she stated bluntly, indicating the past unknowns always had their charms.

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150th Anniversary**

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CONGRATULATIONS TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND!

**Congratulations Town of New Scotland
from Beautiful Downtown Voorheesville**

RICCI'S MARKET
Choice Meats & Groceries

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**RAILROAD
JUNCTION**

Old Fashioned
**ICE
CREAM
PARLOR**

5 SOUTH MAIN ST., VOORHEESVILLE OPEN DAILY 11:30-10

**ANNIE'S
BAKE SHOP**
Homemade Bakery Items

5 South Main St.
765-2603

Open Mon.-Sat. 8 to 6 — Sun. 8 to 2

Take your own tour

In New Scotland's sesquicentennial year, just about everybody is taking the opportunity to learn more about the town.

One way of doing this is to take the New Scotland Drive Around Tour, developed by Robert and Marion Parmenter and Robin Frey. Not only has the tour been offered to the public, notably during the town's open house in April, but it has also become a learning experience for the Brownies of Troop 203 and 194, led by Mrs. Parmenter and Mrs. Frey. To earn their special new patch — the Town of New Scotland patch, a replica of the town seal — the girls had to become familiar with the history, geography and government of the town. And they must also take the tour.

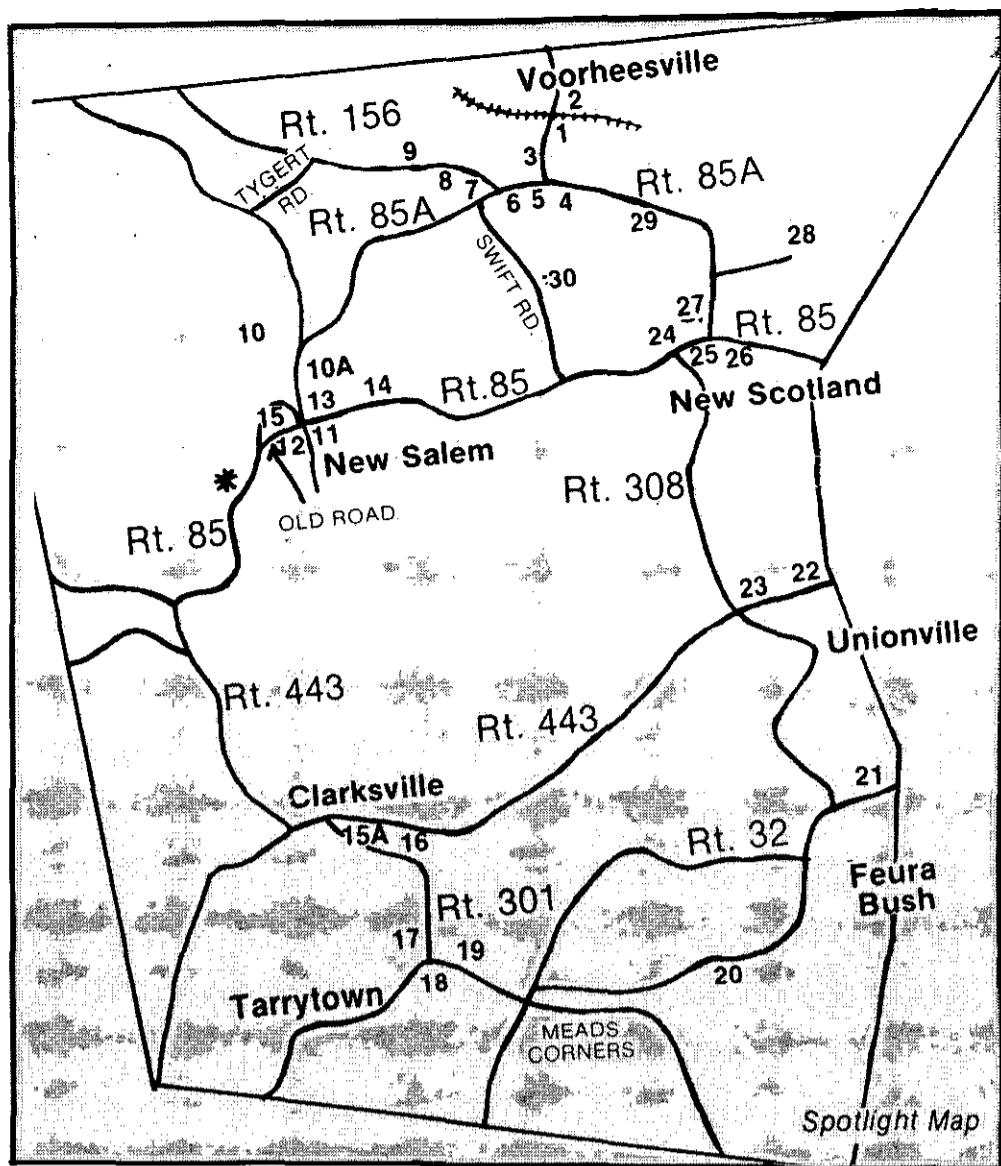
Here, for those who missed it in April, is the tour:

1. Park your car in the lot across from the Junction Ice Cream Store on Main Street in Voorheesville and look around. The railroad freight station is still standing, although the passenger station was torn down in the 1960s. The village was first called Susquehanna Junction. Farmers came here to ship hay and other products to Albany, and tourists arrived by train to spend the summer. The ice cream store was then also a tavern and rooming house called Harris House.
2. Grove Hotel, with a large ballroom, was located across the tracks. Looking up Main Street, the gray building on the left is called a "flat iron" building because of its shape. The large house on the hill to the right of the Junction Ice Cream Store was built in 1862 for Alonzo Voorhees, for whom Voorheesville is named.
3. Driving up Main Street, the Voorheesville Public Library is on the right. The building was originally a Presbyterian church, erected in 1886. The congregation disbanded in 1944.

4. Continue south on Main Street and bear right on Voorheesville Avenue to Maple Avenue. Here is the Methodist Church, which was moved to this spot in 1890.
5. Three houses to the right is one of the oldest houses in the village. It belonged to the Terwilligers and included a large farm during the 1800s. Severson Dairy and Farm was located here until the early 1960s.
6. Turn right on Rt. 85A and you will see Smith's Tavern on the left. The building was built by John Albright in 1901.
7. Bearing right at the intersection, the Voorheesville Elementary School is on the left. A school has been on this site since 1817. The present brick building was erected in 1929, with additions in 1949 and 1963. Reportedly, years ago students jokingly referred to the school as Brookview Academy.
8. Continuing on Altamont Road, the Voorheesville Firehouse is on the left. This was the site of the first general store and post office, run by Jacob Reid.
9. At the next intersection, bear to the left, keeping on Rt. 156. Along this road you will see several old homes dating to the early 1800s. On the right you will see a historic marker for Black Creek Methodist Church. This is the original site of the Voorheesville Methodist Church, which was built in 1823. You can still see the remains of the old cemetery. The settlement here was known as Black Creek. It predates Voorheesville.

Continue on Altamont Road and turn left on Tygert Road — your first left, just prior to Indian Ladder Farms. Continue on Tygert to Picard Road (Rt. 307) and turn left.

10. You will head south towards New Salem. At the intersection of Picard



Road and Rt. 85A, look to the right and you will see an old home with large front and side lawns. This house dates to the early 1800s.

Continue on Rt. 85A, just past the Pumpkintown Fairgrounds. Betty's Barn is on the left. This building was built in 1850 as a Methodist Church. Later, it was purchased by a fraternal organization and was called "Redman's Hall." It was often used as a

public meeting place. Continue on Rt. 85A until the intersection with Rt. 85 in New Salem.

11. Look straight ahead at this intersection. To the left is a gray building that was originally Erwin's Store and Post Office, erected in 1875. This building continued as a grocery store until the 1960s.

12. To the right was an impressive hotel

We're proud

... of good government in
New Scotland

We're dedicated

... to keep it that way for the
next 150 years

NEW SCOTLAND REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

KANDY KORNER

34 Main Street, Voorheesville
765-2655

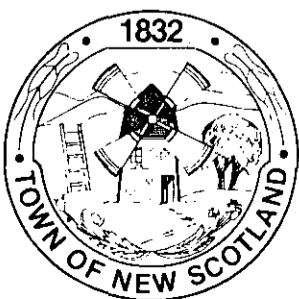
HAPPY 150th ANNIVERSARY
TOWN OF NEW SCOTLAND



The Heavenly Inn
Restaurant - Cocktail Lounge

1903 NEW SCOTLAND RD.
SLINGERLANDS, N.Y.

439-9874



The Town of New Scotland
Celebrates Its
Sesquicentennial



built in 1807. A fire destroyed the building about 1896. A home stands there now.

across the bridge. This is Rt. 301.

17. Soon you will see an old cemetery on the right. This is the Onesquethaw Cemetery. Here are the graves of some of the town's earliest settlers.

Soon you will come to another "T" in the road. This crossroads is known as Tarrytown. Turn left.

18. Almost immediately on the right is an old stone house set back off the road. This was built in 1807 for the DeLong family.

19. Immediately beyond Tarrytown is a beautiful little stone church on the left. Drive in and look at it. It is the Onesquethaw Reformed Church, built in 1825. Much of the stone for the Erie Canal was quarried in this area. The church was built with the rejects.

Returning to the highway, continue on Rt. 301 to another crossroads, known as Meads Corners. Turn left on Rt. 32 and immediately turn right on the Onesquethaw Creek Road. This is a small side road, but it is in good condition and is a pretty drive. You can almost see horses and buggies on this road as there were years ago!

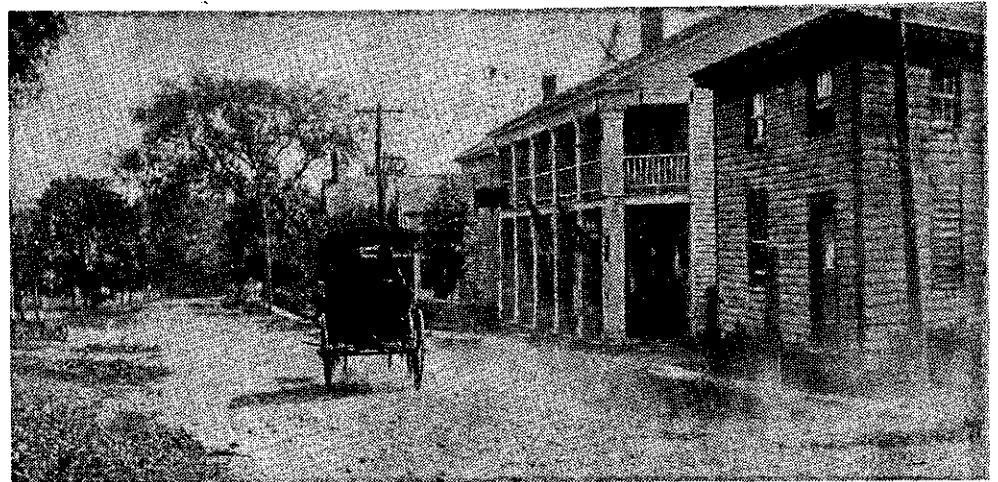
20. After two or three miles, you will come to a large, beautiful old stone home. This was built around 1750, possibly as a fortress. Across from the house, along the Onesquethaw Creek, many Indian artifacts have been found.

Cross over the little bridge and continue for a few miles to Rt. 32. Turn right. Soon you will come to Feura Bush.

21. On the right is the Jerusalem Reformed Church, built in 1828. Behind the church is an old school house now used as a youth center.

Retrace the route and take the first right. Continue on Rt. 308 to Rt. 443 (Delaware Avenue).

22. Turn right and pull into the parking lot of the Unionville Reformed Church, built in 1825. You can still see the carriage shed in the rear of the church.



Imagine Main St. in Clarksville as it was in the early 1900s, with the Flat Iron Building on the corner next to the old hotel.

Courtesy of Martha Slingerland

bad repair, was originally a white "saltbox" home belonging to the Reynolds family and dating to the early 1800s. The first town meeting was held in this house on April 25, 1832. Prior to this date New Scotland had been part of the Town of Bethlehem.

28. A short distance further on Rt. 85A, on the right, is a private lane. Way off the road you can see a home and barns. This was the original Bender melon farm.

29. Continuing toward Voorheesville, you will see a huge old red barn on the left. This was originally part of the Hilton Farm. An old home stood to the left of the barn until it was torn down in the 1960s. Behind the barn is the Albany Country Club.

At the intersection with Rt. 155 the tour ends. You have traveled about 30 miles and seen much of the Town of New Scotland, the newest area, Voorheesville, and the oldest, Onesquethaw.

30. If you wish you may continue on Rt. 85A and bear left beyond Smith's Tavern. Just beyond the school, turn left on Swift Road and go one mile to the town park for a picnic!

To the right of the church is the old Unionville Schoolhouse.

23. Turn to the right and backtrack a short distance. On the right is the old Unionville Hotel, built before 1843. It was most recently the home of the Slingerlands Players, a theater group.

Continue on Rt. 443 and turn right on Rt. 308 just beyond the firehouse. This is New Scotland South Road. You can see some lovely old homes on this road — and more farmland. Also, you will pass a large power substation. At Rt. 85 turn right.

24. On the left is the Town Hall, which was moved to this location in 1957. The building was originally the New Scotland School, built in 1866. A log school was built here in 1804.

25. Further up the hill is the New Scotland Presbyterian Church. This church was founded in 1787. The present building was built in 1849. There is an old cemetery beside this church.

26. At the traffic light at the intersection of Rts. 85 and 85A is a Mobil station. The New Scotland Hotel and Tavern was originally located here. Turn left at the light.

27. On the left, where the home stands in

13. Turn left and go past Happy's Bar. This was originally the New Salem Hotel — with a large ballroom over the attached carriage shed. It was built in 1827.

14. Continue on Rt. 85 a few hundred feet to the Dutch Reformed Church. It was built in 1875. The original church was built in 1813. It is said tin horns were used to call the people to church.

Turn around at the church and drive back through New Salem. Notice the old houses. Remember, New Salem dates back to the 1770s. Just beyond the New Salem Garage, turn left. This little road is called Old Road, and is the original road up the mountain to the Helderbergs.

15. On the left is the old New Salem Schoolhouse, which housed grades 1 through 6. It closed in 1960. The first school was built in 1823, and the present building was built in 1890, with a one-room addition in 1920. The building is currently shared by the town Senior Citizens and the Historical Association.

Continue up this road to Rt. 85 again, and turn left. Go for 2.2 miles and turn left at the "T" onto Rt. 443, heading toward Clarksville. Now you begin to see farms.

5A. Shortly past the Mobil station is a white house with yellow shutters set back on the right. This was built by Adam Clark around 1826-28. Clarksville is named for him.

16. Pull in at the Clarksville Community Reformed Church, located on the right. In front of the church are two bells. One is from the Dutch Reformed Church, which burned in 1913. The old Methodist Church was torn down in the 1960s.


Turn left and retrace the route until the first left. Turn here onto Slingerlands Avenue and go down the hill and


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Church grows, splits, grows again

(Second of two parts)

The Unionville Reformed Church, which had its beginnings 191 years ago as the Old Jerusalem Church and was established in Unionville in 1825, continued to grow in numbers and in the nurture of its people.

Still, it encountered problems because of people's human frailties. In 1829 one member was called up before consistory because she had reputedly borrowed a cloak from another member, did not return it, denied she had it and finally cut it up. When being asked if this were true, she admitted her guilt and repented what she had done. She was suspended from communion and the privileges of the church for three months, and the records show that within that time period she was taken back into the fellowship.

In April of 1841 a group of families of the congregation met with consistory to deliberate on the property of building a house of worship in connection with Union Church.

In the early years it was believed by the consistory that the use of ardent spirits and wines at funerals were altogether useless and attended with evil consequences, and it was recommended to the congregation to abstain from such a practice. The pastor was requested not to

Times Remembered



Allison Bennett

officiate at such funerals. This custom apparently had been handed down from the early Dutch settlers of our area, who often made provision that a cask of wine be set aside and broached at the time of their funeral.

In 1842 the pastor called a meeting of consistory to acquaint them with his constant embarrassment in meeting his pecuniary affairs for want of punctuality in the payment of his salary, and that if the money was not forthcoming he would have to resign his call. With this the consistory members went out into the congregation and secured the necessary funds.

In these years also one parishioner, upon being denied communion, appeared before consistory and confessed that reports of his excess in the use of intoxicating liquor and attending horse races were true and he offered repentance for same and promised to guard against repetition of these offenses.

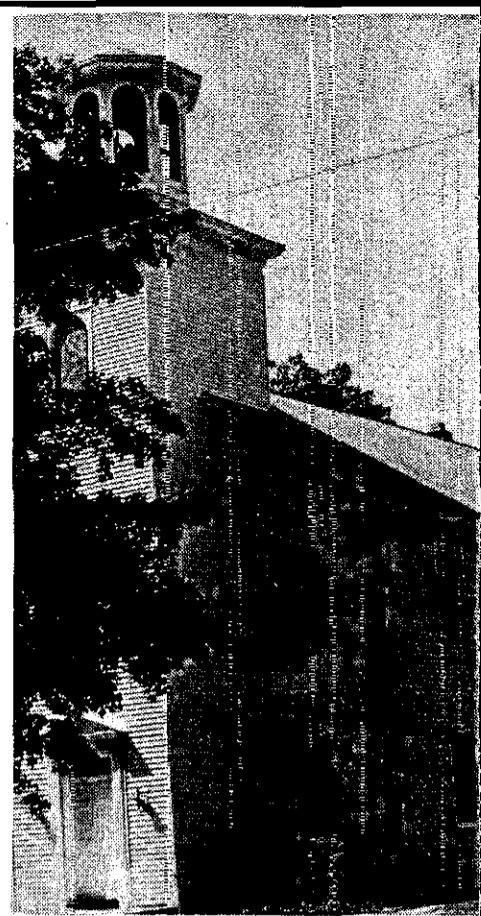
In 1845 an unmarried member of the church was delivered of a child and for this flagrant defiance of the moral code was suspended from communion of the church until she should give satisfactory evidence of repentance. It was further found that a married man of the

congregation had been guilty of adultery in the fathering of this child. It was resolved by pastor and consistory that he be indefinitely suspended from the communion of the church. The young woman was indeed repentant and within a few months was taken back into the fellowship of the congregation.

In 1927 the New York Central railroad tracks came through the village and the parsonage was sold to accommodate the right of way.

In 1840 sheds were erected at the rear of the church for the protection of horses and carriages. It was resolved that such sheds should be for the use of those who bore an equal proportion of the expenses for erecting same. Stated services were two on the Sabbath with a lecture in biblical and cathetical instruction twice during the week, when the season of the year and the state of the road would permit. There were also weekly prayer meetings held in some sections of the congregation and one on each Sabbath evening in the church throughout the year.

In April of 1841 a group of families of the congregation met with consistory to deliberate on the propriety of building a house of worship in connection with Union Church, to be located somewhere between Adam's Hotel and Clark's blacksmith shop, for the accommodation of families residing in that part of the



The Reformed Church at Unionville.

congregation. The title of said church was to remain with Union Church.

A building committee was named, consisting of John I. Goresbeck, James H. Loucks, John I. Slinger and Wendle M. Bender and Wm. F. Congden. It was stated that the house of worship should be built after the plan of the Presbyterian church near John I. Bullock's (North Bethlehem Presbyterian — 1835 — Schoolhouse Road). This was accomplished and the church today is the

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The church sheds at Unionville are the only ones left standing in Albany County, although years ago nearly every church in the area had these sheds to shelter horses and carriages during the lengthy services.

Delmar Reformed Church at the Four Corners. With his increased workload of two churches, it was necessary that the pastor at that time, Rev. Simon Westfall, be relieved of the responsibility at New Salem and from 1841-47 he labored in the east and west churches as they came to be known, but resided at Unionville.

In 1848 Rev. Westfall accepted a call to a Reformed church in Illinois, a section of the country that was just opening up to

settlement by easterners. With his leaving, the east church organized itself into a separate congregation known as the Second Reformed Church of Bethlehem and the congregation called their own pastor.

Unionville Church continued with services well attended and a fixed attention by its members to the truth of the gospels. There was harmony among the brethren along with increased

liberality for the support of the benevolent institutions of the church. In 1882 the spire that crowned the belfry was blown off in a violent storm and was never replaced. In 1906 a meeting and dining hall was placed on the rear of the church and was enlarged in 1957. In 1925, the 100th anniversary year, electricity was installed. In 1927 the New York Central railroad tracks came through the village and the parsonage was sold to accommo-

date the right of way. A new parsonage was not built until 1963 and in 1965 the church burned the mortgage on that parsonage.

In 1882 the spire that crowned the belfry was blown off in a violent storm and was never replaced.


Three young men have gone from the church into the ordained ministry Alexander Conger, Harold Pangburn and Ernest Crouse. The church has a partial share in the support of two missionaries at Southern Normal School in Brewton, Alabama and also of Martha Jakway, who grew up on Game Farm Road and now works with the Wycliffe Bible Translators in Peru.

For over 157 years works of faith and labors of love have been performed by the Unionville congregation. A steady stream of human souls have come across its doorstep and have been helped in their spiritual life, received strength for arduous tasks and days of grief, laid the foundations for a useful life and been influenced for eternity.

(Authors note: material taken from church minutes book and an historical address delivered in 1925 by Rev. Jacob Van Ness, former pastor.)

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Politics, pumpkins and plague in 1832

When, in 1832, New Scotland became an entity separate from the Town of Bethlehem, not everyone agreed that it should be so, according to reports in the Daily Albany Argus.

The division was approved by the legislature in April, and apparently shortly thereafter a movement for re-union was born. However, a report to the Argus signed by Peter B. Noxen, chairman, and John H. Burhans, following "a meeting of the inhabitants," said: "we deeply deplore the hostility manifested by some of our townsmen to the division of the town of Bethlehem, into two towns, when it is obviously manifest that the territory of the said town is too large for convenience, being over fourteen miles in length, east and west, by about nine and a half miles north and south, with a population of near or about eight thousand inhabitants, and about thirteen hundred electors . . ."

The electors "deeply regretted . . . the conduct of many of the advocates in favor of a re-union."

The dissidents apparently not only failed to see that the original town was too large, but allegedly also misrepresented "the quality of the lands, in the east and west towns, when it is well known to every just observer, that the Oniakathaw flats and the internal or bottom lands of the Norman's Kill in the west town, are more in quantity and better in quality than the North River flats, in the east town; while the uplands in the west town are cultivated with less expense, and are more prolific than the uplands in the east town . . ."

A week later, the Albany Argus carried a report of a meeting of the "electors" of the Town of New Scotland who "deeply regretted . . . the conduct of many of the advocates in favor of a re-union . . ."

In fact, ". . . it is the opinion of this meeting, that the opposition so strongly manifested against the division, originated with a few designing or self-interested individuals, owning or possessing property in the vicinity of the late town house."

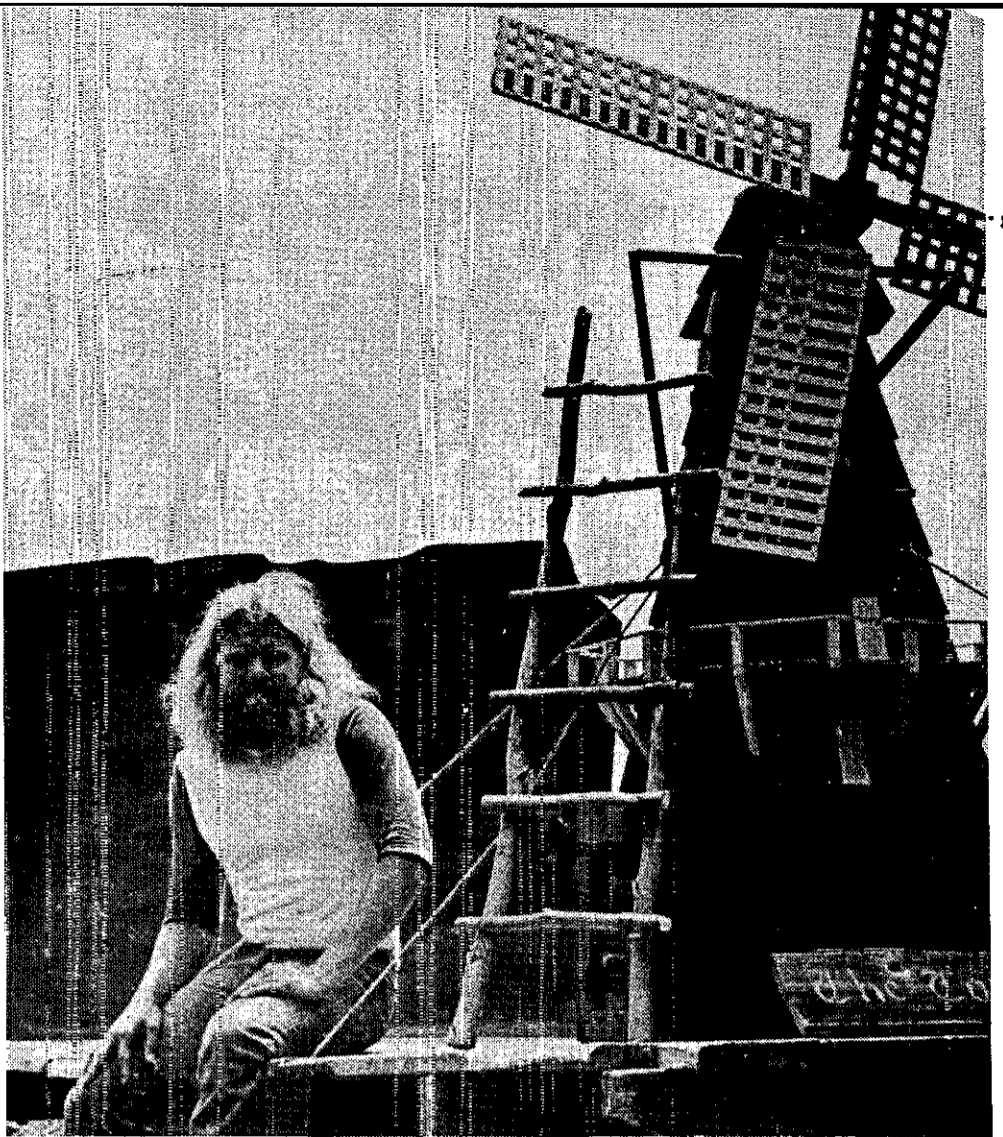
That — and some other things — said, those favoring the division prevailed and life moved on.

The year 1832 was momentous in other ways, according to Reynolds' "Albany Chronicles," which detailed a cholera plague in the city: "State (sic) coaches running practically empty. Farmers fearing to come to the city, a dearth of provisions. Potatoes rising from 25 cents to \$1.00 a bushel. Half the population is mourning."

That ghastly summer came to an end, and life went on with formation of the New York State Agricultural Society, including the Hiltons, Bullocks, Wards, Hursts and Slingerlands from New Scotland.

The agricultural emphasis of the times is apparent in an 1832 resolution of a town meeting that "no cattle be allowed to roam at Taverns in the time of sleighing, under the penalty of two dollars. Hogs fast, rams fast, also unruly cattle and stallions. \$50 reward for a wolf that is caught in this town and to be raised from this town."

And religion wasn't forgotten. A "Brief History of the New Scotland Presbyterian Church, 1787-1982" reports that "the fourth pastor . . . is remembered as a very earnest preacher. Rev. James Donald



The Town of New Scotland's float in the Heritage Day parade Saturday is a blend of the old and the young. The float, put together by Tim Albright, includes all the elements of the town seal — the windmill, the Indian ladder, an apple tree, thistle and a painting of the escarpment. Albright, now 21, designed the seal for a DAR contest when he was 13.

Spotlight

became so aroused, at times, as to cause the pulpit and sounding board to tremble."

And then there is the legend of the Village of New Salem, known by many fondly as Pumpkintown. According to a poem credited to Franci J. McKown, New Salem's nickname came about when

a sow and eight piglets were discovered residing in a "colossal pumpkin" in a New Salem cornfield. Maybe it was a small sow.

This article is based on research conducted by Madelon Pound Graves of New Scotland.

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