

THE SPOTLIGHT

December 22, 1982
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The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland

BETHLEHEM

Bank heist arrest made

Two years and one month ago a man wearing a blue ski mask and a plaid scarf, both pulled so that only his eyes showed, walked into the Schenectady Savings Bank (now Northeast Savings) branch at the Town Squire Shopping Center in Glenmont. He waved a small black pistol at a teller and moments later walked out with \$7,725 in cash, eluding pursuers on the back roads of Glenmont.

It was (and still is) the only bank robbery anybody could remember in the Town of Bethlehem, and the town's police were not likely to forget it.

So it was a matter of some satisfaction when Det. Charles Rudolph and Officer James Corbett flew to Texas last weekend to pick up David Bochicchio, 22, a former Glenmont resident who had been in jail in Corpus Christie, Texas. After six months of investigation, Bethlehem police had gathered enough evidence against Bochicchio to have him indicted by an Albany County grand jury last August on a charge of first degree armed robbery. Extradition proceedings were finally completed last week, and Bochicchio was in Albany County Court Monday for an arraignment before Judge John J. Clyne. He was remanded to Albany County Jail pending application for bail by his attorney, Bernard Cohen.

Bethlehem police would say little about the investigation, but did reveal that they were not unfamiliar with Bochicchio. He was last arrested by Office Paul Roberts for armed robbery in August, 1979, following the holdup of the Petrol Station on Rt. 9W. He had lived in the Dowerskill area, police said.



When Santa paid a visit to Hamagrael Playschool at the Delmar Reformed Church, Duncan Crary, 4, was somewhat shy in reciting his Christmas list. His friends await their turns with mixed feelings. Tom Howes



Salem Hills group looks for new leader

Officers of the Salem Hills Park Association were scheduled to meet this week to decide on the future leadership of the citizens' group representing homeowners in one of Albany County's largest residential developments.

The session was necessitated by the unexpected resignation of Charles P. (Pat) Arthur, 195 Woodsedge Ct., Voorheesville, who was elected president of the association in October. The subdivision has 278 single family dwellings.

Arthur resigned earlier this month, two months after taking office, citing pressures from his state job. There were also indications from several active members that a number of Salem Hills residents were unhappy with the tone of Arthur's

VOORHEESVILLE

statements at a recent meeting of the Voorheesville village board. At that time Arthur declared that subdivision homeowners may take steps to secede from the village and seek annexation by the Town of New Scotland because of displeasure with the village board's handling of the Salem Hills sewer rate controversy. One prominent Salem Hills resident said that "he didn't have many followers."

Arthur denied any rift with other

association officers and members. He told a *Spotlight* reporter that his promotion to associate director for personnel operations of the State University of New York's research foundation required a "travel schedule that leaves little time" for Salem Hills matters.

Jeffrey H. Fox, 103 Coventry Ct., association vice president, said over the weekend that he and the three other officers would meet Tuesday or Wednesday to decide a future course of action and presumably name a replacement for the office of president. The other officers are Olaf (Sonny) Hausgaard, member-at-large; Ann Smolen, secretary, and Kenneth Hunter, treasurer.

Historic painting resurfaces in Bethlehem

A 19th century painting from the old Hudson River school of artists is about to get its third exposure—this time to the Bethlehem public.

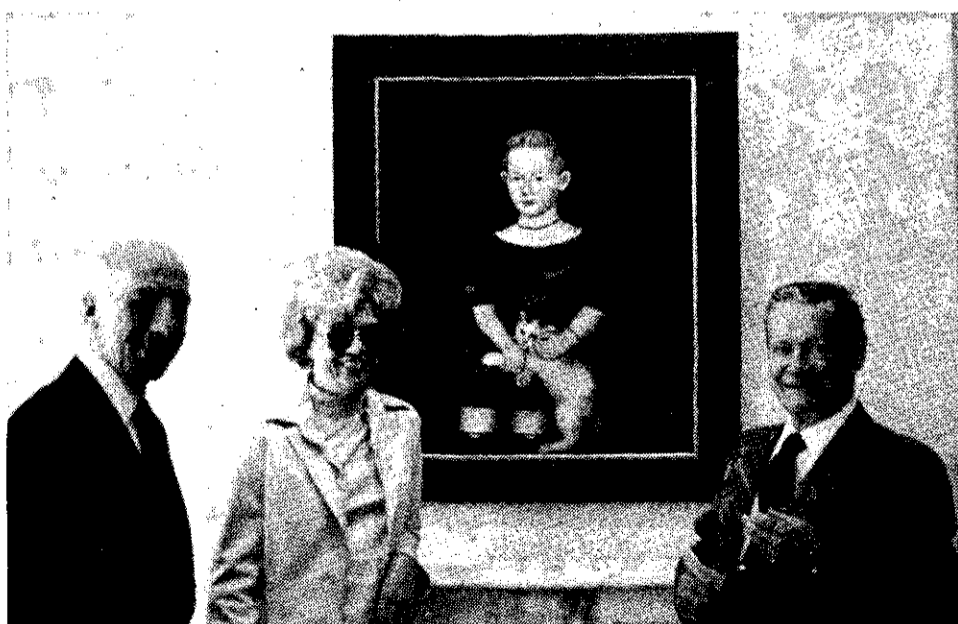
The first exposure of the portrait of a child of a pioneer family of the patroon era was to rain and melting snow. The second exposure was to the family of a young tenant farmer more than half a century ago.

This week the restored oil portrait of Margaret Mather Sill, 2½, painted by an artist named John Wilkie in 1840, will have its third exposure: it has been placed on display at the Bethlehem town hall for an indefinite period before being returned to its owner.

The unveiling will climax a fascinating story that links the painting to an important era of Bethlehem history. It also has an aura of mystique.

"Although the painting has an artistic value for collectors, it is probably more accurate to say that it is a valuable historical piece," says T.E. (Ed) Mulligan, Bethlehem's town historian.

In the view of Robert and Mary McLean, proprietors of an Albany art gallery who handled the arrangements for the extensive restoration of the damaged portrait, its significance is the



Phyllis Goes admires her restored portrait of Margaret Mather Sill with Robert McLean, left, and town historian T.E. Mulligan. The historic painting will go on display this week at Bethlehem Town Hall.

distinctive style representative of the artists of the period.

The McLeans also say that an unusual facet of the piece is the artist's signature and inscription on the back of the portrait instead of in a corner on the front. The inscription reads, "Margaret Mather Sill, age 2 yrs. 7 mos." and is

signed, "John Wilkie, Bethlehem, Feb. 20, 1840."

According to the McLeans, the painting is a "primitive" of the so-called Hudson River school, the "school" in this case being a group of artists of a particular painting style. Wilkie apparently was one of a number of painters

(called "limners") who made their living going to the homes of wealthy landowner families of the period to paint portraits of family members.

A family would usually retain a limner a few weeks before Christmas, and the painter would spend most of the winter with the family, finishing his work in late February or March.

An artists directory lists Wilkie as "working in Schenectady about 1840." At that time, artists had a wider clientele in Schenectady, where there were many prosperous families, in contrast to Albany, where the patroon system concentrated wealth in only a few families.

One of these was the Sill family, members of the landed aristocracy. Young Margaret Mather was the daughter of Rensselaer Nicoll Sill of Bethlehem, a seventh generation descendent of the pioneer members, John and Joanna Sill, who came from England in 1637 and settled in Cambridge, Mass.

Rensselaer Nicoll Sill married Frances Livingston of Livingston Manor, the historic fiefdom on the east side of the Hudson. Margaret Mather Sill, their first child, was born July 31, 1837. The couple had two other children, Ann Nicoll Sill, born Dec. 20, 1842, and William

(Turn to Page 3)

Town settles with PBA

The Bethlehem Town Board and the Bethlehem Police Benevolent Association have reached agreement on a new two-year contract that calls for a six percent raise each year.

The agreement was to be formally approved by the town board at its meeting tonight (Wednesday), but Supervisor Tom Corrigan said Friday the board members are already familiar with it. Members of the PBA, which represents the town's 31-member police force, have already approved the pact, he said. It will go into effect Jan. 1.

Corrigan said he could give no immediate estimate on the total cost of the increase, but the town's 1983 budget has provisions for a \$55,000 increase in personal services for the Police Department.

Other features of the new contract are an increase in the salaries for detectives (currently they get one half the difference between the pay of a five-year patrolman

BETHLEHEM

and a sergeant; in 1983 they advance to three quarters of the difference), earlier eligibility for vacation time, a \$10 increase in cleaning allowance, two additional holidays, a tuition aid plan (already available to other town employees), and an improved dental plan.

Corrigan said the money issues were settled several months ago but questions on the dental plan held up the contract.

In other business Wednesday, the board will consider changes in the town election districts, made necessary by the redistricting done by the Albany County Legislature earlier this year. Corrigan said he will propose creating a new district, the 24th, to be split from the old 14th in a lightly populated area south of

the Delmar Bypass and east of Elm Ave.

"They'll be running light probably for a couple of years," said Corrigan. But

the area has a high potential for growth, he added. Other changes are in Selkirk, Elsmere and the Hudson Ave. section of Delmar.

Norman's Gate decision overturned

By Vincent Potenza

A State Supreme Court judge has overturned the Bethlehem Planning Board's decision to deny the Van Euclid Co. permission to develop its proposed Norman's Gate subdivision off Euclid Ave. in Elsmere.

Van Euclid had proposed putting a road through two lots it owns on Euclid Ave. as access for the development, but the board decided earlier in the year that this would be a violation of a previously existing subdivision.

Board Attorney Earl Jones informed the board at its meeting last Tuesday, however, that Supreme Court Justice Deforest Pitt had agreed with the developer. Jones said he would discuss the case with the board further at its Jan. 4 meeting, and mentioned the possibility of appeal.

In other business, the board heard an informal presentation from David Dembling for his proposed Barnfield subdivision, to be located off McCormack Rd. near the Cherry Ave. extension in Delmar. Dembling's tentative plan called for a 10.5-acre site to be rezoned to a planned residential district that would contain 35 total dwelling units, including

some multi-unit housing. The site is currently zoned A-Residential.

Area residents in attendance at the meeting questioned the impact of increased traffic on the neighborhood, and Dembling, who said he had earlier met with representatives of the Slingerlands Homeowners Association, said he would be glad to discuss his plans with his neighbors and listen to their concerns.

Water safety course

An American Red Cross water safety instructor course will be offered Thursday-evenings, Jan. 6 through April 28, at the Albany High School pool from 6:15 to 9:45 p.m. This course will be led by volunteer instructor-trainer Albert Cahill.

Prerequisites include a minimum age requirement of 17 and a current advanced lifesaving certificate. The cost is \$14. Enrollment is limited.

Registration for this WSI course will take place Wednesday, Dec. 8 and Thursday, Dec. 9 at the Albany High School, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. or by contacting the chapter at 462-7461.

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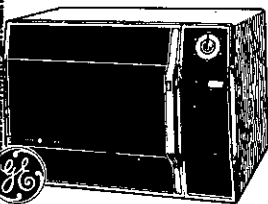
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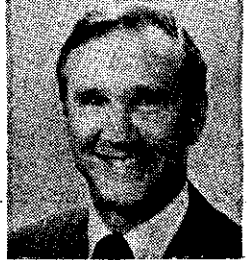
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When found in the attic, the portrait was damaged by water and had several tears.

□ Historic painting

Livingston Sill, born July 6, 1849. The son died in infancy.

The family lived in what is now known as the Bethlehem House or the Nicoll-Sill House, situated on a large tract of more than a thousand acres stretching between the river and what is now Rt. 9W. The house, built in 1735, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In recent years it has been owned by the Town of Bethlehem, but the increasing costs of maintaining and refurbishing the structure has forced the town board to seek a buyer for the property.

The mystique is that historians and members of the Sill family interested in genealogy have been unable to learn anything further about the child in the portrait. "We know who she was and we know where she was born," says Mulligan. "We don't know whether she grew to adulthood, whether she married, and we don't know where she is buried, despite extensive genealogical research."

On the site of the Bethlehem estate were numerous outbuildings and houses of the tenant farmers who worked the vast landholdings of the Nicoll and Sill families. The late Vint Vanderzee of Selkirk, a later descendent of one of the landowner families in the Albany

Regency of the early 19th century, purchased the site many years ago. In 1927 Vanderzee rented a tenant house adjacent to the manor house to a young farmer, Cornelius Goes, and his wife, Wilhelmina, affectionately known as "Winnie."

The next chapter of the story comes from their daughter, Phyllis, one of the five Goes children. Phyllis Goes, who is office manager of the Three Farms Dairy, Selkirk, relates that the summer kitchen of the tenant house had a leak in the roof. In 1928, Winnie Goes wedged herself into the attic crawl space to plug the leak, and found that a canvas cloth had been inserted in the roof to catch the rain. She patched the hole in the roof, and brought the piece of canvas to her kitchen to examine it.

It was the primitive portrait of Margaret Mather Sill, signed and inscribed, but not in good condition. The painting was badly wrinkled, had obviously been damaged by water in places, was quite dirty, and had several small tears in the cloth.

Despite its poor condition, the portrait held a strong attraction for Mrs. Goes. She not only was fascinated by the painting of the young girl holding a cat,

but she felt it might be valuable. She cleaned it as best she could, and placed it on her mantle.

Upon her death in 1971, Mrs. Goes willed the piece to her daughters, Phyllis and Joan. Phyllis and Joan Goes kept the portrait in the dining room of the house on Rt. 144 where they now live with their father, Cornelius.

Almost half a century after Winnie Goes's discovery, the late Edward Mocker, owner of Three Farms Dairy, suggested to Phyllis Goes that the painting be examined by the town historian and an effort made to establish its identity. In turn, Mulligan suggested that the portrait be taken to art experts for examination.

In Albany, the McLeans determined that the canvas had deteriorated to such an extent that it was starting to disintegrate. To salvage it would require extensive restoration work, involving wax relining, in-painting, cleaning and varnishing along with framing appropriate to the style of the period. The work was done by experts in New York City retained by the McLean Gallery.

Meanwhile, Mulligan, with the help of Norman Rice, curator of the Albany Institute of History and Art, and Albany author-historian C.R. (Tip) Roseberry, was able to identify the artist as one of several by that name who painted portraits in this area at the time. The title of the 27-by-32-inch canvas, "Girl in Blue Dress With Dog," was in error, for the

animal young Margaret was holding was a cat.

The historians said that the limners of the period often used a "set" drawing of a child's bodice, then painted in the facial portrait and background associated with the family, including a dog. Young Margaret's portrait apparently was a full scale original—with cat.

The McLeans said the Sill piece was important because of its strong color and distinctive style of the period dress and coral necklace, hatbox and the animal in her lap. It was, they agreed, "an attractive child."

The portrait, said Mulligan, "probably was started a short time before Christmas, 1839, but an oil portrait took several months to complete because it was necessary for several applications of oil paints to dry. Only the rich could afford to retain a limner to catch the spirit of Christmas and stay on in the household until the work was completed."

Honored at HVCC

Paul Spannbaauer of Delmar was recently honored for his five years of continuous service to the Hudson Valley Community College. He was one of 119 HVCC employees to be honored at a special reception and receive a service pin from college president Dr. Joseph Bulmer.

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No easy answer to bus problem

By Caroline Terenzini

"This strikes me as a ridiculous situation!" was the way Bethlehem Central school board President Bernard Harvith put it.

"There does seem to be something wrong with telling children they have to go to school and then telling them they have to go a hazardous route," he said.

But, despite his opinion, the board last Wednesday said "no" to residents of the Westchester Woods section of Delmar who had asked that the district provide bus transportation for about 12 students who must walk along Elm Ave. (County Rt. 52) to get to the high school each morning. (The district requires pupils who live within a mile and a half of the school to walk.) A petition presented to the board at its Dec. 1 meeting cited the lack of a sidewalk and the narrowness of the road when lined with snowbanks, as well as the traffic, particularly trucks, on Elm Ave. at that early hour, shortly after 7 a.m.

Several alternatives were aired, but the clincher for the board seemed to be the report from Roger Fritts, attorney for the district, that the state Court of Appeals had ruled in a similar case that a district cannot bus because of hazard. Fritts said that the state education commissioner had ruled "in that vein" many times and that the governor had vetoed legislation that would have authorized such busing because of "inability to clearly establish what's hazardous and when," Fritts said.

"The district cannot simply bus children based on perceived hazard or

need," he said. The distance within which school children are bused can be changed only by vote of district residents, either as a separate ballot issue or as a clearly identified budget item, he added.

The handful of concerned parents present gave it a good try. Martha Lazarus asked, "Could we ask the board to agree that Elm Ave. is hazardous and mention this in a letter to the town?" The petitioners have asked the town to construct a sidewalk along Elm Ave.

Harvith, however, demurred: "We try to manage our business and let the town manage theirs."

Board member Marjory O'Brien tried another tack. "If that route is closed to pedestrian traffic and the children are forced to take a longer route, would they become eligible for busing?" she asked. Superintendent Lawrence Zinn didn't think so.

Business Administrator Franz Zwickbauer told board members that a parent had protested that a one-block walk in the Colonial Acres tract in Glenmont was dangerous. "You're going to be faced with who's going to decide what's hazardous!" he warned.

Fritts said the Court of Appeals had termed the safety of children the responsibility of parents and not of the school district. He told the parents, "The board doesn't have a whole lot of discretion. I can't in good conscience tell them to violate the law and you can't in good conscience ask them to."

Board member John Clyne observed, "You have the option of busing your own

youngsters." But taking children to school in private cars only adds to traffic hazards at the high school, Mrs. O'Brien said. The possibility of the parents' renting a bus also was discussed, although they cannot rent one from the school district.

"From what Roger has told us," Harvith said, "there's nothing for us to decide."

Busing wasn't the only question that night: Marty Cornelius, a Delmar parent, asked the board for its endorsement of a self-supporting after-school child care plan. "I've talked to people here, and there is a need," she said. She said interested parents had investigated several local programs, with "the Cadillac" of them being one operated by the Guilderland Community Center in space it rents from the Guilderland School District. Mrs. Cornelius said members of the group had talked with town officials as well as representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and several local churches in an effort to find a location for after-school child care.

Harvith expressed interest in the program as a possible way for the district to realize some income, "depending on what you pay people," he said. But, asked for an "off-the-record commitment," Harvith said, "We have to know what we're committing ourselves to. It would depend on the location."

The board also shied away from permitting a survey questionnaire to be distributed to parents through school children, citing board policy. "Everybody in the world wants to sell something to school children," Harvith said. "If we open it up, we tend to be inundated."

In other business, the board appointed the firm of Teal, Becker and Chiamonte



Bob Betor, a Bethlehem seventh grader, was one of several volunteer "elves" who visited Paul and other residents at the Kenwood Day Care Center in Delmar to bring holiday cheer. Tom Howes

of Albany to provide auditing services for the district in the coming year. Teal, Becker's bid was \$5,150, the lowest of the six firms bidding.

Treasure hunt set

The Bethlehem Public Library will celebrate Sherlock Holmes's birthday with a treasure hunt for children over 5 on Wednesday, Jan. 5, at 4 p.m. Interested sleuths should pre-register by calling the library, 439-9314.



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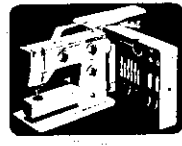
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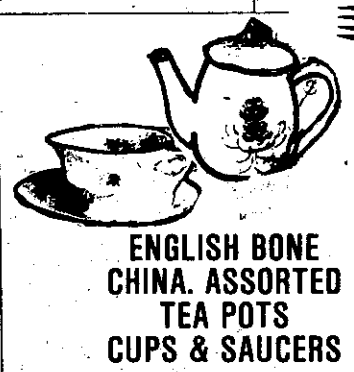
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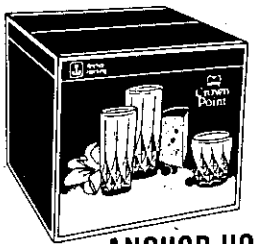
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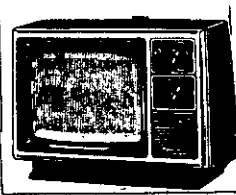


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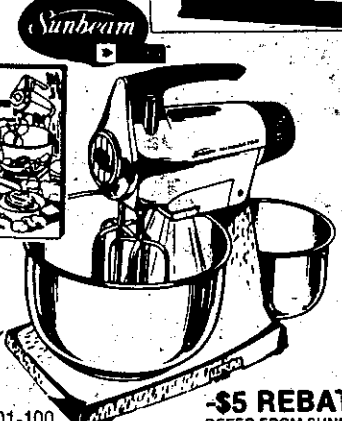
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Scrubbers, landfill site topics at coal hearings

By Linda Ann Burtis

"Are we just out of luck?"

Mrs. Mark Crouse lives on Wemple Rd. in Glenmont, not far from the old farm that Niagara Mohawk is proposing as its alternate site for dumping ash after its steam plant on Rt. 144 converts to coal. If the utility were to use the Glenmont Rd. site — its preferred site is next to the plant, but may not be approved by the state — it would mean an average of 12 trucks passing by her house every hour, according to Niagara Mohawk's draft environmental impact statement.

Mrs. Crouse was one of the few private citizens to speak at the public hearing conducted last Tuesday by the state Department of Environmental Conservation on Niagara Mohawk's coal conversion plan. About 75 people attended both the afternoon and evening session at Bethlehem Town Hall, and both sessions were dominated by spokesmen for Niagara Mohawk, the various state agencies that will oversee the conversion and organized citizens groups that are keeping a wary eye on the utility's plans.

While Mrs. Crouse's comments served as a reminder that there is other

impact to coal conversion, the question of sulfur dioxide, a pollutant with wide-ranging effects, was the focus of most of the testimony. Prior to the hearings, three environmental groups called for scrubbers to drastically reduce sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emissions from the Glenmont plant, and during the hearing they were joined by other groups.

NiMo's presentation by spokesman John Keib explained the extent of the coal conversion process, its costs and environmental impacts. The utility claims savings between \$423-865 million over the life of the plant, which would be about 25 years. With regard to air quality, Keib said, "We will not exceed present SO₂ emissions."

Later, other speakers noted that because Niagara Mohawk currently burns natural gas at the Glenmont plant sulfur dioxide emissions are almost nonexistent. However, the company is permitted under federal and state codes to burn high sulfur oil, and Niagara Mohawk claims its sulfur dioxide emissions will be no higher burning coal.

Keib said Niagara Mohawk is "taking a hard-line against scrubbers." The company feels that scrubbers are too costly and the technology is still develop-



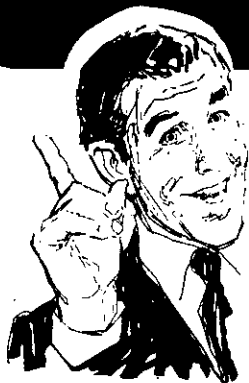
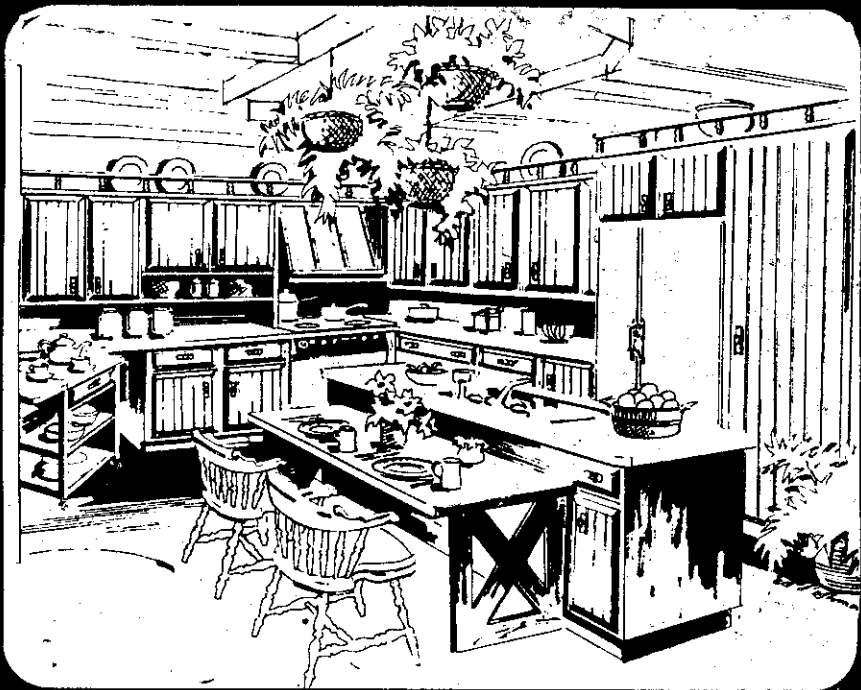
Environmentalists Ron Dodson, of the National Audubon Society, Judith Enck, of the Environmental Planning Lobby, and Chris Ballantyne, of the Sierra Club, went on record for scrubbers at a press conference prior to the hearing. *Spotlight*

ing, he said, citing the support of the federal Environmental Protection Agency. According to EPA Director Ann Gorsuch, the evidence that SO₂ emissions cause acid rain is not clear enough to warrant the financial commitment from industry.

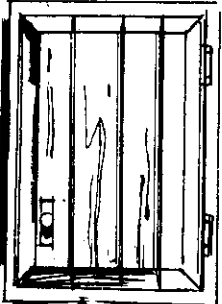
The environmental position was argued by the League of Woman Voters, the Sierra Club, the National Audubon Society and the Environmental Planning

Lobby. All of these organizations were willing to support the coal conversion, but not before certain environmental conditions are met. They had in common an objection to the 26,000 tons of sulfur dioxide that will be emitted under the NiMo plan. "First and foremost, we find the proposed levels of SO₂ emissions totally unacceptable," said Judy Enck of Environmental Planning Lobby. All the environmental groups agreed that the

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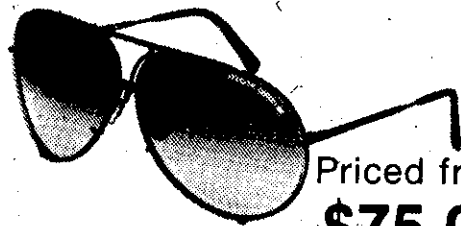
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data exists to support the health and acid rain consequences of SO₂. Maureen Geis of the League of Women Voters cited health impacts, including: "impacts on asthmatics, cardiopulmonary patients, and acute and chronic respiratory diseases in both children and adults." These organizations all supported the scrubber option because it would reduce SO₂ emissions by two thirds or more.

Mrs. Geis, a Delmar resident, also noted that burning coal will "more than double the nitrogen oxide emissions of the oil burning years." Nitrogen oxide, she said, contributes to acid rain and ozone formation, and also contributes to human health problems.

The EnCon, Public Service Commission and state Energy Office presentations were summaries of those agencies' involvement in the review process. All explained how they will scrutinize the utility's proposal, with EnCon serving as the lead agency. Daniel Louis, administrative law judge for EnCon, heard all the statements Tuesday and will also hear upcoming sworn testimony from expert witnesses. He will then write a report for commissioner of his department, will make the final decision. Louis said that such a conclusion could include a scrubber option,



Maureen Geis of Delmar represented the Albany County League of Women Voters at the hearing. *Spotlight*

if the evidence warranted it.

The evening session consisted mostly of a re-explanation of the NiMo proposal by Keib, remarks by David Engel of EnCon, several union spokesmen who supported the proposal because it will create jobs, one resident who argued against scrubbers and two residents who argued for stringent environmental measures.

Engel mentioned the scrubber alternative several times in his remarks.

Later, Robert Poole, the NiMo project manager, declared that the company "would probably cancel the project if scrubbers were recommended by EnCon."

During the evening session, Judge Louis asked if anyone from local government wished to make a statement, but no Bethlehem officials responded. In other New York communities where coal conversion proposals have been presented, local government has participated in the hearings.

Bethlehem Supervisor Tom Corrigan has, however, signed up to be a party to the technical hearings which will begin soon after the new year. Others who have requested "party status" to those hearings, also to be conducted by Judge Louis, are the Adirondack Park Agency, the Sierra Club and the Environmental Defense Fund, as well as the state agencies that have already testified.

Reelected in Delmar

James Shanley, running unopposed for another five-year term as a Delmar Fire Department commissioner, was reelected last week with 62 votes.

Variances approved

The Bethlehem Board of Appeals granted two variances and a special exemption at its meeting last Wednesday night.

Susan Babcock was granted the special exemption she sought to house three dogs she owns at her premises on Halter Rd. in Glenmont. Babcock said she was seeking another residence and the board granted the special exception until July 1 of next year.

Lula Dotter, 37 Wellington Rd., Delmar, was granted a variance from the percentage-of-lot-occupancy provision of the town zoning ordinance so she could sell her home. A previously overlooked roof overhang and back porch necessitated the application.

James J. Morrissey, The Concourse, North Bethlehem, was granted a variance for a three-unit dwelling. Morrissey had purchased the building in question as two separate units, but for tax and other purposes wish to consolidate the deeds for the site.

The board's next meeting is Jan. 5.

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Village sewer plan presented

By Elizabeth Bloom

Voorheesville's waste water consultants presented their final recommendations for sewerage parts of the central village, purchasing the Salem Hills treatment plant and expanding and renovating the plant to about 75 village residents at a public hearing Thursday.

There was little reaction to the plan at the hearing, but a second hearing to gain community input will be held Jan. 27 at Voorheesville High School. In March there will be an advisory referendum, following which the village board will decide whether or not to go ahead with the plan.

The Salem Hills plant has been the center of a three-way running battle between owners Rosen-Michaels, which claims it needs more money to operate the plant, the Village Board, which sets the rates, and Salem Hills residents, who say rates are already too high. Last week the Appellate Division of State Supreme Court upheld an earlier decision that Rosen-Michaels can't ignore a state clean-up order because of its claim that the village isn't allowing it a high enough rate.

VOORHEESVILLE

Having the village buy the Salem Hills plant has been discussed as one solution to the rate problem. But many residents outside the Salem Hills area have not been so enthusiastic. The report Thursday by representatives of Clough Harbour & Associates noted that approximately 48 percent of the residents who responded to the house-to-house survey conducted by the engineering firm have experienced some trouble with the older septic systems in the central village. The specific areas slated for sewer construction are: North Main St. from the railroad tracks to the village line, Main St., Center St., Pleasant St., Voorheesville Ave. (from the railroad tracks to Maple), Maple Ave. (from Rt. 85 to the underpass), Mountainview Rd., portions of Swift Rd. and the Elementary School. The Salem Hills treatment plant would be purchased, upgraded and expanded to accommodate the increased sewage load.

The local cost of the project, based on 1984 construction cost projections and accounting for state and federal aid, will be \$720,000, the consultants estimate. If that amount is bonded at 10 percent for 30 years, and \$75,000 is added annually for maintenance and operation costs, the yearly rate for 486 households to receive the service will be \$342.

Clough Harbour is suggesting two formulas for the determination of per household wastewater treatment charges. The first method would be to charge a rate based on assessed property value, and would be an estimated \$7.30 per \$1,000. The second method would be to

take 160 percent of the water bill, and would be \$1.80 per 1,000 gallons of water used. The Citizens' Advisory Group, along with the Sewer Commission, determined that these would be the fairest rate determination factors, the consultants said.

The new sewer patrons would be required to pay a one-time hook-up expenditure of \$800 to \$1,200. The individual cost may be computed on the basis of \$10 per foot to connect the lines from the street to the home.

Those whose septic systems will remain in place may either receive permits from the village to have their tanks pumped out or be reminded every three or four years to have the systems pumped out with a notice on their water bill, the consultants said.

Board approves employee pact, ponders commencement planning

Approval of a new three-year pact with non-instructional district employees and discussion of commencement exercises and a new teacher evaluation program occupied the Voorheesville Board of Education at its meeting last week.

The roughly 70 employees covered by the new agreement with the United Employees of Voorheesville will be getting a pay increase of 42 cents an hour for each year of the new contract, which is retroactive to June 30. In addition, there are new provisions for sick leave, liberalized vacation pay and a change in longevity payments.

The 42-cent raise includes annual increments, school officials said. The improved package gives employees with 15 years or more 20 vacation days instead of 15, and increases the longevity payment from \$150 to \$225 after the 13th year instead of the 15th. In addition, a "sick leave bank" will enable employees to donate sick days that will be made available to other union members who sustain catastrophic illness or disability.

The commencement discussion came as the result of a poll of senior class members taken by the board's commencement committee, which has been meeting to find ways of avoiding the sort

of incidents that occurred at last spring's commencement. Board member John Zongrone reported on the results of a poll in which 134 seniors, 73 percent of the class, responded.

Most voted to have the ceremony take place outside, have the valedictorian and salutarian speak, and allow speeches to be personally chosen rather than on an assigned topic, Zongrone said. The students also voted against a dress code enforceable by school administration. They maintained, according to Zongrone, that the few students who spoiled last year's commencement were exceptions, and that there are no students like that in the 1983 class.

Peter Griffin, High School principal, Superintendent Werner Berglas and the board agreed that it would have to be the school administration that ultimately decides how commencement will be conducted.

Elizabeth Bloom

Burglary in Elsmere

A residence on Bartlett La., Elsmere, was burglarized Friday and approximately \$5,000 in jewelry taken, according to reports filed with Bethlehem police.



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VOORHEESVILLE NEWS NOTES

Lyn Stapf 765-2451



The Voorheesville Public Library has some holiday treats in store for both young and old. To help chase away those "holiday vacation blues" the library invites all children in grade school and older to a showing of the movie classic, "The Red Pony," on Wednesday, Dec. 29, at 2 p.m. On Thursday, Dec. 30, school children may also visit the library at 2 p.m. to play bingo and watch short films.

A present for everyone comes in the form of a fine-free week Monday through Friday, Dec. 27-31. All overdue books returned during this period will not be charged fines. Also, all outstanding fines on record will be rounded to the nearest dollar and halved for these five days only. Librarian Nancy Hutchinson urges everyone to take advantage of this limited offer so that they may start the New Year with a clean record.

A final word: the library will close at 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24, and will reopen on Monday, Dec. 27 at 10 a.m. The following week end the library will close on Friday, Dec. 31, at 4 p.m. and remain closed until Monday, Jan. 3.

The Community Nursery School of Voorheesville will hold its annual Holiday Happening this evening (Dec. 22) at 7 for the school's children and their families in the social hall of the Methodist church. The party will feature caroling, refreshments and a visit from Santa.

This celebration will mark the end of a very busy month for the pre-schoolers who have been doing woodworking projects as gifts for their families. Recently they visited the Music Studio in Colonie, where they not only danced and

marched to various instruments, but were able to handle and "play" them.

Across the creek at St. Matthew's Church, Girl Scout Troop 259 will be entertaining their parents with Christmas carols and refreshments this evening. The holiday celebration, which will run from 7 to 8 p.m., will include the presentation of awards by troop leaders Bonnie Foster and Robin Shufelt. The group has been ambitious this fall, and each girl has earned and will receive four badges: Ms. Fix-it, Troop Camper, Outdoor Cook and First Aid.

Santa and his elves haven't been the only ones busy making toys this month. High school shop teacher Jim Hladun's Wood Tech 1 class recently designed and constructed toys out of scrap pieces of wood as part of a 10-week hand-tool project. The finished products were evaluated on their design, workmanship and workability, and prizes were awarded accordingly. Top honors went to Ed Keigle, Tim Houle and Dave Whiteley, who received first, second and third prizes respectively. Honorable mention went to Ken Kertun, Ed Donahue and Tom Corcoran. The prizes were donated by Richard Crannell of Crannell Lumber, Voorheesville.

It will be a very merry Christmas for the Robert Maud family this year — Mrs. Joan Maud was a recent winner in the New York State "Players Choice" instant-lottery game. Chosen in the Nov. 22 drawing, Mrs. Maud will receive 16 one-ounce gold coins. Besides helping out with Christmas and educa-

tion expenses for two of the four Maud children who are in college, the Mauds hope that their winnings will finance a second honeymoon for their upcoming silver anniversary.

Another announcement that brightened their holidays was that daughter Christine was recently inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, college National Honor Society. A senior at Syracuse University, Chris was nominated in her junior year.

At a loss for a unique gift for Christmas? Dave Teuten, President of the Board of Pyramid Lake Camp, suggests a gift certificate to the Albany Diocesan co-ed Camp in the Adirondacks for the person over 6 who has everything. Gift certificates are available in any denomination, and may be obtained by contacting the main office at 39 Phillip St. in Albany or by calling the office at 463-4411 or Teuten at 765-2642. Teuten says several relatives could join together, each buying a small piece of summer to give as a gift to warm up Christmas.

Cub Scout den leader Noreen Copeland received her "just desserts" at a recent Council dinner. Copeland was awarded a plaque for her outstanding achievement as a Round-Table staff den leader. Besides being a den mother for Pack 73's Den 3, she has also served on the Round-Table crafts committee and as a council training coordinator.

Trees for sale

The State Nursery will accept both telephone and mail orders for tree and shrub seedlings, but there is no longer a toll-free number. Interested persons should get information on species, prices and shipping from the Department of Environmental Conservation forester, Box 430, Catskill, N.Y. 12414, telephone 1-943-4030 before ordering. Beginning Jan. 3, orders may be placed by calling 1-587-1120 weekdays.

Tax rates set

New tax rates for residents of Albany County towns were announced last week following passage of a 1983 county budget with a 21 percent increase in the tax levy. Because of variations in the ratio of tax rates to assessed value, the increase is different from town to town, but New Scotland residents — faced with a rapidly declining equalization rate — are the hardest hit with a 42 percent increase.

The New Scotland rate jumps from \$36.99 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to \$52.73. In Bethlehem, the increase is more modest, from \$24.24 per \$1,000 this year to \$27.38 next year.

River dredging planned

The Army Corps of Engineers plans dredging at the Port of Albany, beginning in mid-July, 1983. The dredged material is to be pumped to Teller Crossing, on the east side of the Hudson River and south of the port. Objections to the proposal should be mailed by Jan. 7 to Department of the Army, New York District, Corps of Engineers, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10278, attention Col. W.M. Smith.

New defense technique

The physical education department of the Albany Jewish Community Center is adding aikido, a method of self-defense, to its winter program scheduled to begin in early January. Aikido uses relaxation techniques rather than physical strength to reduce confrontation in crisis situation. A highly aerobic form of exercise, aikido develops body awareness and physical sensitivity. The instructor will be Richard Dworsky, who has coached the Syracuse University Aikido Club. The 10-week course will be held on Monday and Thursday evenings from 8:30 to 10.

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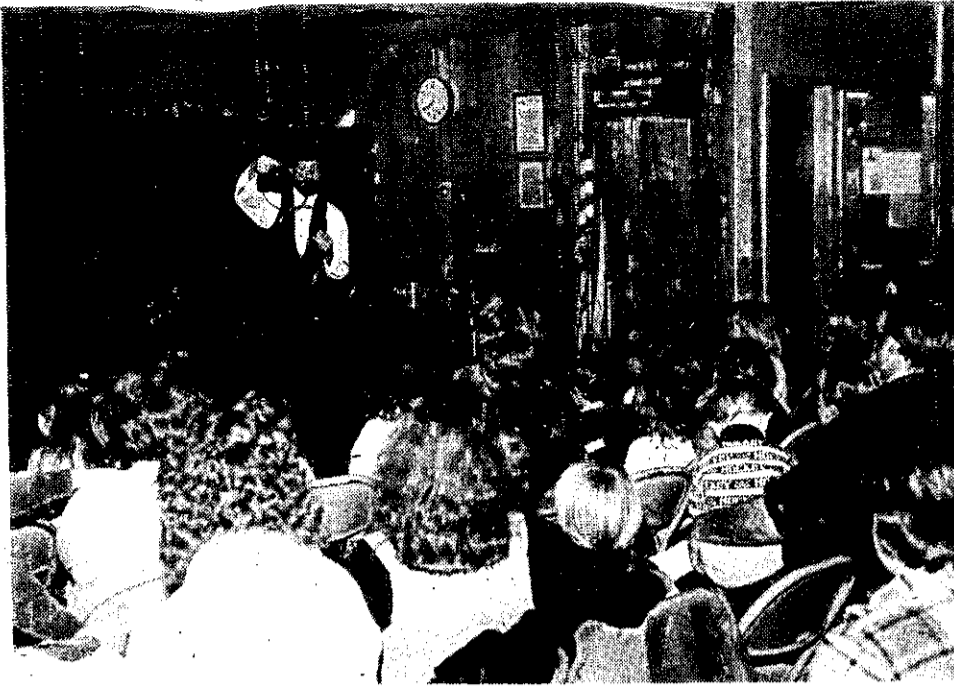
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Fine Fare Cranberry Sauce, 16 Oz.	.45
Bartenders Whisky Sour Mix, 4.72 Oz.	.89
O & C Boiled Onions, Glass Jars, 16 Oz.	.79
Knickerbocker Beer, 12 Oz., 6 Pk.	1.39
DAIRY	
Crowley 2% Milk, Gal	1.49
Crowley Sour Cream, 16 Oz.	.79
Fine Fare Cream Cheese, 8 Oz.	.75
FROZEN FOOD	
River Valley Orange Juice, 12 Oz.	.79
River Valley Petite Peas, 16 Oz.	.79
PRODUCE	
Mushrooms, Cello, 12 Oz. Pk.	.99
Celery, Pascal, Bch.	.45
Potatoes, U.S. #1, 10 Lbs.	.99
Pears, Lb.	.59

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5th-7th RIB 1st-4th RIB USDA
2.89 lb. 3.29 lb. CHOICE
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Whole Sirloin Tip
Roast Boneless **1.89 lb.**
Whole N.Y. Strips 2.79 lb.
Plainville Fresh TURKEYS
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Whole Pork Loins 1.48 lb.
Slab Sliced Bacon 1.68 lb.
—ALSO AVAILABLE—
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Ground Chuck 10 LBS. OR MORE **1.33 lb.**
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"HOLIDAY PARTY PLATTERS"
"FRESH DELI SUBS MADE TO ORDER"
Let Nancy Make Your Party A Snap
Cooked Ham **2.28 lb.**
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Tobins Bologna **1.88 lb.**
Tobins Liverwurst **1.88 lb.**
CHEESE OF THE WEEK
"FROM OUR GOURMET CHEESE DEPT."
Jarlsberg (from Norway) **3.89 lb.**



Magician Jim Snack entertains youngsters and their parents at a holiday party at the Selkirk No. 2 firehouse in South Bethlehem. *Tom Howes*

NEWS FROM SELKIRK AND SOUTH BETHLEHEM



Barbara Pickup 767-9225

A new organization has been formed to help people with severe anxiety or phobia-related problems. Begun by a group that has suffered agoraphobia and undergone psychotherapy, Support hopes to assist others in need of help and guidance.

Meeting on a weekly basis, Support attempts not only to reach the individual, but also provide counseling for their families, offer assurance that their fears are neither unique nor incurable, promote further understanding of the problem, and foster courage to overcome their anxiety and depression.

Interested persons are encouraged to contact Fran Jones, 767-9504 days, and Joe Palmer, 756-2373 after 5 p.m.

Could there be a more meaningful way to begin Christmas than joining friends and neighbors in the celebration of the birth of Christ? An invitation is extended to the community to join members of the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem Friday evening, Dec. 24, in worship. The candlelight service, always beautiful and inspirational, will begin at 7:30.

Dartball has become popular in recent years. The Bethlehem Subordinate Grange, Beckers' Corners, Selkirk, is attempting to form a dartball team. The team would be competing against other area groups. Any member of the Grange interested in being part of a team is asked to call Mrs. Helen Raynor at 767-2770.

After all the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations, the arrival of Christmas Eve brings a time to pause and meditate the true meaning of Christmas. Surrounded by the fragrance of evergreens and candlelight, the South Bethlehem United Methodist Church on Willowbrook Ave. invites all to join them in observing the glory of Christmas at 8 p.m. Christmas Eve at a special candlelight service.

Anyone looking for a special way to ring in the New Year has only to look as far as the BPOE Lodge 2233, Rt. 144, Selkirk. With the expectations of a prime rib dinner to begin the evening at 7:30, a large group of friendly people and good music for dancing provided by the popular group Sun Down, New Year's

Eve promises to be a lot of fun at the lodge.

Ticket information may be obtained from Jim Hausman at 439-5533.

The children and families of the A. W. Becker School can be proud of their accomplishment. In the spirit of Christmas giving, they have succeeded in their goal to collect 500 non-perishable food items for needy families.

According to Al Keating, principal, the students have been collecting and contributing food for the White Christmas Fund for several weeks. The food is being distributed this week to families of the RCS north elementary school area under the direction of Richard Haverly of Delmar.

BIRTHS



St. Peter's Hospital

Boy, Alexander, A. III, to Mr. and Mrs. Alexander A. Courtney, Voorheesville, Nov. 21.

Girl, Sarah Feiden, to Cynthia Feiden-Warsh and Richard Warsh, Delmar, Dec. 3.

Boy, Thomas Andrew, to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Reinisch, Selkirk, Dec. 4.

Girl, Jillian Elaine, to Mr. and Mrs. Terry Eck, Voorheesville, Dec. 5.

Girl, Heather Helen, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bradley, Glenmont, Dec. 7.

Mark Russell benefit

Political satirist Mark Russell will perform Jan. 31 at the Turf Inn, Wolf Rd., in a benefit for the Capital District Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Russell was resident comedian at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., for 20 years and is a regular on NBC-TV's "Real People." He also writes a nationally syndicated newspaper column and has recorded four comedy albums. Tickets at \$10 may be obtained from the New York Public Welfare Association, the Multiple Sclerosis Society or the Turf Inn, all in Albany.

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Kay-Bee Toy & Hobby
Key Bank
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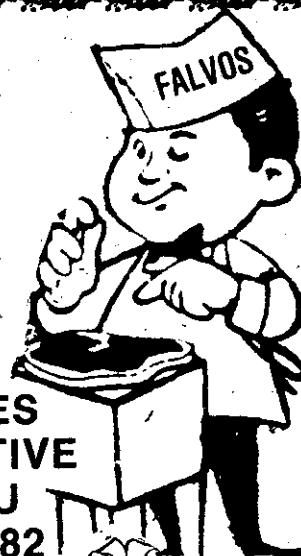
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3 LBS. GROUND CHUCK
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QUARTERS
LAND O LAKES
BUTTER

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LB.

10 LBS. OR MORE
GROUND
CHUCK

\$1³⁹

LB.

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

Sam,
Maria, Joe,
Ed Males

TO ALL!

Keith, Carmela,
Jeffrey, Darlene

Town of Bethlehem. Town Board, second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, first and third Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Planning Board, first and third Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave. Town offices are open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

Village of Voorheesville. Board of Trustees, fourth Tuesday at 8 p.m., Planning Commission, third Tuesday at 7 p.m., Zoning Board, second and fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. when agenda warrants, Village Hall, 29 Voorheesville Ave.

Town of New Scotland Town Board meets first Wednesday at 8 p.m., Planning Board second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., Board of Appeals meets when necessary, usually Fridays at 7 p.m., Town Hall, Rt. 85.

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

Voorheesville Board of Education meets second Monday of each month, 8 p.m., at the district offices in the high school, Rt. 85A, Voorheesville.

The Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk Board of Education meets the first and third Mondays of the month, 8 p.m.; at the board offices, Thatcher St., Selkirk.

Food Pantry. Selkirk and South Bethlehem area, Bethlehem Reformed Church, Rt. 9W, Selkirk, call 767-2243, 436-8289 or 767-9140 (after 5 p.m.).

Assemblyman Larry Lane's district office, 1 Becker Terr., Delmar, open Mondays and Wednesdays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Bethlehem Youth Employment Service. Bethlehem Town Hall, Mon.-Fri. 1-4:30 p.m. Call 439-2238.

League of Women Voters, Bethlehem unit, meets monthly at Bethlehem Public Library, 9:15 a.m. Babysitting available. For information, call Susan Richmond, 439-5744.

Bethlehem Women's Republican Club, third Monday at Bethlehem Public Library, except June, July, August and December, 7:30 p.m.

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

Bethlehem Recycling town garage, 119 Adams St. Papers should be tied, cans flattened, bottles cleaned with metal and plastic foam removed. Tuesday and Wednesday 8 a.m. - noon; Thursday and Friday noon - 4 p.m., Saturday 8 - noon.

Project Equinox Delmar satellite office, professional counseling for substance abuse problems, all contacts confidential. By appointment, call 434-6135.

Elsmere Boy Scout Troop 58. Thursdays throughout school year, 7:30 - 9 p.m., Bethlehem Town Hall.

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

Preschool Story Hour, for children ages 3-5, Mondays and Tuesdays, 10, 11 or 1-1:30, Bethlehem Public Library.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22
Slingerlands Fire Co. Auxiliary meets fourth Wednesday at Slingerlands Fire Hall, 8 p.m.

Delmar Fire District regular meetings second and fourth Wednesdays, Delmar Fire Station, 7:30 p.m.

Delmar Rotary meets Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at Albany Motor Inn, Glenmont.

Public Hearings, Bethlehem Town Board, on traffic ordinance amendments to install stop signs and change speed limits, 7:30 p.m.; zoning ordinance amendment for Rt. 9W area opposite Delmar Bypass to change from Residence B to Planned Commercial District, 8 p.m., Bethlehem Town Hall.

New Scotland Elks Lodge meets second and fourth Wednesdays at Happy's Coach House, New Salem, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23
New Scotland Town Civic Assn. meets fourth Thursday, Room 104, Voorheesville High School, 7:30 p.m., for discussion of pertinent town issues. All residents welcome.

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

Bethlehem Senior Citizens meet every Thursday at Bethlehem Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 12:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Public Library closed for holiday until Dec. 27.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24
Glenmont Christmas Eve Worship, with holy communion, Faith Lutheran Church, Chapel Lane, 8:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services, First United Methodist Church, Delmar, children's performance of "Three Wee Kings," 7:30 p.m.; readings and special music, 11 p.m.

South Bethlehem Christmas Eve Worship, United Methodist Church, 8 p.m.

Selkirk Christmas Eve Worship, First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Glenmont Nativity Service, with holy communion, Faith Lutheran Church, 10 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26
Christmas Reunion, Bethlehem Central High School graduates (any year), Albany Hilton Hotel, 7:30 p.m. to midnight. Music by Fear of Strangers. Tickets \$3, available at the door. Must be 19 or older.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27
H.G. Wells Film, "War of the Worlds," Bethlehem Public Library, 2 p.m. Free.

Village Artists, artists interested in painting in various media, Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Slingerlands Community Church, October through April. New members welcome.

Delmar Kiwanis meets Mondays at Starlite Lounge, Rt. 9W, Glenmont, 6:15 p.m.

Al-Anon Group, support for relatives of alcoholics, meets Mondays at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., Delmar, 8:30 p.m. Information, 439-4581.

Overeaters Anonymous meets Mondays, First United Methodist Church, Kenwood Ave., Delmar, 7:30 p.m.

Clarksville Boy Scout Troop 89 meets Mondays at Clarksville Community Church, 7 p.m. Information, 768-2977.

Voorheesville Fine Free Week, all overdue books fine free, outstanding fines halved, Voorheesville Public Library, until Dec. 31.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29
Children's Film, "Charlotte's Web," Bethlehem Public Library, 2 p.m. Free.

Vacation Film, "The Red Pony," Voorheesville Public Library, 2 p.m. Free.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30
Vacation Bingo and Short Films for grade school children, at Voorheesville Public Library.

Holiday Puppet Presentation, at Bethlehem Public Library, 11 a.m. show for preschoolers and 3 p.m. show for school-age children.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31
Legion New Year's Eve Party, with live band and buffet, Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post, Delmar, tickets \$6.

BPOE New Year's Eve Party, Lodge 2233, Rt. 144, Selkirk, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1983
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Bethlehem Public Library closed today and tomorrow.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3
Temple Chapter 5, RAM, first and third Mondays, Delmar Masonic Temple.

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4
Bethlehem Lodge 1096, F&AM, first and third Tuesdays, Delmar Masonic Temple.

Delmar Rotary meets Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at Albany Motor Inn, Glenmont.

Bethlehem Sportmen's Club, first Tuesdays, Five Rivers Environmental Center, 7:30 p.m. Guests welcome.

Delmar Progress Club, creative arts group to remove library decorations, Bethlehem Public Library, 9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5
Onesquethaw Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, first and third Wednesdays at Masonic Temple, Kenwood Ave., Delmar, 8 p.m. (From Jan. 6 to June 2, from Sept. 1 to Dec. 1.)

Bethlehem Elks Lodge meets at lodge, Rt. 144, Cedar Hill, 8 p.m. first and third Wednesdays (third Wednesdays during July and August).

Treasure Hunt, for children 5 and older, Bethlehem Public Library, 4 p.m. Registration, 439-9314.

THE SPOTLIGHT CALENDAR

Events in Bethlehem and New Scotland

area arts

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

THEATER

"True West" (area debut of Sam Shepard's drama of brothers in conflict presented by Capital Rep), Market Theater, Albany, Jan. 1 through Jan. 23, opening night 7 p.m., then Tuesday through Saturday, 8 p.m., Sundays 2:30 p.m. Reservations, Community Box Office or theater box office, 462-4534.

MUSIC

"The Merry Widow" (The Manhattan Savoyards and the Albany Symphony Orchestra perform Franz Lehár's operetta), Palace Theater, Albany, Dec. 31, 7:30 p.m., to be followed by benefit gala at Legislative Office Building, Empire State Plaza. Tickets for "Merry Widow" from Palace box office, 465-3334, or Community Box Office; tickets for gala from Albany Symphony office, 465-4755.

ART

Antique Carpenter Tools used in the Albany area, from the collection of Lewis A. Swyer, Albany Public Library, through December.

"Divergent Views" (works by eight faculty artists at State University College at Cortland), Plaza Gallery, State University Plaza, foot of State St., Albany, through Jan. 31.

"Grand Central Terminal: City Within the City" (engravings, charts, maps, photos, greeting cards and a model of the station), Albany Institute of History and Art, 125 Washington Ave., Albany, through December.

"Ancient Inspirations/Contemporary Interpretations" (works of 75 New York State artists and craftsmen), State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, through Feb. 20.

"The Original Print: Art on Paper from Mucha to Motherwell," Posters Plus Galleries, Robinson Square, Albany, through Dec. 31.

"Design in Buffalo" (tracing design as art in Western New York State), State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, through Feb. 27.

Graphic artists Connie Saddlemyre and Cynthia Blake (prints and lithographs), Temple Gates of Heaven, Eastern Parkway and Ashmore St., Schenectady, through Jan. 2.

"Harlem Heyday: The Photography of James VanDerZee" (Harlem during the 1920's and '30's), State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, through Jan. 9.

"A City of Neighborhoods" and "World City," additions to New York State Museum's Metropolis Hall, Empire State Plaza.

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- Christmas at Pops Saturday, 9 p.m.
- Dance in America: "The Green Table" Sunday, 10 p.m.
- Great Performances: "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy" Monday, 9 p.m.

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Bethlehem Festival giving never ends

By Caroline Terenzini

Christmas comes but once a year for most people. But for the Bethlehem Festival, the giving season lasts all year long.

The Festival has evolved over the years, beginning in 1941 as a program sponsored by local churches and the town. Now it is chiefly operated through the Bethlehem schools, coordinated by B.J. Lornell, school district social worker, with the help of the nurses who serve each of the seven schools. The nurses and also teachers help identify those families that could use a little help — perhaps assistance with medical and dental treatment, or help with camp tuition when there is a special need, or help in getting special school supplies or a Christmas package.

The help comes from many sources. There are donations from service clubs such as the Rotary and Kiwanis, the local churches, school administrators, faculty and office staff, and other organizations and individuals. For example, a bake sale at the Clarksville School winter concert in early December netted \$81.55 for the Festival fund. The Slingerlands School raised \$100 through bake sales and faculty donations.

The money will go toward the purchase of turkeys for all the families that will receive Christmas packages this year. Employees of the K-Mart store in Glenmont have donated canned goods, as have Bethlehem school children who bring in canned goods that are collected in big boxes at the schools.

As in past years, the Port of Albany is donating bananas, and the American Association of Retired People (AARP) has contributed 100 packages of home-baked cookies. Members of the Presbyterian Church have donated gifts and mittens. All these donations are taken to the school district offices on Adams Pl., Delmar, several days before Christmas, where they are put into cartons for pickup.



Boxes packed with food donations at the Educational Services Center in Delmar.

Perhaps a reflection of the struggling national economy, the number of families in Bethlehem that will receive holiday packages is up this year to 60. This figure represents 287 individuals, Mrs. Lornell said.

Festival President Richard Haverly, who is regional vice president at Key Bank, Delmar, emphasized that all money donated is used within the Town of Bethlehem. "This is low-key," he said. "There are no paid advisers, no flag-waving, no report to the town — the goal is to help people."

"We saw the need and found the source — it's a marriage," Mrs. Lornell said. And "we've tried very hard not to have it focus on one person," she said.

Though the Festival is dependent on donations, somehow things have always worked out. "Sometimes I make a really big request to the treasurer, and the next day a check comes to the fund from somewhere," Mrs. Lornell said. Donations can be mailed to Bethlehem Festival, PO Box 214, Delmar 12054.

AREA EVENTS & OCCASIONS

Events in Nearby Areas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Doane Stuart Holiday Reunion for graduates to meet and renew friendships, 3-5 p.m., at the school. Reservations, 465-5222.

Walt Disney Film, 1941 classic "Dumbo," State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Free.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

Magic and Illusion Show, free children's entertainment, State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m.

YMCA Holiday Camp, four days of swimming, games, relays and ice skating, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. through Dec. 30. Information, 449-7196.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Mime for Children, "It's Not Just Mime," presented by Rich Kuperberg and Ann Morris, State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Free.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

JCC Wine and Cheese Social, live entertainment and refreshments for area college students home for the holidays, Albany Jewish Community Center, Whitehall Rd., 9 p.m. Information, 438-6651.

Free Puppet Show, "A Children's Midsummer Night's Dream," by the Bennington Puppets, State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

"Electric Body Arts" for Children, free dance-play, State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 1 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

Children's Clown Show, performed by Skoopy's Fun Technicians, State Museum, Empire State Plaza, Albany, 1 and 3 p.m. Free.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

PACCT (Parents and Children Together), support group for children who are or will be open-heart surgery patients and their parents, Colonie Town Library, Albany-Shaker Rd., 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

Epilepsy Association, with John Wan, Ph.D., discussing recent research, First Presbyterian Church, State and Willett sts., Albany, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-8085.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

Therapeutic Touch Workshop, one-day seminar by Judy Schultz on how the hands can heal by directing energy within the body, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. \$50-course fee. Information, 489-8860.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9

Economic Conference for Clergymen, four-day seminar for local clergymen of all faiths to improve understanding of economic concepts and value conflicts, Russell Sage College, 140 New Scotland Ave., Albany, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. \$25 registration; 445-1717.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Working Women Conference, for secondary and elementary teachers and high school students to hear college faculty discuss economic education and job opportunities for women today, Russell Sage College, Troy, 8:30 a.m. Free. For reservations, 270-2226.

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THURS. THRU SUN. 7 AM-10 PM

Delmar Progress Club, creative arts group to study smocking techniques, Bethlehem Public Library, 1 p.m. Reservations, M. Johnston, 439-3350.

Bethlehem Central Board of Education, Educational Services Center, 90 Adams Place, Delmar, 8 p.m.

New Scotland Town Board, New Scotland Town Hall, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

Bethlehem Art Association members critique for budding artists to get others' reactions to their work, Adams House, 393 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 7:30 p.m. \$1 donation from non-members. Information, 439-5069.

Sign Language Workshop, first of four workshops on consecutive Thursdays for children 7 and up to learn how to sign to the deaf, Bethlehem Public Library, 4 p.m. Pre-registration, 439-9314.

Bethlehem High School Orientation, walking tour and introduction for Middle School students and their parents, BCHS, 8 p.m.

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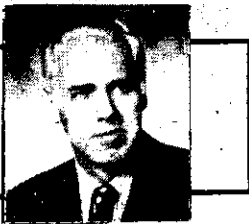
Q. LAST MINUTE SHOPPING?
A. DELAWARE PLAZA "Your Christmas Gift Center"

The Spotlight — December 22, 1982 — PAGE 13

FOCUS ON FAITH

Rev. Leon M. Adkins, Jr.

First United Methodist Church



Christmas day is almost upon us. About this time each year I wonder what is the sum total of all the preparations, the festivities and the religious celebration. The thoughts are not to place cynical judgement upon the holiday, but a yearning to know the experience in its fullest sense. If you have similar thoughts, you might link your understanding to these three suggested metaphors for Christmas. Often comparisons unravel mysteries.

First, Christmas is a diamond. The greatest charm of this hardest of all stones is that when it is cut by a precision artist, it will shine in every direction. Like the mirrored glass in a cheap dance hall or a roller skating rink, one spot light will make every corner of the room dance with reds, yellows and an occasional green. When one looks at a diamond, any slight turn of the gem will reveal brilliant and hidden reflections.

We have traditionally built into this season many meaningful customs and traditions which reinforce the adventure toward a loving and joyous holiday. The Christmas cards which come from people we have not heard from since last year. The wreath placed upon the front door. The smells of fruit cake and pies foretell of a festive dinner. Brightly lighted trees decorate our homes. The busy stores filled with last minute gift-givers. Church

congregations sing carols that consider the meaning of Jesus' birth.

There is a holiday mood gathered by Christians and others because of these many facets to a national celebration. No matter who looks at the Christmas season, celebration shines back to bring some measure of happiness. Each bit of this season has its own brilliance.

The metaphors of a diamond, a put-together toy and an open door can be placed beside the personalities of the nativity.

Christmas is like a put-together toy. Everyone can remember at least one Christmas when the special day was filled with directions, glue, razor blade and a huge amount of patience. A new toy came in pieces. The gift could not be appreciated nor used until the task of assembling was complete. Grandfathers help grandchildren, mothers help children and young and the young want to complete the challenge themselves. Christmas is a season to be put together. The multitude of preparations which are mandated by custom, or accepted as a responsibility involve myriad activities aimed at the



The youngest cast member in the nativity pageant at St. Thomas this year was Joshua Drozd, 3 months old, son of Marion and Joanne Drozd of Delmar. Tom Howes

celebration. A friend cannot attend a dinner because he is finishing napkin rings from cherry wood for his family. A staff does not find enough evenings in the week to gather and recognize the common venture in their working hours. A card list of recipients is constantly updated as a new friend unexpectedly sends a greeting. On Christmas day a great sense of relief comes over those who have labored through the season.

The third metaphor for Christmas is open door. These days are filled with times of deep emotion. Love and joy are more intense. Sadness and loneliness are more painful. More than one person has confided to a friend that these days are a little bit of hell because of the engulfing spirit of festivity and the contrasting personal pain of separation by anger or by death. Christmas is the best of times for some and the worst of times for others. Regardless of the joy or mental pain, Christmas becomes an open door to be entered. Christians believe that Jesus — the Emmanuel — is "God with us." The

Creator has loved so deeply that he sent a living human being, a Son, to be the open door by which we might discover the better things of life: Jesus, because of his adult style and sacrifice has opened possibilities for Christians. It is possible to celebrate all religions which provide guidance for increased harmony and peace throughout the world.

The metaphors of a diamond, a put-together toy and an open door can be placed beside the personalities of the nativity. Mary and Joseph experienced the greatest treasure of new life within their midst. Through an inn keeper's calousness and raw stable, there shown a new gem of life. The thoughtful wise men put together their teaching, the brilliance of a star, the dark warning from Herod, and the arduous journey to Israel. These experiences built a new adoration for a humble child. The shepherds knelt before the angels who sang of a new hope in the world. A new door was opened for faith and promise. These days of remembering become times of preparation which are filled with possibilities.

Christ is first in Christmas
Friday, Dec. 24
 7:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Saturday, Dec. 25
 10:00 a.m. - Christmas Day Family Communion Service
Sunday, Dec. 26
 9:15 a.m. - Sunday School & Bible Study
 10:30 a.m. Family Worship

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Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 25	The Nativity of our Lord - Holy Communion	10:00 a.m.
Dec. 26	St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr - Holy Communion	9:00 a.m.
Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Worship with Holy Communion	8:30 p.m.

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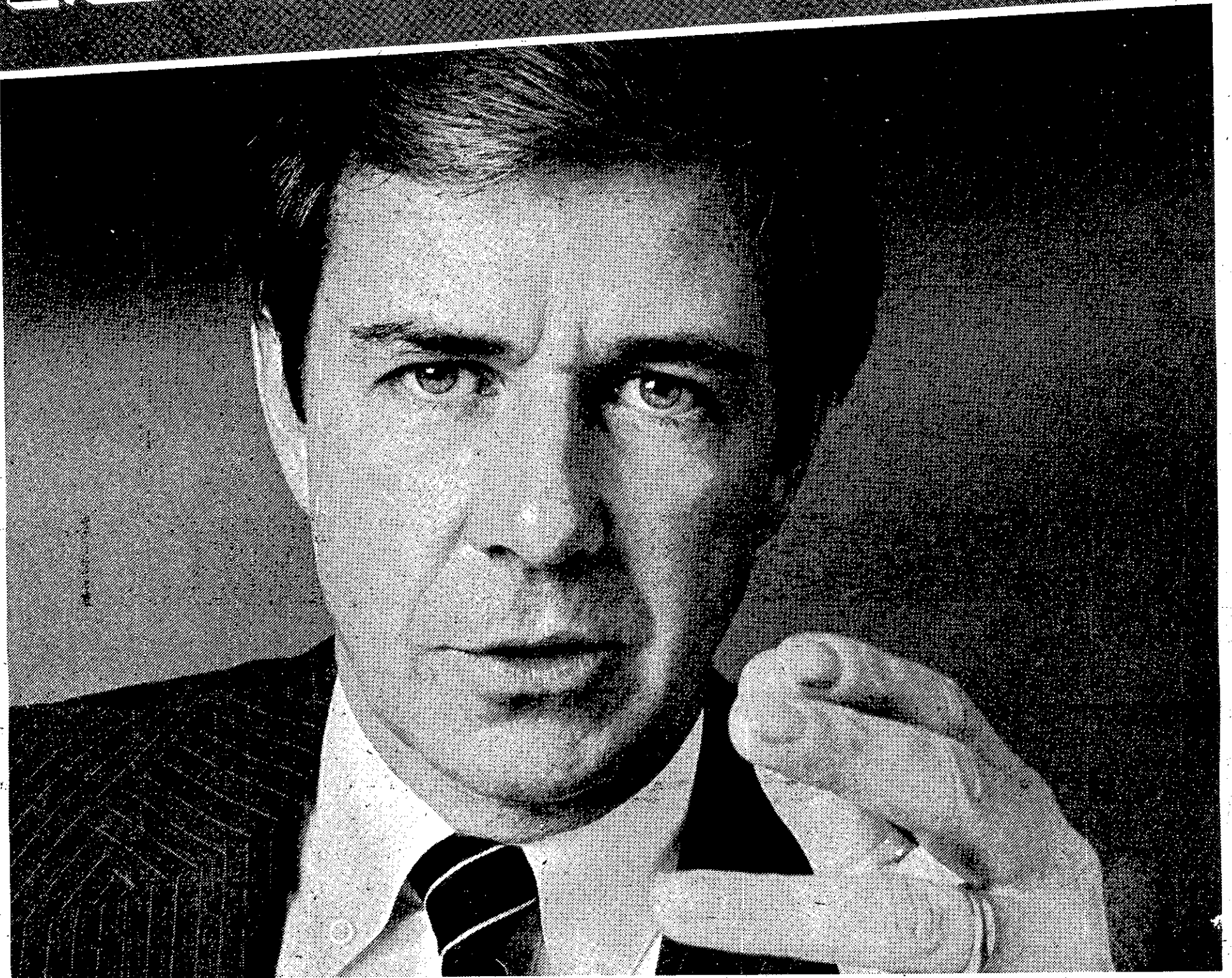
Remember the special feeling of Christmas Eve's past? Share that special feeling again this year.

At 7 p.m. join our family and children for a candlelight service with music and a live Nativity scene to celebrate His birthday. (Nursery open)

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A Christmas hope

In the glow of holiday lights streaming across the land there are some whose eyes are shut to the joy and festivities promoted by the coming of the celebrations promised by this season. The blinders might be cynicism toward the entire event and disgust at the commercialization of it all. For others it might be sadness that the feast and frivolities can no longer be shared with a particular loved one who has departed or moved away. For some it is inner turmoil that clouds the holiday horizon and prevents the peaking of any pleasure with the season that has come upon us again.

This time of year carries messages to all of us. It is a time of amplified thought and deed and feeling beyond the rest of the year. But that amplification also applies to the valleys and depressions of our lives as well as the high points and good times.

Arguments with the kids translate into challenges to resolve them before the gift-giving on holiday morn. Parental conflicts yield sour notes in the songs of the season. Money troubles tighten the belt around our charity and hilarity. Mental anguish and aberrations distort perceptions of the holidays and abort attempts to celebrate them.

In the midst of the variety of individual states of being we each bring into the holidays come the time-tested, traditional messages. "Peace on earth, good will toward men." "God bless us, everyone." "Joy to the world." For those armored against the spirit of the time, even the messages of classical books like *A Christmas Carol* and movies like

Family MATTERS

Norman G. Cohen



"Miracle on 34th Street" can fail to penetrate.

Nevertheless the messages keep coming and so they should, for even if only one person is reached among many, that message is worth offering, worth repeating.

With the hope that one of you will take heart and grab hold or free up or unfold; here is my message for the holidays:

When there is light, open your heart and let it brighten the light of your soul;

When there is darkness, cover your heart so that your inner light may guide you.

When there is warmth, open your arms and enfold its presence, for it is precious;

When there is cold, close your arms tightly around the warmth of your own spirit, and be true to yourself.

When there is knowledge, open your mind and let it fill any emptiness;

When there is ignorance, humbly offer your knowledge and penetrate it without imposition or arrogance.

When there is strength, join it with your own and accomplish great deeds;

BC alumni reunion Sunday

For the third consecutive year, Bethlehem Central High School alumni will hold a Christmas reunion for graduates and friends of Bethlehem Central. The popular event will again be held at the Albany Hilton Hotel this Sunday from 7:30 p.m. to midnight.

"It wasn't until people began asking us 'Where's the reunion this year' that we decided to put it together," explained Ann Ellery, one of the coordinators.

"It's become somewhat of a Delmar tradition," added fellow coordinator Drew Maggard. "There's no better time to get a lot of friends together and catch up on what's happened in the past year."

Apparently, a lot of Bethlehem residents agree. The past two Christmas reunions have drawn crowds of 1200 and 900 guests. Organizers expect a similar crowd Sunday night.

Music will be provided by "Fear of Strangers," one of the Capital District's most popular bands. Two members of the group, guitarist Todd Nelson and drummer Mark Foster, graduated from BC in 1974.

Tickets can be purchased the night of the event for \$3 each. All guests must be 19 years of age or older.

For information, contact Drew Maggard at 439-5411 or Ann Ellery at 274-7685 or 439-6804.

Your art, their eyes

Budding local artists may or may not get rave reviews from fellow artists at the Bethlehem Art Association's "members' critique" on Thursday, Jan. 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Adams House, 393 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Artists can get critical feedback on two or three of their works, which can be completed or in progress. The meeting is open to the public, but those who are not members of the association will be asked to donate \$1. For details, call Lorraine Schapiro, 439-5069.

When there is weakness, define it clearly, but kindly, and offer your strength for a short time.

When God is near, kneel and be passive, and trust whatever enters your being;

When God seems distant, stand tall face the time just as you are, and reflect any destructive forces back to their sources, for where there is fullness of spirit, mind and body, there is no place for darkness or cold or ignorance or weakness.

Vietnam vet outreach

The Vet Center, 875 Central Ave., Albany, is offering an outreach program for Vietnam veterans. The center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. weekdays.

In Glenmont The Spotlight is sold at Van Allen Farms, Heath's Dairy, Three Farms Dairy, Five A's Superette, Stewart's and Grand Union.

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GENE JAGARESKI

She'll gladly spend holidays in the kitchen

By Ann Treadway

If Mary Moriarty could be granted only one Christmas wish, it would probably be more time to spend in the kitchen because she loves to cook.

And since she's turned that "creative impulse," as she calls it, into a popular catering business, there are many people who would like to play Santa and grant that wish.

This is her busiest time of year and the young Delmar housewife has recently had to turn down a number of party-givers' calls for help. "I hate to disappoint people," she said, "but I get booked up pretty far in advance."

Those who did plan ahead, so they could provide holiday guests with Mary's menu specialties, have also found that hosting can be a lot more fun when someone else is tending the stove and refilling platters.

Mary provides that service, arriving at a party site in plenty of time to heat up either a variety of hors d'oeuvres or a full course dinner, or she just prepares the food for pick-up if that arrangement has been made.

Within one eight-day period this month, she's cooked for three "substantial" parties. (Translation: 50 to 100 people.) Making the goodies for other large and small gatherings has kept her kitchen warm and fragrant all fall.

A short, dark-haired woman whose eyes sparkle with enthusiasm, Mary lives with her husband, Daniel, a professor at Albany Law School, and their three children, Dan, 11, Vincent, 7, and Meredith, 5, in a large, comfortable home on Wellington Rd.

About three years ago, she confided to a friend that "someday" she'd like to try expanding her hobby into a business. "Why not do it now?" the friend responded and the challenge was all Mary needed to decide she could schedule cooking orders around her own family responsibilities.

She placed a small ad in *The Spotlight* and her phone started ringing.

"At the beginning," she said, "I just did salads and desserts, and most of those first calls were from people I knew." But as she gained more confidence and word of her talents spread, the demand gradually exceeded her time limitations.

A native of the Washington D.C. area, Mary comes by her culinary skills naturally. Her grandfather was for many years the chef at the Mayflower Hotel in



Mary Moriarty in her favorite room in the house.

Tom Howes

the nation's capital, and he cooked all the family holiday meals.

"I grew up on artichokes," she said, "and we all — being a typical Italian family — loved to eat."

Her grandmother is not only a marvelous cook, according to Mary, but also "the original white tornado" when it comes to housekeeping, a trait Mary lays no claim to because "my heart isn't in it."

But she does love to socialize and

thinks the best parties are informal and that no one should be afraid to cook for good friends. "Disasters can be fun, too," she said, "and everyone can march to the garbage disposal together."

She herself "made a mess" of a jambalaya dish she cooked for a New Year's Eve party with friends just last year, she said, because she was anxious to get things done early and the rice turned mushy.

She also tells a story on her husband, whom she calls "wonderfully supportive." She had just returned home after the birth of their second child, so he offered to cook her breakfast in bed.

Up came the tray with orange juice, tea, and a dish of oatmeal — "and it was awful," Mary said, "but I really struggled and managed to eat it all." Whereupon her solicitous husband reappeared to say he'd dumped his own portion in a hurry.

"He thought he'd be a little creative, so he'd pulled out a couple of spices — anise and oregano, I think he said — to make that oatmeal really special." Mary still shudders, with a laugh, at the memory.

Delmar is a very social community, Mary thinks, but she has been surprised to find that most of her clients are older women, rather than the career women she expected to hear from.

The older women are accustomed to entertaining, Mary said, but now they have difficulty doing the necessary shopping and cooking. So they greatly appreciate what Mary has to offer.

She's always glad to be called upon by new clients — with several months notice — and wouldn't at all mind a little competition because of the number of short-notice requests she can't handle.

"I'm not ambitious or looking for attention," Mary said — "I just get a lot of pleasure from cooking and entertaining."

She readily admits, too, that her business is merely a sideline to her role as wife and mother. Her profits get banked and used for vacation trips.

In January, the Moriarty family will spend some of her earnings to visit relatives in Florida and when they return Mary plans to stay home for awhile and try out some new recipes because she's getting a little bored with her current repertoire.

Delmar man promoted

Nathaniel H. Reed of Delmar has been promoted to director of corporate human resources at Albany International. Reed joined Albany International in 1979 as personnel manager for the Plastics Products Division, and was appointed director of human resources for the Industrial Products Group in 1980. In his new position he will be responsible for overseeing such corporate functions as planning and policy development in the areas of organization and manpower, recruitment, management development and training, employee relations, labor relations and negotiations, and compensation and benefit programs.

A graduate of Harvard University, Reed was employed for eight years by Pfizer Inc., where he held various personnel-related positions in that company's world headquarters in New York City and in several field operations. He also served as captain in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. He is a native of Clarendon, Vt. He and his wife, Noreen, have one daughter.

Bonsai Society meets

The Mohawk Hudson Bonsai Society meets on the fourth Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. at the county Cooperative Extension Building, Martin Rd., Voorheesville. Helen Breeze of Slingerlands is advisor to the club.

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David Lee accompanied himself with an assist from the choir at the Bethlehem Middle School's Christmas concert by seventh and eighth graders. *Tom Howes*

Grant for orchestra

The Delmar Community Orchestra is slated to receive a \$400 grant from the Decentralization Plan for the Capital District of the state Council on the Arts. The Plan redistributes state arts funds on the local level, and is a cooperative endeavor of the Albany League of Arts, the Rensselaer County Council for the Arts and the Schenectady Arts Council. Orchestra president is Dr. Samuel Kantor of Slingerlands.

Youth films at library

The Bethlehem Public Library will become a movie theater for children on Friday, Jan. 7. Showtimes for preschoolers who want to see "Andy the Lion", "The Wizard" and "Mickey's Trailer" will be at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. "Winter of the Witch" and "Bear Country," after-school films for older children, will be shown at 4 p.m.

The films are free. For a more detailed movie clock, call 439-9314.



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Voorheesville in the limelight

By Nat Boynton

All of a sudden Voorheesville basketball is a Page One item in the metropolitan press. The Blackbirds' thrilling 43-42 win at Albany Academy in a collision of unbeaten teams was splashed across the front of the Albany *Times-Union* sports section Saturday morning, and the Schenectady *Gazette* had a detailed account by a staff writer.

But all that publicity and his team's 4-0 perch atop the Colonial Council didn't help Coach Chuck Abba relax. "It's a lot of responsibility protecting an undefeated record, and if the boys start pressing too hard, they could find themselves coming apart. We've won both our games on the road without playing particularly well, and there are a lot of good teams in this league who can capitalize on any letdown," he observed.

The Academy win was a biggie, and if the Blackbirds get by Ravena this week (Tuesday), they will go into the Christmas break 5-0 in the league, 6-0 overall.

Against the Cadets, the Blackbirds showed an aggressive brand of ball that pleased Abba. "The kids went nose to nose with Academy," he said later. "I was especially happy with the defense put up by the guards, Lennon, Hogan, Jeff Rockmore. Meacham didn't score a point, but he hounded Verstandig the whole game, made him earn every point. It was a fine job."

The reference was to Mark Verstandig, Academy's top all-around athlete and a Delmar resident who has been outstanding in football, basketball and baseball. Even with Jim Meacham, his Voorhees-

ville counterpart and opposing quarterback in the fall, sticking to him like a coat of paint, Verstandig led the Cadet scoring with 14 points. He almost had the winning basket twice, once when he meshed a 15-footer to give Academy a 42-41 lead with 19 seconds left, and again just before the buzzer when, after Voorheesville's Mike Lewis had hit on a turnaround jumper to put the Blackbirds back on top, Verstandig launched a 20-foot jumper that rolled off the rim.

The confrontation, the first of two that may decide the league title, started tentatively. Academy was up for the game, and the Birds were sluggish on offense but tenacious on defense. It was 16-all at the half.

Academy opened the third period with six unanswered points. Trailing 22-16, John Zongrone led a Voorheesville surge that pulled even at 22 apiece, and the lead seasawed until Lennon canned two free throws to draw even at 28-28 as the quarter ended.

The Blackbirds had a chance to break the game open in the final chapter. They were in charge by 35-32, but missed a couple of easy shots, and the aggressive Cadets converted two rebounds to surge ahead at 38-37. With the clock winding down, the teams exchanged hoops, Lennon hitting a jumper and Academy's Jim Pulleo canning a baseline shot.

That put Academy up by 40-39. With 19 seconds on the clock, Mike Lewis connected, but the basket was nullified by a whistle. The Voorheesville star went to the line and converted both ends of a one-

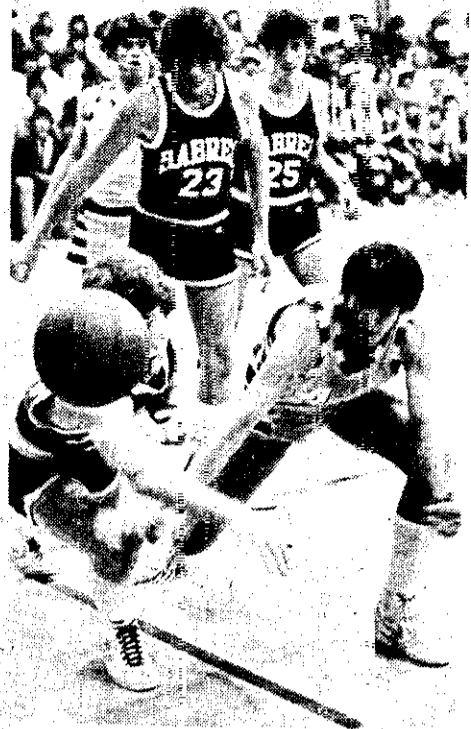
and-one, and Academy called time to set up the game-winning play.

The strategy worked, and Verstandig ruffled the cords for a 42-41 lead. Lennon and Meacham brought the ball to half-court, where Abba called time to set up the final play. Lennon got the ball to Lewis, draped with three Academy defenders, and the big forward spun around to fire the winning basket.

With five seconds left, Verstandig threw up a 20-footer that rolled away. "It may not have been an artistic game, but it was certainly exciting," said Abba.

With the guards busy, three Blackbirds did all the scoring. Lewis, the league's standout player, had 18, Zongrone 10 and Lennon 15.

Lennon's surprising and important scoring surge started three nights earlier when he pumped in 20 points, his career high, in Tuesday's 81-38 rout of Schalmont. Lewis, Zongrone and Ray Donnelly added 12 each, and Lewis had 13 rebounds. The Blackbirds had a 41-16 bulge at intermission and enjoyed themselves the rest of the way.



Basketball action at Voorheesville: John Schultz pursues the bouncing ball in the Blackbirds' 81-37 rout of Schalmont.

Tom Howes



Rabid rooters whoop it up for Voorheesville's Blackbirds in a home basketball game against Schalmont. They were not disappointed.

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Whipple keeps it interesting

For Jack Whipple's Bethlehem Central swimmers it was a week to stay home and have fun. This week it's take the bus and have fun.

To keep things interesting in two Adirondack Swim Conference meets against Burnt Hills and Amsterdam, Whipple decreed that each member of his squad swim an event he hadn't done this year. That meant distance specialists swimming sprints, sprinters swimming the 'fly, etcetera.

Even with these shenanigans, the Eagles submerged Burnt Hills by 82-45 and Amsterdam by 89-38. This week it was Albany Academy Tuesday in the Cadets' tank.

As it turned out, there were some good clockings. Dave Young, normally a sprinter, won the 200 freestyle against Amsterdam in 2:00.2, and Doug Schulz, not a butterflyman, won the 'fly in 58.9 seconds. "Excellent time," said Whipple.

Schulz also thrashed the 50-yard free in 23.3 seconds in his first try at that event, a clocking good enough to win against most of the other teams in the circuit.

Matt Holland tried his hand at the breaststroke for the first time this year, and won it in 1:07.7. Knute Hvalsmarken, not a sprinter, won the 50 against Burnt Hills in 24.3, his personal best, and Fred Rudofsky, a sophomore in his first year



Scott Apicelli of Bethlehem Central in the butterfly leg of the 200-yard individual medley against Amsterdam in the BC pool. Tom Howes

on the varsity, had his first win in the 100 free against Amsterdam (55.4 seconds).

John Henahan made his debut in the butterfly against Amsterdam and won it in 1:01.4, then came back with only one event's rest to take the backstroke in 1:05.5. A good time was had by all, including Rob Leslie, who won the diving for the first time.

Now it's back to hard work. The boys will be practicing daily all through vacation, but Whipple has given he is not a tough taskmaster: he's giving them Christmas Day and New Year's Day off.

RCS looks for right combo

When the basketball season was getting underway, RCS Coach Tim Tucker was saying that he could use almost any combination of his 12 players without giving up quality.

After the first two or three games, Tucker said what the Indians needed most was a consistent starting lineup, and he set out to find the right combination.

Last week he settled on four juniors and a sophomore, only to lose Dan Baker to an elbow injury that made him questionable for this week's (Tuesday) test at Voorheesville. Baker, the Indians' most productive "inside" man, was forced out of last Friday's game with

Cohoes with the visitors leading by only two points with two minutes left. Without Baker, the Indians lost by six, 55-49.

Tucker's starting combo of Bill Lipscomb, Tony Pearson, Bob Mosley, sophomore Dee Bowie and Baker stayed with Cohoes, defending Colonial Council champions, right down to the final two minutes. They outscored Cohoes from the field, 21-19, but the visitors hit on all their one-and-ones.

A fifth junior, Mike Constantine, earned praise from Tucker for his work coming off the bench. If Baker's injury turns out to be disabling, Constantine was slated for a starting role at Voorheesville.

WRESTLING

Blackbirds 4th at Fonda

"A couple of breaks here and there, and we could have won it."

That was Coach Dick Leach's appraisal of the weekend's wrestling combat in the Fonda tournament, where Voorheesville finished fourth of eight teams. Leach's summary was borne out by the fact that only 12½ points separated the Blackbirds from first place.

The team came home with two individual championships, Jeff Clark in the 126-pound class and Shawn Sheldon at 112. Matt Beals got a second place, losing the 138-pound final to Pat Izzo of Mechanicville, the top seed and one of Section 2's best. Beals had upset the No. 2 seed in the semifinals.

Sean Rafferty also did more damage than expected. Seeded fourth in the 167-pound division, Rafferty shocked the top seed in the semifinals and was edged, 11-10, in the finals.

The Blackbirds had a Wednesday date this week at Schalmont, and face a severe test against teams from all sections of New York State and Vermont in the Queensbury tournament on Dec. 29.

Learn sign language

Children 7 and up interested in learning beginners' sign language can register for a series of four workshops on consecutive Thursdays at the Bethlehem Public Library, starting Jan. 6 at 4 p.m. Those wanting to learn how to sign to the deaf should pre-register for the free sessions by calling the library at 439-9314.

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BC girls bow to Colonie

Bethlehem Central had won three Section 2, Class A girls' volleyball titles in the last seven years. Last Saturday Colonie snapped Coach Carol Walts' streak of two with a 15-10, 16-14 win at Shenendehowa. Bethlehem, boasting four Empire State Games veterans, is not accustomed to settling for second in both the Suburban Council and Section 2.

Seeded number two in the sectional tournament, Bethlehem had no trouble squashing Guilderland, Mont Pleasant and Troy in six straight games. Shenendehowa, seeded number three, topped 12-15, 15-7, 15-7 in the semifinals, as did Eagle Amy Davis who had to leave the match when a collision left her with a swollen chin. Colonie, a unique team with two deaf starting varsity players and four deaf JV members, brought the BC run to an end in the finals. It claimed the winner's trophy without losing a single tourney game.

But Colonie and Bethlehem's moments in the sun could well be over. With four seniors in the lineup, the Garnet Raiders may find their fate similar to that of Shaker, who this year fell from the ranks to mediocrity when four of their own graduated.

Among the BC class of 1983 are team captains Alunda Smith, whose defense helped clinch the third game against the Plainswomen, and Laurie Weinert, who best combines hard hitting with good placement and anticipation. Also leaving for college will be starting center hitter Cathy McNamara, BC's tallest player at 5'11", Ann Howell, Maureen Walsh and Lisa Apicelli. The bench will be vacated by Patty Brown, Mary Brooks, Sue



Maureen Walsh goes high for a spike in Bethlehem Central's win over Scotia in Suburban Council volleyball action. Moving in is Ann Howell (9). Tom Howes

Schwarz and Davis. Only junior Kelly Burke and sophomore Julie Liddle will be left for the "skeleton" of 1983.

Earlier last week, Bethlehem easily brought their regular season record to 9-1 by taking target practice against Scotia.

One hundred percent BC serving in the first game saw three Eagle servers and a record low 17 serves (nine by Apicelli) more than enough to win, 15-0. Only one Bethlehem serve went out of bounds in game two, which also went BC's way, 15-2.

In an exhibition game on Thursday, Walts bettered her winning record against crosstown rival Ravena, 15-6, 16-14. Ravena had won the Colonial Council title with only one loss.

Julie Ann Sosa

BC wrestlers get a lesson

Bethlehem Central wrestlers will continue workouts through the two-week holiday recess to sharpen their skills for the toughest part of the schedule coming up in January.

Rick Poplaski's young team, developing into one of the more formidable contingents in the area, extended their dual meet record to 4-0 last week by bulldozing Scotia, 58-6, but ran into a steamroller in the Oxford tournament over the weekend.

At Oxford in Central New York, the Eagles finished eighth among 12 teams that included Fulton, 1982 state champions; Unatego, Section 4 champions, and Queensbury, a ranking Section 2 wrestling power. Last year 15 wrestlers from the Oxford tournament went to the state championships in March.

"I've been taking teams there for the last eight years, and this is the toughest competition I've yet seen," Poplaski said upon his return. "The caliber of wrestling was really tremendous. We found out a lot about ourselves and where we have to improve."

Only two BC grapplers placed in the top four in their weight classes. Rob VanAernem earned third place in the 105-pound eliminations, and Paul Callanan was fourth at 119 pounds despite knocking off the tourney's second and fourth seeds.

"It was important to us to pick up tournament savvy," Poplaski added. "Everyone wrestled three or four times, and some of our boys had early leads and then made mistakes. That experience will pay off in the future."

Poplaski will take his team to what he views as "an even tougher tournament" Jan. 8 at Middletown, where there will be teams from several states. Meanwhile,

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the Eagles have a league encounter at Mohonasen today (Wednesday) and a non-league dual meet at Mont Pleasant on Jan. 5.

In the Suburban Council opener with Scotia, Bethlehem had pins from Wayne Peschel, Mark Lindell, Chris Essex, Brett Zick and Dave Boettcher.

Arrested after collision

Bethlehem police arrested a Selkirk man Saturday after the car he was driving on Rt. 9W near Wemple Rd. swerved into the oncoming traffic and collided with another car. Neither driver was seriously injured.

Arrested for driving while intoxicated and failing to keep right was James W. Pyle, of Clapper Rd., Selkirk. He and the driver of the other car, Ann Birther, also of Selkirk, were taken to Albany Medical Center, where they were treated and released.

There were five other DWI arrests by Bethlehem police last week, four the result of routine traffic arrests on or near Rt. 9W and one the result of a property damage accident on Delaware Ave.

First period blahs plague Eagle five

This habit of starting basketball games with a miserable first period is posing a problem for Bethlehem Central's first-year varsity coach, but Gary Przybylo remains undaunted in the midst of adversity.

Two more losses dropped the Eagles to 0-3 in the Suburban Council, 1-4 overall, as they headed into a home game last night (Tuesday) against Scotia, leading the league's Gold Division.

In all three Council outings, the Eagles have started out as though they were hypnotized or under local anesthesia. The latest examples were last Tuesday's game at Mohonasen, when BC was outscored by 22-5 in the first quarter, and at Colonie on Friday, when they were down 21-6 after eight minutes.

Against the Mohons, Bethlehem came back to trim the deficit to 11 points at halftime, 37-26, and cut it to four points with a minute and a half remaining. But then they missed a couple of free throws

and wound up losing by 68-58.

The pattern at Colonie was similar. BC got the home team's bulge down to 10 points by the end of the third period, then let the game get away for good at 75-50. Colonie's veteran team took advantage of BC's inexperience, profiting from turnovers and mental mistakes.

That inexperience was especially costly against Mohonasen, where the Eagles were charged with 35 fouls and the Mohons made 22 of 40 free throws to BC's 9 of 17.

After the Christmas tournament in Delmar, however, the Eagles will have had eight games under their belts, and inexperience will no longer be an excuse.

Przybylo was encouraged by the improvement of several of his players. Mike Mooney had 16 points at Rotter-

dam, and Howard Thompson came off the bench to lead the comeback, getting 12 of his 14 points in the third period.

At Colonie Mark Gibbons had his finest game, scoring 19 points and dominating both boards with 18 rebounds. Mooney added 11 points and Jim Dering 10.

"One of these days we're going to put it together and surprise somebody," says Przybylo.

Cable cut

Crews drilling a tunnel for a new sewer line under the Delaware and Hudson right-of-way in Slingerlands accidentally severed a 600-pair telephone cable Monday morning, putting much of the hamlet, as well as the nearby Blue Cross-Blue Shield building, out of touch. The break also made for a lively morning at the Bethlehem police station, where dispatchers were kept busy checking out alarms as New York Telephone crews put lines back in service. A telephone company spokesman said the repairs were expected to be completed by Monday night.

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

Board wants input

Editor, The Spotlight:

A recent letter to the editor entitled "A Threat to Slingerlands" concerning applications for variances by Hess and the Ross Ice Cream stand to the Town of Bethlehem Zoning Board of Appeals has been brought to our attention.

The Zoning Board of Appeals felt that we should share with you the actual facts of these two proceedings which concerned applications before the Board of Appeals.

The letter by Mr. Knighton, as Vice President of the Slingerlands Homeowners Association, appears to complain about some "expansion" of the Hess Station and Ross's Ice Cream stand, "with no input from the community." It should be emphasized that each of these applications for modification in existing variances were duly published in *The Spotlight*, as required, and notice of the hearing duly mailed to those required by law to receive them. A full public hearing was held on each of these requests.

Specifically, at the recent Hess hearing, which merely concerned a request to renovate and modernize the station and did not expand the facility as alleged, there was no opposition to the proposal by anyone.

In regard to Ross's Ice Cream stand, the applicant merely requested to be allowed to replace the existing storage and bathroom facilities in the garage, with similar facilities inside the stand area for convenience of the employees and more efficient operations. No expansion

of patron facilities occurred. As a matter of fact, with the removal of the garage facilities there was actually a slight decrease in the overall size of this pre-existing use (i.e., a non-conforming use which pre-dates zoning in that area). Again, all of this took place at a public hearing with neighborhood and community input and comments. As a matter of fact Roger DiNucci, former president of the Slingerlands Homeowners Association, was present and spoke in opposition to the proposal without any specific criticism.

Mr. Knighton might wish to consult with other members of the association to advise him regarding these public events, or if he wishes, he may review, at his leisure, the transcript of the hearing minutes of these recorded proceedings at Town Hall.

This board is always quite interested and desirous of receiving hearing input from the Slingerlands Homeowners Association and their authorized representatives, at any time.

We certainly remain ready to respond to concerns when duly expressed at any public hearing on the merits of any application.

We sincerely appreciate the continued interest of the Slingerlands Homeowners Association in good zoning.

Charles B. Fritts
Chairman
Board of Appeals

pattern. I believe the board letter shows that my concerns were well founded.

The Zoning Board may be following the letter of the law with their microscopic print legal notices, but they could certainly do more to follow its spirit. Specifically, publish a reasonable size advertisement in the *Spotlight* when a hearing will take up something out of the ordinary. This is now often the practice when agencies really want community input. Maybe the *Spotlight* could offer the board a discount as a community service. Also, the board could notify local neighborhood organizations, through a copy of the meeting agenda, when something of interest to their area is scheduled.

But let's not leave it all up to someone else. Do something now to make yourself heard! Write to the Zoning Board and tell them that you are opposed to commercialism along New Scotland Rd. and that whether or not you can attend a particular hearing you expect them to take your opinion into consideration.

Robert Knighton

Slingerlands

In addition to the legal notices placed by the board, *The Spotlight* regularly publishes notices of public hearings to be held by the Board of Appeals (as well as the planning board and the town board) in the *Community Calendar*. Frequently there are news stories as well. Ed.

Encore on stage

Editor, The Spotlight:

Last week I took time from the hectic holiday schedule to watch a performance of "Arsenic and Old Lace" put on by the Bethlehem Central senior class. It was terrific. I applaud the efforts of all those involved and hope they will continue to CHARGE! through life with equal enthusiasm.

Name submitted

Delmar

More vigilance required

Editor, The Spotlight:

The Zoning Board's letter underscores the point of mine — that if we as a community do not make our feelings known, commercial blight will be allowed to continue to take root along New Scotland Road.

My letter did not take specific issue with the handling of the Hess and Ross situations but did express concern that they might be part of an emerging

Spotlight IN RETROSPECT

Dec. 19, 1957

The *Spotlight's* issues of Dec. 12 and Dec. 19, crammed with Christmas advertising, were the largest in the brief history of the paper — 18 pages. Publisher Tracy Walsh celebrated the paper's second birthday earlier this month by giving cash prizes and gift certificates in a drawing held in front of the Delmar Theater. Elizabeth Ann Bell, 49 Union Ave., who holds *Spotlight* subscription No. 917, was the winner of the \$100 bill. Other winners were Andrew A. Brown, Dr. Robert King, Mrs. Garson Zausmer and John Braun.

Dec. 21, 1967

The Delmar Fire Dept. will spray a fire retardant solution on Christmas trees brought to the firehouse on Saturday, Dec. 23, from 1 to 5 p.m.

The BCHS Men's Association is again sponsoring the annual Alumni Basketball Game, with proceeds helping to defray expenses of such events as the annual Lettermen's Dinner, seasonal sports schedules and awards to BCHS championship teams. The first game on Dec. 29 at 7:30 p.m. will pit the Youth Recreation team against a St. Thomas CYO team, followed by the BCHS alumni team against a Bethlehem Faculty and Recreation team.

Dec. 20, 1962

John B. Geurtze of Glenmont was elected a water commissioner and Thomas V. Corrigan of Delmar a sewer commissioner in district elections the first Tuesday of December. Kenneth Ruthman received 14 votes for water commissioner and 16 votes for sewer commissioner, leading Geurtze to remark: "What would Mr. Ruthman have done if he had been elected to both offices?"

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Mrs. Nathan J. Wilson

Debra Boehm wed

Debra Ellen Boehm, daughter of Mrs. Jeanne M. Swift of Guilderland and the late Jack A. Boehm, was married Sept. 25 to Nathan John Wilson, son of Mrs. Barbara Wison and John B. Wilson, both of Wayland, Mass. The ceremony took place in the Church of the Holy Spirit, Wayland.

Matron of honor was Mrs. Lance Zingale, and bridesmaids were Mrs. Michael McCaffery, Carole Bouchard, Mrs. David Jones, sister of the bridegroom, and Carol Rafferty. Amy Binderman was flower girl.

Timothy Shannon was best man, and ushers were Dean and Bruce Wilson, brothers of the bridegroom; John Sellier and David Boehm, brother of the bride.

Mrs. Wilson is a graduate of Bethlehem Central High School and Syracuse University. She is a department sales manager for Woodward & Lothrop, Washington, D.C. Her husband also is an alumnus of Syracuse University and is a structural engineer with Bechtel Power Corp., Gaithersburg, Md. The couple will reside in Gaithersburg.



Mr. & Mrs. Keith Peters

Nancy Brown bride

Nancy Patricia Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Cameron Brown, Jr. of Wellington Rd., Delmar, became the bride of Keith F. Peters, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Peters of Matamoras, Pa., at a nuptial mass on Nov. 27 at the Cathedral of All Saints, Albany. The celebrant was the Very Rev. David S. Ball, dean of the Cathedral, assisted by Rev. Gary W. Kriss, canon precentor, and by Rev. Stephen M. Kelsey of Port Jervis.

The bride was attended by her maid of honor, Margo Scholl of Hatfield, Pa., who read the Epistle; Mrs. John

Fink of Schenectady and Mrs. James McFayden of Riverdale, N.J., her classmates at Plattsburgh State, and by Mary Klopfer, a colleague at SUNY Administration.

The groomsmen included the best man, Dennis Springer of Port Jervis, who read the Prophecy, William King of Syracuse, Thomas King of Matamoras and J. Cameron Brown III of North Hyde Park, Vt.

A reception followed at the Turf Inn, after which the couple left for a honeymoon in Nassau, Bahamas. They are employed by the Port Jervis school system and reside in Matamoras, Pa.

New radio service

A Legislative Information Program Service (LIPS) will be launched in January for subscribers in eastern New York and western New England. LIPS will be transmitted on WMAC's private subcarrier channel and can be received only with a special receiver provided by WMAC. The service will carry live, daily coverage of the state Senate and Assembly, plus public affairs programs on WMAC and National Public Radio when the legislative bodies are not on the air. The annual cost to subscribers is \$300. Further information may be obtained by calling WMAC at 356-4310.

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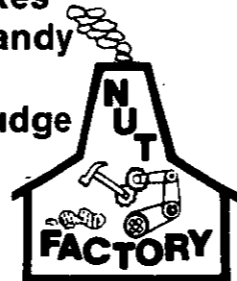


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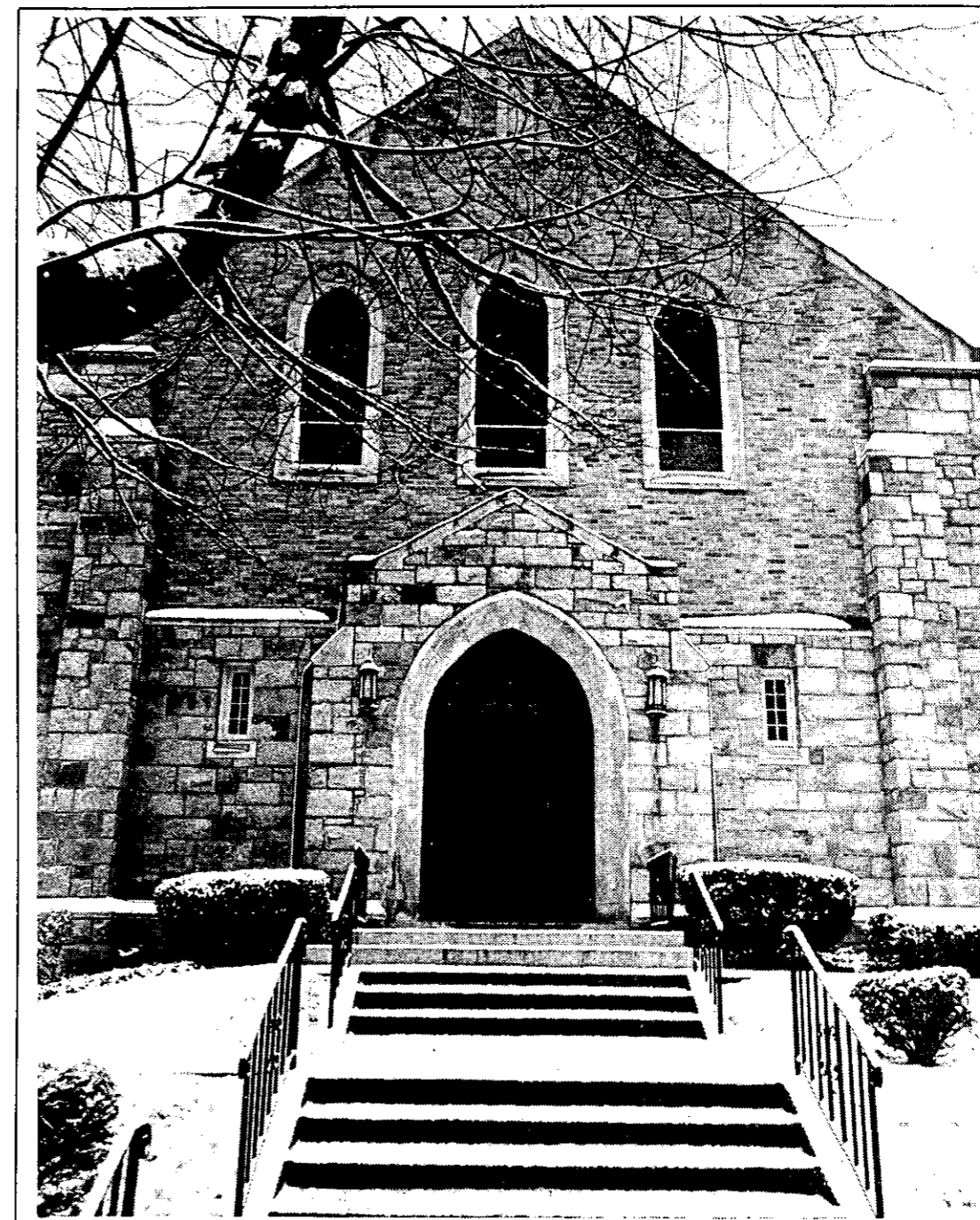
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December 22, 1982

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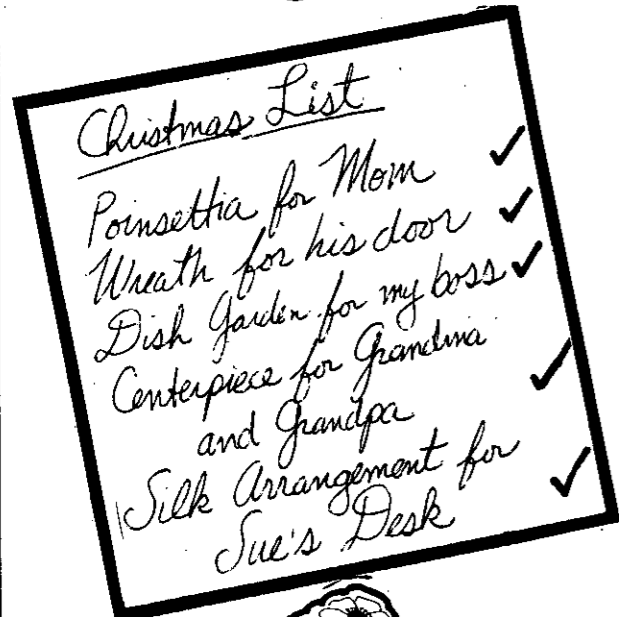
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The giving never ceases

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