

Hard times, suspicions face budget makers

BC board faces conflicting pressures

By Caroline Terenzini

"The toughest year yet" is how Bethlehem Central School District Business Administrator Franz Zwickl-bauer sees it as the school board heads into its annual budget-making process. And board President Bernard Harvith agrees: "This may be the worst of my 11 years on the board. We'd have to buy a counterfeiting machine to have a no-increase budget."

This could be the year that the state finally does reduce aid to more "wealthy" districts, like Bethlehem. Federal grants for programs for the handicapped and remedial reading instruction also seem in doubt. Declining interest rates mean another drop in the district's income, and natural gas deregulation is wiping out expected energy savings.

On top of all that, Bethlehem Central is heading into negotiations with the union that represents its teachers, and there is no telling yet what a new contract will cost.

As it stands now — before the board gets to work on the raw figures — it doesn't take a mathematician to add all these factors together and come up with a substantial tax increase.

Clearly, it's not business as usual — and in more ways than one. When the 1983-84 draft budget plan was presented to board members last Wednesday evening, two observers criticized the district for leaving off the bottom line, which has been the practice in recent years. Without knowing the draft totals and therefore its possible impact on the tax rate for Bethlehem and New Scotland residents in the district, those who want to express an opinion don't have a framework for their priorities, they argued.

It remains to be seen whether that protest will result in substantial changes

in the way the board operates. And, say administrators and board members, changing budget formats can hardly change the fact that much of the district's spending is already locked in place, either by state or federal mandates or by already-existing contracts.

While state and federal mandates govern nearly every aspect of the education of children, with the trend being to ask more from schools than the Three R's, it is difficult to separate out those costs that are under mandate. For example, the state requires busing for high school students living three or more miles from school and for younger students two miles from their school, but Bethlehem voters long ago put the limit at 1½ miles. So part of the cost of busing is mandated by the state, but part of it isn't.

And, while the state does not mandate maintenance of the buildings, "Sure, you can let the buildings go, but what does that lead to?" Zwickl-bauer asked.

By far the greatest portion of the district budget — 75 percent — goes for salaries and fringe benefits, which are subject to negotiation but then become a contractual expense. In the current budget, teacher salaries total nearly \$5 million of the \$15 million package. Then there is an additional nearly \$3 million for contributions to retirement funds, Social Security, workers' compensation and life and health insurance.

Health insurance premiums illustrate part of the problem, with a 37-percent increase in July, 1981; 6 percent the following January, 20 percent this past July and 12.7 percent in January, with another increase due in July.

Ways to hold down costs that worked in the past apparently won't work this year. The expected saving from switching to dual-fuel burners at several schools is evaporating as natural gas deregulation

Bethlehem budget sessions set

Anyone interested in following the ins and outs of the Bethlehem Central School District budget can attend budget work sessions at the Educational Services Center, Adams Pl., Delmar, where school board members and administrators hash over the numbers. The schedule, with topics, appeared in the district's monthly newsletter, *Bethlehem Central Highlights*, for January.

Wednesday, Feb. 16, 9 p.m. — operations and maintenance.

Wednesday, March 2, 9 p.m. — transportation, insurance, debt service, benefits and general support.

Wednesday, March 16, 9 p.m. — handicapped, BOCES, professional services, guidance, library and in-service.

Saturday, March 19, 9 a.m. — staffing and equipment

Wednesday, March 23, 7 p.m. — supplies, co-curricular, athletics, revenue and tax projections.

Wednesday, March 30, 7 p.m. — final review

Saturday, April 2, 9 a.m. — (If needed)

The budget is scheduled to be adopted at the board's regular business meeting at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 6. The district's annual meeting, at which the budget is formally presented to voters, is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, at the high school and voting will be 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. the following day at the Middle School.

unfettered prices. Then, too, the decline in interest rates means the district's investment income will drop about \$100,000.

Zwickl-bauer notes that the state's financial straits passage a \$100,000 reduction in the \$3.4 million the state contributed to Bethlehem's 1982-83 budget (making the state's share of BC's current \$15.03-million budget about 23 percent). In previous years, a "save harmless" provision has meant that a school district would receive no less than it did the year before, but this protection could be on the way out.

The approximately \$105,000 that comes to Bethlehem via federal grants for programs for the handicapped and

remedial reading instruction also is seen as in doubt.

Where, then, is the outlay going to be reined in? Board members have already said the district will have to look at cutting positions as one option. The district's three-year contract with its 228 teachers will expire at the end of June, and negotiations are getting underway on a new pact. A teacher on Step 1 of the salary schedule receives \$14,587 while nine faculty with administrative responsibilities receive more than \$30,000. Board President Bernard Harvith pointed out recently that it takes \$57,000 to provide a 1 percent increase on the teacher salary

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Sweets for Valentines

By Lynn Stapf

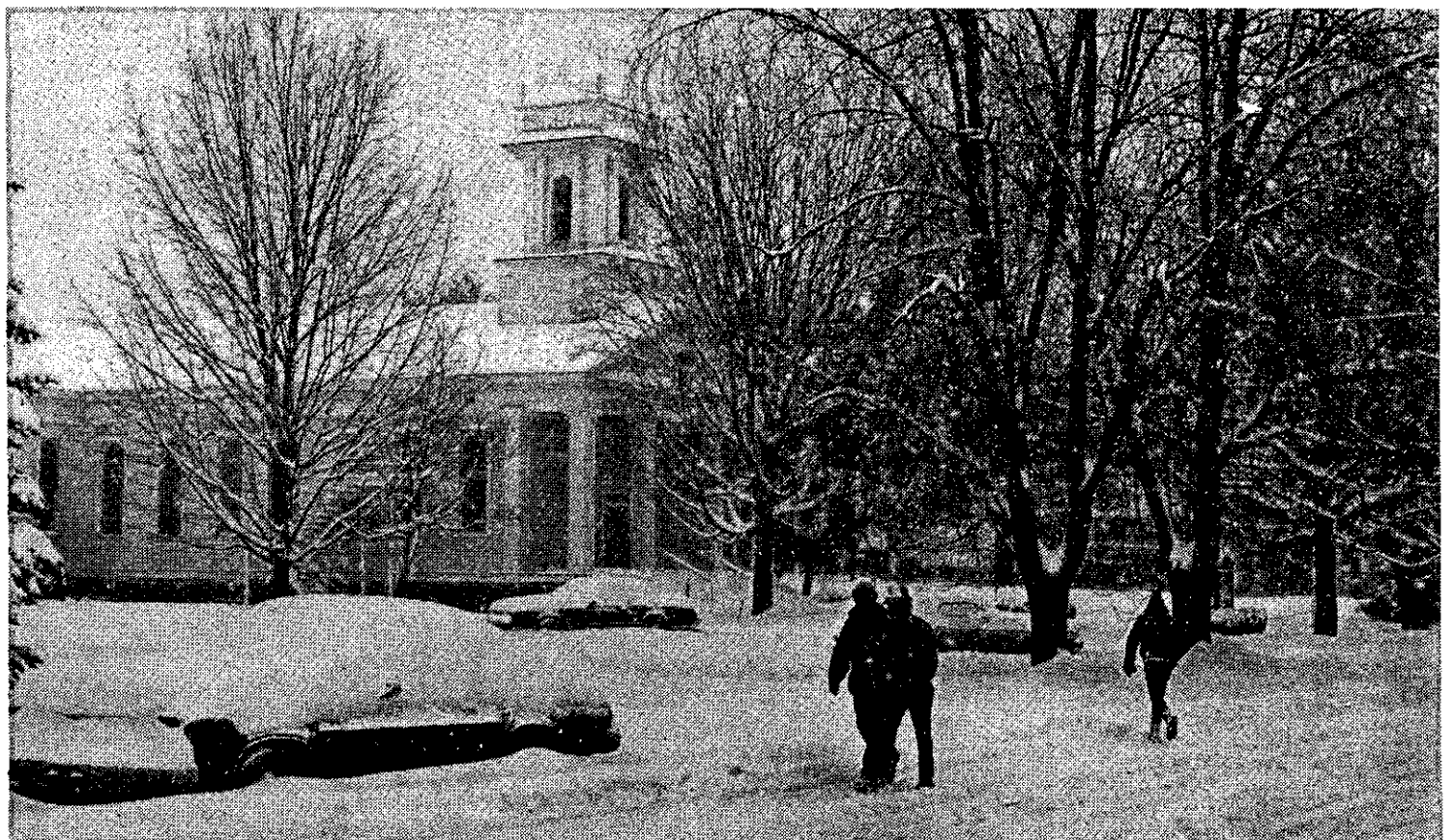
It has often been said that where love is concerned opposites attract.

This adage could also be applied to the uniquely successful marriage of two very different Voorheesville businesses owned by one happy Voorheesville couple.

Both located on Main St. in the former post office, the shops appear quite ordinary from the outside, with "Kandy Korner" on one window and "New Salem Heating" on the other. It's not until one enters the door in between that it is apparent that these two unlike commercial establishments share a common space separated only by a free standing partition.

"It's funny," remarks candy shop owner Marilyn Dergosits, "the ladies all seem to accept it. It's the men who are surprised. They'll walk into the store, look over both

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Winter tableaux were everywhere Monday midway through a 15-inch snowfall that delighted skiers, youngsters and camera buffs, but frustrated drivers, pedestrians and businessmen. This

scene at Delmar Four Corners was typical of the winter's second major snowstorm.

Tom Howes

□ Budget pressures

(From Page 1)

scale and a 1 percent tax rate increase yields approximately \$100,000.

"You either buy fewer pencils or the budget goes up," said a Delmar resident who is a professional budget examiner. "You can't do the same thing for the same money year after year. A hold-the-line budget usually means you don't add anything new, but everyone is subject to inflation."

"Businesses raise prices; governments raise taxes."

"If you go to a bottom line too early," Harvith said, "you scare the public. Taxpayers miss everything after the first new story and vote against the budget."

This verity is the cutting edge. In the past, after the budget proposals have been sifted through by administrators and the school board, and the compromises and the trade-offs made, the bottom line is reached and it is then,

predictably, that taxpayers get interested. Before this point, the number of budget sessions and the hours they typically take, as well as the line-by-line approach, apparently have discouraged citizen participation. "To the average citizen, it's not a very interesting thing," said Zwicklbauer. "He wants to know the bottom line: What's it going to cost me? Will my kids get the same service?"

The bottom line has been missing from the budget proposals in recent years while the board works on them in an effort to focus attention on the programs the tax dollars buy, instead of on the dollars. Also, "if you go to a bottom line too early," Harvith said, "you scare the public. Taxpayers miss everything after the first news story and vote against the budget."

That may be, but at last Wednesday's board meeting, when the 1983-84 budget draft was officially presented to board members, John Dearstyne of New Scotland argued, "We want to see the big picture, up front and bottom line. Our input doesn't mean anything when you're ready to vote on the budget — it's a fait accompli. We need to know the broad picture, even though it may be pie in the sky."

Martin Horn, a Delmar parent, also pressed the board: "The problem with the line-by-line approach is that voters can't say, 'Here's the overall scheme, here's what I want.' It makes it very difficult to express an opinion."

Harvith insisted that a bottom line at this point is meaningless because so many of the numbers will change and, further, that the pending negotiations require that the district not reveal its cards.

Horn asked, "If a voter says, 'What would a hold-the-line budget look like?' can you tell him?" Board member Robert Zick suggested that Zwicklbauer "work with the major numbers (and) tell the people where we stand." Zwicklbauer said Friday he expects to have a "hold-the-line" draft budget plan ready for the board's Feb. 16 meeting.

But Superintendent Lawrence Zinn said Monday he understood there was no consensus among board members about what "hold the line" meant. Since "the expectation is there," the administration will "come up with a set of figures that relate to the budget we have this year, with known increases," and that would provide the same program as this year.

He emphasized the sensitive nature of budget data this year because of pending negotiations with the teachers and said administrators and the board "are responsible for keeping ourselves in a flexible position." Zinn said an executive session to discuss the contract negotiations had been scheduled for tonight (Wednesday), and that he expects to talk with individual board members that evening about the budget format.

Even if there is a place to hold the line, does that mean supplying last year's services at this year's prices or holding the budget to last year's tax rate? "Some hard choices are going to have to be made," board member Robert Ruslander said last Wednesday. "Class size and staff cuts are going to come up. The question is: What priority does the community have? How much are they willing to lose if we have a no-increase budget?"

"If a voter says, 'What would a hold-the-line budget look like?' can you tell him?"

District administrators point to the record. Total budget increases in the past five years have ranged from 4.8 percent to 9.7 percent, during a time when inflation climbed steadily into double digits. Similarly, tax rate increases in those years for Bethlehem taxpayers have ranged from a low of 1.2 percent to a high of 5.6 percent. New Scotland taxpayers, while falling victim to state equalization rates in the past two years which meant tax rate increases of 13.2 percent last year and 15.4 percent the previous year, enjoyed tax rate decreases of more than 4 percent from 1977 to 1979.

The budget is as slim as it can get, Harvith maintains. "There's no place to go if we have serious financial trouble."

BC's budget, informally

Sheila Fuller, a member of the Bethlehem Central Board of Education, plans a series of weekly "coffees" at her home at 31 Albin Road, Delmar, to encourage district residents to speak out on their priorities for the school district budget.

Mrs. Fuller said one of the district's three top administrators will attend each meeting — Superintendent Lawrence Zinn, Asst. Superintendent J. Briggs McAndrews or Business Administrator Franz Zwicklbauer.

The sessions are planned for Mondays beginning Feb. 28, from 10 a.m. to noon. Mrs. Fuller said it can be "intimidating" to attend board budget work sessions, and hopes community residents, as well as staff members who may be free, will attend these informal coffees.

Cuts can't be absorbed across the board. We're not in a position to impose that in most of the areas where the big bucks are.

"What you really come down to is people's choice of program," he said, "and that comes down to class size. I don't think we can maintain existing class size without a tax increase."

While a tax rate increase is unpalatable to most people, increasing class size also is unacceptable to some. Sally Webb, a Glenmont parent, said, "I don't see how the teachers can handle what they have! Increasing class size would be very detrimental to a child's development." A Delmar parent of a third grader said, "There are 27 in his class — I think that's too many. There should be more emphasis on getting classes smaller at the elementary level."

And a year ago, when the size of language classes at the Middle School was an issue, board member Marjory O'Brien declared, "Thirty one in a class — no way!"

Yet the decline in enrollment appears to be tapering off, according to Zinn, who is predicting only 40 fewer students districtwide next year. So declining enrollment won't help balance the budget.

In the past, budget work sessions and board meetings have been sparsely attended, unless there was an issue such as the Challenge enrichment program, which was hotly debated last year both by the public and among board members. Yet, despite predictions by some critics that the inclusion of money for the Challenge program would mean certain defeat of the 1982-83 budget, the voter turnout was the lowest in seven years and supplied a comfortable margin of approval. Although every resident of the school district who is over 18 is eligible to

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Karen Hoogkamp, rear, and members of the Delmar Devils 4-H Club display their finished product after an afternoon of cooking spaghetti and sauce at the Village Corner in Slingerlands. Highlight of the instructional session was eating the supper they created.

Tom Howes

vote in a school election, typically fewer than 3,000 turn out.

Why the general lack of interest, given the size of the tax bills?

"There's a sense of deep frustration on the part of both the school board members and the taxpayers," said Jan Whitaker, Delmar parent. "I don't know how you get beyond it. I think the district has responded positively (to budget concerns on the part of the taxpayer) — they could do it more efficiently."

"I think they bend over backwards in terms of informing the public," said Lois Dorman, a Slingerlands parent and one-time board candidate. "I think it really is incumbent on people to attend budget sessions. It's so easy to be critical."

Marilyn Conley, payroll clerk for the district who served on a citizen advisory committee in the early 1970's, said the committee's meetings with administrators and the board during budget preparation were "very valuable for informing the union," which she represented. "It's helpful to see how the district has to compromise on all this. I think it opened all of our eyes to the complexity of trying to produce a school budget."

John Dearstyne, wanting to examine those complexities, did not find the district accommodating when he asked last Wednesday for a copy of the 50-plus page draft budget to take home for study. The budget proposal is a public document, and so copies are available during regular business hours at the Educational Services Center in Delmar. Anyone who wishes may add up the subtotals and even calculate a possible tax rate based on that total. But the amounts of state and federal aid and the size of the total property tax base in the district are all unknowns at this point.

During budget work sessions, copies of the proposal are available for observers, and people who want their own copy may have one made, at 25 cents a page. But, administrators have said, it is not particularly useful to have "the wish list" that the first draft represents widely disseminated. "The problem is there isn't one line that is going to remain constant," Ruslander observed.

At the same time, said Dearstyne, "the average person can't understand what you're doing. I think the public has a right to know."

Board gives Zinn raise, but debate budget, buses

By Caroline Terenzini

The Bethlehem Central school board at its meeting last Wednesday voted unanimously to renew the contract of district Superintendent Lawrence Zinn for three years beginning June 30, 1984, when his present contract expires.

Renewal of the contract was discussed during a closed "executive session" of the board Jan. 19, according to the minutes of that session, but the only comment by a board member during the public meeting at which the vote was taken was John Clyne's request that the new contract include the dates it covers, July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1987. The draft 1983-84 budget presented to the board that evening includes a pay hike of \$3,500, to \$54,500, for Zinn.

It wasn't the figures that were in the budget proposal but rather the figures that weren't that prompted discussion Wednesday, however. Martin Horn, a Delmar parent, and John Dearstyne of New Scotland, took the board to task in a sometimes heated exchange for the absence of a bottom line in the proposed 1983-84 spending plan. District officials prefer to work on the draft without a bottom line in order to focus on programs and not cost, and, in the words of board President Bernard Harvith, "to avoid scaring hell out of the taxpayers." Horn and Dearstyne argued, however, that it was difficult for the public to make suggestions about budgeting priorities without a budget total.

Franz Zwicklbauer, district business administrator, offered to work out a "hold-the-line" budget that would show the impact of expected aid cuts and of cost increases that can be forecast. However, negotiations with the teachers' union on a new contract are due to begin so that budget line cannot be filled in now.

Monday, however, Zinn said more consultation with board members is necessary before the district can provide any additional figures.

In other business, the board authorized use of a school bus by parents interested

in attending a swim meet in New Hartford, a Utica suburb, with the parents paying for the trip. Board member Robert Zick was opposed: "I don't think it's really the right thing to do — it's a great thing to do, but not the right thing," he said.

"I know I'll hear from the swimmers, but I think if the parents want to go, let them hire a public bus."

He noted that the district had rejected an appeal for a detour to take a child to a babysitter and other special requests and said, "I really feel we're entering an area not ethically correct."

Board member Marjory O'Brien reminded her colleagues that the board had turned down a request from parents in the Westchester Woods area for busing within the mile-and-a-half limit to avoid having high schoolers walk along Elm Ave. But in the end the board agreed to the plan, assured that it is legal, that a fee for "wear and tear" would be included in the mileage charge, and that there would be no conflict in scheduling. The vote was 6-1, Zick opposed.

Board member John Clyne added, "I think they'll be sorry — riding a school bus that far!"

On another busing question the board approved a trial of a policy allowing use of buses during the school day by school groups when such trips are not budgeted, with the group bearing the cost and as long as there are no scheduling conflicts and no need to hire a substitute driver. Zinn emphasized that groups making such arrangements will have to accept the possibility of a last-minute cancellation in the case of a driver's absence or a bus breakdown. Clyne added, "It is important that administrators make the decision on who goes and what for."

Several parents representing the newly-formed Bethlehem Central Marching Band Parents told the board they were planning a fund-raiser in the spring to purchase uniforms for a street band and hoped the board would include some money for that purpose in the budget. The uniforms cost about \$250 each.

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Bethlehem sells the Adams House

The Bethlehem Town Board has agreed to sell the Adams House, the historic structure that housed town offices until 1980, to the state Association for Retarded Children.

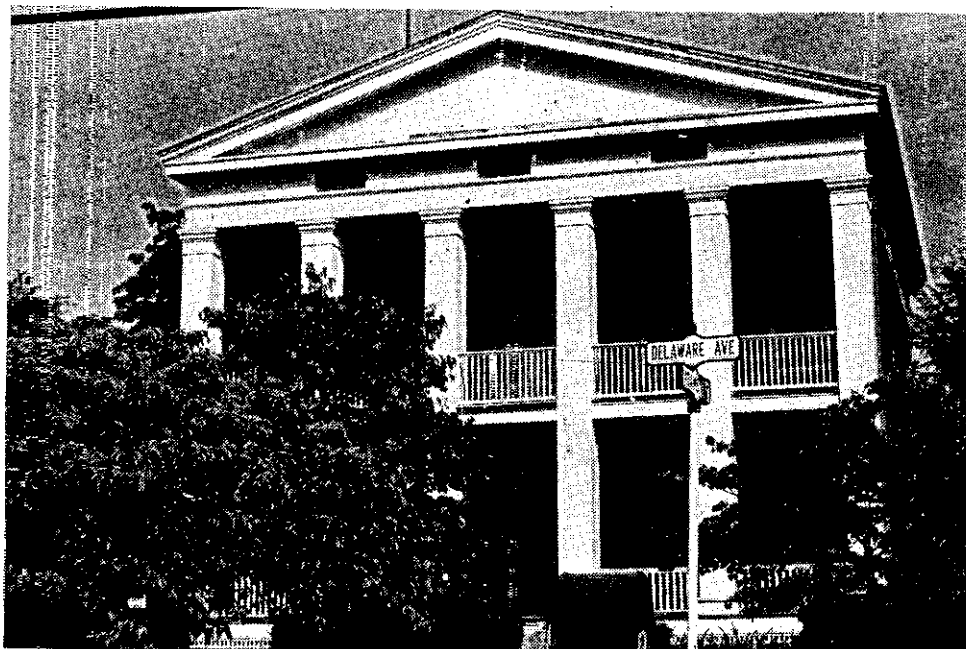
The \$115,000 sale price will help balance the town budget, a major reason the board decided to try and sell the aging and somewhat deteriorating structure last summer. But the sale also marks a first for the town: the first time a major state-wide organization has chosen to locate in the Delmar area.

"I'm delighted, really," said Supervisor Tom Corrigan Friday. "I think we have a lot to offer organizations like that, in terms of quality of life, proximity to the Capitol, and so on."

With the sale comes one drawback. The ARC is a non-profit organization and is exempt from local property taxes. Corrigan said he discussed that with other town board members and they agreed that the pluses outweigh the minuses.

The sale also means that three town organizations will have to find other quarters. The Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce, the Tawasentha Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Bethlehem Art Association, have all been formally notified that they will have to move by May 1, Corrigan said. The three groups had been using the Adams House space free of charge with the understanding that they would move if a buyer was found.

The ARC's lease in New York City expires at the end of June, according to the association's executive director, Marc Brandt. He said he expects to have remodeled first-floor offices for the 12 to 15 staffers who will man the new Delmar



The Adams House on Delaware Ave. in Delmar was put up for sale by the town last summer.

quarters ready by then, and to complete work on the rest of the building as time permits. The two parties have a tentative agreement on the sale but have not closed.

The Association for Retarded Children was founded in 1949 as a advocacy organization. It now functions as the "professional arm" of the 62 county chapters that run the actual programs, Brandt said. As such, the state organization's role is primarily administrative and it works very closely with state agencies and must lobby for its positions with the governor and the legislature. Thus the decision to move, he said.

The ARC was attracted to the Adams House because of the historic quality of the building and because of the setting,

Brandt said. And the organization is willing to stipulate that it will not change the facade of the building, he added. The state offices the ARC deals with are "close enough" and Brandt reasoned that having an attractive office would make it easier for the ARC to attract state officials — as well as county AFC officials — to Delmar for meetings and the like.

The town-owned parking lot across the street, with approximately 22 spaces, will be part of the deal, Corrigan said, and the

ARC will need a variance from the Board of Appeals to use that lot.

The fact that the ARC will be locating next to a community residence run by the Eleanor Roosevelt Developmental Services is a happy coincidence, Brandt said. "We'll be good neighbors," he said.

Oh, those pictures!

The picture bug continues to infect our editor, who — last week — mistakenly placed a picture of EnCon Administrative Law Judge Daniel Louis on page 2, with a story and caption about Voorheesville's possible condemnation of the Salem Hills treatment plant. The picture should, of course, have gone on page three with the story about Niagara Mohawk's coal conversion plans. And on page 3 the picture of Kenneth Connolly and Donald Meacham should have gone with the Voorheesville story on page 2. We're sorry, and we're looking at ways to mind our pictures and captions.

Computer talk for PTA

Parents and teachers wanting to know more about where the field of computer science is leading children can hear Gregory Alvord discuss "Computers in the School" with the Slingerlands PTA on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Slingerlands Elementary School. A question and answer period will follow the talk.

Alvord teaches computer courses at SUNYA College of Continuing Studies.

In Delmar The Spotlight is sold at Handy Andy, Delmar, Card Shop, Tri-Village Drug and Stewarts.

Kum Quat returns to BC

Bethlehem Central High School will be dimming the cafeteria lights for an evening of big-band dancing and night club entertainment performed by student-musicians on Saturday, Feb. 12, from 8 to 11 p.m. Admission to the Cubic Kum Quat and Cabaret is \$2 for adults and \$1 for students and senior citizens. Tickets will be sold at the door.

The dance music is designed for adult dancing, "40's in the '80's style." Songs sung by BCHS soloists, duos and groups will be interspersed between the dance sets. Joel Grey and Liza Minelli won't be there, but featured vocalists at the cabaret include Julie Corbett, Loretta Romero, Andy-LaBarge, Lynda Stokoe and Gretchen Brisee.

The event is under the direction of Joseph Farrell. The BCHS music department is returning to a 15-year tradition after dropping the Kum Quat portion of the Cabaret last year.

Julie Ann Sosa

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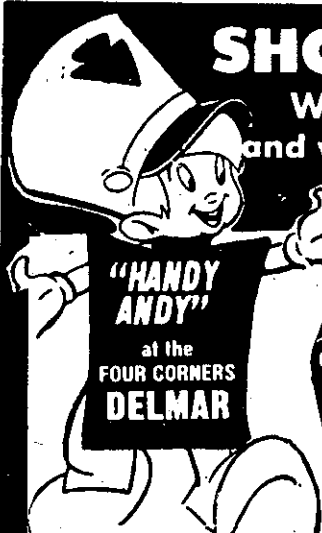
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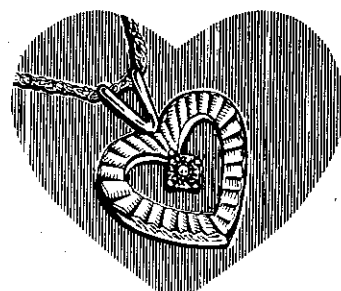
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Gifts That Say You Care

Selkirk rezoning asked

By Vincent Potenza

The Bethlehem Planning Board at its meeting last Tuesday night was presented with a request to change 3.5 acres in the southern portion of the town from B residential to commercial or light industrial zoning.

Robert H. Finke, owner of Robert H. Finke & Sons contractors' equipment business on Rt. 9W at the Coeymans town line, informally applied to Town Supervisor Tom Corrigan for the zoning change because his business is growing.

Building Inspector John Flanigan explained to the planning board, to which Corrigan had forwarded the request for a recommendation, that

Finke had already been before the town board of appeals with several variance applications to permit the business to expand to its present size. Two of the requests had been granted, Flanigan said, including at least one amendment to a previous variance to allow storage of heavy equipment on the premises. The original application to the board of appeals had been to allow the retail sale of chainsaws, Flanigan said.

The planning board postponed making a decision on a zoning change recommendation to the town board, which alone can make the actual change, pending a report from planning consultant Edward Kleinke and possible trips to the site by board members.

Garage variance sought

The Bethlehem Board of Appeals held a public hearing last Wednesday night for Elizabeth Potter, 2 Maple Terrace, Delmar. Mrs. Potter applied to the board for variances from the front yard, side yard and percentage-of-lot-occupancy provisions of the town zoning ordinance so that she might construct a garage addition to her home.

No one in attendance spoke for or against the proposal.

The board also granted a variance to Dr. and Mrs. Eric Spooner, 36 Tierney Dr., Delmar, for construction of a screened porch addition to their home. The variance from the percentage-of-lot-occupancy provision of the zoning ordinance was necessary due to a miscalculation by the contractor.

Chainsaw arrest

Bethlehem police have made a third arrest stemming from the Jan. 1 theft of chainsaws and other merchandise from Adams Hardware at the Four Corners. Acting on a warrant from Town Justice Peter Wenger, police Friday arrested Robert W. Van, 23, of Menands on a charge of criminal possession of stolen property second degree. He is alleged to have had three chain saws worth \$873 taken from the store. Last month police arrested two Delmar brothers in connection with the crime.

'Song of Solomon' reviewed

The Bethlehem Public Library's adult book discussion group will review Toni Morrison's novel "Song of Solomon" on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 7:30 p.m.

Charged in tipping

Four men, three from Bethlehem, have been charged with a felony count of criminal mischief in connection with a Dec. 27 incident at Geno's Auto Service on Delaware Ave. in Elmsire in which a car was tipped over and heavily damaged.

Arrested two weeks ago were Scott Macri, 20, of 7 Gardner Terrace, and a 19-year-old Delmar resident. Macri was released in custody of his parents pending an appearance in Bethlehem Town Court, and the 19-year-old lodged in Albany County Jail in lieu of \$2,500 bail. He has a Feb. 22 court date.

Last Friday, Bethlehem police picked up a 16-year-old Albany resident and a 17-year-old Selkirk man on the same charges. Both were lodged in the jail in lieu of \$2,500 bail. Their names, as well as that of the 19-year-old Delmar man, were withheld pending possible youthful offender status.

Snow ordinance in effect

The Town of Bethlehem has a "No Parking" ordinance, which prohibits parking on streets and highways in the town between 1 and 7 a.m. through April 15.

Purpose of the ordinance is to keep vehicles off the streets during hours when snow is removed. Vehicles parked in violation of the ordinance may be ticketed and/or towed at the owner's expense.

Foreign travel

There will be a free travelogue on Spain, Italy, Austria and Holland at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the Bethlehem Town Hall. Don Doremus will present the slide program.

NEW SCOTLAND

Landfill to reopen

New Scotland will reopen its landfill one day a week under new rules.

A spokesman at the town hall confirmed that the landfill will reopen on Saturday, Feb. 19, and will remain open Saturdays only from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Stephen P. Wallace, town supervisor, said he would publicize rules and regulations regarding use of the landfill as soon as they are approved by the town board.

The landfill on Upper Flat Rock Rd. was closed last October on mandate from state and county authorities concerned with leakage of the landfill's leaching field and its proximity to Onesquehanna Creek. The town has spent several hundred thousand dollars in closure procedures to conform with state and county requirements. It also has signed a contract to participate in the City of Albany's ANSWERS program, under which trash and garbage from participating municipalities are trucked to the city's Pine Bush receiving station for processing for the heat generating facility supplying public office buildings in downtown Albany.

Embroidering workshops

The Capital District chapter of the Embroiders' Guild of America will hold a series of miniworkshops at its meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, Kenwood Ave., Delmar. To pre-register for the workshops, members should call Marion Blaisdell at 966-5314.

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News from Selkirk AND South BETHLEHEM

Barbara Pickup 767-9225



Circus stories will provide the theme for the A.W. Becker Elementary School Winter Concert Thursday, Feb. 17.

Under the direction of Martin Ainspan, the children will perform selections from "Sam the Sad Circus Clown" and "Charlie the Carousel Horse." The concert will begin at 7 p.m. in the Becker School auditorium.

Mrs. Nancy Griffin, Pulver Ave., Ravena, was chosen queen of the Sno Ball held at the Bethlehem Elks Lodge recently. Picked from names submitted in advance, she was selected by Exalted Ruler Robert Hausman during the evening of the Jan. 22 event.

As queen of the festivities, Mrs. Griffin was presented with a corsage and beautiful silk flower arrangement.

The parents' group that meets regularly at the First Reformed Church of Bethlehem parsonage has produced some very animated discussions concerning the upbringing of children. The topic for their Feb. 14 gathering will be education, schools, teachers, etc. Each month a different topic is reviewed, discussed and sometimes disagreed upon. Parents wishing to share their views and concerns are invited to join the group at 7:30 p.m.

A pancake breakfast for the benefit of cerebral palsy will be held Sunday, Feb. 13, at the B.P.O.E. Lodge 2233, Rt. 144, Selkirk. The breakfast of pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, juice and coffee will be served from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased at the door: it's "all you can eat" for only \$3.50 for adults and \$2 for children. Youngsters under 5 are free.

Eleven men and women from the Bethlehem Elks Lodge also donated their time and efforts last week to cerebral palsy. Working from The Center for the Disabled, Manning Blvd., Albany, they

spent an evening contacting people who had previously pledged money during the CP phone-a-thon held in December.

The Bethlehem Grange will be host to the Colonie Grange this month during their visitation program. The program will be held at 8 p.m. Feb. 12 at the Bethlehem Grange Hall, Rt. 396, Selkirk.

The Hiking Club of the RCS Junior High School were visitors of the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center Jan. 29. Using snowshoes, the 23 students and their advisers, Joanne Nunan, Richard Keel and Richard Young, were given a guided tour of the surrounding countryside.

Conducting the tour, Nancy Clark and Mary Lou Riccardo provided the club with interesting pieces of information related to the area and the animals that inhabit it. The group being unfamiliar with the use of snowshoes, the afternoon was very enjoyable and often humorous. A particular section of the trail that takes the novice snowshoers over stubble protruding through the snow proved to be the downfall of many.

The menu for Senior Projects of Ravena for Feb. 10 to 17 will be: Thursday, roast beef, Lyonnaise potato, broccoli, fruit tart; Friday, cheese omelet, hash brown potatoes, brussel sprouts, carrot cake; Monday, goulash over noodles, mixed vegetables, ice cream; Tuesday, roast turkey, stuffing, sweet potato, peas, pineapple; Wednesday, roast pork, apple sauce, oven-browned potato, cauliflower, peach crisp; Thursday, chicken parmesian, spaghetti, tossed salad, Jello with banana.

'Tis the season

Bethlehem police are seeking a sneak thief who used the cover of darkness and a heavy snowfall to steal a snowblower from a residence on Haskell Pl., Delmar, between 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. Monday.

She's no newcomer to music

By Barbara Pickup

Mirinda Lynn Staats, the talented ten year old from South Bethlehem, has just released her first album. The disc is entitled simply, "Mirinda". But there simplicity ends, for Mirinda is a complex mixture of fifth grade child and experienced entertainer.

Trained in singing, ballet, jazz, tap and country dancing, she began performing at the age of four. By five, she had already won her first talent show competition. Hired at the age of six, Mirinda sang, danced and acted in a dinner theater with "Something Theatrical," an acting company in Hudson.

Cutting her first 45 rpm when she was seven, Mirinda sang two of the songs composed by her father-manager, Jim Staats. The tunes, "Mamma Tell Me Where's Daddy" and "Sing Brother Sing," played by radio stations along the East Coast caught the attention of Producer-promoter Johnny Dollar. His interest in her talent resulted in signing Mirinda to demonstration production work in December of 1981.

As lead singer of her father's American Gentlemen Show Band, and also as a dancer with the Cross-Country Dance Group, Mirinda has performed throughout New York and New England. Appearing at many local fairs, festivals and benefits, she recently sang one of the songs featured on her album for the CP telethon, aired on channel 10.

Two very important events occurred in 1982 to further the career of the versatile young lady. Invited to perform at the 20th Annual Colorado Music Convention, she was chosen by its members as "Most Promising Femal Vocalist." She also made her first album for Johnny Dollar Productions. The album was cut in a three day recording session in Nashville, Tenn.

"A Single Rose" and "It's Smurf All Over You" are two of four songs featured on the album written by her father. There are 10 cuts ranging from tender country ballads to novelty songs. Available at most Record Town locations, the album has received a very favorable response in the capital district area.



Mirinda Staats

Assistance cut back

The Albany County Department of Social Services, which has been conducting a food stamp certification program at the Bethlehem Town Hall on the third Thursday of each month, has announced that it will conduct its program on the third Thursday of odd-numbered months only.

Thus, the next food stamp certification program will be held at the town hall from 9:15 a.m. to noon, Thursday, March 17. No food stamps are distributed at this program. It is intended to provide assistance in filing for food stamps only.

Second Milers meet

The Second Milers, a group of retired men, will meet Wednesday, Feb. 9, at noon at the First United Methodist Church in Delmar. Dr. Hugo Jammbach, a fellow retiree who recently returned from Africa where he studied insect control as a prevention for river blindness, will recount his adventures and show a film after the luncheon.

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Village sewer costs outlined

By Tom Howes

Interested citizens of Voorheesville will have another opportunity to express their views on Feb. 17 when Clough, Harbour & Associates formally presents its waste-water facilities plan at a public hearing.

Although much of the information in the report is already available to the public, the meeting will introduce the firm's final conclusions and provide a clearer picture of their cost estimates for both their recommended solution as a whole, and for homeowners affected by those findings.

Citing the diverse nature of the planning area, the wastewater facilities plan developed by Clough, Harbour recommends a three-pronged solution to the village's sewer disposal needs that ranges from a "do-nothing" approach to creation of a sewer system that would service the central portion of the village.

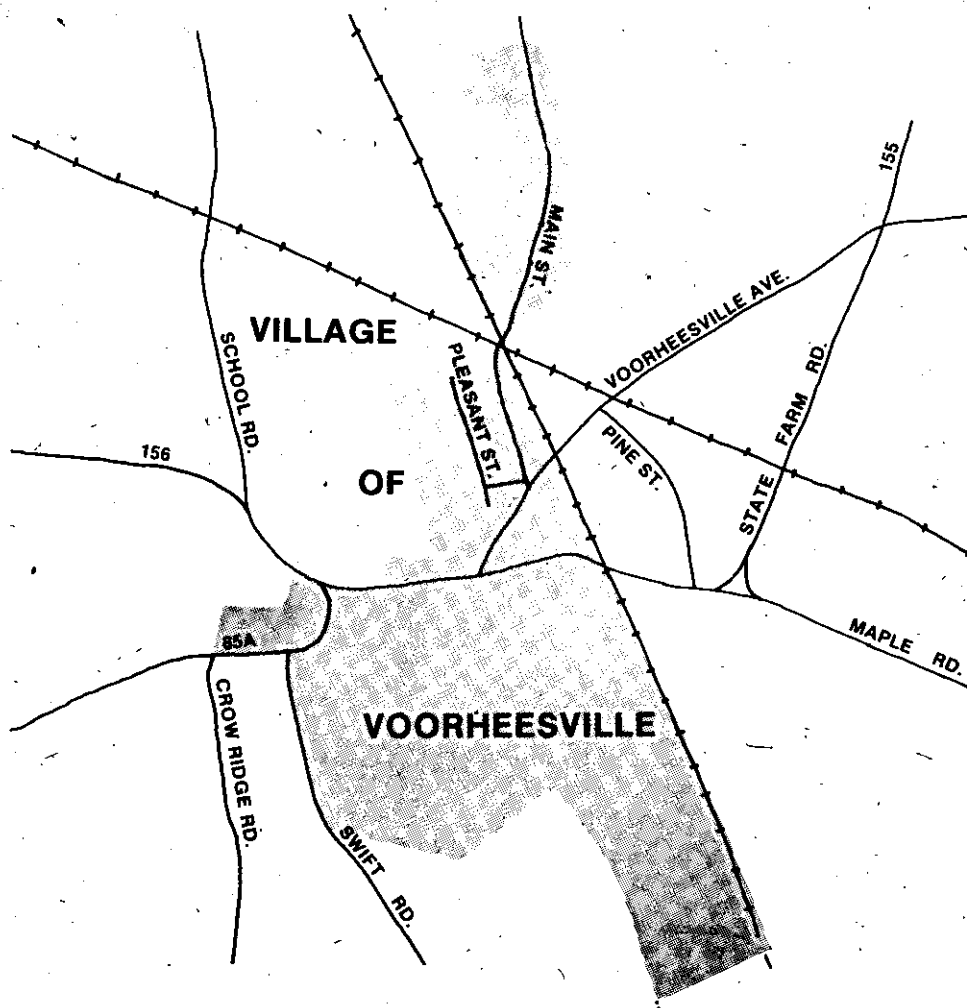
Under the plan, residences in the proposed service area (see map) would be linked through the construction of a new line to the existing Salem Hills sewer system and treatment plant, which would be upgraded to handle the increased flow. Costs for individual hookups are the responsibility of the homeowner, and are estimated at \$800 to \$1,500 in 1984

dollars. This one-time charge varies widely depending on conditions at each site, including distance to the property line, soil conditions, physical restrictions and restoration of property, say the consultants.

Construction costs for the entire project are estimated at \$2.34 million, making state and federal participation in funding a basic requirement. Even so, if funding is received at current levels, the village's share would be approximately \$720,000 including interest. Clough, Harbour figures the village's first year debt payment to be \$91,200, if the debt is amortized over 30 years at 10 percent interest. Benefited property owners would pay \$7.30 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation under this scenario.

First year operation of maintenance costs are estimated at \$75,000 and would be paid by a water and usage tax of \$1.80 per 1,000 gallons of water. Therefore, a homeowner with property assessed at \$25,000 and who uses 25 gallons of water a day would pay \$180.50 in property tax plus \$164.25 water usage tax for a total of \$346.75 per year. This average billing would be double or more if state and federal funding is not available.

The village would only be eligible for



The shaded area in the center of Voorheesville would get sewers under the plan prepared by Clough, Harbor.
Spotlight map

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such funding if it purchases the Salem Hills plant — and if its sewage problems become serious enough to warrant placement on the state's list of priorities. Currently, the village is not eligible because it does not own the Salem Hills plant and because it is not on the state priority list.

For residents outside the proposed service area but within village limits, Clough, Harbour recommends a septic tank management program with whatever parameters the village eventually adopts. Four alternatives are discussed, with documented opposition to each included.

The initial suggestion, a rehabilitation program, has little chance of approval due to a probable lack of funding. A second alternative is a village-administered septic pump-out program with inspection services. However, this would increase the village's liability and payroll. A similar plan involving owner sewage responsibility overseen by a village

permit system did not receive unanimous support, either.

The alternative most widely supported concerned a water bill modified to include information relative to individual disposal systems combined with periodic pump-out reminder notices

Finally, for those citizens living in the planning area but outside the village limits, Clough, Harbour recommends a "do-nothing" approach, largely because existing units represent little threat to the environment. It is recommended that the village notify the respective governing bodies of potential problems associated with future growth.

The plan will be presented at 7:30 p.m. at the Clayton A. Bouton High School. The plan is not an actual engineering study representing a specific course of action. If its findings were to be approved, further studies would have to be completed before any construction or program management were to begin.

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Voorheesville News Notes

Lynn Stapf 765-2451



Calling all kindergarteners! The Voorheesville School District is looking for the names of all children who are eligible to enter kindergarten in September, 1983, so that they may adequately plan for the 1983-84 school year. Children who will be 5 years of age on or before Dec. 1 are eligible. Parents of prospective kindergarten pupils are asked to please call the elementary school at 765-2382 and give the name and address and birth date of the child.

With cold weather here and heating costs on the rise homeowners looking for ways to save may be interested in two programs to be held this week. Besides the "Savingpower" program scheduled at the library on Thursday, Feb. 10, at 7:30 p.m., Voorheesville's Continuing Education Program is offering a two-session mini-course on understanding solar domestic hot water systems on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 14 and 15. Taught by Bob Muller of Energy Associates, the course will deal with solar collectors, payback value and effectiveness of such systems. A \$10 fee is payable. For more information or to register please call Voorheesville High School at 765-3314.

The Helderberg Garden Club will meet at 7 p.m. this Thursday, Feb. 10, at the Voorheesville Methodist Church. With Easter quickly approaching, a timely program on orchids will be offered. Cheri Hill of Cooperative Extension will be the speaker for the evening and will bring a variety of plants for "show and tell." The public is invited. For more information

please call Kazy Gainor at 765-2576 or Shirley Greene at 482-5445.

Voorheesville's Boy Scout Troop 73 is celebrating the 75th anniversary of its charter in a big way. Starting off the festivities quietly, the boys attended church services this past weekend together in uniform. This Friday and Saturday, troop members will be on hand at Voorheesville banks to present a slide show of the many interesting activities that the boys participated in during the past year. Rounding out the week, a pancake supper will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12, at the Legion Hall, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$3 per adult and \$2 per child for a meal of juice, sausage, beverages, dessert and, of course, all the pancakes you can eat. This culinary treat is open to the public and is the scouts ONLY fundraiser of the year.

A reminder to all village residents who recently received increases in their assessments that Tuesday, Feb. 15, is Grievance Day. The assessors will meet in the evening between the hours of 5 to 9 p.m. at the village office to hear and examine all complaints in relation to assessments. Any person believing himself to be aggrieved must submit a grievance application on state form EA-254, which is available at the Village Hall on Voorheesville Ave. For more information, contact the office at 765-2692.

In Elsmere The Spotlight is sold at Plaza Drug, Paper Mill, Grand Union, Tri-Village Fruit, CVS and Johnson's.

Candy

(From Page 1)

sides, keeping certain to stay on the right side of the wall where the heating supplies are." Ironically, when they reach the rear of the store it's her they have to face over the candy counter, since she usually does double duty handling the sweet shop as well as the heating company and kerosene business owned since 1972 by her husband, Frank.

How did this unlikely combination come about? "I've done a lot of things over the years," says the 20-year village resident. That includes oil painting, sewing for her three sons and twin daughters and even serving as the Voorheesville correspondent for the "Altamont Enterprise" several years ago.

"I started out decorating cakes when the children were young. One thing led to another and soon I was making candy."

Dergosits would often "cook up" some novelty or hand dipped candy for friends to give to others. "I didn't know what to charge, so I'd give them away."

The turning point came when she attended a party where friends remarked she should go into business. Encouraged by her son, she began seriously considering the idea, but investigating further she found the many aspects of starting such a venture intimidating. There were insurance and health laws to contend with, each leading to added expense on top of the high cost of stocking a store.

"According to law we had to put in a kitchen. It seems the health department frowned on me cooking over a wood stove," she jokes, referring to the heating equipment on hand. But back then, rigid health regulations were no laughing matter to her.

"I was so scared, I had nightmares about the health inspector and didn't sleep for weeks."



Marilyn Dergosits says her best customers are children such as Alyssa Koontz.
Lynn Stapf

With the shop approaching its first anniversary, Kandy Korner occupies about half of the floor space. "My husband jokes that whenever he's out I kick the wall that divides the two sections over a little more," she quips.

Even now the Main St. sweet shop is well stocked with a wide variety of specialty candies made by Mrs. Dergosits, including hand-dipped caramels and cherries, peanut clusters, turtles and tiger swirls. Novelty items are also on hand, from character lollipops to chocolate tennis rackets, with most things being available in dietetic chocolate on order.

Besides the rich homemade candies the store also stocks a large supply of over-the-counter candies, the manufactured kind that school children crave. "Would you believe my best seller is candy necklaces?" Her heaviest business is with the under 10 set who seldom give the homemade goodies a second look.

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Davis Stonewell Homogenized		Jones Breakfast	
Milk, Gal.	1.79	Sausage, Minute	1.49 pk.
Kraft Parkay		Jones Sausage, Lg. & Sm. Link	2.59 lb.
Margarine, 1 Lb.	.59	(NO PRESERVATIVES ADDED)	
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La Pizzaria, Your Choice	.99	FRESH MADE DELI SUBS TO GO!!	
Aunt Jamima Original		Cooked Ham	2.28 lb.
Waffels, 8 Oz.	.73	American Cheese	1.98 lb.
PRODUCE		Turkey Breast, Northwestern	2.58 lb.
Peanuts, In Shell, 16 Oz. Bag	.99	PRIME BEEF AT CHOICE PRICES	
Apples, Red & Yellow Washington	Lb. .49	Forequarters of Beef	1.29 lb.
Delicious, U.S. #1	2 Lb. .49	Sides of Beef	1.39 lb.
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		N.Y. Strips	2.69 lb.

A Bethlehem hero recognized

By William Howard

During the American Civil War, 1861 to 1865, New York State contributed almost 400,000 soldiers to the Union war effort. Of this number approximately 25,000 men were recruited in Albany County, with several regimental companies composed almost entirely of Bethlehem residents. One of the town's most honored, but now virtually forgotten, soldiers was Captain David Burhans of the famed Forty-third New York Volunteer Infantry.

David Burhans was born in the town of Bethlehem on June 24, 1840. After the death of his father on Feb. 28, 1854, when David was 13, the responsibilities of the family devolved upon the youngster and his 16-year-old brother.

At an early age David secured a position as messenger to carry the reports of the Legislature to the New York City newspapers. He later obtained an appointment as mail agent from New York to Troy and continued in this employment until the autumn of 1862 when he resigned his position to raise a company of local men for voluntary military service with the Forty-third New York Infantry.

This regiment, organized at Albany and commanded by Colonel Francis L. Vinton, was composed of Albany's finest and had already seen service with General McClellan in his failed Peninsula Campaign when Burhans enlisted. At age 23 David Burhans enrolled to serve three years and was selected first lieutenant Company H, on Sept. 11, 1862. Upon taking leave of his hometown for the battlefield, Lieutenant Burhans was presented with a sword by the town fathers which he carried through every engagement of the Forty-third. In addition to this gift, Company H also presented Burhans with a valuable gold watch.

After the battle of Antietam, remembered as the war's bloodiest single day of fighting on Sept. 17, 1862, Lieutenant Burhans was transported to the front with five full companies of Albany men sent to replenish the Forty-third's battle-thinned ranks. He arrived just in time to witness General McClellan's farewell address to the Army of the Potomac. Burhans also received his commission to captain, Company H, at this time.

As a company commander, Burhans



Monument on Gettysburg battlefield honoring the Forty-third New York Infantry. New York at Gettysburg

served with the Army of the Potomac in its darkest hour. From Fredericksburg to Chancellorsville, suffering while the Union army was sacrificed to the blundered military strategies of Generals Burnside and Hooker, Captain Burhans led his men with honor. Participating in the Sixth Corps' diversionary assault on Marye's Heights and Salem Church while Hooker fought the main Confederate army at Chancellorsville, the Forty-third suffered a loss of 11 officers and 200 enlisted men.

Shortly after the Chancellorsville debacle, Lee invaded the North once again. In the resulting Gettysburg Campaign of June and July, 1863, the Forty-third New York marched from Virginia to Pennsylvania closely following on the heels of the advancing Southern army. Between midnight and the afternoon of July 2, 1863, the Forty-third marched 36 miles from Nachester to Gettysburg, arriving just in time to reinforce the crumbling line of General Sickles' Third Corps on the extreme Union left. The Forty-third was rushed into the fight and succeeded in stabilizing the line shattered by General Longstreet's Confederate attack.

After the battle, the Regiment participated in the pursuit of Lee's retreating columns across Berlin Ford through the

Blue Ridge until the enemy passed out of sight and the Forty-third was ordered into camp at Sulphur Springs, near Warrenton, Va.

The Forty-third was not engaged again until early November when Meade pushed them into a tough skirmish around Rappahannock Station, Va. before settling into winter quarters at Brandy Station. At Brandy Station the general order was received giving the 1861 volunteers the chance to reenlist. Despite the battles that had taken such a heavy toll on the regiment, virtually every man reenlisted to serve the duration of the war.

In March, 1864, General Grant took command of all Union armies and by May 4, 1864, he was ready to begin the greatest campaign of the war. Grant turned the Union army into a fighting machine. And in his new war of attrition the common soldier of the ranks was forced to limits never imagined back in 1861. Grant outlined the Union offensive as an attempt to deprive the South of its vital resources: General Sherman burning a path from Tennessee to Georgia's coast and Grant hammering Lee in battle after battle. Together they combined to bring the North to the edge of victory in 1864.

Captain Burhans was part of it all. He accompanied the Forty-third into the area bordering the old Chancellorsville battleground and fought in the terrible Wilderness engagement on May 6, 1864. Burhans fought gallantly but gallantry had little to do with the outcome of the confused battle. The Forty-third lost 300 enlisted men, half its staff officers, the regimental flag and the entire color guard. Among the dead was Colonel John Wilson, an Albany native whose death was greatly mourned by the regiment.

Grant was not one to be intimidated by losing the Wilderness battle. Leaving the dead and wounded on the field, Grant continued his advance south and ordered his army to concentrate on the tiny village of Spotsylvania in a race against the Confederates for control of this important crossroads. When Grant arrived on the field the Confederates had already entrenched and every soldier knew it would be a long hard battle.

Spotsylvania proved to be a decisive battle. For over a week the armies fought each other from morning until night. The Forty-third held an important position on the extreme Union right near the spot where General Sedgwick was killed by a Confederate sharpshooter. Grant was trying desperately to take advantage of a weakness in the Confederate line and ordered General Emory Upton to choose twelve regiments and attack the rebel position on May 10. The Forty-third was one of the regiments hand-picked by Upton to smash the Confederate line.

In this assault of May 10, 1864, the Forty-third was led by Captain Burhans,

who guided his soldiers through the fury but was struck by a Confederate bullet and mortally wounded near the Landrum Farm. After the war a survivor of the failed Union charge wrote that when last seen "Captain Burhans had captured two rebel flags and was cheering on his men to the second line of works where he fell."

Burhans was eulogized as a hero in both Albany and Bethlehem. In a memorial tribute published in Albany after the war Captain Burhans was remembered as "a young man of unblemished reputation . . . highly respected by all who knew him, for his many virtues." Burhans was one of a great many Bethlehem residents who answered the call to arms and fought in America's tragic Civil War.

William F. Howard of Delmar is a January graduate with a degree in American Studies from Manhattanville College. His first full-length book, an edited collection of Civil War soldiers' letters has been accepted for publication with Sunflower University Press in Kansas.

Spotlight IN RETROSPECT

Feb. 6, 1958

A group of 22 girls received Brownie pins at an investiture of Troop 321, sponsored by the Hamagrael School PTA. The new Brownie scouts are: Margaret Armer, Barbara Bicknell, Priscilla Blanchard, Lorraine Buess, Nancy Colvin, Ginger Drake, Candy Eagan, Debbie Eaton, Martha Eels, Patty Eels, Karen Gregory, Robbie Jackson, Robin Leese, Marjy Joe Lilly, Donna McQuaid, Chris Mielnik, Connie Miller, Paula Pagano, Sharon Pineo, JoAnn Rapp, Linda Smith and Leslie St. John. Troop leaders are Mrs. Morton Lilly, Mrs. Gilbert Drake and Mrs. Peter Pagano.

Feb. 7, 1963

A citizens' group has been organized to coordinate opposition to the so-called "paired schools" proposal made by the Bethlehem Central school board. Under the plan, grades 1-3 would be in one elementary school, grades 4-6 in another. Kindergarten would not be affected. H.W. Tomlinson and William Schoonmaker are co-chairmen of the committee. Other members are Howard Clayton and Robert Illingworth, representing Slingerlands School area; William F. Bub and Gordon Morris, Elmsmere; Joseph Cahill and John Hawkins, Hamagrael School, and Dudley Bierau and Thomas B. Thornton, Delmar School.

Feb. 8, 1968

Frederick S. DeBeer, Jr. has been named general chairman of the Helderberg Workshop fund drive to raise \$100,00 for the purchase of a 270-acre tract of land at the foot of the Helderberg escarpment in the Town of New Scotland. The Workshop was established in 1961 by a small group of housewives who wanted to stimulate the intellectual curiosity of their children.


Feb. 8, 1973

Six students at BCHS placed in area-wide DECA contests at Maria College. They are Linda O'Connell, Carol Jenks, Mira Lewis, Lance Brisee, Christopher Mason, and Victor Stoffels. Chosen to participate in the 1973 Congressional Seminar in Washington, D.C., is Pamela Norrix, a senior.

Feb. 9, 1978

In the wake of a settlement of the drawn-out negotiations for a new contract with the teachers union, Bethlehem Central's school board is faced with the budget option of cutting back the district's program to a level the district can afford, or maintain the program at the risk of a tax increase.

New Scotland's town board is under pressure to adopt a leash law for animal control following the receipt of a petition signed by more than 300 town residents.



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The "New Media Bible Films," produced on location in the Holy Lands, are being presented by the Christian Education committee of the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., beginning Feb. 27 and running through May. There will be a two-week break at Easter. There is a \$5 registration fee per family unit.

The four films in this session are all from Genesis: "The Creation," "Adam and Eve," "Cain and Abel" and "Noah and the Flood." Each film recreates a portion of Scripture. Trusted Catholic, Jewish and Protestant scholars have given careful attention to every detail.

Participants may choose one group from the following five times: Sunday — 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m. Wednesday — 7:30 p.m. The 10 a.m. session on Sunday is designed especially for children and youth. The 11:15 a.m. session on Sunday is the only time that babysitting and child activity is provided. The family registration fee also provides

The Delmar Reformed Church will be the site for a mission festival on Sunday, Feb. 13, at 10 a.m. Leading the worship ceremony will be Rev. Warren Henseler, Secretary for the African and Middle East mission in the Reformed Church of America. Joining him will be Paul and Marcia Leemkuil, agricultural and medical missionaries in Ethiopia.

Following the worship at 11 a.m., booths and displays will provide slides, pamphlets, food and costumes on mission work.

a *Bibletime* magazine for viewing enrichment.

This first set of films is part of the New Media Bible's 18 films on the Old Testament. There will be an opportunity to register for future film courses which will be offered next fall and spring. For information, call the church office at 439-9929.

The First United Methodist Church in Delmar will host a giant Protestant ecumenical service on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

Among the churches participating in the service are the Methodist churches in Delmar, Voorheesville and Slingerlands; the Reformed churches in Delmar, Unionville and New Salem, and the Presbyterian churches in Delmar and New Scotland. Local churchman-ambassadors involved are Reverends Leon Adkins, Ray Stees, Johannes Meester, Clark Callender, Larry Dyess, Rick Gall, Richard Hibbert, Gregory Pike, Robert Hess and educational instructor Jeannie Peterson.

Music will be performed by the Voorheesville Methodist Church choir.

For information about the church program or child care services offered for the day, call 439-9976.

-- The vocation committee of the St. Thomas parish council will sponsor an "Am I Called" program for area high school students on Monday, Feb. 14, from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m.

Speaking to the group about church-

related careers will be Rev. Edward Kacerguis, Our Lady of Victory, Troy; Brother John Zick, St. Joseph's Spiritual Life Center, Valatie; Danielle Bonetti, chaplain of the SUNYA campus ministry; Michael Burgess, Diocesan Service League; and Charles Gunner, Bethlehem Central High School principal.

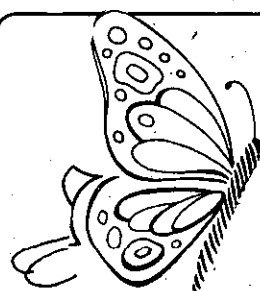
For information, call Helen Crisafulli
at 439-3050.

St. Thomas School is observing Catholic Schools Week this week with special events that will culminate in a liturgy service on Friday. The observance included an afternoon movie Tuesday, a hot lunch Wednesday, a faculty-student broom hockey game Thursday, and a teacher's luncheon Friday sponsored by parents. The week's agenda also calls for daily announcements from students on the subject, "Why We Like Catholic Schools."

Campus Life, a Christian club for local students in grades 9-12, will kick off its spring semester in a big way by building, and then eating, a 30-foot long banana split on Tuesday, Feb. 15, from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Invited to the eating event are high school students at Bethlehem Central and Ravena-Coeymans-Selkirk who are involved in their local churches and interested in joining the Delmar club. Ice cream for the "split" is from the Toll Gate Restaurant in Slingerlands.

Campus Life meets Tuesdays and is directed by Bob Brewer. For information, call him at 439-0855.



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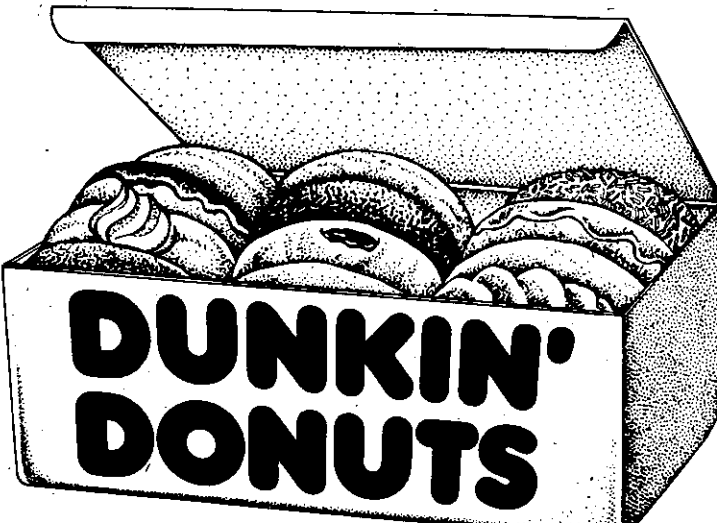
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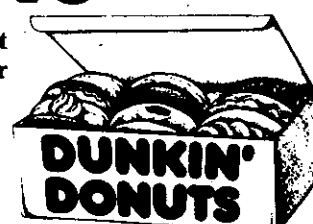
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Town of Bethlehem, Town Board, second and fourth Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., board of Appeals, first and third Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Planning Board, first and third Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., Town Hall, 445 Delaware Ave. Town offices are open 8:30 a.m. to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

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.

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

THE Spotlight Calendar

Events in Bethlehem and New Scotland

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.

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.

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.

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.).

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.

Career and Education Advice- ment, free and by appointment on Mondays, 6-9 p.m., and Saturdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Bethlehem Public Library. Information, 439-9314.

Voter Registration: You may vote in New York State if you are 18 on or before the election, a U.S. citizen, a resident of the county, city or village for 30 days preceding the election, and registered with the county Board of Elections. Mail registration forms can be obtained at town and village halls, from political parties, from the League of Women Voters and from boards of election. The completed form must be received by your Board of Elections by the first Monday in October. Information, Albany County Board of Elections, 445-7591.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Bethlehem Job Club meets alternate Wednesdays, Bethlehem Public Library, 10 a.m.-noon. \$10 fee for five sessions. Information, 439-9314.

Kiwanis Softball-Baseball Registration, for girls and boys ages 8-12, Voorheesville Elementary School, 6-9 p.m. \$6 fee. Information, 765-4392.

Valentine Crafts Program, must bring scissors and glue along, Voorheesville Public Library, 4 p.m.

Bethlehem Elks Auxiliary meets at lodge, Rt. 144, Cedar Hill, 8 p.m. second Wednesday of the month.

Red Men, second Wednesday, St. Stephen's Church, Elsmere, 7:30 p.m.

Second Milers, second Wednesday at United Methodist Church, Delmar, 12:30 p.m. Except June, July and August. Reservations, 439-3569.

New Scotland Elks Lodge meets second and fourth Wednesdays at Voorheesville Rod and Gun Club, 8 p.m.

Senior Citizens and Shut-Ins Income Tax Assistance, sponsored by AARP, Wednesdays through April 13 at Key Bank community room, 343 Delaware Ave., Delmar, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free, no appointment necessary.

Slingerlands Fire District, second Wednesdays at Slingerlands Fire Station, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Delmar Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary, regular meeting and guest night dinner, at the firehouse, 8 p.m.

Elsmere Fire Co. Auxiliary meets second Thursday of each month except July and August, at the firehouse, Poplar Dr., Elsmere, 8 p.m.

Bethlehem Memorial V.F.W. Post 3185 meets second Thursday of each month, post rooms, 404 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Information, 439-9836.

New Scotland Democratic Social Club, second Thursday, 8 p.m.

Senior Citizen Valentine Party for Town of Bethlehem and Sunshine seniors, Bethlehem Town Hall, 12:30-4 p.m.

Home Energy Program, discussion on saving power and home weatherization, Voorheesville Public Library, 7:30 p.m.

Family Discussion about the needs of the modern family, St. Thomas School auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Information, 439-9295.

Senior Citizens and Shut-Ins Income Tax Assistance, sponsored by AARP, Thursdays through April 14 at Bethlehem Town Hall, 1-4 p.m. Free; sign up for appointment at Bethlehem Senior Citizens meetings.

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

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

Boy Scout Slide Show, celebrates Troop 73's 75th anniversary, Voorheesville banks.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Bethlehem Personal Computer Group, Bethlehem Public Library. Information, R. Gutman, 439-4758.

Valentine-making Program, pre-schoolers with adult, 11 a.m.-noon; school-age children, 4-5 p.m., Bethlehem Public Library. Registration, 439-9314, free.

Recovery, Inc., self-help for former mental patients and those with chronic nervous symptoms, First United Methodist Church, 428 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, weekly at 12:30 p.m.

Heiderberg Garden Club, orchid program, Voorheesville Methodist Church, 7 p.m. Information, 765-2576.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Bethlehem Soccer Club registration for boys and girls ages 6-19 and used soccer shoe sale, Bethlehem Town Hall, noon-3 p.m. Fees \$10 for 6-13, \$5 for 14-19; information, 439-2406.

Pancake Supper, Voorheesville Boy Scout Troop 73, American Legion Hall, 5-7 p.m. Adults \$3, children \$2.

Benefit Cleaning Day, advance payment for dry cleaning and laundry at Handy Dandy Cleaners, 242 Delaware Ave., Delmar, benefits Elsmere Fire Department and Delmar Rescue Squad, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Information, 439-4444.

Kiwanis Softball-Baseball Registration, for girls and boys ages 8-12, Voorheesville Elementary School, 9-11:30 a.m. Information, 765-4392.

Snowshoe Hike, Five Rivers Environmental Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 2 p.m. Center shoes rent for \$1; pre-registration, 457-6092.

Nature Study on Skis, proper ski equipment required, Five Rivers Environmental Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 10 a.m. Preregistration, 457-6092; free.

Cubic Kumquat and Cabaret, adult dancing and songs, Bethlehem Central High School, 8 p.m. Admission \$2 for adults, \$1 for students.

Boy Scout Slide Show, Voorheesville banks.

Bethlehem Grange, Rt. 396, Selkirk, 8 p.m.

Bethlehem Tomboys Registration, Bethlehem Public Library, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Fees \$15 for first player and \$5 for each additional family member. Information, 439-9418.

Valentine's Dinner Dance, benefits BC wrestling, Normanside Country Club, 6:30 p.m. \$15 tickets; information, 439-2463.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Writer of the Month Reading, local poet Jean Easton Anaportte discusses feminism's influence on her manuscript, "Making Place," Bethlehem Public Library, 2 p.m.

Sunday Afternoon at the Movies, "Dark Command," starring John Wayne, Bethlehem Public Library, 2 p.m. Free.

St. Thomas Pancake Breakfast, American Legion Post, Poplar Dr., Elsmere, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tickets \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

Selkirk Pancake Breakfast, B.P.O.E. Lodge 2233, Rt. 144, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Mission Festival Sunday, African and Middle East missions speak, at Delmar Reformed Church, 10 a.m. worship.

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

"By George A Gershwin Valentine" (musical review presented by Music Theatre North), Cohoes Music Hall, Feb. 10 through 20, Thursday-Saturday 8 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 2 p.m. Tickets, Community Box Office or music hall box office, 235-7969.

"Man of La Mancha" (Timothy Nolan stars in revival of Lake George Opera Company's production), Proctor's Theater, Schenectady, Feb. 18, 22, 24 and 25, 8 p.m. Feb. 20 and 21, 2 p.m. Box office, 346-6204.

MUSIC

Findaly Cockrell (his new series of noon piano concerts begins with pieces by Brahms, Debussy, Bach and Scarlatti), SUNYA Performing Arts Center, Feb. 10, noon.

"Hometown Saturday Night" with Mr. Jack Daniel's Original Silver Cornet Band, Proctor's Theater, Schenectady, Feb. 11, 8 p.m. Box office, 6204.

Delmar resident Morey Hall piano recital (Bach, Mozart, Chopin and Liszt), First Presbyterian Church, 400 Glen St., Glens Falls, Feb. 11, 8 p.m.

"Musicmakers" (sextet including WMHT-FM staffers Ann Marie Barker, David Scott Allen and Scott Cantrell plays Dvorak), WMHT studios, Feb. 13, 5 p.m. Reservations, 356-1700. (simulcast on WMHT-FM).

"An Afternoon with Bobby Short", The Egg, Empire State Plaza, Albany, Feb. 13, 2 p.m. Community Box Office or Egg box office, 473-3750.

Trio di Milano in all-Beethoven concert, Memorial Chapel, Union College, Schenectady, Feb. 14, 8 p.m. Tickets, Community Box Office and at the door.

Capitol Chamber Artists (music of the Classical era), The Egg recital hall, Empire State Plaza, Albany, Feb. 15, 8 p.m.

DANCE

Don Redlich Dance Company, SUNYA Performing Arts Center, Feb. 11, 8 p.m.

FILM

"The World of Apu" (conclusion of Satyajit Ray's Apu Trilogy), Albany Public Library, Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.

Art at the Plaza: "In Search of Rothko," "Franz Kline Remembered" and "Enter Hamlet," Convention Center Meeting Room 6, Empire State Plaza, Feb. 16, 12:10 p.m.

ART

Helen St. Clair, recent oils and water colors, Bethlehem Public Library, through February.

Works on Paper by Willie Marlowe, Cathleen Panagopoulos and Marjorie Semerad, Schacht Fine Arts Center, Russell Sage College, Troy, Feb. 10 through March 23.

Thom O'Connor, 20-year print retrospective, University Art Gallery, State University at Albany, opening reception Feb. 11, 8-10 p.m., exhibition through March 25.

Paul Davis Photographs, Dietel Gallery, Emma Willard School, Troy, Feb. 15 through March 11.

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

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Open Sunday, Feb. 13th, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Valentine's Day, Monday, February 14.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

SUNY Women's Club, Valentine's Day salad luncheon, at residence of Martha Dickey, 91 McGuffey La., Delmar, 12:30 p.m. Notify organizers on kind of salad you intend to bring, call 439-4677.

Sunshine Senior Citizens, First Reformed Church of Bethlehem, 1 p.m.

Children's Storyhour, Bethlehem Public Library, 4 p.m. Registration, 439-9314; 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 Community Orchestra, Bethlehem Town Hall, weekly at 7:30 p.m.

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, 8:30-9:30 p.m. Information, 439-4581.

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

Voorheesville Board of Education, district offices, 8 p.m.

Church Parents' Group, Bethlehem Reformed Church, Selkirk, 7:30 p.m.

Slingerlands PTA, Slingerlands Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.

St. Thomas Vocation Program, for local high school students making career choices, St. Thomas School auditorium, 7:15 p.m.

Slingerlands PTA, "Computers in the School" discussion, 7:30 p.m., Slingerlands Elementary School.

Legion Auxiliary annual birthday dinner, Nathaniel Adams Blanchard Post 1040, Poplar Dr., Elsmere, 6 p.m. cocktails. \$6 reservations, 439-6474 by Feb. 7.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Blood Pressure Clinic, third Tuesday, Bethlehem Town Hall, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m.

AARP, third Tuesday, First United Methodist Church, Kenwood Ave., Delmar, 12:30 p.m.

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

Delmar Progress Club, creative arts and garden group herb luncheon, bring-your-own lunch, recipe and place setting, Delmar Reformed Church at 12:15 p.m.

Hamagrael Parents Meeting, Hamagrael Elementary School, 7:30 p.m.

Delmar Campus Life, students in grades 9-12 build and eat a 30-foot banana split, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., 7:30-9 p.m. Information, 439-0855.

Adult Book Discussion Group, to review Toni Morrison's "Song of Solomon," Bethlehem Public Library, 7:30 p.m.

Village Grievance Day, Voorheesville Village Hall, 5-9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Public Hearing, Bethlehem Town Board, to consider rezoning 26 acres in Blessing Rd. area from Residence A to Planned Residence District, Bethlehem Town Hall, 8 p.m.

Delmar Progress Club, antique study group to review silver and pewter, Bethlehem Public Library, 1 p.m.

Delmar Fire District regular meetings third Wednesdays, Delmar Fire Station, 7:30 p.m.

La Leche League, discussion group for mothers interested in learning about pros and cons of breastfeeding, third Wednesdays, home of Ellen Poczik, 93 Fernbank Ave., Delmar.

Glenmont Homemakers, third Wednesday, Selkirk Firehouse No. 2, Glenmont Rd., 8 p.m.

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. 15 to Dec. 1.)

Lutheran Ash Wednesday Service, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Elm Ave., 7:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Elks Lodge 2233, meets at lodge, Rt. 144, Cedar Hill, 8 p.m. first and third Wednesdays (third Wednesdays during July and August).

Embroiderers' Guild, Delmar United Methodist Church, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Information, 966-5314.

Protestant Ash Wednesday Service, with representatives from several local denominations, Delmar United Methodist Church, Kenwood Ave., at 7:30 p.m.

Bethlehem Board of Education, budget session on operations and maintenance following business meeting, Educational Services Center, 90 Adams Pl., Delmar, 8 p.m.



Jean Easton Anapote will read her poems at a wine and cheese reception at Bethlehem Library at 2 p.m. Sunday.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

American Legion Luncheons, for members, guests and applicants for membership, Post Rooms, Poplar Dr., Elsmere, third Thursday at noon.

Becker School Winter Concert, 7 p.m.

Homes and Garden Lecture, slides on "Stately Homes and Gardens in America," Schoolhouse Museum, Rt. 144 and Clapper Rd., Selkirk, 2 p.m.

Senior Citizens Film, "A Face in the Crowd" starring Andy Griffith, Bethlehem Town Hall, 1:15 p.m. Free.

League of Women Voters, Bethlehem Public Library, 9:15 a.m. Information, 439-5744.

Voorheesville Public Hearing, sewer and waste water plan for village, Clayton A. Bouton High School auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Audubon Society, FIVE Rivers Environmental Center, Game Farm Rd., Delmar, 8 p.m.

Kiwanis Membership Roundup, for interested newcomers, New Scotland Presbyterian Church; information, 861-7427 or 765-4727.

Asthma Information Session, Bethlehem Public Library, 7-9 p.m. Free.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Contra and Country Dancing, music by "Short Straw," United Methodist Church, Maple Ave., Voorheesville. Admission \$3.50.

D.A.R. Antique Show and Sale, at Bethlehem Central High School, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Admission \$1.75, \$1.50 with coupon.

AREA EVENTS & OCCASIONS

Events in Nearby Areas

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Middle East Discussion, "Lebanon: Shattered State in the Middle East," Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., noon.

Albany Roundtable, civic lunch forum to hear Miriam Tremontozzi, director of Historic Albany Foundation, Inc., State Museum (student center annex), 12:15 p.m. Reservations \$6; 474-5842.

Iroquois Artifacts Luncheon, "Recovering the Lewis Morgan Collection," State Museum, Empire State Plaza, at 12:10 p.m. Free.

Lunch Hour Decorative Arts Lecture, on Victorian art of flower painting, Museum of Early American Decoration, 19 Dove St., Albany, noon.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Film on Rape, "Primal Fear," Union College, 7:30 p.m. Free.

Thursday Topic, "Success: the Whys, How and Whats," talk by SUNYA marketing and management specialist W. Christian Buss, State Museum auditorium, 12:10 p.m. (First in weekly series.)

Physicians' Open House, sponsored by Medical Society auxiliary and Visiting Nurse Assn., 35 Colvin Ave., 6-8 p.m. Information, 482-4963 or 472-9735.

AAUW (American Association of University Women), cross-cultural patchwork at home of Terry Kusama, 31 Iris La., 10:30 a.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Wholistic Healing Workshop, Holy Names Academy, 1065 New Scotland Rd., Albany, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Information, 438-6681, ext. 501.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Study Skills Workshop, "Note-taking and Time Management," Russell Sage College campus center, 140 New Scotland Ave., Albany, 5-6 p.m. \$2 fee; information, 445-1717.

Literacy Volunteers Demonstration, Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., 12:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Therapeutic Touch, teaching how to use the hands to heal, Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., 7:30 p.m. Information, 489-8860.

Lunchtime History Lecture, "Gunfounding—A Reborn Art and Science," State Museum, 12:10 p.m. Free.

Jawbone-Reading Series, readings by published writer Doug Bauer and D.A. student Maxine Dougherty, SUNYA Humanities Lounge, noon-1 p.m. Free.

Trade and Unemployment Forum, with speaker Edward Bloch of United Electrical Workers, Albany Public Library, 12:15.

AAUW (American Association of University Women), literature group meets at home of Stephanie Biscone, 63 Carstead Dr., Slingerlands, 7:30 p.m.

Franco-American Federation, French-Canadian music, square and country dancing, Sacred Heart Church, Stanley St., Schenectady, 8 p.m. Information, 861-6205.

Gardening Tips, on care and feeding of garden soil, Garden Way Living Center, 102nd St. and Ninth Ave., Troy, 1 p.m. Free.

La Salette Christian Life Center dinner-dance, at center, Rt. 156, Altamont, 8 p.m. Information, 861-6217.

AAUW (American Association of University Women), general meeting, Empire State Plaza terrace garden room, 11 a.m. Reservations, J. Bassett at 439-0476.

Nursing Workshop, Dept. of Nursing Continuing Education offers "Developing Consulting Skills," Russell Sage College campus center, 140 New Scotland Ave., Albany, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. \$60 fee; information, 270-2207.

Upper Hudson History Lecture, "Cast With Style: Nineteenth Century Iron Stoves from the Albany Area," State Museum, 10 a.m. Free.

Ohav Shalom Israeli Inquiry, SUNYA's Martin Edelman comments on Beirut massacre during services, Ohav Shalom, New Krunkill Rd., Albany. Information, 489-4706.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Contradancing with Silver Strand Band, State Museum, 2-4 p.m. (First in weekly series of dances at the museum.)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Summer Fashion Show, sponsored by Business and Professional Women's Club, with fashions by Flah's, Turf Inn, Wolf Rd., Colonie, 5:30 p.m. Information, 783-9363.

2nd ANNUAL HANDY-DANDY CLEANERS BENEFIT FOR THE ELSMERE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DELMAR RESCUE SQUAD SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH 9:00 AM — 5:00 PM

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Chamber names executive

A retired hospital administrator who has been a volunteer office manager for the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce has become the chamber's first salaried executive secretary.

The chamber's board of directors last week appointed DeForest T. Whipple of Delmar to the newly created post. The position will be part-time, with a local answering service handling the incoming phone calls when Whipple is out of the office on regular business days. The chamber office in the Adams House, 393 Delaware Ave., is manned from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

Whipple, who retired Oct. 1, 1981 as administrator of the Good Samaritan Nursing Home, Inc., on Rockefeller Rd., Delmar, has been active on chamber committees and has been manning the new office on a volunteer, part-time basis since it opened early last summer.

Peter Merrill, chamber president, praised Whipple's contribution to the Bethlehem business community through his volunteer work. "We have been making a major effort to provide the chamber and its members with new and meaningful programs, a new image and a greater participation in the community, and Dee Whipple has been a moving spirit in this effort," Merrill said.

With the impending sale of the Adams House, the chamber is expecting to seek a



DeForest T. Whipple

new location for the office, Merrill said.

Whipple, 66, came to Delmar seven years ago after serving as executive health administrator at Monroe Community Hospital, Rochester. He had previously served 16 years as administrator at Columbia Memorial Hospital, Hudson. A native of Rochester, he received a BA degree from Hamilton College and a master's degree in hospital administration from Columbia University. Mr. and Mrs. Whipple have three children, Mrs. Charles (Diane) Perkins of Syracuse, Charles D. Whipple of Budd Lake, N.J., and William T. Whipple of Claverack, and two grandchildren.

BUSINESS

Grinding service reopens

The Bethlehem Grinding Service, a general sharpening service that was damaged by fire Dec. 24, reopened for business last week. The business is located at the rear of the Haswell residence on Feura Bush Rd., opposite the corner of Murray Ave. in Delmar.

Founded in 1966 by Richard T. Hale, son-in-law of Emily Bennett Haswell, a 90-year-old widow who owns the residence and property at the location, the Bethlehem Grinding Service has expanded from a scissors and lawnmower sharpening shop into a complete sharpening service. In 1973, Richard H. Hale, son of the elder Hale, joined the business as a partner.

According to the younger Hale, the grinding service will be able to sharpen all the same types of items as before the fire. There are some items they are not equipped to sharpen, he said. However, ice skates, most types of saws, lawnmowers scissors, knives, etc. can be sharpened.

Business hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The telephone number is still 439-5156.

Holiday closings

County workers will get a day off Friday in observance of Lincoln's birthday, and Key Bank, National Savings Bank and Manufacturer's Hanover Trust Co. will be closed Saturday, Feb. 12, to observe the holiday.

Washington's birthday will be observed Monday, Feb. 21, by federal, state, county and town offices. But Bethlehem's landfill and recycling center will remain open and the town's garbage pickup will follow its normal schedule. Local banks also will observe the holiday and Bethlehem Central and Voorheesville schools are scheduled to be closed all that week for a mid-winter vacation. The Bethlehem Public Library will be open on both birthdays.

Check on blood pressure

There will be a free blood pressure clinic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 15, at the Bethlehem Town Hall.

These clinics, held the third Tuesday of each month, September through May, are coordinated by Town Councilwoman Ruth O. Bickel and staffed by volunteers.

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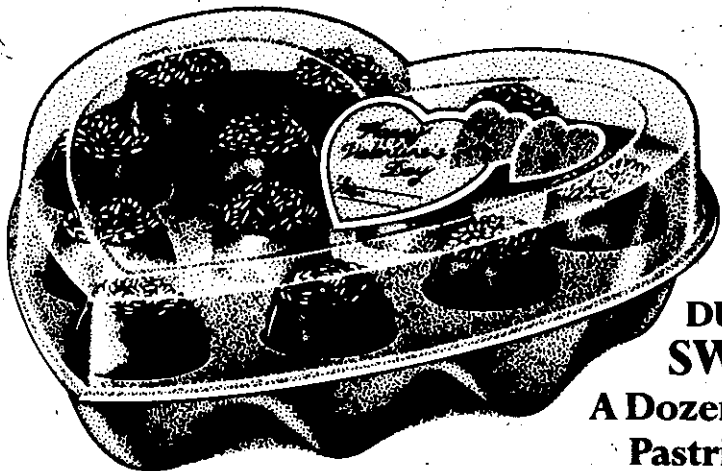
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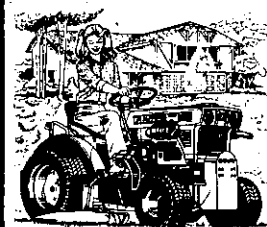
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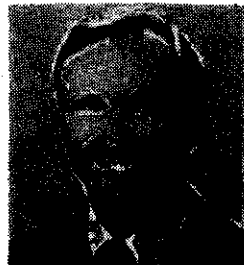
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Promoted at ME

Two Delmar residents have received new titles at the Mechanics Exchange Division of The Dime Savings Bank of New York. William J. Mellin and Millie J. Hall have been elected assistant treasurers at the bank.

Mellin is a graduate of Curry College, Boston, and served for four years as district executive of the Boy Scouts of America before joining Mechanics Exchange. Millie Hall joined the bank in 1973 after two years with the Retail Credit Co. She recently was promoted to manager of the division's pension services.

Tourism spot for Lane

Assemblyman C.D. "Larry" Lane of Windham, who represents Bethlehem and Coeymans in Albany County, has been appointed as the ranking Republican on the Assembly Committee on Tourism, Sports and the Arts.

Named to budget post

Robert Kurtter of Delmar, has been named director of budget studies by Assembly Ways and Means Committee Chairman Arthur J. Kremer.

Kurtter, 32, who held the post of deputy director of the speaker's Program Development Group, replaces Cornelius Foley, who has been appointed a special

assistant to Gov. Cuomo. The new budget studies director holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Union College and a master's in public policy from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. For the past eight years he has served in a variety of posts in New York State government.

Surgery chief at Child's

Dr. Robert C. Liebman, a resident of Slingerlands, has been appointed chief of the Department of Surgery at Child's Hospital, Albany. He is on the staff of Child's, Albany Medical Center Hospital, Memorial Hospital and St. Peter's Hospital. Dr. Liebman specializes in colon and rectal surgery and disease.

AARP hears genealogist

Tri-Village Chapter #1598 of the American Association of Retired Persons will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at 1:15 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church in Delmar. Chapter member Charles Alford will speak to the group about "Genealogy."

For information, call Constance Maercklin at 439-4070.

Daytime book group

The Bethlehem Public Library is starting a new daytime book discussion group to supplement the popular evening program. Meetings will be held monthly.

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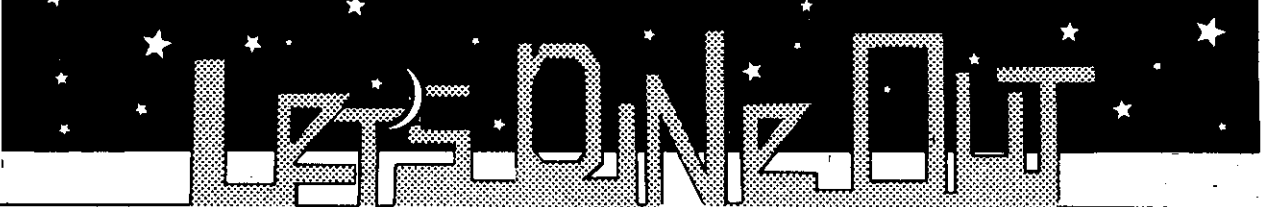
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A directory of popular restaurants recommended for family dining in the immediate area within easy driving distance of Bethlehem and New Scotland.

We trust that you will continue to enjoy your favorite restaurants and hope that on your next evening out, you will try one of the fine dining places advertised on this page.



The response to the Spotlight's "Dining Out" page has been enthusiastic. If you haven't visited one of these excellent nearby restaurants, we suggest you try their fine menus this weekend.

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Wed.	Baked Meat Loaf	4.25
	Roast Pork w/Dressing	5.25
Thurs.	Corned Beef & Cabbage (No Salad Bar)	5.25
	Spaghetti & Meatballs	5.25
	w/Garlic Bread (no potato)	4.25
Fri.	Breaded Fillet of Haddock & Scallops	5.75
	or Haddock & Clam Strips	5.75
	Grilled Beef Liver w/Bacon & Onion Rings	4.95
	or Fried Onions	4.95
Sat. & Sun.	Roast Beef Au Jus	6.25
	Creamed Chicken on Biscuit	4.95

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Blackbirds prove their mettle

Once again Chuck Abba's Voorheesville basketball team has shown its real mettle, the kind that gives a well-balanced team the ingredient called character.

Here was an undefeated team, working on a 17-game win streak, playing at home against a respected opponent, and down by nine points 3½ minutes into the third period. That's the kind of scenario that causes good teams to unravel at the seams.

But not the Blackbirds. Playing an important Colonial Council Friday game against Cohoes, the defending champion, Abba called time and sent his team into a 2-2-1 full court press. His players responded with the poise and cool they have displayed so often in this magnificent season, and turned the game around.

"We played the game at a quicker pace from that point," commented the former Union standout. "We got better shots, and I feel going to the press forced them



Voorheesville's Jim Meacham (22) cuts through a tight Cohoes defense as the Blackbirds rallied to win their 17th straight game without a loss. On the cover: Mike Lewis (14) scoring after stealing the ball at the halftime buzzer. R.H. Davis

(Cohoes) into turnovers and rattled them a bit. We got them to play a game more conditioned to our style than theirs."

Cohoes was leading by 32-23 with 5½ minutes on the third period clock when the tide turned. It was the first time all year that the Blackbirds had been that far behind that late.

Mike Lewis took charge of the turnaround, scoring 14 of Voorheesville's 19 third-quarter points. Lewis had 27 for the night as the Blackbirds nailed down a 50-43 victory that clinched the 1983 Colonial crown in the final home appearance of the regular season.

"We needed a game like that," Abba said.

There was also praise for Dave Haaf, a member of Abba's capable bench brigade, and John Zongrone, the lithe junior who has been a quiet and effective workman all season. "Haaf was a big help in the back court," said Abba. "He made the press more effective because of his quickness and strength. Zongrone made some big baskets in the fourth period. In the scorebook he only had six hoops, but it seemed like every one was critical, either keeping us only one point behind or putting us one ahead."

The win over Cohoes, which preserved a spotless home record for the Blackbirds

for the second straight year, followed a romp at Ravena that belied the pre-game buildup. Abba had been concerned that Ravena's young, aggressive team would be pointing hard for Voorheesville on the Indians' home court, but the Blackbirds took care of that in a hurry. They sprinted to a 19-4 lead in the first eight minutes, and had no trouble winning by 25 points, 74-49.

Everybody on the bus got playing time, and Dick Lennon enjoyed himself with 26 points.

The Blackbirds wind up with two league games on the road against teams they had modest difficulty with at home, Mechanicville Friday night and Lansingburgh Tuesday night. A non-league outing at home with Duanesburg was scheduled Tuesday.

The Sectional schedule was also expected later this week, presumably starting the first round Friday, Feb. 18.

Ex-Eagle soars

Mike Fasulo, a Delmar athlete competing on the Cortland State indoor track team, took a first-place medal in the recent 14th Cortland Indoor Track Invitational Meet. Fasulo, a former team member of Bethlehem Central track, won the long jump with a leap of 6.65 meters as Cortland won the meet with 213 points to 93 for second-place Alfred. Also competing were Albany State, Ithaca College, SUNY-Binghamton and Mansfield State.

Spotlight SPORTS

BC learning the hard way

Gary Przybylo was hoping this week that a lesson learned the hard way at Scotia would benefit his Bethlehem Central varsity in the now-or-never quest for their first Suburban Council win.

The Eagles are winding up their conference season with games against Burnt Hills last night (Tuesday) and Guilderland Friday. Then it's the open Sectionals next week.

With only faint hopes of putting the bite on Burnt Hills, tied for the Gold Division lead with Niskayuna, Przybylo and his predominately junior team have their eyes on the Guilderland game.

"We're playing improved basketball," the Eagles' first-year varsity coach insisted over the weekend. "We're not out of these games anymore. You can see the progress."

The Scotia trip was a heartbreaker for the locals, and the lesson was a bitter one. Bethlehem led all the way, and was 45 seconds from victory when the dam broke. Scotia, scoring an incredible 30 points in the fourth quarter, won by 72-64.

"When they went ahead, we had to foul to get the ball. We got the ball, but missed our shots while they made all theirs," moaned Przybylo.

The bitter lesson came in the second quarter. The Eagles, who led by 6 after eight minutes, were up by 10 with 40 seconds remaining before intermission. Instead of freezing the ball and playing control, the Eagles put the ball up and Scotia ran off six quick points, cutting BC's halftime lead to four.

"That was the real turning point," said Przybylo. "It was inexperience."

It was that, and the fact that the Eagles didn't shoot well in the fourth quarter when they had a chance to put the game away. Despite all the travail, Howard Thompson had 19 points, Mike Mooney 17 and Danny Piazza 15.

At Saratoga Friday, the Eagles stayed within five points of the Blue Streaks, holding second place in the large-school Blue Division behind Shenendehowa. The final margin was 11 at 58-47, again attributed to the intentional fouls near the end.

Pictures tell a story

The Delmar Camera Club meets next on Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Stephen's Church, Elsmere Ave., Delmar. Area camera buffs can enter up to 20 slides or prints that tell a story in the evening's photo essay competition. For details, call 765-4673.

THIS WEEK'S HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCHEDULE AT VOORHEESVILLE

Wed., Feb. 9	Bowling, Ravena, Away
Thurs., Feb. 10	Wrestling, Ravena, Home 6:30
Fri., Feb. 11	Basketball, Mechanicville, Away 6:30
Sat., Feb. 12	Wrestling, Col. Coun. Tour., Waterford TBA
Mon, Feb. 14	Bowling, Lansingburgh, Home
Tues., Feb. 15	Basketball, Lansingburgh, Away 6:30

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Swimmers put it together, overpower Chenango Forks

By Nat Boynton

For Bethlehem Central's varsity swimmers, the real season is one meet down, two to go, and the six-year win streak is still intact.

Apart from BC's 12-year domination of Section 2 teams and the Adirondack Swim Conference, the "real" season consists of intersectional meets with powerful teams from the Utica area and now the Binghamton area. Last week the Eagles fashioned their finest performance of the year to turn back a challenge from Chenango Forks, a Section 4 pool power, and this Friday at 6 p.m. they entertain Rome Free Academy from Section 3. That will set up the crucial Feb. 18 test at New Hartford.

An overflow audience saw Jack Whipple's young team overpower their new rival from Broome County, 82-45, last Friday. Bethlehem won nine of the 11 events and shattered a BC pool record that had been on the board for 10 years.

No one at poolside expected any of the three oldest records to fall this year, let alone the 400-yard free relay mark set by four of Bethlehem's legendary swimmers of yore. Alan Toll, Bob Hedderman, Mike Delaney and Rick Bailey covered the distance in 3:25.1 in 1973.

Last week Whipple put his four top sprinters together for the first time this season, and his 1983 edition shaved nearly two full seconds off the old standard. John Demarest, Matt Holland, Knute Hvalsmarken and Doug Schulz went 3:23.3 and got a tumultuous ovation.

With two sophomores and two juniors in that foursome, the new record may not last long. Ten years ago the crack BC relay team went on to earn scholastic All-American status by winning the state meet in 3:18 flat two weeks after setting the BC pool mark.

Rob Leslie, Eric Patrick, Damon Woo and Dave Young gave Bethlehem a 1-2 in the free relay. The Eagles also won the opening medley relay in their best clocking of the year with Demarest, Schulz, Holland and Young.

Hvalsmarken was a double winner before the record-setting relay. The sophomore speedster scored an upset over a visiting champion by taking the 200-yard freestyle in 1:54.3, and came back to win the 100 free in 52.1 seconds, his personal best.

"The kids were really up for this one," a



BC swimming coach Jack Whipple. *Spotlight*

happy Whipple said Saturday. "Most of them did their best times this season, and even the second-place swimmers had their personal bests. It was incredible."

Demarest became the first Section 2 swimmer to crack 23 seconds in the 50 free, turning in a sparkling 22.9, and Holland won the fly in 58.2. Scott Apicelli peeled almost four full seconds from his former best time in the breaststroke, winning in 1:07 flat, and Jim Krajek had his fastest backstroke clocking to win in 1:03.7.

Other noteworthy performances came in the form of three second-place finishes. Whipple was delighted with Woo's 23.5 for a surprise second in the 50, and Young's 52.4 behind Hvalsmarken in the 100 free. John Henahan's 1:05.1 behind Leslie gave the Eagles 1-2 in the backstroke.

The victory upped the longest varsity win streak in Section 2 history to 94 straight dating back to February, 1977. The 93rd victim was Albany High, which fell by 79-47 last Tuesday as Schulz swam the fastest 200 free in the Section this season 1:53.5. This week the Eagles had a league exercise at Troy Tuesday before Friday's annual splash with Rome.

Whipple's current problem is preserving momentum and guarding against a letdown when Rome comes to Delmar Friday. Barring illness and letdowns, the Eagles should survive the Rome meet, then Whipple has to build up his boys to their peak for New Hartford.

A new western rival?

Chenango Forks, a highly regarded Section 4 swimming stronghold, may become an annual rival of Jack Whipple's Bethlehem central Varsity.

When the Broome County swimmers came to Delmar Friday to test Whipple's undefeated team, they were overnight guests in the homes of the families if BC swimmers after the meet, won by Bethlehem, 82-45.

"The kids had a great time together," Whipple said over the weekend. "Chenango Forks swam Shaker Saturday, and our team went up to Latham with them to watch the meet."

Chenango Forks is coached by Steve Bush, a former Delmar Dolphins Swim Club coach who also served as Whipple's assistant at BC seven years ago. Bush did his scholastic swimming for Shaker.

Whipple said he planned to seek approval from the school board to schedule a weekend trip to Chenango Forks for a return meet next February. There was also a possibility of setting up a meet with Vestal on the same trip, Whipple said.

Prior to last week's meet at Bethlehem, Chenango Forks, a Class B school, had lost only to Vestal, a Class A school in Broome County. Bethlehem is one of the smallest of the Class A schools in Section 2.

Lady Eagles have ups and downs

By Julie Ann Sosa

Strange things are happening in girls' high school basketball. Last week there was good news and bad news for Eagle fans.

First the good news. Bethlehem Central rose to the occasion gallantly and eased past Guilderland, 40-39, with a last second jumper that senior Ann Howell has only dreamed about making in a game of H-O-R-S-E.

Now the bad news. The same girls who came into their season like lions, with 44-33 and 42-36 romps over Niskayuna and Mohonasen, went out of last week like lambs, after losing to the very same teams 32-30 and 37-32 respectively.

Coach Kenneth Hodge didn't castigate but said, "We just can't put a team away. We're always 'up' for the big ones. But against the mediocre teams — well, we just think the game is over at halftime when we're ahead."

Against Guilderland Kim Zornow had 16 points, 15 rebounds and seven blocked shots, while Kathy McNamara scored 14. But it was Howell who was "Lady Eagle" and game winner for Bethlehem in front of a raucous home crowd last Wednesday. Committed to avenging the previous week's triple overtime loss, Bethlehem led the whole way. But Guilderland scored a field goal, hit one of two foul shots and had a sudden three-point lead with only

13 seconds showing. BC started under its own basket, drove the length of the court and cashed in for two with three seconds left. Zornow fought to get a jump ball on the throw-in and tipped the jumper to Howell, whose 30-foot shot took the allotted second to go through the strings and end the game.

Niskayuna, which has also felled such giants as Guilderland and Burnt Hills, used a dose of Bethlehem's own medicine to win. Karen Pangburn scored a layup in the final minute to win a game that Nisky had been losing most of the night. But the Silver Warriors had a little help. McNamara wasn't there. Zornow went down in the second quarter with a sprained ankle, and a dazed BC was outscored 12-4 just before halftime. She came back in time to score 15 points and win the Lady Eagle award, but all her teammates could only muster the same number of points between them.

At Mohonasen on Friday, BC led 14-0 at one point and coasted into halftime with a 20-10 cushion. They lost the game when the home team peaked in the final quarter, outscoring BC 15-5. No BC players were in double digits, as McNamara and Howell co-led with eight points. Zornow had six.

Bethlehem, 7-4 in the council, is close on the coattails of Guilderland and Mohonasen (8-3).

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RAVENA-COEYMANS-SELKIRK

Wed., Feb. 9 Bowling, Voorheesville, Home
Basketball, Girls, Voorheesville, Home 6:00

Thurs., Feb. 10 Wrestling, Voorheesville, Away 6:30

Fri., Feb. 11 Basketball, Watervliet, Home 6:30
Basketball, Girls, Schalmont, Away 3:45

Sat., Feb. 12 Basketball, Girls, Ichabod Crane, Away 10:00
Wrestling, Col. Council Tourn., Waterford TBA

Mon., Feb. 14 Bowling, Alb. Academy, Away
Basketball, Waterford, at Siena, 6:30

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Eagle hosts place in tourney

One of the most impressive arrays of scholastic wrestling talent ever assembled on Bethlehem Central's mats provided a continuous show for fans from a wide area of upstate New York over the past weekend.

More than 200 wrestlers from 16 teams started the long Suburban Council Invitational grind Friday afternoon at BCHS, and when the championship finals in the 14 weight classes got underway Saturday night, the host Bethlehem team had three representatives still "alive."

When the mats were folded at the end of the evening, BC's three finalists had settled for second-place laurels, but not without honor. Rob VanAernem, undefeated in Section 2 competition, was overpowered by a state champion, Bob Gleason of Canastota from Section 3 in the 105-pound showdown. Paul Callanan lost to another Canastota wrestler considered to be one of the best in the state, Mark Hood, in the 119-pound final, and Wayne Peschel lost a decision to Pat Ferri of Mohonasen, a Suburban Council standout, at 126 pounds.

Hood, overwhelmingly choice of the coaches for the meet's Outstanding Wrestler award, put the first pin on Callanan that anyone around here could remember. "You just don't pin Paul, he's never on his back," commented BC Coach Rick Poplaski.

Hood pinned all four of his opponents en route to the title, a remarkable achievement. Callanan has lost only once in Section 2 this season, to Anthony Bellai of Mont Pleasant, a state champion in 1982.

In the team standings, Canastota won handily, as expected, with 262½ points, an even 100 in front of second-place Middlebury, Vt., Union High School. Oneida (Section 3) had 138½ and Bethlehem was fourth with 127½, the best showing of the 10 Suburban Council schools on the premises. Niskayuna (112½) and Shenendehowa (106) trailed the Eagles, but the Council's most powerful squad, Burnt Hills, was absent due to a scheduling conflict with the West Point Invitational.

Poplaski, who has built a fine wrestling program in Bethlehem over the years, was delighted with the weekend grappling. "It was a great tournament, good crowds, and, thanks to many parent boosters, it ran very smoothly. We had three finalists, and eight of our 14 wrestlers placed in the first five in their weight classes. We lost four matches by one point along the way."

Other Bethlehem wrestlers who placed



Bethlehem Dave Boettcher reached the semifinals in the 16-team Suburban Council Invitational wrestling meet at BCHS Saturday, but Bob Cuttita of Shenendehowa got the decision in this bout.

Tom Howes

were Mike Tinsman, third at 91 pounds; Chris Essex, fourth at 145; Dan Carlson, fourth at 132; Mark Lindell, fifth at 138; and David Scoons, fifth at 250. Other teams in the meet were Mount Anthony of Bennington, Vt., Roundout Valley and Saugerties of Section 1 (Kingston), along with Saratoga, Mohonasen, Columbia, Guiderland, Colonie, Shaker and Scotia from the Suburban Council.

Poplaski's varsity, currently 12-2 in dual meets and runnerup in the Council, face their strongest opponent of the year when Amsterdam takes to the Delmar padding Friday in a 6:30 p.m. non-league test, the last before the Sectionals.

Soccer signup Saturday

Boys and girls 6 to 19 interested in playing organized soccer this summer may register with the Bethlehem Soccer Club on Saturday, Feb. 12, from noon to 3 p.m. at Bethlehem Town Hall. Late registrations will be accepted Thursday, Feb. 17, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the town hall.

First-time registrants must show proof of age. Fees are \$10 for players 6 to 13, and \$5 for ages 14-19.

A soccer shoe exchange also will be held during registration hours Saturday.



Rick Clay-Storm

A championship season

Rick Clay-Storm, son of Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Storm of Slingerlands, played halfback on the champion Brewster Academy varsity soccer team this fall. The academy, in Wolfeboro, N.H., won the Lakes Region Private School League championship with a 2-1 victory over Proctor Academy. The Brewster team posted a 13-1-3 season record.



Kiki Cutter

Ski against Kiki Cutter

Amateur skiers will be able to match speeds against former Olympic skier Kiki Cutter in a challenge race sponsored by Remy Martin Cognacs Saturday, Feb. 12, at Ski Windham.

The Remy Challenge race gives amateur skiers a chance to beat the times set by Kiki Cutter or the times set by a men's pacesetter down a simple dual slalom course. Skiers 19 years of age or older may enter the 1 p.m. event by signing up the morning of the race from 8 a.m. to noon at the information desk at the base lodge. Registration will include a \$2 entry fee.

Prior to the race, participants can attend a 9:30 a.m. Remy Racing Clinic where Cutter will demonstrate and teach the basics of racing technique. Cutter is the first American to win a World Cup Ski Race.


Tomboy signup set

Aspiring softball sluggers interested in playing in the Bethlehem Tomboys summer league should register at the Bethlehem Public Library on Saturday, Feb. 12, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 23, 7 to 9 p.m., or Saturday, March 5, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To register, girls must be nine years old by Dec. 1, 1983, and have a parent or guardian with them. First-time registrants should also bring a copy of their birth certificates. Registration fees are \$15 for the first player and \$5 for each additional player in the family. A \$5 charge will be added for late registrations.

For information, call Mary Dobert at 439-9418.

In Elsmere The Spotlight is sold at Plaza Drug, Paper Mill, Grand Union, Tri-Village, Fruit, CVS and Johnson's.




**THIS WEEK'S HIGH SCHOOL
SPORTS SCHEDULE
AT
BETHLEHEM CENTRAL**

<p>Wed., Feb. 9 Thurs., Feb. 10 Fri., Feb. 11</p>	<p>Volleyball, Guiderland, Home 3:45 Basketball, Girls, Shaker, Away 6:30 Gymnastics, Scotia, Away 7:00 Volleyball, Niskayuna, Away 3:45 Wrestling, Amsterdam, Home 6:00 Swimming, Rome, Home 6:00 Basketball, Girls, Scotia, Away 1:30 Basketball, Guiderland, Home 6:30 Volleyball, Shenendehowa, Home 3:45 Swimming, Scotia, Home 4:00</p>
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RCS builds for next year on sophomores, juniors

The three sophomores Ravena's Tim Tucker is counting on to be a factor in next year's Colonial Council basketball chase are, in the coach's opinion, playing the best ball on the team.

"We're committed to three sophomores and two juniors for the rest of the season to give them experience," Tucker said after the Indians dropped two more league games last week. "It's a young team, they foul too much, and the one-on-ones kill us."

There wasn't much to say after the Indians absorbed a 74-49 massacre at the hands of undefeated Voorheesville last Tuesday, but the learning process was costly in a home game with Mechanicville Friday, which the Indians lost by 10 points.

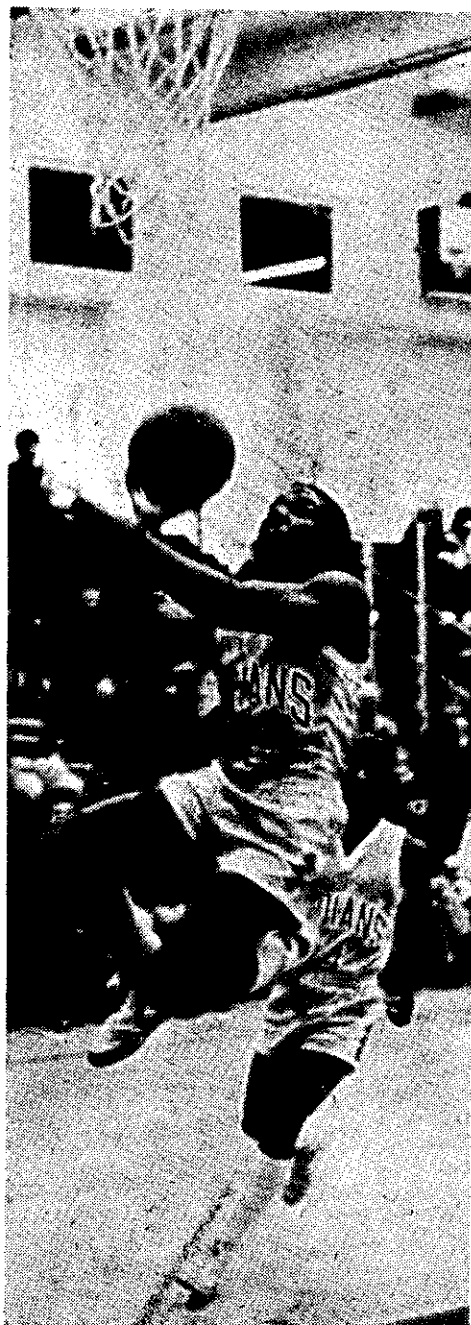
Tucker's youngsters were in the game all the way, staying within a few points until the intentional fouling had to start in the fourth period. For the umpteenth time this season, Ravena outshot their opponents from the floor, this time by a decisive 24 baskets to 18.

But Tucker refuses to be discouraged. He is high on these three sophomores, De Bowic, the beanpole he started the year with, and Mike Mizener and Kevin Hoffman, whom he brought up from the jayvees in mid-season.

Mizener had a good all-around game against Mechanicville, and Hoffman, a 6-1 point guard, did a good job setting up plays. Bowie attracts a crowd under the basket, and has shown steady improvement.

The Indians finish up with Watervliet at home Friday and a Monday excursion to Loudonville to play Waterford in the 6 p.m. preliminary to the Siena-Fordham game.

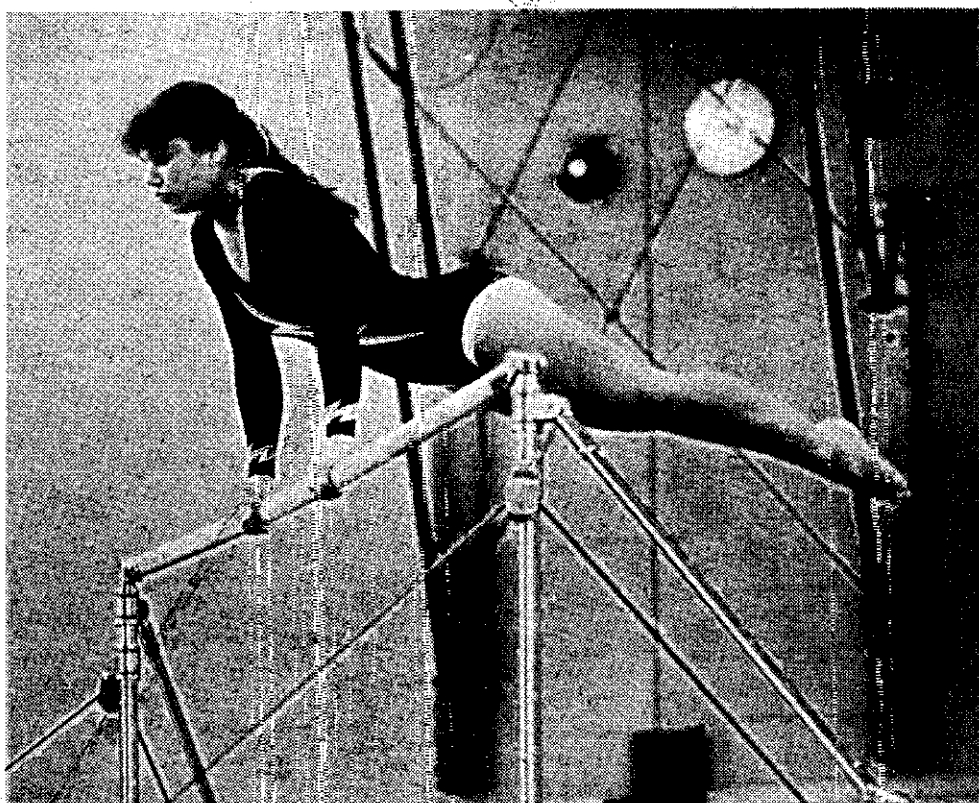
As for the Sectionals, Ravena's status was clouded as Tucker prepared for last night's (Tuesday) game at Lansingburgh. Tucker was considering withdrawing from the post-season tournament, an open affair, but said he wouldn't know until later this week whether to press for a release from the committee.



Joe Motley got an easy two points for Ravena on this breakaway against Voorheesville, but the visiting Blackbirds were too strong and won the Colonial Council game by a wide margin last Tuesday. Tom Howes

merchants, businesses and professionals. The project is being supported by the Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce.

At a meeting on Jan. 31, the new organization, called Bethlehem Central Marching Band parents, elected Mrs. Lynn Perry president. Other officers are: Robert Callaghan, vice president; Mrs. Agnes Clark, secretary, and Douglas Maeder, treasurer. Serving on the executive committee will be Samuel S. Bozzella, music supervisor, and Miss Louise Ferris, marching band director.



Eileen Berry of Bethlehem performs on the uneven parallel bars. Tom Howes

Tom Howes

Gymnasts sharpening routines

With a 1-12 record, the only way the Bethlehem Central gymnastics team can go is up. And up it has been going. Bethlehem team totals, which usually fell in the low 60's, hit 68.95 points in a meet against Niskayuna and Shenendehowa last week.

"Everyone is improving. Routines are looking cleaner and tighter, and more importantly, the girls are more confident. I can see the improvement daily," applauded Coach Denise Minnear.

The tumbling Eagles have opened other eyes also. News Center sports caster Bill Duffy and two meet judges recently approached Minnear and assistant coach Chris Gudewicz with compliments on an improved team.

Nevertheless, BC is hoping to officially drop from Division 1 to Division 2 for the remainder of this season in order to balance the ranks of the two levels (there are six teams in Division 1, four in Division 2) and boost the team's morale. The Eagles are now competing at a level a cut above them, where teams are twice their size and must meet totals in the 80's. The 14 BC gymnasts have to manage a finish in the 70's. Against Taconic Hills, a Division 2 team, Bethlehem's 66.5 team total was good enough for a win.

The smallest team in the history of BC gymnastics has become even smaller. It has survived the loss of team co-captain Lori Lanahan, a senior vaulter who

sacrificed gymnastics for a job commitment. Quickly filling her shoes in the strong BC vaulting department is little-known sophomore Debbie Blodgett. Her handspring vault earned her a 7.4 out of a possible 8.8 at a recent meet, making her the only Eagle to earn a 7 all season. Also proficient in the floor exercise, Blodgett has posted a 6.95 there.

Temporarily sidelined with rib injuries suffered in a balance beam fall, sophomore Anne Peyrebrune gallantly returned after two weeks and executed the fateful maneuver — a difficult C-level jump full-turn with risk — in competition in perfect form. Also fearless on the beam is sophomore Robin Taft, who has distinguished herself as the only Eagle with balance enough to attempt a back somersault in competition. She completed it on her second try.

Also of note on the improving team is freshman Katie Dali, on the floor, and sophomore Kim Riley, whose strong beam and floor work only need more experienced bars to make her an all-rounder.

Julie Ann Sosa

Movie at town hall

"A Face in the Crowd," starring Andy Griffith, will be the February "Silver Screen Presentation" of the Bethlehem Senior Citizens Organization. The film will be shown at 1:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 17, at the Bethlehem Town Hall.

Boosters set trade show

A newly formed booster organization to form a marching band at Bethlehem Central High School will sponsor a trade show in April as the main fund-raiser in a drive to provide uniforms for band members.

The trade show, scheduled to be held at the school from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 17, will consist of an exposition for local



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem, Albany County, New York at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York, on the 23rd day of Feb., 1983 at 8:00 P.M. to consider amending the Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map of the Town of Bethlehem by changing the following described property from a "Residence A" to a "Planned Residence District":

All that tract or parcel of land more particularly bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point in the division line between lands on the northeast now or formerly owned by Fort Orange Realty, Inc. and lands on the southwest now or formerly owned by Bethlehem Terrace Associates, said point being at the most easterly corner of a parcel of land conveyed to the Town of Bethlehem by deed dated October 24, 1972, and recorded in the office of the Albany County Clerk in Book 2055, Page 169 for the widening of Blessing Road; thence running from said point of beginning northwesterly along said division line (10.71) feet to the most westerly corner of lands of said Fort Orange Realty, Inc.; thence north-easterly with an interior angle of 126°-00'-00" along the northwesterly line of lands of said Fort Orange Realty, Inc. and Blessing Road (107.00) feet to a point; thence northerly with an interior angle of 194°-45'-00" along the westerly line of lands of said Fort Orange Realty, Inc. and said Blessing Road (158.50) feet to the southwesterly corner of lands now owned by Walter R. Bonneau; thence southeasterly with an interior angle of 72°-30'-00" along lands of said Bonneau (440.20) feet to the most southerly corner thereof; thence northeasterly with an interior angle of 270°-00'-00" along lands of said Bonneau (335.54) feet to a point in a southwesterly line of lands now or formerly owned by Walter A. Amsler; thence southeasterly with an interior angle of 90°-00'-00" along lands of said Amsler (871.00) feet to a point; thence southerly with an interior angle of 99°-00'-00" continuing along lands of said Amsler (484.00) feet to a point; thence southwesterly with an interior angle of 160°-45'-00" continuing along lands of said Amsler (196.50) feet to a point;

LEGAL NOTICE

thence continuing southwesterly with an interior angle of 191°-00'-00" along lands of said Amsler (273.31) feet to the most easterly corner of a parcel of land conveyed to the State of New York for the construction of the Slingerlands By-Pass and shown as Parcel No. 15 on Map No. 5 prepared by the New York State Department of Transportation; thence westerly with an interior angle of 114°-55'-47" along said By-Pass (41.64) feet to a point; thence southwesterly with an interior angle of 202°-47'-52" along said By-Pass (389.03) feet to a point in the northeasterly line of lands now or formerly owned by Vincent Vecchiotti; thence northwesterly with an interior angle of 98°-16'-21" along lands of said Vecchiotti and along the first mentioned division line (1,204.50) feet to the point of beginning, making an interior angle of 180°-00'-00" with the first mentioned course.

Containing approximately (26) acres of land.

All parties in interest and citizens will have an opportunity to be heard of the said hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

MARION T. CAMP
Town Clerk

Dated: January 26, 1983.

(Feb. 9)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Bethlehem hereby invites sealed bids for the furnishing of repair work on under carriage of a 1971 Caterpillar Track Type Loader Model 951 and a 1979 Bulldozer Model D4E, for Town Highway Department, Town Garage, Elm Avenue East, Selkirk, New York.

Bids will be received up to 2:00 p.m. on the 24th day of February, 1983, at which time such bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Town Hall, 445 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, New York. Bids shall be in sealed envelopes which shall bear, on the face thereof, the name and address of the bidder and the subject of the bid. Original and one copy of each bid shall be submitted. Copies of the specifications may be obtained from the Town Clerk at Town Hall, Delmar, New York.

The Town Board reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any or all bids.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD
OF THE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

MARION T. CAMP
Town Clerk

Dated: January 26, 1983.

(Feb. 9)

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Editor's View

Occasional comments by the editors of *The Spotlight*

Last year, near the end of the annual school budget process, we commented on the "selling" of school budgets in Bethlehem and Voorheesville. The point, and the implied criticism, was that often school boards seemed more interested in keeping voters complacent and at bay than with getting real input on education policy, spending priorities and tax rates.

In the Bethlehem Central School district, we noted, the school board holds numerous public budget work sessions, but withholds its "bottom line" until almost all of the discussion is over. There is, it seems, almost too much information, too much detail, for the average citizen to take in. Whether for that reason or not, it is a fact that in recent years these lengthy budget sessions have been poorly attended and the vote on the budget has been almost scandalously light.

This is not to say that the process is a sham. Bethlehem, in company with many other districts, faces very difficult times in the next few years, with state aid decreasing and all costs rising. Cost cutting has to be weighed very carefully against quality education, and the board's work sessions are a productive way to make those decisions.

But as a forum for public participation and enlightenment, those work sessions have in the past left something to be desired.

So it is encouraging to see the board looking at ways to improve the system. Sheila Fuller's offer to hold information sessions at her home is a positive step. Even more important is the board's apparent commitment to (in the words of member Robert Zick) "work with the major numbers and tell the people where we stand." Presumably that means some bottom line figures.

Tax rates are as much a policy decision as any other aspect of public education. Withholding that information for fear of "scaring" the voters seems wrongheaded and, ultimately, self-defeating.

Tom McPheeters

Son shines in February

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 85 Elm Ave., Delmar, announces a special experience — February SONshine. This mid-week celebration for children in 4th to 6th grade will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 22, 23, and 24, from 1 to 3:15 p.m. during the mid-winter school vacation. It will consist of Bible stories, crafts, games, movies, a magic show, singing and refreshments.

There is a donation of \$3 per child with a maximum of \$6 per family. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis; call 439-4328 or 439-3967 for registration forms or information.

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.

Bethlehem House memories

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

An article in your Dec. 22, 1982 edition of the *Spotlight* about the portrait of Margaret Mather Sill arouses me from my aging lethargy to write you — with the hope that this might stir further interest in Bethlehem House in Cedar Hill, which my parents owned from 1926 to 1961. I was the one to do the work to bring this lovely old house from the Civil War to the 1920's, and I have the longest continuing interest in its people and history.

My monograph on this I donated to the Albany Institute on History and Art in 1970, together with my correspondence with the last of the Sill family, photographs, plans, family history, etc. etc., and I am sure these are available there to anyone interested in researching this house and its people.

I am intrigued at your article about the portrait of Margaret Mather Sill — no wonder the author was confused. There were at least four women in the family with that exact name:

Margaret Mather, the wife of William Nicoll Sill. She was married in 1808, and came from Lyme, Conn. (Lyme was the ancestral home of the Sills.)

Their daughter, a sister of Rensselaer Nicoll Sill, was married in 1810 to Theodore N. Sanders; she was also the aunt of 3 and 4 below.

The daughter of Rensselaer Nicoll Sill and Francis Livingston (married 1835).

The daughter of John M. Sill (brother of Rensselaer); (John Sill married a van Rensselaer.) They also had a son — Dunkin H. Sill.

These last two Sills, both unmarried, Margaret Mather and Dunkin H., I had personal contact with through letters and visits to Bethlehem House in the 1930's; it is their knowledge and recollections that went into my history of Bethlehem House. They were the last of the family to live there — Margaret was born in the house.

Margaret Mather Sill taught in the Mary A. Burnham School in Northampton, Mass., and died there. Her brother, Dunkin H., died in Torrence, California.

You might also tell Professor Floyd Brewer, who directed the archaeological dig at Bethlehem House, that he is digging in the right places — off the northeast corner toward the Vlaumans-kill.

When we installed the septic tanks in this area in 1926, we dug up all sorts of chards and skeletons and specifically located the foundation of the previous

house here prior to 1730 — probably burned. He'll have to go down 10 to 15 feet more to find the house foundations.

I have rambled, but hopefully with some information. Perhaps the Messrs. McLean and Mulligan will find some meat here.

The primitive painting by Mrs. Wilkie of the Sill girl corresponds in time frame with our New England primitive artists, the Shutes, whose many portraits were presently the subject of much interest hereabouts. We have four of them in the collection of the Lowell Historical Society, which have been exhibited in New York City, and in the Meadowlands, the wonderful museum of Mrs. Sears in Harvard, Mass.

Thank you for lasting this long in my reminiscing.

Harry C. Dinmore

Lowell, Mass.

The pages reply

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

In response to Mr. Levensohn's letter concerning the problem of missing books at the Bethlehem Public Library, (*Spotlight*, Feb. 2), we feel it is necessary to correct his misunderstanding of the situation. Mr. Levensohn evidently felt that the majority of the misplaced books were a result of the negligence of pages ("shelvers"). As pages, we would like an opportunity to present an alternative point of view.

We agree that the patrons ("library users") are not entirely to blame; however, neither are the pages. Obviously, even novice pages would not place a nonfiction book (labelled with numbers) into a fiction section labelled entirely with letters. We feel that such drastic "mistakes" are mainly a result of the games of small children unattended by their parents, and of adult patrons who inadvertently leave books on the shelves. Even people who try to help the pages by putting away their own books after reading them in the library often do a disservice to the page staff by unknowingly putting the book in the wrong place. We assume that the people who attempt to replace their own books are somewhat familiar with the Dewey Decimal System. However, it must be emphasized that the library utilizes not only this system, but a variety of other methods to properly catalogue its books.

It is very possible that Mr. Levensohn has seen pages place several books in an empty space on the shelves. Instead of making numerous trips back to the cart, it is much more convenient and efficient to place a number of books in a central location on the shelves and to shelve the books from this space. Observing this procedure, it is possible to believe that the page has placed the books there for good, especially if the page then has to go and answer the bell.

One of the most frustrating experiences a page can have is to find unattended children throughout the library who relieve their boredom by shifting entire sections and by collecting piles of books in one area. This is no exaggeration.

Whether or not any individual child does this act out of "innocent" boredom or malicious intent is of no consequence; the page must correct it.

The problem of missing and misplaced books is obviously a serious and costly one. It is a mistake to attribute the problem to a single group, be it pages or patrons. However, based on several years of combined library experience, we feel that the majority of the problem certainly does not stem from the page staff.

Scott Gravlee

Sung Kwon

Nonika Mascarenhas

'A two-way street'

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

I am responding to a letter from Mr. Alan Levensohn (*Spotlight*, Feb. 2), about the Bethlehem Public Library. I have worked for almost three years as a page at the library and was outraged at his comments; they were grossly exaggerated.

The care of the library is a "two-way street." When the library becomes disorderly, why is only the staff blamed? What about the patrons who remove books, throw shelves into disarray, and leave books, dirty tissues and papers scattered about the library?

A few months ago, Mr. Levensohn decided to test the shelves in our fiction section. He claimed that a dozen books were not even in their proper aisle; however, in my three years at the library, I have never seen the shelves in this condition. His comment on the delinquent pages was inappropriate. He had no right to claim that all the pages were responsible. If he was so concerned with this problem, why did he not go immediately to the director of the library?

Had he done this, he would have found that the problem had already been addressed. Perhaps Mr. Levensohn should update his information. He will not find those dozen disorderly books.

As for the patrons, I'm tired of having my work marred by unconcerned people. When I finish reading my section, the books are in order and straightened at the end of the shelf. Often, when I return, the shelves are disorderly and miraculously rearranged.

The next time, when someone decides to write about the disorder of the library, let him think about the last time he hap'hazardly placed a book on a shelf or left a book on the floor or on a desk. Perhaps Mr. Levensohn should follow the title under which his letter was printed and "look on the shelves" before he writes.

Dagmar Fuhs

Police ticket policy

Editor, *The Spotlight*:

The Delmar resident who wrote to Vox Pop complaining about Bethlehem's wintertime parking ordinance should have asked, I believe, the Bethlehem police to review their ticketing policies rather than asking the town to repeal the law.

The complaint involved a car ticketed

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on a residential street in Delmar at 1:35 a.m. Dec. 29 for violating the parking ordinance designed to keep the streets clear for snowplowing. The law is an excellent one, but in this case, with no snow on the ground, the police officer violated the spirit of the law in issuing the ticket. A warning on the windshield would have been sufficient. Persistent violators, however, should be ticketed after warnings.

We do not know how many times police who stop drivers for violations issue warnings instead of tickets. Let's hope the arresting officers use judgement instead of "the book." I cite these examples, noted on a recent Sunday morning on Delaware Ave. when pavements were dry and traffic extremely light: a mother and young child, stopped by police with flashing lights at the Tri-Village Fruit market, and a senior citizen stopped alongside the BCHS athletic fields.

Were these people going to or coming home from church? Were they stopped en route to volunteer work at an Albany hospital, as was a friend of mine a while ago, charged with "doing 42" in a 35-mile zone with not another car in sight on a bright Sunday morning?

Is a \$500 insurance adder over three years for a "moving violation" a fair penalty for a young mother or civic-minded oldster in the category with drunk drivers, speeders and some of the "cowboys" we see on the roads? Along with many other citizens, I applaud and approve of the police campaign against drunk drivers, and commend Bethlehem police for the vigilance that has made our town "a tough town" in DWI arrests. Let's hope our police "throw the book" at these violators, and yet use judgement in cases of drivers who are obviously law-abiding and civic-minded.

Name submitted

Delmar



Mr. and Mrs. Earl T. Briggs

Celebrate 65th

Mr. and Mrs. Earl T. Briggs of Delmar celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary Jan. 1.

The Briggs reside at 439 Kenwood Ave. with their daughter Patricia. They also have a daughter, Mrs. James Hartzog, living in Miami, Fla. The day was spent with relatives and friends.

DAR antique show set

The Tawastanta Chapter NSDAR 12th annual antique show and sale will be held at Bethlehem Central High School on Saturday, Feb. 19 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 20, from noon to 5 p.m. The show is an invitational one, featuring selected dealers with a wide range of antiques.

Highlighted this year will be glass grinding by Ron and Carlie Lindemann from Rock City Falls Antiques, and appraisals, verbal or written, of small portable items by John Blaine Warner II. Both services will be offered for a modest fee. Manager is Marian G. Jewell, 439-4142.

Legion orator advances

John Buhac, a Bethlehem Central High School senior, and Andrea Kristofy of Kingston High School will represent the Third District in the American Legion's 46th annual oratorical contest. Buhac won the Albany County contest in January and finished first in the district competition last Saturday at Westmere Elementary School. The winner of the zone contest Feb. 19 at Hudson Falls will advance to the state finals March 12 at Johnson City.

Hall in recital

Morey Hall of Delmar will present a piano recital Friday, Feb. 11, at 8 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, Glens Falls. The free program will include works by Bach, Mozart and Chopin. Hall, who has a bachelor's degree in piano performance, magna cum laude, from the State University at Albany, won honorable mention at the International Piano Recording Competition in Austin, Tex., in 1977. Hall has studied piano with concert pianists Stanley Hummel, Findlay Cockrell and Gary Steigerwalt.

Women Republicans meet

The Bethlehem Women's Republican Club will "caucus" at a potluck supper on Monday, Feb. 21, at 6:30 p.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library community room. For information about the social evening, call Mary Ann Phelan at 439-4596 or Elvira Ronk at 439-2284.



Leslie Duncan

Lands musical role

Leslie Duncan of Delmar is leaving Sunday to tour Florida in the musical "Pepper Pot." She landed the role in the Equity production only two weeks after arriving in New York to break into theater. Her credits include roles in productions for Four Seasons Dinner Theatre and the University Theatre.

In Elsmere The Spotlight is sold at Plaza Drug, Paper Mill, Grand Union, Tri-Village Fruit, CVS and Johnson's.

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Valentine's Day.
Someday

Nanny Roche,
You're ALWAYS in our
HEARTS.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



COMMUNITY CORNER

All You Can Eat

Pancake lovers can gorge themselves at the St. Thomas youth ministry's "all-you-can-eat" pancake breakfast on Sunday, Feb. 13, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the American Legion Post, Poplar Drive, Elsmere. Tickets to the eating event are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children ages 5 to 12. Those under five eat free.

For information call Jeannee Mellin at 439-1418.

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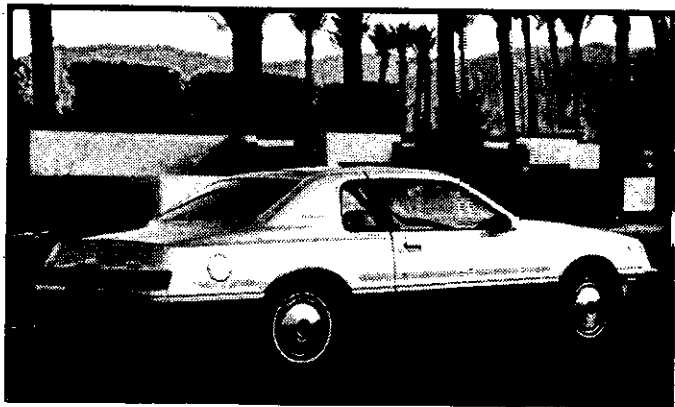
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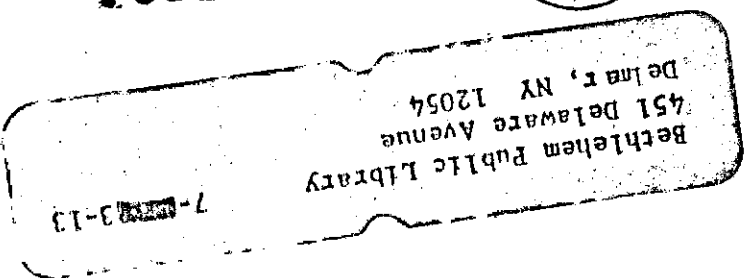
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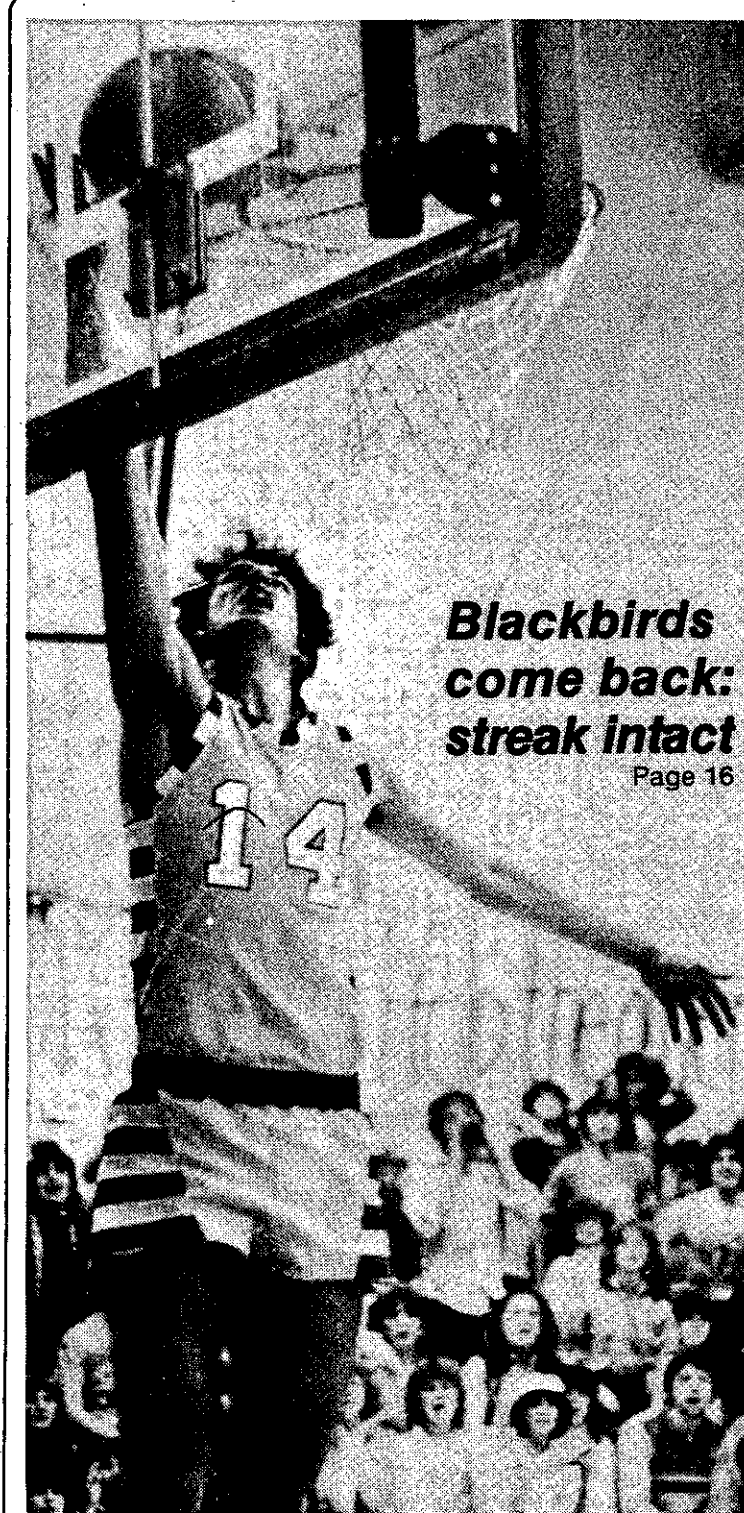
THE SPOTLIGHT

DO NOT CIRCULATE

February 9, 1983

25¢

The weekly newspaper
serving the towns of
Bethlehem and New Scotland



**Blackbirds
come back:
streak intact**

Page 16

Budget time again. Amid protests that its drafting process doesn't allow for informed participation by citizens, the Bethlehem Central school board faces possible cutbacks in state and federal aid and impending negotiations with the district's teachers union. The board's options range from a substantial tax increase to cuts in staffing that would mean larger class sizes.

Page 1

**BETHLEHEM
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

BETHLEHEM

**Town sells
Adams House**

Page 4

**Remembering
Civil War hero**

Page 10